

Just on the eve of the avatār, Brahmā and other gods pray to him in the womb of Devakī.<sup>4</sup> Birth at the time of constellation Rohiṇi, first new moon in winter, Abhijit Nakṣatra, Jayanti night, Vijaya-muhūrta and festivities connected with it; enjoyed by Vasudeva and Devakī. Their prayer, and Kṛṣṇa recalled their previous births. Taken to Yaśodā's delivery room at Nandavraja, stupifying the guardsmen of the jail and crossing Yamunā in floods at dead of night; Yogamāyā born to Yaśodā taken back to the jail ward.<sup>5</sup> Yogamāyā announced her birth to Kāmsā,<sup>6</sup> His jātakarmā.<sup>7</sup> Killed Pūtānā, when at Kāmsā's instance, she attempted to poison him by nursing him; Yaśodā warded off evil, (Rakṣā) to Kṛṣṇa by waving cow's tail round him, by placing cow's dung on the twelve points of his body and by purifying him with cow's urine, with prayers to Hari to protect him from evil spirits.<sup>8</sup>

The first turning in bed was celebrated with festivity. Kṛṣṇa slept under cradle beneath the cart when he kicked the cart which capsized. This roused suspicion of *grhapīḍa* in Yaśodā's mind. *Śānti* done when cows, food, etc., were given to Brahmanas. Once the demon Tṛṇāvarta created a whirlwind which swept away all *Vraja* and took up baby Kṛṣṇa high up in the sky to the embarrassment of Yaśodā and others. At that time Kṛṣṇa took hold of his neck and strangled him. He fell dead. The child Kṛṣṇa opened his mouth and showed his mother the whole universe.<sup>9</sup>

*Nāmakaraṇam* as Vāsudeva. Boyish sports in *Vraja*, charged with eating mud; lived with Nanda and his wife who were the same Droṇa and Dharā born as Nanda and Yaśodā by the command of Brahmā. When once Yaśodā left the churning pot to mind the boiling milk overflowing in the oven, Kṛṣṇa broke the curd pot and ran away with butter to feed a monkey. So he was bound with a rope to an *ulūkhala* (mortar) but the rope always fell two inches

<sup>4</sup> Ib. X. Chaps. 1-3; M. 46. 14; Vā. 96. 174. <sup>5</sup> Bhā. X. Chaps. (whole); Br. III. 71. 196-263; 72. 7-13; Vi. V. 1. 98; 3. 1-29. <sup>6</sup> Bhā. X. Chap. 4, Vā. 96. 199. 215. <sup>7</sup> Bhā. X. 5. 1-16. <sup>8</sup> Ib. X. 6; Vi. V. 5. 12-31. <sup>9</sup> Bhā. X. 7; Vi. V. 6. 1-7.