

different weapons and swords, Yātudhānas holding *gadā* and *mudgara*, and many others — came out from the missile and filled the space; the demons were killed by many shapes having three heads, four tusks, four mouths, four hands, as also by the arrows of Arjuna which shone like the sun and the fire, which were brilliant like the Vajra and lightning, and hard like rocks; when the demons were killed by the Raudrāstra, Arjuna bowed down to Tripuraghna (Śiva) once again 3. 170. 42-51.

Raudra astra : [ See Rudrāstra ].

Lāngala nt. : Plough used as a weapon by Balarāma.

Hence Balarāma has epithets like *lāngalin* 1. 213. 49; 9. 36. 36; 9. 38. 2; 9. 45. 93, 94; 9. 46. 23; 9. 54. 4; *lāngala-dhvaja* 5. 3. 4.

Vajra<sup>1</sup> nt. ( m. 4. 2. 13; 12. 273. 7; 12. 31. 29 ) : A missile generally associated with Indra, but also on a few occasions with Kṛṣṇa and Śiva; also called Kuliśa ( *kuliśam maghavān iva* ) 3. 12. 43; 8. 13. 20.

I. As Indra's missile : A. Origin : Three accounts : ( 1 ) when the Kāleya demons, under the leadership of Vṛtra, attacked Indra and the other gods, Brahman advised them to approach the sage Dadhīca and ask him for his bones in order to fashion a Vajra out of it; with that Vajra, Indra was to kill Vṛtra 3. 98. 3-11; when the gods received the bones of Dadhīca, they took them to Tvaṣṭṛ and asked him to fashion a Vajra out of the bones; Tvaṣṭṛ, ritually ready ( *prayata* ) to receive the bones, was glad to fashion the Vajra which he did with great effort ( *prayatnāt* ) 3. 98. 22; when the Vajra was ready, Tvaṣṭṛ asked Indra to reduce his enemies to ashes with the

excellent Vajra ( *vajrapravara* ); Indra too was happy and ritually ready ( *prayata* ) to receive it 3. 98. 23-24; ( 2 ) Vajra created from the bones of Dadhīca in order to kill the three-headed Viśvarūpa, son of Tvaṣṭṛ; when the Vajra was fashioned by Dhātṛ, Viṣṇu entered it ( *viṣṇupraviṣṭa* ); with the Vajra, thus fortified, Indra cut off the heads of Viśvarūpa 12. 329. 25-27; 1. 127. 12; ( 3 ) during a conflict between the gods and the demons Indra searched the three worlds for a suitable weapon, but did not find it; he asked the gods to approach the sage Dadhīca to ask for his bones; when the bones were received, Indra got prepared out of them various divine missiles like *vajras* ( pl. ), discuses, maces, and heavy *daṇḍ*-s ( *kārayām āsa divyāni nānāpraharāṇy uta | vajrāni cakrāṇi gadā gurudamḍāmś ca puṣkalān* ); with this Vajra produced from the lustre of a Brāhmaṇa ( Dadhīca ) and employed with the recitation of the *mantras* ( *tena vajreṇa ... mantrayuktena ... brahmatejohbhavena ca* ), Indra killed nine times ninety ( *navatīr nava* 9. 50. 33 ) Daityas and Dānavas 9. 50. 25-33. B. Description : Heavenly ( *divya* ) 12. 31. 27; terrific, very terrific ( *ghora, ghorarūpa, mahāghora* ) 1. 21. 10; 3. 98. 10; 3. 124. 15, 17; 5. 9. 22; 14. 11. 8; having a fierce form ( *ugrarūpa, ugra* ) 3. 98. 23; 8. 21. 32; fearful ( *bhayāvaha* ) 5. 9. 22; impenetrable ( *abhedya* ) 12. 329. 27; difficult to resist ( *duru-tsaha* ) 3. 45. 4; unassailable ( *apradhrṣya* ) 12. 329. 27; hard ( *dr̥ḍha* ) 3. 98. 10; sharp ( *tikṣṇa* ) 3. 98. 10; incomparable ( *atula* ) 1. 21. 10; unsurpassed ( *anutama* ) 3. 124. 15; large ( *mahat* ) 3. 98. 10; fiery ( *vaiśvānarānibha* ) 5. 9. 22; having great lustre ( *sumahātejāḥ mas.* ) 12. 273. 7; ( *amitatejas* ) 14. 11. 15, 17; ( *bhūrstejas* ) 14. 11.