

Akrūra leaves for Vṛndāvana

- ॐ Nārada Muni did not mention Kṛṣṇa's killing Vyomāsura, which means that he was killed on the same day as the Keśī demon.
- ॐ The Keśī demon was killed in the early morning, and after that the boys went to tend the cows on Govardhana Hill, and it was there that Vyomāsura was killed.
- ॐ Both demons were killed in the morning.
- ॐ Akrūra was requested by Kāmsa to arrive in Vṛndāvana by evening.
- ॐ After receiving instruction from Kāmsa, Akrūra started the next morning via chariot for Vṛndāvana.
- ॐ Because Akrūra himself was a great devotee of the Lord, while going to Vṛndāvana he began to pray to the Lord. Devotees are always absorbed in thoughts of Kṛṣṇa, and Akrūra was constantly thinking of Lord Kṛṣṇa's lotus eyes.
- ॐ He did not know what sort of pious activities he must have performed to gain an opportunity to go see Lord Kṛṣṇa and Lord Balarāma in Vṛndāvana on that day.
- ॐ *A pure Vaiṣṇava always thinks himself unfit to serve Kṛṣṇa. So Akrūra began to think within himself that he was unfit for gaining the transcendental opportunity of seeing the Supreme Personality of Godhead. He considered himself as unfit for seeing Kṛṣṇa as a materialistic person is for understanding the science of God or as a fourth-class person (a śūdra) is for studying the Vedas.*
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- ॐ But then Akrūra began to think, "By the grace of Kṛṣṇa everything is possible, and thus if He likes, I will be able to see Him.
- ॐ Just as a blade of grass floating on the waves of a river may by chance come near the shore and gain shelter, a conditioned soul carried away by the waves of material existence may sometimes be saved by the grace of Kṛṣṇa."
- ॐ *Akrūra thus thought that if Kṛṣṇa willed, he would be able to see Him. Akrūra considered himself most fortunate that he was going to see Kṛṣṇa, whom great mystic yogīs desire to see. He was confident that on that day all the sinful reactions of his past life would be finished and his fortunate human form of life would be successful. Akrūra also considered that he was very much favored by Kāmsa, who was sending him to bring back Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma and thus enabling him to see the Lord. Akrūra continued to consider that formerly great sages and saintly persons were liberated from the material world simply by seeing the shining nails of the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa.*

Description is found
Srimad Bhagavatam
(Krishna Book)

But there is a hill in
Kamyavana where it is
claimed Vyoma was
killed.

- ॐ “That Supreme Personality of Godhead has now come just like an ordinary human being, and it is my great fortune to be able to see Him face to face,” Akrūra thought.
- ॐ *He was thrilled with expectations of seeing the very lotus feet which are worshiped by great demigods like Brahmā, Nārada and Lord Śiva, which traverse the ground of Vṛndāvana, and which touch the breasts of the gopīs, covered with tinges of kuṅkuma.*
- ॐ He thought, “I am so fortunate that I will be able to see those very lotus feet on this day, and certainly I shall be able to see the beautiful face of Kṛṣṇa, which is marked on the forehead and the nose with tilaka.
- ॐ And I shall also see His smile and His curling black hair. I can be sure of this opportunity because I see that today the deer are passing on my right side.
- ॐ Today it will be possible for me to actually see the beauty of the spiritual kingdom of Viṣṇuloka because Kṛṣṇa is the Supreme Viṣṇu and He has advented Himself out of His own good will.
- ॐ He is the reservoir of all beauty; therefore today my eyes will achieve perfection.”
- ॐ Akrūra thought, “That Supreme Personality of Godhead, Kṛṣṇa, has now appeared as one of the descendants of the Yadu dynasty.
- ॐ The principles of religion are His enacted laws.
- ॐ Those who are abiding by such laws are demigods, and those who are not abiding are demons.
- ॐ He has advented Himself to give protection to the demigods, who are very obedient to the laws of the Supreme Lord.
- ॐ The demigods and the devotees of the Lord take pleasure in abiding by the laws of Kṛṣṇa, and Kṛṣṇa takes pleasure in giving them all sorts of protection.
- ॐ The glorious activities of the Lord will ever increasingly be chanted by the devotees and demigods.
- ॐ “Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, is the spiritual master of all spiritual masters;
- ॐ He is the deliverer of all fallen souls and the proprietor of the three worlds.
- ॐ Anyone who is able to see Him by eyes smeared with love of Godhead enjoys a festival of seeing.
- ॐ Today I shall be able to see the Supreme Personality of Godhead, who by His transcendental beauty has attracted the goddess of fortune to live with Him perpetually.
- ॐ As soon as I arrive in Vṛndāvana, I will get down from this chariot and fall prostrate to offer my obeisances to the Supreme Lord, the master of material nature and all living entities.
- ॐ The lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa are always worshiped by great mystic yogīs, so I shall also worship His lotus feet and become one of His friends in Vṛndāvana like the cowherd boys.

- ॐ When I bow down before Lord Kṛṣṇa in that way, certainly He will place His fearless lotus hand on my head.
- ॐ His hand is offered to all conditioned souls who take shelter under His lotus feet.
- ॐ Kṛṣṇa is the ultimate goal of life for all people who fear material existence, and certainly when I see Him He will give me the shelter of His lotus feet.
- ॐ I am aspiring for the touch of His lotus-like hand on my head.
- ॐ When that hand touched the presentations of King Indra and King Bali, these two became qualified to be lords of the universe,
- ॐ and when that hand touched the gopīs as they danced with Kṛṣṇa in the rāsa-līlā, it relieved all their fatigue.”
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- ॐ Akrūra was afraid, however, because he had been deputed by Kāṁsa, the enemy of Kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ He thought, “I am going to see Kṛṣṇa as a messenger of the enemy.”
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- ॐ At the same time, he thought, “Kṛṣṇa is in everyone’s heart as the Supersoul, so He must know my heart.”
- ॐ “Even though I am on a sinful mission, being deputed by Kāṁsa, when I approach the Supreme Personality of Godhead, I shall stand before Him with all humility and folded hands.
- ॐ Surely He will be pleased with my devotional attitude, and maybe He will smile lovingly and look upon me and thereby free me from all kinds of sinful reactions.
- ॐ I shall then be on the platform of transcendental bliss and knowledge.
- ॐ Since Kṛṣṇa knows my heart, certainly when I approach Him, He will embrace me.
- ॐ Not only am I a member of the Yadu dynasty, but I am His relative and an unalloyed, pure devotee.
- ॐ By His merciful embrace, surely my body, heart and soul will be completely cleansed of the actions and reactions of my past life.
- ॐ When our bodies touch, I will immediately stand up with folded hands, with all humility.
- ॐ Certainly Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma will call me ‘Akrūra, Uncle,’ and at that time my whole life will be glorious.
- ॐ Unless one is recognized by the Supreme Personality of Godhead, his life cannot be successful.”
- ॐ *It is clearly stated here that one should try to be recognized by the Supreme Personality of Godhead by one’s service and devotion, without which the human form of life is condemned.*

ॐ Akrūra then thought, “When Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma are pleased with my behavior, certainly They will take my hand, receive me within Their home and offer me all kinds of respectable hospitalities,

ॐ and They will surely ask me about the activities of Kāmsa and his friends.”

Akrūra arrives in Vṛndāvana

ॐ In this way, Akrūra, the son of Śvaphalka, meditated on Śrī Kṛṣṇa on his journey from Mathurā.

ॐ He reached Vṛndāvana by the end of the day.

ॐ Akrūra passed the whole journey without knowing how long it took.

ॐ When he reached Vṛndāvana, the sun was setting.

ॐ As soon as he entered the boundary of Vṛndāvana, he saw the hoofprints of the cows and Lord Kṛṣṇa’s footprints, impressed with the signs of His soles—the flag, trident, thunderbolt and lotus flower.

ॐ Upon seeing the footprints of Kṛṣṇa, Akrūra immediately jumped down from the chariot out of respect.

ॐ He became overwhelmed with all the symptoms of ecstasy; he wept, and his body trembled.

ॐ Out of extreme jubilation upon seeing the dust touched by the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa, Akrūra fell flat on his face and began to roll on the ground.

ॐ When Akrūra entered Vṛndāvana, he saw Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma engaged in supervising the milking of the cows.

ॐ Kṛṣṇa was dressed in yellow garments

ॐ and Balarāma in bluish.

ॐ Akrūra also saw that Their eyes were exactly like the beautiful lotus flower that grows during the autumn season.

ॐ He saw Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma in the spring of Their youth.

ॐ Although They had the same bodily features, Kṛṣṇa was blackish in complexion, whereas Balarāma was whitish.

ॐ Both were the shelter of the goddess of fortune.

ॐ They had well-constructed bodies, beautiful hands and pleasing faces,

ॐ and They were as strong as elephants.

ॐ Now, after seeing Their footprints, marked with flag, trident, thunderbolt and lotus, Akrūra actually saw Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma face to face.

ॐ Although They were the most influential personalities, They were glancing at him with smiling faces.

ॐ Akrūra could understand that both Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma had returned from tending cows in the forest;

- ॐ They had taken Their baths and were dressed with fresh clothing and garlanded with flowers and with necklaces made of valuable jewels.
- ॐ Their bodies were smeared with the pulp of sandalwood.
- ॐ Akrūra greatly appreciated the aroma of the flowers and sandalwood and Their bodily presence.
- ॐ He considered himself very fortunate to see Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and His plenary expansion, Balarāma, face to face,
- ॐ For he knew that They were the original personalities of the creation.
- ॐ Upon touching the lotus feet of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, he became overwhelmed with transcendental bliss; his voice choked up, and he could not speak.
- ॐ Due to his transcendental pleasure, incessant torrents of tears fell from his eyes.
- ॐ He remained stunned in ecstasy, as if devoid of all powers to see and speak.
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- ॐ Lord Kṛṣṇa, who is very kind to His devotees, raised Akrūra with His hand and embraced him. *It appeared that Lord Kṛṣṇa was very much pleased with Akrūra.*
- ॐ Balarāma also embraced Akrūra.
- ॐ Taking him by the hand, Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma brought him to Their sitting room, where
- ॐ They offered him a very nice sitting place and water for washing his feet.
- ॐ They also worshiped him with a suitable presentation of honey mixed with other ingredients.
- ॐ When Akrūra was thus comfortably seated, Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma offered Him a cow in charity and then brought very palatable dishes, and Akrūra accepted them.
- ॐ When Akrūra finished eating, Balarāma gave him betel nut and spices, as well as pulp of sandalwood, just to make him more pleased and comfortable.
- ॐ *The Vedic system of receiving a guest was completely observed by Lord Kṛṣṇa Himself to teach all others how to receive a guest at home. It is a Vedic injunction that even if a guest is an enemy he should be received so well that he does not apprehend any danger from the host. If the host is a poor man, he should at least offer a straw mat as a sitting place and a glass of water to drink. Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma welcomed Akrūra in a way just befitting his exalted position.*
- ॐ After Akrūra was thus properly received and seated, Nanda Mahārāja, the foster father of Kṛṣṇa, said, “My dear Akrūra, what shall I inquire from you?”
- ॐ I know that you are being protected by Kāmsa, who is most cruel and demoniac.
- ॐ His protection is just like the slaughterhouse keeper’s protection of animals he will kill in the future.
- ॐ Kāmsa is so selfish that he has killed the sons of his own sister, so how can I honestly believe that he is protecting the citizens of Mathurā?”

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ॐ As Nanda Mahārāja spoke to Akrūra with pleasing words, Akrūra forgot all the fatigue of his day's journey from Mathurā to Vṛndāvana.