

10. 12. 15, 16, 18) by Kṛṣṇa (or Viṣṇu *vaiṣṇavam cakram* 5. 96. 18), often referred to simply as Cakra; called Āgneya astra 1. 216. 21; 3. 23. 28; 7. 10. 21.

A. History : Fire in high flames, permeated by smokeless fire, remains awake in the form of Viṣṇu's cakra (*vaiṣṇavam cakram*) in Varuṇa's lake 5. 96. 18; at the time of burning the Khāṇḍava forest, god Agni asked Varuṇa to give for his sake the Cakra to Vāsudeva (Kṛṣṇa) with which he would execute a great deed (cf. also 16. 4. 3); Varuṇa agreed to Agni's request (1. 216. 4) and gave the Cakra, here called Āgneya astra, to Kṛṣṇa; Agni told Kṛṣṇa that, equipped with the Cakra, he would defeat even superhuman beings in battle; he would be superior to men, gods, demons, Piśācas, Daityas and serpents when in battle he was opposed by a very strong enemy; whenever Kṛṣṇa hurled in battle the Cakra against his enemies, it would kill the enemy without resistance and return to Kṛṣṇa's hand 1. 216. 21-24; Kṛṣṇa felt fully prepared to fight with all the gods and demons when he received the Cakra 1. 216. 26-27, 30, 21; Arjuna felt confident that there was nothing which Kṛṣṇa would not conquer when he had the Cakra for use in battle 1. 216. 28; according to the information of Dhṛtarāṣṭra, Kṛṣṇa received the Cakra, identified with the Āgneya astra, from the satisfied Agni after, and not before, the burning of the forest 7. 10. 21. B. Description : heavenly (*divya*) 3. 23. 28 (Āgneya astra), 10. 12. 31; 18. 4. 3; great (*mahat*) 3. 23. 29 (Āgneya astra), 10. 12. 31; spotless (*amala*) 3. 23. 30; incomparable (*atula*) 3. 23. 30, (*apratima*) 10. 12. 31; invincible (*ajayya*) 1. 17. 20; best, best among the discusses (*uttama*) 1. 17. 20;

(*cakraratna*) 17. 1. 38; (*varam...cakrāṇām sudarśanam*) 5. 53. 12; 7. 6. 19; irresistible (*durdharṣa*) 7. 10. 21; never repulsed (*apratihata*) 3. 23. 28 (Āgneya astra); impenetrable (*abheda*) 3. 23. 28 (Āgneya astra); having razor-like or unblunted edge (*kṣurānta*) 3. 23. 30; 6. 55. 86; (*kṣuranemi*) 8. 65. 19; (*akunṭhamanḍala*) 1. 17. 20; fierce, terrible (*ugra*) 6. 55. 83 (*rathāṅga*); (*bhīma*) 1. 17. 20; (*bhayaṁkara*) 1. 17. 21; agile, speedy, very speedy (*capala*) 1. 17. 21; (*vegavat*) 1. 17. 22; (*udagravegavat*) 1. 17. 21; very strong (*ativīryavat*) 3. 23. 28 (Āgneya astra); overpowering all (*sarvasāha*) 3. 23. 28 (Āgneya astra); having the strength of Vajra (*vajrasamaprabhāva*) 6. 55. 86; deadly (*kālāntakayamopama*) 3. 23. 30; highly lustrous (*mahāprabha*) 1. 17. 20-21; 3. 23. 28 (Āgneya astra); having the lustre of the sun (at the end of the aeon) or blazing like fire (on the Doom's day) (*sūrya-prabha*) 6. 55. 86; (*rūpam ... dvitīyasyeva sūryasya yugānte pariviśyataḥ*) 3. 23. 32; (*vibhāvāsos tulyam*) 1. 17. 20; (*jvalita-hutāśanaprabha*) 1. 17. 21; (*antakajvalanasamānavarcas*) 1. 17. 22; counted among the four lustres stationed on Arjuna's chariot (the other three being Arjuna, the Gāṇḍīva bow and Vāsudeva) (*catvāry etāni tejāṁsi*) 7. 6. 20; made of metal (*ayasmaya*) 10. 12. 20; 16. 4. 3; having a thousand spokes (*sahasrāra*) 10. 12. 20; having a good nave or a nave hard like Vajra (*sunābha*) 6. 55. 86; 10. 12. 20; 10. 12. 38; (*vajranābha*) 1. 216. 21; 10. 12. 20; 16. 4. 3; razing the town of enemies (*paranagarāvadāraṇa*) 1. 17. 21; tormentor or killer of enemies (*amitratāpana*) 1. 17. 20; (*viśatām canibarhaṇam*) 3. 23. 30; (*ripuharam raṇe*)