

she would marry none but Kṛṣṇa. Kṛṣṇa then took her as his wife. (See under Kālindī). After staying at Indraprastha for three or four months Kṛṣṇa returned to Dvārakā with Kālindī. (Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

(6) *Śrī Kṛṣṇa-Mitravindā*. The King of Avantī had married Rājādhīdevī, sister of Kṛṣṇa's father and they had two sons called Vinda and Anuvinda and a daughter Mitravindā, who had fixed in her mind Kṛṣṇa as her husband. Kṛṣṇa, who was present at her Svayamvara carried her off on his chariot to Dvārakā.

(7) *Śrī Kṛṣṇa-Satyā*. King Nagnajit of Kosala, father of Satyā, had seven oxen like elephants in strength. The King proclaimed that his daughter would be married to the person who would tie down the oxen. Various Kings attempted the task but failed. Ultimately Arjuna and Kṛṣṇa went to Kosala and Kṛṣṇa assumed seven forms and tied down the oxen with cords. The seven oxen at once fell down. Kṛṣṇa took Satyā for his wife.

(8) *Śrī Kṛṣṇa-Kaikeyī (Bhadrā)*. Kṛṣṇa married Kaikeyī, the daughter of Śrutakīrti, sister of Kṛṣṇa's father.

(9) *Śrī Kṛṣṇa-Lakṣmaṇā*. Lakṣmaṇā, daughter of King of Madra chose Kṛṣṇa at her Svayamvara and she became Kṛṣṇa's wife.

(10) *Kṛṣṇa-16000 women*. Brahmā had given the boon to the 16000 daughters of Narakāsura in their previous birth that Viṣṇu would marry them in their next birth. While even the Devas were suffering on account of Narakāsura, Śrī Kṛṣṇa along with Satyabhāmā mounted Garuḍa, went to Prāgjyotiṣa, the kingdom of Narakāsura, defeated him in fight and released his 16000 daughters from captivity. He returned with them to Dvārakā, assumed the guise of 16000 men and married those 16000 girls. He built a palace for each of his 16000 wives. (For details see under Narakāsura).

16) *Kṛṣṇa's 16008 wives*. The eight women, i.e. Rukmiṇī, Jāmbavatī, Satyabhāmā, Kālindī, Mitravindā, Satyā, Kaikeyī (Bhadrā) Lakṣmaṇā and the 16000 daughters of Narakāsura constituted Kṛṣṇa's harem. (The 16000 daughters of Narakāsura are not mentioned by name in the Purāṇas). (See under Sudattā and Ketumān IV.)

17) *Gave Salvation to Ghaṇṭākarna*s. Ghaṇṭa and Karṇa were two demon brothers. Kṛṣṇa met them at Badarikāśrama where he had gone after his marriage with Rukmiṇī, to perform penance to Śiva for a child. Kṛṣṇa offered salvation to the two demon brothers, Ghaṇṭa and Karṇa.

18) *Fight between Kṛṣṇa and Arjuna*. (See under Gālava).

19) *Killed Murāsura*. (See under Mura).

20) *Killed Narakāsura*. (See under Naraka).

21) *Plucked away Pārijāta*. During the period when Narakāsura was having his own ways on the earth and when he took away by force Indra's royal umbrella and the ear-rings of Aditi, the Devamātā, Indra sought Kṛṣṇa's help to suppress the Asura. Kṛṣṇa along with Satyabhāmā, mounted Garuḍa, went and killed the Asura and restored the royal umbrella to Indra and the ear-rings to Aditi. On their way back home Kṛṣṇa, as desired by Satyabhāmā, plucked by its roots the Pārijāta from Devaloka at which Indra fought Kṛṣṇa, but got defeated. The Pārijāta was brought to Dvārakā and planted in front of Satyabhāmā's palace. It is stated that Pārijāta was thus brought and planted by

Kṛṣṇa to alleviate the grief caused to Satyabhāmā by the return by Kṛṣṇa of Syamantaka to Satrājīt. (Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

22) *Kṛṣṇa's sons and grand-children*. Ten sons were born to each of the eight chief wives—from Rukmiṇī to Lakṣmaṇā—of Kṛṣṇa. Names of the chief among those eighty sons are given below.

(1) *Of Rukmiṇī*—Pradyumna, Cāruḍekṣṇa, Sudekṣṇa, Cāruḍeha, Sucāru, Cārugupta, Bhadracāru, Cārucandra, Aticāru, Cāru.

(2) *Of Jāmbavatī*—Sāmba, Sumitra.

(3) *Of Satyabhāmā*—Bhānu, Subhānu, Svarbhānu, Prabhānu, Bhānumān, Candrabhānu, Bṛhadbhānu, Havirbhānu, Śrībhānu, Pratibhānu.

(4) *Of Kālindī*—Śruta.

(5) *Of Mitravindā*—Vṛkaharṣa.

(6) *Of Satyā*—Bhānucandra.

(7) *Of Bhadrā*—Saṅgrāmacitta.

(8) *Of Lakṣmaṇā*—Praghoṣa.

A daughter called Rukmāvati was born to Rukmi, brother of Rukmiṇī. Pradyumna married Rukmāvati and Aniruddha was their son. It was this Aniruddha, who wedded Uṣā. Cārumatī, the daughter of Rukmiṇī was married by the son of Kṛtavarma. (Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

23) *Kṛṣṇa tested Rukmiṇī*. While Śrī Kṛṣṇa was once having a chat with Rukmiṇī he wanted to test her love for him. So he told her that he was penniless and helpless and was hiding from his enemies there at Dvārakā and that he would only be really glad if she married some other powerful King. Kṛṣṇa had not completed his sentences when Rukmiṇī fell down unconscious. Kṛṣṇa then consoled her. (Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

24) *Kṛṣṇa fought with Bāna*. See under Bāna.

25) *Kṛṣṇa killed Pauṇḍraka*. See under Pauṇḍraka.

26) *Nṛga given salvation*. See under Nṛga.

27) *Śrīkṛṣṇa blessed Pāñcālī at the time of her Svayamvara* (See under Pāñcālī).

28) *Subhadrā given in marriage to Arjuna*. Arjuna had to go on a pilgrimage for one year as atonement for having got into the palace where Yudhiṣṭhira was spending the days with Pāñcālī. It was during this period of his pilgrimage that Arjuna married Subhadrā, who was the younger sister of Kṛṣṇa due to whose cleverness alone Arjuna got her as his wife. (For details see under Subhadrā).

29) *Kṛṣṇa got the club called Kaumodakī and he saved Maya*. See under Khāṇḍavadāha.

30) *Kṛṣṇa with the Pāṇḍavas*. The rest of Kṛṣṇa's life was intimately connected with the history of the Pāṇḍavas. Important roles played by Kṛṣṇa during the period up to the great war, are summarised below.

(1) He conducted Yajña continuously for many years for the protection of Dharma (righteousness). (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 8, Verse 16).

(2) Permitted Yudhiṣṭhira to perform Rājasūya yajña. (Chapter 14, Sabhā Parva, M.B.).

(3) Along with Bhīma and Arjuna, he went to Mathurā in the guise of a brahmin and killed Jarāsandha. (See under Jarāsandha).

(4) He crowned Sahadeva, son of Jarāsandha, as King of Mathurā. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 24, Verse 43).

(5) He gave a lot of money as donation at the