

The holy land of Kurukshetra is described in Yajurveda as the place of sacrifices of Devas like Indra, Vishnu and Shiva. It was known as the "Uttar-Vedi" of Brahma before King Kuru, the great ancestor of Kaurvas and Pandvas, came here. According to the tradition, it lays between the old sacred rivers Saraswati and Drishadwati and was known as Brahmavarta. The beauty of this region is frequently alluded in to Vedic poetry. Kurukshetra has been a symbol of sanctity and holiness for centuries. Traditionally, its dust blown by the winds or by the feet of pilgrims would like a sinner of paramgati (complete communication with God). All who die here attain moksha (deliverance from taking birth again and again). The very thought of living there would rid a person of all his sins. According to the Mahabharata, Kurukshetra is a tirath par excellence in all the three worlds. Nowadays, Kurukshetra is especially popular as a place of pilgrimage during the Solar Eclipse when two million people throng to take bath in the sacred tanks.

The Editor