

Akrūra's expectation of Balarāma engaged in milking; Akrūra's prostration before him; welcomed Akrūra in the proper way and fed him on choice preparations; followed Kṛṣṇa to the Mathurā city where he was honoured by its womenfolk; saw Kṛṣṇa's exploits in the city and returned with him to the camp.<sup>4</sup> Entered the wrestling arena with the tusk of Kuvalayāpīḍa; praised by the public of Mathurā; challenged Malla Muṣṭika; fought according to the rules and killed his opponent as also Kūṭa another Malla; killed the eight brothers of Kamsa with his *parigha*; embraced Nanda going back to Vraja; his *upanayana* and other samskāras; *gurukulavāsa*; accompanied Kṛṣṇa in his tour to bring back the dead son of his guru; defeated Pauṇḍraka; while once enjoying music and drink, at Raivataka hill, he killed Dvidiva (s.v.) who offended him; returned with the blessings of the Gods.<sup>5</sup>

When the Yadus decided war with the Kurus, Rāma did not like it and thought he could bring about peace; went to Hastinagara and was welcomed by Duryodhana and others; he communicated to them Ugrasena's command to release Sāmba; the Kurus laughed and said that slippers would sometimes usurp the place of crown; Ugrasena was only a king by sufferance and hence he could not send a command; enraged at their inordinate pride, he decided to lift up the city and throw it into the Ganges; the Kurus prayed for mercy and promised to send Lakṣmaṇā with Sāmba together with a large dowry of horses, elephants, etc.; with these Rāma returned to Dvārakā,<sup>6</sup> was consulted by Kṛṣṇa; Kṛṣṇa took leave of him to go to Hastināpura; did not like the war between the Pāṇḍavas and the Kauravas and went on a pilgrimage; after visiting Prabhāsa, Sarasvatī, Yamunā, and Gangā he reached Nai-miṣa where he was welcomed by all the sages; Romahar-ṣaṇa the Sūta did not rise up to honour him at which Rāma got angry and fatally hurt him; seeing this the sages called it *adharma* and *brahmahatya* and called upon Rāma for