

Ariṣṭāsura

- ॐ Vṛndāvana was always absorbed in the thought of Kṛṣṇa. Everyone remembered His pastimes and was constantly merged in the ocean of transcendental bliss.
- ॐ But the material world is so contaminated that even in Vṛndāvana the asuras, or demons, tried to disturb the peaceful situation.
- ॐ Once a demon named Ariṣṭāsura entered the village in the form of a great bull with a gigantic body and huge horns, digging up the earth with his hooves.
- ॐ When the demon entered Vṛndāvana, the whole land appeared to tremble, as if there were an earthquake.
- ॐ He roared fiercely, and after digging up the earth on the riverside, he entered the village proper.
- ॐ The fearful roaring of the bull was so piercing that some of the pregnant cows and women had miscarriages.
- ॐ Its body was so big, stout and strong that a cloud hovered over its body just as clouds hover over mountains.
- ॐ Ariṣṭāsura entered Vṛndāvana with such a fearful appearance that just on seeing this great demon all the men and women were afflicted with great fear, and the cows and other animals fled the village.
- ॐ The situation became very terrible, and all the inhabitants of Vṛndāvana began to cry, “Kṛṣṇa! Kṛṣṇa, please save us!”
- ॐ Kṛṣṇa saw that the cows were running away, and He immediately replied, “Don’t be afraid. Don’t be afraid.”
- ॐ He then appeared before Ariṣṭāsura and said, “You lowest of living entities!
- ॐ Why are you frightening the inhabitants of Gokula?
- ॐ What will you gain by this action?
- ॐ If you have come to challenge My authority, then I am prepared to fight you.”
- ॐ In this way, Kṛṣṇa challenged the demon, and the demon became very angry by the words of Kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ Kṛṣṇa stood before the bull, resting His hand on the shoulder of a friend.
- ॐ The bull proceeded toward Kṛṣṇa in anger.
- ॐ Digging the earth with his hooves, Ariṣṭāsura lifted his tail, and it appeared that clouds were hovering about the tail.
- ॐ His eyes were reddish and moving in anger.
- ॐ Pointing his horns at Kṛṣṇa, he charged Him just like the thunderbolt of Indra.
- ॐ But Kṛṣṇa immediately caught his horns and tossed him away, just as a gigantic elephant repels a small inimical elephant.

Description is found
Srimad Bhagavatam
(Krishna Book)

- ॐ Although the demon was perspiring and appeared very tired, he took courage and got up.
- ॐ Again he charged Kṛṣṇa with great force and anger.
- ॐ While rushing toward Kṛṣṇa, he breathed very heavily.
- ॐ Kṛṣṇa again caught his horns and immediately threw him to the ground, breaking his horns.
- ॐ Kṛṣṇa then began to kick his body, just as one squeezes a wet cloth on the ground.
- ॐ Being thus kicked by Kṛṣṇa, Ariṣṭāsura rolled over and began to move his legs violently.
- ॐ Bleeding from the mouth and passing stool and urine, his eyes starting from their sockets, he passed to the kingdom of death.
- ॐ The demigods in the celestial planets showered flowers on Kṛṣṇa for His wonderful achievement.
- ॐ Kṛṣṇa was already the life and soul of the inhabitants of Vṛndāvana, and after killing this demon in the shape of a bull, He became the cynosure of all eyes.
- ॐ With Balarāma, He triumphantly entered Vṛndāvana village, and the inhabitants glorified Him and Balarāma with great jubilation.

Narada discloses Kṛṣṇa's identity to Kāmsa

- ॐ It was after this incident that the great sage Nārada disclosed to Kāmsa the secret of Kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ Nārada wanted to expedite things; therefore, he immediately approached Kāmsa with all the real information.
- ॐ “You are to be killed by the eighth son of Vasudeva,” Nārada told Kāmsa.
- ॐ “That eighth son is Kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ You were misled by Vasudeva into believing that the eighth issue of Vasudeva was a daughter.
- ॐ Actually, the daughter was born to Yaśodā, the wife of Nanda Mahārāja, and Vasudeva exchanged his son for the daughter, so you were misled.
- ॐ Kṛṣṇa is the son of Vasudeva, as is Balarāma.
- ॐ Being afraid of your atrocious nature, Vasudeva has tactfully hidden Them in Vṛndāvana, out of your sight.”
- ॐ Nārada further informed Kāmsa, “Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma have been living incognito in the care of Nanda Mahārāja.
- ॐ All the asuras, your companions who were sent to Vṛndāvana to kill different children, were killed by Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma.”
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- ॐ As soon as Kāmsa got this information from Nārada Muni, he took out his sharp sword and prepared to kill Vasudeva for his duplicity.

- ॐ But Nārada pacified him. “You are not to be killed by Vasudeva,” he said.
- ॐ “Why are you so anxious to kill him?”
- ॐ Better try to kill Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma.”
- ॐ But in order to satisfy his wrath, Kāmsa arrested Vasudeva and his wife and shackled them in iron chains.
- ॐ Acting on the new information, Kāmsa immediately called for the Keśī demon and asked him to go to Vṛndāvana immediately to kill Balarāma and Kṛṣṇa. *In actuality, Kāmsa asked Keśī to go to Vṛndāvana to be killed by Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma and thus get salvation.*
- ॐ Then Kāmsa called for his expert elephant trainers, as well as for the wrestlers Cāṇūra, Muṣṭika, Śāla, Tośāla, etc., and he told them,
- ॐ “My dear friends, try to hear me attentively.
- ॐ At Nanda Mahārāja’s place in Vṛndāvana there are two brothers, Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma.
- ॐ They are actually two sons of Vasudeva.
- ॐ As you know, I have been destined to be killed by Kṛṣṇa; there is a prophecy to this effect.
- ॐ Now I am requesting you to arrange for a wrestling match.
- ॐ People from different parts of the country will come to see the festival.
- ॐ I will arrange to get those two boys here, and you will try to kill Them in the wrestling arena.”
- ॐ He also told the trainers of the elephants, “Be sure to bring the elephant named Kuvalayāpīḍa and keep him at the gate of the wrestling arena.
- ॐ Try to capture Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma on Their arrival and have the elephant kill Them.”
- ॐ Kāmsa also advised his friends to arrange to worship Lord Śiva by offering animal sacrifices and performing the sacrifice called Dhanur-yajña and the sacrifice performed on the fourteenth day of the moon, known as Caturdaśī. *This date falls three days after Ekādaśī, and it is set aside for the worship of Lord Śiva.*

Kāmsa summons Akrūra

- ॐ He then called for Akrūra, one of the descendants in the family of Yadu, in which Kṛṣṇa was born as the son of Vasudeva.
- ॐ When Akrūra came to see Kāmsa, Kāmsa very politely shook hands with him and said,
- ॐ “My dear Akrūra, actually I have no better friend than you in the Bhoja and Yadu dynasties.
- ॐ You are the most munificent person, so as a friend I am begging charity from you.
- ॐ Actually I have taken shelter of you exactly as King Indra takes shelter of Lord Viṣṇu.
- ॐ I request you to go immediately to Vṛndāvana and find the two boys named Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma.

- ॐ They are the sons of Nanda Mahārāja.
- ॐ Take this nice chariot, especially prepared for the boys, and bring Them here immediately.
- ॐ That is my request to you.
- ॐ Now, my plan is to kill these two boys.
- ॐ As soon as They come in the gate, there will be a giant elephant named Kuvalayāpīḍa waiting, and possibly he will be able to kill Them.
- ॐ But if somehow or other They escape, They will next meet the wrestlers and will be killed by them.
- ॐ That is my plan.
- ॐ And after killing these two boys, I shall kill Vasudeva and Nanda, who are supporters of the Vṛṣṇi and Bhoja dynasties.
- ॐ I shall also kill my father, Ugrasena, and his brother Devaka, because they are actually my enemies and are hindrances to my diplomacy and politics.
- ॐ Thus I shall get rid of all my enemies.
- ॐ Jarāsandha is my father-in-law, and I have a great monkey friend named Dvividā.
- ॐ With their help it will be easy to kill all the kings on the surface of the earth who support the demigods.
- ॐ This is my plan.
- ॐ In this way I shall be free from all opposition, and it will be very pleasant to rule the world without obstruction.
- ॐ You may know also that Śambara, Narakāśura and Bāṇāśura are my intimate friends, and when I begin this war against the kings who support the demigods, they will help me considerably.
- ॐ Surely I shall be rid of all my enemies.
- ॐ Please go immediately to Vṛndāvana and encourage the boys to come here to see the beauty of Mathurā and take pleasure in the wrestling competition.”
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- ॐ After hearing this plan of Kāmsa’s, Akrūra replied, “My dear King, your plan is very excellently made to counteract the hindrances to your diplomatic activities. But you should maintain equilibrium, for the result of your activities may be fruitful or may not be fruitful.
- ॐ After all, man proposes, God disposes.
- ॐ We may make very great plans, but unless they are sanctioned by the supreme authority, they will fail.
- ॐ Everyone in this material world knows that the supernatural power is the ultimate disposer of everything.

Kṛṣṇa Līlā notes – Chapter 36 (Kāmsa Sends Akrūra for Kṛṣṇa)

- ॐ One may make a very great plan with his fertile brain, but he must know that he will be subjected to the fruits, misery and happiness.
- ॐ But I have nothing to say against your proposal.
- ॐ As a friend, I shall carry out your order and bring Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma here, as you desire.”
- ॐ After instructing his friends in various ways, Kāmsa retired, and Akrūra went back to his home.