

## KRISHNA

krish·nuh

Also known as Kaanha, Lord Krishna, Balgopal. Krishna is believed to be the eighth incarnation of Lord Vishnu.

## JANMASHTMI

jun·maash·tuh·mee

The festival celebrating the birth of Lord Krishna. The word means birth on the eighth night.

## BHAJAN

bha - juhn

A devotional song expressing love and devotion for God, sung during Janmashtami celebrations.

## MURTI

muu·ra·tee

An image or statue of a deity. For Janmashtmi, it is Lord Krishna.

## MAKHAN-CHOR

maa·kh·uhn - cho·r

A playful name for Krishna, meaning "butter thief". It is a reference to his childhood love for butter and curd.

## DAHI HANDI

daa·hee -  
haa·nuh·dee

A popular event during Janmashtami where teams form human pyramids to break a pot filled with curd.

## YAMUNA

yuh·muu·nah

The mighty river which Krishna's father, Vasudev, crossed during a furious storm to take Krishna to safety.

## VISHNU

vih·sh·nuu

One of the main gods of Hinduism. Krishna is considered an incarnation (avatar) of Vishnu.

## RAS-LILA

raa·sa - lee·laa

Traditional dance dramas depicting the life of Krishna, often performed during the festival.

## VRINDAVAN

vruhn·daa·vuhn

A small town in Uttar Pradesh, India, near Gokul, associated with Krishna's childhood and youth.

## DEVAKI

dai·v·kee

Krishna's biological mother, who gave birth to him in a prison cell.

## YASHODA

yuh·shoh·dhah

The foster mother of Krishna, who raised him in the village of Gokul.

## RADHA

raa·dhah

Krishna's dearest friend and closest companion during his childhood and early adulthood days.

## BANSURI

bahn·suu·ree

Bansuri is a flute, which Krishna loved to play and is often shown holding in illustrations.

## KANSA

kahn·suh

Krishna's cruel maternal uncle who imprisoned his parents. As per the prophecy, Krishna would bring an end to Kansa's reign.

## MATHURA

muh·thuu·rah

A major city in Uttar Pradesh, India, which was ruled by Krishna's uncle, Kansa.

## GOKUL

go·kulh

Gokul is the place where Vasudev took Krishna after birth to be with his foster parents.

## MOR-PANKHI

more·pun·khee

Translates as "peacock feather". Krishna always wore a morpankhi on his crown.