TAD (t) AKA—Wife of Sunda and mother of Maricha; she was killed by Rama for harassing the rishis. (Purana)

TAJRA BEGUM—Mother of Wajid Ali Shah, king of Oudh.

TALA—One of the ten daughters of Raudrasva.

TAMARASAMA—One of Atri’s wives. (Purana)

TAMASI—(Also known as Putana), wife of Sadrama. (Purana)

TAMRA—(i) Daughter of Pulaha; wife of Vasudeva and mother of Sahadeva. (Purana)
(ii) One of Kasyapa’s wives and mother of Apsarasas. Her progeny were hawks, vultures, eagles, geese etc.
(iii) Daughter of Daksa, wife of Kasyapa and mother of Bhasi. (Purana)

TAMRAPARNI—Daughter of Satyabhama.

TAMRARASA—Daughter of Raudrasava. (Purana)

TANTUMATI—Mother of Murari; she was a dramatist. (11th C)

TAPASVINI—(i) Third daughter of Bhangakara married to Krishna. (Purana)
(ii) Daughter of Narayana Rao of Belur and niece of Rani Lakshmi Bai. She participated in the 1857 Revolt and was interned at Tiruchinapolly. On release, she established cordial relations with the royal family of Nepal.

TAPATI—Daughter of Surya and Chhaya; wife of Samvarana and mother of Kur.

TARA—(i) Wife of Brihaspati. She was abducted by Soma and of this union was born Budha. After Siva’s war with Soma, through Brahma’s influence, Tara was restored back to her husband. Tara was well known for her dialectical dexterity. (Purana)
(ii) Daughter of Susena; wife of Bali, the monkey king, mother of Angada. After Bali's death she was taken as wife by Sugriva.

(iii) Deity mentioned in the Buddhist tantras.

TARA ALI BEG—A social worker and writer. (20th C)

TARA BAI—Wife of Raja Ram, the second son of Shivaji. On her husband's death in 1700, she was the regent and guardian of her minor son Shivaji III and carried on the administration. Under her inspiring leadership the Marathas again regained self confidence and territories. In 1707 on release, the rightful owner Raja Sahu (or Shivaji II) adopted Shivaji III as his son and successor.

(ii) Wrestler of repute.

TARA BEGUM—One of the wives of Akbar.

TARA CHAUDHURY—Exponent of Bharatanatyam.

TARADEVI NAYAR—Wife of Bindraban Nayar of Delhi; mother of Pyare Lal who was secretary to Mahatma Gandhi. Her daughter Sushila Nayar was a Minister of Health in the Union Government. She took an active part in Civil Disobedience movement.

TARA DEODHAR—A well known Badminton player; won the U.S. women's title while studying in U.S.A.

TARABEN PREMCHAND—Social worker of Bombay; she was connected with the Shraddhanand Ashram for abandoned and destitute children. (20th C)

TARAKA—(i) Suniti, mother of Dhruva. (Purana)

(ii) Daughter of Suketu (or demon Sunda) and mother of Marichi. She ravaged the Taraka forest. At the instance of Vishvamitra, Ramchandra killed her with an arrow.

TARI—Daughter of King Duda of Sind. On her father's death, she carried on the government. When her brother came of age, she made it over to him. (13th C)

TARIKONDA VENKAMAMBA—A Bhakti poetess; author of Vasishtha Ramayana. Her name is associated with Brahmotsava, an annual function organised at Tirupati to which place she had retired on her husband's death at a young age. She refused to follow meaningless customs for which people tried to persecute her.
TARKESHWARI SINHA—One time a Minister of state in the Union Government.

THAKURANI OF BUDRI—She contributed to the rebel funds during the outbreak of 1857-58.

THANKAMMA—Prominent social worker of Kerala. (20th C)

THENKAMMA—Fiction-writer of Malayalam. (20th C)

THANU AMMA—Wife of Kumaraswamy Pillai of Tamilnadu; took part in Civil Disobedience movement, 1942; was arrested and sentenced to jail.

THOIBI—She lived in the reign of King Loyamba. A popular literature commenced around her and Khamba. (12th C)

THULLANANDA—An outstanding but rebellious Buddhist almswoman. Parsenajit heard her preaching and respectfully gave her whatever she asked for. She suggested to a probationer that if she served her for two years, she would ordain her. But she did nothing of the sort. \(Vinayapitaka\)

THYAMMAL—Daughter of Marappa Naidu of Madras; took part in Civil Disobedience movement 1932; arrested and sentenced to jail.

TIKA BAI—Wife of Shahaji and step-mother of Shivaji. (1769)

TIKARI RANI—She added to the fortification of Tikari \(Gaya\) during the outbreak of 1857.

TILOTTAMA—A nymph. Originally a Brahman female but for the offence of bathing in an improper season, she was condemned to be born as an apsara, for bringing about the mutual destruction of two demons Sunda and Upasunda.

TIMI—One of the wives of Kasyapa; she gave birth to aquatic animals. \(Purana\)

TIRYA—Daughter of Krodha; wife of Pulaha. \(Purana\)

TIRUMALAMBA DEVI—Author of Varadambika Parinayam. (14th C)

TISSA—One of the three Buddhist alms women who returned to the house-hold life. Tissa took the step when she felt that Mahakassapa had spoken irreverently of Ananda. (Sam. Nik.)
TISHYARAKSHITA—Wife of Asoka and step mother of Kunala.

TITIKSU—Daughter of Daksa; wife of Dharma and mother of Ksema. (Purana)

TORU DUTT—(1856-1874) Toru Dutt and Aru Dutt, two Bengali Christian sisters, wrote poetry.

TRAVANCORE SISTERS—Exponents of Bharatanatyam.

TRAYI—(i) Daughter of Savita. (Purana)
(ii) Vidya symbolical of Devi; said to be the body of Hari, forbidden to women, Sudras and fallen Brahmans. (Purana)

TRIBHUVANA MAHADEVI—Daughter of Rajamalla, a Naga chief from South and the queen of Lalitahara of Orissa. After her son Kusumhara’s death, on the entreaty of the chiefs, she ascended the Kara throne. Later she abdicated in favour of her grandson Lonabhara. She was a devotee of Vishnu.

TRIJATA—(i) A Rakshasi who befriended Sita while the latter was a captive of Ravana in Lanka.
(ii) Mind-born mother.

TRIPTA—Mother of Nanak; wife of Kalu of Talwandi. (16th C)

TRIPTI MITRA—Specialist in theatre-acting and well known actress; one of the founders of Bohurupee; wife of Sombhu; awarded Padma Shri in 1971.

TRISALA—Wife of Siddhartha and mother of Mahavira.

TRISANDHYA—Goddess enshrined at Godasrama. (Purana)

TRISI—Mother of Budha, a planet. (Purana)

TRIVAKRA—A hunchback maid who supplied unguents to Kamsa. For the mere asking, she gave them away to Krishna and his brother. Pleased at this, Krishna converted her into a beautiful maid. Mother of Visoka. (Purana)

TRIVENI—A Vaishnava lady of Sripuram; a Sanskrit writer; she composed hymns and plays.

TUKA BAI—Step Mother of Shivaji and mother of Vyenkoji.

TULSI BAI—Jaswant Rao Holkar’s favourite mistress. After the death of Jaswant Rao, Balram Seth, his Minister kept
her in power till the outbreak of the third Anglo-Maratha War, (1817-1818).

TUSITA—(i) Wife of Vedasiras and mother of Vibhu. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Kratu and mother of the Tisita gods; gave birth to Vishnu (by name Ajita) and Yajisa. (Purana)

TUSTI—(i) Daughter of Daksa and wife of Dharma, she gave birth to Muda. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Dhatra; deserted her husband for Soma. (Purana)

TVASTRI—One of the wives of Kali. (Purana)

TVISA—Daughter of Marichi and Sambhuti. (Purana)

U

UBHIRI—Mother who lamented over her daughter's death; wife of King Prasenajit. She was a disciple of Buddha and authoress of Therigatha.

UDAIPUR BEGUM—Favourite wife of Alamgir.

UDHAM BAI—Mother of emperor Ahmed Shah of Delhi; She received titles of Nawab Bai, Nawab Kudaia and Sahiba Zamani.

UGRADAMSTRI—Daughter of Meru, wife of Harivarsa. (Purana)

UGRASEN—Daughter of Ugrasena, wife of Akrura and mother of Deva. (Purana)

UGRA-TARA—(Also known as Nila-Sarasvati). A goddess of the Hindu pantheon.

UJJALA DEVI—A Bengali revolutionary who had to suffer imprisonment in early forties.

ULKASA—Daughter of Khasa and Raksasi. (Purana)

ULUKI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

ULUPI—Daughter of the Naga king of Manipur; wife of Arjuna and step mother and nurse of Babruvahana.
Uma—(Known by various names, such as Ambika, Gauri, Sati, Parvati) She was the daughter of Himavan and Mena and the consort of Siva, the god of gods. When Gauri and her father were going to Siva's home, in the way they met Rati who told them that Siva had burnt down her husband Kamadeva. Thereupon Himavan changed his mind of giving his daughter in marriage to such a person. But Gauri was determined and after her long penance, she was married with Siva and begot Kartikeya. She dedicated all her life to her husband.

Uma Nehru—She took active part in Gandhi Satyagraha, was dictator of the Provincial Congress Committee and suffered imprisonment. She was an M.P. and associated with many women's and educational institutions.

Umadevi—She invaded Belagavatti in Shimoga (Karnataka) when it was ruled by feudatory Madhavarasa. (12th C)

Unmattodumbari—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

Unnati—Daughter of Daksa, a wife of Dharma and mother of Darpa. (Purana)

Unnetas—Mother of Bhuva. (Purana)

Upadevi—(or Sisiravati), wife of Vasudeva and mother of Devata. (Purana)

Upadanaavi—(i) Daughter of Vaisvanara and wife of Hiranyaksa. (Purana)

(ii) Daughter of Sadasaya; wife of Raibhya and mother of Dusyanta. (Purana)

(iii) Daughter of Maya and Asura, lord of Talatala. (Purana)

Upadeva—One of the seven daughters of Devaka; a queen of Vadudeva and mother of ten sons. (Purana)

Upagupta—A Gupta princess; wife of Isvaravarman, the third king of Maukhari dynasty of Kanauj.

Upanisan—A Brahmavadini.

Uppa—(or Jaya devi); daughter of a spirit-driller and wife of king Jayapida of Kashmir. (7th C)

Uppalavanna—A Buddhist alms woman who started dwelling in a hut in the forest. But a relation of hers, who was earlier in love with her, came, hid under her bed and raped
her. She told this to other almsmen who told the Blessed One. She was praised for not clinging to the pleasures of the senses. Earlier, she and her mother were at enmity as they both loved one and the same man. When a layman Udayi persisted in his demand for cloth, she gave him the last one she had. (Sam Nik & Therigatha)

UPAVAHYAKA—Daughter of Bhajamana. (Purana)
URJ (A)—Daughter of Daksa; wife of Vasistha and mother of Chitraketu and Pundarika. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Pavana. (Purana)
URJASVATI—(i) Wife of Sukra and mother of Devayani. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Prana and mother of Ayu. (Purana)
(iii) Daughter of Priyavrata and Barhismati; wife of Suka and mother of Devayani. (Purana)
URJIA—Wife of Daksa. (Purana)

URMILA—Daughter of Janaka, wife of Lakshmana and mother of Gandharvi Somada.

URMILA DEVI—Sister of Deshabandhu Das; a leader of women’s movement in Bengal and President of Nari Satyagraha Committee. She sold Khaddar in Calcutta markets and propagated against the use of foreign cloth. She was arrested while selling handloom cloth, which stirred the women of Bengal. To a question why she had courted arrest, she replied, “We felt that although Bengal was sympathetic it was only a passive sympathy. To make it most dynamic, we thought Bengal should be approached in a special manner of involving to cause a special manner of sacrifice and so our arrest produced the desired effect.” She urged the women to join and said that women would be called upon to take responsibility when men were put behind the bars.

URMILA PARIKH—A pioneer of aviation.

URNA—(i) Queen of Chitraratha and mother of Samrat. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Marichi. (Purana)

URVASHI—A celestial nymph who was united with King Pururavas, but after living with him for four autumns, she suddenly left him when he violated the stipulated conditions of their union. The king made futile entreaties to her to
return to him. She figures with Purvachitti, another apsaras (Yajurveda). She is represented as harassed thrice a day by Pururuvvas who calls her ghora (a terrific one), though she is generous and compassionate. The sight of her beauty is said to have caused the generation of Agastya and Vasishtha by Mitra and Varuna.

USAS—(i) Wife of Vibhavasu, mother of Vyusta. (Purana)

(ii) Night; a mind-born mother. (Purana)

USHA—Daughter of Bana. She fell in love with a prince whom she saw in a dream. Her friend Chitralekha drew many portraits but Usha’s choice fell on Aniruddha. Chitralekha had him brought by magic. Krishna rescued his son after a great battle and Usha was married to Aniruddha.

USHA MEHTA—A freedom fighter, she ran a clandestine radio in 1942 for which she was arrested and sentenced to four years’ imprisonment.

USHA MITRA—A fiction-writer.

USHA RAM SAINANI—The first woman hydraulic engineer of India. (20th C)

USHAS—An apsara. She is pursued by her paramour Vena (none else but Aditya) in the sky.

USIJ—A female slave; her son Kakshivant was a well known sage. (Rigveda)

UTKATA—Queen of Samrat and mother of Marichi. (Purana)

UTKAVA—Daughter of Khasa. (Purana)

UTKRSTA—Daughter of Khasa after whom came the Autkarsteya Gana. (Purana)

UTTAMA—A Buddhist preacher; she was inspired by Patachara’s speech. (Therigatha)

UTTANAPADA—An epithet of the Mother Goddess.

UTTARA—(i) Daughter of King Virata; queen of Abhimanyu and mother of Parikshit. (Purana)

(ii) A lay disciple and follower of Buddhism; she arranged with the courtesan Sirima to be her husband’s mistress for a fortnight and abstained herself so as to give alms and to listen to Dharma. They both benefitted from the Buddhist order. She was a beautiful woman conscious of her beauty even after
taking to Buddhism. Ananda asked her to understand the frailty of the body.

UTTARMALIKA—A goddess following Revati. (Purana)
UMDA—A young Muslim woman from U.P. who took part in the Great Revolution against British rule in 1857. She was executed on the gallows.

V

VACH—(i) A Brahmavadini. Her hymns laid down the highest ideals of a Brahmavadini.
(ii) Personification of ‘Speech’—‘the queen of gods’.
VACHAKNAVI GARGI—Patronymic of a woman who was a student of Brahman. (see Gargi Vachaknavi).
VADAVA PRATITHEYI—One of the great Vedic teachers and philosophers whose memory was honoured at the time of Brahmayajna. (Asvalayan-Grihasutras.
VADHRIMATI—Wife of a eunuch; she got a son by Asvins.
VAGALA—Deity worshipped by Saktas in connection with six magic rites.
VAIROLI—Yakshini of Vimalanatha, 13th Arhat of the Jains.
VAJJI—A Kannada poetess. She exclaimed in a verse that the author who described Saraswati, the goddess of learning, as being of fair colour did not ardently know that (Vajji) was dark. (15th C)
VAJJUKA—A Maratha poetess; she wrote devotional songs.
VAJRASRINKHALA—Yakshini of Abhinandana, 4th Arhat of the Jains, according to Digambara.
VAJRAVATI—A Sakti.
VAK—Daughter of sage Ambrisa, author of the famous hymn which is said to contain the nucleus of the latter
Vedanta. She realized her oneness with the Absolute, and cried out in spiritual joy: ‘I am the sovereign queen—He who eats does so through me; he who sees breathes or hears does so through me. Creating all things, I blow forth like the wind. Beyond heaven, beyond the earth am I—so vast is my greatness’. (Rigveda).

VAKA—Daughter of Malyavan, wife of Visravas and mother of Dusana. (Purana)

VAKUL-MAHADEVI—Step mother of Dandi-Mahadevi whom she succeeded. She has been described as 'an ornament like a flag with insignia in the family of the Bhanja kings'. (10th C)

VAMA—Queen of Asvasena of Varanasi and mother of Lord Parsa who preceeded Mahavira by 250 years.

VAMADEVA—Mother of Parsvanatha, 23rd Arhat of the Jains by Asvasenaraja.

VANVAN MAHADEVI—A Kerala princess; wife of King Parvataka Viranarayan Pandya.

VARALAKSHMI—Dancer of Kumbakonam.

VARANASI BAI—Wife of Baji Rao II; a talented woman and a great scholar of Sanskrit.

VARUNI—(i) Wife of Chaksusa and mother of Manu. (Purana)

(ii) Wife of Varuna.

(iii) Leader of the female convers of Pushpadanta, 9th Arhat of the Jains.

VASABHAKHATIYA—(also known as Vasabha); a consort of Prasenajit, king of Kosala; at Buddha's command, Anand preached her in Dharma.

VASANTHAKUMARI M.L.—A renowned musician. (20th)

VASIGIAMMAL S.—Wife of C. Subramanyam of Tamilnadu. She took part in the Quit India Movement, 1942; was arrested and sentenced to jail.

VASITTHI—Worn and crazy with grief at the death of her child. for three years she wandered till she met the Buddha and became his disciple.

VASANA—Wife of Arka. (Purana)
VASATA—Daughter of Suryavarman and wife of Harshagupta; she was a devout worshipper of Vishnu and built a temple at Sripura.

VASAVADATTA—Wife of King Udayan.

VASAVI—One of the names of Satyevati. (see Satyavati).

VASORDHARA—Wife of Agni and mother of Dravinaka. (Purana)

VASU—(i) Wife of Maricha; she left her husband for Soma. (Purana)

(ii) A daughter of Daksa and one of the wives of Dharma. (Purana)

VATSADEVI—Grand daughter of Adityasena; queen of Siradena of Nepal. (7-8th C)

VATSI—A female descendant of Vatsa.

VEDANTAM—A dictator of war council. (20th C)

VEERAMMAJI—Rani of Bednur; when she found her position against Hyder Ali precarious, she burnt her palace and destroyed boxes of jewellery, and accompanied by 2-3 persons escaped on foot through a water-drain to Kavaledurga where she was captured by Hyder Ali. She was sent in captivity to Madhugiri with her adopted son. Hyder confiscated her wealth of Rs. 18 crores. (18th C)

VEENA PUROHIT—Of Bombay; she is a renowned hair stylist and is well known for her Indian coiffures. (20th C)

VEERAMMA—(i) She defended her land of Bednur against Hyder Ali's attack for three months.

(ii) Of Kittur, Channamma and Veeramma defended their state against the British.

VEERSINGHE CHINNAPPA—She started the maternity and child welfare scheme of the Madras Corporation in 1918.

VEGADEVI—Wife of Ishtaganadeva, ruler of Garhwal.

VELLODI Smt.—She did pioneering child welfare work in Andhra Pradesh.

VELA—Daughter of Dharani and Meru. (Purana)

VENABAI—Saint; she was disciple of Ramdas, the great saint of 17th century. She is also known as Venaswami Ramadasi. She underwent persecution from her husband and
her own family for being a follower of Ramadas. (17th C)

**VENGAMA**—Telugu poetess during the first half of the 19th century.

**VENKATA SUBBA RAO, LADY**—A social worker. (20th C)

**VICTORIA GAURAMMA**—Princess of Coorg; while infant, her father Prince Rajendra Wader took her to u.k. where she was baptised as “Victoria”.

**VIDEHIKA**—A gentle and mild woman who on finding her maid servant Kali’s inquisitiveness about herself, struck her on head with lynch pins; the only reference in Buddhist canonical literature where a slave girl has been maltreated. *(Majjhima)*

**VIDITA**—Yakshini of Vimalanatha, 13th Arhat of the Jains.

**VIDULA**—She sternly reprimanded her son Sanjaya who on his defeat by the king of Sind was leading a life of abject dejection. She inspired him to fight for his lost glory by saying:

\[
\text{मुद्धते स व्यवितम् कथं:}
\text{न हु श्राब्धितम् शरम् ।}
\]

(It is better to blaze up even for a moment than to go on smoking continuously.)

**VIDYA**—goddess of learning.

**VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI**—M.P. (Rajya Sabha) from Madhya Pradesh.

**VIDYA KILLEWALA**—A Youth League leader of Bombay; she took active part in theforties in freedom struggle.

**VIDYABAHEN RAMANBHAI NILKANTHA**—A distinguished fiction writer of Gujarati. (20th C)

**VIDYADHARA**—Maid who met Durvasa. *(Purana)*

**VIDYOTTAMA**—Wife of Kalidasa. The famous saying is: जनकृत कथां द्वार देभि वासित कविध्व वाक्षिकयः।

**VIDYAVATI**—Wife of Bali, a virtuous king.

**VIJAMBA**—A Kalchuri princess, married to Rashtrakuta Indra.

**VIJAYA**—(i) A great friend of Khema; when Khema
joined the Buddhist Order, she also joined it. *(Therigatha)*

(ii) Wife of Yama.

(iii) Yakshini of Kunthunatha, 17th Arhat of the Jains.

*(Dig.)*

(iv) Queen of Ranabhanja of Orissa. She was daughter of Ranaka Niyarna. (10th C)

VIJAYABHATTARIKA—Wife of Chandraditya, elder brother of Vikramaditya I, a Chalukya king. She ruled the Deccan; she may have been the celebrated poetess. (7th C)

VIJAYA MAHADEVI—Cheif queen of Vishnuvardhana and mother of Vijayaditya who succeeded Vishnuvardhana III. (8th C)

VIJAYALAKSHMI PANDIT—India’s ambassador to USSR, USA etc. She was the first woman President of United Nations. She was daughter of Motilal Nehru and sister of Jawaharlal Nehru and herself a great freedom fighter. She suffered jail sentences. Her husband Pandit was a scholar-lawyer.

VIJAYAMATA—Mother of Ajitanatha, the 2nd Arhat of Jains by Jitasatriu.

VIJAYARAJE SCINDIA—M.P. (Lok Sabha) from Madhya Pradesh, wife of the former ruler of Gwalior, Jiwaji Rao Scindia; has set up many educational institutions.

VIKALANI LAMBA—Wrote devotional songs in Marathi.

VIKESI—Wife of Agni.

VIMLA—A courtesan; she entered the Order and attained the arhanship. *(Therigatha)*

VIMLA PATIL—A well known journalist; editor of *Femina*.

VIMALA SHARMA—Wife of Mr. S.D. Sharma, Union Cabinet Minister; a prominent social worker of Madhya Pradesh.

VIMALADEVI D. UDESHI—Daughter of T.P. Sampat, ex-minister of former Gondal State, connected with women’s organisations; interested in birth control and widow-remarriage.

VINDHYAVASINI—A goddess.
VINATA—Daughter of Daksa and wife of Tarksyā (or Tarkṣa); mother of birds, snakes. (Pūrana)
VINAYAMAHADEVI—Wife of Kamarnava Ganga, a Vaidumba princess.
VINDYALI—One of the two wives of Bali.
VINODBEHN ISHWARBAI DESAI—A prominent social worker of Ahmedabad. She ran a school for blind girls. (20th C)
VINOO INDRANI—Exponent of Bharatanatyam.
VIOLET ALVA—Was Dy. Minister in the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
VIPARARANI—Mother of Naminatha, 21st Arhat of the Jains by Vijayaraja.
VIRAJA—Mind-born daughter of the Ajyapapitrus; wife of Nahusa, mother of six sons including Yati, Yayati, Ayati, Samyati; comparable to Indra in effulgence. (Pūrana)
VINASEKHARANANGAI—A dancing girl in the reign of Jatavarman Pandya of South India; she received grants of lands for enacting dramas on festive occasions.
VIRASRI—Daughter of Karna Kalachari; married to the Yadava King Jitavarman. (20th C)
VIRGINIA MARY MITRA—The first Indian woman to take M.D. in India. (20th C)
VINNI—Wife of Chaksu and mother of Manu. (Pūrana)
VIROCHANA—Wife of Tvasta and mother of Viraja. (Pūrana)
VIRYAKALI—A sakti.
VISALA—Wife of Uruksava and mother of Puskari and Trayusana. (Pūrana)
VISALADEVI—A princess of Sura family; she was married to Vijayasena, the greatest king of the Sen dynasty of Bengal. She was mother of Vallalasena. She performed the Kanakatulapurusha mahadana ceremony in the royal palace at Vikrampura which was one of the capitals of the Senas. (12th C)
VISAKHA—An outstanding laywoman and supporter
of Buddhist faith. She was daughter of a rich merchant Dhananjaya of Bhaddiya (and grand daughter of Mendaka) in Bimbisar’s territory. When she was about 16, Buddha came to her town and at her grand-father’s advice, she went to listen to the Buddha. She was married to Punyavardhana, son of Migara, who was a heretic. But he permitted her to follow her own religious ways. She got a stupendous dowry of which one of the most outstanding was the magnificent creeper parure. Once she left it in the assembly where Buddha was preaching. Ananda picked it up and kept it safe for her to collect. But thinking that it had been touched by the Master, she donated it to Sangha for auction and putting up a place. But since no one could purchase it, she purchased it and gave the amount towards the construction of the Sangha.

VISHNA—Mother of Sreyamsanatha or Sreyasa 11th Arhat of the Jains.

VISHNUPRIYA—The second wife of Chaitanya.

VISPALA—She got an iron limb as replacement for the one she lost in a contest. (Rigveda)

VISVA DEVI—Widow of Padam Simha who was younger brother of Siva Simha. She succeeded to throne and reigned for 12 years. (1324-1402)

VISVACHI—An apsaras mentioned with another apsaras Ghritachi. (Yajurveda)

VISVARUPA—Wife of Dharma and mother of Dharma-vrata. (Purana)

VISVASUNDARAM—Inaugurator of the modern movement in Telugu, her work was included in the first anthology of modern poetry published in 1925.

VISWAVARA—Of the Atri race. She composed a hymn (in fifth Chapter of Rigveda); a revealer of Vedic wisdom, she lived the ideal life of spirituality and was untouched by the things of this world. (Rigveda)

VODA KHATONA—Beloved queen of Zain-ul-Abidin of Kashmir. ‘She was considered to the family of Saida what the moonlight is to the sea.’ Khatona was Toj Khatun Baihagi Begum, the daughter of Mahammad Baihagi
Kandhami. Her tomb is now a protected monument in Srinagar. (15th C)

**VRATAVATI**—Wife of Bhangakara; mother of three daughters—Satyabhamma, Vratini and Padmavati. *Purana*

**VRATINI**—Daughter of Bhangakara and Vratavati; wife of Krishna. *Purana*

**VRICHYA**—A spouse given by the Asvins to Kakshivant. *Rigveda*

**VRIKADEVI**—Wife of Vasudeva and mother of Nandaka. *Purana*

**VRASAKAPAYI**—A woman who was much liked by her mother-in-law.

**VYJANTHIMALA**—Exponent of Bharatanatyam, and actress.

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**W**

**WATUMAL Mrs.**—In her name there is a big foundation.

**WHEELER Mrs.**—An Inspectress of the Govt. of Bengal in the last decade of the 19th century.

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**Y**

**YADAVI**—Wife of Bahu; was poisoned by the co-wife to prevent pregnancy but escaped; was rescued by Aurva from the funeral fire of her husband who had died from slipping into the waters. *Purana*

**YADGAR SULTAN BEGUM**—Sister of Babur; daughter of Sultan Ghunchichi Begum.
YAKSHA—A Jain nun of the 4th century B.C.

YAKSHADINNA—Leader of the female converts of Neminatha, 22nd Arhat of the Jains.

YAKSHI—(i) (or Yakshini), wife of Kubera.
(ii) Attendant on Durga.

YAKSHINI MAHATTARA—A profound and brilliant scholar who contributed more than any other nun to the dissemination of Jain scripture. She defeated in a discourse the great learned Brahmin scholar Haribhadra Suri who later took pride in calling himself as Yakshini’s son. (7th C. A.D.)

YAMI—Wife of Yama.

YAMINI—Daughter of Daksa and wife of Tarksya (or Tarksa); mother of birds, snakes etc. (Purana)

YAMINI KRISHNAMURTI—A dancer. (20th C)

YAMUNA—Daughter of sun and sister of Yama. (Also name of a river).

YAMUNABAI—First wife of Anant Shastri; step mother of Pandita Ramabai.

YAMYA—An apsaras.

YASODA (i) Wife of Nanda (Gopa); she brought up Krishna. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Amsuman and mother of Dilipa.
(iii) Mind-born daughter of Havismanta Pitr. (Purana)
(iv) Mind-born daughter of Upahuta and mother of khatvanga. (Purana)
(v) Wife of Mahavira (Vardhaman) and mother of Anojja.

YASODEVI (i) Wife of Brahakarma and mother of Brahadratha. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Brahmananas; daughter of Saibya, the Chedi King. (Purana)

YASODHARA (OR VAIROCHANA)—Wife of Tvasta, daughter of Virochana. (Purana)

YASODHARA—(also known as Bhadda Kachchana, Subhadrata, Bimba and Gopa.) Wife of Gautama; he left her with son Rahula to become Buddha. When Buddha visited Kapilavastu, she sent Rahula to ask Buddha for his patri-
mony. At Buddha’s command Anand gave Rahula a begging bowl and yellow cloth. She too then became a follower of Buddha. Later she became his disciple. When she was in her 78th year, she met Buddha on the day of her death; when he saw her had the feeling of it being her last day. (also see Gopa) For her sacrifice, people out of gratitude named her Yasodhara—the bearer of renown. (Apadana).

YASHOVATI—Queen of Damodara of Kashmir; Krishna installed her on the throne after the death of Damodara.

YATI—Wife of Kakutha and mother of Gau. (Purana)

YAUVAVASRI—Daughter of Karna in the royal line of Chedi; she was one of the queens of the Pala king Vigrahapala III (11th C).

YESU BAI—Wife of Shambhuji; mother of Shahu, the Maratha leader.

YOGASIDDHI—Wife of Prabhasa, the eighth Vasu; sister of Brahaspati; mother of Visvakarman. (Purana)

YOGESHWARI—(also known as Brahmani.) She taught Ramakrishna Paramahansa the method of God-realization.

YOGANIDRA—Sister of Krishna.

YOGINDRA MOHINI BISWAS (1851-1924)—Also known as Yogin-Ma; was a disciple of Ramakrishna. She assisted Sister Nivedita in preparing one of her books entitled Cradle Tales of Hinduism.

YOGINI—A sorceress. Eight yoginis attend on Durga. Their names are—Marjani, Karpura, Tilaka, Malaya, Gandhini, Kaumidika, Bherunda, Matali, Nayaki, Jaya or Subhachara.

YOJANAGANDHI—One of the names of Satyavati. (see Satyavati).
Z

ZAMANI BEGUM SULTAN—Widow of Firoz Shah.

ZARINA CURRIMBHOY—A prominent social worker; specialised in the organization of home industry and of home food supply by Muslim women for the workers of industrial Bombay; was a member of the Central Social Welfare Board.

ZAT UN-NISA—Daughter of emperor Alamgir and Nawab Bai; married to one of the sons of Dara Sukoh.

ZEB UN NISSA—She was a Sufi poetess (1639-1709).

Here is a verse of hers:

When from my cheek I lift my veil
The roses turn with envy pale
And from their pierced heart rich with pain
Send forth their fragrance like a wail
Oh if perchance one perfumed tress
Be lowered to the wind’s caress
The honeyed hyacinths complain
And languish in a sweet distress
And, when I pause, still groves among
(Such loneliness is mine) a throng
Of nightangle awake and strain
Their soul into a quivering song.

ZEHRA—A progressive woman of early 20th Century.

ZIBA—Hindu mother of Sikandar Lodi and daughter of a goldsmith of Sirhind.

ZINAT-UN-NISA—(i) Daughter of Aurangzeb; expert in calligraphy and Arabic and Persian scholar; she collected a good library. The Charburg Garden of Lahore belonged to her and it was the site of her literary efforts and pursuits.

(ii) Daughter of Murshid Quli, Dewan and Nizam of Bengal and Orissa and wife of Shuja-ud-daula, who succeeded Murshid Quli Khan;
(iii) Daughter of emperor Alamgir; she built a red stone mosque in Daryagunj; died 1710; mother of Sarfaraz.

ZINAT MAHAL—(i) Title of Bilal Kunwar, mother of Shah Alam of Delhi.

(ii) Wife of the Bahadur Shah, the last king of Delhi. She went as a State prisoner with her husband to Rangoon after the revolt of 1857.

ZOHRA BEGUM—Daughter of Alamgir II married to Timur, son of Ahmad Shah Durrani.

ZUBEIDA KHATOON SHERWANI—An Urdu poetess of Aligarh.