

Note: I switched the order of chapters 26 & 27 because it seems to make more sense in terms of chronology.

### Wonderful Kṛṣṇa

Description is found  
Srimad Bhagavatam  
(Krishna Book)

- ॐ Without understanding the intricacies of Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and without knowing His uncommon spiritual opulences, the innocent cowherd boys and men of Vṛndāvana began to discuss the wonderful activities of Kṛṣṇa, which surpass the activities of all men.
- ॐ One of them said, “My dear friends, considering His wonderful activities, how is it possible that such an uncommon boy would come and live with us in Vṛndāvana?”
- ॐ It is really not possible.
- ॐ Just imagine!
- ॐ He is now only seven years old!
- ॐ How is it possible for Him to lift Govardhana Hill in one hand and hold it up just as the king of elephants holds a lotus flower?
- ॐ To lift a lotus flower is a most insignificant thing for an elephant, and similarly Kṛṣṇa lifted Govardhana Hill without exertion.
- ॐ When He was simply a small baby and could not even see properly, He killed a great demon, Pūtanā.
- ॐ While sucking her breast, He also sucked out her life air.
- ॐ Kṛṣṇa killed the Pūtanā demon exactly as eternal time kills a living creature in due course.
- ॐ When He was only three months old, He was sleeping underneath a hand-driven cart.
- ॐ Being hungry for His mother’s breast, He began to cry and throw His legs upwards. And from the kicking of His small feet the cart immediately broke apart and fell to pieces.
- ॐ When He was only one year old, He was carried away by the Tṛṇāvarta demon disguised as a whirlwind, and although He was taken very high in the sky, He simply hung on the neck of the demon and forced him to fall from the sky and immediately die.
- ॐ Once His mother, being disturbed by His stealing butter, tied Him to a wooden mortar, and the child pulled it toward a pair of trees known as yamala-arjuna and caused them to fall.
- ॐ Once, when He was engaged in tending the calves in the forest along with His elder brother, Balarāma, a demon named Bakāsura appeared, and Kṛṣṇa at once bifurcated the demon’s beak.
- ॐ When the demon known as Vatsāsura entered among the calves tended by Kṛṣṇa with a desire to kill Him, He immediately detected the demon, killed him and threw him into a tree.

- ॐ When Kṛṣṇa, along with His brother, Balarāma, entered the Tālavana forest, the demon known as Dhenukāsura, in the shape of an ass, attacked Them and was immediately killed by Balarāma, who caught his hind legs and threw him into a palm tree.
- ॐ Although the Dhenukāsura demon was assisted by his cohorts, also in the shape of asses, all were killed, and the Tālavana forest was then open for the use of the animals and inhabitants of Vṛndāvana.
- ॐ When Pralambāsura entered amongst Kṛṣṇa’s cowherd boyfriends, Kṛṣṇa caused him to be killed by Balarāma.
- ॐ Thereafter, Kṛṣṇa saved His friends and cows from a severe forest fire, and He chastised the Kāliya serpent in the lake of the Yamunā River and forced him to leave the vicinity of the Yamunā; He thereby made the water of the Yamunā poisonless.”
- ॐ
- ॐ Another one of the friends of Nanda Mahārāja said, “My dear Nanda, we do not know why we are so attracted by your son Kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ We want to forget Him, but this is impossible.
- ॐ Why are we so naturally affectionate toward Him? Just imagine how wonderful it is!
- ॐ On one hand He is only a boy of seven years, and on the other hand there is a huge hill like Govardhana Hill, and He lifted it so easily!
- ॐ O Nanda Mahārāja, we are now in great doubt—your son Kṛṣṇa must be one of the demigods.
- ॐ He is not at all an ordinary boy.
- ॐ Maybe He is the Supreme Personality of Godhead.”
- ॐ
- ॐ Having seen Kṛṣṇa wonderful and surprising pastimes, the gopas and gopīs said to Nanda and Yaśodā:
- ॐ O king of the gopas, no one in your family could lift a hill.
- ॐ O Yaśodā, you could not hold even a single rock for seven days.
- ॐ What is the strength of a seven-year-old boy?
- ॐ How strong must one be to lift Govardhana Hill, the king of mountains?
- ॐ We have begun to doubt the identity of your unnaturally strong boy.
- ॐ With one hand He playfully held up the greatest of mountains as an elephant holds up a lotus flower or a child holds up a mushroom.
- ॐ O Yaśodā, your complexion is fair.
- ॐ O Nanda, your complexion is also fair.
- ॐ This boy is very dark.
- ॐ He is different from the rest of the family.
- ॐ This boy is like a kṣatriya.
- ॐ For Balarāma a kṣatriya's nature is not unexpected.

Description is found  
in Garga Saṁhitā  
(Canto 3, Chapter 5)

- ॐ He was born in a kṣatriya family descended from the moon-god.
- ॐ If you don't tell us the truth, we will leave the community.
- ॐ Was this boy really born in a family of gopas?
- ॐ If you don't tell us, there will be a great quarrel.
- ॐ
- ॐ As she heard the gopas' words, Yaśodā became gripped with fear.
- ॐ Then King Nanda spoke to the angry gopas.
- ॐ On hearing the praises of the cowherd men in Vṛndāvana, King Nanda said, "My dear friends, in reply to you I can simply present the statement of Garga Muni so that your doubts/concerns may be cleared.
- ॐ In the word "Kṛṣṇa" the letter "k" means "the lover of the goddess of fortune",
- ॐ "ṛ" means "Lord Rāmacandra",
- ॐ "ṣ" means "the Lord of six opulences"
- ॐ or "the Lord who resides in Śvetadvīpa".
- ॐ "N" means "Lord Nṛsimha",
- ॐ "a" means "the eternal one" or "the Lord who enjoys what is offered in the sacrificial fire",
- ॐ and "ḥ" means "the Nara-Nārāyaṇa Ṛṣis".
- ॐ These six letters combine to form the name of the original Supreme Personality of Godhead, who is perfect and complete.
- ॐ That is why this boy is named Kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ When he came to perform the name-giving ceremony, he said that this boy descends in different periods of time in different colors and that this time He has appeared in Vṛndāvana in a blackish color, known as kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ Previously He had a white color, then a red color, then a yellow color. He also said that this boy was once the son of Vasudeva, and everyone who knows of His previous birth calls Him Vāsudeva.
- ॐ Because He is the Lord (deva) that rules over the eight vasus (the heart, mind, intelligence, and the five senses), He is also called Vāsudeva.
- ॐ Because He is the husband (pati) of King Vṛṣabhānu's daughter Rādhā, who was born in the palace of Kīrti-devī, He is also called Rādhā-pati.
- ॐ Actually, he said that my son has many varieties of names, according to His different qualities and activities.
- ॐ Śrī Kṛṣṇa is the original Supreme Personality of Godhead. He is perfect and complete. He is the master of countless universes. In the transcendental abode of Goloka He shines with transcendental glory.

Description is an amalgamation of those found in Srimad Bhagavatam (Krishna Book) and Garga Saṁhitā (Canto 3, Chapter 5)

- ॐ Gargācārya assured me that this boy would be all-auspicious for my family and that He would be able to give transcendental blissful pleasure to all the cowherd men and cows in Vṛndāvana.
- ॐ Even though we would be put into various kinds of difficulties, by the grace of this boy we would be very easily freed from them.
- ॐ In order to relieve the earth of its burden, kill the demons headed by Kāmsa, and protect the devotees, the original Supreme Personality of Godhead has now become my son.
- ॐ His names are endless.
- ॐ His names are hidden even from the Vedas.
- ॐ His transcendental pastimes will show what His names are.
- ॐ Do not be surprised by them.
- ॐ He also said that formerly this boy saved the world from an unregulated condition, and He saved all honest men from the hands of the dishonest thieves.
- ॐ He also said that any fortunate man who becomes attached to this boy, Kṛṣṇa, is never vanquished or defeated by his enemy.
- ॐ On the whole, He is exactly like Lord Viṣṇu, who always takes the side of the demigods, who are consequently never defeated by the demons.
- ॐ Gargācārya thus concluded that my child would grow to be exactly like Viṣṇu in transcendental beauty, qualification, activities, influence and opulence, and so we should not be very astonished by His wonderful activities.
- ॐ When I heard Garga Muni say this about my son, I did not doubt his words. The words of the Vedas and the words of a brāhmaṇa are the final proof of what is true in this world.
- ॐ After telling me this, Gargācārya returned home, and since then we have been continually seeing the wonderful activities of this child.
- ॐ According to the version of Gargācārya, I consider that He must be Nārāyaṇa Himself, or maybe a plenary portion of Nārāyaṇa.”
- ॐ
- ॐ When all the cowherd men had very attentively heard the statements of Gargācārya through Nanda Mahārāja, they better appreciated the wonderful activities of Kṛṣṇa and became very jubilant and satisfied.
- ॐ They began to praise Nanda Mahārāja, because by consulting him their doubts about Kṛṣṇa were cleared.
- ॐ They said, “Let Kṛṣṇa, who is so kind, beautiful and merciful, protect us.
- ॐ When angry Indra sent torrents of rain, accompanied by showers of ice blocks and high wind, He immediately took compassion upon us and saved us and our families, cows and valuable possessions by picking up Govardhana Hill, just as a child picks up a mushroom.

Description is found  
Srimad Bhagavatam  
(Krishna Book)

ॐ He saved us so wonderfully. May He continue to glance mercifully over us and our cows.

ॐ May we live peacefully under the protection of wonderful Kṛṣṇa.”

ॐ

ॐ The gopas said: If the great sage Garga Muni actually came to your home and performed the name-giving ceremony, why did you not call your relatives to come and witness it?

ॐ You kept the name-giving ceremony a secret even when it was performed in your own home!

Description is found  
in Garga Saṁhitā  
(Canto 3, Chapter 5)

### **The Gopa’s approach King Vṛṣabhānu**

ॐ Their bodies filled with anger as they spoke these words, the gopas left Nanda's palace and went to King Vṛṣabhānu.

ॐ Filled with anger for their kinsman Nanda, all the gopas spoke to Nanda's friend, King Vṛṣabhānu.

ॐ

ॐ The gopas said: O King Vṛṣabhānu, you have a noble heart.

ॐ You are the best person in our community.

ॐ O king, O leader of the gopas, you should sever your ties of friendship with King Nanda.

ॐ

ॐ Śrī Vṛṣabhānu said: What wrong has King Nanda done that I should sever my ties of friendship with him?

ॐ King Nanda is worshiped by the gopas.

ॐ He is the crown that gloriously decorates our community. He is my dear friend.

ॐ

ॐ The gopas said: O king, if you do not sever your ties of friendship with him, we, the people of Vraja, will sever our ties of friendship with you.

ॐ O thoughtful one, in your home you have a grown-up daughter of marriageable age.

ॐ If you, the first person in our community, who have now become maddened with your wealth and opulences, find yourself unable to give Her in marriage to a suitable bridegroom, the fault will be yours alone.

ॐ If you do not for a long time sever your ties of friendship with King Nanda, we will ostracize you from our community.

ॐ O noble-hearted one, reject, reject King Nanda.

ॐ

ॐ Śrī Vṛṣabhānu said: O gopas, I will repeat for you Garga Muni's words.

ॐ Those words will make you free of all these anxieties.

ॐ

- ॐ Garga Muni said:
- ॐ The boy that was born in Nanda's home is the master of countless universes.
- ॐ He is the master of Goloka.
- ॐ He is greater than the greatest.
- ॐ No one is greater than Him.
- ॐ On the demigod Brahmā's request, Kṛṣṇa came to this universe to remove the earth's burden and kill the demons headed by Kāmsa.
- ॐ Śrī Rādhā, who in the realm of Goloka is Śrī Kṛṣṇa's first queen, has taken birth in your home.
- ॐ You do not know how exalted She is.
- ॐ I will not arrange the marriage of Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ They will be married in Bhāṇḍīravan forest by the Yamunā's shore.
- ॐ In a beautiful secluded place near Vṛndāvana forest the demigod Brahmā will perform their wedding.
- ॐ O best of the gopas, please understand that, in the palace of Goloka, Rādhā is the first queen of Śrī Kṛṣṇa, who is the Supreme Personality of Godhead, the crest jewel of the worlds.
- ॐ From Goloka all you gopas have come to the earth.
- ॐ The gopīs and cows have also come, by Rādhā's wish from Goloka.
- ॐ
- ॐ Śrī Vṛṣabhānu said: After speaking these words, the great sage Garga Muni left.
- ॐ From that day I have not doubted Rādhā's exalted position.
- ॐ The words of the Vedas and the words of a brāhmaṇa are the final proof of what is true in this world.
- ॐ O gopas, now I have explained all this to you.
- ॐ What more do you wish to hear?
- ॐ
- ॐ After hearing King Vṛṣabhānu's words, the surprised people of Vraja became peaceful and free of all doubts.
- ॐ The gopas said:
- ॐ O king, you speak the truth. Rādhā is Lord Hari's beloved. His potencies have made you become opulent and glorious in this world.
- ॐ We see that you have thousands of intoxicated elephants, tens of millions of restless horses, tens of millions of chariots glorious as the demigods' airplanes, tens of millions of beautiful palanquins, many millions and millions of cows beautiful with gold and jewels, many wonderful jewel palaces, and all possible pleasures.
- ॐ Even Kāmsa himself is defeated when he sees your wonderful strength.

Description is found  
in Garga Saṁhitā  
(Canto 3, Chapter 6)

- ॐ You are the son-in-law of King Bhalandana, the ruler of Kānyakubja. You are as rich as Kuvera.
- ॐ Even King Nanda's home does not have wealth and opulence equal to yours. The farmer King Nanda, who is the master of many cows, is poor-hearted in comparison to you.
- ॐ O master, if Nanda's son is in truth the Supreme Personality of Godhead, then please put Him to a test that will reveal His divinity as we all watch.

### **The pearl trees**

- ॐ Hearing their words, King Vṛṣabhānu devised a test to determine the extent of King Nanda's wealth.
- ॐ as everyone watched, King Vṛṣabhānu took ten million necklaces of giant pearls, each pearl splendid as ten million glittering crowns, placed them in many jewel caskets, and had many handsome men take them to King Nanda with a proposal for his son's marriage.
- ॐ Entering King Nanda's assembly, bowing down, and presenting the caskets of pearls, the handsome men bearing the marriage-proposal spoke to Nanda.
- ॐ
- ॐ The men bearing a marriage-proposal said: Aware that his daughter Rādhā, who is splendid as ten million moons and whose eyes are like new lotus flowers, is now old enough to be married, King Vṛṣabhānu has given some thought to who should be Her husband.
- ॐ He has decided on your son, who is charming as Kāmadeva himself, and whose powerful arm lifted Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ O master, O king of the vaiśyas, seeing us, glorious King Vṛṣabhānu sent us with this message.
- ॐ Please accept these pearls as a wedding-gift.
- ॐ Please give a similar gift to this girl.
- ॐ She is very respectable and glorious.
- ॐ
- ॐ Gazing at the precious gift, Nanda became filled with wonder.
- ॐ Thinking to ask Yaśodā if they had anything equal to that gift, he went to the palace's inner rooms.
- ॐ Thinking for a long time, King Nanda and glorious Yaśodā came to the same conclusion: "In our home there is nothing equal to these pearls.
- ॐ "If we do not give a proper gift we will be embarrassed before everyone.
- ॐ Everyone will laugh at us.
- ॐ What should we do?
- ॐ What can we give on the occasion of Śrī Kṛṣṇa's wedding?"

- ॐ Observing that Nanda and Yaśodā thought they had nothing suitable to give in return, Lord Kṛṣṇa, the savior from distress, took one hundred of the pearl necklaces and, with His own hand, planted the pearls one by one as if He were a farmer planting grains.
- ॐ When he again counted the pearl necklaces, and found they were one hundred necklaces less, Nanda became filled with doubt.
- ॐ
- ॐ Śrī Nanda said: There are fewer necklaces than before. Alas, this is the fault of my own relatives!
- ॐ Now I am unhappy at heart.
- ॐ I will ask whether Kṛṣṇa or Balarāma took the necklaces for their playing.
- ॐ
- ॐ Thinking in this way, Nanda asked Kṛṣṇa. Lord Kṛṣṇa, the lifter of Govardhana Hill, smiled and respectfully spoke to King Nanda.
- ॐ The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: We gopas are farmers. We plant all kinds of seeds. I planted some pearls in the fields.
- ॐ
- ॐ Hearing his son's words, and rebuking Him, Nanda, the king of Vraja, went with Him to the fields to retrieve the pearls.
- ॐ There they saw hundreds of beautiful, tall, green-leaved pearl trees.
- ॐ O king, in that place millions upon millions of bunches of pearls shone like many stars in the sky.
- ॐ Then the delighted Nanda could understand that Kṛṣṇa is the Supreme Personality of Godhead. These glittering pearls were bigger even than the first ones.
- ॐ Placing many millions of bhāras of these pearls on many wagons, Nanda, the king of Vraja, gave them to the men carrying the marriage-proposal.
- ॐ They took the gift and gave it all to King Vṛṣabhānu. O king, everyone who saw this pastime praised the great wealth of King Nanda.
- ॐ Filled with wonder, free of doubt, and now convinced that Nanda's son really was the Supreme Personality of Godhead, all the people of Vraja bowed down before King Vṛṣabhānu.
- ॐ from that day on everyone in Vraja understood that Rādhā was Kṛṣṇa's beloved and Kṛṣṇa was Rādhā's beloved.
- ॐ the place where Nanda's son planted pearls became the lake Mukṭā-sarovara, the king of holy places.
- ॐ A person who at that place gives in charity a single pearl attains the result of giving a hundred thousand pearls. Of this there is no doubt.



The following pastimes are Nārada's answer in response to King Bahulāśva's inquiry about the places of pilgrimage on Govardhana Hill. They don't necessarily fit in with the chronological sequence of the 10<sup>th</sup> Canto.

### Govardhana's glories

- ॐ Lord Kṛṣṇa, the master of all the worlds, mocked the indrayajna.
- ॐ Accompanied by His relatives, He worshiped Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ Śrī Kṛṣṇa is the original Supreme Personality of Godhead, greater than the greatest, the master of Goloka, the ruler of countless universes.
- ॐ even the demigod Brahmā cannot properly glorify Govardhana Hill,
- ॐ where Lord Kṛṣṇa eternally plays with the gopa boys,
- ॐ where are the Mānasa-gaṅgā, which destroys a flood of the greatest sins,
- ॐ pure Govinda-kuṇḍa,
- ॐ beautiful Candra-sarovara,
- ॐ Rādhā-kuṇḍa,
- ॐ Śyāma-kuṇḍa,
- ॐ Lalitā-kuṇḍa,
- ॐ Gopāla-kuṇḍa,
- ॐ and Kusuma-sarovara.
- ॐ By the touch of Śrī Kṛṣṇa's crown a certain stone was marked with the sign of a crown.
- ॐ Anyone who sees that stone becomes the crown of the Supreme Lord.
- ॐ Even today on Govardhana Hill is a sacred stone marked with pictures originally drawn by Lord Kṛṣṇa, and now named Citra-śilā (the picture-stone).

Description is found  
in Garga Saṁhitā  
(Canto 3, Chapter 7)

### Kanduka-kṣetra (the ballgame-field)

- ॐ When Kṛṣṇa was intently playing with the boys, He played musical rhythms on a certain stone.
- ॐ That stone, named vādanī-śilā (the musical stone), destroys the greatest sins.
- ॐ The place where Kṛṣṇacandra played ball-games with the boys is called kanduka-kṣetra (the ballgame-field).
- ॐ A person who sees the place Indra-pada on Govardhana Hill, bows down at the place Brahma-pada, or rolls about in the dust of these places, attains the abode of Lord Viṣṇu.

### Auṣṇiṣa-tīrtha

- ॐ The place on Govardhana Hill where Lord Kṛṣṇa stole the gopas' turbans is called Auṣṇiṣa-tīrtha. It removes the greatest sins.

### **Droṇa-tīrtha**

- ॐ One day, hearing tinkling anklets as the gopīs walked nearby on their way to sell yogurt, Kṛṣṇa, who is more charming than Kāmadeva, stopped them on the path.
- ॐ Holding a flute and a stick, and going ahead of the gopas, Kṛṣṇa confronted the gopīs on the path and demanded, "You must pay a toll to Me."
- ॐ
- ॐ The gopīs said: You are crooked.
- ॐ You and Your gopa boys now block our path.
- ॐ You are greedy after yogurt.
- ॐ We will see to it that You, Your mother, and Your father are all locked up in Kāmsa's prison.
- ॐ
- ॐ The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: I will kill ferocious Kāmsa and all his friends.
- ॐ That is My solemn vow.
- ॐ Every day I will take the cows from Mathurā to Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ
- ॐ After speaking these words, Kṛṣṇa and the boys took the jars of yogurt and joyfully placed them on the ground.
- ॐ Saying "Kṛṣṇa is a bold, fearless, ferocious, and talkative hero here in the secluded forest, but in the city, surrounded by many men, He is only a weakling. We will certainly tell Nanda and Yaśodā what He has done," the smiling gopīs went to their homes.
- ॐ Then, making cups of nīpa and pālāśa leaves, Kṛṣṇa and the boys ate the yogurt and picchala.
- ॐ O king of kings, that very sacred place, where the trees' leaves became cups, is called Droṇa-tīrtha.
- ॐ A person who at this place gives yogurt in charity, drinks yogurt from a leaf-cup, and then bows down to offer his respectful obeisances, never falls from Goloka.

### **Laukika-tīrtha**

- ॐ The place where Kṛṣṇa and the boys played games of closing their eyes and hiding is called Laukika-tīrtha. It destroys all sins.

### **Kadamba-khaṇḍa-tīrtha**

- ॐ Simply by seeing Kadamba-khaṇḍa-tīrtha, where Kṛṣṇa enjoyed many pastimes, a person attains a form like that of Lord Nārāyaṇa Himself.

### **Śṛṅgāra-maṇḍala & Lord Śrinātha**

- ॐ O king of Mithilā, the place on Govardhana Hill where Rādhā was decorated during the rāsa dance is called Śṛṅgāra-maṇḍala (the decoration place).

- ॐ O king, the form Lord Kṛṣṇa showed as He lifted Govardhana Hill is still present at Śṛṅgāra-maṇḍala.
- ॐ O king, 4,108 years after the beginning of Kali-yuga, as everyone watches, Lord Kṛṣṇa will emerge from a cave on Govardhana Hill and reveal His transcendental form at Śṛṅgāra-maṇḍala.
- ॐ O king, the saintly devotees will call this form of the Lord Śrīnātha. He will always enjoy pastimes on Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ the people in Kali-yuga who with their eyes see this form of the Lord will attain all spiritual success.
- ॐ On the four corners of Govardhana Hill are the forms of Lord Jagannātha, Lord Raṅganātha, Lord Dvārakānātha, and Lord Badrīnātha.
- ॐ Śrīnātha is in the middle of Govardhana Hill. O king, these five forms of the Lord are manifested in sacred Bhārata-varṣa.
- ॐ These four Deities are four pillars in the temple of eternal religion. They are determined to protect Their devotees from all troubles. A person who sees Them attains a transcendental form like that of Lord Nārāyaṇa Himself.
- ॐ An intelligent person who visits the places of these Deities but does not see the Lord there does not attain the real result of his visit.
- ॐ A person who sees Lord Śrīnātha attains the result of seeing all four Deities on Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ O king of Mithilā, a sinner who bows down before the footprints of Airāvata and Surabhi on Govardhana Hill goes to Vaikuṅṭha.
- ॐ A person who sees the handprint and footprint of Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and bows down to offer respects to them, goes to Lord Kṛṣṇa's transcendental abode.

Could this be  
Mādhavendra  
Puri's Śrī Nāthji?

### Description of Govardhana Hill's body

- ॐ Below Śṛṅgāra-maṇḍala is Govardhana Hill's mouth, where the Lord and the people of Vraja made a hill of food.
- ॐ Mānasa-gaṅga is Govardhana Hill's eyes,
- ॐ Candra-sarovara its nose,
- ॐ Govinda-kuṇḍa its lips,
- ॐ Śyāma-kuṇḍa its chin,
- ॐ Rādhā-kuṇḍa its tongue,
- ॐ Lalitā-kuṇḍa its cheeks,
- ॐ Gopāla-kuṇḍa its ears,
- ॐ Kusuma-sarovara its inner ear
- ॐ the stone marked with Lord Kṛṣṇa's crown (mauli-silā) is Govardhana Hill's forehead,

Description is found  
in Garga Saṁhitā  
(Canto 3, Chapter 8)

- ॐ the stone decorated with pictures (citra-śilā) is its head,  
ॐ the musical stone (vādanī śilā) is its throat.  
ॐ Kānduka-tīrtha is said to be its two sides,  
ॐ Auṣṣa-tīrtha its waist,  
ॐ Droṇa-tīrtha its back,  
ॐ and Laukika-tīrtha its belly.  
ॐ Kadamba-khaṇḍa is its chest, a  
ॐ nd Śṛṅgāra-maṇḍala is its life.  
ॐ Śrī Kṛṣṇa's footprint is the heart of noble-hearted Govardhana Hill.  
ॐ Lord Kṛṣṇa's handprint is its intelligence,  
ॐ and Airāvata's footprint is its feet.  
ॐ Surabhi's hoofprints are the wings of noble-hearted Govardhana Hill.  
ॐ Puccha-kuṇḍa is its tail,  
ॐ Vatsa-kuṇḍa its strength,  
ॐ Rudra-kuṇḍa its anger,  
ॐ and Śakra-sarovara its desire.  
ॐ The wise say that Kuvera-tīrtha is Govardhana Hill's determination,  
ॐ Brahma-tīrtha its cheerfulness,  
ॐ and Yama-tīrtha its ego.

### Manifestation of Goloka

- ॐ In His own abode the Supreme Personality of Godhead, whose form is spiritual, desired to expand, and so He manifested the form of Lord Śeṣa, who has gigantic white coils.
- ॐ The Lord's realm, Goloka, is worshiped by all the worlds.
- ॐ A devotee who goes there never returns to the world of birth and death.
- ॐ The Gaṅgā, which travels through the three material worlds, was born from the lotus feet of Lord Kṛṣṇa, who is the master of countless material universes and the ruler of the spiritual realm of Goloka.
- ॐ the Yamunā, the best of rivers, who wore a turban and many flower ornaments, was manifested from Lord Kṛṣṇa's left shoulder.
- ॐ The splendid rāsa-dance circle, made of gold and jewels, and decorated with many ornaments, was manifested from Lord Kṛṣṇa's ankles.
- ॐ Filled with assembly-houses, courtyards, pathways, pavilions, peacocks, bees, and cooing cuckoos, flooded with the sweetness of spring, and decorated with many lakes, a forest grove was manifested from Lord Kṛṣṇa's legs.
- ॐ O king, Vṛndāvana, the best of all forests, was manifested from Lord Kṛṣṇa's knees, and Līlā-sarovara lake was manifested from His thighs.

Description is found  
in Garga Saṁhitā  
(Canto 3, Chapter 9)

- ॐ A golden place splendid with gold and jewels was manifested from His hips.
- ॐ Many flowering mādhavī vines were manifested from the line of hairs on His abdomen.
- ॐ These vines were filled with many different birds and decorated with buzzing bees.
- ॐ Burdened with many flowers and fruits, they bowed down as if they were many saintly girls.
- ॐ From the Lord's lotus navel many thousands of lotus flowers were manifested.
- ॐ They shone very splendidly in the many lakes of Lord Kṛṣṇa's transcendental abode.
- ॐ From the three folds of skin at the Lord's waist was manifested a gentle and cooling breeze.
- ॐ From His collar were manifested the cities of Mathurā and Dvārakā.
- ॐ From Lord Kṛṣṇa's arms were manifested His eight friends headed by Śrīdāmā.
- ॐ From the Lord's wrists Nanda was manifested,
- ॐ and from the Lord's hands Upananda was manifested.
- ॐ from Śrī Kṛṣṇa's shoulder-blades all the Vṛṣabhānus were manifested.
- ॐ From the hairs of Śrī Kṛṣṇa's body all the gopas were manifested.
- ॐ from Śrī Kṛṣṇa's mind were manifested the cows and bulls, the upholders of religion.
- ॐ From Śrī Kṛṣṇa's intelligence were manifested the grass, plants, and shrubs.
- ॐ From the Lord's left shoulder was manifested a golden splendor that was His beloveds: Līlā, Śrī, Bhū, and Virajā.
- ॐ One of His beloveds is Līlāvati.
- ॐ The wise know His dearest beloved is Rādhā.
- ॐ From Rādhā's arms are manifested Her friends Lalitā and Viśākhā.
- ॐ Her gopī-assistants were manifested from the hairs of Rādhā's body.
- ॐ In this way Lord Kṛṣṇa manifested the world of Goloka.
- ॐ After thus manifesting His own abode, Lord Kṛṣṇa, the perfect and complete Supreme Personality of Godhead, who is the master of countless universes, shone with great glory in Śrī Rādhā's company there.

### **Govardhana's birth in Goloka**

- ॐ One day, in the beautiful rāsa-dance circle,
- ॐ which was filled with the tinkling of anklets and with courtyards splendid with pearls and parasols,
- ॐ awnings of flowering mālatī vines fragrant with nectar honey,
- ॐ sounds of flute and mṛdaṅga,
- ॐ and beautiful singing from beautiful throats,
- ॐ and which was beautiful with many beautiful girls,

- ॐ Rādhā cast a sidelong glance at Lord Kṛṣṇa, who is more charming than many millions of Kāmadevas, and who generously gives the sweetest nectar.
- ॐ She spoke to Him the following words.
- ॐ
- ॐ Śrī Rādhā said: O Lord of the worlds, if You are pleased with My love in this rāsa-dance, then there is a desire in My heart I would like to place before You.
- ॐ
- ॐ The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: O girl with the beautiful thighs, You may ask for whatever Your heart desires. O beloved, if I have not already given it, I will lovingly give whatever You wish.
- ॐ
- ॐ Śrī Rādhā said: In splendid Vṛndāvana forest, in a beautiful and secluded place by the Yamunā's shore, please make an arena for a nectar rāsa-dance. O Lord of lords, this is My desire.
- ॐ
- ॐ Saying, "So be it", the Lord meditated.
- ॐ With His lotus eyes he looked inside His heart.
- ॐ As the gopīs watched, Kṛṣṇa's love, in a form of fire and water, came from His heart as a sprout comes up from the ground.
- ॐ Falling onto the ground of the rāsa-dance circle, that love grew into a great mountain filled with many caves and swiftly-moving streams
- ॐ beautiful with kadamba, bakula, and aśoka trees and a great network of flowering vines, opulent with mandāra and kunda flowers, and filled with graceful birds.
- ॐ in a single moment that mountain became eight hundred thousand miles wide and eight billion miles long.
- ॐ It was like another Ananta Śeṣa.
- ॐ It was four billion miles tall.
- ॐ It is four billion miles tall eternally.
- ॐ It was like a gigantic elephant.
- ॐ It had a hundred eighty-million-mile-tall peaks.
- ॐ O king of Mithilā, it was like a great palace with many golden domes.
- ॐ Some called this mountain Govardhana and
- ॐ others called it Śataśṛṅga (a hundred peaks).
- ॐ The mountain expanded as much as its heart wished.
- ॐ As the mountain expanded, Goloka became filled with fear and there was a great uproar.
- ॐ Lord Kṛṣṇa at once stood up and slapped the mountain with His hand

- ॐ Kṛṣṇa said, "Why do You expand so much? You have covered the entire realm! Why do you not stop at once?"
- ॐ In this way Kṛṣṇa stopped the mountain from growing any further.
- ॐ
- ॐ Gazing at this best of mountains, Lord Kṛṣṇa's beloved Rādhā was very pleased.
- ॐ She enjoyed pastimes with Kṛṣṇa in a secluded place on that mountain.
- ॐ In this way Govardhana Hill, which is the best of mountains, which is dear to the Lord, which is dark as a monsoon cloud, and which contains within itself all holy places, was manifested by Lord Kṛṣṇa.

### **Govardhana's birth on earth**

- ॐ In Śālmālī-dvīpa, to the west of Bhārata-varṣa, Govardhana Hill was born from the wife of Mount Droṇa.
- ॐ Pulastya Muni brought Govardhana to Bhārata-varṣa.
- ॐ Because Govardhana Hill had been so eager to expand unlimitedly, Lord Kṛṣṇa arranged that the sage Pulastya curse it to decrease day by day.

### **The brāhmaṇa Vijaya**

- ॐ One day, in order to repay the debt he owed the sages and ancestors, a certain brāhmaṇa named Vijaya went to Mathurā, the holy place that removes all sins.
- ॐ after performing his religious duties, he went to Govardhana Hill and took one of the stones there.
- ॐ Going in a leisurely way from forest to forest, he finally left the circle of Vraja.
- ॐ At that moment he saw a horrible rākṣasa monster approaching.
- ॐ The monster had three heads, three chests, six arms, six legs, three hands, huge lips, and a huge nose.
- ॐ His hands were raised in the air.
- ॐ His seven-hands-long tongue moved to and fro, the hairs of his body were like a tangle of thorns,
- ॐ his eyes were red, and
- ॐ he had long, curved, frightening fangs.
- ॐ wishing to eat him, the snorting monster approached the brāhmaṇa.
- ॐ With his Govardhana-stone the brāhmaṇa struck the monster.
- ॐ Hit by the Govardhana-stone, the monster gave up his body.
- ॐ Suddenly transformed into a handsome dark person with large lotus-petal eyes, dressed in yellow garments, garlanded with forest flowers, wearing a crown and earrings, holding a flute and stick, glorious as another Kāmadeva, and his features like those of Lord Kṛṣṇa, with folded hands he bowed before the brāhmaṇa again and again.

Description is found in  
Garga Saṁhitā (Canto  
3, Chapter 10)

ॐ

ॐ The liberated soul said: O best of brāhmaṇas, you earnestly work for the salvation of others. O noble-hearted one, you have rescued me from a monster's life.

ॐ Good fortune has come to me simply by the touch of this stone.

ॐ No one but you could have delivered me.

ॐ

ॐ The brāhmaṇa said: I am astonished by your words.

ॐ I have no power to deliver you.

ॐ I don't know how, simply by a stone's touch, this has happened.

ॐ O saintly one, please tell me how this happened.

ॐ

ॐ The liberated soul said: Glorious Govardhana Hill, the king of mountains, is the person form of Lord Kṛṣṇa.

ॐ Simply by seeing it, a person attains the supreme goal of life.

ॐ By seeing Govardhana Hill one attains a pious result many millions of times greater than the result of a pilgrimage to Mount Gandhamadana.

ॐ O brāhmaṇa, the same result one attains by performing austerities for five thousand years on Mount Kedāra is attained in a single moment on Govardhana Hill.

ॐ By staying for one month on Govardhana Hill one attains a pious result many millions of times greater than the result of giving in charity a bhāra of gold in the Malaya Hills.

ॐ Even though he has committed hundreds of sins, a person who on Mount Maṅgala gives gold in charity attains a spiritual form like Lord Viṣṇu's.

ॐ That same result is attained simply by seeing Govardhana Hill. No other holy place is as sacred as Govardhana Hill.

ॐ O brāhmaṇa, simply by visiting Govardhana Hill one attains piety a hundred thousand times greater than the piety he would attain if on the sacred mountains Rṣabha, Kūṭaka, and Kolaka he had worshiped many brāhmaṇas and given in charity ten million cows with golden horns.

ॐ By going on pilgrimage to Govardhana Hill one attains piety ten million times greater than the piety he would attain by going on pilgrimage to Rṣyamūka or Devagiri.

ॐ There never was, nor will there ever be a holy place equal to Govardhana Hill.

ॐ By bathing every day for ten years in Vidyādhara-kuṇḍa on Śrī Śaila, one attains the result of a hundred yajñas.

ॐ By once bathing in Puccha-kunda on Govardhana Hill one attains the result of ten million yajñas.

ॐ Of this there is no doubt.

ॐ A person who performs an aśvamedha-yajña on the mountains Venkaṭa, Vāridhāra, Mahendra, or Vindhya, attains the post of King Indra.



- ॐ A person who performs an aśvamedha-yajña on Govardhana Hill and gives proper dakṣiṇā goes beyond the realm of Indra and attains the abode of Lord Viṣṇu.
- ॐ O best of brāhmaṇas, bathing in sacred rivers, giving charity, performing austerities, and performing pious deeds, all these performed during Śrī Rāma-navamī on Mount Citrakūṭa, during the third day of Viśākhā on Pariyātra, during the full-moon on Mount Kukura, during Dvādaśī on Mount Nīla, or during Saptamī at Indrakīla bring a great pious result.
- ॐ That pious result is multiplied ten million times by visiting Bhārata-varṣa.
- ॐ It is multiplied unlimited times by visiting Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ By giving charity, performing austerities, bathing in sacred rivers, chanting sacred mantras, or worshiping the brāhmaṇas and the Supreme Personality of Godhead at the Godāvārī, Mount Simha, Māyāpurī, Kumbhaga, Puṣkara, Puṣya-nakṣatra, Kurukṣetra, Ravi-graha, Candra-graha, Kāśī, Phālguna, Naimiṣa, Ekādaśī, Śūkara, Kārtikī, Gaṇamuktida, Janmāṣṭamī, Madhupurī, Khāṇḍava, Dvādaśī, Kārtikī, Pūrṇimā, Vateśvara-mahā-vaṭa, Makarārka, Prayāga, Barhiṣmatī, Vaidhṛti, Ayodhyā-sarayū-tīra, Śrī Rāma-navamī-dina, Śiva-caturdaśī, vaijanātha-śubha-vana, Darśa, Soma-vāra, Gaṅgā-sāgara-saṅgama, Daśamī, Setubandha, Śrī Raṅga, or Saptamī-dina, one attains a great pious result.
- ॐ O best of brāhmaṇas, by visiting Govardhana Hill one attains a pious result ten million times greater than all those pious deeds together.
- ॐ One who, thinking of Lord Kṛṣṇa, bathes in sacred Govinda-kuṇḍa, attains a transcendental form like Lord Kṛṣṇa's. O king of Mithilā, of this there is no doubt.
- ॐ Neither a thousand aśvamedha-yajñas nor a hundred rājasūya-yajñas are equal to visiting Mānasa-gaṅgā on Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ O brāhmaṇa, you have directly seen and touched Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ You have bathed in its sacred waters.
- ॐ In this world no one is more fortunate than you.
- ॐ If you don't believe my words, consider the story of the great sinner who, because he was touched by a Govardhana-stone, attained a transcendental form like Lord Kṛṣṇa's.
- ॐ
- ॐ When he heard the liberated soul's words, the brāhmaṇa became struck with wonder.
- ॐ Then he asked another question of the liberated soul, who knew the power and glory of Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ The brāhmaṇa said: Who were you in your previous birth?
- ॐ What sin did you commit.
- ॐ O fortunate one, you have spiritual eyes to see all this directly.
- ॐ
- ॐ The liberated soul said: In my previous birth I was a wealthy vaiśya's son.

Description is found in  
Garga Saṁhitā (Canto  
3, Chapter 11)

- ॐ From childhood I was a compulsive gambler.
- ॐ I became a great rake.
- ॐ I became a drunkard addicted to chasing prostitutes.
- ॐ O brāhmaṇa, my father, mother, and wife rebuked me again and again.
- ॐ Then one day with poison I killed my parents and with a sword I killed my wife on a pathway.
- ॐ Then I took all their money and went with my beloved prostitute to the south, where I became a merciless thief.
- ॐ One day I threw the prostitute into a blind well and left her there to die.
- ॐ Indeed, with ropes I killed many hundreds of people as I robbed them.
- ॐ O brāhmaṇa, I was so greedy after money that as a highwayman I murdered many hundreds of brāhmaṇas and many thousands of kṣatriyas, vaiśyas, and sūdras.
- ॐ One day, as I was hunting deer in the forest, I stepped on a snake.
- ॐ The snake bit me and I died.
- ॐ Fearsome Yamadūtas beat me with terrible clubs, tied me up, and dragged me, a great sinner, to hell.
- ॐ I fell into the terrible hell named Kumbhīpāka and I stayed there for a manvantara.
- ॐ For a kalpa I was forced to embrace the red-hot iron statue of a woman.
- ॐ I, a great sinner, suffered greatly.
- ॐ By the desire of Yamarāja I was thrown into eight million four-hundred thousand different hells.
- ॐ Then my karma took me to Bhārata-varṣa.
- ॐ For ten births I was a pig,
- ॐ and for a hundred births I was a tiger.
- ॐ For a hundred births I was a camel.
- ॐ For another hundred births I was a buffalo.
- ॐ For a thousand births I was a snake.
- ॐ Wicked men killed me again and again.
- ॐ O brāhmaṇa, after ten thousand years of these births I was born in a desert as a grotesque and wicked monster.
- ॐ One day I assumed the form of a sūdra and I went to Vraja.
- ॐ I came near to Vṛndāvana and the sacred Yamunā.
- ॐ With sticks in their hands, some of Lord Kṛṣṇa's handsome friends beat me severely and I fled from the land of Vraja.
- ॐ Hungry for many days, I came here to eat you.
- ॐ Then you hit me with a stone from Govardhana Hill.
- ॐ Then, by Lord Kṛṣṇa's kindness, I became very fortunate.

ॐ

ॐ As the liberated soul was speaking these words, a chariot, splendid as a thousand suns and drawn by ten thousand horses, came from Goloka.

ॐ The chariot rumbled with a thousand wheels.

ॐ It was decorated with a hundred thousand associates of the Lord.

ॐ It had a great network of bells and tinkling ornaments. It was extremely beautiful.

ॐ As the brāhmaṇa looked on, the chariot approached.

ॐ The brāhmaṇa and the liberated soul bowed down before the chariot.

ॐ Climbing the chariot, and at that moment losing all interest in his heart to stay in the material world, the liberated soul went to Śrī Kṛṣṇa's beautiful abode, graceful with many pastime gardens, the highest of all spiritual realms.

ॐ Then the brāhmaṇa returned to Govardhana Hill, the Deity worshiped by the kings of mountains.

ॐ Circumambulating the hill, bowing down before it, and now aware of its great power and glory, the brāhmaṇa went to his home.