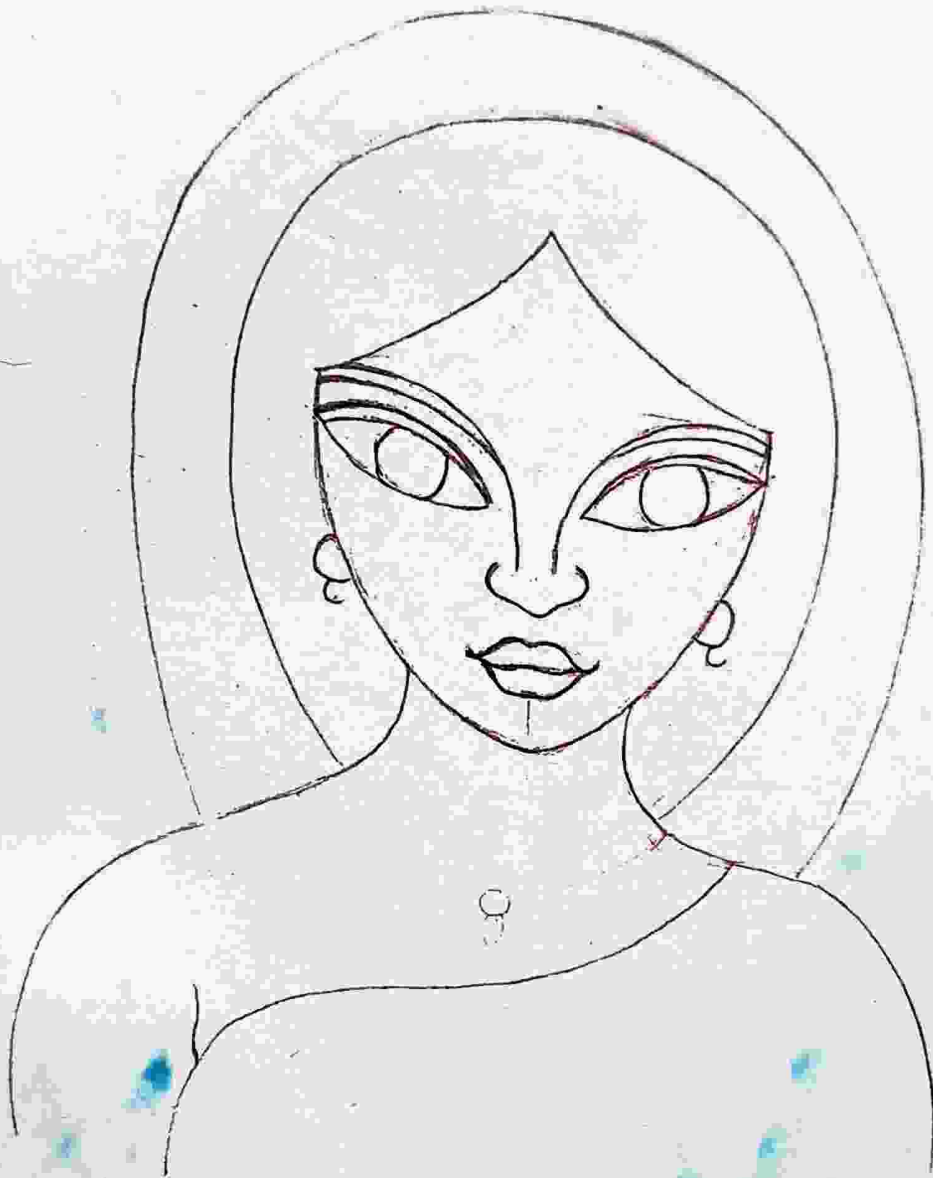


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History of the Name of Bharatvarsa According to Sanskrit Literature

Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Tiwary & Ms. Loopamudra Goswami

Abstract

The term Bharatvarsa holds profound significance in the cultural, historical, and philosophical fabric of India. Sanskrit literature, encompassing the Vedas, Puranas, Itihasas, and philosophical treatises, presents diverse accounts and interpretations of the origin, evolution, and cultural significance of the name Bharatvarsa. This paper explores the etymological roots of the term, its mythological and historical connotations, and the contexts in which it has been celebrated in Sanskrit texts. By delving into literary sources, this paper seeks to unravel the layered meanings of Bharatvarsa and its enduring relevance in Indian consciousness.

Keywords: *Bharatvarsa, Sanskrit literature, Vedas, Puranas, Itihasas, Bharatiya Darshan, Cultural identity, Mythology.*

Introduction:

The name Bharatvarsa has a unique place in the cultural identity of India. While modern India derives its name from this ancient term, its origins are deeply rooted in the Sanskrit corpus, representing a blend of mythology, philosophy, and history. The word Bharat is believed to have multiple origins, the most prominent being its association with King Bharata, the son of Dushyanta and Shakuntala, and a central figure in the Mahabharata. Another interpretation connects the term to Bharata, the son of Rishabha, who is revered in Jain and Hindu traditions. The suffix varsha signifies a realm or region. This paper investigates the