SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA - AT A GLANCE

By
Dr. AKKIPEDDI SUNDARA RAJA RAO

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Dr. Akkipeddi Sundara Raja Rao

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SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA - AT A GLANCE
(Condensed from Sanskrit & Transcreated into free Verses in English)

With special emphasis on Sundara Kanda
along with certain imaginary Paintings
relating to the select incidents in Sundara Kanda

by

Dr. Akkipeddi Sundara Raja Rao, M.Com.,
Ph.D., LL.B.,
(Retd. Prof. in Commerce & Management Studies)
Author, Artist & Playwright

“KRISHNA”, 5-5-1/1, Naneppa Nagar
HINDUPUR - 515 201, Anantapur Dist. (A.P.)
Tel : 08556 - 221166, Cell : 9885993551
About the Author and Artist

Dr. Akkipeddi Sundara Raja Rao M.Com., Ph.D., LL.B.,
Retd. Professor in Commerce and Management Studies
Author, Artist & Play Wright

Born on 24th April 1942 to the pious Brahmine couple, Late Sri Akkipeddi Chenchu Lakshmi Narayanaiah and Late Smt. Subbalakshamma, at Ballavolu Village, Gudur Taluk, Nellore Dist., Andhra Pradesh. He served as Reader and Head Dept., of Commerce and Management Studies, S.D.G.S. College, for 35 years. He taught for M.Com (1976-79) at Sri Krishnadevaraya University and for MBA at Sri Vasavi Institute of Management for 10 years (1989-1999) and was appointed as Professor of Management Studies at M.S. Ramaiah Institute of Management, Bangalore. He also worked as guest faculty in Management Institute situated in Anantapur and Kurnool Districts.

He was awarded Ph.D., in 1986 for his good work on India’s Foreign Trade during the decade of 1970’s. He was the recipient of the ‘Best College and University Teachers Award’ from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in 1992.

He turned out one Ph.D., under his research guidance in 1998. He is author of Six (6) text books in Commerce and has 25 research papers published in various national and international journals to his credit.

Besides his bright academic track record and devoted professional endeavour and zeal in research activity, his attachment to cultural and community service activities and abundant love towards his two pet hobbies, Painting & Creative writing deserve all commends. His management of time in pursuing and attending to so many activities is indeed quite amazing.

The oil painting of Jawaharlal Nehru on canvas, which he did remarkably, was presented by him to Smt. Indira Gandhi (Prime Minister of India) in May 1966 at New Delhi and it is kept in Teen Murthy Bhavan, New Delhi. His house at Hindupur presents the look of a beautiful Art Museum with his paintings. Several of his play – lets in Telugu were broadcast from All India Radio. Beside being a play write. He is an actor and director too. He also directed many plays and play lets. He also acted as Judge at State Wide Dramatic Competitions held at various places. He participated and conducted Art exhibitions at Vijayawada, Anantapur, Hindupur and Bangalore.

It is a strange thing, a teacher in Commerce and Management Studies developing abundant love and significant proficiency in Painting & Creative writing.

Happily married to Smt. Krishna Kumari (Retired Headmistress of Municipal High School, Hindupur) is blessed with two sons : Praveen Krishna (USA) and Kalyan Chakravarthy and a grand son, Krishna Sajal Medha and a grand daughter, Aadya Medha.

The present book on Srimad Valmiki Ramayana – At a Glance written by him (condensed from the original Sanskrit and transcreated into free verses in English) and Pictures painted by him. I am sure, would be to your interest and liking. Do not miss to see and enjoy the paintings and go through the valuable information provided in the Appendices prepared by him devoting lot of time. Dr. Rao deserves all commends. I am happy it is a T.T.D. Publication.
Humble pranaams to thee, Vighnaraja, Lord Ganesha, The immortal son of divine couple Shiva and Parvati!
Clad in pure white robes shining in moon-like splendour, Endowed with elephant head, long trunk, single tusk, huge
Body, sharup eyes, big belly, hands four, hue in molten Gold, Ever cheerful, extremely compassionate and powerful.
Oh! Lord Ganapathi, thou art the storehouse of Wisdom, the Demolisher of obstacles, embodiment of prudence, truth and Bliss
I humbly pray thee to shower thy benign blessings, and indulge me at every stage, energizing, guiding and inspiring me, in
every possible way and bestow adequate strength, power and competence to write in free verses in English the lofty epic
Ramayana in a condensed form and paint the pictures relating to Ramayana! Just an instrument I am, you alone to lead me!

Dr. Akkipeddi Sundara Raja Rao
(A.S. Raja Rao)
Oh Govinda, You are the invisible power infinite, holding perfect control
Over cosmic power and integral balance of the entire Universe!
The most worshipped deity of all gods and goddesses,
Lord Srivenkateswara, You are the supreme reality and eternity!!

Proclaims Indian philosophy “Isavasya midam sarvam”
Entire universe the resplendent splendour of Omnicient!
Lord Srimannarayana enduring through infinite stretches of time
Supporting ably the entire universe with ease, ever smiling!!

Oh divine couple, Lord Sreenivasa and Goddess Padmavathi
Your grace make the dumb eloquent, the afflicted scale high peaks
Our life passed beyond meridian, we aspire no riches, awards
Rewards, fame or name from any quarter, whatsoever,
We humbly surrender ourselves at Your vibrant lotus feet and
Pray you to sprinkle the dust of Your feet on our brows!

Earnestly seeking Your benign grace and blessings.

Your ardent devotees, We the two,
among billions of Your devotees world over
Smt. Krishna Kumari & Dr. Akkipeddi Sundara Raja Rao
Krishna, 5-5-1/1, Nanepa Nagar, HINDUPUR- 515 201, Anantapur Dist. (A.P.)
08556- 221166
Srimad Ramayana in Sanskrit composed by Maharshi Valmiki has been the glorious epic of great antiquity. It is an epitome of Vedas and Upanishads. The fascinating, inspiring, compassionate and soul-stirring story of Ramayana with its sublime characters woven with magnificent poetic grace and literary excellence, stressing in every possible way the moral sovereignty and sheds light on the science of life and art of living with values. The perennial importance, relevance and vitality of Ramayana need hardly any emphasis. Embedded in itself, the Indian mind and thought, it is indeed a gem unique in the classic world literature.

At present we see around us in our country and elsewhere in the world, the gradual decline in the moral values. People are abandoning the core values of life for the sake of some undeserving benefit/advantage and are getting accustomed to polished pretence of purity and truth. Adharma, falsehood and passion are growing. Corruption and fraud are flourishing. It appears as though the world is virtually living in a nightmare of destruction. Innocent and common man in these days is bewildered, mystified, perplexed, puzzled and is at a loss not knowing what to do!

Ramayana abounds with innumerable lessons and antidotes for the present ills in human behaviour and actions. It gives a complete rule of life and tends entirely to the good of mankind. If people follow the lessons of life embedded in it, they live happily with sumptuous peace and contentment. The wisdom dawned on well wishers of humanity who mastered Srimad Ramayana and other ancient scriptures of great and eternal value with their enlightened discourses, try to reform the society in their own humble way. Writers and scholars spread the message embedded in Ramayana to bring about positive change. Those people who study Ramayana reverentially try to regulate their life. The regular and devoted readers of Ramayana aim at leading life with mental peace and contentment.

This book titled, ‘Srimad Valmiki Ramayana – At a Glance’ written by Dr. A.S. Raja Rao, in a lucid style of English, can be read easily even by the busiest persons, youth and people who find no leisure time to go through the voluminous original Valmiki Ramayana text. Long descriptions and details have been condensed nicely in this book, without sacrificing any material that is sacredly significant. Even, the Appendices (with eight items) is quite informative, painstakingly prepared by the author, is worth the reading. It provides a great deal of valuable information. I am sure, readers enjoy seeing his paintings.

The effort of Dr. Raja Rao in writing this book both as an Author and Artist is commendable. I am sure, the readers enjoy going through the pages of this book with interest and enjoy to the less, seeing the paintings drawn by him relating to Ramayana. I am happy, it is yet another good TTD Publication.

May great Sage Valmiki, the virtuous and ideal couple, Lord Sri Rama and Devi Sita the embodiments of purity, truth and Dharma, in thought, word and deed; and the mighty sincere and sagacious Hanuman and other prime characters shower their choicest blessings on all of you.
Preface

The dazzling and amazing rays emitted from the radiant diamond light of wisdom Srimad Valmiki Ramayana reveal the right, clear and glorious path to the wearied, confused and ignorant and innocent travellers in life. No other book of world classic literature has inspired the moulded the millions and billions of lives and the thinking of people world over, as Ramayana did. It has inspired and continue to inspire the creative endeavours of several eminent artists of excellence, poets, Vaggeyakaras, Singers, dancers, artists, actors, directors and playwrights and has been preserved in various forms of art. Ramayana has been held in esteem and has been enjoying tremendous popularity and has been translated not only in various world languages such as Italian, French, English, Latin and other languages but also in almost all the Indian languages. The influence of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana being so unique and pervading, it is no wonder that there are literally thousands of editions of this great work published in many languages. Ever since it was composed by Maharshi Valmiki, it was, it is and it will continuously be a living force in the inner depths of Indian consciousness.

Srimad Valmiki Ramayana, the glorious epic of great antiquity, containing the magnificent and compassionate story of a virtuous, noble and ideal human couple, the embodiments of purity, truth and Dharma, in thought, word and deed. Ramayana is an epitome of Vedas* and Upanishads*. It sheds light on the science of life and the art of living with great and eternal values. It stresses the moral sovereignty. The humane poet, Maharshi Valmiki skilfully woven the story of the couple with his blissful beauty of poetic grace and excellence. Though written thousands of years back, it is relevant even today and will be relevant even after thousands of years to come. It has loomed large for centuries over the destinies of billions of people and it continues to do so for centuries to come.

I am one to believe, every human being however highly educated one is and how ever great position or profession one is holding, irrespective of ones citizenship, caste, creed, religion, - his/her life is not full, without reading Ramayana, as it is for learning the values of life. Ramayana is not a religious book. It is a book of universal appeal and values eternal.

Having enjoyed and experienced the unique and exquisite taste and flavour of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana, I could not resist my temptation to share my ecstasy and bliss with the like-minded people, by writing the book in my own humble way.

I started writing this tiny book titled “Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - At a Glance”, knowing pretty well it is an adventurous and challenging task like that of a cat trying to drink the entire milky ocean; and like that of a chirping bird trying to swallow the entire water flowing in the sacred river Ganga!

*Vedas (Opourisheyas) described as “revealed wisdom and knowledge”, have a complex in intricate structure and or difficult to understand. With the passage of time Vedas flowered out a series of texts collectively known as Upanishads which constitute the essence of Vedas and or often called as Vedanta or philosophy. Vedas and Upanishads played an extraordinary role in shaping the moral character of ancient Indian society. The Vedic injunctions which contain in the form prithee statements are magnified and elaborated in the form of stories and anecdotes in the mythological stories in Epics and Puranas enabling even the common man to understand the essence of Vedas. Ramayana the foremost of the epics and Puranas is a worked example of how moral principles are to be applied in daily life. that is why Ramayana is also called “Vedas in action”.

iv
I did not write this as a poet. I did not write this as a scholar. I wrote this to share my bliss with people, especially the youth and busy persons. I wrote it for my satisfaction. I wrote it in a simple and lucid style of English, enabling even a common person to study, understand and enjoy. I wrote it with devotion. I wrote it praying Lord Sri Rama to make use of me as his dependable instrument. I began writing this with a profound belief that the great Rama doota Hanuman, who made the amazing legendary leap across the vast ocean, a simple feat, would extend the most needed support, competence and assistance to me, necessary to complete this sacred task.

The imaginary paintings I have drawn not as a professional artist but as an amateur. I did not study in any school of Art. Experience and observation has been my teacher. I developed painting as a hobby and I am still a learner.

This book is meant for the youth in India and those residing in other countries and for the busiest of the busy persons especially youth, for whom leisure appears scarce. As the youth now-a-days are obsessed with curriculum books attending marathon classes and special coaching classes, as their mind set is tuned to face the growing competition in achieving their cherished goals. They may complete reading this book for a change, while in travel, within a short time.

This small book may be read easily by the youth and even the busiest of the busy persons who find no time to go through the voluminous original books on Ramayana. This certainly provides a fair view of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana. Keeping such readers in mind, I wrote this small book giving as many details as possible. I stressed the story and the prime characters without sacrificing any material that is sacredly significant. Every care is taken to bring the essence of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana and made it readable, enjoyable and gently discussable. If this small book stimulates, my targeted readers and motivates them to go through the original/translated books on Ramayana in all detail, I earnestly feel, my effort in writing this book, is amply rewarded.

I write this as my duty to express my love and reverence for the sacred story of Ramayana that helped me navigate through my own life, in thick and thin. In all humility and earnestness, I wish my targeted readers would read this book with interest and enjoy to the lees, seeing the paintings.

Keeping the limitations of time, space, age, (beyond meridian), health (suffering from Cardiac Problem and Parkinsons disease and other aging problems), yet younger in spirits with all enthusiasm and zeal, to provide as many details as possible, I wrote this book and to present the best in me in a fixed capsule of time. Under any circumstances fail not to see and enjoy the paintings and also the rare detailed facts given in Appendices.

Glory to the blessed immortal poet Maharshi Valmiki; Glory to Srimad Ramayana the most sacred and inspiring epic in the world! Glory to Sri Rama! Glory to Devi Sita! Glory to the great Ramadoota Hanuman! Glory to all the other sublime characters of this epic. May their choicest blessings be showered upon all of us.

Dr. Akkipeddi Sundara Raja Rao
(A.S. Raja Rao)
EKA SLOKA RAMAYANA
SLOKAM

“POORVAM RAMA TAPOVANABHI GAMANAM, HYATVA MRUGAM KANCHANAM
VAIDEHI HARANAM, JATAYU MARANAM, SUGRIVA SAMBHASHANAM,
VALI NIGRAHANAM, SAMUDRA TARANAM, LANKAPURI DAHANAM,
PASCHAT, RAVANA, KUMBHA KARNA HANANAM, YETAT RAMAYANAM.”

(written by some unknown great soul)

MEANING

Sri Rama leaving for woods, killing golden deer,
Abduction of Vaidehi, death of Jatayu, taking
A leap across the ocean, Lanka city in flames,
Slaying of Ravana and Kumbhakarna,

That is Ramayana!
SAPTA RISHI RAMAYANA
SAPTA RISHI RAMAYANA

* 1. Bala Kanda in one sloka written by Maharshi Kashyapa
* 2. Ayodhya Kanda in one sloka written by Maharshi Atri
* 3. Aranya Kanda in one sloka written by Maharshi Bharadwaja
* 4. Kishkindha Kanda in one sloka written by Maharshi Vishwamithra
* 5. Sundara Kanda in one sloka written by Maharshi Gouthama
* 6. Yuddha Kanda in one sloka written by Maharshi Jamadagni
* 7. Uttara Kanda in one sloka written by Maharshi Vasishta

Phalashruthi written in one sloka by all the above Seven Maharshi’s
Saptha Rishi Ramayana

In the seven slokas that follow, the famous Saptarishis recite the entire Ramayana story without any break

Maharshi Kashyapa

“Jatah Sriraghunayako Dasarathamunyaa srayeataatakam
Hatva rakshita kausika kratuvarah krityapyahalyaam shubham
Bhanktva Rudra sharaasanam Janakajaam panaugrihitvita tato
Jatvar dhaa dhvani Bhargavam punaragaat Sitasametah puremi!”

SriRama, born as the son of Dasaratha, while accompanying sage Viswamitra killed Taataka and protected the Muni’s yaga; rehabilitated Ahalya, broke Shiva’s bow and won Sita’s hand; vanquished Parasar and returned to Ayodhya with Devi Sita.

Maharshi Atri

“Daasya Mantharayaa dayaarahitayaa durbhedithaa Kaikaye
SriRama pratham aabhishekha samaye mataa pya yaachadvarau
Bhaktaaram Bharathah prashaastu dharaneem ramo vanam gachataat
Ityaakarnya sa chottaram na hi dadau dookhena moorchaam gataha!”

Stepmother Kaikeyi, with her mind turned evil by the heartless maidservant, Manthara, asked her husband, at the time of the first coronation of Sri Rama as crown Prince, two boon: that Bharata should rule the kingdom and Rama should go into exile for fourteen years. Hearing them, king Dasaratha shocked and fell unconscious.

Maharshi Bharadwaja

“SriRamaah pitrusaasanaa dvanamagataa Saumiti Sitaanavitah
Gangaam propya jataam nibadhya sa Guhah Sa Chitrakoote vasan
Kritva tatra pitrukriyaam sa Bharato datvaaahdhamayam Dandake
PropyaAgastyaah muneshwaram taduditam dhritvaa dhanushaakshyam”

To uphold the promise made by king Dasaratha to queen Kaikeyi, Sri Rama left Ayodhya went to forest, accompanied by Lakshmana and Devi Sita. Reached Ganga, met the Nishad king Guha, put on matted hair and proceeded to the beautiful Chitrakuta. where Bharata met him, performed the obsequies for his father. Offering protection to the sages living in forest he went to Dandakaranya where he met the great sage Maharshi Agastya’s received his blessings and the indestructible bow.

Maharshi Viswamitra

“Gatva Panchavati magastya vachanaaddatvadhyam mauninaam
Chitvaa Surpanakhasya karnayugalam traatum samastaan muneem
Hatva tam cha karam suvarna harinam bhitva tathaa Vaalinam
Taara ratna maavairi rajyamahroth sarvancha Sugriva saat!”

As advised by sage Agastya, they proceeded to Panchavati gave abhaya to sages living in the surroundings of Dandakaranya. Surpanaka the sister of Ravana her nose and ears were cut by Lakshmana protected the sages. stained the demons Khara and Dooshana and their army kild the golden deer (Maricha) as well as Vali and made Sugriva the king of enemy-free Kishkinda.
Maharshi Gautama

"Dooto Daasaratheh saled amudadhim teertva Hanumaan mahaan Drhstvaashokavane stitaam Janakajaam datvaangule mudrikaam Akshadeen asuraan nihatyaa mahateen Lankaam cha dhagdhyaaa punah SriRamancha sametya devah jananeedrishtaa mayeetyabraveeth!"

Rama Duta mighty Hanuman, took a legendary leap across the mighty ocean playfully, found Sita in Ashokavana, handed over (Rama's) signat ring to her; destroyed Ashokavana; killed thousands of prominent Rakshasa warriors including Aksha; set ablaze the great Lanka; returned to the presence of Rama saying, found mother

Maharshi Jamadagni

"Raamo Baddha payonidhihi Kapivaraihi veerairNalaa dwyairvuito Lankaam propya sa Kumbhakarna tanujam hatvaa rane Ravanam Tasyaam nyasya Vibhishanam punarasau Sitapathi Pushpakaa rudhaah san puramaagatah sabharatah simhasanastho babhau!"

SriRama, ably supported by the mighty Vanara warriors like Nala, Nila, Angada, Hanuman and others, built the cause way across the ocean, reached Lanka, fought with Ravana, killed him along with Kumbhakarna, Indrajit and others in the battle, crowned Vibhishana as the king of Lanka and got into the Pushpaka Vimana (The areal chariot) in the company of Sita, Lakshmana, Hanuma, Sugriva and others, and on the way stopped at Nandigrama, met Bhariva and after reaching Ayodhya Sri Rama assended the thrown at Ayodhya and Bharata as the crown prince.

Brahmarshi Vashishta

"SriRamaohayamedha mukhya makhakrit samyakprajaah paalaya kritva raajyamathanujaistha suchiram bhooriswadharmaanvito putrou bhratru samanvituou KushaLavou samsthapyaa bhumandale Soayodhyapuravasibhischa Sarayu snaatah prapede divam!"

Performing important yagas like Aswamedha, Sri Rama ruled over his people in Kosala kingdom exceedingly well for a long time; practised swadharms in plenty in the company of his brothers; installed his sons Kusha and Lava and all the sons of his brothers also. Followed by Lakshmana, Sri Rama and his other brothers along with citizens of Ayodhya and people who were intimate to him, after bathing in river Sarayu, entered the Heaven.

All the Seven Maharshis (Phalasruti)

"SriRamsaya kathaasudhatimadhuraam slokaani manuttamaan Ye srunvanti pathanti cha pratidinam teeehougha vidhvansinah Srimanto bahuputrapotrasahita bhuktvaa bhogaamschiram Bhoganthe tu sadaarchitam suraganaaih Vishnorlabhante padam!"

Those who hear or recite daily these verses, describing the story of SriRama which is sweeter than nectar, will be endowed with health, wealth, children and grandchildren. After enjoying the pleasure of the life for long, at the end, the belief by doing so they would reach the feet of Lord Vishnu, worshipped by the angels!
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page Nos.</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prayer to Vighna Raja</td>
<td>i</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invocation</td>
<td>ii</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreword</td>
<td>iii</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>iv</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eka Sloka Ramayana</td>
<td>vi</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sapta Rishi Ramayana</td>
<td>vii</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contents</td>
<td>xii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of paintings</td>
<td>xiii</td>
<td>xvi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1. Srimad Valmiki Ramayana-The great epic of all times
- 01 | 05 |
### 2. Srimad Valmiki Ramayana-The Origin
- 06 | 10 |
### 3. Srimad Valmiki Ramayana-Kanda vise Summary
- 11 | 12 |
  1. Bala Kanda | 13 | 19 |
  2. Ayodhya Kanda | 20 | 28 |
  3. Aranya Kanda | 29 | 37 |
  4. Kushkindha Kanda | 38 | 43 |
  5. Sundara Kanda | 44 | 61 |
  6. Yuddha Kanda | 62 | 80 |
  7. Uttara Kanda | 81 | 93 |
### 4. Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - impartence and Significance of Sundara Kanda | 94 | 102 |

### 5. Certain Imaginary Paintings relating to Valmiki Ramayana
- P1
  5.1) The great poet Maharshi Valmiki at Work with write up P2
       (The Author of Srimad Ramayana in Sanskrit)
  5.2) The prime Characters in Ramayana - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 : P3 P10
       with paintings and write-up
  5.3) Certain Imaginary paintings relating to Sundarakanda P11 P34
  5.4) Imaginary Paintings relating to Ramayana, other then P35 P41
       Sundarakanda

### 6. APPENDICES
- A1 A16
  Details of Appendices
  1. Dynasty of Ikshvaku Line - Solar race A3
     (Previous generations of Ikshvaku Kings)
  2. Family of King Dasaratha A3
  3. Dynasty of Mithila- A4
     (Previous generations of Mithila Kings)
  4. King Janaka’s Family A4
  5. Dynasty of King Ravana (Ancestors of Ravana) A5
  6. Family of King Ravana A5
  7. Who is who in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana A6 A10
  8. Glossary A11 A16
P1. Certain imaginary paintings of select incidents in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana in general and Sundarakanta in Particular

P1a. THE GREAT POET MAHARSHI VALMIKI AT HIS WORK IN THE MIDDIST OF NATURE IN HIS ASHRAMA

P2. Adikavi, humane poet, Maharshi Valmiki inditing Srimad Ramayana in the midst of nature in his Ashrama

“Kujantam Rama Ramethi Madhuram Madhuraksharam Aruha Kavitha Sakhaam Vande Valmiki Kokilam”

PRIME CHARACTERS IN SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA

P3. Prime Characters in Valmiki Ramayana - 1
( Brahmwarshi Vasishta, Viswamitra and Sage Rishya Srings )

P4. Prime Characters in Valmiki Ramayana - 2
( King Dasaratha and his three queens : Kousalya, Sumitra and Kaikeyi and four sons : Rama, Lakshmana, Bharata and Satrughna )

P5. Prime Characters in Valmiki Ramayana - 3
( Newly wedded couple : Sri Rama and Devi Sita, Lakshmana & Urmila, Bharatha and Mandavi Satrughna & Sruthakeerthi )

P6. Prime Characters in Valmiki Ramayana - 4
( Sriramadoota Vayunandan Sri Hanuman )

P7. Prime Characters in Valmiki Ramayana - 5
( Vanara King Vali, King Sugriva and Prince Angada )

P8. Prime Characters in Valmiki Ramayana - 6
( Mandhara, Sabari and Surpanaka )

P9. Prime Characters in Valmiki Ramayana - 7
( King of Birds Garuda and Vulture brothers : Jatayu and Sampati )

P10. Prime Characters in Valmiki Ramayana - 8
( King Ravana, Kumbakarna and Vibhishana )

PAINTINGS RELATING TO SUNDARA KANDA

P11. Jambavanta reminding Hanuman his great power of strength and prowess. Mighty Hanuman decided to take the magnificent leap of 100 yojanas (800 Miles) across the sea with a mission to find Devi Sita

P12. Mighty Hanuman addressing his team members before taking the magnificent leap across the sea from Mount Mahendra at sun rise time.
P13. 
*Vayunandan Hanuman* getting ready and just above to take the legendary leap at Sunrise time.

P14. 
*Hanuman* is spranging up into the blue like an arrow released from the bow of *SriRama*, soared and coursed through the sky! *Mount Mahendra* shook, trees were uprooted and went after him some distance as though bidding farewell to *Hanuman*, fluttered down on sea.

P15. 
*Mountain King, Minaka* came on to surface from the sea bed, with his shining golden peak and glistering wings to offer hospitality to *Hanuman*. Mistaking him as an impediment obstructing his way, *Hanuman* hurled and brushed aside the mount with his rock like chest.

P16. 
After hearing *Minaka*, immensely pleased *Hanuman* at his affectionate invitation to accept his hospitality, touched him with warmth and continued his journey to Lanka.

P17. 
At the request of devatas, *SURASA*, the mother of *Nagas* assumed the most hideous form of a demon to test the courage and prowess of *Hanuman*. After testing she was immensely pleased at his courage and resourcefulness and wished him good luck.

P18. 
Assuming minute form, *Hanuman* diving into the mouth of the sea demon, *Simhika* and killed her by coming out, cutting open her chest with his sharp nails.

P19. 
Duly completing the most trying and baffling leap across the sea, successfully confronting the problems on the way reaching the shores of Lanka at the sun set time!

P20. 
Mighty *Hanuman* vanquishing Lankini, the spirit of Lanka.

P21. 
A splendid view of the most beautiful *Ashokavana*, rivaling the *Nandavana* of *Mahendra*! “If Devi Sita were to be here, she would prefer to come to this soul-ravishing spot to offer her sandhya prayers” *Hanuman* thought and climbed up the *Simsupa* tree, hid himself behind the thick foliage.

P22. 
*Hanuman* espied a sublimely beautiful lady beneath the *Simsupa* tree, she appear grief-stricken, weak and emaciated through fasting and scorched in sorrow. He guessed “She might be Devi Sita”.

P23. 
In the early hours, fascinated by the thought of *Sita*, wearing hastily splendid royal raiment and ornaments, passionate *Ravana* moved towards *Ashokavana* followed by a fleet of beautiful belles. *Hanuman* confirmed she is *Devi Sita*. 
P24. **Hanuman** delivering **Sri Rama**’s signet ring to **Devi Sita** to strengthen her confidence in him. Taking the ring into her hand, she visualises **Sri Rama** just beside her.

P25. Observing **Devi Sita**’s sad plight, **Hanuman** offers to carry her on his back to **Sri Rama**. When she doubted his capacity, **Hanuman** assumes gigantic form & said with all humility that he has the capacity to carry even the entire **Lanka** along with her across the sea!

P26. **Devi Sita** giving her dearest jewel (**Chudamani**) to **Hanuman** meant to be given to **Sri Rama** as her token.

P27. Mighty **Hanuman** like a violent tornado destroying the **Ashokavana**, killing thousands of eminent rakshasa warriors sent by King **Ravana**.

P28. **Indrajit**, son of King **Ravana**, using **Brahmastra** on **Hanuman**, who submitted to the missile respecting Lord **Brahma**.

P29. Mighty **Hanuman** as captive, produced in the court of King **Ravana**, who at first ordered to kill him, but at the intervention of **Vibhishana**, he then ordered to burn the tail of **Hanuman** and take him in a procession on the roads of **Lanka** city. The ogres wrapped his tail with rags, soaked in oil and set fire to it.

P30. **“Lanka dahana”** - **Hanuman** set himself free from the bonds, flew into the air, observing the vital spots and fortification in **Lanka** and set fire to all palaces and edifices reducing the city of **Lanka** to ashes.

P31. Having reduced most of the **Lanka** city to ashes, presuming **Devi Sita** too would have shared its lot, **Hanuman** began reproaching himself and rushed in haste to **Ashokavana** & got relieved to see her safe. Comforting her, he took leave bidding adieu to her.

P32. Duly completing his mission successfully, **Vayunandan Hanuman** getting ready for his return journey by leap from Mount **Arista** in **Lanka**.

P33. **Hanuman** flown back to Mount **Mahendra**, being received by **Angada, Jambavantha** & his team members and after narrating his eventful **Lanka** trip, they all set out to **Madhuvana**, where they celebrated **Hanuman**’s successful return from **Lanka**.

P34. From **Madhuvana, Hanuman** along with all his team flown to Mount **Prasravana** in **Kishkindha**, met **Sri Rama, Lakshmana** and **Sugriva** and appraised them about **Devi Sita** and conveyed her message to them. **Sri Rama** appreciated **Hanuman** for his great effort and honoured him with his warm embrace.
**List of Paintings**

### Paintings Relating to Ramayana Other Than Sundara Kanda

1. **P35. Vayunandan Hanuman, the life saver - carrying the Sanjeevini Parvatha from Himalayas on his way to Lanka**
   to save the life of Lakshmana and other injured Vanaras

2. **P36. Vayunandan Hanuman, descended on the soil of Lanka along with Sanjeevini Parvatha**

3. **P37. Mighty, Sagacious, selfless and most devoted emissary of Sri Rama - Vayunandan Hanuman**
   “Manojavam Maruta tulya vegam Jitendriyam Buddhimatam variśtham - Vatatmajam Vaanara Yudha mukhyam SriRama dootam sirasa namami”

4. **P38. When and where Hanuman prays, Sri Rama appear before him!**

5. **P39. “My sole strength is Rama. Ramanama is most powerful”**
   Vayunandan Hanuman

6. **P40. SriRama, Devi Sita, Lakshmana along with Hanuman**
   “Dakshine Lakshmano yasya - Vamecha Janakatmaja Purato Maruthi ryasya - Tam vande Raghunandanam”

7. **P41. SriRama Pattabhisheka Mahostavam at Ayodhya!**
   Coronation ceremony of SriRama and Devi Sita as King and Queen of Kosala with his beloved brothers, Lakshmana, Bharata and Shatrughna. Brahmari Vasista and Yama performing the ceremony while blessings are being showered by Gods from the sky.

### Paintings Summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Pages</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of paintings relating to Ramayana in general</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of paintings relating to Sundarakanda only</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of paintings relating to Prime Characters in Ramayana</td>
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<tr>
<td>(in 8 pages x 3 each)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Total Paintings (in 40 pages)</td>
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SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA -
THE GREAT EPIC OF ALL TIMES

‘A bunch of 30 free verses in English’

Free Verses = Verses with out conventional metre of rhyme
01. The most fascinating, inspiring, soul-stirring and Glorious epic of great antiquity, *Srimad Ramayana* Indited in Sanskrit by the poet celebrity, Adikavi Maharshi Valmiki, inspired and moulded peoples Lives billions world over for several centuries!

02. *Ramayana* is as fresh today as it was during the Time of Valmiki with all its values, certainly and Undoubtedly continues to mould and inspire people For the ages to come! It has been held in esteem and Widely appreciated even by many western scholars And people of wisdom, all over the world!

03. *Ramayana* an epitome of *vedas, upanishads*, Undoubtedly is an invaluable gift to humanity, a Treasure House and a vast reservoir of nectar, Stressing moral sovereignty, sheds light on the Science of life and art of living with values abundant!

04. The great epic *Ramayana* with its ever fresh Vitality and relevance perennial, embedded in Itself, the Indian mind and thought, an invaluable Gem unique and exquisite, in classic world literature!!

05. *Ramayana*, serves a moral code of our great Nation, the most valuable repository of our splendid Culture, heritage and “Arsha Sampradaya”. Expounds “Santana Dharma” and “Sadachara”. Emphasizes perfection of virtues; physical, Intellectual and spiritual, to make life glorious!!

06. *Ramayana* treats in superlative, temparaments Good and evil, illustrates triumph of good over Evil and shows how necessary indeed is the Great effort to vanquish evil and establish *Dharma* and how one seldom gets dejected To situations most critical, baffling and testing!!

07. *Ramayana* portrays, interalia, the life of Most virtuous man born in *Ikshwaku* race, An embodiment of truth, *Dharma*, virtues And valour, the purest of the pure in thought, Word and deed; the king unique, valiant, And well versed in *Vedas* and philosophy!!

08. *Ramayana* also deals with His consort noble equally, personifies dharma, symbolises duty, Discipline and self sacrifice, an epitome of virtues, Conceptual womanhood, the thrilling beauty with Stunning chastity and spotless purity, *Devi Sita* And *SriRama*, what an illustrious and ideal couple!!

---

1. Erudite Scholars of eminence of Western countries: Prof. Griffith, Sir Monior Williams, Winter Nitts, M. Jaillkit, Skujal, Emil Bhumough, Capt. Trior and many others Indian Scholars: Mahakavi Kalidasa, Sri Arabindo, Rabindranath Tagore and many others

* His Holiness Sri Sivananda Maharaj - The Divine Life Society
2. Swamy Chinmayananda
09. **Ramayana** contains the compasinate story of **Sri Rama** and **Devi Sita** who lived in our Country some long distant times in the past and Have left an indelible impression in the lives of People in general and Indians in particular

10. The compasinate story of **Ramayana**, amazingly Woven with poetic excellence and grace, presents Fine model, most ideal to humanity, shows how The pair reacts in most baffling and tragic situations And how they get over evil without swerving least From highest principles laid down in our **Vedas**!

11. It presents vivid picture of perfect life human; Not even a single phase of human life unfound And single aspect untouched in **Ramayana**! It has been inspiring and influencing millions And billions of people world over in general, And in India, and South-east Asia in particular!!

12. **Ramayana** presents life ideal, with Children dutiful to their parents, Parents attached to their children, Youngsters loyal to elder ones!!

13. Husbands courteous to their wives, Wives faithful and loyal to husbands, Yet fearless in expressing opinions Whenever occasions in life demand!!

14. Servants obedient to their Masters Rulers valiant, virtuous and fair, Honouring utmost, ‘public opinion’ With concern for people’s welfare!!

15. Rulers deserved respect and admiration From people as protectors of ‘**Dharma**’, Rule people judiciously with utmost Care, as eyelids take care eye balls!!

16. People loyal, truthful and happy, Full-blooded with superior moral Stature, to their counterparts living on The planet Earth, as on today!!

17. **Ramayana**, with ethical values abundant, Expression exuberant and ideas noble, as Enshrined in **Vedas** and **Upanishads** with Poetic excellence and grace and power high
18. Its Vision magnificent, conception highly
Intelligent, presentation lovely, lively
And artistic high, power incalculable!
It portrays dignified and ideal human life!!

19. With characters intensely real,
Human and alive to Indian mind;
With appeal splendid, varying
From age to age, time to time,
And generation to generation,
Unrestricted by limitations of
Time, space and circumstances

20. With high image: social, ethical
And political, ensouled Ramayana,
The magnificent epic of all times
The image of our great Nation!!

21. No work of world literature high, secular in its origin,
Indeed has ever produced influence so profound on
Human life and thought, as Ramayana, for, it’s all
About the ideal human life and conduct, creating,
Arousing and inspiring perpetual interest among
People of any origin and any country in the world!!

22. Maharshi Valmiki, the great poet of poets,
Poet celebrity, master of human psychology!
His insight into human nature made the epic
Most fascinating, sensible and interesting!!

23. It is indeed immortal in every respect,
Immortal in its poetic grace, immortal in
Majesty, immortal in felicity of expression,
And is the most invaluable treasure and
Lovely gift, indeed, to the entire humanity!!

24. Srimad Valmiki Ramayana is indeed the
First epic in the world, written in Sanskrit
The form of a perfect musical poem and consists
slokas\(^1\), around twenty four thousand in number\(^2\)

25. This epic divided into seven kandas\(^2\) : Bala
Kanda, Ayodhya Kanda, Aranya Kanda,
Kishkindha Kanda, Sundara Kanda,
Yuddha kanda, and Uttara Kanda, in all
Consisting around Six hundred forty Sargas\(^3\)!!
26. There is divine fascination in Ramayana. One can read or hear it, with rapture. Expound it any number of times! It never palls or cloys, but heightens their desire to read or hear it, over and over again! Such is its vitality!!

27. An attempt is made in this study to present Valmiki Ramayana, condensed from Sanskrit and transcreated into free verses in English and Named Srimad Valmiki Ramayana at a glance.

28. This book presents the summary of all the seven Kandas of Valmiki Ramayana and also brings out the speciality, importance and significance of Sundara Kanda, in free verses in English, followed by more than thirty imaginary paintings relating to certain select incidents in Ramayana in general and Sundara Kanda in particular with titles.

29. All this is done to give a sort of continuity of thinking to the reader in understanding the story of Ramayana and the context of Sundara kanda, and its Sublime nature, with Hanuman as prime character and shows how he accomplished the great task entrusted to him by Sugriva and Sri Rama!!

30. Swami Shivanandaji Maharaj* rightly called the Ramayana as ‘being Dharma in theory and practice’ which influenced and moulded human life and thought for thousands of years and has been a living force in the inner depths of Indian consciousness!!

* The divine life society
SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA -

THE ORIGIN

‘A bunch of 31 free verses in English’
001. Once upon a time in the distant past in Tretayuga
On the bank of River Tamasa, there existed
Amidst splendid nature, a beautiful Ashrama of
The great Sage Valmiki, a chieftian-turned sage,
Renowned for his poetic excellence and grace,
Indited the great epic Srimad Ramayana!!

002. In the Ashrama, many of his disciples, vedic
Scholars along with their families lived and a
Guru Kula, imparting instruction to tender minds,
Drawn from different parts of the country !!

003. One fine morning, in the twilight hush before
Sunrise when Sage Valmiki was in a reverie,
Meditating in a calm, quiet and peaceful
Atmosphere, the divine Sage Narada, son of
Brahma, the Creator, arrived  singing as usual
The Glory of omniscient, playing on his divine lute!!

004. Beholding divine Sage Narada, Sage Valmiki,
Extending warm welcome and all courtesies,
Curiously asked “Oh! Widely toured divine Sage
Of Wisdom! You must be knowing what has been
Teasing me for quite some time these days”!!

005. He continued, “I wonder if there is a person in the
World at present, richly endowed with sublime
Qualities of virtues and wisdom blessed with
Integrity, courage, prowess, righteousness,
Truthfulness, gratitude, firm resolve, right conduct,
Kind and compassionate to all living beings with
Admirable qualities of head and heart”!!

006. “The person at the same time must be cute, well-
Built and handsome with natural effulgence
And holding control over his senses, anger and
Self, a generous and good friend to all and a
Terror to enemies, powerful and an embodiment
And epitome of virtues, valour and Dharma”!!

007. “Can such a person possessing all the above
Qualities exist in the world? Is it possible for a
Single person to possess all the above excellences?
Great is my curiosity to know such a great person”!!

008. Sage Narada’s fingers strumming the strings of
His lute and grasping through his spiritual power,
‘Why and with what purpose and objective Sage
Valmiki was so curious to know about such a
great personality, if at all exists in the world’!!

009. Divine Sage Narada who knew the past, present
And future, said “It is very hard indeed to come
Across a single person possessing all such
Glorious qualities which you have mentioned!
Yet, I know one such great and noble person”!!

010. “He is king SriRama of Ikshwaku line and an
Illustrious king from Soorya race. He is virtuous,
Courageous, gentle, wise, strong, well built, a
Great hero endowed with extraordinary skill in
Archery and the use of potential divine missiles”!!
011. He is effulgent and matchless in beauty, well
Versed in Vedas, an ideal and loyal son,
An affectionate brother and a lovable husband,
An ideal king, a sincere and dependable friend,
Compassionate and kind to all creatures, and a
Terror to the wicked, a protector of Dharma!
He loves his people and is adored by them!!

012. Narada gave a lively and glowing narration of
The glorious story of SriRama right from his
Birth, childhood, deeds of adventure, marriage,
Achievements, loyalty to parents, fourteen year
Period of exile in Dandakaranya along with
Brother Lakshmana and wife Devi Sita!!

013. Sage Valmiki who had been sitting quiet all the
While, became greatly excited hearing about
SriRama from Narada, his eyes flashed with
Great happiness and requested Narada to tell
Him something more about SriRama!!

014. Narada continued the narration saying that,
"Sri Rama while in exile in Dandakaranya
Killed Rakshasas and gave relief to the sages,
The circumstances leading to the abduction of
His wife by Ravana, and search for her!!

015. "SriRama's friendship with vanara warrior,
Hanuman and the vanara King Sugriiva,
The legendary war he fought with Ravana at
Lanka and His coronation as King of Kosala,
Speaks of his great deeds and achievements"!!

016. Sage Valmiki sat absorbed in wonder, hearing
About SriRama's great and glorious life, by the
Narration of the divine Sage Narada! Even after
Narada left his ashrama, Sage Valmiki did
Continue reflecting over the heroic SriRama!!

017. Sage Valmiki suddenly realised, it is time for
Him to perform his morning worship and so,
Accompanied by his disciples, went to the bank
Of the river Tamasa! Sage Valmiki, while
Walking along the bank happened to capture the
Sight of a pair of mating Krouncha birds!!

018. The birds on the branch of the tree lost to the
World, as they perched with wings outspread
Encircled in their bonds of love, sporting with
Each other! All of a sudden there was a bird's
Cry of agony! A fowler's arrow, swift and deadly,
Felled the male bird! The female bird rent the air
With her piercing lament at the plight of its spouse!!
019. The male bird was lying dead on the ground
Drenched in blood and the female bird was
Waiting piteously with full of sorrow!! The Sage
Was touched and moved beholding the fallen bird
And his grieving spouse with compassion!!

020. Sage Valmiki burst forth in emotion born out of
Compassion, and caught himself responding to the
Birds with a loudly uttered curse: “Oh! Fowler!
As you have killed the one Krouncha bird which
Was lost in ecstasy of love, you never have peace!

“Maa nishaada pratishthaam twam agamah saaswath samah
yat kraurichamithunaat ekam avadhih kaamamohitam”

021. It was a curse with a difference, a spontaneous
Outburst that had touched a poetic vien, sparking
Off a metric pattern, the original elegiac musical
Verse, having four feet of eight syllables each!!

022. The oyster breeds the pearl, in a moment of
Iritation! Similarly, out of the heart of the poet,
Whose soul is drenched with grief, is born a poem!
These words came out spontaneously - in the form
Of a musical verse with metre of even pace in
Sanskrit. Valmiki named it a sloka!!

023. Turning to his disciple, Bharadwaja, Sage
Valmiki said from shoka⁴ comes sloka³ literally
Born out of sorrow backed by emotional ecstasy!
There is no poetry without compassion!!

024. After completing the bath in the sacred river, Sage
Valmiki returned to his hermitage! Bharadwaja
Followed his guru! Valmiki kept remembering the
Words he had spoken to the fouler and he repeated
Them in his mind several times with all curiosity!!

025. Deep in meditation, he found a sudden heavenly glow!
The creator, Brahma appeared and said: “Do not
Wonder any more about the words you spoke. It is
A sloka! There is no doubt about it! I willed you to
Speak thus! I want you to compose a great poem in
The same metre the story of SriRama as narrated
To you already, by the Divine Sage Narada”!!

026. Brahma further added, “The time is now ripe for
You to narrate it to the world the story of SriRama!
Let the world be richer with the composition of yours!
I will grant the boon to you! All the events and
Incidents relating to the story of SriRama will be
Revealed to you as and when you require!
The unknown, will also be opened to you!!

1. Anushtup metre
2. Shoka means greaf
3. Sloka means Stanza
027. Sing the sacred song of Ramayana! Your name Will be immortal! So long as the mountains stay And rivers flow on the surface of the earth, so long Will be story of Ramayana composed by you And endure so long and so long will your fame Remain in the realms of heaven above and the Kingdoms on the planet earth and below!"

028. Valmiki spread Darbha grass on the floor and Sat on it facing the east, closing his eyes and soon Went into a deep trance! As Brahma commanded, Sage Valmiki started composing the great poem, Ramayana in Sanskrit, in the same metre which Came to his mind in the form of slokas!!

029. Sage Valmiki sat down in meditation and saw Every event in SriRama’s life in detail by his Yogic vision! He wrote the poem, the melody of Which born in the heart of love and compassion!!

030. When applied to Ramayana, the verse of Sage Valmiki, sung out of compassion and sympathy For the bird, can be interpreted thus: SriRama And Devi Sita represent the two birds, Ravana, The Rakshasa king, represent the cruel fowler!

031. Devi Sita was abducted and separated from SriRama by King Ravana, the cruel hunter! Thus there is a slight similarity in both these cases! The hunter’s cruel act was a forerunner to Sage Valmiki’s inspiration to indite the unique and Exquisite epic of all times, Srimad Ramayana!!*

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</table>

Source: Srimad Valmiki Ramayana, in Two Vol. with Sanskrit Text and English Translation
Published by Gita Press, Gorakhpur, India

1. The text of Ramayana is available today in three recensions; (1) Bombay the Southern recension, (2) The Bengal recension and (3) the North West Indian recension. Of the three, the Southern text is the oldest and the nearest to the Original.

The Orient Institute of Baroda published a critical edition of the Ramayana based on all available texts. However, controversies relating to interpolations are avoided.
*See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P1
SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA
KANDA-WISE DETAILS
1. Bala Kanda 51 free verses in English
2. Ayodhya Kanda 76 free verses in English
3. Aranya Kanda 70 free verses in English
4. Kishkindha Kanda 42 free verses in English
5. Sundara Kanda 153 free verses in English
6. Yuddha Kanda 164 free verses in English
7. Uttara Kanda 102 free verses in English
1- Bala kanda

‘A bunch of 51 free verses in English’
001. Long long ago in the distant past, in our mother land Bharat, their existed on the bank of river Sarayu. A tributary of the sacred river Ganga, an empire called Kosala kingdom with Ayodhya as capital.

002. Maharshi Valmiki in his Ramayana began with King Dasaratha who inherited the Kosala kingdom of Ikshwaku dynasty. He was indeed a great king Renowned for his valour, erudition and compassion. Used to rule people as his children! He was like Indra in prowess and was as bounteous as Kubera!

003. Sprung from ancient Ikshwaku dynasty. Dasaratha inherited virtues of his ancestors the glorious rulers like Manu, Ikshwaku, Sagara, Bhageeratha, Kakusta†, Raghu, Ambarisha, Aja, and many others!!

004. The Ikshwaku dynasty† became more famous as Raghu dynasty, thus named after Raghu Maharaj! King Dasaratha‡ ruled Kosala kingdom more than Thousand years but had no children, though had three Queens by name Kausalya, Sumithra and Kaikeyi‡!!

005. One fine day when spring was in full bloom his Revered preceptor Brahmarshi Vasista* advised King Dasaratha to perform Aswamedha Yaga and A fire rite called Putrakameshti yaga, under the Splendid guidance of Maharshi Rishya Srnga. And both yagas were successfully performed!!

006. At the conclusion of Putrakameshti Yaga, a brilliant And effulgent heavenly personality rose from the Sacrificial fire with a Golden pot carved with silver lines, containing Payasam³, and handed it over to Dasaratha

007. He then handed it over to King Dasaratha and advised Him to distribute it among his wives with unbounded Joy. Dasaratha distributed half of the quantity of Payasam Was given to Kausalya, one forth to Sumitra and of the Payasam left over, half was given to Kaikeyi and the Remaining half was given to Sumitra, who thus got two helpings, perhaps at divine will. Time rolled on!

1. For details regarding Kings of Ikshwaku dynasty please refer to Appendix - 1
2. For details regarding Dasaratha’s family please refer to Appendix - 2
3. Payasam = A sweet kheer like milk pudding for begetting children.
   * See and enjoy the painting and read about Vasista in Page No. P2
008. A year later the three queens gave birth to four sons; Queen Kausalya gave birth to Rama, Queen Kaikeyi to Bharata and Queen Sumithra gave birth to twins Lakshmana and Sathrugna!!

009. The royal palace of Dasaratha reverberated* With the cries and smiles of children and shone As a fragment of Heaven, making the King and Queens drenched in delight and were full of Bliss enjoying the sweet prattle and pranks of The elegant, resplendent and cute four sons!!

010. Right from childhood Lakshmana became More attached and devoted to Rama and Sathrugna to Bharata and they grew up Gradually smart, well-built and cute kids!!

011. The four royal children had their early education And training from no less a person of great Eminence, than the erudite Vasishta Maharshi At his hermitage, in the midst of splendid nature.

012. Years rolled by! The four princes grew with all skills And knowledge, they were expected to, and endowed They were, with wisdom and virtues, mastered Vedas And well versed in the art of war with swords, bows And arrows; and use of potential and divine Astras.

013. When the princes were roughly fourteen years old, One day a great Sage Viswamitra* visited the Royal palace of Ayodhya! King Dasaratha Received him extending all honours and after Exchanging mutual welfare, sage Viswamitra Expressed his wish to perform a Yaga and was Expecting threat from powerful Rakshasas!!

014. The Sage requested king Dasaratha to send prince Rama along with him to protect the yaga, as the Powerful Rakshasas such as Thataki, Maricha And Subhahu were bent upon spoiling it, and made It clear that prince Rama could eliminate them and Enable the Yaga to proceed smoothly and successfully!

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Dasaratha and his family in Page No. P2

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Viswamitra in Page No. P2
015. King Dasaratha was flabbergasted hearing the sage Words and said Rama was too young to fight with such Powerful and cruel Rakshasas and instead, he offered Himself to go along with the sage with his army, but the Sage Viswamitra insisted the King to send prince Rama Only, for the protection of his proposed yaga!

016. Over powered by attachment and affection for Rama, King Dasaratha flatly refused at first and later At the same advice of his most enlightened preceptor Vasishta, consented with a bit of reluctance, to send Rama along with his younger brother Lakshmana, The most inseperable companion of noble Rama!!

017. Rama and Lakshmana accompanied the Sage and Were taught on the way beginning with the two Mantras: Bala and Atibala to over come sleep, thirst and hunger. Later also taught the use of fifty five asthras, besides the use of other powerful and rare missiles:

018. Learning these, Sri Rama transformed himself Into an invincible fighter. The time spent by the two Princes in the company of Viswamitra was indeed Most valuable and a great life experience for them!!

019. The great sage Viswamitra also enlighten the Two princes Sri Rama and Lakshmana with the Episodes of places and persons came on the way. Making them forget rigours of journey by walk.

020. While passing through the dense forest, they were Accosted by the cruel and hideous demon Thataki And at the bidding of the sage, Rama killed her with A deadly arrow and proceeded further and reached the hermitage of the great sage Viswamithra !!

021. Yaga began. The two princes, especially Rama strained Every nerve in protecting the Yaga by keeping carefull And sleepless Vigil during those six days and nights and On the final day the associates of Thataki : Subahu and Mareecha made every attempt to defile and spoil the Yaga

022. With powerful weapons Rama killed Subahu And drove away Mareecha, who escaped death And fell into the far off sea. The Yaga was Successfully concluded! Sage Viswamitra was Immensely pleased and embraced the two princes!!

* The episodes of Himavan, Tataki, Ahalya and Gowthama maharshi, Gangavataranam etc.
023. Then Viswamitra wished to take the two princes, Rama and Lakshmana to the neighbouring Mithila Kingdom ruled by saintly King Janaka and on the Way, they came across a deserted hermitage.

024. It was the hermitage of noble sage Gautama and When Rama set his foot, there emerged Surprisingly A lady alive! Then, sage Viswamithra Explained The episode of Ahalya and Sage Gautama To the two princes Rama and Lakshmana

025. Mean while Sage Goutama too, arrived there Anticipating the arrival of Sri Rama along with Sage Viswamithra. The couple profusely Thanked them for gracing their hermitage and Happy they were, to resume their life together

026. Taking leave of Ahalya and Goutama, Sage Viswamitra along with the two princes proceeded Further to Mithila. On reaching there, they were Accorded warm welcome befitting the eminence of sage Viswamitra by king Janaka and Shataananda

027. King Janaka, in the past, while ploughing a land For Yagna, came across a beautiful female child in A case struck to the plough and happily took her as The gift of Goddess Earth and named her as Sita!

028. Believing her as Incarnation of Goddess Lakshmi, The King* and Queen* brought her up with all affection Along with their own daughter Urmila Rolling time Saw them transformed in to the most beautiful girls!!

029. There was one old massive and heavy bow of Lord Siva in the possession of Janaka who announced To give Sita in marriage to such a powerful prince, Capable of wielding it. Many princes and warriors Attempted to do the feat, but utterly failed even to lift it!!

030. Shataananda, the son of sage Goutama and Ahalya, came to know that his mother Ahalya Was liberated from the curse and that his parents After long years of separation have resumed their Life together, thanks to Rama and sage Viswamitra

031. Shataananda though believe the divine hand behind All things and events, yet he felt immensely grateful for The Sage Viswamitra who was instrumental in liberating His mother Ahalya from the curse, and their re-union

032. Shataananda spent some time with the two princes And observing their interest, began narrating the amazing Life story of sage Viswamitra, the differences cropped Up between him and Vasishta and how his gradual Transformation from king to Maharshi, then to Rajarshi And Ultimately attaining the cader of Brahmarshi

* Shataananda was the spiritual advisor and Royal preceptor to King Janaka

* King : Janaka and Queen : Sunayana of Videha king dom
033. **Shataananda** also narrated the perseverance and Relentless effort made by him in achieving his goal And his endeavour to send the Ikshwaku king Trisanku bodily to heaven and his rejection Into Heaven by Indra and the consequent risk Taken by Viswamitra in creating separate heaven.

034. The two princes and others listening to the Absorbing narration of sage Shataananda Perplexed and moved to know how eminent And great Sage Viswamitra really was!

035. Mean while Viswamitra and king Janaka came there And at the behest of the Sage, the bow of Shiva was brought And shown to the two princes. Rama taking the blessings Of the Sage, came forward and raised the mighty bow with Ease and stately grace and when about to strung it, Applying force, to the surprise of all, it broke in two pieces.

036. While breaking, it produced great sound like Thunders of clouds! Earth shook! The royal couple And the entire Mithila delighted beyond measure, And smiling Sita garlanded heroic prince Rama!!

037. Without any further delay king Janaka forthwith sent A team of messengers to Ayodhya to convey the good News to King Dasaratha extending a formal invitation To Dasaratha to come to Mithila and celebrate the Marriage of the prince Sri Rama and Devi Sita.

038. **Dasaratha** was thrilled to hear the message sent by Janaka and after discussing with Sage Vasishta and Vamadeva, summoned his minister Sumantra to Make all arrangements for the journey of Royal party To Mithila by providing adequate number of chariots And Palanquins comfortable for the proposed journey.

039. When king Dasaratha along with his three Queens and large retinue reached Mithila, king Janaka extended warm welcome and received the Honoured guests with due respect and joy.

040. Then, as decided by elders of both sides, the Marriages of all the four princes Rama, Lakshmana, Bharatha and Satrughna* were Celebrated with the daughters of Janaka and his Brother Kushadwaja amidst great rejoicing - !!

041. King Janaka gave his foster daughter Sita in marriage To Prince SriRama, his own daughter Urmila to Prince Lakshmana and his brother Kushadwaja’s Two daughters: Mandavi and Sruthakeerthi to the Two princes Bharata and Satrughna respectively! Marriages were celebrated with all solemnity and sanctity*

042. The royal families of Ayodhya and Mithila, Sages Vasishta and Visvamithra, all celestial beings from Heaven and other elders present there, blessed the Four newly married couples, while entire Mithila Showered best wishes for their happy married life!!

* For details relating to Dasaratha family refer to Appendix - 2 and for King Janaka’s Family refer to Appendix - 4

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P4
43. After the marriage and after conveying abundant Blessings to the four couples and their elders Present there, it appears as though his part was Over. Sage Viswamitra proceeded to Himalayas to Contemplate in solitude to the glory of the supreme! What a great and towering personality he was !!

044. After the Sage left, King Dasaratha along with his Three queens and the four couples and large Retinue, started from Mithila towards Ayodhya In great jubilation carrying happy memories! King Janaka accompanied the Royal guests some distance

045. Dasaratha began to feel some bad omens and while he Was sharing his concern with sage Vasishta, all of a Sudden dark clouds blanketed the sky, followed by Terrible gush of wind and dust storm, then appeared a Towering personality Parasurama son of Jamadagni

046. Parasurama holding a bow and an axe in hands Throwing angry and fierce look at Sri Rama spoke “Oh Rama I heard your great feats including breaking The famous bow of Lord Shiva! The bow in my hand Now is equally powerful! If you can you try to bend This bow and demonstrate your strength before all of us”.

047. Patiently  listen to what Parasurama spoke, Sri Rama said in soft but firm voice “I too heared a great Deal about your brave deeds and accomplishments! I am capable of giving you a fitting reply. You would Get demonstration of my strength right now”

048. Saying so, Sri Rama snatched the bow from his hands With in no time and not only bent it with ease, but also Strung it, to the surprise of Parasurama, who then, Could understand the amazing power and strength of Sri Rama who was no other than lord Vishnu

049. It was indeed a divine drama Parasurama’s mission was to deliver the bow to Sri Rama which was given effect to. This was known to the only three, Sri Rama, Parasurama and Brahma Shri Vasishta!

050. Thus Sri Rama brought to an end the sudden and unexpected Encounter with Parasurama. The excitement died down with his exit. The Royal Party happily resumed the journey to Ayodhya

051. Ayodhya city wearing a festive look! People of Ayodhya extended warm welcome to their King, queens and the newly married couples with Great joy and conviviality! All lived in happiness, Peace and tranquility for some years and With this Bala Kanda ends here!!
2. Ayodhya Kanda

‘A bunch of 76 free verses in English’
001. *Ayodhya kanda* though free from wars, 
It’s indeed quite touching! It begins with the 
Journey of *Bharata* and *Sathrughna* to 
*Kekaya* kingdom with their maternal uncle, 
*Yudhajit*, the brother of Queen *Kaikeyi*!!

002. Considering his old age, *Dasaratha* decided to 
Crown *Rama* as his heir-apparent prince-regent 
And when consulted, people were overjoyed, 
With one voice expressed Prince *SriRama* by 
Virtue of his excellent and admirable qualities of 
Head and heart, eminently fitted to be crowned 
And they were aglow with joy and conviviality!!

003. *Dasaratha* urged *Maharshi Vasista* to solemnise 
The installation of *SriRama* as Prince-regent and 
*Sumantra* to make all arrangements for the same 
Preparations for *SriRama*’s coronation began!!

004. *Mandhara*, the hunch-backed confident 
Attendant of queen *Kaikeyi*, having come to know 
About *SriRama*’s coronation, sensing a plot, by 
Hook or crook, she wanted to prevent the 
Function and carried the news to *Kaikeyi*, and 
slowly but steadily began poisoning her mind!!

005. *Mandhara* reminded queen *Kaikeyi* of the two 
Boons promised by *Dasaratha*, sometime in the 
Past and convinced her of the present pressing 
Need to make use of the boons; to crown *Bharata*, 
Instead of *SriRama*, as the prince-regent of 
*Ayodhya* and to send *SriRama* for fourteen 
Years to the dense *Dandakaranya*!!

006. *Mandhara* was successful in converting 
*Kaikeyi*’s love and affection for *SriRama* into 
Jealous and hatred, by her malicious words:
“Installation of *SriRama* as the prince-regent of 
*Ayodhya* would spell disaster to *Bharata*”

007. *Mandhara* urged *Kaikeyi* to prevent *SriRama*’s 
Installation.*Kaikeyi* took a vow to see that 
*SriRama* at any cost would be sent to forest and 
*Bharata* be made Prince-regent of *Ayodhya*!!

008. Unaware of these developments, King *Dasaratha* 
Came to the palace of Queen *Kaikeyi* to break 
Splendid news of installation of *SriRama* as 
Prince-regent of *Ayodhya*. But *Kaikeyi* utilised 
The opportunity meticulously, in her favour!!

009. When *Kaikeyi* demanded her two boons at an 
Appropriate time, as contemplated, *Dasaratha* 
Was stunned and stupified at the unexpected and 
Heart-breaking demands of Queen *Kaikeyi*!!

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Mandhara in Page No. P7
010. Later, king **Dasaratha** endeavoured in many ways to disuade **Kaikeyi** from her selfish and unreasonable demands, but in vain. **Kaikeyi** was stubborn and adamant and firmly stated that she would consume poison and end her life if **Dasaratha** did not heed to her two demands!!

011. **Dasaratha** in utter despair, spent full night in deep distress and in the early hours of the next morning **Kaikeyi** ordered **Sumantra** to bring **SriRama** as the king wished to see him!!

012. **SriRama** who was then getting ready for the Coronation, obeying the king’s summon, hastened forthwith to **Kaikeyi**’s palace and was shocked and thunderstruck beholding his father lying on the floor, in deep grief, anguish and despair!!

013. **SriRama** then looked at **Kaikeyi**, who revealed about the promise made by the king for the two boons accorded to her, and said firmly, "**SriRama** forego the installation as Prince-regent and to go to **Dandakaranya** for fourteen years with matted locks and wearing the bark of trees, and Prince **Bharata** would rule the kingdom of **Kosala**!!"

014. **Kaikeyi** also said that **Dasaratha** overwhelmed with compassion for **SriRama** could not look at him, as his face withered from immense grief! Even after hearing the harsh and unkind words from **Kaikeyi**, **SriRama** was as cool as everbefore with the same sweet smile in his countenance!!

015. Being an ideal and virtuous son, **SriRama** happily accepted the two demands and stated it would be his proud privilege to uphold his father’s promise, dignity and honour, by obeying his words, rather than ruling **Kosala**!!

016. The poignant news spread! People were aghast! Everyone shocked! **SriRama** who was about to be coronated as the prince-regent, made to go to **Dandakaranya** for fourteen years leaving the **Kosala** kingdom to his beloved brother **Bharata**!!

017. After taking blessings from mother **Kausalya**, **SriRama** was getting ready to go to forests. **Devi Sita** and **Lakshmana** were firm to accompany him, despite a great deal of effort by **SriRama** in dissuading them to follow him to **Dandakaranya**!!

018. **SriRama** along with **Devi Sita** and **Lakshmana** proceeded to take leave of King **Dasaratha**, who overwhelmed with sorrow and fell unconscious at the very sight of the heir-apparent, **SriRama**!!
019. SriRama, though younger in age was older in Wisdom, made it clear to Kaikeyi present there That he had no hankering for royal fortunes and Comforts and obeying his beloved father’s Command was of utmost importance for him!!

020. Touching the feet of his father, King Dasaratha And taking leave of the Queens, SriRama along With Devi Sita and Lakshmana mounted the Chariot and Sumantra began moving it fast!!

021. People in the palace in Ayodhya city and Everywhere were struggling to believe that SriRama was going to forests with Sita and Lakshmana and lined the streets with tears Rolling from their eyes and tried to deflect and Persuade them in several ways to stop !!

022. But all their efforts were in vain and left with no Other alternative, gave them a tearful and emotional Farewell, while some people ran after the chariot, Unable as they were, to separate from them !!

023. Towards evening they reached river Tamasa, And stayed to rest their horses on the river bank The royal trio fasted that night and drank a little Of Tamasa water and slept on the mat of grass On the ground under a tree on the river bank!!

024. In the early hours next morning, SriRama woke Up Lakshmana and said, “People left their houses For our sake, when they were still asleep, let us Leave this place quickly.” Sumantra yoked the Horses and silently made chariot ready, they got Into it and then the chariot started and moved fast!!

025. At the dawn, people that accompanied, got up And finding SriRama and the chariot gone, not Even the dust raised by the wheels of the chariot Could be seen, cast tearful glances all around and Plodded their sorrowful way back to Ayodhya Blaming their sleep and cursing Kaikeyi all the way!!

026. Having covered long distance and when chariot Reached the southern boundary of Kosala Kingdom, SriRama alighting from it, saluted his Motherland Ayodhya with all reverence, got into The chariot and continued to move fast!!

027. Soon they reached Sringeraburapuram situated On the bank of the holy river Ganga. The region Was under the sway of Guha, the Nishad king Who extended warm welcome to the royal trio.!!

028. They spent the night there, SriRama and Sita Slept on a mattress of grass on the bare ground Under a tree, while Lakshmana, Sumantra And Guha kept vigil the entire night in chat!!
Next morning SriRama requested Guha to bring
the white sap of the banyan tree and with it locked
up their locks, matted like forest dwellers, and
asked him to arrange for a boat to cross the river
Ganga. SriRama asked Sumantra to return
to Ayodhya and look after the King Dasaratha,
the queens and people of Ayodhya with care!!

Sumantra with tears rolling from eyes, couldn’t
control himself and started crying. Wiping his
Tears, SriRama consoled him and requested him
to do his duty. Sumantra got into the empty
chariot with heavy heart and full of despair.
Drove towards Ayodhya with moist eyes!!

Bidding farewell to Guha, the two princes and
Devi Sita boarded the boat, offering prayers to
Ganga Mai. On reaching the other side of the
River, the royal trio found themselves all alone!!

After tarrying for the night under a banyan tree,
next day, early hours bathed in the holy
Confluence at Prayag, they reached the
Hermitage of Sage Bharadwaja after a
whole day’s trek!!

Seeing the Royal trio, Sage Bharadwaja
welcomed them with great delight and embraced
SriRama and felt as if he had attained of oneness
with Brahman. He extended due honours and
warm hospitality to the two princes and Devi Sita!!

Spent the night in discussions on various topics
with the sage and when asked to suggest an ideal
place for their peaceful stay, Sage Bharadwaja
advised them to stay at the beautiful, picturesque
Mount Chitrakoot giving the needed directions!!

Taking leave of the sage, they set out on their
journey to Chitrakoot crossing River Yamuna
on a raft prepared by themselves and halted on
the other side bank of Yamuna and quite rejoiced
to get fruits and blossoms of their liking and delight.

Next morning moving further, they reached the
Hermitage of Sage Valmiki, who was greatly
delighted to receive them and extended warm
welcome! Afterwards, going further on foot the
Royal trio reached an excellent and soul-captivating
place on Mount Chitrakoot for their stay!!

While SriRama selected a good site where a
cottage could be built, Lakshmana fetched strong
and excellent logs of wood and erected a beautiful
and lovely cottage. Taking bath in River Mandakini
and offering prayers to Ganesh and Rudra, the
Royal trio settled in the lone and enticing cottage!!

There, at Ayodhya, after hearing from Sumantra
about SriRama’s departure into forests, King
Dasaratha and Queen Kausalya fell unconscious,
while all the inmates of the gynaecium burst into
wail from agony bewailing a great deal!!
039. All the agony was because of the two princes and Devi Sita, who never experienced any hardship in life, were undergoing the hard and the most Rugged forest life without any minimum comforts!!

040. Dasaratha recollecting his bad and sinful deed Of killing a hermit, Sravan, the only son of a Blind and old rishi couple, who desperately Depended on the young man for their living!!

041. Hearing the sounds made by Sravan at the pond, Mistaking him to be some wild animal drinking Water, using his rare skill released an arrow Basing on hearing the sound, Sabdabedhi!!

042. Later Dasaratha came to know, he killed an Young and innocent hermit, son of the blind Couple instead of a wild animal, he sunk in grief And took the hermit’s dead body to his old and Blind parents and revealed what had happened!!

043. The rishi couple flabbergasted to hear the Shocking news, pitifully wailed and in utter Despair and anguish, cursed King Dasaratha That he too would meet his death in agony of Separation from his son and breathed their last!!

044. Dasaratha too, on the sixth day after SriRama Left to forests, and on the very day Sumantra Met him and conveyed the news about their Difficult forest life, breathed his last in agony of Separation from his beloved son, SriRama!!

045. The royal queens grievously mourned King Dasaratha’s death while Sage Vasista was Urged to instal any one of the princes on the Throne of Ayodhya immediately. Messengers Were sent to call back the two princes, Bharata And Satrughna from Kekaya kingdom!!

046. On reaching Ayodhya, the two princes found Ayodhya city cheerless and wearing a deserted Look! Not finding King Dasaratha in the palace Bharata anxiously asked his mother Kaikeyi The whereabouts of his beloved father!!

047. She then broke to him, the news of his father’s Death, attributing it to SriRama’s exile and Holding herself responsible and tried to comfort Him saying that he would be installed on the Throne, immediately after performing the obesques of his departed father, King Dasaratha!!

048. Bharata was shocked and bitterly reproached Kaikeyi, in many ways with his caustic remarks, Took a vow in her presence to bring back SriRama From forests and instal him on the throne of Ayodhya and wait upon him as an attendant!!

049. The two princes met Queen Kausalya and Sumitra in their palaces and informed them of Their firm decision of bringing back SriRama From forest and instal him as the king of Ayodhya!!
050. In the meantime, Bharata caught the sight of Mandhara standing at the door, decked with Ornaments and pointed to Satrughna that she was at the root of all mischief. Satrughna forthwith pounced upon her seizing locks and dragged her on the floor and reproached Kaikeyi too!!

051. Immediately on completion of the obsequies, Bharata was pressurised by elders like Vasista, Sumantra and others to accept the throne. Turning down their plea, Bharata expressed his firm decision to bring SriRama back to Ayodhya and urged them to make necessary arrangements to go to forests to meet and bring SriRama!!

052. After performing the obsequies, Bharata accompanied by the priests, artisans, army and some citizens proceeded to go to forest to meet his Elder brother, SriRama. And on the way, he met the Nishad king, Guha, and appraised him his intention in meeting and bringing SriRama and install him as the king of Kosala empire!!

053. Appreciating Bharata, in course of their talk Guha informed about SriRama, Sita and Lakshmana. How they matted their locks with a white sap of the banayan leaves and how they slept on bare ground on Kusha grass, lamented Bharata and the queens hearing all this overwhelmed with grief!!

054. They stopped on the bank of river Ganga and after performing Shraddha and tarpan, in Honour of the deceased King Dasaratha and moved towards the hermitage of Bharadwaja!!

055. On reaching the hermitage of Bharadwaja, the two princes Bharata and Shatrughna along with Sage Vasista went inside the hermitage and bowed down at the feet of Sage Bharadwaja!!

056. Bharata regretfully appraised Sage Bharadwaja the developments and his firm decision to bring SriRama back to Ayodhya. And discussing the present state of affairs after the demise of King Dasaratha, requested him to give the whereabouts of the two princes and Devi Sita in the forest!!

057. Sage Bharadwaja said that there would be sojourning on Mount Chitrakuta and shown the way. The sage extended excellent hospitality to all. And the next morning, profusely thanking for the same, they moved towards Mount Chitrakuta!!

058. On reaching Chitrakuta and identifying the Cottage made of leafy twigs where the two princes and Devi Sita were put up, Bharata requested Vasista to guide and bring mothers and eagerly hastened forward to meet SriRama in the cottage!!
059. On seeing them in ascetic garbs, Bharata stumbled Down on the ground, eyes got bedimmed with Tears. SriRama hastened to lift him up and Clasped unto his bosom. Bramharshi Vasista, Sumantra and Guha also met SriRama!!

060. Placing Bharata in his lap, SriRama inquired the Welfare of his father and mothers and on learning From Bharata the demise of his beloved father, SriRama fell a swoon; Bharata sprinkling Water brought him back to normal consciousness!!

061. SriRama lamented in various ways and comforted By Bharata and the queens, then went along With his brothers to the bank of River Ganga, Offered water and balls of cooked food to the spirit Of their departed father and then fell at the feet of Mother queens and preceptor Sage Vasista!!

062. Bharata implored SriRama to oblige him by Accepting the throne of Ayodhya offered by him At the concurrence of Kaikeyi!! If SriRama did not Grant his prayer, he took a vow to stay along with Him in the forest and not to return to Ayodhya!!

063. SriRama firmly said that it was his duty as son To uphold the promise made by his father and Urged Bharata to assume the rulership of Ayodhya And thus tried with reasons to silence Bharata!!

064. Vasista too urged SriRama to conerecate as king Of Kosala, as in Ikshvaku race, the elder son Alone ascended the throne of Ayodhya. And SriRama not only as the eldest among the sons of Dasaratha but also most befitting, ablest and Well deserving prince to ascend the throne!!

065. The sage also said that as his preceptor, he was As important and significant as his father. But SriRama contended that father was more worthy Of respect even than one’s preceptor, as such, he Insisted on accomplishing the pledge already Made by him to his beloved father, Dasaratha!!

066. Bharata made up his mind to undertook a fast Onto death as a last resort to exert pressure on SriRama and also requested to allow him to remain in exile in the forest along with SriRama!!

067. SriRama reaffirmed his decision to enter into Ayodhya only after fulfilling the pledge made by Him to his beloved father King Dasaratha and Bharata understood that SriRama could not be Made to swerve even an inch from his vow!!

068. Seeing no other alternative, he placed a new pair Of wooden sandals decked with gold in front of SriRama and requested him to place his feet on Them and SriRama obliged him and handed over The sandals to Bharata, tears rolling from eyes!!
069. Receiving the sandals, Bharata took a vow before SriRama that he would enter into fire, if SriRama did not return immediately after the expiry of his term of exile! SriRama embraced Bharata and comforting him, SriRama bade farewell with warmth and respect to all according to the rank and position of each one!!

070. Bharata while returning to Ayodhya, along with His retinue, on the way met Sage Bharadwaja and Appraised him of what happened at Chitrakoot. And then paying respects, he proceeded further Enroute touching Sringaveripura thanked Guha. And ultimately reached the gloomy Ayodhya!!

071. From Ayodhya, Bharata proceeded to Nandigrama And installed the wooden sandals of SriRama On the throne, holding the royal umbrella over Them, himself put on the garb of an ascetic and Began discharging his responsibilities as the ruler and custodian under the orders of the sandals!!

072. Prince Bharata ruled Kosala kingdom, as Custodian, with grace and authority derived from The sandals and was anxiously awaiting the end Of fourteen years, the time when SriRama to Return from exile and take charge of the rule !!

073. After everyone left, SriRama, Sita and Lakshmana left Chitrakoota to visit the hermitage Of Sage Atri and his noble consort, Anasuya. Sage Atri embraced SriRama and blessed him.

074. The celebrated and aged Anasuya, an embodiment Of pure and virtual womanhood, richly endowed With enormous spiritual powers, ever free from Anger, appreciated Devi Sita and lauded her Decision to follow her husband SriRama to forests!!

075. She pointed out that a virtuous wife remain by her Husband side in weal and woe and was touched By Devi Sita’s modesty and piety. She presented Devi Sita a sanctified garland of heavenly flowers, Ornaments, saree and scented sandal paste of Pleasing fragrance with warmth and affection!!

076. The royal trio spent that night in the hermitage and In the morning made their obeisance to the sage Couple, took leave of them and proceeded further, Following the route indicated by the sage Atri ! Ayodhya Kanda ends here with the Royal trio moving into Dandakaranya, !!
3. Aranya Kanda

‘A bunch of 70 free verses in English’
001. **Aranya Kanda** begins with the entry of
**SriRama**, **Devi Sita**, and **Lakshmana** into
**Dandakaranya**, where they saw a Sages’ Colony
With a cluster of hermitages kept clean and tidy!!

002. Bark garments and scattered pieces of kusa grass
Seen outside! Chantings of **Vedic** hymns filled the
Air! **SriRama** removed the string of his bow and
Entered into the sacred colony of Sages!!

003. Hermits behold the effulgent, highly lustrous,
Handsome and well-built royal trio as wonder with
Steady eyes! The sages, knowers of **Brahman**,
Possessing divine knowledge came and extended
Hearty and warm welcome to the Royal trio!!

004. The sages provided hospitality and entertained
Them that night and the next morning when they
Were proceeding into the dense **Dandakaranya**,
Requested the two princes to protect them from the
**Rakshasa’s** and **SriRama** promised to do so!!

005. Suddenly they came across an ugly, hideous and
Gigantic man-eating **rakshasa** by name **Viradha**!
With his huge form, big belly, large eyes, long and
Strong limbs made a revolting sight and with gaping
Mouth, advanced towards the royal trio to attack!!

006. The princes fought fierce with him with arrows,
Tore off his arms and beaten him. Observing, weapons
Did not hurt him, **SriRama** told **Lakshmana** to
Bury him alive and when **SriRama** planted one
Foot on his neck, **Viradha** reminded of his past!!

007. He was originally a **Gandharva**, he had become a
**Rakshasa** at the curse of **Indra**, and requested
Them to kill him by burying him in a pit, so as to
Enable him to leave his mortal coil in it and go to
Heaven. The princes did accordingly. He advised
**SriRama** to go and meet Sage **Sarbhanga**!!

008. Then the royal trio met the Sage **Sarabhanga** and
Sage **Suthikshana** and many other sages residing
In **Dandakaranya** who expressed their happiness
To them for killing **Viradha**. **SriRama** further
Promised to help them by killing the remaining
**Rakshasas** and provide relief to them!!

009. After taking leave of the sages, the royal-trio set out
To the hermitage of the great Sage **Agastya**, the
Foremost of sages, who arrested the growth of
**Vindhya** mountains, was a terror to **Rakshasas**
And who tried to rid the world, the two troublesome
And wicked demons, **Vatapi** and **Ilvala**!!
010. Sage Agastya received the royal trio with warmth. The princes fell at his feet as a mark of respect. The sage presented SriRama a divine bow, an inexhaustible quiver and a sword with golden sheath and said, the weapons would help him in Conquering the cruel and wicked opponents!!

011. SriRama when requested the sage to suggest an ideal place for them to live in dandakaranya, he suggested a lovely place called Panchavati. The royal-trio enjoying his hospitality, took leave of him the next day morning and set out to Panchavati as per the directions of sage Agastya!!

012. On their way to Panchavati, the royal trio met a vulture with gigantic body, endowed with Terrible prowess by name Jatayu, the brother of Sampati a friend of King Dasaratha!!

013. SriRama felt happy to hear the words of Jatayu, who promised to help him as his assistant and to safeguard Devi Sita. Expressing his respects, SriRama embraced him with warmth!!

014. The royal trio came to Panchavati, a delightful and Enthralling spot of exceptional grandeur, situated on the bank of river Godavari. Lakshmana constructed a lovely cottage on the site selected by SriRama. happy and peaceful they were there, for several year’s! Time rolled on...!!

015. The royal trio in one early winter morning, after finishing their bath in River Godavari, returned to their cottage and were indulged in a pleasant chat. Meanwhile, an ogress approached them!!

016. Seeing the handsome, well-built and effulgant SriRama with countenance radiant and form Divine her passions rose and she became infatuated and asked SriRama his whereabouts. Narrating about the three of them, he asked her details!!

017. She introduced herself as Surphanaka, richly Endowed with many powers and was capable of Changing her forms to her liking and was the Sister of the valiant Ravana, the king of Lanka.

018. She further said that mighty Kumbhakarna And Vibhishana were her brothers and was the cousin of Khara, a renowned warrior known for his valour. With lust intoxicated eyes, she Insisted SriRama to marry her. Her offer of Amarous outburst amused SriRama!!

019. SriRama told her that he was already married Devi Sita and suggested Surphanaka* to Approach Lakshmana, who was there without a wife! Then she hastened to Lakshmana who also appeared beautiful and charming to her!!

1,2. Garuda and Aruna were the two sons of Vinata. Jatayu and Sampati were the sons of Aruna. also see and enjoy the painting in Page No. P8

3. the suzarian king of Rakshasas in Lanka

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Surphanaka in Page No. P7
020. When she approached Lakshmana, he replied
That he was their servant and it was not proper
For her to become the wife of a servant! She then
Approached one by one, the two brothers again
And again, with no result in her favour!!

021. The repeated refusals of SriRama and Lakshmana
Made her vexed. She guessed that the lady
Devi Sita was at the root of the problem and
Throwing an angry look at her, she pounced upon
Her, threatened to kill and said, by doing so she
Would very well make SriRama, her husband!!

022. When she snatched Devi Sita, SriRama came
To rescue of Sita and the enraged Rama instructed
Lakshmana to punish and send her away.
Reacting promptly to his orders, Lakshmana
Sliced Surphanaka’s nose and ears with sword!!

023. Profusely bleeding and roaring with acute pain,
Surphanaka ran to Janasthana, and fell before
Her cousin, Khara, who took pity of her pathetic
Position and promised to avenge the ignominy
Caused to her and commanded his fourteen
Generals to capture or kill the two princes!!

024. Leaving Devi Sita under the care of Lakshmana,
SriRama advanced to fight with the generals
Sent by Khara, and killed all of them in a trice!
Surphanaka carried the woeful news to Khara!!

025. Enraged Khara took his large army to fight with
SriRama was ready with bow and arrows to
Meet them. Wave upon wave of soldiers rushed
On the lonely prince and could not withstand the
Amazing shower of arrows of SriRama with
Lightening repeadity, and they fell like skittles!!

026. Then came Dooshana leading a large army and
Attacked SriRama whose spray of powerful
Arrows from the bow killed Dooshana and his
Vast army surprisingly within no time!!

027. Later Khara and Trisiras came onto the front
To fight. SriRama’s shafts blasted Trisiras’ heart
And clipped off his three heads and they fell on
The ground spitting blood. Khara’s pride had
Gone. Yet he courageously advanced to fight!!

028. The stinging shaft of SriRama, blazed through
The heart of Khara and made him fell dead instant.
All the fourteen thousand soldiers of Khara’s
Race in Janasthana pounced upon SriRama
Who killed all of them with his powerful shaft!!

029. Akampana the lone rakshasa warrior that
Escaped the wrath of SriRama’s powerful shaft,
Ran to Lanka in haste and reported the enmasse
Killings of all rakshasa warriors at Janasthana!!
030. **Ravana** shook with anger and questioned, “Who Killed **Khara, Dooshana, Trisiras** and the Fourteen thousand soldiers?” Akampana replied “It was Prince **SriRama**, son of **Dasaratha**, Single-handed, killed all our renowned warriors”!!

031. He further added “none can compete with **SriRama’s** valour, skill and speed in releasing Aarrows from the bow! None can conquer Him in battle. But, of course, there was a way to kill him”

032. “**SriRama** loves his beautiful wife, **Sita** so much. Separating **Sita** from him, would be sufficient to Kill the desperate and disillusioned **SriRama**. He strongly advised **Ravana** to manage to abduct **Devi Sita**. Thus he sown the seed of lust and Passion for **Devi Sita** in **Ravana’s** mind!!

033. After listening Akampana, King **Ravana** fortwith Flown by his ariel car to **Maricha**, who was Leading a virtuous and ascetic life in a secluded Place, away from **Lanka** and requested his help!!

034. **Maricha** said firm to **Ravana** that hankering After **SriRama’s** wife leads to destruction and Annihalation of the entire **Rakshasa** race and **Lanka** would certainly go into the jaws of death. Hearing the sane words of **Maricha**, the dejected And disappointed **Ravana**, returned to **Lanka**!!

035. King **Ravana** was a heroic and great warrior, Feared neither god nor sin, highly learned he was! The fate, through his weaknesses: greed, lust, Anger, ego and arrogance - eclipsed his reasoning, Learning, and derailed him from virtuous path!!

036. Then, **Surphanaka** with her mutilated nose and Ears, profused bleeding, came to **Ravana’s** court And boiled his blood with her pain and anguish, Roused his passionate lust for the cute **Sita**!!

037. She said while she tried to carry the thrilling beauty, **Sita** for him, **Lakshmana** disfigured her! She insisted **Ravana** to abduct **Sita**, at any cost Make her his queen and thus avenge her insult! Alas! Fate driven him to his impending doom!!

038. **Ravana** went again to **Maricha** and this time spoke firmly and emotionally, “**Maricha**, our great Warriors and soldiers at **Janasthan** were slain; Our sister, **Surphanaka** was disfigure! Sages Live fearless! All this was indeed a humiliating Disgrace to our heroic race of **Rakshasaas**!!

039. He further added, “None in the world would be Equal to you in courage, prowess, strength, skill And sorcery! You should help me in abducting **Sita**, wife of **SriRama**, by hook or crook”!!
Further, Ravana advised Maricha to turn himself into an attractive and smart looking and shining Golden deer with silver spots, moving near the Cottage of Sita at Panchavati and attract her attention and lure her! She would certainly send SriRama and Lakshmana to fetch the deer!!

“When she was left alone in the cottage”, he said, He would manage to abduct and take her to Lanka In his flying chariot, Pushpak! If he refused, Ravana threatened to kill him that very moment!!

Maricha felt, “if he doesn’t not oblige, Ravana would kill him! If he obliges, SriRama would kill him. Anyway he was destined to be killed either by Ravana or SriRama. In such a case, he preferred to be killed by the great SriRama!!

Then both Maricha and Ravana arrived near Panchavati and Maricha appeared in the form of shining and attractive golden deer with silver spots and attracted the attention of Devi Sita!!

Devi Sita requested SriRama to capture it for her! At first, he tried to dissuade her but due to her insistence, he could not but agreed to bring it. He told Lakshmana to be attentive at the cottage Guarding Sita and went after the golden deer!!

Maricha, in the form of golden deer, managed to take SriRama long distance from the cottage by running fast, using his magic power! SriRama struck it with an arrow when it was in the sight!!

Wounded Maricha appeared in his original form and set out a cry, imitating the voice of SriRama: “Save me! Oh! Sita! Oh! Lakshmana! Save me!! Both Devi Sita and Lakshmana heard the cry!!

Lakshmana was well aware, it was a trick. But Devi Sita was not convinced and ordered him to go immediately to the rescue of SriRama! Lakshmana made every attempt to explain her that nothing would happen to heroic SriRama!!

Seeing Lakshmana remained there itself, Devi Sita uttered bitter words. He was stunned at her emotional outburst! But her words hurt and pained Him so much when she still persisted him to go!!

With a bit of reluctance, finding no other way out, Lakshmana was about to go. Before he left, he drew a line on the ground around the cottage with his arrow and requested Devi Sita to remain with In the line and not to go out crossing the line. Then Lakshmana left her and went to join SriRama!!
050. Finding Devi Sita alone, Ravana approached The cottage in the garb of an old ascetic and begged for alms. Finding the line drawn by Lakshmana An impediment, Ravana with his convincing and Comforting words, created confidence in her mind And made her come out of the line, to his advantage. To offer the ascetic, delicious fruits and roots!!

051. Then he revealed himself to be Ravana the scion Of rakshasas of Lanka and being attracted by Her heavenly beauty, he had come to take her Away to Lanka to make her his queen! She tried To protest, cried for help and her harsh insulting Words were in wilderness and went unheard!!

052. Ravana grabbed and pulled her on to his flying Chariot, and all her efforts to free herself from his Grip were in vain! She appealed the trees, birds And animals in the vicinity, but none came to her Rescue. The chariot flew fast towards Lanka!!

053. Devi Sita’s desperate cries for help reached Jatayu, the king of eagles, who was then sleeping On a tree tower. He woke up, perceived around and Understood the grave situation and warned King Ravana that he would not let him take Devi Sita!!

054. Ravana gave a deaf ear to the warning and Jatayu started attacking him. A fierce fight took Place between them. Jatayu fought valiantly With his claws, beak and wings, injuring Ravana!!

055. Holding Sita firmly in his grip, Ravana cutoff Jatayu’s wings with his sword. The chariot flew Off leaving behind the severely injured Jatayu. Found in a pool of blood lingering between life And death, perhaps awaiting to inform SriRama!!

056. Devi Sita although was crying, could spot some Vanaras on a mountain and quietly removed Some of her ornaments and tied them in a torn Piece of her upper garment and threw it out of the Flying chariot, unseen by Ravana and continued To shout SriRama and Lakshmana for help!!

057. Soon Ravana’s chariot reached Lanka. He tried To persuade Sita to marry him and she firmly and Stoutly refused! Ravana kept her in Ashokavana, A beautiful garden rivaling Indra’s Nandavan Under the custody of some hideous ogresses so As to enable him to continue to persuade her !!

058. At Panchavati, SriRama after killing Maricha The golden deer, was hastening back to cottage and On the way, surprised to see Lakshmana with a Desolate face, questioned where he was going Leaving Sita alone in the cottage, unguarded!!

059. With tears rolling down from his eyes, Lakshmana Narrated how he was made to leave Devi Sita Unguarded and came out of the cottage, being Unable to bear her sharp stinging words!!
060. On reaching the cottage, SriRama called aloud ‘Sita’, many a time and finding the cottage empty With no response, he went running hither and Tither in the forest crying for Sita : moved Lakshmana and tried to console SriRama!!

061. They searched for Sita on hills, by the side of Pools and river banks in the forest, but in vain! Despondent as they were, walking through the Forest, SriRama and Lakshmana were Horrified to see the injured Jatayu lying in a Pool of blood, groaning with acute pain!!

062. Sprinkling water, they served him gently and Lovingly caressed him and heard the dying Jatayu narrating them in a feeble voice the sad Tale of Sita’s abduction by Ravana, son of Vishrava and brother of renowned Kubera!!

063. Ravana had carried away Sita and Jatayu Tried to prevent him by fighting fierce, but the Wicked Ravana cut-off his wings; Jatayu, on The verge of death only to inform SriRama that Devi Sita was abducted by the treacherous Ravana, and saying so, how fortunate would be Jatayu to breathe his last in hands of SriRama!!

064. The two princes performed last rites to Jatayu With heavy heart and resumed their search for Devi Sita, moving towards South and all of a Sudden, a terrible, strange and hideous demon By name Kabandha, catch hold of them!!

065. The demon was so fierce and repulsive to look at With long arms, a mouth in the stomach and one Eye above it. After a terrible fight, they cut-off both His hands. Before dying the demon requested Them to burn his body and he would help them Showing the way to search and find Devi Sita!!

066. Accordingly, when the two princes set fire to his Mortal coil, there emerged from the flames a bright And charming Personality, saying that he was a Gandharva by name Dhanu and as a result of Curse, he was made to live in the forest as a demon!!

067. He advised the two princes to proceed to the bank Of Lake Pampa at the foot of Mount Rishyamuka And specifically advised to make friendship with Vanara leader, Sugriva, who was driven out of His kingdom by his brother Vali, the vanara King. Sugriva would help them to regain Sita!!
068. As per his advice, the two princes moved towards 
The hermitage of Sage Matunga on the brink of 
Lake Pampa. The devout Shabari*, an old woman 
Who devotedly served Matunga rishi for many 
Years and ever since the passing away of the rishi 
She had been offering devotion and austerities and 
Had been awaiting the darshan of SriRama!!

069. When the two princes entered the hermitage, 
Shabari’s happiness knew no bounds. She 
Bowed respectfully at SriRama and offered 
Some berries and fruits collected from the forest 
To SriRama and Lakshmana with devotion!!

070. Shabari took the two princes around the hermitage 
And soliciting SriRama’s permission, prepared 
A pyre and lighting it up, she entered into it. From 
Flames a shining divine body emerged and 
Ascended to Heaven, blessed by SriRama!!.

The Aranya Kanda ends here!!

Quotable Quote on Valmiki Ramayana 
by Rt. Hon.V.S. Srinivasa Sastri

“The Ramayana, I hold to be almost without a rival in the 
world’s literature. Whether we judge by the grandeur of the 
theme, by the variety of characters portrayed, by the tone of its 
idealism, or by the appeal that it makes to the devout heart, it 
ranks amongst the noblest monuments of the poetic genius.”

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Shabari in Page No. P7
4 - Kishkindha Kanda

‘A bunch of 42 free verses in English’
001. **Kishkinsha Kanda** begins with a lovely and lively description of Lake Pampa! Then the two Princes reached the lake from where they could catch the sight of grandeur Mount Rishyamuka!!

002. When they were moving towards Rishyamukha, the fugitive Vanara king, Sugriva, saw the two Valiant young men and suspected them to be the Spies sent by his hostile elder brother, King Vali!!

003. Sugriva, indeed apprehensive of some mischief by Vali and requested his minister, Hanuman to go over there, using his wisdom and learning, to find out who they were and come back soon!!

004. Hanuman, in the guise of a Brahmin, met the two princes, saluted and accosted them as to who they were and why they were there and humbly requested to reveal the facts about them!!

005. Hanuman said further that the area has become bright with their effulgence and radiance, and the two youngsters when looked at them, with bows and arrows appeared to be valiant warriors and when looked at their form, appeared as hermits!!

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Sugriva and Vali in Page No. P6.
The two princes were very much impressed by His speech in chaste Sanskrit and replied that, They were the son's of King Dasaratha, obeying The command of their father, they had come to the Forest along with Devi Sita, daughter of saintly King Janaka and as she was abducted by a Demon, they had come there searching for her!!

Hanuman recognised his lord in SriRama and Fell at his feet surrendering his body and soul and Then resuming his original form he carried them On his shoulders and flown on to Rishyamuka!!

Hanuman introduced the two princes to Sugriva And thus sown seeds of friendship pact between The princes and Sugriva, who revealed in course Of chat that they saw a beautiful woman being Carried away in a flying chariot, she was crying Rama...Rama...and dropped a bundle of jewels!!

Sugriva fetched from inside his cave, a small Bundle of ornaments tied in a piece of silk Cloth and kept it before SriRama, who, Recognising them as belonging to Devi Sita. Plunged into grief borne of separation from her!!

Hanuman narrated the two royal princes the sad Episode of Sugriva and how he had been Aggrieved by his hostile elder brother, Vali, who Annexed his kingdom and appropriated his wife!!

Hanuman also appraised the two princes of Sugriva's anxiety, to enlist their goodwill. Highly Impressed with his intelligence and chaste Sanskrit, SriRama complimented Hanuman On his knowledge of Vedas and grammar!!

With SriRama's approval, Lakshmana spoke SriRama's desire to secure Sugriva's friendship and further said that making friendship with Sugriva was in pursuance of Kabandha's advice!!

Both SriRama and Sugriva hugged each other and their friendship pact was solemnised in the Presence of fire. Sugriva narrated his tale of woe which touched and moved the two princes!!

Sugriva promised to help the Princes in recovering Sita, in turn, SriRama promised to help him in Getting back his kingdom as well as his wife From his hostile elder brother, King Vali!!

With a view to ascertain SriRama's actual strength, Sugriva expatiated on the prowess of Vali, and ponting out at one sal tree of the seven of them standing in a row, asked SriRama to pierce with his arrow, that sal tree indicated by him!!
016. In order to convince Sugriva of his superior Strength, SriRama took an arrow from his quiver, Aimed at the sal tree indicated by Sugriva and Released the arrow which thoroughly pierced not One but all the seven sal trees with a great velocity And returned back and entered his quiver!!

017. Sugriva was struck with great wonder to witness The strength of SriRama and his amazing skill In archery and prostrated before him with all Respect, Later SriRama killed Vali as promised!!

018. At the time of Vali’s death, SriRama told him That he was killed because he practiced adharma By not protecting the interests of his own younger Brother and by seducing his wife Ruma!!

019. Had Vali practiced dharma, he should have Acted like Sugriva’s father and Ruma should Have been like a daughter to him. Thus justified SriRama his act of killing Vanara king, Vali !!

020. Tara, the wife of King Vali rushed to the spot And clasped Vali to her bosom. Repenting for Having reproached SriRama, Vali seeks his Forgiveness and when the couple appear worried About the future of their son, Angada*, assuring To consider it, SriRama comforted them!!

021. After Vali’s death and cremation, Sugriva was Installed on the throne of Kishkinda and Angada as prince-regent. Sugriva, Tara and All vanaras were happy at the developments!!

022. SriRama did not attend the coronation function Of Sugriva as it amounts to breach of promise Made to his father and preferred to remain in a Cave in the forest, later, leaving out instructions Initiating search for Devi Sita as promised!!

023. Indulged in love of pleasure of senses, Sugriva Had forgotten the promise made by him to SriRama! Hanuman reminded him. SriRama too sent Lakshmana to whip him into immediate action!!

024. Sugriva requested Lakshmana to forgive his Delinquency and commanded Hanuman to Collect the vanaras from all quarters to be sent In all the four directions in search of Devi Sita! Hanuman forthwith plunged into action !!

025. Meanwhile Sugriva begs SriRama’s pardon For the undue delay caused in taking action and Expressed his indebtedness for the great favour Done, in making him the king of Kishkinda!!.

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Angada in Page No. P6
026. Sugriva divided the hords of vanaras in four Groups to go in search of Devi Sita: one group Under the command of Vinata to go east-wards; Another group under the command of Susena To go west-wards; and a group under the Command of Satabali to go north-wards!!

027. Towards south, Sugriva intended to send a Special and strong team under the command of Prince Angada with mighty and resourceful Hanuman, experienced Jambavanta and a Host of proven and accomplished vanara Warriors as members constituting the team!!

028. Sugriva gave précise instructions about the Territory each group to cover and ordered them To return within a time limit of one month Bringing real news about Devi Sita!!

029. Sugriva specially called Hanuman aside, And said as he was endowed with matchless Intelligence, resourcefulness and strength, he was All confident to depend upon him to bring happy News about the whereabouts of Devi Sita!!

030. SriRama gave his signet ring to Hanuman to Be shown to Devi Sita if he come across her, in Course of the search and the ring would inspire Her confidence on him as the emissary of SriRama!!

031. With great reverence Hanuman received the ring And, joined his Group members led by the prince, Angada, making preparations for their onward Journey towards Lanka in search of Devi Sita!!

032. Time rolled on! The groups that went in the Directions of east, west and north, had returned Within the time limit of one month and reported To Sugriva that they could not find Devi Sita Anywhere in their region despite sincere search!!

033. The group under the command of the prince Angada which set off south-wards searching Every nook and corner of the dense forests, Hills, caves, plains, rivers, lakes and groves!!

034. For long, fruitless had been their search! They had to cross a desert region. Thirst and Hunger tormented them. But suddenly they Came across a cave where in certain birds with Wet wings were seen flying, creating hope and Confidence of availability of water in the cave!!

035. With great difficulty, they entered into the cave And were surprised to see a lovely grove with Full of trees laden with fruits, with a stream of Clear water; and trees and streets of gold and Great empty palaces! They came across a holy Tapaswini by name Swayam Prabha!!
036. **Vanaras** requested her for food and water which she could provide for them. Impressed on hearing their purpose and mission, she asked them to close their eyes and transported them to a place near sea shore using her great spiritual powers!!

037. Then the group realized that they have crossed the time limit set by Sugriva, for submission of their report regarding the whereabouts of Devi Sita and began shivering in their shoes!!

038. Meanwhile they met **Sampathy** the elder brother of Jatayu, who told them that Devi Sita was in the island of Lanka as a captive! It was of Hundred **yojanas** distance across the sea!!

039. Then the problem arose, how to take a giant leap across the sea and who among them was competent to accomplish it. Prince Angada inquired his team members whether anyone of them was capable of fulfilling the great and challenging task assigned!!

040. Judging their leaping capabilities, no one among the team was confident to take the legendary leap across the sea and come back. Old and wise Jambavanta felt that Hanuman alone was quite capable and competent to accomplish the task!!

041. He approached **Hanuman** and reminded him of his birth, unusual strength, stamina and his descent from the loins of Vayu, the wind god. Through **Anjana Devi**; encouraged and inspired Him that he alone in the team was capable of accomplishing this challenging and great task!!

042. **Vayunandan Hanuman** assuming enormous proportions, climbed Mount Mahendra at the sea coast, proclaimed his decision to take the magnificent leap of hundred **yojanas** across the sea to Lanka and be back finding the whereabouts of Devi Sita amidst applause of his **vanara** associates!!

The Kishkindhakanda ends here!!

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Invaluable peals of Wisdom of Srimad Ramayana

- Toleration, pacification and gift are of no avail in dealing with ungrateful persons. Deterrent punishment along will bring them into heels.
- He ranks first among men who commences to do an act after mature deliberation with his friends and relations and relies on Providence for his success.
- A man overpowered by lust does not care for time and place nor does he think of his own prosperity and virtue.
- He who seeks pleasure devoid of gain or virtue is akin to him who sleeps at the top of a tree and wakes only when he falls down.

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Sampathy in Page No. P8
5 - Sundara Kanda

‘A bunch of 153 free verses in English’
001. **Sundara kanda** begins with mighty **Hanuman**
Taking a magnificent leap of hundred *yojanas* across the sea in order to fulfill **SriRama**’s Mission to search and find **Devi Sita** in Lanka.

002. **Hanuman**, reminded of His might, encouraged and inspired by **Jambavanta**, gradually grew in size and Magnified His stature! Taken aback **Vanaras** and Stared breathless at His bewildering radiance and size! **Hanuman** emerged an apple of the eye of **Vanaras**!

003. Standing on **Mahendra Hill**, looking at the ocean
With all respect, raising his head, scanned the sky, Stretched and stiffened neck Strong and powerful, Valtant **Hanuman** resembled strong wild bull, Pacing on the fine lush green, lovely and fine **Mahendra** hill.

004. **Mahendra** hill resplendent with valuable mineral rocks Of varied hue, shining pristine luster. **Hanuman**, climbed Up the hill with steps irresistible and violent, strides Frightening, brushed aside animals and trampled down trees came on his way, startling and scaring away flora and fauna.

005. Valtant **Hanuman**, standing on rainbow-coloured floral Turf, first bowed down, palms folded in reverence to His preceptor: the sun God; to His father Vayu the Wind God; to **Indra**, the chief of **Devatas**; to **Brahma** the Creator and to all the **Pancha Bhootas** with all respect.

006. Then **Vayunandan Hanuman** in deep meditation Offered salutations within himself to His master **Sri Rama** While his associates stared in great amazement, He Magnified His physique incredibly, getting ready to Take legendary leap across the ocean towards Lanka!

007. **Hanuman** addressed his team members*, led by **Angada**, with robust optimism: “I now fly to Lanka Ruled by **Ravana** with wind speed, like an arrow Released from the bow of **Sri Rama**, in quest of **Devi Sita**, and incase I do not find her there, I shall go to Heaven, the abode of **Devatas**, in the same speed!”

008. He further added “in Heaven too if I do not find her, Sparing no pains, I shall rush back to Lanka destroy It completely and bring **Ravana** and shall be back Here, until then, be you all here and await my return”.

009. Saying so confidently, mighty colossus, **Hanuman**, Remained poised for a few moments, preparing And composing his mind for the legendary leap Across the vast and wide ocean towards Lanka.

010. **Hanuman** looked at the ocean coolly, crouched Down, summoned all his energies, courage and Virility, directed His Yogic vision towards Lanka, Scanned the sky, and grabbed on the hill with His strong hands and legs most powerful!

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* Yojana = Roughly a distance of 8 miles
1. See and enjoy the painting and read about Hanuman in Page No. P5
2. See and enjoy the painting and read about Jambavanta in Page No. P13

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P14
Holding the hill tight, **Hanuman**, contracted his legs and abdomen, took a deep breath and suspended it. Mustered all strength, tensed abdomen, used the hill as spring board, gathered momentum, and rocketed himself with all force, sprang up into blues with full of vigour.

Like an arrow released from the bow of **Sri Rama**, **Vayunandan Hanuman** like **Garuda** with power immense, coursed through the sky as thunder clap! Appreciating his unique and amazing feat, all **Devatas** and other celestial beings from heaven showered flowers. Fragrant rich, on valiant and heriod Hanuman, who appeared like a moving mountain flying in the sky.

Borne up by the impetus of **Hanuman's feet and Thieghs**, **Mahendra** hill shook to its very root, ocean agitated. Denizens and **Vidyadharas** residing on the hill ran out of caves helter skelter, crying in fear.

Trees uprooted and went after him some distance as though bidding farewell to **Vayunandan Hanuman** and fluttered down and scattered over the surface of the sea along with their buds, flowers, and leaves creating splendid sight in rainbow colours, while magnificent Hanuman went off into blues, flying towards **Lanka**!

Hanuman’s arms resembling two mighty iron clubs, outstretched in space appeared like a beautiful pair of Penta-hooded serpents rose from a mount, as though going to devour both the ocean and the sky.

**Vayunandan Hanuman’s** eyes were brilliant. Looked like Sun and Moon coursing the sky. His charming face shining bright orange hue. Resembled the magnificent Sun at setting time!

Hanuman’s bewilderingly huge form spanned the sky, like a big comet with long tail, resembled a fast moving wingless mountain hanging supportless in sky. Air roared passing through his arm-pits as he sped fast, eyes flashing like lightning shone as flames of fire.

Hanuman’s huge shadow cast on the ocean waters travelled at great speed like a divine marine vessel. Propelled by wind and huge billows over the sea stirred upside down and lashed up by force generated by him, smashing rows of waves with his broad chest, and the marine creatures shivered.

Wind god, **Vayu**, caressed Him with gentle cool breeze. **Aditya** the Sun god, spared Him from scorching heat as He was the noble and virtuous messenger of **Sri Rama**! Tireless Hanuman resembled a hidden and visible moon sprinkling delightful radiance, plunging at times into mass of clouds and re-appear emerging out of them!
020. Noticing freshness of unexhausted Hanuman, Devatas, Gandharvas and other celestial beings from blues Showered flowers, lavishing all praise and extolled the wingless speedy flier, lauding his strength and stamina!

021. Hanuman in course of his journey met with trying And testing trails and confronted many problems too, But overcome all, with tremendous courage, strength, Skill, foresight, resourcefulness and resolution!

022. Sagara, the presiding diety over oceans, holding High esteem for kings of Ikshwaku race, wished to Honour Hanuman, the most virtuous emissary of Sri Rama, the scion of Ikshwaku line, woke up Golden hued and winged Mainaka mount, Submerged in sea, to come to surface from sea bed.

023. The Lord of ocean, Sagara, requested him to provide Quiet resting place and warm hospitality to the noble Vanara leader Hanuman, their guest, worthy of adoration, Was on a sacred mission at the behest of Sri Rama

024. Hanuman to cover a distanceof hundred yojanas in One leap, already half way through, may need rest and It was their duty to assuage his exhaustion and enable Him to cover the remainiing distance with ease and Accomplish the difficult task for Sri Rama’s mission

025. Positively responding Sagara’s call, Mainaka the jewel Among mountains, endowed with rich deposits of gold, Covered on surface by trees and groves, the glowing Mountain with golden peaks emerged from ocean bed With his glistening wings, came on to surface of ocean, Shimmering like the splendid sun at the dawn!

026. Glancing at the rising mount with shining golden peaks*, Hanuman mistook it to be an impediment, obstructing His way, hurled himself and brushed it aside, with His most powerful rock like wide chest, as though a Powerful stormy wind blows off the wisps of clouds!

027. Though Mainaka violently pushed aside, shaken And worsted by His blow, first wonderstruck at His Unimaginable power, afterwards delighted and Pleased immensely at Hanuman’s tremendous power Of strength and extending all courtesies, Mainaka Addressed heroic Hanuman with all warmth:

028. “I am mount Mainaka, son of the mountain king Himavan and brother of sacred Ganga, am indeed Your admirer but not foe and has come to serve you, At Sagara’s behest and my own too, to extend you Quiet resting place and warm hospitality on my peaks.
029. On my peaks abound, delicious fruits and tasty roots
Of varied flavour and herbs. Oh valiant Vanara leader,
Stop for a while, take rest and get relief from fatigue
And continue your onward journey as you please!
My hearty comends for your great power and speed.

030. On being asked by Hanuman as to why Sagara and Mainaka so wished to help him, Mainaka revealed:
Sagara was grateful to the illustrious Ikshwaku kings,
Sri Rama’s ancestors, who did immense for the formation
And expanse of oceans; Hanuman being Sri Rama’s Emissary, Sagara decided to help the selfless Hanuman!

031. Regarding his adoration for Hanuman, Mainaka said
It was indeed quite fascinating episode and started
Narrating: “In Kritayuga, we mountains were endowed
With wings and used to fly at terrific speed, causing
Heavy damage to kingdoms, people and properties
And complaints on mountains, reached Indra!”

032. Mainaka continued “Indra got wild and began lopping
Off wings of our mountains in hundreds of thousands
With his powerful thunderbolt, and in the process, when
About to approach me, I was there upon tossed by the
Wind god, Vayu, your father. Then I was cast into the
Ocean and thus could save myself and my wings from the
Fury of Indra! Since then I had been living safe on seabed”

033. “Thus greatly indebted I am, to Vayu; and you being his Son, well deserve my adoration and the long awaited
Opportunity has come to reciprocate the help received
From your father, through helping you. Thus Sagara
And myself are keen to help by providing resting place
And hospitality to you” Mainaka again and again
Reiterated to accept their sincere offer and oblige.

034. Hanuman was immensely pleased and touched* by the
Kind words so kindly expressed and thanked Sagara
And Mainaka profusely. But did not tarry for even a
Moment and said politely in pleasing and convincing tone:

035. Hanuman continued “pressing duties await me and it
Is my solemn resolve not to rest any where, until I reach
Lanka” and further appealed not to stop Him and
Permit Him to go. Thus proceeded Hanuman smilingly
At an unabated speed like an arrow from Rama’s bow!

036. Devatas and other celestial beings with intent to test
Hanuman’s strength of purpose, courage and prowess,
Summoned bright Surasa Devi, mother of Nagas and
Requested her to assume hideous form of a dreadful
Ogress as gigantic as a mountain, revealing a huge head
Reaching the sky, looking most ugly with tusks threatening
To swallow, to see how ably He confronts the situation!

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P18
037. Accordingly Surasa assumed most hideous and dreadful Demoness form, raising from sea and obstructed Hanuman By opening her ugly vast cave-like mouth and said “Oh Vanara Leader, God ordained you as my food for the day! I am hungry, enter into my oral cavity without further delay.“

038. But Hanuman fear-free, pleaded with folded palms, Not to obstruct him as He was on an urgent and sacred Mission of Sri Rama in search of Devi Sita, who was Obducted by Ravana in the absence of Sri Rama and His brother Lakshmana, while staying in a cottage at Dandakaranya and swore in good faith he would, on His way back certainly oblige her by offering himself.

039. Surasa made an emphatic denial and in loud voice, Said: she had boon of Brahma! None dare to elude And pass her, without entering her mouth and made it Dreadfully wide open and threatened to swallow Him, and Hanuman too magnified his body many a Fold and asked whether she could extend her mouth Further to sustain him; Surasa gaped her mouth*.

040. Seeing her hideous mouth wide opened, resembling Almost the Abyss of Hell; Hanuman too magnified His body larger and larger, Surasa also expanded Her mouth bigger and bigger; and enraged Hanuman

041. In a trice intelligently contracted His body to minute Size of a thumb and suddenly dived into her mouth Blazing like fire and forthwith came out of it even before Surasa had the time to close her Jaws!!

042. Hanuman rose sky-wards saying, “I honoured your Order and the boon given to you by Brahma and now I seek your permission to continue my journey”. Surasa Pleased immensely and applauded at His resourcefulness, Assumed her original form and permitted him to go, wishing His effort in fulfilling Sri Rama’s mission all success!

043. Hanuman continued traversing across the ocean, Like a flying mountain, Sped through the sky towards Lanka and some time thereafter observed His energy And speed obstructed and felt some unseen force holding And dragging Him! Vayunandan looked on all sides, And found beneath a monster floating on the surface of sea.

044. He further observed the ogress was chasing His shadow, And pulling Him towards her, impeding His speed! Hanuman at once understood, it was the ogress Simhika, As told some time back by Sugriva, that it captures living Beings by contact of their shadows and was capable of Changing form at will and growing out of proportions. Sagacious Vayunandan Hanuman too grew in size!

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P19
045. Seeing His body growing in size, Simhika widened Her Mouth from ocean to sky as if to swallow Him, roaring Like a masss of clouds and chasing Him, courageous and Intelligent Hanuman also grew in size and observed Shrieved, her vital points through her wide opened Mouth and He shrank all of a sudden to a miniscule size.

046. He then, dived in to her hideous mouth¹, like a thunderbolt and tore her vulnerable parts with strong claws and sharp Nails, pulled out her entrails, and rushed out from her Body forthwith, like the wind and Simhika With her breasts tore open, fell dead in the ocean.

047. The courageous and valiant Vanara hero Hanuman, gazed At his mountain like huge body and at once assumed His Original size, coursed through sky cool and calm and Continued His onward journey, as if noting had happened!

048. Vayunandan Hanuman thus ably confronting the trying And testing trails with courage, valour, resourcefullness, Prowess and strength, bounding into the air like Garuda, Continued to sped across ocean towards Lanka!

049. Soon, sighted to Vayunandan Hanuman the shores of Island Lanka² with its rivers joining sea : its hills, forests, Groves, lakes, tanks, roads, lofty towers, grand palaces, Elegant mansions, mountains, plains, vallies one by one

050. Mighty Hanuman, descended on a peak called Lamha, A rocky brow of an inclined cliff of Trikuta mountain, amidst Rich nature ! The hill shook, fauna startled, flora trembled, Showering flowers as though extending warm welcome to Him

051. The high souled, resplendent Vanara hero, Hanuman Even after completion of the most trying and testing Leap of hundred Yojanas across the ocean besides Ably confronting the challenging and adventurous task, Trials and tribulations on the way, still appeared untried And fresh, did not even gasp for breath nor felt fatigue!

052. Hanuman standing there, enjoying the panoramic view Of the Kanchana Lanka and purposefully waited For the night fall, to confidently enter into Lanka. While beholding the beautiful Lanka light fell.

053. Hanuman reached the main gate of Lanka and While entering through the gate he was stopped By a hideous ogress, Lankini, the spirit of Lanka, Guarding the city ! Vayunandan Hanuman³ Vanquished her and goes into the captivating Lanka city, to begin the search for Devi Sita!!

¹. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P20
². See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P21
³. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P22
054. In the moon light he began searching for Devi Sita, and observed how effectively the city was Guarded by king Ravana and doubted the Possibility for vanaras to reach and conquer the City. Seeing the magnificent palaces, multi-stored Mansions, beautiful edifices and the luxuries of The interiors, Hanuman was wonderstruck!!

055. He began the sincere and devoted search for Devi Sita, examining every mansion, palace and Residential buildings, scanning every nook and Corner in Lanka. In the night, he saw thousands Of beautiful, cute and dauntly damsels and felt Disappointed in not finding Devi Sita anywhere!!

056. He entered the spacious and elegant palace of King Ravana in the radiant moon light and saw Many ogresses of various orders, giving way to Anxiety in not being able to find Devi Sita!!

057. In the palace a splendid aerial car- Pushpak, Caught his sight. The royal palace and in it the Aerial car- Pushpaka Vimana, he felt, were Indeed the great adornments of Lanka!!

058. The majestic form of the king Ravana, adorned With jewels of every description, reposed on an Excellent and luxurious couch decked with various Ornaments of gold, gems and diamonds, caught the Attention and admiration of Vayunandan Hanuman!!

059. A beautiful and dignified lady, wearing bright Jewels and lying asleep on a wonderful couch not Very much away from king Ravana, amidst Many dancing damsels attracted his attention!!

060. Hanuman observed them lying in a disorderly Manner with diverse musical instruments clasped To their bosoms around the dignified lady. And Viewing her to be Devi Sita, he enraptured and Exhibited his joy through various simian gestures.

061. Applying reason and thought, Hanuman Very soon, realised that she must be someone Other than Devi Sita, might be the wife of Ravana, queen Mandodari and continued Searching for Devi Sita in the gynaeceum!!

062. He also entered the banqueting hall of king Ravana where thousands of young belles lying Fast asleep in various postures, after ceaselessly Indulged in various dance and sexual delights!!
063. **Hanuman** further gazed at big vessels of gold, containing food preparations, meat of various animals, kept separate, chutneys and drinks of various kinds and fruits of different types.

064. For some time he was seized with fear of incurred sin of gazing on others’ wives, but the thought that he had looked at them with a lust-free mind, eased his conscience! Having searched in almost all places he could not find **Devi Sita** anywhere!!

065. For some time he thought she might have been disposed off by **Ravana**. And being frustrated **Hanuman** fell into quagmire of despair. And again viewing deprecating despair, as harmful, he resumed his sincere search for **Devi Sita**!!

066. Searched and searched...despite his devoted search he could not find her, **Hanuman** became despondent once again and concluded at one stage that **Devi Sita** might have been killed!!

067. While contemplating to undertake fast onto death or committing suicide or killing of **Ravana**, **Hanuman** caught the sight of a beautiful grove, appeared to be rivaling the **Nandana Vana** of **Indra** and felt that he had not covered it in course of his relentless search made earlier, to find her!!

068. Leaping down the enclosed wall of **Ashoka Vana** and watching the splendid and lovely **Ashoka Vana**, **Hanuman** leapt deeper into the Vana and selected a beautiful place in a corner!!

069. There was an **Simsupa** tree with rich cluster of leaves, under it, was a raised platform, beside it a running stream and if at all **Devi Sita** were to be there, she would certainly turn up to that place to offer her **Sandhya** prayers. Thinking so, **Hanuman** took his position on the **Ashoka** tree and hid himself behind its thick leafy boughs unseen by anybody!!

070. After some time, **Hanuman** espied, a sublimely beautiful lady on the platform beneath, who appeared grief-stricken, weak, emaciated through fasting and scorched in sorrow like a brilliant full moon overcast by dark clouds!!

071. By virtue of her characteristic features and age **Hanuman** felt, she might be **Devi Sita**, who was surrounded by hideous ogresses. He felt a great deal seeing her sad and miserable plight!

072. **Hanuman** beholding **Ravana** followed by hundreds of young women, towards the close of the night, approached **Devi Sita**! **Vayu nandan** **Hanuman** perched on the top of the **Simsupa** Tree, silently came down to have a closer view and hid himself behind the leafy boughs!!

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1. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P23
2. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P24
073. **Ravana*** by means of coaxing and sweet words
Implored her to accept him as her husband!
He lavished all praise of her beauty in several ways,
Lured her with his unbounded wealth, Royal pomp
Show and luxury spoken I about his prowess, strength,
Power, status and spoke low and cheap about **Sri Rama**

074. **Devi Sita** placed a blade of grass between her
And **Ravana** to avoid direct contact with a person
Of evil intentions and began responding with good
Advice : to give up hankering after her and said firmly
She would never be accesible to him as salvation to
A sinner and made it clear she would not be tempted
By his affluance, wealth, jewellery and royal luxuries!

075. **Devi Sita** advised him to surrender him self to
**Sir Rama** and thus protect himself, his people
and his kingdom, other wise death and
distraction would be imminent for Him

076. Netted by the censure uttered by **Devi Sita,**
**Ravana** got wild and threatened her to death
And controlling anger he allowed her only two
Months time to revise her decision, failing which
He threatened her to death! But **Devi Sita** in turn
Boldly condemned him time and again

077. **Devi Sitas** stringing responce and fierce out
Burst stunned **Ravana** his blood began boiling
And roared at **Devi Sita,** somehow, controlling
His emotions! Sensing the heat and to avert the
Situation, one of his young and cute wives present
There, embraced him, offering herself to sport with
Him and tactfully took him away from the scene!!

078. **Ravana** instructed the attendant ogresses to act
In such a way that She soon be made to submit to
His will, even by applying coercion and went along
With his young bellies towards his own abode!!

079. Of the attendant ogresses, while some tried to
* Extol **Ravana**’s greatnes, certain others coaxed
Him and to accept his proposal, while certain
Others threatened her! but **Devi Sita**, proclaimed
Firm resolve boldly, not to submit herself to anyone
Other than her beloved husband, **Sri Rama**!

080. Being unable to endure the harsh treatment and
Continued menace of the ogresses, by means of
* Harsh words, show of weapons and threats
**Devi Sita** wept, calling aloud by names,
Oh **Rama! Lakshmana! Oh Kousalya! Sumitra!**
And she bursted into wails in various ways!!
081. As a silver line in the troubled clouds, Trijata, A kind ogress, rose from sleep, spoke about the Dream she had to her companion ogresses: about The triumph of SriRama and the discomfiture Of king Ravana and stopped the ogresses who Were intimidating and molesting Devisita!!

082. Devisita being unable to bear reproaches and Threats from ogresses and after wailing a great Deal, attempted to strangle herself to death with The cord used for tying her hair. Meanwhile she Observed certain propitious omens on her body!!

083. Concluding the good omens to be auspicious, Devisita felt happy. Meanwhile Hanuman, after Weighing pros and cons, decided to sing sweet, The story of SriRama, from his birth up to that Moment, remaining perched on the Simsupa tree.

084. Casting her eyes all around Devisita catches The sight of Hanuman sitting above on a bough Of Simsupa tree. She prayed Brahma that what She saw was a real one and not an illusory!!

085. Hanuman, slowly but steadily, won Devisita’s Confidence and motivated her to narrate her story, And revealed to her that he was an emissary sent By SriRama and conveyed his inquiries to her!!

086. At one stage when Devisita suspected him to be Ravana in the guise of a vanara, she reproached Him. Then Hanuman revealed his identity as a Minister of the vanara king Sugriva, an emissary Of SriRama and requested her to believe him!!

087. When asked by Devisita, in an attempt to Ascertain his bonafides, Hanuman catalogued The marks of SriRama and Lakshmana and Revealed his own life story from his birth onwards Until he found Devisita in Ashokavana!!

088. He also delivered SriRama’s signet ring1 to Devisita in order to strengthen her confidence On him. Applauding Hanuman, she delighted to Receive the ring and made all inquiries about the Two princes, SriRama and Lakshmana!!

089. Hanuman consoled Devisita revealing SriRama’s abundant love for her and the grief Caused by her separation and said SriRama was Sparing no pains to find and then to rescue her!!

090. Hanuman2 also offered to carry her on his back to SriRama. She declined and urged Hanuman To bring SriRama along with Lakshmana to Lanka to redeem and bring happiness to her!!

1. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P26
2. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P27
091. **Devi Sita** narrated him the episode of a crow
While she was with **SriRama** at **Chitrakuta**
And asked to remind it to him and conveyed her
Greetings too to **SriRama** and **Lakshmana**!!

092. **Devi Sita** further requested him to tell them that
She would survive for a month only and before
That **SriRama** and **Lakshmana** along with
**Sugriva** and **vanara** forces to agress on **Lanka**,
Kill **Ravana**, and take her to **Ayodhya**!!

093. **Devi Sita** handed over her precious jewel,
“**Chudamani**” to be delivered to **SriRama** as a
Token from her. **Hanuman** received it with
Reverence and preserved it safe with him*!!

094. She emphasised **Hanuman** to appraise **SriRama**
Of her pathetic and miserable plight and rescue
Her at the earliest! **Hanuman** consoled her and
Promised to bring the two princes soon to **Lanka**!!

095. After meeting **Devi Sita**, **Hanuman** felt that his
Purpose and mission in coming to **Lanka** was
Not fully accomplished, till he ascertained the
Strength of the ogers. After a great deal of thinking,
He decided to destroy **Ravana**’s pet **Ashokavana**
As a right step to fulfil his objective and mission.

096. Mighty **Hanuman** like a tornado destroyed and
Laid **Ashoka Vana** to waste, perceiving the
Devastation of it single handed by the mighty
**Vanara**, the ogers reported it to king **Ravana**!!

097. Hearing the distruction of **Ashoka Vana** by a
Mighty **vanara**, **Ravana** became furious and
Ordered a group of eighty thousand ferocious
**Rakshasa** warrior’s called **kinkaras** to
Capture or kill the mighty **Vanara**!

098. **Kinkaras** rushed to **Ashoka Vana** and
Behold mighty **vanara** sat on the gate tower
As though awaiting their arrival. He took
A big iron pestle found near by and single
Handed killed all **Kinkaras**, striking with it!!

099. **Ravana**’s blood boiled hearing the death of
**Kinkaras** and sent one batch of the other, the
Eminent and ferocious fighters, **Jambumali**, and
The seven sons of **Ravana**’s chief minister
And then the five generals, the renowned warriors
To capture or kill **Hanuman**, the mighty **Vanara**!!

100. After a fierce fight, **Hanuman** killed all of them.
Then **Ravana** sent his son, Prince **Akshaya**, a
Great warrior, who vied with Gods in prowess.
**Hanuman** rejoiced percieving the valour and
Fighting skills of the off-spring of **Ravana**.

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P28

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P29
101. Catching hold of his legs, **Hanuman** swung him round several times and dashed him violently against the battle ground and killed him. Knowing the death of **Akshaya, Ravana** grieved a great deal!!

102. Enraged **Ravana** then sent his eldest son, **Indrajit**, an expert in archery and use of divine missiles, to capture or kill **Hanuman**! Fierce war took place between them! Seeing **Hanuman** unaffected after applying various types of potential weapons, **Indrajit** ultimately used the Unfailing divine missile, **Brahmastra** and captured him!!

103. Even though capable of facing **Brahmastra** **Hanuman** yielded to its influence, respecting **Brahma** and eager as he was to meet **Ravana**. To whose presence he would be taken as captive!!

104. As expected, **Hanuman** was brought to **Ravana’s Court** as a captive and was wonderstruck beholding the splendour, majesty and glory of **King Ravana**. **Hanuman** felt that **Ravana** could even rule Heaven, but for his gross unrighteousness and practices of **adhrama** which dragged him down!!

105. Being commanded by **Ravana, Prahastha** Enquired **Hanuman** as to who he was and what his motive was in devastating the royal pleasance, **Ashoka Vana** and killing thousands of ogers!!

106. In reply **Hanuman** said, “I belong to Vanara tribe I have come to meet you on a mission entrusted by our king Sugriva. I was not allowed to see you. In order to see you, I destroyed Ashoka Vana. Powerfull Rakshasas attacked me and to protect myself I fought with them and killed them!!

107. **Hanuman** started narrating the story of **Sri Rama** Right from his entry into the forest until **Hanuman** saw **Devi Sita** in **Ashoka Vana** and how treacherously **Ravana** abducted her from **Panchavati** in the absence of the two princes!!

108. **Hanuman** cautioned the king **Ravana** boldly, “If you long to survive, you should restore **Sita** to **Sri Rama** and if you do not part with her, you should be prepared for the worst to happen”!

109. Provoked by the harsh words of **Hanuman**, **Ravana** ordered to put him to death. But **Vibhishana**, the younger brother of **Ravana**, exhorted him to desist from the dastardly act of killing an emissary, forbidden by **shastras**!!

110. Hearing the good advice of **Vibhishana**, **Ravana** changed his mind and ordered to burn the tail of **Hanuman**. The ogers wrapped up his tail in rags, soaking it in oil, then lighted it up and took him round the **Lanka** city, playing drums and music!!

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1. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P30
2. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P31

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Vibhishana in Page No. P9
111. Hearing the news from attendant ogresses, Devi Sita Prayed Agni, the God of Fire, on oath, To see Hanuman rescued Unscathed and he Having made up his mind, set himself free from Bondages with ease and then flew in to the air.

112. Observing from there, the vital and strategic points And fortification in Lanka and set fire to all palaces And edifices barring the Palace of Vibhishana, Burnt the whole Lanka city reducing it to ashes*

113. Then Vayunandan Hanuman, remained calm For a few moments hearing happily the helpless and Desperate cries of ogers in distress Hanuman was Full of strength, vigour and impetuosity

114. Then, standing on the top of Trikuta mount, Surrounded by a circle of flames raising from His burning tail, Hanuman shone bright like Sun With a nimbus! All living creatures beholding his Gigantic stature got frightened, viewing him As the dreadful fire at the time of distruction

115. Vayunandan Hanuman, then extinguished the Flames of his burning tail by dipping it in ocean And all of a sudden reminded of Devi Sita; and Presuming that she too would have been burnt, Reproached himself in many ways as follows:

116. “What a blunder I have committed? I have Done nothing to save her from fire. Excited by Anger, I set fire to Lanka City and felt happy Reducing it to ashes, without thinking Even for a moment about the worshipful lady, I have defeated the very purpose of my mission”

117. Meanwhile Hanuman beholding the celestial Beings flying in the air talking among them selves Complimenting the courage of Hanuman in causing A death blow to Rakshasas and their happiness To find Devi Sita safe in Ashokavana, relived him

118. Hanuman then immediately flew to Ashokavana, Where she was; and finding her safe, he felt Immensely delighted and prostrated before her* Seeking permission to leave Lanka and bidding Fare well adieu to get back to Sri Rama.

119. Devi Sita complimented him, saying “Any praise Will be too small for your tremendous power and Courage;” then requested him to strongly advise Sri Rama to take immediate and necessary steps To come over to Lanka, fight with Ravana, turn Victorious and take her from there to Ayodhya!

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P32

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P33
120 Hanuman comforted and assured her to bring Sri Rama and Lakshmana along with Sugriva And the valiant Vanara forces, soon, to Lanka To gain victory over Ravana, his brothers and The Rakshas as and put an end to your travails

121 Then bidding adieu to Devi Sita, Hanuman Flown to mount Arista in northern coast of Lanka and took a leap across the sea!* On the Way met mount Mainaka and was flying towards Mount Mahindra where Jambavanta, Angada and His Vanara associates eagerly awaiting for him

122 Beholding Mahindra mount fast approaching, Hanuman gave out a loud roar thunder like, in Great longing to meet his associates, who were Also equally eager to see and receive their Beloved hero with great zeal and enthusiasm!

123 Most powerfull Hanuman, like a mountain in size Descended on a peack of mount Mahendra and At once, all Vanaras gathered around him, gave a Standing ovation welcoming their beloved hero And seeing him glowing, looked untired and fresh.

124 Vanaras’ faces bloom with great delight. and They extended tumultus welcome to Vayunandan Who conveyed salutations to Jambavanta and Prince Angada and wished all Vanara associates

125 Flocking around, they applauded Hanuman in Various ways. Observing their eagernes to Hear him, Hanuman started narrating them his Success story, right from his soaring into the Sky from mount Mahendra until returned back To the same mount and emphasised them all the Need to get ready for the ensuing great war!!

126 Hearing Hanuman, prince Angada addressed His team members: “Friends, Hanuman has Given you details about our successful mission Of finding Devi Sita but I earnestly feel it is proper To bring and hand over Devi Sita to Sri Rama, Instead of mere conveying to him that she is found.”

127. He further said “We, the Vanaras are more Capable of taking long leaps, not only that, in Courage and power of attack too, we have unique Capabilities and none can be compared with us”

128. He further added “myself along with Hanuman, Mainda and Dwividha are sufficient to destroy Ravana, his brothers and all Rakshasa hordes. We are capable of countering all devine missiles”

129. Hearing the emotional words of Prince Angada, The seasoned leader and practical minded Jambavanta, who is more known for his sagacity Said: “We are indeed delighted to hear the heroic Words of our team leader Prince Angada”

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P34
130. **Jambavanta** further said: “In this contest it is important to note that we are sent by our king **Sugriva** at the request of **Sri Rama**, to find the whereabouts of **Devi Sita**, which we accomplished through our **Hanuman** and to do anything further. It would be more proper to know **Sri Rama**’s mind”.

131. All of them accepted the suggestion made by **Jambavanta** and after mutually discussing, decided to set out from mount **Mahindra** towards **Kishkindha** where king **Sugriva** has been staying along with **Sri Rama** and **Lakshmana**.

132. Keeping in front **Hanuman** who is noted for his strength, skill, and resourcefulness followed by **Angada, Jambavanta**, all the Vanara’s rushed forward from **Mahindra** mount towards **Kishkindha** and on the way at **Madhuvana**, stopped for a while.

133. **Madhuvana**, a beautiful grove renowned for its fruits and honey belongs to king **Sugriva**, has been well protected and kept under the charge of a **Vanara** chief **Dadhimukha**, the maternal uncle of King **Sugriva**.

134. With the permission of **Angada**, all **Vanaras** entered **Madhuvana** and began consuming the fruits and honey, ransacking the **Vana, Dadhimuka** and his men got wild and remonstrated the **Vanaras**, who overpowered and violently thrashed them.

135. Then **Dadhimukha** along with his team flown to **Prasravana** mount in **Kishkindha**, met and reported to king **Sugriva** that a group of **Vanaras** along with **Angada** ransacked, and destroyed the **Madhuvana**.

136. Hearing **Dadhimukha**, **Sugriva** concluded from the jubilation of **Vanaras** that **Devi Sita** must have been found and asked him to send **Angada** and the **Vanaras** without further delay.

137. After returning to **Madhuvana, Dadhimukha** with respect conveyed the order of king **Sugriva**. Then all of them started flying towards **Prasravana** mount in **Kishkindha** immediately to meet king **Sugriva**.

138. At **Prasravana** mount king **Sugriva** was all happy and said comforting **Sri Rama** “**Hanuman** alone has such a power of achievement, intelligence, courage, resourcefulness and he alone should have been instrumental in making the mission a success.”

139. King **Sugriva** further said to **Sri Rama** with all confidence: “When Prince **Angada** is the commander, sagacious and experienced **Jambavanta** the leader, and **Hanuman** the director, no mission ends in failure.”

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P35
140. Just then the chatting sounds and jubilant cries of Vanaras were heard and they were seen coming one by one and alighted on the Prasravana mount. And soon Prince Angadha and Hanuman were seen leading the Vanaras towards king Sugriva.

141. Both of them prostrated before Sugriva and the two princes Sri Rama and Lakshmana. Angada conveyed that Devi Sita is found by Hanuman and she has been unhurt with her chastity intact.

142. King Sugriva congratulated Vayunandan Hanuman at the success of their mission of finding Devi Sita. Highly pleased Sri Rama and Lakshmana and looked at Hanuman with great delight and respect.

143. On being asked curiously, Hanuman appraised Sri Rama, Lakshmana and Sugriva about his adventurous trip to Lanka, right from taking leap from Mahendra Mount, and ably and successfully confronted the problems on the way to Lanka!!

144. And after reaching Lanka, how he vanquished Lankini, the spirit of Lanka, got free access to Enter Lanka city and his sincere, devoted and prolonged search there and the great moments of finding the noble Devi Sita in Ashokavana!!

145. He further narrated the way how consoled and comforted her and how and why he destroyed Ashokavana and faced the resultant encounters of several batches of Rakshasa warriors sent by Ravana single handed and killed all of them!!

146. He also narrated as to how he was taken as a captive and produced before King Ravana, and the message he had given to him and thereby incurred his wrath and faced the punishment and how he burnt most of Lanka city reducing it to ashes!!

147. Hanuman continued to narrate the pathetic and miserable plight of Devi Sita as a captive in Ashokavana, her indomitable will power, her stunning courage and chastity in confronting the problems; and conveyed her important message delivering the jewel* given by her to Sri Rama!!

148. Receiving the jewel and pressing it to his bosom, Sri Rama piteously wailing in many ways and urged Hanuman again and again to repeat her message given to him and he applauded Hanuman in many ways and clasped him to his bosom!!*

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P36
149. Hearing Hanumans narration Sri Rama’s Heart filled with unexplicable delight and Showered all appriciation and commended Him saying “You have accomplished a great Task which none can do it even in thought

150. Sri Rama further added I know of none Other than Garuda, Vayu the wing god And none other than Hanuma could cross The expansive ocean, and penetrate deeper In to the strongly guarded Lanka which is well Protected by Ravana and could escape alive!!

151. “Great service has been rendered by Hanuman Manufesting his strength in proportion to his Prowess and valour! it undoubtedly wrings my soul Further, quid pro quo, I can’t adquately reciprocate Hanuman by doing an act worthy of Vayunandan

152. Thus, appreciating Hanuman the mighty armed Sri Rama who preplexed through grief became Thoughtfull! Sri Rama experiencing a thrill in delight by embrazing the celebrated Hero saying “This warm embrace which is all that I can call My own at this moment offered unreservedly To you the high souled Vayunandan Hanuman

153. Over and above the responsibility assigned Hanuman has rendered a great service With dignity and without any blamish either To himself or to the persons who sent him And brought no dishonour to anybody !!

The Sundara Kanda ends here!
6. Yuddha Kanda

‘A bunch of 164 free verses in English’
001. **Yuddha Kanda** starts with the scion of **Raghu**, **SriRama** applauding **Hanuman** for successfully accomplishing the great task assigned to him. As none came forward to undertake to do; and appreciating **Hanuman**, again he embraced him!!

002. Afterwards, all the forces of **Vanaras** and bears, **Sugriva, Angada, Jambavanhta, Hanuman** along with **SriRama** and **Lakshmana** arrived at the seashore. To go to **Lanka**, they need to cross the sea! But how was their immediate problem?!

003. They discussed various ways and means to cross the sea and ultimately arrived at a conclusion to construct a **Sethu** to cross the sea which was only the possible means for all to reach **Lanka**!!

004. **SriRama** requested **Sagara** to allow a passage to him and to his forces to cross the sea and go to the island of **Lanka**! As there was no response from **Sagara**, **SriRama** became furious and was about to use **Brahma** missile!

005. Then, **Sagara** appeared in person before **SriRama** and undertook to sustain on his bosom the **Sethu** to be constructed and suggested to **SriRama** to utilise the skilled services of **Nala and Nila**, the **Vanara** warriors to build the **Sethu** across the sea!

006. Accordingly, under the supervision and skill of **Nala** and **Nila**, all vanaras and bears worked hard and completed the construction of the **Sethu** across the sea in a recorded time!!

007. **SriRama**, after consulting the **Vanara** King **Sugriva** and **Hanuman**, fixed a propitious time for the departure of all the forces to **Lanka** on the newly constructed **Sethu** across the sea!!

008. At **Lanka**, **Ravana** held consultations with the Ogres in case of war with **SriRama, Lakshmana** and **Vanaras**! Listening to the commands of **Ravana**, indulging in praise of their own strength and capabilities, all the ogres inspired **Ravana** with confidence asking him not to give way to frustration!!

009. Restraining the ogres boasting each other, **Vibhishana** began to talk wisdom; **Ravana** retired into his palace dismissing them all by hearing submission of **Vibhishana**. Again **Vibhishana** met **Ravana** at his palace and appealed to his good sense and drew attention to evil portents!!

010. Reaching the shores of **Lanka**, **SriRama** ordered the release of **Suka**, a spy of **Ravana**, who was captured earlier and kept under detention by the **Vanaras**! On release, **Suka** went back to **Ravana** and reported to him the military strength of **SriRama**!!

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Ravana in Page No. P8
011. **Ravana** commanded his ministers **Suka** and **Sarana** to enter into enemy’s camp and do the Spy work and give details to him. They were identified and captured by **Vibhishana**, but **SriRama** allowed them to go back to **Lanka**!!

012. They met **Ravana** and exhorted him to handover **Devi Sita** to **SriRama**! **Ravana** chided and dismissed them from service. Several others spies headed by **Sardula** were sent to **Vanaras** camp to bring useful information, who too were spotted and taken to **SriRama** and he too set them free!!

013. They returned and reported to **Ravana** that the **Vanaras** defence forces were formidable and impeachable. They put two alternatives before **Ravana**: either to handover **Devi Sita** back to **SriRama** before the war or to prepare for a bitter War! **Ravana** chosen the second alternative!!

014. Worried **Ravana** planned a ruse to make **Sita** yield to him and summoned **Vidyujjihva**, an expert in sorcery and asked him to produce the replicas of **SriRama**’s head and his **kodanda**!!

015. Then he took the replicas to **Asokavana** and told **Devi Sita** that her **Rama** was killed by him yet she pinned her hope on him only and now that her only support had gone, he advised her to give up forever her attachment to **SriRama**!!

016. King **Ravana** said further: **Lakshmana** was driven away, **Sugriva**’s neck was broken, **Hanuman** was severely injured and other **Vanaras** were either dead or in the process of Dying and requested **Devi Sita** to yield to him!!

017. Believing **SriRama** dead, **Devi Sita** burst into a Wail, bemoaning her bad luck, asked **Ravana** to kill her too and place her body by the side of **SriRama**’s! Meanwhile a sentinel whispered something and **Ravana** left the place hurriedly!!

018. With his departure, the spell too was broken and the severed head of **SriRama** as well as his **Kodanda** both were vanished. **Devi Sita** surprised at their sudden disappearance!!

019. An attendant ogress by name **Sarama**, the wife of **Vibhishana**, informed **Devi Sita** that **Ravana**’s words were utterly false and that the replicas of **SriRama**’s head and the bow shown to her, were merely the products of sorcery and not true! **Sarama**’s words set **Devi Sita**’s mind at ease!!

020. Observing the changing situation in **Lanka**, evil portents and startling phenomena forbidding the Destruction of ogres, King **Ravana**’s grandfather, **Malyavanta** told **Ravana** that all the boons he obtained from **Lord Siva** would not avail him!!
021. As per the powers conferred by the boons: Men, 
And Vanaras were outside their scope and he 
Would reap the harvest of his sins as destiny 
Appear against him! But Ravana shook with rage 
And in a belligerent mood shouted, he wouldn’t 
Give up Sita for fear of Rama, come what may!!

022. Ravana gave order of deployment of his forces: 
Lanka’s eastern gate to be guarded by 
Prahastha, the southern gate by Mahaparsva 
And Mahodara; the Western gate by Indrajit 
And northern gate by Suka, Sarana and Ravana. 
The centre of the Lanka city by Virupaksha! 
Every thing was set for the battle to take place!!

023. Being given to understand their arrangement, 
SriRama discussed with king Sugriva, 
Hanuman and the prominent Vanara warriors, 
As to how to achieve success in their expedition!

024. SriRama ordered that Nila should besiege 
Prahastha at the eastern gate; and Angada 
Should meet Mahodara and Mahaparsva at the 
Southern gate; and Vayunandan Hanuman 
Should face Indrajit at the western gate!!

025. The two princes, SriRama and Lakshmana 
Should oppose King Ravana at the northern gate; 
Sugriva, Jambavanta and Vibhishana should 
Be between SriRama and mighty Hanuman!!

026. Then SriRama ascended the Suvela peak with 
The company of Lakshmana, Vibhishana, 
Sugriva, Hanuman and others! He surveyed 
The Lanka city from that vantage point! The 
Vanara leaders who were eager to fight, spent 
That night on the mountain top with SriRama!!

027. From the mountain top SriRama could catch sight 
Of Ravana, perched on the top of the gate of his 
Palace! Beholding the very sight, Sugriva sprang 
Upon him by surprise and threw down the diadem 
From his head, fought with him for some time and 
Eluding him, returned victorious to SriRama!!

028. SriRama was not very much pleased with the 
Daring act of Sugriva and warned him against 
Such actions on the basis of Sugriva’s position as 
A sovereign of Vanara kingdom of Kishkinda!!

029. As planned, the four divisions of the army 
Besieged the four gates of Lanka city! The vast 
Vanara army was in great excitement and 
Enthusiasm. Bewildered Rakshasas, perceiving 
Innumerable hordes of vanaras with boulders 
And big trees in their hands, ready to attack!!

030. SriRama, the scion of Raghu, decided to invite 
King Ravana to battle and summoned Prince 
Angada to expostulate with Ravana and to 
Deliver his message to bring him back to reason!!
031. **Angada** flown to the place where **Ravana** was There and began delivering the message of **SriRama**: “Oh sinful and luckless one on the Verge of death! I am the emissary of **SriRama**, The scion of **Raghu**! I am **Angada** by name, son Of Vali! Here is the message from **SriRama**, listen”!!

032. “The boons you possess were all in vain, against The heaps of sins you committed! Your temerity Would end today! **SriRama** eagerly awaits You at the gates of **Lanka** city, face him and be Fortunate to die in his hands and go to heaven”!!

033. **Angada** further added, “Two alternatives for You: either to return **Devi Sita** back to **SriRama** Seeking his grace to forgive you; or be prepared For war! If you opt war, be assured, no one who Opposed **SriRama** would go back alive”!!

034. “Perform your obsequies in advance and steal time To have last longing look of your kith, kin, near and Dear ones in **Lanka** city, face him and be Fortunate to die in his hands and go to heaven”!!

035. Hearing **SriRama**’s message **Ravana**’s blood Boiled with uncontrollable anger and shouted to Seize **Angada** and kill him! Four **Rakshasa** Warriors came forward to catch hold of him.!!

036. But **Angada** sprung up into the blues along With the rakshasas held fast under his arms And from a great height threw them down, who Fell senseless at **Ravanas’** feet, while coming Down. **Angada** kicked the tower of **Ravana**’s Palace which came hurling down to earth!!

037. **Ravana** mobilised his army and encouraged Them, who beat the drums and emit terrible roars! Singing in **SriRama**’s praise, Prince **Angada** Landed in his presence, **Ravana**’s shook with Anger seeing the ruined tower of his palace! King **Ravana** was amazed by **Angada**’s exploits!!

038. The innumerable **vanara** warriors circling **Lanka** city, striking terror among the rakshasas And offered stiff fight and challenge to the ogres, Though they were fighting against heavy odds!!

039. **Ravana**’s eldest son, **Indrajit**, who was Endowed with extraordinary energy showered On **SriRama** and **Lakshmana Nagaastras** - Serpent shafts, which went through every inch of Their bodies, causing extreme pain and the two Princes fainted, poisoned by deadly darts!!

040. Excited on his momentary triumph, **Indrajit** at Over-enthusiasm, felt, “No God can bring these two Princes back to life! Slained they were by me!” He hastened to **Ravana**, informed his great deed Of disposing the princes and made him delighted. **Ravana** heaved a tremendous sigh of relief!!
041. **Ravana** who was immensely happy at the exploit
Of his son, sent a message to **Devi Sita**, by one of
Her attendants, that **SriRama** and **Lakshmana**
Were slain by **Indrajit** in the battle. Hearing
The message, **Devi Sita** got very much depressed
And was in the grip of deep grief and despair!!

042. Meanwhile the attendant ogress, **Trijata** comforted
**Devi Sita** saying "Oh! Gracious lady! Do not give
Way to grief and despair! **SriRama** and
**Lakshmana** were not dead, but only fainted!!

043. Suddenly, there was a great stir in the air! There
Was lightening and ramble of thunder! The earth
Shook! Trees uprooted! The sea surged like a
Mountain! Wind began blowing fiercely! In the
Wake of turbulence, there arose a radiant form!!

044. The radiant form introduced himself, "I am **Garuda***
I came here to save you"! Surprisingly, the serpent
Shafts binding the two princes, **SriRama** and
**Lakshmana** became ineffective! They gradually
Revived normalcy and stood up! Expressing their
Gratefulness, they profusely thanked and embraced
Him! Then, with a smile, **Garuda** vanished!!

045. King **Ravana** was told that the two princes
**SriRama** and **Lakshmana** were liberated from
The bondage of arrows and were normal! **Ravana**,
Depressed by hearing the news, despatched
**Dhumraksha** to fight with and kill **SriRama**.

046. **Dhumraksha**, the ogres general, the strong bull
Among the ogres, endowed with terrible prowess.
As a first step began surveying the army of
**Vanaras** and then keeping the bow in hand
Created terror in the minds of **Vanara** forces!!

047. **Angada** fought fierce with him and killed him!
Provoked by the death of **Vajradamstra**, **Ravana**
Sent another great warrior, **Akampana**, commander
Of the army of the ogres, who frightened and scared
The **Vanaras**, with his skill in archery and they
Could not withstand his attack and took to their heels!!

048. Observing this, **Hanuman**, who was endowed
With extraordinary might, approached **Akampana**,
Who assailed him with a hail of arrows which had
Become ineffective as **Vayunandan Hanuman**
Looked too big in size like a huge mountain!!

* See and enjoy the painting and read about **Garuda** in Page No. P8
049. Hanuman, not minding the volleys of arrows
Discharged on his body, picked up a huge tree
With large trunk, firmly holding, brandished it,
Exhibiting unsurpassed impetuosity and struck
Akampana with great velocity and killed him!!

050. Then Ravana ordered his Commander in Chief
Prahastha, who sallied forth, with large army,
For the battle field, killed many vanaras and
Created horror and was ultimately killed by
Nila the vanara warrior with amazing strength!!

051. Disconsolate at the death of Prahastha, King
Ravana himself appeared on the battle field!
After a tough fight with Sugriva, Lakshmana,
Hanuman and Nila and then faced Prince
SriRama! Ravana sustained an ignominious
And humiliating defeat at SriRama’s hand,
Escaped with life and withdrew to his palace !!

052. After depressed Ravana returned to his palace,
Thought of taking all precautions and soliciting the
Help of his younger brother Kumbhakarna* had
Become indispensable, ordered to wake him up and
Bring him to his palace as early as possible!!

053. With great effort by a huge army, the sleeping,
snor ing and slumbering giant, Kumbhakarna
stirred with a yawn and got up, refreshed and
came to Ravana’s palace and after making his
obeisance, discussed the situation with Ravana!!

054. Ravana informed his brother Kumbhakarna,
The grave danger threatening Lanka! SriRama,
With a huge army of vanaras, laid siege to Lanka
And killed many of the heroic rakshasa warriors
Causing heavy damage. Kumbhakarna comforted
Ravana and assured him that he would kill the
Enemies and place SriRama’s head at his feet!!

055. He added “Brother, Stop worrying! Drink and enjoy
Life! I shall kill those two princes, SriRama and
Lakshmana along with the vanaras with ease,
Then the princess, Devi Sita would yield to you”!!

056. Listening to him, Ravana praised the spirit of
Helpfulness of Kumbhakarna and presented him
Several precious jewels and ornaments of gold
Studded with diamonds and wished him all
Success in his contemplated and heroic endeavour!!

057. Then, Kumbhakarna sallied forth in stately
Majesty, to the battle field! Vanara forces hurled
Huge boulders, rocks and trees at him, but he
Remained unaffected and moved towards them,
Killing large number of vanara warriors, effortless!!

* See and enjoy the painting and read about Kumbhakarna in Page No. P8
058. **Vanaras** were thunder-struck and unnerved at
His bewildering form and amazing strength!
Demoralization set in and he began scaring
Thousands of **vanaras** at the mere sight of his
Huge form and made them run helter-skelter!!

059. Many **vanaras** took to their heels, escaping
From the battlefield. **Vanara** leaders and
Generals had tough time in rallying them and
After a great deal of persuasion and exhortation,
They were able to bring them into fighting form!!

060. **Sugriva**, **Hanuman**, **Angadha** and other
Prominent **vanara** leaders strained their every
Nerve to make all possible effort in attacking
**Kumbhakarna**, hurling huge boulders, solid
Hills and trees, but their efforts were in vain!!

061. The **Rakshasa** soldiers applauded the valour
Of **Kumbhakarna**, while the citizens of **Lanka**
Showered flowers on him, **Kumbhakarna**
Continued to torment vanaras. **SriRama** and
**Lakshmana** tried many **Astras** against him
And **SriRama**, at last, was successful in cutting
And severing his arms and legs, one at a time !!

062. Armless and legless, indomitable **Kumbhakarna**
Rushed with mouth kept open towards **SriRama**,
Swallowing on the way as many number of
**vanaras** as possible! Then, **SriRama** filled
**Kumbhakarna**’s mouth with a volley of arrows
And with roaring pain, **Kumbhakarna** fell down!!

063. And even with the help of his remaining limbs, he
Continued to destroy **vanaras**! Beholding this,
**SriRama** sent a most powerful arrow, which with
A binding radiance, sped and severed the head
Of the great giant **Kumbhakarna** from his trunk!!

064. The force of the **Astra** was so great, that the head
Of the giant shot up in the sky and fell in **Lanka**,
Destroying many residential buildings! The death
Of **Kumbhakarna** plunged **Ravana** in deeper
Distress, but the war continued, unabated!!

065. **Ravana**’s sons and brothers sally forth were
Encountered and **Naranthaka** attacked **vanara**
Prince, **Angadha** and was killed by him! Then
**Devanthaka**, **Atikaya** who were great warriors
Blessed with many boons came on to the scene
And attacked **Vayunandan Hanuman**!!
066. While Devanthaka was killed by Hanuman And Atikaya by Lakshmana, Trisira came In and attacked Hanuman and died in his hands! Then came the heroic Mahodara and Mahaparsva. Of whom Mahodara was killed by vanara leader Nila and Mahaparsva was killed by Rishibha!!

067. The news of Atikaya’s death stunned Ravana! Kumbhakarna, Prahasha, Akampana and Atikaya who were terror to the three worlds, Being possessed of boons and never knew defeat At all, were slain! Depressed Ravana found His eyes unusually bathed in copious tears!!

068. Brooding on the destruction of his heroic brothers And sons, Ravana became disconsolate and Plunged into an ocean of grief and felt anxious For the safety of Lanka and enjoined the ogres to Safe guard and protect the city, zealously!!

069. Meanwhile, Indrajit the foremost car warrior Who vied with God as fire in brilliance and an Adept in the use of mystic missiles, invoked the Most potential missile presided by the creator Brahma, had its drastic effect forthwith, on the Two princes and were badly hurt and fell swoon!!

070. Having rendered the two princes to straits in Struggle in the battlefield, Indrajit shouted with Joy, withdrew from the battlefield and met king Ravana and informed him delightfully, that the Two princes were knocked down, applying the Supreme Brahman missile of unfalling potency And were seen almost on the verge of death!!

071. Jambavanta came to the scene and after Consulting Susena, Sugriva and other vanara Leaders summoned Hanuman, the tiger among Vanaras and motivated him to do as follows:

072. “Hanuman! You are the only one who can Save the lives of SriRama and Lakshmana! Go to Himalayas, to the mountain of herbs Situated between the golden Rishabha mount And the peak of Mount Kailasa immediately”!!

073. He further said, “On that hill, grows the marvelous Herbs called Mrita Samjivani, Vysalya Karani, Sandhana Karani and Swarna Karani! Bring Them here and restore the life of the two princes!!

074. Praying in his heart to SriRama, Hanuman took Off himself and flown to Himalayas in a trice, Reached the hill of herbs, being unable to identify* The plants needed, he uprooted the hill of lifesaving Herbs and carrying it, reached the battlefield!!

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P37
075. Inhaling the odours of the herbs SriRama and Lakshmana and all the injured Vanara warriors Regained their normal health, got up thoroughly Refreshed, the dead Vanaras too came back to life!!

076. This benefit was not reaped by the Rakshasa Warriors, who were laid in the battle field and Grievously injured, as their bodies had already Been precipitately cast into the vast sea earlier!!

077. There upon Vayunandan Hanuman sprang From the loins of the wind god, for his part, who Was endowed with tremendous speed, bore the Mountain full of herbs with all speed right to the Himalayas and returned, back to the battlefield!!

078. While the destruction of Raakshsa warriors was In progress, mighty and dynamic Angada fought With the rakshasa warriors, Akampana and Prajangha and killed them with a huge boulder!!

079. Another Rakshsa warrior Sontaksha was Killed by vanara warrior, Dwivida, while Yupaksha was killed by Mainda, other great Warriors Kumbha was killed by Sugriva and Nikumbha by Vayunandan Hanuman!!

080. Then King Ravana sent Makaraksha, son of The valiant Khara of Janasthan, into attack with A large army and who challenged SriRama to a Duel and was duly killed by the Prince SriRama!!

081. Indrajit conjured up with his skills in sorcery, A fake image of Devi Sita and paraded making it Cry “Rama!, Rama!” and killed her with sword And laughed cruelly! Hanuman up branded Indrajit for his cheap and base action!!

082. The sight of Indrajit’s deceitful heartless and Base deed, plunged vanaras in a sea of gloom And despair! They brought it to the notice of the Scion of Raghu, SriRama, who fell in faint. Prince Lakshmana was indignant at it!!

083. Then, Vibhishana rushed in and cheered up the Princes saying that Devi Sita was not dead. It Was all the Indrajit’s sorcery! He took the offensive Against the ogres and encouraged the commanders Of the Vanara troops to carry on the struggle!!

084. Fierce fight began between Lakshmana and Indrajit. Lakshmana killed the charioteer of Indrajit and the fight continued! Everyone including The enemies were awestruck at Indrajit’s valour!!
085. Finding the fighting getting unduly prolonged, Lakshmana used Indraastra invoking the Presiding deity, the arrow sped unswervingly And sliced the head of Indrajit. At this Stupendous deed, Vanaras applauded and Shouted the heroic Lakshmana great!!

086. Lakshmana, Vibhishana and others approached SriRama with the news of Indrajit’s fall! Delighted at the news, SriRama kissed his hand In joy and lovingly took Lakshmana like a child Into his lap and showered all appreciation!!

087. SriRama embraced and applauded Lakshmana And took Heroic Lakshmana who was profusely Bleeding and other vanaras who were injured and Got them treated by Susena, the vanara physician!!

088. Some of the rakshasa warriors who fled back to Lanka conveyed the woeful news of the death of Indrajit in the hands of Prince Lakshmana to Ravana. Hearing the news, he was thunderstruck!!

089. With the exit of Indrajit the right hand of Ravana Had gone. Stricken with grief at his death, Desperate Ravana proceeded to Asokavana to Kill Devi Sita, whom, he felt, the root cause of All the trouble. But was desisted from that Dastardly act at the intercession of Suparswa!!

090. Ravana called all his army generals and marched Together with them to the battle field and exhibited His valour against the enemy forces! Sugriva Slained many ogres and killed Virupaksha!!

091. Then, fierce war took place between SriRama and Ravana by using potential missiles and counter Missiles, neutralizing their effect on each other! Ravana caught the site of Vibhishana and flung at Him a flaming javelin, which resembled a thunderbolt!!

092. Beholding this, heroic Lakshmana came to the Rescue of Vibhishana and that javelin pierced the Body of Lakshmana, who fell swooned! SriRama Entering the scene began attacking him, and King Ravana flew away from battle field to his palace!!

093. SriRama lamented over the precarious condition Of Lakshmana, who regained consciousness Under the treatment of Susena with the help of Herbs brought by Hanuman again from Himalayas!!

094. Crushing the herbs, Susena administered it Through the nostrils which was duly inhaled by Lakshmana, who still retained the javelin in his Body, then instantly rose from the ground, and rid As he was, of the javelin as also of his pain!!*

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P38
095. Seeing him recovered SriRama felt immensely Happy, appreciated Hanuman, and held Lakshmana in his arms and pressed him to his Bosom! Lakshmana duly reminded his pledge To kill the Suzerian King of Ogres, Ravana!!

096. SriRama said "Fallen a victim to powerful shafts, Ravana cannot escape alive any more than an Elephant fallen in the clutches of a roaring lion Possessing the most strong and sharp teeth"!!

097. Meanwhile, Indra sent a chariot along with Charioteer, who stopped it before SriRama. Walking round the chariot clockwise, saluted it And gratefully thanking Indra within himself!!

098. SriRama prayed Aditya, by reciting the Aditya Hridayam as advised by the great Sage Agastya Ascended the chariot with reinvigorated energy and Renewed his combat with King of Ogres, Ravana!!

099. Fierce and exciting duel took place between the Supremely skilled in archery and the use of Missiles, the most virtuous and noble SriRama And the equally skilled in the use of Astra and Missiles, the Suzerain Lord of Ogres, Ravana!!

100. Caught the site of Ravana's chariot, SriRama Asked the charioteer Matali, to take the chariot There! After fierce encounter between SriRama And Ravana, at last, the scion of Raghu, SriRama killed the King of Ogres, Ravana! What a stunning and great deed it was indeed!!

101. Brahma, Siva and other gods, Gandharvas, Kinneras, Yakshas, Siddhas and other celestial Beings from the sky, ceaselessly showered flowers And blessings, on SriRama and applauded his Great deed as the great victory of good over evil !!

102. Then beholding the dead body of his elder Brother, Ravana, Vibhishana burst into lament And SriRama comforted him and asked him to Think of performing obsequies to his elder brother!!

103. Queen Mandodari rushed to the scene, gazed At the mortal coil of her lord and felt miserable! Eyes bedimmed with tears and heart moistened By love, wailing Mandodari swooned and fell Unconscious on the breast of Ravana's body !

104. The bitterly weeping co-wives of Ravana, with Tears rolling eyes, comforted Mandodari saying, "Oh! Beloved Queen!, The wealth of kings Become unsteady, when there is a miraculous Change in the direction of the tide of their fortune" What a price paid for one's passionate and Adharmic lust towards the wives of others !!
105. In the meantime, SriRama spoke to Vibhishana. “Let obsequies be offered to your eldest brother And let the women folk be comforted! He Deserved to be cremated by you with due Ceremony as per the prescribed course of conduct Without further delay and earn good repute”!!

106. Accordingly, Vibhishana piled up a pyre with logs Of sandal wood in accordance with vedic rites and He set fire to Ravana’s mortal coil as per the Scriptural ordinance and customary practices!!

107. Then, one fine day, Vibhishana was installed On the throne of Lanka by the lead taken by the Two princes! Then, things moved fast! SriRama Sent a message to Devi Sita through Hanuman.

108. Hanuman took permission from the King Vibhishana and entered Asokavana, greeted Devi Sita and told her that King Ravana Was killed by SriRama in the combat! The two Princes and Sugriva had enquired her welfare!!

109. Devi Sita felt, her tongue tied due to excess of joy And couldn’t speak! Noble Devi Sita, irreproachable Consort of SriRama, shone like Mahalakshmi And said, SriRama’s message was most valuable Indeed! Overpowered by excessive joy of hearing SriRama’s victory and she turned speechless!!

110. Devi Sita further added that she longed to see SriRama, who was fond of his devotees! Highly Intelligent Hanuman said, she would soon be Seeing SriRama, perhaps that day itself!!

111. At the command of SriRama, Vibhishana escorted Devi Sita reverentially and conducted her to his Presence, by a palanquin and she feasted her Eyes on the moon-like face of her Lord, SriRama!!

112. Then SriRama looking at Devi Sita, broke the Silence saying, “Oh! Lady! I conquered my enemy And avenged my insult, as a true Kshyatriya! My effort along with those of Sugriva, Hanuman Angada and others has yielded fruit to day”!!

113. SriRama further added, “All this is done, not to Take you back, not for redeeming you! But for Discharging my duty as a Kshyatriya! As you Were in the abode of Ravana for a long time, there Was suspicion about you! The whole world blame Me, if I take you back as my wife! You are hereby Permitted to go wherever you pleased to go!!

114. Devi Sita was thunderstruck at His harsh and Piercing words which humiliated her a great deal! With tears rolling down from eyes, her frail body Trembling and shrank as she was at the shameful Treatment meted out, in the presence of so many!!
115. With grief choking her throat, in a faltering voice, Devi Sita addressed, “Oh! Lord! Your unkind And bitter words are not befitting your eminence And dignified stature! You spoke like a common Man, completely ignoring the greatness and Reputation of your race, as well as that of mine!!

116. Devi Sita further added, “I swear, I am pure, Spotless and blemishless! Your reasoning power Must have been eclipsed by your anger and made You to speak like an ordinary man, considering Me to be an ordinary woman! I am an Iyonija!!

117. Turning to Lakshmana, she requested him to obey Her as his mother and arrange a funeral pyre and Light it and said firm, “I cannot remain alive, even For a moment, after hearing the unjust accusations Of my Lord! There is no other go for me, except to Plunge into the fire and give up my life forthwith”!!

118. Listening to Devi Sita’s words, in great anguish, Lakshmana looked at SriRama and reading His facial expressions as His approval, he carried Out quickly, Devi Sita’s command, tears rolling!!

119. Devi Sita went round in clock-wise around her Lord, SriRama, who stood with head bent low, Approached the blazing fire respectfully bowed Down to God of Fire, joining palms and prayed:

120. “Oh! Lord Agni! Witness of the sins and merits Of every living creature! If my heart never turned Away from SriRama any time, protect me! If it is True that my mind is fixed immovably on SriRama, Protect me; if it is true that I am completely pure, Though my Lord suspected me, protect me”!!

121. Devi Sita further added, “If the elemental forces Know that I am blameless and of upright conduct, Please protect me!” Praying so the God of Fire, Devi Sita, entered the blazing flames, fearless!!

122. Teeming millions of people witnessing, the Resplendent princess of Mithila, Devi Sita Penetrating deep into the fire. When she was Entering into the flames, the multitude of lookers Cried loud! The women present there wept loud!!

123. The God of Fire emerged in person from the Burning pyre with Devi Sita and presented her To SriRama saying “Devi Sita is absolutely Spotless and blemishless. She is pure”!!

124. SriRama joyfully accepted her saying “I know Shat Devi Sita is perfectly pure! In order to Demonstrate her purity to the entire multitude she Is made to undertake this great ordeal”!!
125. Effulgent Mahadeva, Brahma, Indra, Varuna, Kubera, Yama and other gods, who were seen in the sky on their chariots, blessed the couple, SriRama and Devi Sita to lead a happy life!!

126. Appreciating the gracious fulfillment of the request of all Devas by SriRama, Indra wanted to confer a boon to SriRama, who requested him to bring back to life all the vanaras who had lost their lives and who were wounded and grievously injured be healed completely, with all limbs intact!!

127. Indra gave the boon as desired by SriRama, who was delighted to see all the dead vanara warriors came back alive and all injured came out hale and healthy with their limbs intact! Then all gods took leave of SriRama and departed!!

128. Seeing SriRama preparing to leave for Ayodhya, Vibhishana with a great humility and gratitude invited SriRama to visit the palace and spend atleast a day with them, enabling them to honour him and to provide an affectionate hospitality!!

129. SriRama replied that as the period of his exile was getting completed, his impatience and anxiety to see his younger brother, Bharata had been growing! As such, he was hastening to go as Bharata was observing most severe austerities!!

130. SriRama further said that the affection shown, cooperation extended and help rendered by Vibhishana to him in the recent battle, had been more valuable than the honour and hospitality!!

131. He further said that he was eager to meet Bharata, who had sworn to jump into fire if he did not return after the completion of the period of his exile and requested him to arrange a quick and comfortable transport for them to go to Ayodhya!!

132. Vibhishana said that he retained the aerial car, Pushpak of Kubera for this purpose only and it was ready to take them to Ayodhya! Then Vibhishana, Sugriva, Hanuman and other Vanara leaders and warriors approached him!!

133. They requested SriRama to permit them accompany him to witness his coronation at Ayodhya! SriRama happily invited them all to go along with him to Ayodhya as his specially honoured guests!!

134. In great jubilation, SriRama, Devi Sita, Lakshmana, Sugriva, Hanuman, Vibhishana and his ministers, Angada, Jambavanta and all other vanara leaders and warriors got into the Pushpak and it started flying fast, northwards from Lanka!!
135. As **Pushpak** sped through the air, **SriRama** kept pointing out to **Devi Sita**, the battlefield in **Lanka**, the spots where King **Ravana**, **Indrajit Kumbhakarna**, and others were killed, the Causeway built across the sea by **Nala**, Mount **Mainaka**, Mount **Mahendra** and all other spots connected with their search for **Devi Sita**!!

136. **Pushpak** soon was above **Kishkinda**, then **Devi Sita** requested **SriRama** to permit her to take the women folk of all the **Vanaras** there in **Kishkinda** along with them to **Ayodhya**, which was gladly accepted by Prince **SriRama**!!

137. **Pushpak** halted at **Kishkinda** and all the **Vanara** women got into it greeting and hailing **Devi Sita**! **Pushpak** started flying again and within a short time it was above the hermitage of **Sage Bharadwaja** and it stopped there!!

138. Incidentally it was the last day of the period of fourteen years of **SriRama**'s exile! They all stayed that day as the guests of **Sage Bharadwaja**! From there, **SriRama** sent **Hanuman** in advance to tell **Guha** and **Bharata** about **SriRama**'s return!!

139. **Sage Bharadwaja** said “Wearing matted locks, clad in pieces of bark and placing your wooden sandals before him, **Bharata** who had been steadfast in obedience to your commands had been expecting you back any moment”!!

140. **Sage Bharadwaja** wished to confer a boon to **SriRama**, who, when asked to choose, asked him “Let all the trees bear fruits with full of honey and let abundant fruits of various kinds, emitting rich fragrance and flavour, grow in all open space instant within a radius of three **yojanas** around **Ayodhya** on all sides, for the immediate and continued consumption of **Vanaras** visiting **Ayodhya**”! **Sage Bharadwaja** said, “Be it so”!!

141. Then taking leave of the sage, **SriRama**, with his retinue, proceeded in **Pushpak** towards **Nandigrama** to meet **Bharata**! **Hanuman**, who was sent in advance to appraise **Guha** and Prince **Bharata** the impending arrival of **SriRama**, was on the job and made them awaiting for him!!

142. After meeting **Guha** at **Sringaberipuram**, **Hanuman** then came to **Nandigrama**, met **Bharata**, who was seen in ascetic garb! When **Hanuman** informed him about the arrival of **SriRama**, **Bharata** was immensely delighted, his face shining eagerly expecting **SriRama**!!
143. Hanuman, on being curiously asked by Bharata, gave a graphic narration of events they encountered right from the day Bharata took leave of SriRama at Chitrakuta until to date. Bharata felt delighted and gave many valuable presents to Hanuman for his splendid service!!

144. Anticipating the arrival of SriRama, Prince Bharata and Shatrughna, after making all arrangements at Ayodhya for the reception of SriRama, Devi Sita, and Lakshmana, returned back to Nandigrama, accompanied by all the royal priests, ministers, queen mothers, armed persons and others, to receive them!!

145. Within a short time, they could catch the site of Pushpak and SriRama stood in front, so that He could be seen by all below! Bharata went in and prostrated before SriRama in reverence, in turn He embraced and caressed him affectionately!!

146. Young and old, children and adults, women and men rushed to Pushpak to welcome SriRama! Shouts "SriRama has come! Lord Rama is here!" rent the skies all over expressing their jubilance!!

147. Hundreds of thousands of hands rose and waved In respect greeting SriRama! Bharata embraced Sugriva and said, "We are four brothers, you Shall be the fifth one in our family, hereafter"!!

148. SriRama after reaching Nandigrama, and after Every one had alighted, sent the aerial car, Pushpak Back to Kubera, to whom it originally belonged And it followed obeying the orders of SriRama!!

149. While the state charioteer, Sumantra piloted the Wonderfully decorated chariot, in which SriRama, Devi Sita, Lakshmana, Queen Mothers, Bharata, Shatrughna and Hanuman Were seated, started moving towards Ayodhya !!

150. Princes Bharata and Shatrughna seen seated By the side of SriRama couple, holding regal Umbrella and chamara, while Lakshmana and Vibhishana waved white chamaras, in front, Sugriva seen seated on a majestic and richly Caprisoned royal elephant and riding !!

151. In front of the chariot, the priests, well versed in Vedas chanted hymns, holding plates full of Turmeric coated Akshatas, followed by beautiful Maidens holding plates full of sweets were seen, The ministers and a multitude of merchants, artisans And others followed the chariot, proceeding towards Ayodhya in a splendid and dignified procession!!
152. On the way, **SriRama** recounted to his ministers, Queen mothers and others around him, how he had acquired the friendship of **Vanara** king, **Sugriva**, the valour and prowess of **Hanuman**, the power of **vanara** warriors, the might of **rakshasa** warriors and the great help rendered by **Vibhishana** the noble brother of King **Ravana**!

153. On the way residents of **Ayodhya** standing in a row on both sides of the road, with gleamy faces gave the scion of **Raghu**, their beloved prince, **SriRama**, a warm welcome and rousing reception!!

154. After reaching royal palaces in **Ayodhya**, **SriRama** told his brothers, to provide comfortable royal palaces for the two kings, **Sugriva** and **Vibhishana** and several comfortable mansions to **vanara** leaders and their families, and advised all the guests to take rest and refresh!!

155. In the early hours of next morning, **Sugriva** asked the competent **Vanara** leaders to go flying and to bring water in golden pots from all the oceans around and sacred rivers in the country for the consecration ceremony of **Lord SriRama**!!

156. The ministers of the royal court were busy in making arrangements in the court hall, for the consecration ceremony at the instructions of **Brahmarshi Vasista**, the arch-priest of the royal family!!

157. Then **SriRama** and **Lakshmana** had their matted locks disentangled, took bath, adorned with precious jewels and garlands, clothed with costly royal raiment, daubed with sandalwood pastes and stood blazing in effulgence!!

158. The three royal queens adored **Devi Sita** in a soul-captivating manner, especially, mother **Kausalya** felt highly rejoiced on the return of **SriRama, Devi Sita** and **Lakshmana**. The queen mothers trio actively attended to the needs, comforts and dressing requirements of the multitude of **Vanara** womenfolk!!

159. At the extremely auspicious moment, with the great mental concentration of the learned **Bramharshi Vasista**, led **SriRama** and **Devi Sita** accompanied by the sages, **Vamadeva, Gautama, Kasyapa, Katyayana, Suyagna, Jabali** and others, chanting appropriate **veda-mantras**, almost bathed the couple with the consecrated water!!

160. **Abhisheka** was performed by the experts on ceremonies, **Brahmins**, virgins, ministers, army chiefs and merchant princes, and others in relay! All **devas**, gods and celestial beings showered flowers of their blessings, while **Gandharvas** sang sweet and melodious tunes, the gorgeous **Apsaras** presented delightful dance recitals!!

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P39
161. **Vasista** made **SriRama** and **Devi Sita** sit on the Golden throne wrought with precious stones in The midst of the Court Hall and put on **SriRama**’s Head a glittering golden crown studded with Precious gems and fine dazzling diamonds!!*

162. Lord **SriRama**, the king of **Ayodhya** performing **Yagás** and sacrifices at regular intervals, ruled The country and people judiciously for many years With concern for their welfare and well being !!

163. In **Ramarajya**, they were neither widows, Diseases nor dangers from wild animals and Snakes, robbers, thieves! There used to be highly Timely and adequate rains, delightful wind! Trees ever borne with fruits and flowers!!

164. Everyone was virtuous and righteous in the ways Of doing things, attending to their professional Avocations and lived in contentment, peace and Tranquility! It would be needless to say that not Only people but every creature lived happily!!

**Yuddha Kanda** ends here!!

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**Quotable Quotes**

*Invaluable Pearls of Wisdom from Ramayana*

- “God is but truth and all Dharmas follow Truth. Everything comes out of Truth and there is nothing higher than Truth. Gifts, sacrifice, penance and Vedas are all based on Truth. Therefore you must ever follow Truth”.

- “All your actions should be directed towards Dharma, prosperity and happiness-together and not exclusively. And whatever you do, you must conform to the laws of Dharma”.

- “After cutting down a mango tree by an axe, you cannot plant a neem tree in its place and expect to reap the tasty mango-fruit from it, even if you water the neem with milk”

- “Be strong in woe and humble in weal. Do not lose balance either in pain or in pleasure. Do not befriend one too much nor show unfriendliness to any. Both are serious faults and therefore seek the golden mean”.

* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P40
7. **UTTARA KANDA**

‘A bunch of 102 free verses in English’
001. **Uttarakanda** dealt with the incidents and events occurred aftermath of the coronation of SriRama and is more or less in the form of an epilogue where all the loose strings of the story of Ramayana are tied together, and concluding the story with the end of all principal characters!!

002. Of the total One Hundred and Eleven sargas in this kanda, the first thirty-four sargas deal with interalia, the origin and development of the race of Rakshasas their respective dynasties, their achievements and atrocities committed!!

003. The kanda, in particular dealt with Ravana, his ancestors, his brothers and sons, their observance of austerities and penance and boons obtained, atrocities committed and achievements made by them and their end!!

004. This kanda also dealt with the birth and childhood adventures of Hanuman, besides the circumstances leading to the repudiation of Devi Sita and her consequent banishment from Ayodhya; her brought up under the protection of Maharshi Valmiki in his Ashrama and Devi Sita delivering twin sons, Lava and Kusha!!

005. This kanda also dealt with the killing of wicked Rakshasa, Lavana, by Prince Shatrughna at the behest of SriRama protecting the sages lived in hermitages on the banks of River Yamuna!!

006. This kanda also dealt with the narration of Pauranic stories of King Nriga, Nimi, Yayati, Varuna, Urvasi, Pururava, King Ila, Budha, Danda, Indra, Vrtra, Sambhuaka and others... by different personalities on different occasions!!

007. This kanda also dealt with the performance of Aswamedha Yaga in Naimisharanya by SriRama and participation of Sage Valmiki in the yaga along with the twins, Lava and Kusha!!

008. The twins enthralled and feasted the hearts of the great sages, kings and other distinguished invitees with their melodious and mellifluous singing of the great epic, Ramayana!!

009. Especially, SriRama who was greatly delighted to hear the singing of the twins and surprised to know that they are his own sons and asked Sage Valmiki to bring Devi Sita for taking an oath proving her purity in the presence of the multitude!!

010. This kanda concludes with the end of the prime characters in the epic after the coronation of the eight sons of the four brothers, making them the kings of the respective kingdoms created to them!!
011. This kanda starts with the meet of great sages, Rishis and maharshis coming from different Regions of the country at Ayodhya to felicitate and Greet SriRama for killing the wicked rakshasas Providing tremendous relief to them in carrying Out their austerities peacefully in their hermitages!!

012. This kanda connects the main story of Ramayana With SriRama and Devi Sita enjoying the Beauties of nature in their royal grove! SriRama Delighted to observe Devi Sita was pregnant and Asked her to choose anything of her liking and Promised to fulfil it giving all priority !

013. Devi Sita expressed her desire to visit the Ashramas of Sages endowed with overwhelming Effulgence, living on the bank of sacred river, Ganga Living on fruits and roots. SriRama replied – Be rest assured, you will be soon visiting them!!

014. Meanwhile, one courtier by name, Bhadra, Whose duty was to report to the king about what People think about the king and his administration! Kings used to attach so much of importance to The public opinion and treat it so valuable!!

015. Bhadra was at first hesitant to reveal the bad And ugly remarks made by a citizen about the Queen Devi Sita! On being pressurised by SriRama , bending his head low; Bhadra said That while he was on rounds he heard harsh Words of a washerman addressed to his wife!!

016. The washerman questioned his wife “Where did You go last night! Get lost!” And he further said That he was not like SriRama who happily Accepted Devi Sita again as his wife, though she Was abducted and lived with Ravana for a pretty Long time and asked her to go any where, he was Not inclined to keep her in the house any more!!

017. SriRama terribly disturbed and deeply annoyed At the public talk about Devi Sita! However he Felt as a king he must value public opinion and Discussing this with his brothers, SriRama Ordered Lakshmana to take Devi Sita away into The forest and leave her in the vicinity of Valmiki Ashrama on the other side bank of river Ganga!!

018. Lakshmana reluctantly obeyed SriRama’s Orders, controlling his emotions, proceeded along With the pregnant lady Devi Sita in the early Hours of the next day, in a chariot driven by Sumantra stopping the chariot at River Ganga!!
019. Asking **Sumantra** to be at the chariot, **Lakshmana**
   Along with **Devi Sita** crossed the river **Ganga** in a boat, reached the other bank, left her in the forest
   In the vicinity of **Valmiki Ashrama** and with a Heavy heart, revealed the actual facts to **Devi Sita**!!

020. “Public scandal about you reached **SriRama**’s ears
   And he was constrained to banish the innocent You! Take that it was fear of scandal that goaded Him to take unpleasant decision to banish you and Nothing else! I have orders to leave you here, the **Ashrama** of Sage **Valmiki** is close by!!

021. Listening to **Lakshmana**, **Devi Sita** was shocked Beyond words and swooned! After regaining Consciousness, she expressed her deep grief Saying, interalia, that **SriRama** knew how pure, Chaste and righteous she was, yet she was Forsaken by Him despite the fact she was pregnant!!

022. “Honouring the comments of a citizen, **SriRama**
   Banished his own righteous wife! Let King **Rama**
   Treat the citizens like his brothers honouring their Words, always, pursuing the great **Dharma**!!”

023. Moved, listening to **Devi Sita**’s plaintive utterances, **Lakshmana** with folded palms went round her With tears streaming from his eyes and returned Back to join **Sumantra**, awaiting at the chariot!!

024. **Lakshmana** and **Sumantra** on their way
   Back to **Ayodhya** discussed the way **SriRama**
   Destained to suffer much and grief stricken much, Because of separation from those, whom he loved, Appears, have been foretold! One must bow to His destiny and learn to bear it! None can resist it!!

025. Hearing **Devi Sita**’s lamentation, Sage **Valmiki**
   Approached and extending all courtesies, he took Her to his hermitage! With his spiritual power, He could understand the situation and that she Was no other than **Devi Sita**, the noble queen Of **SriRama**, daughter of saintly king, **Janaka**
   And daughter-in-law of King **Dasaratha**!!

026. With all paternal care and affection, Sage **Valmiki**
   Held her in respect and treated her extending All courtesies! Time rolled on! **Devi Sita** gave Birth to twin sons! **Sage Valmiki** named them **Lava** and **Kusha** and made all arrangements For their protection and proper brought up!!

027. The children were fortunate enough to be Nurtured in the lap of nature under the protection And guidance of the enlightened sage. Both the Children respected **Sage Valmiki** and mother **Devi Sita** from the core of their hearts!!
028. **Sage Valmiki** began imparting proper instruction to them, considering their age and stature! He also trained them in the art and craft of archery and guided them singing the poems composed by him!!

029. The sage indited **Ramayana**, the story of **SriRama** and **Devi Sita**, in Sanskrit, in perfect musical Poetic form and taught the twins and trained them to sing it mellifluously with their natural Melodious voices, side by side playing their lutes!!

030. By their singing the story of **Ramayana**, keeping with the metre and rhythm, the listeners were Mesmarised and enthralled by their sweet rendering! The resident sages and their family Members of the hermitage, irrespective of their Age and sex, used to enjoy hearing the singing of the twins almost every day forgetting everything!!

031. In course of time, **SriRama** decided to perform **Aswamedha Yaga** which **Lakshmana** too suggested to perform! Elaborate arrangements were made at **Naimisaranya** and kings, saints, sages and rishis were invited to participate in it!!

032. On being invited, **Sage Valmiki** too, along with the twins, **Lava** and **Kusha** came to **Naimisaranya**, the venue of the **yaga**, to participate in it and stayed in the cottage allotted to him and the twins!!

033. One morning, **Sage Valmiki** called his two disciples, **Lava** and **Kusha** and told them to go out, sing the tale of **SriRama** in gatherings and if **SriRama** were to send for them, go and sing freely twenty Sargas only per day and not more than that!!

034. “Take care of metre and melody! If he offers you wealth, do not show any interest! If **SriRama** were to ask whose children you are, tell him that you are the disciples of **Maharshi Valmiki**! Now go and sing **Ramayana** with confidence!!”

035. The twin hermit singers, at dawn, bathed, lit the fire and began singing with dulcet voices the **Ramayana** as instructed by the sage, like **Gandharvas**! Audience were enthralled by their melody and artistry! And were spellbound!!

036. **SriRama** too listened, pleased, impressed and amazed by their melodious singing accompanied with musical notes on lutes played by them! He enjoyed their singing, forgetting himself!!

037. Then **SriRama** invited the great ascetics, sages, saints and maharshis, besides kings, erudite scholars, musicians and all prominent and learned citizens, experts in music and dance and in that vast and select gathering, made the twin hermit singers sit and asked them start singing!!
038. The listeners were enthralled and mesmerised at the melodious and mellifluous singing of the twins. As professionals, allowing them drowned in a sea of memorable pathos of Ramayana! People sat spellbound, drinking with their eyes and ears the sight and the sound of twin singer brothers!!

039. Being very much impressed by their unique and exquisite performance, SriRama asked his beloved brothers to give the twin singers eighteen thousand gold coins and whatever else they ask!!

040. But the twins respectfully declining the gift, said, “We are forest dwellers living on fruits and roots. Of what use and value is this gold for us? What shall we do with gold coins in the forest?” SriRama and those who heard them together were surprised at their innocence!!

041. Observing the features and effulgence of the twins and those of SriRama, the audience spoke to each other, “The twin hermit singers appeared almost similar to SriRama, but for their matted hair and bark garments, they resemble king SriRama!!

042. SriRama asked the twins: “How many are there in the epic? Who composed Ramayana? and Where he is?” How many slokas, sargas and kandas are there in epic? The twins replied “Our Guru, Maharshi Valmiki composed Ramayana”

043. “So far he composed Six kandas in the epic, the Seventh one is in progress, the epic consists in all around twenty-four thousand slokas divided into around six hundred forty sargas, all these are about your glorious life, deeds and achievements”

044. They added, “The seventh and the concluding one, Uttara Kanda, is in the process! It is your life aftermath of your coronation! Maharshi Valmiki has come to attend this Aswamedha Yaga and he is in the respective cottage allotted to him here!!

045. As advised by their Guru, the twins sang twenty sargas a day, of Ramayana composed, using apt and right words, embittered by proper beats and set in appropriate tunes sung by the twins playing lutes, in harmony, heard by one and all!!

046. SriRama listened to all the six kandas, five hundred sargas, at twenty sargas a day, for many days, together with all the other listeners, enjoyed the singing of the twin brothers to the lees!!
047. Being given to understand that the twins were the Sons of Devi Sita, seen SriRama moved and Sent an envoy to the venerable Maharshi Valmiki To give him the message: “If Devi Sita was pure, May she purify herself here in the presence of So many great people gathered, at the bidding of Maharshi Valmiki at the earliest”!!

048. The message was duly conveyed, soft and sweet, By the messenger to Sage Valmiki, who replied “So be it! Welfare be with you! As per the orders Of the king, Devi Sita would come here tomorrow Morning along with me!” Night passed for SriRama with thoughts about Devi Sita!!

049. Naimisaranya, the venue of the Aswamedha Yaga was jampacked with great sages like Vasishta, Vanadeva, Kasyapa, Viswamitra, Satananda, Bharadwaja, Gautama, and others

050. Brahma the creator, Narada the divine sage and Other celestial beings, many kings, people from All cross sections of the Kosala kingdom in General and Ayodhya city in particular, have Come to witness the oath taking of Devi Sita!!

051. The Adityas, Vasus, Rudras, Maruts, Nagas Siddhas, Gandharvas, Kinneras, Sandhya Gods and other celestial beings too with all, Anxiety, attended to here the words of Devi Sita!!

052. After some time, Sage Valmiki came to the venue Accompanied by Devi Sita. Beholding her, Following the sage, with face down cast and palms Folded in articulate due to tears, keeping SriRama in her heart, there was great uproar of Appreciation for her from the audience present!!

053. Breaking the silence, Maharshi Valmiki spoke: “Oh Dasarathanandan SriRama! Here is your Devoted, righteous, pious, pure, virtuous and Chaste wife, Devi Sita! You have rejected her For fear of public censure! She will prove her Innocence and purity, deeply sworn to Dharma!!”

054. He continued: “This noble lady was banished by You as a righteous and ideal king and was left by Your people, perhaps at your behest, in the vicinity Of my hermitage, out of fear of censure by folks!!

055. “Through deep meditation I could understand that Devi Sita is blemish free and pure was She is pure, as pure as fire! These blessed twin sons of Devi Sita are indeed your own sons! May all My penance prove fruitless, if she is found guilty!!

056. He added: “I never speak lie! What I say is truth! I swear on my spiritual powers! without any Hesitation, I declare fearlessly, she is pure and Chaste! here is the noble lady, whom you Repudiated, though you know pretty well, she is Pure and chaste and loved her deeply!!”
057. **SriRama** replied: “Oh! revered Sage, I do accept what all you say! I never doubted her chastity! After the conclusion of war, at Lanka, before all the Gods and public present there, **Devi Sita** proved her purity through God of Fire. I accepted her then!!

058. **SriRama** continued, “But somebody in Ayodhya spoke bad of her and I was compelled to abandon her by the constraints of my **Dharma** and my Responsibilities as king of Ayodhya! Honouring Public opinion, I was impelled to do so!!

059. **SriRama** added, “I hereby acknowledge that **Lava** and **Kusha** are my own sons! After **Sita** vindicates her purity before this gathering, I will acknowledge her as my virtuous and chaste wife!!

060. **Devi Sita** wearing a saffron coloured bark, seeing all arrived, with palms folded said: “Oh! Goddess of Earth, If I have never even in thought, loved anyone but **Rama** and **SriRama** only, take Me into your fold” prayed Devi Sita!!

061. She continued, “If I have in thought, word and deed dwelt on **Rama** and **SriRama** only, take Me into your fold! If it is true that I know no man other than **SriRama**, Oh! Goddess of Earth, Gracefully take me into your fold”!!

062. Even before **Devi Sita** finished speaking, a bright Divine throne of wonderful beauty, arose from the Bowels of the Earth, on which seen seated, the Goddess of Earth, welcomed Devi Sita and took her into her arms and got her seated on the throne!!

063. There was ceaseless downpour of unusual Divine shower of flowers and Gods present sang Her praise! The throne, along with the Goddess Of Earth and **Devi Sita**, entered the heart of the Earth and disappeared. All present there were thunderstruck and stupefied watching it!!

064. **SriRama** was enveloped by grief at the sudden Appearance, very short stay and departure of **Devi Sita**. He requested the Mother Earth to bring back Sita and in case, she fails to do so, in rage, He warned her to await his grave punishment!!

065. **Brahma** intervened and pacified **SriRama** saying he would soon be meeting Her in heaven! And advised him to listen to the conclusion of the Epic **Ramayana**, in the seventh and last **Uttara Kanda**! No one should hear it except **SriRama**, saying so, **Brahma** had vanished with his retinue! **SriRama** comforted his twin sons, hugging them!!
066. Along with Lava and Kusha, SriRama returned
To the cottage allotted to Sage Valmiki and spent
That night grieving for Devi Sita! Next morning,
SriRama summoned his twin sons and heard
The seventh and concluding Uttara Kanda of
Ramayana from them with all interest!!

067. Without Devi Sita, the earth was as barren as a
Desert to SriRama! After the conclusion of the
Yaga, he distributed wealth to kings, priests,
Brahmins and others as Daana and returned to
Ayodhya with all his retinue and the twin sons!!

068. SriRama never married again! The golden
Statue of Devi Sita occupied his wife’s place at every
Religious rite and he performed many
Aswamedha Yagas and ruled long, in accordance
With Dharma. People were absolutely happy,
prosperous and peaceful, leading righteous lives
and devotedly engaged in performing their duties!!

069. During the period of SriRama’s rule, there were
No widows! No lamentations! Diseases were
Unheard of! No fear of wild animals! There were
No robbers or thieves and no thefts! There were
Good and adequate rains timely, sumptuous harvests
Sweet and Pleasant Winds! In Ramarajya, not only
people but also all living creatures, lived happily!!

070. Mother queens trio: Kausalya, Sumitra and
Kaikeyi lived longer, became old and revered
By their sons and grand sons, and after performing
Many acts of Dharma, died and went to Heaven!!

071. The descendants of SriRama and his brothers
Were described as the founders of the great cities
And ruled their respective kingdoms ably and
Were held in esteem and loved by the people!!

072. Bharata and Mandavi’s two sons: Taksha and
Pushkala founded Takshasila and Pushkalavati
Cities and ruled successfully their kingdoms.
Lakshmana and Urmila’s two sons: Angada
And Chandraketu founded the cities of Angadia
And Chandrakanta and ruled their respective
Kingdoms Karupada and Malwa successfully.

073. Shatrughna and Sruteeरthi’s two sons:
Subhahu and Sutrughati were coronated as
Kings of Mathura and Vidisha Kingdoms.
SriRama and Devi Sita’s two sons: Lava and
Kusha ruled their two respective kingdoms:
Shravasti and Kushavathi exceptionally well!!
074. One day, while SriRama was engaged in performing virtuous deeds, Kaala, in the form of an ascetic, appeared at the royal gate of Ayodhya. An ascetic, appeared at the royal gate of Ayodhya. And spoke to Lakshmana, “I am Kaala, the Messenger of Brahma! I have come to meet SriRama to convey a confidential message!!

075. Listening to the words of the ascetic, Lakshmana went into the palace and reported the arrival of the ascetic to SriRama! Sensing the importance of the ascetic, SriRama said, “Usher him in”!!

076. Then the ascetic came in bringing light into the Palace hall, which was already bright with SriRama’s presence! He enquired politely, “What message you brought and from whom?”

077. The ascetic hesitated and said, “We must have a closed meet, My Master, Brahma demands the message to be conveyed in utmost secrecy! An interruption by anybody will lead to dire consequences and the intruder who see or hear our talk must be sentenced to death!”

078. Turning to Lakshmana, SriRama said, “Dismiss the guard and stand yourself at the gate and do not let anybody in! See that we are left undisturbed!” Obeying the order, Lakshmana left the hall, forthwith and stood at the door!!

079. The ascetic watching Lakshmana leave, said to SriRama that he was by name Kaala, sent by Brahma, who wanted him to convey the following confidential message, with stunning clarity!!

080. “The span of your stay on earth as human being is completed! Your task is done and your purpose is accomplished! You have ruled eleven thousand years and now it’s time for you to revert to your original form! You may ignore the message and stay on for some more time, if you so wish”!!

081. Listening to the words of Kaala, SriRama said, “I am glad you have come! Brahma is quite right! There is no reason to delay further! I am ready to leave any time!” Their discussion continued!!
082. As the two started talking, Sage Doorvasa arrived Outside the gate of SriRama’s palace, seeking to See him immediate! Lakshmana explained that SriRama was busy and ordered not to disturb Him by allowing anybody inside!!

083. Lakshmana was extremely polite as he was Aware that Sage Doorvasa was short tempered! Despite his politeness, Doorvasa was flared up, “I should see SriRama at once or else I curse SriRama, Lakshmana, Bharata, Shatrughna, The kingdom and the entire line of Ikshwakus”!!

084. Then Lakshmana was left with no alternative! He thought, “If I interrupt the secret meet of Kaala And SriRama, I alone be killed! If I do not, all Will be lost! Better I choose my end in the hands Of SriRama!” Thinking so, Lakshmana went in!!

085. He told SriRama, about the arrival of Sage Doorvasa and he has been at the door, impatient To see SriRama! Hearing it, SriRama hurried Out to Sage Doorvasa and attended to him!!

086. SriRama remembered what Kaala had said! As such Lakshmana had to be killed by him! He immediately called his Counsel of priests and Ministers and discussed the issue with them! Sage Vasista found a way out and said, “Banish Lakshmana! It is as good as killing him”!!

087. Sage Vasista added, “That is the best we can Do! Kaala’s word is law! And we cannot commit Breach!” Listening the words of Vasista, Lakshmana Said to SriRama, “Please do not grieve! You must Honour your promise! It is the way of Dharma!”

088. Saying so, Lakshmana hurriedly left the place, Weeping at the thought of banishment and separation From SriRama! He did not even go to his palace For a formal leave taking! He walked towards the River, Sarayu which was the river of his childhood!!

089. Then, Lakshmana reining his senses with his Mind, sat in meditation, his whole being directed Inwards! He held his breath and waited till he grew Invisible, and was transported bodily to Heaven!!
090. With the departure of Lakshmana, SriRama
Overwhelmed with sorrow, became speechless
And wished to tread the path of Lakshmana!
He decided to go to Heaven with his remaining
Brothers, vanaras and all others!!

091. The people of Ayodhya and his allies in the Lanka
War, Vanaras, bears and demons and most of
The guests who had come for Aswamedha Yaga
Decided to go along with SriRama, who thought
That events are moving fast to their destined end!!

092. At dawn, SriRama conferred with Sage Vasista,
Who busied himself making all the arrangements
For the rites of departure of SriRama, who clad
In fine Silk, reciting the vedas, holding the sacred
Kusha grass in his hands, began walking
Barefoot, down the path, towards River Sarayu!!

093. Gods, rishis and celestial beings came to SriRama
Saying, "We will follow you! Do not leave us helpless!"
All of Ayodhya and most of the guests who had
Come for the Yaga decided to leave with SriRama.
Who did not try to stop them coming with him!!

094. Looking at Vibhishana, SriRama said, “Oh!
Lord of Ogres! You must go back to Lanka and
Stay there ruling Lanka, so long people would
Live, so long the Sun and the Moon shine and so
Long the legend of Sri Rama continue on earth!!

095. SriRama had a special word to Hanuman!
“Oh! Dear friend! Whenever and where ever my
Story is told, Gladness will fill your heart! Then
Think of me, my friend, Live so long as my life
Story continue on earth Hanuman replied, “As
Long as your Divine tale is sung on this earth,
So long shall I stay here carrying out your orders”!!

096. Looking at Jambavanta, SriRama said, “Oh!
My aged friend! You must live till Kaliyuga, the
Fourth and the last yuga, in the current cycle of
Time! That is thousands and thousands of years!!”
SriRama instructed Mainda and Dvividha too
To stay on along with Jambavanta till doom’s day!

097. Ayodhya was lifeless, as if the city never was!
Life abounds at River Sarayu which wore a
Festive look! Aerial chariots and heavenly hosts
Seen hovering over the bank of Sarayu. Celestial
Music filled the air! A divine radiance flooded the
Skies! The breeze blew, pleasant and fragrant!!
098. SriRama followed by his brothers and others walked into the Sarayu, and were welcomed by Brahma, who said from the skies, “Oh! Gracious Vishnu! Come to your heaven!” Bharata and Satrughna too by yoga followed him to heaven.

099. Sugriva the faithful ally followed suit, his effulgent spirit entered the Sun. All others walked into the sacred river Sarayu and stripped clean of their mortal bodies, were borne to worlds beyond human reach and imagination!!

100. This is the seventh and last kanda of the epic, Srimad Valmiki Ramayana, with its aftermath Story of SriRama’s coronation and his rule of Kosala kingdom for thousands of years as Indited by Sage Valmiki and honoured by the creator, Brahma himself!

101. Reading or hearing this epic purges and drives away sins, grants delightful long, healthy and prosperous life! It equals Vedas in value! Reading, enchanting, recting of this sacred epic wipes out all sins and grant prosperous and peaceful life!!

102. May Devi Sita, SriRama, Lakshmana and Hanuman bless you! May their impeccable strength inspire you! And may their grace be showered throughout on you! May you prosper!!

Quotable Quotes
Invaluable Pearls of Wisdom from Ramayana

* Weal and woe, fear and anger, profit and loss, existence and non-existence and many other things in the world for which no cause can be attributed are but the decrees of providence.

* Fate that controls the destinies of all is mighty and invincible.

* The ways of providence in the world are always inscrutable.

* Devoted sons who discharge their duties to their parents attain the worlds of gods and angels and even the glorious realm of Brahma.

* The learned will, in times of difficulty, bring endless glory (by solving knotty problems).

* All ripe fruits must drop down from the tree. Even so a man has to await the inevitable hour of death.

* Even as mansion with firm massy pillars dilapidates, so do mortal men, decayed and withered by efflux of time, fall a prey to ruthless death withered by old age and eventually die.

* That soul which feels death and life alike can never be crushed by weal or woe.

* Of the four ashrams or the stages of life, that of the householder is the best.
SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA - IMPORTANCE & SIGNIFICANCE OF SUNDARA KANDA

‘A bunch of 62 free verses in English’
001. The great and glorious epic of all times, an epitome Of Vedas and Upanishads, the most fascinating, Inspiring and soul-stirring *Srimad Ramayana* Indited by the poet celebrity, the humane poet Adikavi Maharshi Valmiki, in sanskrit had been Held in esteem and widely appreciated world over!!

002. The story of the great pair SriRama and Devi Sita As the basis, Maharshi Valmiki with his masterly Skill, woven the story with poetic grace and literary Excellence and presented it to the world!!

003. This enables the readers worldover the bliss, honour And privilege of reading and understanding the Science of life and the art of living! It emphases, life Ss not to make a living but living is to make life glorious!!

004. *Ramayana* also provided the needed base and the Subject matter for the renowned poets of the latter Ages like Kalidas and others for their own literary Poetic creations; and no other kavya has been Translated into several global languages and various Languages in our country in a multitude of literary Forms, as *Srimad Valmiki Ramayana*!!

005. “Kaavyam Ramayanam kritnam Sitayaascharitam mahat Paulasthya vadha mityeva, chakaara charitavratah”

Scholars say that the inspiring story of the ideal and adorable couple SriRama and Devi Sita and the killing Of the Rakshasa king of Lanka Ravana are so nicely Described with high literary values, delightful flavours And fragrances of thoughts immensely pleasing and Inspiring the hearts of the readers!!

006. Many of the learned devotees of the past generations Expressed:

“Charitam Raghunadhasya satakoti pravistaram Yekaika Maksharam proktam Mahapataka nasanam”

Uttering or chanting every letter an syllable and word(s) Of Ramayana, purge the sins of every person.

007. *Srimad Valmiki Ramayana* has been an invaluable And precious gift to humanity, a treasure house and a Vast reservoir of nectar of immortality consisting in all Around twenty four thousand slokas divided into six Books and around six hundred Sargas! The table Presented below makes clear all the details!!

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Importance and Significance of SundaraKanda
008. In Valmiki Ramayana, in terms of number of slokas Balakanda is the smallest and Yuddhakanda is The largest of all the kandas. But in terms of the Number of sargas, Kishkindha kanda is the Smallest and Yuddha kanda the largest one!!

009. Sundarakanda occupies fifth place in the serial Order of Kandas, sixth place in terms of number of Sargas and fourth place of in terms number of Slokas! But undoubtedly Sundarakanda occupies The first place of all the kandas both in terms of Poetic excellence, grace, literary merit and spiritual Insight, quality and content!!

010. The importance and significance of Sundara Kanda In Srimad Ramayana is held as sacred and holy! What Bhagavat Geeta in Mahabharata is Sundarakanda in Srimad Ramayana! It is full Of blissful beauties. It has its sublime place as Nitya parayana kanda!!

011. Sundarakanda is considered to be a mine of Potential mantras! A strong base is provided to Make the divine beauty of Prakrithi and Purusha To rejoin by the great and eminent personality of Divine fame, the great Vayunandan Hanuman!!

012. It contains the heroic deeds of Vayunandan, the Magnificent leap across the sea to Lanka, receiving Offer of hospitality from Sagara and Mount Mainaka. Winning the appreciation of his courage and Resourcefulness from Surasa, the Naga Maata. Killing of the sea demon Simhika, reaching the Shores of Lanka!!

013. Vanquishing of Lankini, the spirit of Lanka, Lanka Darsana, Ashokavana sandarsana, Finding Devi Sita, winning her confidence, Breathing courage and confidence in her, Presentation of SriRama’s signet ring to her, Receiving chudamani from her to be shown and Given to SriRama and destroying the Ashokavana!!

014. Surrendering to the Brahma missile in reverence, As captive in bonds in the court of Ravana his Courageous challenge and threat to him of the total Destruction of Lanka and the ogres would be the Consequence if he does not return Devi Sita to SriRama immediately!

015. The order of Ravana to lit fire to his tail and the Lanka dahana by Hanuman! Returning back to Mount Mahendra, jubilation and revelry at Madhuwana. Winning the appreciation and laurels of SriRama Who honoured him with warm embrace!!
016. Learned scholars and people of wisdom firmly believe the great potentialities of this kanda and it has a special place in the epic and is indeed a precious diamond in the gem studded Ramayana!

017. Sundarakanda occupies the most sacred place and highly deserving the adoration of enlightened souls in fact every kanda and every part of Ramayana is nitya parayana worthy! It has been rated as number one and by far the best by the learned scholars!!

018. The very title given to this kanda is quite distinct and mysterious from the titles of the other kandas! The titles of the other kandas in Ramayana clearly and unambiguously relate to the places where the events took place or the occasions to which the subject matter refers!!

019. The title Balakanda, as the name suggests, deals with the childhood, deeds and achievements of SriRama and his brothers until their marriage! Ayodhyakanda deals with the events centred in and around Ayodhya!

020. Aranyakanda as the name suggests, deals with events happened while SriRama along with Sita and Lakshmana, was in exile in Dandakaranya for fourteen years!!

021. While Kishkindakanda deals with events happened in and around Kishkinda, Yuddakanda deals with description of the war between SriRama and Ravana and their forces!!

022. Uttara kanda, the seventh and the last Kanda, as the name suggests, deals with the events happened after SriRama’s coronation as the king of Kosala until the end of all important characters in Ramayana!!

023. Following the above pattern of the titles of the Six Kandas, the Sundara Kanda should has been titled as Lanka Kanda or Hanumath Kanda! But why it is titled as Sundara Kanda?


025. Many speculative interpretations as to why this Kanda is called Sundarakanda are: Is it because of the beauty of the beautiful, poetic grace and literary excellence of poet Valmiki in this Kanda? Or is it because of the beauty of the tremendous relief obtained by Devi Sita from her sorrow?
026. Is it because of the beautiful and handsome emissary of SriRama, Vayunandan Hanuman? Or is it because of the effulgent and mighty Vanara and his great achievements? Or is it because of the recovery of something beautiful lost, in the form of Devi Sita?

027. Or is it because of the beautiful, spiritual insights and merits attached to this Kanda which are supposed to be the essence of Ramayana? For all these questions, it appears, the answer lies in Sage Valmiki with his penetrating vision through his spiritual insights composed it with much deeper meanings, generating spiritual enlightenment!!

028. Certain erudite scholars and highly learned persons expressed their view on the title, Sundara kanda as:

Sundare Sundaro Ramah, Sundare Sundari Katha
Sundare Sundari Sita, Sundare Sundaram Vanam!
Sundare Sundaram Kaavyam, Sundare Sundarah Kapihi,
Sundare Sundaram Mantram, Sundare Kim Na Sundaram!!

029. The two slokas reveal the beauty of Sundarakanda!

“Virtuous and heroic SriRama is beautiful, the inspiring story is beautiful; the thrilling beauty and stunning chaste of Devi Sita is beautiful and the Asokavana where she is kept is beautiful”!!

030. “The kaavyam indited by the master of poets, Maharshi Valmiki is beautiful, the magnificent form and stature with effulgence of Vayunandan Hanuman is beautiful; The Maha Mantras of SriRama, Devi Sita and Hanuman are divinely potential and beautiful and in this beautiful Sundarakanda which is not beautiful?”

031. The pious minded devotees, erudite scholars and literary lovers, accorded special importance and significance to Sundarakanda and is considered very much sacred and is richly adored by the enlightened souls as nitya parayana kanda!!

032. The sweetness in honey, The pleasant coolness in full moon light, Combining both harmoniously, the poet Valmiki Kokila’s melodious and mellifluous singing Full of “Rasas” is the beautiful of Sundarakanda. In it we find the beauty of rhythmic poetic sounds, The beauty of poetic thoughts and beauty of “Rasas”!!

033. The search for Devi Sita started like a small stream and then magnified into a river and increasing its dimensions has become an ocean. And then transformed into a ‘Rasananda Sagaram’!!
034. For anybody to enjoy any composition of a poem, the most needed essentials are the beauty of the rhythmic sound, the beauty of conveying poetic thought (the meaning) and the beauty of Navarasas, which are so gracefully being sprinkled in Sundarakanda!!

035. In Sundarakanda, the blissful beauty of the words Used producing similar rhythmic sounds, blissful Beauty of poetic thoughts and blissful beauty of ‘Rasas’ gracefully sprinkled emitting fine flavours!!

036. The following Sloka in Sundarakanda of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana indicates the poetic grace and skills producing the blissful beauty of the same rhythmic sound by using words ending with the same sound:

“Sila talam propya yadhya Mrigendra
Maharanam propya yadhya Gajendra
Rajyam samapadya yadhya Narendra
Tatha prakaso Vira Raja Chandra.”

The glorious moon Raja Chandra, shone brightly rising in The sky looked exceptionally beautiful and splendid Like Mrigendra, the king of animals, the Lion, ascending stood Dignified on the surface of a rock;

Like a Lordly elephant Gajendra majestically penetrating Deep into the battle field; Like an effulgent monarch, Narendra just installed on the throne of his kingdom;

037. The poet Sage Valmiki, while describing the rising Moon in the sky, the Raja Chandra, using the Words Mrigendra, Gajendra and Narendra, the Suffix part syllables sounding Indra, Indra and Indra -a sort of alliteration at the end of the words bringing Enormous blissful beauty of rhythmic sound in his poetry!

Thus, this poem provides the best example for the blissful beauty of rhythmic sound in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana!

Quotable Quote on Valmiki Ramayana by Rt. Hon.V.S. Srinivasa Sastri

“Of the countless benefits- one may even call them blessings- that the Ramayana can confer, the highest is the training of the emotions and of the spirit.”

“Of the lessons it teaches, the highest seems to me to be the exaltation of Dharma. On its altar everything must be sacrificed, reverently and cheerfully.”

“To fulfil his father’s promise and save his honour, Rama twice renounced the kingdom of Kosala, once in Ayodhya when his father offered it, and later in Chitrakuta when Bharata laid it at his feet. The passages in which this self-denial is narrated are among the noblest in the poem”

“the debate between the brothers is a gem without price. We are told that the gods came down to listen, for even amongst them such high arguments were seldom heard.”

* (antya prasa)
The beauty of the expressing Poetic thought (Bhava/Meaning)

038. The following sloka in Sundarakanda of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana provides the best example for The poetic grace and skills in sprinkling fragrances of Blissful beauty of Bhava (Meaning):

“Pravisanna bhrajalaani Nishpa tamscha punah punah
Praschannascha prakasascha Chandrama Iva lakshyate.”

039. Describing the mighty Hanuman, while flying in the Sky, found repeatedly entering into the masses of Clouds and then emerging out from them, looked like A hidden and visible radiant moon repeatedly!

040. Making the readers feel, when Hanuman is invisible, Being hidden behind the masses of clouds, Devi Sita may also not be seen and when Hanuman Emerges out of the masses of clouds and visible, the Hope that Devi Sita may also be seen!!

041. Describing the manner in which Vayunandan Hanuman’s movement in the sky behind the masses Of clouds, at times visible and at times invisible, Making the readers to apply the same thought to Finding and not finding of Devi Sita!!

This provides the best example for the blissful beauty of Bhava (meaning) depicted by poet Valmiki in Sundarakanda.

The blissful beauty of Rasas*

042. Nava Rasas are the nine different types of emotions Of different hues, shades and colours, sprinkling rich Flavours and fragrances to poetic grace, in different Contexts by different characters, evoking different Feelings of blissful beauty! These are well depicted in Ramayana in general and Sundarakanda. in particular!!

043. While the description of sweet pangs and pains of Separation of Devi Sita and SriRama potrays Sringara Rasa: the description of the innocent Cries, playful jumpings, jubilance and revelery of Vanaras in Madhuvana. potrays Haasya Rasa!!

044. While Veera Rasa is potrayed in the description of the Prowess and bravery shown by mighty Hanuman in the Fierce fight with Akshyakumara after the destruction Of Ashokavana: the Raudra Rasa is well potrayed In the description of Hanuman’s fury in fierce fight With Jambumali at Ashokavana!

045. In the description of the king Ravana’s cruel red and Rolling eyes with fierce and frightening look of flames of Fire, hissing like cobra, threatening facial expressions On Devi Sita, the Bhayanaka (fear) Rasa is well Potrayed, as this rasa is used to characterise that Which causes fear!!

* To put it in a rough and shod way, Rasa is emotion. It encompasses not only the human emotion but also various things that cause the emotion. These two things go hand in hand and their duality is part of every Rasa to varying degrees. Rasas are classified into Nine. Nava Rasas are: 1) Sringara(Love) 2) Haasya(Comedy) 3) Veera(Prowess) 4) Raudra(Anger) 5) Bhayanaka(Fear) 6) Bhibhatsa(Disgust) 7) Adbhutha(Wonder) 8) Karuna(Grief/compassion) and 9) Shanti(serenity and Peace)
046. **Bhibhasta Rasa** is the emotion evoked by disgust. Causing revolt or sickness. This *rasa* is well portrayed in the description of the threatening words of the Attendant hideous ogresses and their violent attitude towards *Devi Sita*!!

047. **Adbhuta Rasa** is well portrayed in the description of Mighty *Hanuman*’s magnificent leap of eight hundred miles across the sea and the troubles and turmoils he confronted on the way! The very beginning of Sundarakanda portrays Adbhuta (wonder) *Rasa*.

048. While **Karuna Rasa** is portrayed in the description of The helpless *Devi Sita*’s wailing and lamentation; The **Shanthish Rasa** is portrayed by the state of calm, Serene and unruffled repose of *Hanuman* after his Sincere and devoted search and not finding *Devi Sita*!!

049. If one bites the doll made of sugar and honey, it would be sweet at every bite and while continue the bite, the law of diminishing utility applies. But in Sundarakanda, wherever one beholds, blissful beauty be seen everywhere! The more one sees, the more and more inclination to see arises! And the law of diminishing utility does not apply to *Ramayana* and more so to Sundarakanda!!

050. **Valmiki**’s poetry is characterised by sublimity, felicity, and naturalness of expression and epic grandeur. *Sundarakanda* stands as the peak of his poetical grace and excellence, a master piece of characterisation!!

051. It presents the two sublime characters of *Devi Sita* and *Vayunandan Hanuman*! Both are awakened souls of Intelligence endowed with *sattva* quality and faith! While *Devi Sita* is an embodiment of ideal womanhood, *Hanuman* is an embodiment of masculine strength and confidence!!

052. **Hanuman** never considered anything ‘impossible’! Heroic and relentless action is his mode, fear does not come near him, the source of courage and strength is his unbounded faith in *Sri Rama*!!

**Spiritual Significance of Sundarakanda**

053. The vast ocean is the ocean of “Samsara” which every aspirant wants to cross! Surasa, Sinhika and Lankini, which came in his way are obstacles that beset the path of the spiritual enquiries!!

054. Lanka with all its fortification, gardens and palaces represent various layers of Kosas in man’s mental makeup, through which the enquirer has to penetrate for accomplishing his mission and goal.
055. The aspirant should go on with his search undaunted
And vigilant with faith in supreme spirit. Then the search
Ends in discovery of the divinity in himself, which is
Represented by Devi Sita! This is only a bare outline of
The mystic significance of Sundarakanda!!

056. Thinkers on Srimad Valmiki Ramayana have
Attributed allegorical meanings to all the details also.
If directly stated, it will not be of interest and will be
A sort of terrible boredom to ordinary people!
Hence they are presented indirectly as allegories.

057. Great events have much more significance than the
Ordinary men can see. These truths come to perception
Of Sages of wisdom. They attempted to give added
Significance to the events described!!

058. Scholars and learned people of wisdom among
Hindus believe that Sundarakanda is not merely a
Narration of events or allegories but also a mine of
Power, which a devotee can draw for spiritual
Support in difficult worldly situations!!

059. It is considered the most worthy for Nityaparayana
And by making recitals with faith is considered a
Panacea for various ailments and difficulties and serves
As a spectacular lift from difficult situations, dangers and
Diseases and promotes the welfare and well being of
The people who do it with profound faith!!

060. Vedas and Upanishads have a very-well laid out
System of rules for ritualistic practices for the
Fulfilment of Chaturvigha Phala Purushardhas:
Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha! They imply
If Artha and Kama are obtained by means of Dharma
One can obtain Moksha, which are explicitly discussed
In Upanishads and in some portions of Ramayana!!

061. Thus, for the ritualistic recital of Sundarakanda,
There are well laid systems of elaborate procedures
For the accomplishment of different aspirations and
Needs in human life, basing on number of times it is
To be repeated with absolute faith and confidence!!

062. Sundarakanda, itself, serves as the core, which
Provides all values and fulfils all aspirations of people
In life. It is a mine of spiritual inspiration and around
Welfare and well being of humanity!!

Lava and Kusha, Twins sons of Sita,
Sang the Ramayana, The story of Sri Rama
Composed by Sage Valmiki,
To the willing audience,
And the people sat and listened, Enraptured they listened,
Their faces pearled with tears,
Like dew-dripping trees in a forest,
On a windless morning..

Kalidasa: (Raghuvamsha, XV, 63-64, 65)
Humble pranaams to thee, Vighnaraja, Lord Ganesha, The immortal son of divine couple Shiva and Parvathi!
Clad in pure white robes shining in moon-like splendour, Endowed with elephant head, long trunk, single tusk, huge Body, sharup eyes, big belly, hands four, hue in molten Gold, Ever cheerful, extremely compassionate and powerful.
Oh! Lord Ganapathi, thou art the storehouse of Wisdom, the Demolisher of obstacles, embodiment of prudence, truth and Bliss.

I humbly pray thee to shower thy benign blessings, and indulge me at every stage, energizing, guiding and inspiring me in every possible way and bestow me adequate strength, power and competence to write in free verses in English the lofty epic Ramayana in a condensed form and paint the pictures relating to Ramayana! Just an instrument I am, you alone to lead me!

Dr. Akkipeddi Sundara Raja Rao
( A.S. Raja Rao )
Certain imaginary paintings of select incidents in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana in general and SundaraKanda in particular
The great poet Maharshi Valmiki at his work in the midst of nature at his Ashrama.
Perched on the bough of Poetry, the melodious koel, the great poet Maharshi Valmiki singing the sacred syllabus “Rama”... “Rama”, drinking to the lees the ocean of nectar, and inditing the monumental masterpiece of classic world literature in Sanskrit. “Srimad Ramayana”, symbolising “Vedas” in action. Respectful salutations to thee! Oh Valmiki Kokilam

(మహారాష్ట్ర రాజా వామకుడు వాల్మీకి - శ్రీమద్ రామయణ తోమి వాల్మీకి కొకిలాం)
The great humane poet Maharshi Valmiki, the blessed composer of the glorious epic in Sanskrit Srimad Ramayana, which deals with the life story of Sri Rama and Devi Sita the embodiments of purity, truth, virtues and Dharma. Ramayana has been translated into various world languages and almost all languages in India. Its unique and pervading influence can be understood by thousands of editions of this great piece of literature published in several languages. Yet, very little is known about the author of this great epic.

At a very tender age, while playing it appears he missed the way and went into the midst of forest. Though born to brahmine parents he was brought up in the name of Ratnakar by the tribal Kirata foster parents. He married a tribal sudra women and by her, many children were born to him. Ratnakar used to wander in the forest, armed with bow and arrows. Robbing the people that passed through the forest and thus made decoity and robbery as his means of livelihood.

One day, perhaps at the divine will, seven sages* were passing through the forest. Seeing them Ratnakar stopped and asked them to hand over their belongings otherwise they would be mercilessly killed. The sages asked why he wanted to kill them, when they have not done any harm to him? He replied that they would be killed only if they do not give their belongings. They questioned as to why he resorted to robbery? He said to maintain his aged parents, wife and children. Ratnakar went home and asked one by one all the members of his family. Much against his expectation, they flatly denied to share his sins, saying that it was his duty to support and maintain them. They have nothing to do with his sins. Ratnakar was stunned and horrified to hear their replies. Though all of them enjoy the fruits of his actions, no one is willing to share his sins. He went back to the sages and told them what had happen and fell at their feet. and said “You have opened my eyes, please show me the way out.” Sages were moved to see the change in his attitude so soon and said “we are happy, you have realised what you are doing is wrong. Do not be affried. We show you a way out.” They took him aside and whispered in his right ear the sacred name RAMA, and said it was extremely powerful one and was capable of liberating him from all sins. Observing his difficulty to pronounce the word RAMA, they suggested him to chant MARA.....

He with concentration began to chant Rama nama. He was so focussed in his chanting that he lost track of not only the time but also the bodily needs. Such was the power of Rama nama taraka mantra! Continuously chanting it he became oblivious to what was happening. He was continously sitting like a rock. Soon insects and ants began to crawl on his body. time rolled on. Ages passed. Gradually ants started building ant-hill around him. He was totally covered. Again the divine will brought the seven sages to the same spot. They called him to come out of the ant-hill and said as you have reborn out of Valmikam (Ant-hill) you will be hear after called as Valmiki. Seeing the effulgence in his face, they said that he is now an enlightened man. Wisdom dawned Valmiki later had his Asrama near the sacred river Ganga in the midst of nature with many of his disciples and was living peacefully observing austerities.

The rest of the story can be read from Page No.7 to 10. under the title “Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - The Origin”

* Incerten books insted of seven Sages, It was written as the divine sage Narada that was passing through the forest
Prime Characters in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

( With paintings and write-up )
Brahmarshi Vasishta is one of the great Saptarishi's. He is the Manasaputra of the greater Brahma, at whose advice, he has come to the earth. He had Kamadhenu in his Ashrama which was an envy to Viswamitra and was indeed the starting cause of differences between the two. Maharshi's Vasista was the Chief priest and Royal preceptor to many of the Monarchs of Surya Vamsha. He advised King Bhageeratha to bring the sacred Ganga on to the earth from Heaven. He advised another king Dilipa to have a great Son, Raghu Maharaja. It was at his advise Dasaratha did Aswamedha Yaga and Putrakamesti Yaga. He was Guru of Sri Rama and his brothers. Vasista married Arundhati. Vasishta and Arundhati are ideal couple.

Viswamitra belongs to Kshatriya clan and was the Son of Gadhi, a great king. He was born in Kushika family and thus also known as Kausika. He is tapas in human form. He was transformed as Maharshi and later as Brahmarshi. After Vasishta, Brahmarshi Viswamitra had the honour to act as the Guru of Sri Rama. He taught the Mantras Bala and Atibala to prevent thirst and hunger to the two princes he also taught many divine astras and missiles. It was under his guardianship Sri Rama was known to the world as a great warrior. He killed terrible demon Tataka and her associate, Subahu and drove away Maricha son of Tataka. Sri Rama and Lakshmana ably protected his yaga at his Asrama. Visvamitra was instrumental in conducting the marriage of Sri Rama and his brothers. He is also one of the great Saptarishi's. After the marriages he goes to Himalayas for penance and will not appear again in Ramayana.

Sage Rishya Sringa (SRS) was the grand son of holy Kasyapa and the son of sage Vibhandaka. He was born with a single small horn on his head. Vibhandaka brought him up in woods away from people and civilisation and engaged him on strict religious austerities and made him learn Vedas from him. SRS was quite ignorant of women and sensual pleasures. In those days Angadesa was ruled by Romapada. There was severe drought and the resultant famine in Angadesa. King Dasaratha of Ayodhya who was childless at the advice of Vasishta conducted Putrakamesti Yaga under the guidance of SRS for getting children. Yaga was successfully performed. After a year the three queens delivered four sons. All were happy.

* For details of the ansesters of Sri Rama refer to Appendix - 1
In Tretayuga, there lived a great, good and noble monarch by name Dasaratha, ruled Kosala kingdom with Ayodhya city as capital, situated on the bank of river Sarayu, a tributary of the sacred river Ganga!! King Dasaratha was renowned for his valour, erudition and compassion and ruled his people with paternal care. He was like Indra in prowess and extremely bounteous as Kubera!! King Dasaratha though had three queens by name Kausalya, Sumithra and Kaikeyi!! had no children. Brahmarshi Vasishtha advised him to perform Aswamedha Yaga and a fire rite called PutraKameshti yaga under the splendid guidance of Sage Rishya Sringa and both yagas were successfully performed!! At the conclusion of Putrakameshti Yaga, a heavenly personality rose from the sacrificial fire with a golden pot, containing ‘Payasam and handed it over to King Dasaratha and advised him to distribute it among his three queens, which he did forthwith. A year later the three queens gave birth to four sons; Queen Kausalya gave birth to Sri Rama, Kaikeyi to Bharata and Sumithra to twins Lakshmana and Sathrughna!! After their learning of all Sastras from Vasishtha and after their marriage, Dasaratha wanted to crown Sri Rama as his heir, as he was grown up to be an accomplished prince. People too loved and respected him. Preparations were on. For the coronation. But the function was put off, as Mandhara poisoned the mind of Kaikeyi and was successful in making her to demand two boons from Dasaratha: 1). To send Sri Rama exile for fourteen years and 2). Bharatha to be coronted. Kaikeyi was adamant and struck to her demands. Dasaratha bowed down with grief and fell into a swoon Rama along with Devi Sita and Lakshmana went to forest for fourteen years. Dasaratha breathed his last after six days of Sri Rama’s exile. Janaka was the ruler of Videha kingdom with Mithila as its capital. He was well versed and an ideal and saintly king and was much revered friend of Dasaratha. He was childless. Once, while he was ploughing a land for Yaga purpose, he found a divinely beautiful baby in a case strung to the plough. King Janaka and queen Sunayana treated the baby as a gift of goddess Earth and named her as Sita and brought her up with all affection as their own daughter Urmila (born later). Rolling time saw them transformed into the most beautiful girls.

There was a massive bow of lord Shiva in the possession of Janaka. It was so heavy. One day while playing, Sita lifted the bow single handed to the surprise of Janaka. Then Janaka decided to give Sita in marriage to such a person who was able to lift the bow and tie the string to it. Many tried and failed. Sri Rama did it and won the hand of Sita. Kushadhwaja was Janaka’s younger brother. Mandavi and Srutakeethi were his daughters. They were given in marriage to Bharata and Sathrughna respectively.

* For details of the ancestors of Sri Rama and family members of Dasaratha refer to Appendix-1&2

* For details of the king Janakas ancestors and family members refer to Appendix - 3 & 4
Sri Rama, Incarnate of Lord Sri Hari, as motal, born in Ikshwaku race to the blessed couple Kausalya and Dasaradha. Rama the embodiment of truth, virtue, valour and Dharma, the purest of the pure in thought word and deed, the king unique, valiant and effulgent, well versed in Vedas and philosophy!! Devi Sita, Sri Rama's spouse was the foster daughter of king Janaka of Mithila. An epitome of virtues, daughter of nother Earth and brought up by Janaka. The thrilling beauty with spotless chastity and nobility, Sri Rama and Devi Sita, what an illustrious couple! Devi Sita was abducted by Ravana later Rama killed Ravana and brought Sita back to Ayodhya. Lava and Kusha were their sons.

Lakshmana, the son of Dasa Rath by his queen Sumitra was the younger brother of Sri Rama. They are so attached and were inseparable from each other. He carried out Sri Rama's command to the very letter and spirit. He lived in perfect obidiance to Sri Rama. He had pure and unstinted brotherly love for Sri Rama. He followed Rama as the shadow. He abandoned royal comforts for serving his brother in forest for fourteen years. Urmila the daughter of Janaka, was the wife of Lakshmana. Angada and Chandrakethu were their Sons.

Bharata the son of Dasa Rath by his queen Kaikeyi he was a great Bhaktha of Sri Rama. He was good at archery and horse manship. Satrughna was much attached to him. What Lakshmana to Sri Rama, was Satrughna to Bharata. He had much love and respect for Sri Rama. One could never find in the history of the world, a person equl to noble Bharata in brotherly love. No worldly gain, no attachment, not even the status of Brahma, Vishnu and Maheshwara could deviate Bharata from the purity of his devotion to Sri Rama. He married Mandavi the own daughter of Kushadhwaja (Janaka's brother) Taksha and Pushkala were their Sons.

Satrughna was the son of Dasa Rath by queen Sumitra. Lakshmana and Satrughna were the twins born to Sumitra. Lakshmana was very much attached to Sri Rama and Satrughna to Bharata. He is also well versed in Vedas and was good at archery. Satrughna were married to Srutakeerthi the daughter of Kusha Dhwaja the brother of king Janaka. When Sri Rama was in exile, Bharata was putup in Nandigram and Satrughna remind in Ayodhya serving the three mothers. Subahu and Satrughati were his Sons.

* For details please refer to Appendix - 2
Imaginary Paintings relating to Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

Dakshine Lakshmano yasya - Vamedha Janakatmaja,
Purato Maruthi nyasya - Tamvande Raghunandaram
Sri Rama, Devi Sita along with Lakshmana and Hanuman

మాత్రం. లక్ష్మనుడు రామారుడు జానకి జల్లించేద్దరు,
పురత్తు మిర్చి జల్లించేద్దరు - రాధునాండరాముడు,
World has not yet seen and will not see in future also a mighty hero like Sri Hanuman the wonders he did and the super human feats of strength and valour shown by him are amazing. He left behind him an indelible impression in the minds and hearts of one and all. His heroic deeds, wonderful exploits and morvellous feats of strength and bravery or beyond expression. His sense of duty were extremenly laudaable.

Sri Hanuman was born of Anjani from Pavan, the wind-god. Hanuman's body was as hard as a stone. So Anjani named him Vajranga. He is also known by the names “Mahabir” or the mightiest hero, (because he exhibited several heroic feats), Balibhima and Maruti were his other names of this immortal Vanara leader.

The perfect Karmayogi and the dedicated devotee of Sri Rama, the epitom of selfless service and courage. Hanuman the mighty colossus of devotion and Gnan, the crest jewel of the gem studded garland Ramayana. The erudite scholar, unique symbol of 'Service above self' embodiment of wisdom, power, courage, strength, and the epitom of unstininting and unflinching loyalty to Sri Rama, Hanuma, was the destroyer of demons and terror to wicked.

The mightiest of the mighty, strongest of the strong, bravest of the brave and the blessed Chiranjeevi, the brilliant and beloved student of Radiant Sun God! Hanuman, the great life saver, the most righteous emissary, the self-effacing dignity with no ego at all.

Hanuman's stunning deeds of bravery and feats of valour, rare achievements and accomplishments, never arrogant him. In turn, He attributed every thing to the great power of Sri Rama! His instant ability to assume any form and of any size, magnifying to any gigantic proportions and contracting to minute and infinitesimal size, bewelders one and all!! Hanuman a versatile genius with scintillating brilliance, amazing humility and great power and strength of purpose, inspires and increases devotion, reverence and adoration of every one, at his rare, magnificent and marvelous feets.

Glory to Hanuman, the mystic missile of Sri Rama and his blessed devotee ! Glory to Anjaneya, the mighty hero, undaunted warrior and learned and a pure Brahmachari. May He shower His benign blessings on all of us !!
Vali and Sugriva were the sons of the Vanara Rukshavirajudu. Vali was the powerful king of Vanara’s of Kishkindha. He was born with Indra's Amsa. He traveled throughout the world on all the four directions. He killed powerful Rakshasas Dundubhi, Maya and other Rakshasas. Vali had a boon that he gets half of the strength of any one who fight against him. On one occasion Sugriva thought that Vali was dead and he occupied the throne and was ruling Kishkindha. Surprisingly after some time, Vali came out and in a humiliating manner he drove Sugriva away from Kishkindha. Sugriva took shelter in Rishyamukha mount, where Vali could not enter because of the curse of the Sage Matanga. Sugriva was the younger brother of Vanara king Vali. He was born with the Amsa of 'Surya'. On one occasion, by mistake he thought Vali was dead fighting with Maya. Then he occupied the throne and was ruling Kishkindha. Surprisingly one day Vali came out and in a humiliating manner he drove Sugriva away from Kishkindha. Sugriva took shelter in Rishyamukha mount, where Vali could not enter because of the curse of the Sage Matanga. Sugriva was the younger brother of Vanara king Vali. He was born with the Amsa of ‘Surya’. On one occasion, by mistake he thought Vali was dead fighting with Maya. Then he occupied the throne and was ruling Kishkindha. Sugriva thought that Vali was dead and he occupied the throne and was ruling Kishkindha. Sugriva was the younger brother of Vanara king Vali. He was born with the Amsa of ‘Surya’. On one occasion, by mistake he thought Vali was dead fighting with Maya. Then he occupied the throne and was ruling Kishkindha. Sugriva thought that Vali was dead and he occupied the throne and was ruling Kishkindha.

Sugriva was introduced to Sugriva by Hanuman. They became friends. Rama promised to help Sugriva in getting back his wife as well as his kingdom. Sugriva inturn promised Sri Rama in finding the whereabouts of Devi Sita. Both have fullfilled and honoured their promises to each other. Sugriva helped Sri Rama, a great deal in fighting with Rakshasa’s at war in Lanka. He killed many prominent Rakshasa warriors. He ruled Kishkindha for a long period. He was sincere and loyal to Sri Rama life throughout.

Angada was the heroic son of Vanara king Vali. He was a great Vanara warrior. He developed reverence towards Sri Rama, as personification of Dharma. After the death of Vali, Sugriva was made the king and Angada as the Prince of Kishkindha. Angada lead the team that went South words in such of Devi Sita. Hanuman and Jambavanta were the prominent member of his team. Hanuman found Devi Sita in Asokavana in Lanka. Before the war began in Lanka, Sri Rama sent Angada to King Ravana as his emisary. He ably fullfilled the responsibility with dignity. Angadas matchless valour in the war in Lanka was complimented by Sri Rama. After killing Ravana, Sri Rama left for Ayodhya. Angada also accompanied Sri Rama and enjoyed the splendid coronation function of Sri Rama. Angada wanted to stay on at Ayodhya serving Sri Rama. Sri Rama embraced him and honoured him with jewles and new cloths, and sent him to Kishkindha along with Sugriva.
Mandhara, the hunch-backed confident attendant of queen Kaikeyi, having come to know about Sri Rama's coronation, sensed a plot. She wanted to prevent the function from taking place by hook or crook and carried news to Kaikeyi and began to slowly but steadily poison the mind of Kaikeyi. She reminded Kaikeyi of the two boons promised by Dasaratha, sometime in the past and convinced her of the present pressing need to make use of the boons; to crown Bharata instead of Sri Rama as the prince-regent of Ayodhya and to send Sri Rama for fourteen years to the dense Dandakaranya. Mandhara was successful in converting Kaikeyi's love and affection for Sri Rama into jealousy and hatred, by her malicious words: “Installation of Sri Rama as the prince-regent of Ayodhya, would spell disaster to Bharata.”

Shabari was a poor, illiterate and uncultured tribal woman. One day she came to the hermitage of Matanga. Impressed by the peaceful atmosphere and sanctity of the place, she began living there serving the Rishi's. Kabandha directed Sri Rama and Lakshmana to meet Shabari living in the Asrama of Sage Matanga. As advised by Kabandha the two princes moved towards the hermitage of Sage Matanga on the brink of lake Pampa. The devout Shabari, an old woman who devotedly served Matanga rishi for many years and ever since the passing away of the rishi, she had been observing austerities and had been awaiting the darshan of Sri Rama!! When the two princess entered the hermitage, Shabari's happiness knew no bounds. She bowed respectfully at Sri Rama and offered some fruits collected from the forest to the two princes with devotion! Shabari took them around the hermitage and soliciting SriRama's permission, prepared a pyre and lighting it up, she entered into it. From flames a shining divine body emerged and ascended to Heaven, blessed by SriRama!!

Surphanaka the sister of King Ravana of Lanka is introduced in Aranya Kanda. She met Sri Rama, Devi Sita and Lakshmana at Panchavathi. On seeing Sri Rama’s beauty she offers to marry him but Sri Rama declined her offer, stating that he was already married to the lady that was sitting by his side and that she might try Lakshmana. He too turned down her offer on the ground that he was only a servant and she being the sister of the king of Lanka she would not be happy by marrying him. She met them again and again and realised that the brothers were making fun of her. Enraged at the humiliation, she ran towards Sita, threatening to eat her up. Lakshmana drew his sword and cut her ears and nose. She fled from the scene raising hideous cries for help. First she met her cousin brother Khara and later met her own brother Ravana. She was instrumental in drawing the attention of Ravana towards Sita.
Jatayu and Sampati were vulture brothers. They were the descendants of Garuda. At panchavati, Jatayu met Sri Rama, Devi Sita and Lakshmana and said that he was the friend of King Dasaratha and promised to help them in safe guarding, Devi Sita in their absence. Hearing him Sri Rama felt happy. Thus he has become a good friend and well wisher to them. Ravana came to panchavati to abduct Devi Sita, when Rama and Lakshmana were not in the cottage. Ravana tried to take her by force. She cried for help. Hearing her cries, Jatayu came to the spot and fought against Ravana in order to rescue her. Ravana cut off the two wings of Jatayu. He fell on the ground grievously wounded, with life flickering. He remained in that condition till Sri Rama came to the spot in course of his search of Devi Sita. The noble bird told every thing to Rama. Sri Rama put Jatayu on his lap, washed the blood from the wound and consoled him. Jatayu breathed his last in the lap of Sri Rama, who performed his funeral rites. What a fortunate being Jatayu was!

Sampati and Jatayu were vulture brothers. They liked and loved each other so dearly. They often raced in the air. One day they soared higher and higher in the air. At lost it became difficult for them to bear the rays of the Sun. Jatayu nearly fainted and Sampati spread his huge wings over his brother and saved him. But Sampati's wings were scorched and he fell down senseless on Vindhya mountains. Regaining consiousness, he slowly draged himself to the cave of a saint and told him that he lost his wings and intends to die. But saint said “You will not gain any thing by death, patiently wait for some time. A team will come to save a great person. By doing so, you will regain your wings and power to fly. He waited patiently. Sampati told Angada and his team that “Devi Sita was taken away by Ravana and kept her in Lanka, make a search, you will find her”. After giving the clew about Devi Sita, Sampati got new wings. The words of saint turned to be true. Sampati served the cause of Sri Rama and was blessed with fresh wings through his grace.

Garuda, the king of birds, son of Vinata, carrier to Lord Vishnu. In course of the fierce war in Lanka Indrajit who was endowed with extraordinary energy showered Nagaastras (serpent shafts), on Sri Rama and Lakshmana, which went through every inch of their bodies, causing extreme pain and the two princes fainted, poisoned by deadly darts!! Excited Indrajit felt, that they were almost dead. He informed the same to Ravana, who was immensely happy. Meanwhile, Garuda came to rescue the princes. On seing Garuda, the serpent shafts binding the two princes became ineffective. The two princes gradually revived normalcy, stoodup and expressed their gratefulness. They profusely thanked and embraced Garuda, who reciprocated it with a simle and vanished. Garuda helped the princes at a crucial time.

Garuda, Jatayu, Sampati
Imaginary Paintings relating to the Prime Characters in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - 8

Of the two brothers of King Ravana, Kumbakarna was younger and Vibhishana the youngest. All the three brothers did penance and saw Brahma face to face. Of what boon, they desired different boons. As far as Kumbakarna was concerned, he wanted the destruction of all the Devatas and Devas. Having heard it, all the Devas ran to Saraswati the consort of Brahma for help. Saraswati was present on the tongue of Kumbakarna when he asked for the boon by a slight error in pronunciation. Kumbakarna asked that he may be blessed with sleep instead of the extinction of the Devas, which he had taught of. For “nirdevatwa” he uttered “nidravatwa” and thus missed the goal. In the war in Lanka he created a terror among Vanara warriors and was ultimately killed by Sri Rama.

Vibhishana

Of the two brothers of King Ravana, Vibhishana was the youngest and he was endowed with sattvic qualities and developed desired devotion to Vishnu. Brahma granted his desire. The character of Vibhishana is outstanding and Valmiki used the epithet Dharmatma or virtuous, when ever he referred to Vibhishana. He followed the path of Dharma and sacrificed every thing for the sake of Dharma. Though closely associated with his brothers Ravana and Kumbhakarna, Vibhishana never lost his Satvic courage and high principle of Dharma. It is in deed a marvel. After the death of Ravana, Vibhishana was installed as the king of Lanka. Vibhishana attended the coronation ceremony of Sri Rama at Ayodhya and received honours.

The King of Lanka Ravana

The king of Lanka Ravana, was not really a Rakshasa. His lineage his is not an ordinary one. He descended from Brahma. He was the son of Misravas. Misravas, who was the son of Pulaysthya and the son of Brahma. Kumbhakarna and Vibhishana were his younger brothers. All the three brothers did penance for a long time and saw Brahma face to face. Each one of them desired different boons. Ravana desired that he should not meet with death at the hands of either any Devata’s or gods, or any Rakshasas or wild animals. In his pride he forgot to mention “Man” or he was so sure that no man could kill him. Married to Mandodari, he is blessed with a son by name Meghanath (Indrajith) Ravana was a great devotee of Lord Shiva. Though a great devotee, he was not good by nature. He was Adharmic and a womaniser too. Unrighteousness, pride, arrogance and passions derailed him from the path of Dharma, and was killed by Sri Rama.
Paintings relating to Sundara Kanda
(from P11 to P34)
Reminded of his great power of strength and prowess, encouraged and inspired by Jambavantha, the Mighty Hanuman decides to take the legendary leap of 800 miles (100 yojanas) across the sea with a mission to find Devi Sita.
Mighty Hanuman addressing his team members before taking the legendary leap across the sea, from mount Mahendra.

Mighty Hanuman addressing his team members before taking the legendary leap across the sea, from mount Mahendra.
Composing his mind to take the legendary leap, Hanuman coolly looked at the vast sea, scanned the sky, directed his Yogic Vision towards Lanka, tensed his muscles and abdomen, took a long breath and suspended it, mustered all strength, gathering momentum, rocketing himself with all force, vigour and impetuous - is about to take the leap.
Vayurandavan Hanunan sprang up into the blue like an arrow released from the bow of Sri Rama, soared and coursed through the sky like Garuda. What a stunning feat it is. Borne by the impetuous of Hanunan, mount Mahindra shook, trees on it uprooted and went after him some distance in the sky as though bidding farewell to Hanunan and fluttered down on the surface of the sea.

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At the behest of Sagra, the Mount Mainaka came to the surface from the seabed with its shining golden peak, glistening wings and shimmering like the Sun at dawn, to offer hospitality to Hanuman. Mistaking the mount an impediment, abstracting his way, Hanuman hurled himself and brushed aside the mount with his rock-like wide chest, like a powerful stormy wind blows off the wisps of clouds.
After hearing Mainaka, immensely pleased at his affectionate invitation, to accept his hospitality, Hanuman touched him with warmth, and thanking him continued his journey to Lanka.
At the request of the Devathas, Gandharvas, Kinneras, Yakshas and other celestial beings, Surasa Devi the Mother of Nagas, assumed the most hideous form of a demon to test the courage and prowess of Hanuman. Testing him she was immensely pleased at his courage and resourcefulness and wished him all success!
Assuming minute form, Hanuman, diving into the cave-like wide mouth of the dreadful sea demon, Simhika and killed her by coming out, cutting open her belly with his sharp nails.
Duly completing the most trying and baffling leap across the ocean, successfully confronting the trials & tribulations, **Hanuman** reaching shores of Lanka at the sunset.
After midnight assuming a small body of the size of a kitten, Hanuman approached the northern gate of Lanka and while about to pass through the gate, being obstructed and attacked by the hideous demon Lankini, the Spirit of Lanka, and strucked her down with a punch on her face with his left fist, not using full power, viewing her gender and vanquished her with ease.
A splendid view of the most lovely and beautiful *Ashoka Vana*, rivalling the *Nandana Vana* of *Mahendra*. “If *Devi Sita* were to be here she would prefer to come to this soul-ravishing spot to offer her *Sandhya Prayers*” - Hanuman thought. He then climbed up the *Simsupa Tree* and hid himself behind the thick foliage, with a firm resolve to wait there to see her.
After some time Hanuman espied a sublimely beautiful lady beneath the Simsupa Tree. She appear grief-sticken, weak, emaciated through fasting and scorched in sorrow, like the brilliant full moon overcast by dark clouds. He guessed ‘She might be Devi Sita!’
Getting up from bed, in the early hours, fascinated by the thought of Sita hastily wearing splendid royal raiment, and ornaments, Passionate Ravana moved towards Ashoka Vana followed by a fleet of beautiful belles his wives. Hearing conversation between Ravana and the Noble Lady, Hanuman confirms, she is Devi Sita.
Hanuman delivers Sri Rama’s signet ring to Devi Sita to strengthen her confidence in him. Taking the ring in her hand, Devi Sita visualises Sri Rama just beside her.
Observing Devi Sita's sad plight, Hanuman offers to carry her on his back to Sri Rama. When she doubted his capacity to carry, Hanuman assumes gigantic form and with all humility he said he has the capacity to carry the entire Lanka too, along with her across the sea. Declining his offer, she requested him to bring Sri Rama to Lanka, to take her back to Ayodhya killing Ravana.
Devi Sita, giving her dearest divine jewel (Chudamani) to Hanuman, meant to be given to Sri Rama, and requested him to reveal her miserable plight and to bring Sri Rama to Lanka to put an end to her pathetic life.
Hanuman felt the purpose of his mission is not completely fulfilled by mere finding Devi Sita. After a great deal of thinking, he decided to destroy Ravana’s pet Ashoka Vana as a right step to completely fulfilling his mission. He then like a violent tornado destroyed and laid the Ashoka Vana waste, killing thousands of eminent Raksha Warriors sent by King Ravana.
Knowing about the devastation of Ashoka Vana, and killing of thousands of eminent Raksha Warriors by a Vanara, Ravana's blood boiled and at last sent his eldest son Indrajit, proficient in the use of mystic missiles to capture or kill him. Seeing all his weapons being reduced ineffective by Hanuman, Indrajit used Bramhasthra. Hanuman submitted to the missile respecting Brahma.
The ogres bound Hanuman with strong ropes and produced him in the court of King Ravana. Seeing the mighty Vanara, in bondage, Ravana at first ordered to kill him. But at the intervention of his younger brother Vibbhishana, Ravana then ordered to burn the tail of Hanuman and take him in procession in the roads of Lanka City. The ogres wrapped his tail with rags, soaked in oil and set fire to it.
Set himself free from bondage with ease, Hanuman flew into the air observing the vital spots and fortification in Lanka and set fire to all palaces and edifices reducing the city Lanka to ashes.
Having reduced most of the Lanka City to ashes, presuming Devi Sita too would have shared its lot, Hanuman began reproaching himself and rushed in haste to Ashoka Vana and got relieved to see her safe. Comforting her, Hanuman took leave of her bidding adieu to her to get back to Sri Rama.
Duly completing his mission successfully, **Vayurandan Hanuman** getting ready for his return journey by leap from **Mount Arista in Lanka**.
After taking the leap northwards from Mount Arista, on the way touching Mount Mainaka, returned to Mount Mahinda delighting Angada, Jantavantha and all his Vanara Team members and after narrating A to Z about his adventurous and eventful trip to Lanka, Hanuman with all of them set out from there towards Kiskinda and on the way halted at the splendid Madhuvana. They celebrated Hanuman's successful return from Lanka.
From Madhuvana Hanuman along with all his Team flown to Mount Prasravana in Kishkindha, met and duly appraised Sri Rama, Lakshmana and Sugriva about Devi Sita, her sad plight and conveyed her message and delivered Devi Sita's jewel (Chudamani) to Sri Rama. Who appreciated Hanuman for his great effort and honoured him with his warm embrace.
Paintings relating to Ramayana other than Sundara Kanda
Imaginary Paintings relating to Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

Vayunandan Hanuman, the lifesaver - carrying the Sanjeevini Parvatha from Himalayas on his way to Lanka to save the life of Lakshmana and other Vanaras.

భూపత్తి శైలాన్ని జీవించడానికే ఆరోగ్య చరిత్ర కార్యక్రమం చేసే ప్రతి ప్రేక్షకములు ఉపయోగించబడింది.
Vayunandan Hanuman, descended on the soil of Lanka along with Sanjeevini Parvatha
Imaginary Painting relating to Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

Imaginary Painting relating to Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

Mighty, Sagacious, selfless and most devoted emissary of Sri Rama - Vayunandan Hanuman

Manojavam Maruta tulya vegam  Jitendriyam Buddhimatam varishtam -

Vatatmajam Vaanara Yudha mukhyam SriRama dootam sirasa namami
Whenever Hanuman prays, Sri Rama would appear before him.
My sole strength is Rama - Rama Nara is most powerful
Imaginary Paintings relating to Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

Dakshine Lakshmano yasya - Vanascha Janakatmaja,
Purato Maruthi tasya - Tam vande Raghunandaram
Sri Rama, Devi Sita along with Lakshmana and Hanuman

స్తూపి, లక్ష్మన్‌నాథ్యత సంయోగం నాదౌనాను
The splended Coronation ceremony of Sri Rama and Devi Sita at Ayodhya
APPENDICES
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appendix - 1</th>
<th>Dynasty of Ikshvaku Line - Solar Race : (40 generations of Ikahvaku kings)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appendix - 2</td>
<td>Family of King Dasaratha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix - 3</td>
<td>Dynasty of Mithila : (22 generations of Mithila kings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix - 4</td>
<td>King Janaka’s Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix - 5</td>
<td>Dynasty of King Ravana : (Ancestors of Ravana)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix - 6</td>
<td>Family of King Ravana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix - 7</td>
<td>Who is Who in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana : Characters created by Maharshi Valmiki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix - 8</td>
<td>Glossary : Giving meaning of non-English words used in free verses in English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# The Dynasty of Ikshvaku Line - The Solar Race

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRAMHA</th>
<th>MANDHATA</th>
<th>SUDARSHANA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAREECH</td>
<td>SUSANDHI</td>
<td>AGNIVARANA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KASHYAP</td>
<td>DRVASANDHI</td>
<td>SHIGRAGRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIVISWAN</td>
<td>BHARAT</td>
<td>MARU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAIVASWAT MANU</td>
<td>ASIT</td>
<td>PRASHUSRUKA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IKSHWAKU</td>
<td>SAGARA</td>
<td>AMBARISHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUKSHI</td>
<td>ASAMANJA</td>
<td>NAHUSHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIKUKSHI</td>
<td>ANSHUMAN</td>
<td>YAYATI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BANA</td>
<td>DILIP</td>
<td>NABHAGA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANARANYA</td>
<td>BHAGIRATHA</td>
<td>AJA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRATHUVU</td>
<td>KAKUTSA</td>
<td>DASARATHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRISANKU</td>
<td>RAGHU</td>
<td>SRI RAMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHUNDHUMAR</td>
<td>PRAVADRA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YUVANASHVA</td>
<td>SHNKHANA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

# Appendix 1

## Appendix 2

## King Dasaratha's Family

### Father:
AJAMAHARAJA

### Mother:
INDUMATI

### Three Wives:
KAUSALYA KAIKEYI SUMITRA

### Four Sons:
SRIRAMA BHARATHA LAKSHMANA SATRUGHNA

### Four Daughters Inlaw:
DEVI SITA MANDAVI URMILA SRUTAKEERTI

### Eight Grand Sons:
LAVA TAKSHA ANGADA SUBHAHU & KUSHA PUSHKALA CHANDRAKETU SATRUGHATI

Source: Srimad Valmiki Ramayana
The Dynasty of Mithila Kings

Mithila King Janaka's Family

- **Father:** Hrasva Roma
- **Mother:** N.A.
- **Janaka's Consort:** Sunayana
- **Janaka's Younger Brother:** Kushadhwaja
- **Janaka's Foster Daughter:** Devi Sita
- **Devi Sita's Husband:** Sri Rama
- **Janaka's Own Daughter:** Urmila
- **Urmila's Husband:** Lakshmana
- **Kushadwaja's First Daughter:** Mandavi
- **Mandavi's Husband:** Bharata
- **Kushadwaja's Second Daughter:** Srutakeerti
- **Srutakeerti's Husband:** Shatrughna

Grand Sons:
- **Sons of Rama & Sita:** Lava & Kusa
- **Sons of Urmila & Lakshmana:** Angada & Chandraketu
- **Sons of Mandavi & Bharata:** Taksha & Pushkala
- **Sons of Srutakeerti & Shatrughna:** Subahu & Satrughati

Source: Srimad Valmiki Ramayana
THE DYNASTY OF KING RAVANA OF LANKA

BRAMHA

BRAHMARSHI PULASYA (One Amongst Prajapathi’s)

VISHRAVASUVU

RAVANA  KUMBHAKARNA  VIBHISHANA

LANKA'S KING RAVANA'S FAMILY

FATHER : VISRA VASUVU
MOTHER : KAIKESI
FATHER OF KUBERA : VISRA VASUVU
MOTHER OF KUBERA : D/0 TRINA BINDU RAJARSHI
BROTHER’S OF RAVANA : 1. KUMBHA KARNA  2. VIBHISHANA
RAVANA'S WIFE : MANDODARI
KUMBHAKARNA’S WIFE : VAJRAJWALA
VIBHISHANA’S WIFE : SARAMA
SONS OF RAVANA : 1. INDRAJIT (MEGHANATHA)  2. AKSHAYA KUMARA
KUMBHAKARNA’S SONS : 1. KUMBHA  2. NIKUMBHA
ONLY SISTER OF RAVANA : SURPHANAKA
SURPHANAKA’S HUSBAND : VIDYUTJIIHVA

Source: Srimad Valmiki Ramayana
### Who is Who in Valmiki Ramayana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Adikavi</td>
<td>The first poet; Title given to Valmiki to honour his composition of srimad Ramayana, the first epic in world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Adisesha</td>
<td>Son of Kadru, Who is respected as the couch of Vishnu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Aditi</td>
<td>Daughter of Daksha and The wife of Kashyapa. She is the Mother of Gods Mother of Yamana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Aditya</td>
<td>Sun God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Agasthya</td>
<td>A great Sage. Rishi. Author of several vedic hymns. To have swallowed the ocean in one gulp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Agni</td>
<td>The God of Fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Agniketu</td>
<td>A Rakshasa Warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Ahalya</td>
<td>Wife of Sage Goutama. Mother of Satananda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Ajamukhi</td>
<td>Rakshasa in the court of king Ravana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Akampana</td>
<td>A Rakshasa warrior and general. He was killed by Hanuman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Akopa</td>
<td>A minister in the court of King Dasaratha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Akshaya kumara</td>
<td>Son of king Ravana. A great warrior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Anala</td>
<td>The god of fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Ananga</td>
<td>Manmatha. God of Love.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Anasuya</td>
<td>The wife of Sage Atri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Andhaka</td>
<td>An anti-God. Son of Kasyapa &amp; Diti. Shiva killed him, when he tried to steal the parijatha from Heaven. Andhaka had thousand arms and heads and the thousand eyes yet was blind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Angada</td>
<td>The son of vali. A great vanara warrior. Heir apparent to the kingdom of Kishkindha. One amongst two sons of Lakshmana is also named as Angada and the other son being Chandra Ketu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Angaraka</td>
<td>The planet Mars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Angiras</td>
<td>A rishi mentioned in the Vedas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Anjana</td>
<td>Mother of Hanuman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Anshuman</td>
<td>Grand Son of Kings Sagara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Aruna</td>
<td>Another name of Parvati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Aristanemi</td>
<td>Aruna the brother of Garuda and the charioteer of the son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Arthavit</td>
<td>A minister in the court of king dasaratha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Arun</td>
<td>The charioteer of Sun God. (Born Lane) First son of Kasyapa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Arundhati</td>
<td>Wife of Sage Bramharshi Vasista</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Arundhita</td>
<td>Wife of Sage Bramharshi Vasista</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Arundhiti</td>
<td>A Horse sacrifice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Arswapati</td>
<td>King of Kikeya. Father of Kaikeyi. Grandfather of Bharata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Aswini</td>
<td>Kumaras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Atikaya</td>
<td>A Rakshasa commander.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Atri</td>
<td>A Great Sage. Whom SriRama met in Dandakaranya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Ayomukhi</td>
<td>An ogres attendant of Devi Sita in Ashokavanam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Ayonija</td>
<td>Not born from the woomb of a woman (Sita).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Baasakarna</td>
<td>A Rakshasa Warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Bhagiradha</td>
<td>An illustrious king of solar race. Son of king Dilip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Bhagiradhi</td>
<td>Another name of Ganga. It is supposed to have been brought by King Bhagiratha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Bharadwaja</td>
<td>A great sage, Son of Brihaspati Sri Rama met and revered both while going to and returning from Dandakaranya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Bharata</td>
<td>Son of King Dasaratha and Queen Kaikeyi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Bhrigu</td>
<td>A great Rishi. Progenator of Bhargava race in which Jamadagni and Prashurama were born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Bhringu</td>
<td>Goddess of Earth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Brahma</td>
<td>The creator also called prajapati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Brihaspati</td>
<td>The Guru of Devatas / Gods (also one of the nine planents)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Budha</td>
<td>Son of Soma by Tara. The planet 'Mercury' also</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Chandra</td>
<td>The moon, also called Soma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Chandra ketu</td>
<td>One of the two sons of Lakshmana. The other son being Angada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Dadhicha</td>
<td>Son of Atharvan, a vedic sage. When gods, approached, he gave his life so that they take his bones to make a weapon to kill formidable demon Vrita.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Dadimukha</td>
<td>The uncle of Sugriva. He was incharge of Madhuvana.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX - 7

Who is Who in Valmiki Ramayana

Park
Daksha: Father of Sati, Consort of Shiva. Daksha was a Prajapati
Dandakaranya: A large forest between Godavari and Narmada rivers
Doomra: A Vanana Warriors.
Dasagri: Other name of King Ravana
Dasakanta: Other name of King Ravana
Dasaratha: Father of Sri Rama. King of Ayodhya.
Devantaka: A Rakshasa Warrior
Devaratha: An ancestor of King Janaka from whom he inherited the
great bow of Shiva
Dhamshtra: A Rakshasa in the court of king Ravana
Dhanyamalini: One amongst many wives of King Ravana.
Dhirooraksha: A Rakshasa warrior.
Dilip: Son of Anshuman Father of Bhagiratha an ancestor of Sri
Rama
Diti: Daughter of Daksha. One of the many wives of Kashyapa.
Sister of Aditi, Diti is the mother of Diatyas
Dooshana: A Rakshasa warrior (of Janasthana)
Dundubhi: A monster killed by the vanara king Vali.
Durvala: A Rakshasa Adviser to Ravana
Durvali: An ogress, attendant of Devi Sita in Ashokavana
Durwa: A Rishi who is short tempered
G
Gadhi: Father of the great sage Viswamitra
Ganesha: Son of Shiva a Parvathi, another name of Vinayaka.
Ganga: The perennial and sacred river in India
Garuda: Son of Kasyapa and Vinata. King of Birds.
Gauri: One of the names of Parvathi
Gautama: One of the Seven great Rishis. Husband of Ahalya.
Gavaksha: A Vanara Leader
Gavva: One of the Vanara Warriors.
Govinda: One of the many names of Krishna/Vishnu/Srivenkateswara
Guha: The Chief of Nishadas(forest tribe).
Guru: A spiritual teacher. Acharya
H
Hanuman: Another name of Anjaneya. Son of God of winds and Anjani.
Harijata: An ogress attendant of Devi sita at Ashokavana
Himvan/
Himavanta: King of Himalayas and father of Ganga and Gowri
Hiranyakasipa: Son of Kasyapa. Father of Prahlada.
I
Ikshwaku: An illustrious ancestor of Sri Rama. The dynasty is referred as
Ikshwaku dynasty, named after him
Indrani: Wife of Indra
Indra: God of Devatas, Husband of Indrani. The chief of Gods
Indrajit: Son of Ravana a very great warrior skilled in the use of Astras
and devine missiles. His another name being Meghanath.
Iswar: Lord Siva.
J
Jabali: A sage in the court of Dasaratha.
Jahnu: A sage who swallowed Ganga
Jahnavi: Another name for Ganga
Jamadagni: Father of Parasurama.
Jambavanta: Leader of bears in the army of Sugriva. A wise accomplice An
Advisor to Vanara King Sugriva.
Jambumali: A Rakshasa Warrior.
Janaka: King of Mithila. Foster father of Devi Sita
Janaki: Foster daughter of king Janaka
Jatayu: The vulture King Son of Garuda. Brother of Sampati.
Jayanta: Son of Indra and Indrani.
K
Kabandha: A mighty demon, headless and barrel bodied monster. He was
a celestial being by name Danu. He was cursed to assume a
hideous form of a demon with head less trunk, till Sri Rama and
Lakshmana killed him and granted him release.
Kadru: Daughter of Daksha. Wife of Kashyapa and Mother of the Nagas.
Kaikesi: Mother of Ravana.
Kaikeyi: Daughter of King Aswapati of Kekaya. Queen of Dasaratha.
Kasyapa: A celebrated sage. Son of Brahma. He had many wives through
whom were born the various forms of life on earth.
Kausalya: Wife of King Dasarata. and Mother of Sree Rama

Contd....
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kesari</td>
<td>The Vanara king and husband of Anjana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khara</td>
<td>One of the Rakshasa Warriors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinkaras</td>
<td>Soldiers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kishkindha kanda</td>
<td>Fourth book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kubera</td>
<td>God of Wealth. He also known as Vaishravana. His territory was Lanka. Ravana drove him away out of Lanka. He is of white complexion with 8 Teeth, 3 legs, distorted body, he usually rides on the shoulders of a man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kumbhakarna</td>
<td>Son of Vaishravas by his Rakshasa wife Kaikasi. He is Ravana's younger brother.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kumbha</td>
<td>Son of Kumbhakarna. A Rakshasa Worrier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kumuda</td>
<td>A Vanara Warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kusadhwaja</td>
<td>Younger brother of king Janaka of Mithila. Father of Mandavi and Srutikeerthi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kusha</td>
<td>A variety of grass, Dharbha.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kusha</td>
<td>One of the two sons of the Sri Rama. The other son Lava</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakshmana</td>
<td>Son of Dasaratha/Sumitra. Incarnation of Adisesha. Younger brother of Sri Rama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakshmi</td>
<td>Wife of Vishnu. Goddess of wealth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lava</td>
<td>One of twin sons of Rame &amp; Sita. The other son being Kusha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavana</td>
<td>A notorious demon. Satrughna killed him at the behest of SriRama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandavi</td>
<td>Wife of Bharatha and daughter of Kusadhwaja.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madhavi</td>
<td>Another name for Goddess of Earth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madhu</td>
<td>One of the two mongsters, the other one being Kaitabha.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahabali</td>
<td>An Asura, who became a powerful ruler and A rival to Gods. He was the son of Virochana and Grand son of Prahlada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahadeva</td>
<td>Lord Shiva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahaparsva</td>
<td>A great Rakshasa warrior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahendra</td>
<td>Another name for Indra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maheshya</td>
<td>Lord Siva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahodara</td>
<td>A great Rakshasa warrior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainda</td>
<td>A great Vanara Warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makaraksha</td>
<td>A Rakshasa warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malayavan</td>
<td>Aged Rakshasa. Mandodari's Father Grand Father of Ravana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manthara</td>
<td>A hunch backed hand maid of Queen Kaykeyi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandodari</td>
<td>Daughter of Maya. Wife of Ravana, Mother of Indrajit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manu</td>
<td>An illustrious ancestor of SriRama of solar race. The first Law-giver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maricha</td>
<td>A wily Rakshasa who helped in the form of a golden deer while abducting Devi Sita from Panchavati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maruti</td>
<td>Another Name of Hanuman. Being son of Marut, the god of Wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maruts</td>
<td>The storm Gods of the Vedas. Friends and allies of Indira armed with lightening and thunder bolts. Maruts are 49 in number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matali</td>
<td>The charioteer of Indira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matanga</td>
<td>A Great Sage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maya</td>
<td>A great architect of Asuras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meghanath</td>
<td>Indrajit Son of Ravana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nara</td>
<td>The vanara warrior, who built the causeway(sethu)on the sea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narada</td>
<td>The divine sage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narantaka</td>
<td>A Rakshasa warrior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narayana</td>
<td>Another name for Vishnu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikumbhila</td>
<td>A cave / A grove in Lanka, where oblations are offered to goddess Kaali. A patron goddess of the Ogres in Lanka.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nila</td>
<td>The wanara warrior. Commander-in-chief of the Vanara Army.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nimi</td>
<td>Famous king of Mithila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nishadas</td>
<td>A feudatory hill tribe people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nriga</td>
<td>A King turned into a chameleon because of procrastination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paramatma</td>
<td>The supreme spirit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parusurama</td>
<td>An incarnation of Vishnu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parvati</td>
<td>Shiva's consort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinaaka</td>
<td>Bow of Siva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pingala</td>
<td>A prostitute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Praghasa</td>
<td>A Rakshasa warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prahasta</td>
<td>Commander in chief of The Rakshasa Warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prahlada</td>
<td>Son of HiranyaKasyapa. A great devotee of Vishnu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prajapati</td>
<td>The creator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulasthya</td>
<td>A son of Brahma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purushothama</td>
<td>Literally the best of Men. Supreme soul Sri Rama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pushkala</td>
<td>Son of Bharata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pushpaka</td>
<td>The aerial car, a chariot of Kubera, designed by Viswakarma, acquired by Ravana. After killing him, Rama gave it back to Kubera</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Who is Who in Valmiki Ramayana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>R</strong></th>
<th><strong>S</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raghava: Another name for Rama</td>
<td>Sita: The prime women character in Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raghu: An illustrious ancestor of Sri Rama.</td>
<td>Sruta Keerthi: Wife of Satruighna Daughter of Kusha Dwaja Younger brother of King Janaka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raghuvar: Sri Rama</td>
<td>Sugriva: Brother of Vanara King Vali.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rama: Son of King Dasaratha of Solar Race. The prime character in Ramayana</td>
<td>Suka: A Rakshasa warrior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramachandra: Sri Rama</td>
<td>Sukra: Guru of Asuras, also the planet: Venus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramayana: The story of the Deeds of Sri Rama, Devi Sita and Ravana.</td>
<td>Sumantra: Adviser and chief charioteer of King Dasaratha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rambha: A beautiful Apsara</td>
<td>Sumitra: Wife of Dasaratha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rasmikethu: A Rakshasa warrior</td>
<td>Sunda: Father of Maricha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rati: Daughter of Daksha. Wife of Manmatha, the God of Love.</td>
<td>Sundara Kanda: The fifth book (part) of Srimad Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravana: Rakshasa king of Lanka.</td>
<td>Surasa: Mother of Nagas, whom Devata’s requested to test the courage and prowess of Hanuman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramachandra: Sri Rama</td>
<td>Surphanakha: Daughter of Kaikasi and Sister of King Ravana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramayana: The story of the Deeds of Sri Rama, Devi Sita and Ravana.</td>
<td>Surya: Sun God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rambha: A beautiful Apsara</td>
<td>Suryashatru: A Rakshasa Warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rasmikethu: A Rakshasa warrior</td>
<td>Susena: A Vanara warrior and Medical expert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rati: Daughter of Daksha. Wife of Manmatha, the God of Love.</td>
<td>Suteekshana: A great sage, whom Rama met in Dandakaranya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravana: Rakshasa king of Lanka.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rishyasringa: A great sage that helped Dasaratha to perform Putra Kamesti Yaga for getting children. He is the son of Sage Bibhandaka</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rohini: The beloved wife of Moon, Daugther of Daksha.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romapada: The king of Anga Desa and A friend of Dasaratha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudra: Siva</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruma: Wife of Vanara King Sugriva</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>T</strong></th>
<th><strong>U</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Takshasa: One of the two sons of Bharata. The other being Pushkala</td>
<td>Uma: Wife of Shiva. Another name of Parvathi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tara: The wife of Vanara King Vali. After his death she became the wife of Sugriva</td>
<td>Urmila: Wife of Lakshmana Daughter of King Janaka of Mithila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tataka: Wife of Sunda, A Rakshasa. Mother of Maricha</td>
<td>Urvashi: An Apsara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trijata: An ogress attendant of Devi Sita and Ashokavana</td>
<td>Uttara Kanda: The seventh and the last book (part) of Srimad Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trisara: Commander of Rakshasa Army</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triveni: A confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswathi rivers at Allahabad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contd....
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vajra</td>
<td>Indra’s weapon, Thunder bolt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vajradamsha</td>
<td>The trusted commander of Ravana’s Army</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vajra Jwala</td>
<td>Wife of Kumbha Karna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vali</td>
<td>Vanara King and elder brother of Sugriva.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valmiki</td>
<td>Maharshi Valmiki. The Adi kavi, who indited Srimad Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vamadeva</td>
<td>Sage &amp; Counsellor in King Dasaratha’s Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varaha</td>
<td>The dwarf and bear incarnations of Lord Vishnu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varuna</td>
<td>God of Water / Oceans also called God of Justice and morality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vashista</td>
<td>A great sage. Brahmashri. Chief priest and advisor in the court of Dasaratha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vayu</td>
<td>The God of wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vayunandan</td>
<td>Hanuman, the Son of Vayu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vayuputra</td>
<td>Hanuman. Son of Vayu and Anjana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vibhandaka</td>
<td>A sage. Father of Rishya Sringer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vibhishana</td>
<td>Youngest brother of King Ravana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vidyujjihva</td>
<td>A Rakshasa Warrior and an expert in Sorcery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vinata</td>
<td>Mother of Garuda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viradha</td>
<td>The monster, whom Sri Rama killed in Dandakaranya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virupaksha</td>
<td>A Rakshasa Warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vishnu</td>
<td>The preserver among the Trinity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visravas</td>
<td>A great Rishi - Father of Ravana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viswakarma</td>
<td>Architect of Devatas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viswamitra</td>
<td>A great and powerful Rishi. Taught many astras to Sri Rama and Lakshmana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vrita</td>
<td>An Asura, killed by Indra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yagnakopa</td>
<td>A Rakshasa Warrior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yama</td>
<td>God of death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yojana</td>
<td>A measure of distance equivalent to 8 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yudhajit</td>
<td>Son of the King of Kekaya. Brother of Kaikeyi. uncle of Bharata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yudha Kanda</td>
<td>The sixth book (part) Srimad Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yupaksha</td>
<td>A Rakshasa Warrior</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Who is Who in Valmiki Ramayana: Completed

Gems of Valmiki Ramayana

- Truth Charity, Penance, detachment, friendliness, purity, straightforwardness, knowledge and the service of his preceptors are the real characteristics of Sri Rama.
- An untruth emanates from the mind, tongue and body, because the mind thinks of it, the tongue utters it and the body translates it into action.
- Three evil emanages from desire: viz uttering falsehood, adultery with a wedded wife, and causeless enmity, the latter two being greater sins than the first.
- Through Dharma anything can be obtained. Dharma pervades the whole universe.
- Zeal is a potential power and nothing is more powerful than that. there is nothing that cannot be achieved in this world by a zealous pursuit.
- Prosperity, virtue and happiness are ruined by drink. drink leads a man to ingratitude and result in the loss of his friends and wealth.
- Of all the sinners, he is to be hanged who shows ingratitude to his friends who helped him in his distress.
- Mind is the cause for the direction of all senses leading to good or evil acts.
- There is no power greater than fate to direct each event. All powerful fate is the root-cause of everything in this world. It is Fatethat controls the destinies of men and their actions.
**APPENDIX - 8**

**Esoteric Meaning of Ramayana**

by Sant Keshavdas

Ramayana is not a mere story. It is the story we live every moment of our lives.

Dasaratha symbolises the intellect that controls the senses. The three queens of Dasaratha are the three gunas known as Sattwa (tranquility), Rajas (activity) and Tamas (inactivity). Sage Vasista and Sage Viswamittra are the gurus who guide the intellect. SriRama is the Transcendental Self and Lakshmana, Bharata and Shatrughna are the triple manifestations of God as immanent, God as in-dwelling spirit, and God as Soul, respectively.

Manthara symbolises the negative qualities that poison Kaikeyi, the rajasic mind. Demons and demonesses in Ramayana are the evil propensities in us. Ravana is the rajasic ego; Kumbhakarna is the tamasic ego; Vibhishana stands for sattwic ego.

SriRama's wife, Sita is the Cosmic Energy (kundalini) abducted by Ravana, the ego, for wrong use. so, through Hanuman symbolising pranayama or rhythmic breathing, you will find the location of Sita, the energy to convey the news of Rama, the Self.

SriRama's destruction of Ravana and Kumbhakarna symbolises the destruction of rajasic and tamasic egos and the installation of Vibhishana symbolises the establishment of sattwa guna and equanimity through self-realisation.

Union of SriRama and Devi Sita is the union of Shakti with the eternal consciousness of the true Self. Rama's coronation symbolises the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

This, in short, is the esoteric meaning of Srimad Ramayana.

**GLOSSARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abhisheka</td>
<td>Religious rite of pouring or sprinkling water on the head of one who is to be installed as king.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adharma</td>
<td>Literally anti dharma, unrighteous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aditya Hridayam</td>
<td>Sanskrit Slokas in glory of Sun God. These are said to have been taught to Sri Rama by the great sage Agastya in the battle field of Lanka before killing Ravana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agni</td>
<td>God of fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahuti</td>
<td>An offering, Oblation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airawata</td>
<td>Four Tusked Elephant, which emerged from the primeval churning of the ocean by devatas and rakshasas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alakapuri</td>
<td>The capital city of Kubera, the God of wealth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amaravati</td>
<td>The city of Heaven. The capital city of Indra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amrita</td>
<td>Nectar, produced at the churning of the ocean of milk, supposed to grant immortality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anjali</td>
<td>Folding of palms together and raise them to the level of head, in salutation. A mark of respect and salutation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ankush</td>
<td>An iron hook with a sharply pointed end used by the driver of an elephant to keep the animal in control by driving the sharp point into the skin of the Elephant's fore head which is a sensitive part of its body.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anustup</td>
<td>A class of metres in poetry. The poem Ramayana has been composed in this metre by Maharshi Valmiki.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aranya</td>
<td>Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aranya Kanda</td>
<td>Third Book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arista Mount</td>
<td>Name of the Mount in Lanka which was used by Hanuman to take a leap from lanka North Words accross the ocean.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contd....
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artha</th>
<th>Wealth, property. It is one of the four ends of life recommended in Hindu ethics: the four are: Dharma, Artha, Kama, and Moksha. If Artha and Kama be obtained by means Dharma blessed with Moksha</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aryaputra</td>
<td>Noble Prince</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asana</td>
<td>A Pasture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashrama</td>
<td>HERMITAGE, A place of refuge for sages. The word Ashrama also refers to the four stages in the life of a human being. 1. Brahmacharya, 2. Grihasta, 3. Vanaprastha, 4. Sanyasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asoka</td>
<td>An evergreen tree which bears red flowers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asokavana</td>
<td>The pleasure garden of King Ravana in Lanka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astra</td>
<td>A miraculous weapon, A missile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asura</td>
<td>An enemy of the gods (Daityas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aswamedha Yaga</td>
<td>A horse sacrifice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aswani Twins</td>
<td>Celestial beings. Twin horse-headed gods of agriculture. They are also the physicians. They are the sons of the sky and their golden chariot is pulled by birds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aum</td>
<td>A sacred syllable it is considered to represent the Brahma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avatara</td>
<td>An incarnation of God.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avidya</td>
<td>Ignorance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayodhya Kanda</td>
<td>Second book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bakta</td>
<td>Devotee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bala &amp; Atibala</td>
<td>(Power and Super Power) The two mantras taught by Viswamitra to Rama and Lakshmana, which had the power to rid the fatigue, thirst and hunger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bala Kanda</td>
<td>The First Book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhageerathi</td>
<td>Another name of Ganga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhakta</td>
<td>Devotee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bheda</td>
<td>One of the four Upayams: Saama, Daana, Bheda and Danda diplomacy of playing one against another in the enemy camp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhoogavati</td>
<td>The city of Varuna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhoota</td>
<td>An evil spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brahmacharyam</td>
<td>Celebacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brahman</td>
<td>The supreme being. The all parviding being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bramhachari</td>
<td>A celebrate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bramharshi</td>
<td>The highest type of Sages &amp; Rishies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaitra</td>
<td>First of Telugu months. Falling in the second half of March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chakravarthy</td>
<td>An emperor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamara</td>
<td>A whisk made of soft silk, An insignia of a king</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandana</td>
<td>Sandal Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charana</td>
<td>A spy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chitra kuta</td>
<td>Name of the hill or district near Prayaga: This name has become immortal since Sri Rama lived there during the first stage of his exile.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossary Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chudamani</strong></td>
<td>The crest Jewel of Devi Seta given to Hanuman to be shown and given to Sri Rama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Daana</strong></td>
<td>Gifting in order to bring the enemy to our fold. One of the four Upayas. See Bheda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Daityas</strong></td>
<td>Sons of DITI &amp; Kasyapa prajapathy enemies of Devas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Daivam</strong></td>
<td>Divine, God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Danawaas</strong></td>
<td>Sons of Diti and Kasyapa Prajapathy. Enemies of Devas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Danda</strong></td>
<td>Physical punishment. Force used in neeting the enemies. One of the four Upayas. See Bheda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dandakaranya</strong></td>
<td>The Forest situated between rivers Godavari and Narmada. It is to this forest Sri Rama was exiled for fourteen years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Darbha</strong></td>
<td>A specie of sacred groass used in religious rites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Devaloka</strong></td>
<td>A world of celestial beings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Devarishies</strong></td>
<td>Sage of Heaven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Devas</strong></td>
<td>Celestial beings The gods. Sons of Aditi and Kasyapa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dhanush</strong></td>
<td>Bow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dharma</strong></td>
<td>Virtuous duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dikpalakas</strong></td>
<td>Guardians of 8 portions and directions of the earth: Indra: East, Agni: South East, Yama: South; Nituti or Surya of South West; Vayu - Marutha - North West; Kubera - North; Isanya Soma North East.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dwadasa Adityas</strong></td>
<td>Indrudu, Dhata, Parjanya, Twashta, Pooshudhu, Aryamudu, Bhargudu, Vivasvntudu, Vishnuvu, Amsumanthudu, Varunudu, Mitrudu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ekadasa Rudulu</strong></td>
<td>Ajudu, Ekapadudu, Ahibhudhyudu, Tuasta, Rudra, Hara, Shambhu, Trainbaka, Aparajata, Eesanyudu, Tribhuanudu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**APPENDIX - 8**

**Glossary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Five Elements</strong></td>
<td>Either, Earth, Water, Light, Wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Five senses</strong></td>
<td>Touch, Taste, Hearing, Smell and Sight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Four actions of</strong></td>
<td>Seva = Service, Sriddha = Faith, Tapasya = Penance, Bhakti = Devotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Four fruits</strong></td>
<td><strong>Four stages of life</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chaturvidha Phala</strong></td>
<td>Bramhacharya, Grihasta, Vanaprasta and Sanyasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>purushardhas</strong></td>
<td>Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha if Artha and Kama by means Dharma the destiny be Moksha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Four ways of getting things</strong></td>
<td>Sama, Dama, Bedha and Danda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Free verses</strong></td>
<td>Verse without conventional metre of rhyme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gada</strong></td>
<td>The mace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gandharvas</strong></td>
<td>A class of semi divine beings, celestial musicans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ghat</strong></td>
<td>On the bank of a River, a place made suitable for taking bath in the river</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ghee</strong></td>
<td>Heated and clarified butter and as offering in yagas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guru</strong></td>
<td>Acharya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Havis</strong></td>
<td>An oblation or burnt offering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ikshwaku</strong></td>
<td>An illustrious King of solar race from whom the name came for the line of the kings of solar race.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indra Astra</strong></td>
<td>Missile presided over by Indra/ Missile charged with an invocation of Indra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indrias</strong></td>
<td>Ten in Number. Five Senses and Five Organs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contd....
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jambawan</td>
<td>Name of a king of bears who was of signal, service to Rama at the siege of Lanka.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jiva</td>
<td>The individual living soul.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jnana</td>
<td>Spiritual knowledge Realisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jnani</td>
<td>The knowers of reality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaama</td>
<td>Desire usually referred for innelative to sex.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaamadhenu</td>
<td>The divine cow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kailasa</td>
<td>The abode of Siva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kala</td>
<td>Time, also Yama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalpa</td>
<td>A day and night of Bramha.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalpaka</td>
<td>A celestian tree which grants fulfilment of any wish to people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karma</td>
<td>Action, Deed. The law that governs action and its un beatable consequences of the doer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karmayogi</td>
<td>One who practies the way of performing action for salvation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kasyapa</td>
<td>A celebrated sage, son of Brahma and father of Devata and Danawan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kekaya</td>
<td>The kingdom ruled by Aswapati, Kaikeyi’s father</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinkaras</td>
<td>Rakshasa soldiers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinneras</td>
<td>A Class of Celestial beings like Gandharvas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kishkindha</td>
<td>Ancient Kingdom of Vanaras situated on the bank of Tungabhadra. Vali was the king of Kishkindha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kishkindhakanda</td>
<td>Fourth book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kodanda</td>
<td>Sri Rama’s bow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kokila</td>
<td>The cuckoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krauncha</td>
<td>A Bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krodha</td>
<td>Anger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kruha</td>
<td>A Kind of grass used in religious rites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malyavati</td>
<td>A stream flowing at the foot of mount Chitra Kuta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manmatha</td>
<td>God of love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mantra</td>
<td>A bunch of letters / words the repetaiton of which prouces some special power. Scriptural Incantation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maricha</td>
<td>Uncle of Ravana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marichi</td>
<td>One of the Prajapati Brahmans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maya</td>
<td>The Architect of Asuras. Father of Mandodari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrita Sanjeevani</td>
<td>The herb which restores the dead to life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mudgara</td>
<td>A favourite weapon of the Rakshasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muhurthta</td>
<td>An auspicious period of time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naagas</td>
<td>A class of semi divine beings, serpents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nandanavana</td>
<td>The renowned pleasure Garden in the abode of Indra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nandigrama</td>
<td>A village in the outscuts of Ayodhya, Bharata lived here and ruled the kosala Kingdom while Rama was in exile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niyata</td>
<td>Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ogres</td>
<td>Rakshasas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ogresses</td>
<td>Rakshasis (female rakshasa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paaraayana</td>
<td>Reading a purana or epic as a daily devoted spiitual exercise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paarijata</td>
<td>A Celestial flower tree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contd....
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paayasam</td>
<td>Kheer, A sweet preparation of milk, rice and sugar / Jagery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paduka</td>
<td>Foot wear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panchavati</td>
<td>Its a picturesque near Nasik on the bank of near Godavari. A picturesque place with five banyan tries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pataala</td>
<td>The nether region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pattabhishekam</td>
<td>Coronation. Royal crowning ceremony, with religious rites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pataala</td>
<td>The nether region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pataala</td>
<td>The nether region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prasravana Mount</td>
<td>It is situated in Kishkindha. The Mount where in Sri Rama, Lakshmana, Sugriva and others were put up, when Hanuman met them after returning from Lanka finding Devi Sita.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puranas</td>
<td>Sacred Legends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pushpaka vimana</td>
<td>The aerial chari originally belonged to Kubera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Putra Kamesti</td>
<td>The fire rite performed for getting Male children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raga</td>
<td>A tune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasik</td>
<td>Egoistic, Arrogance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakshasa</td>
<td>An ogre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakshasi</td>
<td>An ogres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rama</td>
<td>The prime and principal character in Ramayana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rama Rajya</td>
<td>The period of reign of Rama (When virtue prosperity and welfare are given to every person)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rambha</td>
<td>An apsara of exquisite beauty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rishi</td>
<td>A Sage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saama</td>
<td>A peaceful approach to get things of one (Negotiation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabdabedhi</td>
<td>An astra with which one can hit an invisible target by hearing the sound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandhana Karani</td>
<td>The herb that causes broken bones to reunite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanyasa</td>
<td>A recluse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanyasini</td>
<td>A female recluse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarayu</td>
<td>A tributary of the river Ganga flows by the side of Ayodhya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sastras</td>
<td>Sacred lore. A science sacred precepts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satrunjaya</td>
<td>The name of Sri Rama’s Royal Elephant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savarna Karani</td>
<td>A herb that is capable of rectifying the disfigurement or decoloration of the skin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoola</td>
<td>A weapon, A trident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shraadha</td>
<td>A rite or ceremony performed in honor of a departed sole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shyeni</td>
<td>The wife of Aruna and the mother of the two eagles sampati and jatayu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siddha</td>
<td>A class of sellestial being of great purity and perfection, said to posses the eight supernatural faculties; Anima, Mahima, Laghima, Garima, Prapti, Prakamyam, Ishavam, Vashtvam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siddhashrama</td>
<td>The sacread Ashrama (hermitage) where Viswamitra performed Yagna which was guarded &amp; protected by Sri Rama and Lakshmana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simhika</td>
<td>A sea demon who attracts the living creatures with the help of their shadow. Hanuman during his leap to Lanka accross the sea, Simhika abstructed and tried to swallow him but he dived in to her wide open mouth and came out killing her by opening her belly with his sharp nails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simshupa</td>
<td>A type of tree with rich cluster of leaves</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contd....
| **Sruti** | Veda / Revelation |
| **Species of life** | 84 Lakhs / 8.4 Million of which aquatic creatures. 1 Million creatures on earth 2.7 Million Insects 1 Million, Birds 1 Million, Quadrupeds 2.3 Million and Genetic types of Human beings 4 Million Total 8.4 Million |
| **Sundara Kanda** | The fifth book (part) of Srimad Ramayana |
| **Surasa** | She had been sent by the devas to obstruct the path of Hanuman across the sea, to test the courage and prowess of Hanuman. |
| **Suvela** | A mountain near the battle field in Lanka which was ascended by Sri Rama along with Lakshmana, Sugriva and other Vanara Warriors |
| **Swarga** | Heaven |
| **Tapas** | Penance performed with concentration for achieving a purpose |
| **Tapasvin** | One who performs tapas |
| **Tapaswini** | The feminine tapasvin |
| **Tarpana** | The anjali offered to the departed soul with tin seeds & water along with chanting of Mantra |
| **Trikuta** | The hill on which Lanka was situated |
| **Uttara Kanda** | The seventh and the last book (part) of Srimad Ramayana |
| **Vaikunta** | The abode of Vishnu or Srimannarayana |
| **Vaishravana** | Name of Kubera, the god of wealth. Also the name of Ravana. Both were the sons of Vishravas with different mothers. |

| **Valkala** | A coarse garment made of the bark of a tree. This is the garment worn by those who dwell in the forests who are tapasvins. |
| **Vanara** | A Monkey |
| **Vedavati** | Ravana mentions her name as one, who had cursed him once. |
| **Vedika** | Venue. A sacrificial altar or ground. A raised seat, an elevated spot of ground usually prepared for performing rites. |
| **Veena** | A stringed instrument which is said to be the constant companion of Narada. It was an instrument playing on which Ravana was an adept. |
| **Videha** | Janaka’s kingdom |
| **Videhi** | Daughter of Janak (Sita) |
| **Vidhata** | Name of Brahma, the Creator |
| **Vidyadhara** | A class of celestial being (semi gods) |
| **Vajrayudha** | A sword like weapon of Indra made of the back bone of a rishi |
| **Vyakarana** | Grammar |
| **Yagna** | A sacrifice or offering |
| **Yakshas** | A class of celestial beings (Semi gods) |
| **Yojana** | A unit of length; adistance equal to 8 miles |
| **Yudha Kanda** | The sixth book (part) Srimad Ramayana |
| **Yuvaraja** | Heir apparent to King |

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* * *
Valmiki Ramayana has been the glorious epic of great antiquity. It is an epitome of Vedas and Upanishads. The perennial importance, relevance and vitality of Ramayana need hardly any emphasis.

In the present day, we see Adharma, falsehood and passion rampant everywhere in the world. It is just like a rolling stone moving downwards from the peak of a mountain with tremendous force, gaining momentum! Unless it is stopped, by some powerful force in the opposite direction, supported by strong and indomitable will power of its people, transformed by the impressive and inspiring lessons of the sublime characters of the compassionate and sacred story like Srimad Ramayana, there is every possibility of dangerous consequence of destruction of moral values. When the study of good books of value repeated several times it percolates into every vein and particle of blood of its people- scorching and annihilating the bad, base and evil thoughts at the budding stage itself.. Such is the salutary influence of repeated reading of the valuable books with abundant devotion and faith.

The compassionate story of Ramayana with sublime characters is a fascinating, inspiring and soul-stirring one, woven with magnificent poetic grace and literary excellence, stressing moral sovereignty, sheds light on the science of dignified and ideal life and art of living with values. Embedded in itself, the Indian mind and thought, it is indeed a gem unique in the classic world of literature.

This book titled, ‘Srimad Valmiki Ramayana – At a Glance’ written by Dr. Raja Rao is in a lucid style of English, may be read easily even by the busiest persons, youth and people who find no leisure time to go through the voluminous original Valmiki Ramayana texts. Long descriptions and details have been condensed nicely in this book. Especially, the Appendix (with Eight items) is quite informative, painstakingly prepared by the author is worth the reading. It provides a great deal of valuable information.

The effort of Dr. Rao in writing this book is commendable. I am sure the readers enjoy going through the pages of this book with interest and enjoy to the lees, seeing the paintings relating to Ramayana. I am happy it is yet another good TTD Publication.

May Sage Valmiki, the virtuous and ideal couple, Lord SriRama and Devi Sita and Hanuman and other prime characters shower their choicest blessings on all of you.