The Markandeya-Purāṇa (MKP), which is one of the eighteen Mahā-Purāṇas, occupies an important place in the Purānic literature. The reasons for selecting the MKP have been pointed out in statement No.1. It may be mentioned here that in the present work the Venkateshwar edition of the MKP has been referred to, but the variant readings of the Calcutta edition (BI) have also been noticed at proper places of this thesis. Further it may also be noted that the unspecified references such as 1.5 always refer to the MKP, thus 1.5 = MKP 1.5.

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