

or the *Bharatas* (v. the note of PCR. on p. 5). He understood that the 36th year had come according to the curse of *Gandhārī*, and that the omens were similar to those which *Yudhishtira* had noticed when the two armies were arrayed in order of battle. He endeavoured to bring about those occurrences which would make *Gandhārī's* words true. He commanded the *Vṛshnis* to make a pilgrimage to some sacred water, and caused the messengers to proclaim a journey to the sea-coast (XVI, 2). At that time the *Vṛshni* ladies dreamt every night that a black woman with white teeth, entering their abodes, laughed aloud and ran through *Dvārakā* stealing [from them]; the men dreamt of vultures that devoured the *Vṛshnis* and *Andhakas* in the houses and fire-chambers; their ornaments, etc., were taken away by *Rā*. The iron discus of *Kṛṣṇa*, given by *Agni*, with a nave of adamant, ascended to heaven. *Kṛṣṇa's* chariot was dragged away by his four steeds over the ocean; *Kṛṣṇa's* and *Baladeva's* standards (resp. *Garuda* and a palmyra), which were reverently worshipped by those two heroes, were taken away by *Aps.*, who day and night called upon the *Vṛshnis* and *Andhakas* to set out on a pilgrimage to some sacred water. They prepared various kinds of edibles and spirits, and set out to *Prabhāsa*. *Uddhava* took leave of them and *Kṛṣṇa* before departing [from the world]. The *Vṛshnis*, mixing with spirits the food that had been cooked for the brahmans, gave it to apes, and began revels with drinking, so also *Rāma*, etc. (γ); *Yuyudhāna* blamed *Kṛtavarma* for the nightly slaughter, and was applauded by *Pradyumna*, but was rebuked by *Kṛtavarma* with having killed *Bhūriśravas* while sitting in *prāya*; *Kṛṣṇa* cast an angry glance [at *Kṛtavarma*], and *Satyaki* informed him of the story of the gem *Syamantaka*, which was *Satrajit's*; *Satyabhāma*, weeping, approached *Kṛṣṇa*, and sitting on his lap enhanced his anger; *Satyaki* swore that he would cause *Kṛtavarma* to follow the five sons of *Draupadī*, etc. (δ), whom he had slain with the help of *Aśvatthāman*, and he severed his head in the very sight of *Kṛṣṇa*, and began to strike down others; *Kṛṣṇa* rushed forward to prevent him from doing further mischief, and the *Bhojas* and *Andhakas* all assailed him; *Kṛṣṇa* did not interfere; they struck *Yuyudhāna* with the pots from which they had been eating; *Pradyumna* rushed forward to rescue *Yuyudhāna*; they were both slain. *Kṛṣṇa* in wrath took up a handful of *erakā* grass, which became a terrible iron club, with which *Kṛṣṇa* slew all that came before him. The *Andhakas*, etc. (ε), also took up blades of the *erakā* grass, which were converted into iron clubs, and struck one another in consequence of the curse of the brahmans; son killed father and vice versa, inebriated with spirits. Beholding that *Çamba*, etc. (ζ), were slain, *Kṛṣṇa* exterminated the *Vṛshnis* and the *Andhakas*. *Babhrū* and *Dārūka* told him now to go to *Rāma* (XVI, 3). *Dārūka*, *Kṛṣṇa*, and *Babhrū*, seeking *Rāma*, saw him sitting thoughtfully, reclining his back against a tree. *Kṛṣṇa* sent *Dārūka* to inform *Arjuna* and tell him to come quickly, and he also dispatched *Babhrū* to protect the ladies against robbers; but as soon as *Babhrū* had proceeded to a distance, an iron club attached to the mallet of a hunter came and slew him. *Kṛṣṇa* then, entering *Dodravatī*, told his father to protect the ladies till *Arjuna* came, saying that he would practise penances with *Rāma*. When he came to *Rāma*, the latter had applied himself to *yoga*, and from his mouth issued a huge white *Nāga* with 1,000 heads and red eyes, who proceeded to the ocean, and was received by the ocean and many celestial snakes (and many sacred rivers): *Karkotaka*, etc. (η). After

*Rāma's* death *Kṛṣṇa* wandered for some time, and then sat down, thinking of *Gandhārī* (§ 619) and *Durvasas* (§ 773c), and the destruction of the *Vṛshnis*, *Andhakas*, and *Kurus*, whence he concluded that the hour [of his death] had come; he then restrained his senses [in *yoga*]; though he was the Supreme Deity, he wished to die in order to dispel all doubts, etc., and to make the words of *Durvasas* true. The hunter *Jarā*, mistaking *Kṛṣṇa* for a deer, pierced him at the heel with an arrow; coming up, he beheld a man dressed in yellow robes, rapt in *yoga*, with many arms; he became filled with fear; *Kṛṣṇa* comforted him and then ascended upwards, and was received in heaven by *Indra*, etc. (θ) (XVI, 4). Meanwhile *Dārūka* came and informed the *Pāṇḍavas* of the slaughter of the *Vṛshnis*, etc. (ι). *Arjuna* with *Dārūka* proceeded to *Dvārakā*; when *Kṛṣṇa's* 16,000 wives saw *Arjuna*, they uttered a loud cry; the city seemed to *Arjuna* to be the fierce river *Vaitaraṇī*; *Arjuna*, *Satyā* (the daughter of *Satrajit*), and *Rukmiṇī* fell down and wailed; then praising *Kṛṣṇa* and comforting the ladies, *Arjuna* went to *Vasudeva* (XVI, 5), whom he found lying on the ground and burning with grief; *Vasudeva* lamented (κ) and said he would die by abstaining from food (XVI, 6). *Arjuna* said that the hour had come for the *Pāṇḍavas* also for departing [from the world] (λ); he would, however, first remove to *Indraprastha* the women, the children, and the aged of the *Vṛshnis*. Saying to *Dārūka* that he wished to see the chief officers of the *Vṛshnis*, *Arjuna* entered the hall of the *Yādavas* called *Sudharmā*, where he said to the citizens and ministers that he would take away with him the remnants of the *Vṛshnis* and *Andhakas*, as the sea would soon engulf the city; *Vajra* would be their king at *Indraprastha*; they would set out on the seventh day at sunrise. *Arjuna* passed that night in the mansion of *Kṛṣṇa*. At dawn *Vasudeva* by *yoga* attained to the highest goal; the ladies were in despair. His four wives, *Devakī*, *Bhadrā*, *Rohiṇī*, and *Madirā*, ascended the funeral pyre, and attained to the regions of *Vasudeva*. When *Arjuna* had caused *Vasudeva* and his four wives to be burnt (under immense tokens of sympathy from the women), the boys (headed by *Vajra*) and the ladies offered oblations of water to *Vasudeva*. Then *Arjuna* visited the spot where the *Vṛshnis* had been killed and caused the last rites to be performed, and caused *Rāma* and *Kṛṣṇa* to be cremated. On the seventh day he set out, mounting his chariot, with the ladies and children, the *Yādava* troops, and other inhabitants, with *Kṛṣṇa's* 16,000 wives and *Vajra*; they numbered many millions in all. Then the ocean flooded *Dvārakā*. They proceeded in slow marches. When they had planted their encampment at *Pañcanada*, the *Ābhīras* (*Mlecchas*) conspired to rob the cavalcade. *Arjuna* succeeded only with great difficulty in stringing his bow; his celestial weapons would not come to his mind; the *Vṛshni* warriors failed to rescue the women, who were snatched away by the robbers; *Arjuna's* shafts soon became exhausted; formerly they had been inexhaustible. *Arjuna* became very cheerless; he escorted the remnant of the cavalcade to *Kuruksheṭra*; he established the son of *Kṛtavarma* in the city of *Mārtikāvata* with the remnant of the women of the *Bhoja* king; the remainder, with children and old men and women, at *Indraprastha*, with *Vajra* as their ruler; the son of *Yuyudhāna* (with old men, etc.) on the banks of the *Sarasvatī*; the widows of *Akrūra*, notwithstanding the entreaties of *Vajra*, entered the woods; *Rukmiṇī*, etc. (μ), ascended the funeral pyre; *Satyabhāma* and the other wives of *Kṛṣṇa* entered the woods in order