

An early morning journey

- ॐ Once the Lord desired to go early in the morning with all His cowherd boy friends to the forest, where they were to assemble together and take lunch.
- ॐ As soon as He got up from bed, He blew a buffalo horn and called all His friends together.
- ॐ Keeping the calves before them, they started for the forest.
- ॐ They were each equipped with a stick, flute and horn as well as lunch bag,
- ॐ Each of them was taking care of thousands of calves.
- ॐ All the boys appeared very jolly and happy in that excursion.
- ॐ Each and every one of them was attentive for his personal calves.
- ॐ The boys were fully decorated with various kinds of golden ornaments and out of sporting propensities they began to pick up flowers, leaves, twigs, peacock feathers and red clay from different places in the forest, and they began to dress themselves in different ways.
- ॐ While passing through the forest, one boy stole another boy's lunch package and passed it to a third.
- ॐ And when the boy whose lunch package was stolen came to know of it, he tried to take it back.
- ॐ But one threw it to another boy.
- ॐ When Lord Kṛṣṇa went ahead to a distant place in order to see some specific scenery, the boys behind Him tried to run to catch up and be the first to touch Him.
- ॐ One would say, "I will go there and touch Kṛṣṇa,"
- ॐ Another would say, "Oh you cannot go. I'll touch Kṛṣṇa first."
- ॐ Some of them played on their flutes or vibrated bugles made of buffalo horn.
- ॐ Some of them gladly followed the peacocks and imitated the onomatopoeic sounds of the cuckoo.
- ॐ While the birds were flying in the sky, the boys ran after the birds' shadows along the ground and tried to follow their exact courses.
- ॐ Some of them went to the monkeys and silently sat down by them, and some of them imitated the dancing of the peacocks.
- ॐ Some of them caught the tails of the monkeys and played with them, and when the monkeys jumped in a tree, the boys also followed.
- ॐ When a monkey showed its face and teeth, a boy imitated and showed his teeth to the monkey.
- ॐ Some of the boys played with the frogs on the bank of the Yamuna, and when, out of fear, the frogs jumped in the water, the boys immediately dove in after them, and they would come out of the water when they saw their own shadows and stand imitating, making caricatures and laughing.

Description is found
Srimad Bhagavatam
(Krishna Book)

ॐ They would also go to an empty well and make loud sounds, and when the echo came back, they would call it ill names and laugh.

Aghasura appears

ॐ Aghasura is impatient seeing K and friends playing and wants to kill all of them since he is the younger brother of Baka and Putana

ॐ Expanded himself via *mahima siddhi* to eight miles long in a serpent shape (2 miles when coiled)

ॐ Open mouth looked like a cave

ॐ Lower lip touching ground, upper lip touching clouds

ॐ Teeth appeared like mountain summits

ॐ Tongue appeared to be a path

ॐ Breathing was like a hurricane

ॐ At first all gopas thought was a statue

ॐ Then began to think it was a giant snake

ॐ The boys began to talk among themselves: "This figure appears to be a great animal, and he is sitting in such a posture just to swallow us all. Just see--is it not a big snake that has widened his mouth to eat all of us?"

ॐ One of them said, "Yes, what you say is true. This animal's upper lip appears to be just like the sunshine, and its lower lip is just like the reflection of red sunshine on the ground. Dear friends, just look to the right and left hand side of the mouth of the animal. Its mouth appears to be like a big mountain cave, and its height cannot be estimated. The chin is also raised just like a mountain summit. That long highway appears to be its tongue, and inside the mouth it is as dark as in a mountain cave. The hot wind that is blowing like a hurricane is his breathing, and the fishy bad smell coming out from his mouth is the smell of his intestines."

ॐ Then they further consulted among themselves: "If we all at one time entered into the mouth of this great serpent, how could it possibly swallow all of us? And even if it were to swallow all of us at once, it could not swallow Kṛṣṇa. Kṛṣṇa will immediately kill him, as He did Bakasura."

ॐ Talking in this way, all the boys looked at the beautiful lotus-like face of Kṛṣṇa, and they began to clap and smile. And so they marched forward and entered the mouth of the gigantic serpent.

Aghāsura liberated

ॐ Meanwhile, Kṛṣṇa, who is the Supersoul within everyone's heart, could understand that the big statuesque figure was a demon.

ॐ While He was planning how to stop the destruction of His intimate friends, all the boys along with their cows and calves entered the mouth of the serpent.

Description is an amalgamation of those found in *Srimad Bhagavatam* (Krishna Book) and *Garga Samhita* (Canto 2, chapter 6)

- ॐ But Kṛṣṇa did not enter.
- ॐ The demon was awaiting Kṛṣṇa's entrance, and he was thinking, "Everyone has entered except Kṛṣṇa, who has killed my brothers and sisters."
- ॐ Kṛṣṇa became, momentarily, aggrieved.
- ॐ He was also struck with wonder how the external energy works so wonderfully.
- ॐ He then began to consider how the demon should be killed and how He could save the boys and calves.
- ॐ Finally, after some deliberation, He also entered the mouth of the demon.
- ॐ When Kṛṣṇa entered, all the demigods, who had gathered to see the fun and who were hiding within the clouds, began to express their feelings with the words, "Alas! alas!"
- ॐ At the same time, all the friends of Aghasura, especially Kamsa, who were all accustomed to eating flesh and blood, began to express their jubilation, understanding that Kṛṣṇa had also entered the mouth of the demon.
- ॐ While the demon was trying to smash Kṛṣṇa and His companions, Kṛṣṇa heard the demigods crying, "Alas, alas," and He immediately began to expand his universal form within the throat of the demon.
- ॐ Although he had a gigantic body, the demon choked by the expanding of Kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ His big eyes moved violently, and he quickly suffocated.
- ॐ His life-air could not come out from any source, and ultimately it burst out of a hole in the upper part of his skull.
- ॐ Thus his life-air passed off.
- ॐ After the demon dropped dead, Kṛṣṇa, with His transcendental glance alone, brought all the boys and calves back to consciousness and came with them out of the mouth of the demon.
- ॐ While Kṛṣṇa was within the mouth of Aghasura, the demon's spirit soul came out like a dazzling light, illuminating all directions, and waited in the sky.
- ॐ As soon as Kṛṣṇa with His calves and friends came out of the mouth of the demon, that glittering effulgent light immediately merged into the body of Kṛṣṇa within the vision of all the demigods.
- ॐ *Sarupya mukti*
- ॐ The demigods became overwhelmed with joy and began to shower flowers on the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Kṛṣṇa, and thus they worshiped Him.
- ॐ The denizens of heaven began to dance in jubilation, and the denizens in Gandharvaloka began to offer various kinds of prayers.
- ॐ Drummers began to beat drums in jubilation, the brahmanas began to recite Vedic hymns, and all the devotees of the Lord began to chant the words, "Jaya! Jaya! All glories to the Supreme Personality of Godhead!"

Brahma's curiosity

- ॐ When Lord Brahma heard those auspicious vibrations which sounded throughout the higher planetary system, he immediately came down to see what had happened.
- ॐ He saw that the demon was killed, and he was struck with wonder at the uncommon glorious pastimes of the Personality of Godhead.
- ॐ The gigantic mouth of the demon remained in an open position for many days and gradually dried up; it remained a spot of pleasure pastimes for all the cowherd boys.
- ॐ The killing of Aghasura took place when Kṛṣṇa and all His boy friends were under five years old.
- ॐ So for one year there was no discussion of the incident of the Aghasura demon in the village of Vraja.
- ॐ But when they attained their sixth year, they informed their parents of the incident with great wonder.

Description is found
Srimad Bhagavatam
(Krishna Book)