

Rājasūya Yajña of Yudhiṣṭhira. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 33, Verse 13).

(6) He was presented with ear-rings by Bhūmidevī (goddess Earth). (Sabhā Parva, Page 808, Southern text).

(7) He killed Śiśupāla. (See under Śiśupāla).

(8) He made the clothes of Pāñcālī unending when Duryodhana tried to strip her naked in the royal assembly. (See under Pāñcālī).

(9) He fought Sālva and Saubha. (See under Sālva and Saubha).

(10) He once took Subhadrā and Arjuna to Dvārakā. (Vana Parva, Chapter 22; Verses 47, 48).

(11) He consoled the Pāṇḍavas at the Kāmīyaka forest. (Vana Parva, Chapter 183, Verse 16).

(12) He ate the bit of a leaf of greens from Pāñcālī's vessel and was pleased with her. (See under Pāñcālī).

(13) Attended the wedding of Abhimanyu at Upaplavyanagara and gave a lot of money to Dharmaputra. (Virāṭa Parva, Chapter 72, Verse 24).

(14) He sent to the court of King Virāṭa a messenger, who explained to him the corrupt ways of the Kauravas and the righteousness of the Pāṇḍavas. (Udyoga Parva, Chapter 1).

31) *Tested by Nārada.* Nārada wanted to know how Kṛṣṇa managed to satisfy all his 16008 wives. For this purpose he visited their houses and Nārada was wonder-struck to find Kṛṣṇa engaged in conversation with his wives in all the houses he visited. (Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

32) *Kṛṣṇa blessed Kucela.* See under Kucela.

33) *The story of Santānagopālam.* See para 7 (d) under Arjuna.

34) *Kṛṣṇa feigned sleep.* The Kauravas refused to part with half the kingdom to the Pāṇḍavas, who had returned from their exile in the forest. Both the sides began preparations for war. Duryodhana went to Dvārakā to invite Kṛṣṇa to his side, and seeing him at a distance Kṛṣṇa feigned sleep and lay down there. Duryodhana occupied a stool at the head of Kṛṣṇa's bed. Arjuna, who also came to seek his help, stood with folded hands at Kṛṣṇa's feet. It was Arjuna whom Kṛṣṇa first saw on waking up. But Duryodhana told him that it was he who had come first. Kṛṣṇa was in a fix, and he had to promise to help both the sides. He promised his entire army to one side and his personal help, himself without any weapons with him, to the other side, and Arjuna was asked to make his choice first as he was younger than Duryodhana. Arjuna chose Kṛṣṇa without arms and Duryodhana with his infantry. Kṛṣṇa agreed to act as Arjuna's charioteer.

35) *As messenger of peace in Kaurava assembly.* Dharmaputra requested Kṛṣṇa to find out means to avoid war somehow or other and Kṛṣṇa sent a message to Dhṛtarāṣṭra through Sañjaya but nothing came out of it. Ultimately Kṛṣṇa himself decided to visit the Kauravas for which purpose he went first to Dvārakā in his chariot with Sātyaki. On his way Kṛṣṇa held talks with many a great sage. From Dvārakā he returned to Hastināpura where he visited and consoled Kuntī at Vidura's house. He had his supper also there. The next day he attended Duryodhana's court and strongly pleaded for the Pāṇḍavas. But Duryodhana and others ridiculed him and even attempted to take him captive. Śrī Kṛṣṇa at

once exhibited his Viśva-rūpa (Cosmic form). The Kauravas were frightened to witness Brahmā on Kṛṣṇa's forehead, Śiva on his chest, Āditya-Vasurudras in his mouth etc. Śrī Kṛṣṇa granted the blind Dhṛtarāṣṭra divine eyes to see this Viśvarūpa and he sang the praise of Kṛṣṇa. Kṛṣṇa returned to the Pāṇḍavas after advising Karṇa to fight on the Pāṇḍava side in the impending war. (Udyoga Parva).

36) *Kṛṣṇa in the great war.* The parts Kṛṣṇa played during the Kuru-Pāṇḍava war are briefly given below.

(1) The Kaurava and the Pāṇḍava armies were gathered at Kurukṣetra in full battle array and Arjuna, at the sight of the thousands of relations in the opposite camp, became a prey to a great delusion and sat down. Kṛṣṇa then enthused him to fight by giving him advice, which came later to be known as the great Gītā. The Gītā contains the Sāṅkhya, Yoga, the characteristics of the wise people and the unwise, description about yajñas, greatness of knowledge, characteristics of Sāṅkhya and niṣkāmakarma, yogins, jñānayoga etc. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapters 26-42).

(2) At the commencement of the battle, Kṛṣṇa blew aloud his conch Pāñcajanya. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 25, Verse 15).

(3) Kṛṣṇa rushed forward with his Cakrāyudha to kill Bhīṣma, who then praised Kṛṣṇa. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 65).

(4) He prompted Arjuna to kill Bhīṣma. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 106, Verse 33).

(5) He received on his chest the Vaiṣṇavāstra shot by Bhagadatta against Arjuna. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 29, Verse 13).

(6) Consoled Arjuna, who was lamenting over the death of Abhimanyu. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 72).

(7) Consoled Subhadrā, who was sunk in sorrow at the loss of her son. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 77).

(8) Consoled the crying Pāñcālī and Uttarā. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 78).

(9) Took Arjuna in a dream to Śiva and got Śiva's blessing for him. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 80).

(10) He looked after the horses in the battle-field. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 100).

(11) Prompted Arjuna to kill Duryodhana. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 102).

(12) Kṛṣṇa created illusory darkness and prompted Arjuna to kill Jayadratha. (See under Jayadratha).

(13) He lifted the darkness after Jayadratha was killed by Arjuna. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 146).

(14) As it was not proper for Arjuna and Karṇa to be fighting with each other at mid-night he deputed Ghaṭotkaca to fight Karṇa. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 173).

(15) He consoled Dharmaputra, who was grieving over the death of Ghaṭotkaca. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 153).

(16) He prompted Arjuna to kill Karṇa. (Karṇa Parva, Chapter 60).

(17) Withdrew Arjuna from confrontation with Karṇa on the pretext of attending to Dharmaputra, who had been wounded. (Karṇa Parva, Chapter 64).

(18) A sudden dispute arose between Dharmaputra and Arjuna, who drew his sword to kill the former. And Kṛṣṇa reconciled them by relating the story of Vyādha and Kauśika (For the story see under Valāka).