

# 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*

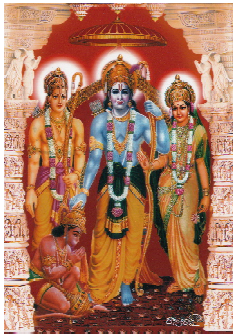
*by*

**Dr. Akkipeddi Sundara Raja Rao, M.Com.,**

Ph.D., LL.B.,

(Retd. Prof. in Commerce & Management Studies)

Author, Artist & Playwright



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## 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

## PRAYER TO : MAHA GANAPATHI

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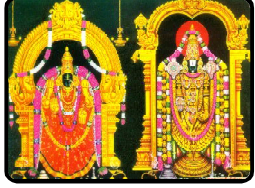


*Humble pranaams to thee, Vighnaraja, Lord Ganesha, The immortal son of divine couple Shiva and Parvathi!  
Clad in pure white robes shining in moon-like splendour, Endowed with elephant head, long trunk, single tusk, huge  
Body, sharp eyes, big belly, hands four, hue in molten Gold, Ever cheerful, 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 indulgence 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!*

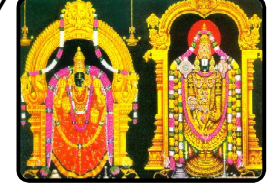
*Dr. Akkipeddi Sundara Raja Rao  
(A.S. Raja Rao)*

# Invocation

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*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 Omniscient!  
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, Nanappa Nagar, **HINDUPUR**- 515 201, Anantapur Dist. (A.P.)  
08556- 221166*





## Foreword

*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 sturring 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 else where 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 night mare of distruction. 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 welwishers 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 embeded 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 sacrifysing 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 lees, 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.*

  
**M.G. Gopal, I.A.S.**

Executive Officer, T.T.D. Devasthanams

# Preface

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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 endeavour 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 how ever 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!**

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\*Vedas (Opourisheyas) described as "revealed wisdom and knowledge", have a complex in intricate structure and or difficult to understand. With the passage of train 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 shapping the moral character of ancient indian society. The vedic injenctions which contain in the form prithe 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 dialy life. that is why Ramayana is also called "Vedas in action".

*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 marathan 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, with in 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 Jatayuvu, 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

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### Maharshi Kashyapa

*"Jatah Sriraghunayako Dasarathanmunyaa srayeataatakaam  
Hatva rakshita kausika kratuvarah krityapyahalyaam shubham  
Bhanktva Rudra sharaasanam Janakajaam panaugrihitva tato  
Jatvar dhaa dhvani Bhargavam punaragaat Sitasametah pureem!"*

*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 Parasuram and returned to Ayodhya with Devi Sita.*

### Maharshi Atri

*"Daasya Mantharayaa dayarahitayaa durbhedithaa Kaikayee  
SriRama prathamaabhisheka samaye maataapya 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 maid-servant, Manthara, asked her husband, at the time of the first coronation of Sri Rama as crown Prince, two boons: 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

*"SriRamahpitrusaasanaadvanamagaat SaumitriSitaanvitah  
Gangaam propya jataam nibadhya sa Guhah Sa Chitrakoote vasan  
Kritva tatra pitrukriyaam sa Bharato datvaaabhayam Dandake  
PropyaAgastyaa muneeshwaram taduditam dhrithvaa dhanuschaakshyam"*

*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 Surphanakhasya kamayugalam traatum samastan muneem  
Hatva tam cha kharam suvarna harinam bhitva tathaa Vaalinam  
Taara ratna maavairi rajyamakarth 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. slained 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.*

## Saptha Rishi Ramayana contd.

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### Maharshi Gautama

**"Dooto Daasarathah saleelamudadhim teertva Hanumaan mahaan  
Dhristvaaashokavane stitaam Janakajaam datvaangule mudrikaam  
Akshadeen asuraan nihatya mahateem Lankaam cha dhagdhya punah  
SriRamancha sametya devah jananee drishtaa 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 Sitapatih 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 **Bharata** and after reaching **Ayodhya Sri Rama** assended the thrown at **Ayodhya** and **Bharata** as the crown prince.

### Brahmarshi Vashishta

**"SriRamaohayamedha mukhya makhakrit samyakprajaah paalayan  
kritva raajyamathanujaistha suchiram bhooriswadharmaanvito  
putrou bhratru samanvitou KushaLavou samsthapya 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 **swadharma**s 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*)

**"SriRamasya kathaasudhatimadhuraam slokaani manuttamaan  
Ye srurvanti pathanti cha pratidinam teeeghougha vidhvansinah  
Srimanto bahuputrapoutrasahitaa bhuktveha bhogaamschiram  
Bhoganthe tu sadaarchitam suraganaihi 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!



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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.*



## List of Paintings

xiv

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**.





## List of Paintings

xv

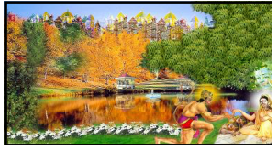
P24. **Hanuman** delivering **SriRama**'s signet ring to **Devi Sita** to strengthen her confidence in him. Taking the ring into her hand, she visualises **Sri Rama** just beside her.



P25. Observing **Devi Sita**'s sad plight, **Hanuman** offers to carry her on his back to **SriRama**. 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 **SriRama** as her token.



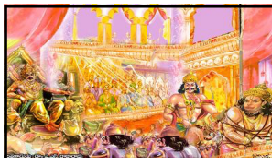
P27. Mighty **Hanuman** like a violent tornado destroying the **Ashokavana**, killing thousands of eminent **rakshasa** warriors sent by King **Ravana**.



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.



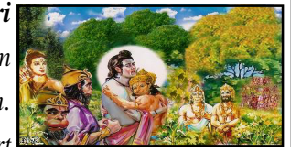
P32. Duly completing his mission successfully, **Vayunandan Hanuman** getting ready for his return journey by leap from Mount **Arista** in **Lanka**



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

xvi

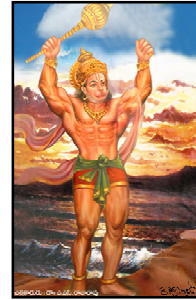
### PAINTINGS RELATING TO RAMAYANA

#### OTHER THAN SUNDARA KANDA

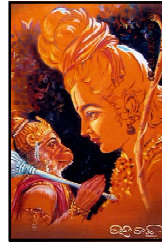
P35. **Vayunandan Hanuman**, the life saver - carrying the **Sanjeevini Parvatha** from **Himalayas** on his way to **Lanka** to save the life of **Lakshmana** and other injured **Vanraras**



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



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



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

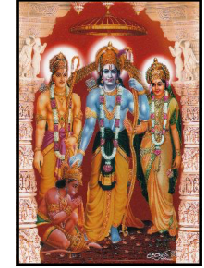


P39. “My sole strength is **Rama**.

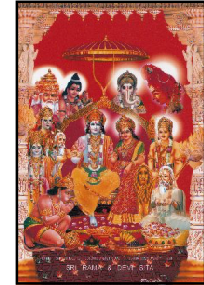
**Ramanama** is most powerful”

..**Vayunandan Hanuman**

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



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



#### Paintings Summary :

1. Number of paintings relating to Ramayana in general (in 07 pages) : 07
2. Number of paintings relating to Sundarakanda only (in 25 pages) : 25
3. Number of paintings relating to Prime Characters in Ramayana : 24  
 (in 8pages x 3 each)

Number of Total Paintings (in 40 pages) : 56

# SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA - THE GREAT EPIC OF ALL TIMES

**‘A bunch of 30 free verses in English’**

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Free Verses = Verses with out conventional metre of rhyme

## Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - The Great Epic of all times!

02

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<sup>3</sup> 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, temparements 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 virtous 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 Monier Williams, Winter Nitts, M. Jallikot, 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 gerenal, 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** in  
The form of a perfect musical poem and consists  
**slokas**<sup>1</sup>, around twenty four thousand in number<sup>2</sup>

25. This epic divided into seven **kandas**<sup>2</sup> : **Bala  
Kanda, Ayodhya Kanda, Aranya Kanda,  
Kishkindha Kanda, Sundara Kanda,  
Yuddha kanda, and Uttara Kanda**, in all  
Consisting around Six hundred forty **Sargas**<sup>3</sup>!!

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 cloy, but hightens  
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 in to 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!!*



# SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA -

## THE ORIGIN

**‘A bunch of 31 free verses in English’**

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Free Verses = Verses with out conventional metre of rhyme



## Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - The Origin

07

001. Once up on 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 **Sri Rama**!!

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 **Sugriva**,  
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  
Wailing 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 saaswatih samaah  
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!! <sup>1</sup>

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 **shoka**<sup>2</sup> comes **sloka**<sup>3</sup> 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 fowler 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 grief  
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!!**\*



**Table showing the details of the Kandas, Sargas and Slokas  
in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana**

Sl.No.	Name of the Kanda	Sargas		Slokas	
		Number	%	Number	%
1.	<b>Bala Kanda</b>	77	11.9	2,266	9.4
2.	<b>Ayodhya Kanda</b>	119	18.5	4,551	18.9
3.	<b>Aranya kanda</b>	75	11.6	2,473	11.6
4.	<b>Kishkindha kanda</b>	67	10.4	2,528	10.5
5.	<b>Sundara Kanda</b>	68	10.5	2,885	12.0
6.	<b>Yuddha Kanda</b>	128	19.9	5,819	24.2
7.	<b>Uttara Kanda</b>	111	17.2	3,545	14.7
<b>Total Seven Kandas</b>		<b>645*</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,098*</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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**

# SRIMAD VALMIKI RAMAYANA

## KANDA-WISE SUMMARY

<b>1. <i>Bala Kanda</i></b>	51 <i>free verses in English</i>
<b>2. <i>Ayodhya Kanda</i></b>	76 <i>free verses in English</i>
<b>3. <i>Aranya Kanda</i></b>	70 <i>free verses in English</i>
<b>4. <i>Kishkindha Kanda</i></b>	42 <i>free verses in English</i>
<b>5. <i>Sundara Kanda</i></b>	153 <i>free verses in English</i>
<b>6. <i>Yuddha Kanda</i></b>	164 <i>free verses in English</i>
<b>7. <i>Uttara Kanda</i></b>	102 <i>free verses in English</i>

## *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<sup>1</sup> 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<sup>1</sup> became more famous as  
**Raghu** dynasty, thus named after **Raghu Maharaj!**  
King **Dasaratha**<sup>2</sup> ruled **Kosala** kingdom more than  
Thousand years but had no children, though had three  
Queens by name **Kausalya, Sumithra** and **Kaikeyi**<sup>2</sup>!!

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 Sringa**  
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 **Payasam**<sup>3</sup>, 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**, oneforth 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 sane 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 begining 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 enlightend 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 **Gowtama** 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 **Gowtama**, 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**!

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

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 **Gowtama** and **Ahalya**, came to know that his mother **Ahalya** Was liberated from the curse and that his parents After long years of seperation 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 narating 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**

\* 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 string it, Applying force, to the surprise of all, it broke in to two pices

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 **Sri Rama**, his own daughter **Urmila** to Prince **Lakshmana** and his brother **Kushadhwaja**'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 **Viswamithra**, 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 supream ! 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 powerfull! If you can you try to bend This bow and demonstrate your strength before all of us".

047. Patiently listening to what **Parasurama** spoke, **Sri Rama** said in soft but firm voice "I too heard 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 **Brahmarshi 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 solmonise  
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 dissuade **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 **Sringaberapuram** 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!!

029. 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!!

030. **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!!

031. 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!!

032. 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!!

033. 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**!!

034. 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!!

035. 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

036. 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!!

037. 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!!

038. 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 gynaeceum 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, pitiably wailed and in utter Despair and anguish, cursed King **Dasaratha** That he too would meet his death in agony of Seperation 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 reapproached **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 uponhim 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 install 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 permmorning **Shradha** 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 **Chitakuta** 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 conecrate 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 burrying 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**<sup>1</sup>, the brother of  
**Sampati**<sup>2</sup> 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 effulgent  
**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**<sup>3</sup>, 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 read 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 repeedity, 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** forthwith 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 Annihilation 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 herioc 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"!!

040. 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!!

041. "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!!

042. **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**!

043. 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**!!

044. **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!!

045. **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!!

046. 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!!

047. **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**!!

048. 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!!

049. 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 **Sri Rama**!!
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 **Sri Rama** 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 Nandana vana**  
Under the custody of some hideous ogresses so  
As to enable him to continue to persuade her !!
058. At **Panchavati**, **Sri Rama** 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 princess 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!!

006. 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 !!

007. **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**!!

008. **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!!

009. **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!!

010. **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!!

011. **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 !!

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

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

014. **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**!!

015. 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 indebtiness 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 precise 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 thier 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 gaint 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 legendry 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 capble 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** Amdist applauds of his **vanara** associates !!

The **Kishkindhakanda** ends here!!



#### ***Invaluable peals of Wisdom of Srimad Ramayana***

- ◆ Toleration , pacification and gift are of no avail in dealing with ungrateful persons. Deterrent punishment along wil 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**<sup>1</sup>  
Taking a magnificent leap of hundred **yojanas**\*  
Across the sea in order to fulfil **Sri Rama**'s  
Mission to search and find **Devi Sita** in **Lanka**.

002. **Hanuman**, reminded of His might, encouraged and  
Inspired by **Jambavanta**<sup>2</sup>, 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,  
Valiant **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. Valiant 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 !

\* 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

011. 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<sup>1</sup>

012. 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

013. 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.

014. 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 !!**<sup>2</sup>

015. **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;

016. **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!

017. **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 lightening shone as flames of fire.

018. **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.

019. 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!

1. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P15

2. See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P16



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 distance of 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 remaining 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 glistering 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 **Maianaka** 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 there-after 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. Seeng 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 Shrewed, 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 mouth<sup>1</sup>, 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, resourcefulness, 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 **Lanka**<sup>2</sup> 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 **Lamba**, 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 Hanuman**<sup>3</sup> 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**!! Poet **Valmiki** gives a magnificent pen picture of the Palace of the **Suzerian** king of ogers,Lord **Ravana**.

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  
The 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 unto 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<sup>1</sup>!!
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**<sup>2</sup> 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!!

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 king dom, other wise death and  
 distruction would be imminent for Him

076. Nettled 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** stringling 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, **SriRama!!**

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!!

\* See read and enjoy the painting in Page No. P25

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 **Devi Sita**!!
082. **Devi Sita** 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,  
**Devi Sita** felt happy. Meanwhile **Hanuman**, after  
Weighing pros and cons, decided to sing sweet,  
The story of **SriRama**, from his birth upto that  
Moment, remaining perched on the **Simsupa** tree.
084. Casting her eyes all around **Devi Sita** 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 **Devi Sita**'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 **Devi Sita** 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 **Devi Sita**, 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 **Devi Sita** in **Ashokavana**!!
088. He also delivered **SriRama**'s signet ring<sup>1</sup> to  
**Devi Sita** 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 **Devi Sita** 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. **Hanuman**<sup>2</sup> 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** recieved 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<sup>2</sup> 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 **adharma** 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 pleasure, **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. Powerful 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!!

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 :

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

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 ashas, without thinking  
 Even for a momant about the worshipfull 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 happyness  
 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. 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**, Insted 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 **Kishkinda** 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 **Dhadhimukha** 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 **Dhadhimukha**, **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 there by 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 appreciation 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**  
Manifesting his strength in proportion to his  
Prowess and valour! it undoubtedly wrings my soul  
Further, quid proquo, I can't adequately 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 embracing 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 built 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 for ever 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 forboding 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**"! So delivering the message  
Boldly with stunning clarity, **Angada** endowed  
With courage and valour, returned to **SriRama**!!"

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**'s 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 Nagastras** -  
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**.

045. **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!!

046. Beholding this, **Vayunandan Hanuman** attacked Him and smashed his chariot first and then killed **Dhumraksha**, at whose death **Ravana** felt a Great deal and despatched another great warrior **Vajradamstra**, who was shone like **Indra** !!

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,  
snoring 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 fourth 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**, **Prahastha**, **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 **Brahma** missile of unfailing 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 **Suvarna 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 battle field !!

\* 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 **Astras** 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 **Sri Rama** 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, **Sri Rama**, 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 **Sri Rama** any time, protect me! If it is  
 True that my mind is fixed immovably on **Sri Rama**,  
 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 **Sri Rama** saying "**Devi Sita** is absolutely  
 Spotless and blemishless. She is pure"!!

124. **Sri Rama** 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 **Nandigram** 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 **Nandigram**, 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 **Nandigram**, 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 **Nandigram**, 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 adorned **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!!

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 **Yagas** 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!!

### 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, Sambhuka** 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 over whelming  
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 drown 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 what ever 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  
Whall 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, Vamadeva, 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, Marutts, 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 blemishfree 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 stupified 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 **Srutakeerthi**'s two sons, :  
**Subhahu** and **Satrughati** were coronated as  
Kings of **Mathura** and **Vidisha** Kingdoms.  
**SriRama** and **Devi Sita**'s two sons: **Lava** and  
**Kusha** ruled their two respective kingdoms:  
**Shravasthi** 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 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 its 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, reciting 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’**



## Importance and Significance of SundaraKanda

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<sup>1</sup> divided into six Books<sup>2</sup> and around six hundred Sargas<sup>3</sup> The table Presented below makes clear all the details !!

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 **Madhuvana**, 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 have been  
Titled as **Lanka Kanda** or **Hanumath Kanda**!  
But why it is titled as **Sundara Kanda** ?

024. The word "**Sundara**" means beautiful. The synonyms  
Of 'beautiful' are 'Charming', 'lovely', 'comely',  
'Handsome', 'elegant', 'attractive', 'alluring',  
'Appealing', 'gorgeous', 'exquisite' and the like!  
What and where is the beauty of this **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 **Sri Rama, 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 **Sri Rama** 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  
**Sri Rama, 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!!

**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."

**The blissful beauty of the similar rhythmic sounds:**

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 yadha Mrigendra**

**Maharanam propya yadha Gajendra**

**Rajyam samapadya yadha 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!**

\* (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** portrays **Sringara Rasa**; the description of the innocent Cries, playful jumpings, jubilation and revelery of **Vanaras** in **Madhuvana**, portrays **Haasya Rasa**!!

044. While **Veera Rasa** is portrayed 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 portrayed 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 **Shanthi 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  
And feminine expression for courage, **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 **SriRama!!**

#### **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 wordly 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  
Fulfillment of **Chaturvidha 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)



## PRAYER TO : MAHA GANAPATHI



*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, sharp 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 indulgence 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**

## Imaginary Painting relating to Srimad Valmiki Ramayana



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 master piece of classic world literature in Sanskrit. "**Srimad Ramayana**", symbolising "**Vedas**" in action. Respectful salutations to thee **Oh Valmiki Kokilam**.

(కూజంతం రామ రామేతి మధురం మధురాక్షరమ్ - ఆరూఢ్యా కవితా శాఖాం వందే వాల్మీకి కోకిలమ్!)

## The Story of Valmiki Maharshi

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 in to 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 woman 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 lively hood.

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 other wise 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. The sages told him that robbing and killing innocent people amount to grave sins and asked whether the members of his family were prepare to share his sins. He said they had no option. They should share his sins. Inturn the sages advised him to go home and check up the fact. and assured him that they would be waiting there, until his return. 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 thier 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 powerfull one and was capable of liberating him from all sins. Observing his difficulty to pronounce the word RAMA, they suggested him to chant **MARA.... MARA....**, which he could do with ease. Constant repetition became self-correcting, putting Ratnakar right on the track.

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 devine 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 deciples 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

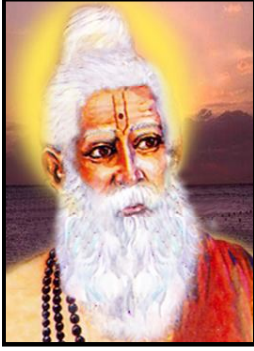
***Prime Characters in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana***  
( *With paintings and write-up* )



## Imaginary Paintings relating to the Prime Characters in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - 1

P3

### శ్రీమద్ వాల్మీకి రామాయణంలోని ప్రధాన పాత్రలు - 1



**Brahmarshi Vasishta**

**Brahmarshi Vasishta** is one of the great **Saptarishi's**. He is the **Manasaputra** of the creator **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 **Arundhathi**. **Vasishta** and **Arundhati** are ideal couple.



**Brahmarshi Viswamitra**

**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 devine 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**. **Viswamitra** 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**.



**Maharshi Rishya Sringa**

**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**. at the advice of the learned people. He invited the great **brahmachari SRS** into the kingdom. and gave kings adopted daughter **Santa** to him in marriage. **SRS** put his foot in **Angadesa**, there were sumptuous rains. Famine conditions disappeared and people were happy. 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

## Imaginary Paintings relating to the Prime Characters in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - 2

P4

### శ్రీమద్ వాల్మీకి రామాయణంలోని ప్రధాన పాత్రలు - 2



#### *Kosala King Dasaratha and his three Queens Kousalya, Sumitra and Kaikeyi*

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 Vasishta** 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 **Sathrugna**!! After their learning of all Sastras from **Vasishta** 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). **Bharata** to be crowned. **Kaikeyi** was adamant and stuck 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.



#### *Mithila King Janaka - 2*

**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 stuck 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 in to 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 **Sathrugna** 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 and Devi Sita*

**Sri Rama** Incarnate of Lord **Sri Hari**, as mortal, 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 & Urmila*

**Lakshmana**, the son of **Dasaratha** 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 obedience 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 & Mandavi*

**Bharata** the son of **Dasaratha** 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 equal 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 & Sruthakeerthi*

**Satrughna** was the son of **Dasaratha** by queen **Sumitra**. **Lakshmana** and **Satrughna** were the twins born to **Sumitra**. **Lakshmana** was very much attached to **Sri Rama**. and **Satrughna** to **Bharatha**. He is also well versed in **Vedas** and was good at archery. **Satrughna** were married to **Srutakeerthi** the daughter of **Kusha Dhawaja** the brother of king **Janaka**. When **Sri Rama** was in exile, **Bharata** was put up in **Nandigram** and **Satrughna** remind in **Ayodhya** serving the three mothers. **Subahu** and **Satrughati** were his Sons.

## Imaginary Paintings relating to Srīmad Vālmiki Rāmāyana



Dakshine Lakshmano yasya - Vamecha Janakatmaja,  
Purato Maruthi ryasya - Tam vande Raghunandanam

Sri Rama, Devi Sita along with Lakshmana and Hanuman

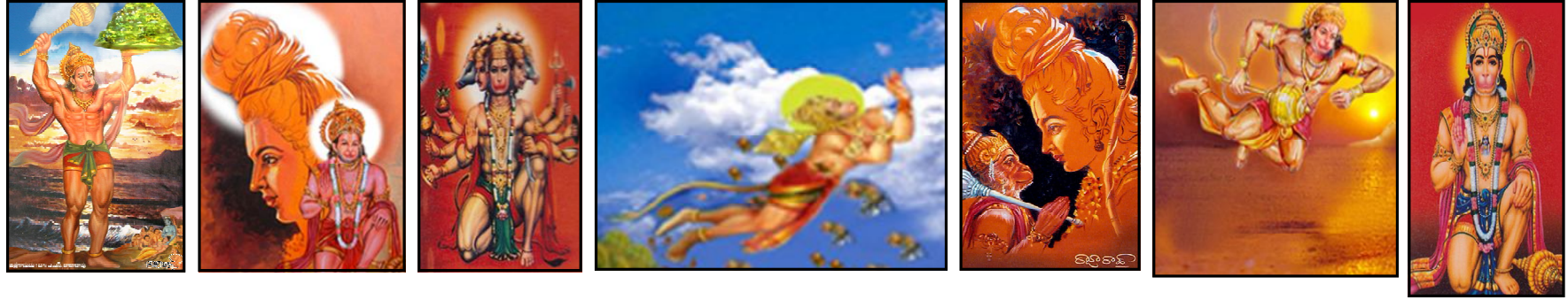
లక్ష్మణ, హనుమత్సమేత సీతారామ దంపతులు



## Imaginary Paintings relating to the Prime Characters in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - 4

P6

### శ్రీమద్ వాల్మీకి రామాయణంలోని ప్రధాన పాత్రలు - 4



### Sriramadoota Vayunandan Sri Hanuman

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 **Gnana**, 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 unstinting and unflinching loyalty to **Sri Rama**, **Hanuma**, was the destroyer

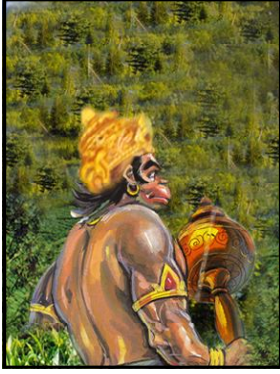
of demons and terror to wicked.

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 diagnity with no ego at all.

**Hanuman's** stunning deeds of bravery and feats of valour, rare achievements and accomplishments, never arrogate 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 feats.

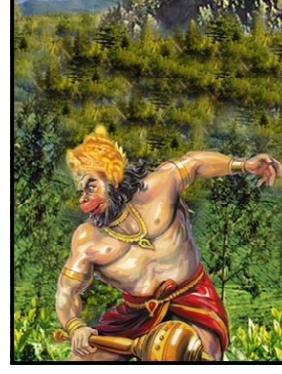
Glory to **Hanuman**, the mystic missile of **Sri Rama** and his blessed devotee ! Glory to **Anjaneya**, the mighty hero, undaunted warrior and learned and a pure **Brahmachari**. May He shower His benign blessings on all of us !!

శ్రీమద్ వాల్మీకి రామాయణంలోని ప్రధాన పాత్రలు - 5



**Vanara King Vali**

**Vali** and **Sugriva** were the sons of the **Vanara Rukshavirajudu**. **Vali** was the powerful king of **Vanara's** of **Kishkinda**. He was born with **Indra's Amsa**. He traveled throughout the world on all the four directions. He killed powerfull **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 occassion **Sugriva** thought that **Vali** was dead and he occupaid the throne and was ruling **Kishkindha**. Surprisingly after some time, **Vali** came back and his blood boiled to see **Sugriva** on the throne. He faught with him and drove him away. **Vali** outraged **Ruma** the wife of **Sugriva** and committed unpardonable sin by securing her. **Sri Rama** became friend of **Sugriva** through **Hanuman**. **Rama** killed **Vali** and made **Sugriva** the king of **Kishkindha**.and **Angada**, the son of **Vali**, as the Prince.



**Kishkindha King Sugriva**

**Sugriva** was the younger brother of **Vanara king Vali**. He was born with the **Amsa** of '**Surya**'. On one occation, bymistake he thought **Vali** was dead fighting with **Maya**. Then he occupied the throne and was rulling **Kishkindha**. Surprisingly one day **Vali** came out and in a humuliating 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**. **Sri Rama** and **Lakshmana** were 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 where abouts 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.



**Kishkinda Prince Angada**

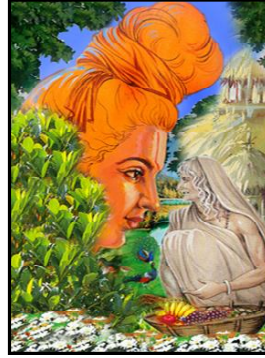
**Angada** was the heroic son of **Vanara king Vali**. He was a great vanara warrior. He developed reverence towards **Sri Rama**. as personification of **Dharma**. After the death of **Vali**, **Sugriva** was made the king and **Angada** as the Prince of **Kishkindha**. **Angada** lead the team that 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**.





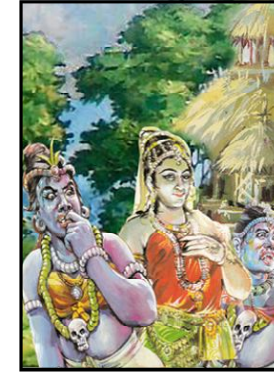
**Mandhara**

**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 to take place by hook or crook and carried news to **Kaikeyi** and began to slowly but steadily poisoned 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**

**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 princesses 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 **Sri Rama's** permission, prepared a pyre and lit it up, she entered into it. From flames a shining divine body emerged and ascended to Heaven, blessed by **Sri Rama**!!



**Surpanaka**

**Surpanaka** 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**.

## Imaginary Paintings relating to the Prime Characters in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana - 7

P9

### శ్రీమద్ వాల్మీకి రామాయణంలోని ప్రధాన పాత్రలు - 7



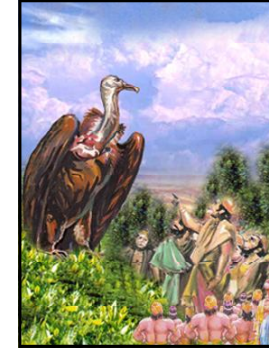
**Garuda**

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 **Nagastras** (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 seeing **Garuda**, the serpent shafts binding the two princes became ineffective. The two princes gradually revived normalcy, stood up and expressed their gratefulness. They profusely thanked and embraced **Garuda**, who reciprocated it with a smile and vanished. **Garuda** helped the princes at a crucial time.



**Jatayu**

**Jatayu** and **Sampati** were the 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 welwisher 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**

**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 last 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 consciousness, he slowly dragged 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 anything 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 clue 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.



శ్రీమద్ వాల్మీకి రామాయణంలోని ప్రధాన పాత్రలు - 8



**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**. 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**.



**Kumbhakarna**

Of the two borthers of King **Ravana** **Kumbhakarna** was younger and **Vibhishana** the youngest. All the three brthers did severe penance and saw **Brahma** face to face. When **Brahma** enquired what boon, they desired different boons. As far as **Kumbhakarna** was concerned he wanted the distruction 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 **Kumbhakarna** when he asked for the boon by a slight error in pronounciation. **Kumbhakarna** asked that he may be blessed with sleep insted 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 borthers 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.

*Paintings relating to Sundara Kanda*  
( from P11 to P34 )



## Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda

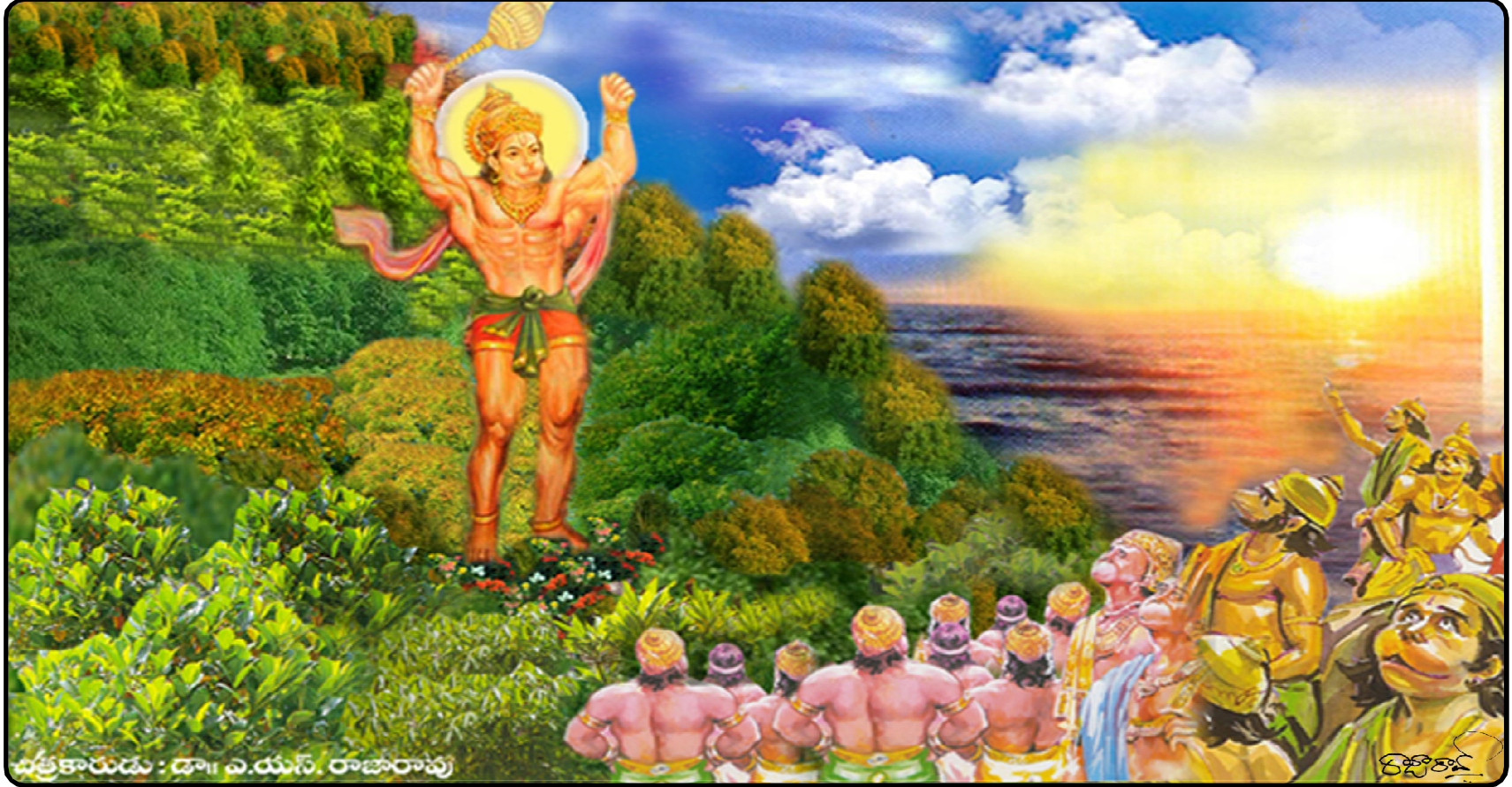


*Reminded of his great power of strength and prowess, encouraged and inspired by **Jambavantha**, the **Mighty Hanuman** decides to take the legendary leap of 800 miles (100 yojanas) across the sea with a mission to find **Devi Sita**.*

తన అపార బలపరాక్రమ శక్తిసంపత్తులను జాంబవంతుని ద్వారా తెలుసుకొని సీతాన్వేషణకై సముద్ర  
లంఘనం చేయసంకల్పించుకున్న పవనతనయుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!



## Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda



***Mighty Hanuman** addressing his team members before taking the legendary leap across the sea, from mount **Mahendra**.*

అనితర సాధ్యమైన నూరుయోజనముల (800 మైళ్ళు) దూరాన్ని సముద్ర ఉపరితలంపై లంఘించే ముందు,  
మహేంద్ర పర్వతం నుండి తన సహచర వానర యోధులనుద్దేశించి మాట్లాడుతున్న వాయుతనయుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!





*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.*

మహేంద్ర పర్వతము నుండి సముద్ర ఉపరితలంపై లంఘించేందుకు సిద్ధమవుతున్న పవన తనయుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!



*Vayunandan Hanuman 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 **Hanuman**, mount Mahindra shook, trees on it uprooted and went after him some distance in the sky as though bidding farewell to **Hanuman** and fluttered down on the surface of the sea.*

శ్రీరాముని విల్లునుండి వదలిన బాణంలా లంకవైపు ఆకాశంలోకి దూసుకుపోతున్న పవనసుతుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!





*At the behest of **Sagara**, 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.*

సగరుని ప్రేరణతో హనుమాన్ కు ఆతిథ్యమిచ్చేందుకు సముద్ర గర్భం నుండి పైకివచ్చిన పర్వతరాజు మైనాకుడు

## Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda



*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.*

ఆతిథ్యమిచ్చేందుకు మైనాకుని ప్రేమపూర్వక ఆహ్వానాన్ని తిరస్కరించినా, అతని ఆదరణను స్వీకరించి,  
మనసారా కృతజ్ఞత లండచేస్తూ ఆప్యాయతతో స్పృశిస్తున్న అంజనీ తనయుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!





*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!*

పవనతనయుని ధైర్యసాహసాలను పరీక్షించమని గంధర్వులు, సిద్ధులు, దేవతలు, నాగమాత సురసను కోరగా, ఆమె వికృతమైన రాక్షసిరూపంలో భయపెడుతూ తనను అడ్డగించిన ఆమెను, తన ధైర్యసాహస బుద్ధిబలంతో ఆమె ప్రశంసలందకున్న శ్రీహనుమాన్

## Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda

P18



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.

సముద్ర రాక్షసి సింహికను సంహరించేందుకు సంకల్పించుకుని, సూక్ష్మరూపంలో విశాలమైన ఆమె నోటిలోకి  
దుముకుతున్న అద్వితీయ బలసంపన్నుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!



## Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda



*Duly completing the most trying and baffling leap across the ocean, successfully confronting the trails & tribulations  
**Hanuman** reaching shores of Lanka at the Sunset.*

అనితరసాధ్యమైన నూరుయోజనముల సముద్రలంఘనాన్ని సునాయాసంగా విజయవంతంగా పూర్తిచేసుకొని  
 సాయంసంధ్యవేళ లంకానగరానికి చేరుతున్న పవనతనయుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!



*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 abstrusted and attacked by the hideous demon **Lankini**, the Spirit of Lanka, and struck her down with a punch on her face, with his left fist, not using full power, viewing her gender and vanquished her with ease.*

సీతాన్వేషణకై లంకలోకి ప్రవేశించడాన్ని అవరోధించి, తనపై చేయి చేసుకొన్న లంఖిణిని స్త్రీ అన్న జాలితో  
ఎడమచేతి చిన్నదెబ్బతో ఓడించిన పవనసుతుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!





*A splended 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.*

నిత్యనవనసంత శోభతో అలరారుతూ మహేంద్రుని నందనవనాన్ని మించిన రమణీయ ఉద్యానవనము - లంకలోని అశోకవనము





*After some time **Hanuman** espied a sublimely beautiful lady beneath the **Simsupa Tree**. She appear grief - stricken, weak, emaciated through fasting and scorched in sorrow, like the brilliant fullmoon over cast by dark clouds. He guessed 'She might be **Devi Sita**'!*

ఎంతో శ్రమకోల్చి, శ్రద్ధతో, అంకితభావంతో ఎట్టకేలకు తన లక్ష్మ్యాన్ని సాధించి సీతాదేవిని కనుగొన్న వాయునందనుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!



## Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda



*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**.*

సీతమ్మపై పెంచుకున్న వ్యామోహంతో ఉదయం నిదురలేచిన వెంటనే ముస్తాబై వందలాది అందమైన భార్యలు  
వెంటరాగా సీతాదేవిని తన ప్రగల్భాలతో ఎంతో ప్రలోభపెడుతూ ప్రసంగిస్తున్న లంకాభీశుడు రావణుడు!



## Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda

P24



*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.*

ఎంతగానో ఆలోచించి, యుక్తాయుక్తములను పలిశీలించి, ఇక్ష్వాకు వంశకీర్తిని, శ్రీరామ కథను కమనీయంగా గానంచేసి,  
శ్రీరాముని ఆనవాలుగా తెచ్చిన రామనామాంకితమైన అంగుళికాన్ని సీతమ్మకు ఇచ్చి, దానిని చూస్తూ ఆమె పొందిన  
చివ్యానుభూతిని చూచి పరవశిస్తున్న పవనసుతుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!





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**.

తన వీపుపై కూర్చుంటే శ్రీరాముని చెంతకు తీసుకెళ్ళగలనని చెప్పగా, తన శక్తిని సంశయించిన సీతమ్మకు తన శరీరాకృతిని పెంచి, ఆమెనే కాకుండా ఆ లంకానగరాన్నంతా తన భుజాలపై పెట్టుకొని సముద్ర లంఘనంచేసి శ్రీరాముని వద్దకు తీసుకెళ్ళగల శక్తిసామర్థ్యాలు తనకున్నాయన్న వాస్తవాన్ని వినయంగా తెలియజేస్తున్న శ్రీ హనుమాన్



## Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda



*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.*

తన ఆనవాలుగా దివ్య చూడామణిని శ్రీరామునకిచ్చి, త్వరలో రావణుని సంహరించి తనకు యీ చెరసుండి విముక్తిని  
కలుగజేయమని సీతాదేవి అర్థించగా - తప్పక చేస్తానని ఆమెకు భరోసా కల్గిస్తున్న పవనతనయుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్





***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 **Rakshasa Warriors** sent by **King Ravana**.*

ఏంచేస్తే లంకాభీ-శుడు రావణుని కోపాగ్నికి కారణమై, తనపైకి పంపే రాక్షసయోధులను సంహరించి, అటు రావణుని కొలుపు కెళ్ళి శ్రీరామదూతగా అతనికి బుద్ధిచెప్పిగల అవకాశం కల్గుతుందో బాగా ఆలోచించి, ఒక పథకం ప్రకారం రావణుడు ఎంతో ప్రేమతో పెంచుకున్న అశోకవనాన్ని విధ్వంసం ప్రక్రియకు పూనుకొని విలయ తాండవం చేస్తున్న అపార శక్తిసంపన్నుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్





Knowing about the devastation of **Ashoka Vana**, and killing of thousands of eminent **Rakshasa Warriors** by a **Vanara**, **Ravana's** blood boiled and atlast 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 **Bramha**.

రావణుడు తనపైకి పంపిన వేలాది రాక్షసయోధులను సంహరించగా, తనను హతమార్చమని పంపిన అతని కుమారుడు ఇంద్రజిత్తు యుద్ధం చేస్తూ ప్రయోగించిన బ్రహ్మస్త్రాన్ని గౌరవించి, బంధీ అయితే రావణుని వద్దకు తీసుకెళ్ళగలరన్న ఆశతో పట్టుబడిన పవనతనయుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్





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 **Vibhishana**, 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.

రావణుని కొలువుకు బంధీగా తీసుకొని రాబడిన పవనసుతుడు, వేలాది రాక్షసదీరులను హతమార్చినందుకు అతనిని సంహరించమని మొదట ఆదేశించి, దూతను చంపరాదని విభీషణుడు సలహా మేరకు తోకకు నిప్పంటించి కాల్చివేయమని రావణుడు ఆజ్ఞాపించాడు. తన తోకకు గుడ్డలుచుట్టి నిప్పంటించడం గమనించి ఆ నిష్పత్తినే లంకాదహనం చేసేందుకు పథక రచన చేస్తున్న శ్రీ హనుమాన్



## Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda



*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.*

బంధాలను సునాయాసంగా త్రొక్చుకొని, మండుతున్న తోకతో గాలిలోకెగిరి లంకానగరాన్నంతా  
దహించి భస్మీపటలం చేస్తున్న పవనతనయుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్





*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**.*

లంకానగరాన్ని కాల్చిబూడిద చేసి, క్షేమంగా ఉన్న సీతమ్మను దర్శించి ఆనందంగా పలుకరించి తన తిరుగు ప్రయాణానికి  
అనుమతిని కోరుతూ ఆమెకు సాష్టాంగ దండ ప్రణామం చేస్తున్న శ్రీరామదూత హనుమాన్!



Imaginary Paintings of certain select incidents in Sundara Kanda

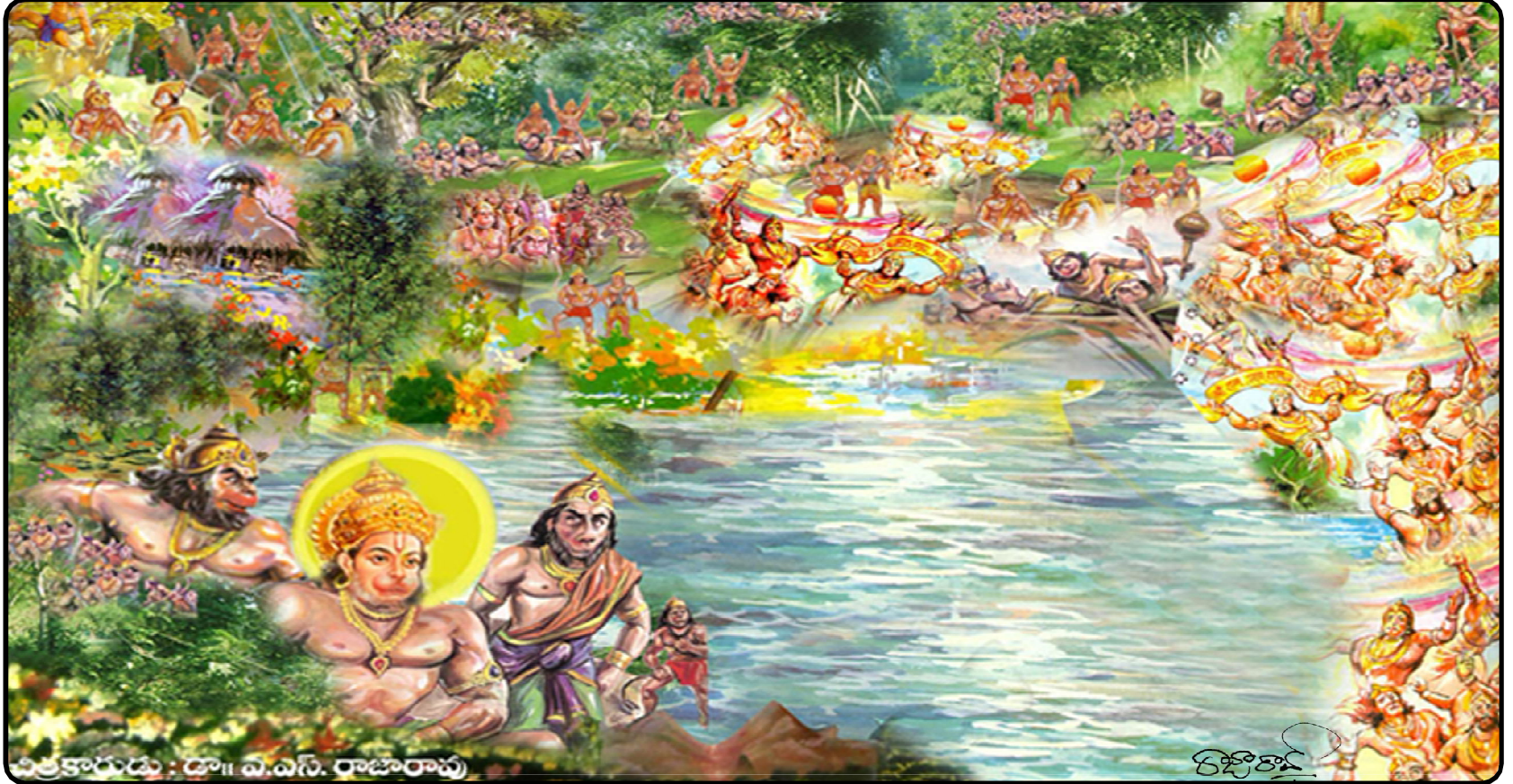
P32



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

సీతమ్మ వద్ద వీడ్కోలు గైకొని సంతృప్తిగా విజయోత్సాహంతో తన తిరుగు ప్రయాణానికి లంకానగర సముద్ర తీరములోని అరిష్ట పర్వతముపై నుండి సముద్ర లంఘనానికి సిద్ధమవుతున్న పవన తనయుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్!





After taking the leap northwards, from mount Arista, on the way touching **Mount Mainaka**, returned to **Mount Mahindra** delighting **Angada**, **Jambavantha** 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 **Kishkinda** and on the way halted at the splendid **Madhuvana**. They celebrated **Hanuman's** successful return from Lanka.

అనితర సాధ్యమైన బృహత్తర లక్ష్మాన్ని పట్టుదలతో సాధించి విజయంతో లంకానగరం నుండి తిరిగి వచ్చిన పవన సుతునికి జాంబవంత,  
అంగదాది సహచర వానరయోధులు హార్షిక స్వాగతం చెబుతూ మధువనంలో జరుపుకొంటున్న విజయోత్సవ సంబరాల వేడుకలు!





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.

జాంబవంత, అంగదాది వానరయోధులు వెంటరాగా మధువనం నుండి ఆకాశమార్గాన కిష్కింధలోని ప్రస్తవణ పర్వతానికి చేరి శ్రీరామలక్ష్మణ సుగ్రీవులను కలుసుకొని, అన్ని వివరించి, అత్యంత అమూల్యమైన శ్రీరాముని ఆలింగనాభాగ్యాన్ని తనివితీరా ఆస్వాదిస్తున్న శ్రీరామదూత శ్రీ హనుమాన్! అసాధ్యాన్ని సుసాధ్యం చేసిన కర్తవ్యోగికి - అరుదైన అత్యంత విలువైన కానుక!!



*Paintings relating to Ramayana other than Sundara Kanda*



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

లక్ష్మణుని ప్రాణాలను కాపాడుటకై సంజీవని పర్వతాన్ని హిమాలయముల నుండి లంకకు తీసుకువెళుతున్న వాయునందనుడు,  
ప్రాణప్రదాత శ్రీ హనుమాన్

## Imaginary Paintings relating to Srimalad Valmiki Ramayana



Vayunandan Hanuman, descended on the soil of Lanka along with Sanjeevini Parvatha

సంజీవని పర్వతంతో ఆకాశమార్గం నుండి లంక నేలపై దిగిన ప్రాణప్రదాత  
వాయునందనుడు శ్రీ హనుమాన్



## 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

ప్రజ్ఞ, ప్రతిభ, బలసంపత్తులతో అలరారే నిస్వార్థ సేవానిరతి, అంకితభావం గల శ్రీరామదూత హనుమాన్

## Imaginary Painting relating to Srimad Valmiki Ramayana



When ever Hanuman prays, Sri Rama would appear before him.

హనుమంతుడు భక్తితో ఎప్పుడు ప్రార్థిస్తే అప్పుడు తన ముందు ప్రత్యక్షం కాగల శ్రీరాముడు



## Imaginary Painting relating to Srīmad Valmiki Ramayana



My sole strength is Rama - Rama **Nama** is most powerful

నా సమగ్ర శక్తిబలసంపత్తి శ్రీరాముడు - రామ నామము అత్యంత శక్తిమయం



## Imaginary Paintings relating to Srimad Valmiki Ramayana



Dakshine Lakshmano yasya - Vamecha Janakatmaja,  
Purato Maruthi ryasya - Tam vande Raghunandanam  
Sri Rama, Devi Sita along with Lakshmana and Hanuman

లక్ష్మణ, హనుమత్ సమేత సీతారామ దంపతులు



## Imaginary Paintings relating to Srimad Valmiki Ramayana



The splindled Coronation cermny of Sri Rama and Devi Sita at Ayodhya

బ్రహ్మ మహేశ్వరులు, దేవబుద్ధి నారదుడు మరియు విష్ణురాజు వినాయకుల శుభాశీస్సులతో బ్రహ్మాన్ని వసిష్ఠ వామదేవుల సారథ్యంలో కోసల రాజ్య రాజధాని అయోధ్యలో సోదరులు శ్రీ లక్ష్మణ, భరత, శత్రుఘ్నులు మరియు శ్రీహనుమన్ పాల్గొని జరుపుతున్న శ్రీ సీతారాముల పట్టాభిషేక మహోత్సవం

# A P P E N D I C E S

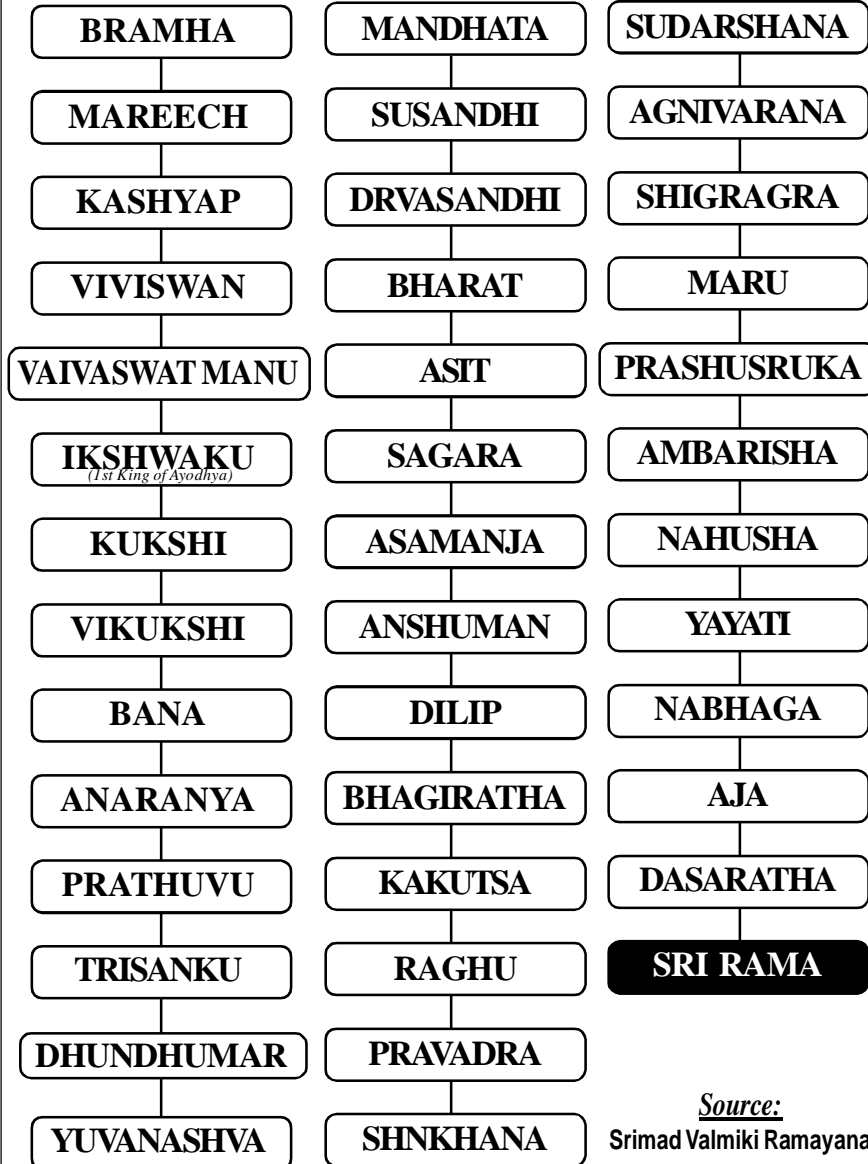
## **A P P E N D I C E S**

- Appendix - 1 : Dynasty of Ikshvaku Line - Solar Race : (40 generations of Ikshvaku kings)**
- Appendix - 2 : Family of King Dasaratha**
- Appendix - 3 : Dynasty of Mithila : (22 generations of Mithila kings)**
- Appendix - 4 : King Janaka's Family**
- Appendix - 5 : Dynasty of King Ravana : (Ancestors of Ravana)**
- Appendix - 6 : Family of King Ravana**
- Appendix - 7 : Who is Who in Srimad Valmiki Ramayana : Characters created by Maharshi Valmiki**
- Appendix - 8 : Glossary : Giving meaning of non-English words used in free verses in English**



# APPENDIX - 1

## THE DYNASTY OF IKSHWAKU LINE - THE SOLAR RACE

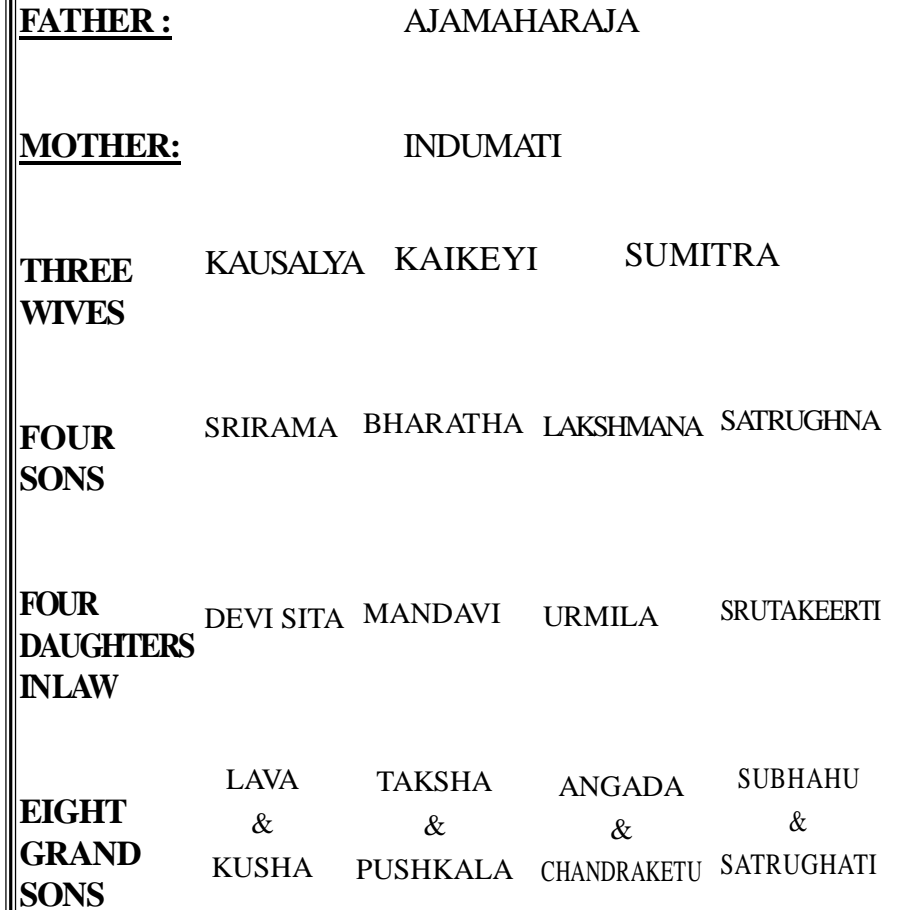


Source:  
Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

# APPENDIX - 2

(A3)

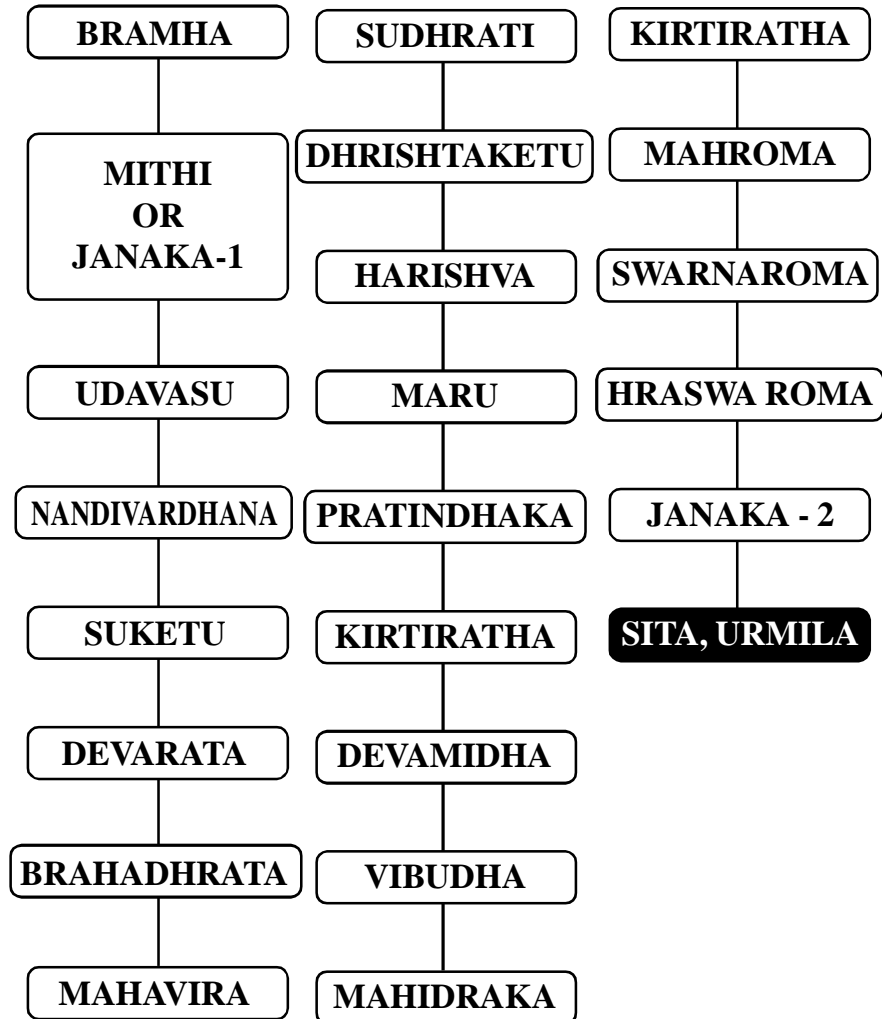
## KING DASARATHA'S FAMILY



Source:  
Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

### APPENDIX - 3

#### THE DYNASTY OF MITHILA KINGS



*Source:*  
Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

### APPENDIX - 4

A4

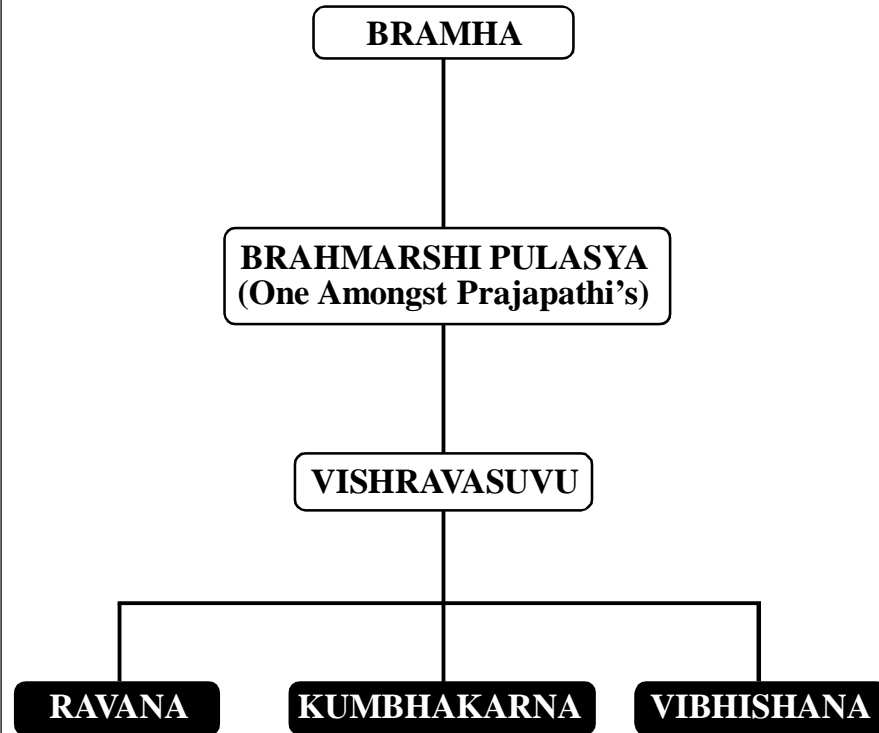
#### MITHILA KING JANAKA'S FAMILY

FATHER :	: HRASVAROMA
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
<b>GRAND SONS :</b>	
SONS OF RAMA & SITA	: LAVA & KUSA
SONS OF URMILA & LAKSHMANA	: ANGADA & CHANDRAKETU
SONS OF MANDAVI & BHARATHA	: TAKSHA & PUSHKALA
SONS OF SRUTAKEERTI & SHATRUGNA	: SUBAHU & SATRUGHATI

*Source:*  
Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

# APPENDIX - 5

## THE DYNASTY OF KING RAVANA OF LANKA



Source:  
Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

# APPENDIX - 6

A5

## LANKA'S KING RAVANA'S FAMILY

<b><u>FATHER :</u></b>	: VISRA VASUVU
<b><u>MOTHER</u></b>	: KAIKESI
<b><u>FATHER OF KUBERA</u></b>	: VISRA VASUVU
<b>MOTHER OF KUBERA</b>	: D/O TRINA BINDU RAJARSHI
<b>BROTHER'S OF RAVANA</b>	: 1. KUMBHA KARNA 2. VIBHISHANA
<b>RAVANA'S WIFE</b>	: MANDODARI
<b>KUMBHAKARNA'S WIFE</b>	: VAJRA JWALA
<b>VIBHISHANA'S WIFE</b>	: SARAMA
<b>SONS OF RAVANA</b>	: 1. INDRAJIT (MEGHANATHA) 2. AKSHAYA KUMARA
<b>KUMBHAKARNA'S SONS</b>	: 1. KUMBHA 2. NIKUMBHA
<b>ONLY SISTER OF RAVANA</b>	: SURPHANAKA
<b>SURPHANAKA'S HUSBAND</b>	: VIDYUTJJIHVA

Source:  
Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

**A**

- Adikavi : The first poet; Title given to Valmiki to honour his composition of srimad Ramayana, the first epic in world.
- Adisesha : Son of Kadru, Who is respected as the couch of Vishnu
- Aditi : Daughter of Daksha and The wife of Kashyapa. She is the Mother of Gods Mother of Vamana.
- Aditya : Sun God
- Agasthya : A great Sage. Rishi. Author of several vedic hymns. To have swallowed the ocean in one gulp.
- Agni : The God of Fire.
- Agniketu : A Rakshasa Warrior
- Ahalya : Wife of Sage Goutama. Mother of Satananda.
- Aja : Father of king Dasaratha. King of Solar Race. Husband of Indumati. Mother of Dasaratha.
- Ajamukhi : Rakshasa in the court of king Ravana.
- Akampana : A Rakshasa warrior and general. He was killed by Hanuman
- Akopa : A minister in the court of King Dasaratha
- Akshaya kumara : Son of king Ravana. A great warrior.
- Anala : The god of fire
- Ananga : Manmatha. God of Love.
- Anasuya : The wife of Sage Atri
- Andhaka : An anti-God. Son of Kasyapa & 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.
- Angada : 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
- Angaraka : The planet Mars.
- Angirasa : A rishi mentioned in the Vedas
- Anjana : Mother of Hanuman.
- Anshuman : Grand Son of Kings Sagara
- Aparna : Another name of Parvati
- Aristanemi : Aruna the brother of Garuda and the charioteer of the son
- Arthavit : A minister in the court of king dasaratha
- Arun : The charioteer of Sun God. (Born Lane) First son of Kasyapa

Prajapati and Virata.

- Arundhati : Wife of Sage Bramharshi Vasista
- Aswamedha yaga : A Horse sacrifice
- Aswapati : King of Kikeya. Father of Kaikeyi. Grandfather of Bharata
- Aswini Kumaras : Literally means Horsemen ; Twin sons of a Nymph by the Sun God. They are the physicians of Heaven
- Atikaya : A Rakshasa commander.
- Atri : A Great Sage. Whom SriRama met in Dandakaranya
- Ayomukhi : An ogres attendant of Devi Sita in Ashokavanam
- Ayonija : Not born from the womb of a woman (Sita).

**B**

- Baasakarna: A Rakshasa Warrior
- Bhadra : A courtier and a spy of King Sri Rama
- Bhagiradha : An illustrious king of solar race. Son of king Dilip
- Bhagiradhi : Another name of Ganga. It is supposed to have been brought by King Bhagiratha
- Bharadwaja : A great sage, Son of Brihaspati Sri Rama met and revered both while going to and returning from Dandakaranya
- Bharata : Son of King Dasaratha and Queen Kaikeyi.
- Bhavani : Another name of Parvati
- Bhrigu : A great Rishi. Progenator of Bhargava race in which Jamadagni and Prashurama were born
- Bhudevi : Goddess of Earth
- Brahma : The creator also called prajapati
- Brihaspati: The Guru of Devas / Gods (also one of the nine planets)
- Budha : Son of Soma by Tara. The planet 'Mercury' also

**C**

- Chandra : The moon, also called Soma
- Chandra ketu : One of the two sons of Lakshmana. The other son being Angada

**D**

- Dadhicha : 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.
- Dadimukha : The uncle of Sugriva. He was incharge of Madhuvana.(Honey

*Contd....*

Park)

Daksha : Father of Sati, Consort of Shiva. Daksha was a Prajapati

Dandakaranya : A large forest between Godavari and Narmada rivers

Doomra : A Vamana Warriors.

Dasagriva : Other name of King Ravana

Dasakanta : Other name of King Ravana

Dasaratha : Father of Sri Rama. King of Ayodhya.

Devantaka : A Rakshasa Warrior

Devarata : An ancestor of King Janaka from whom he inherited the great bow of Shiva

Dhamshttra : A Rakshasa in the court of king Ravana

Dhanyamalini: One amongst many wives of King Ravana.

Dhoomraksha : A Rakshasa warrior.

Dhurdhara : 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.

Durmukha : A Rakshasa Adviser to Ravana

Durmukhi : An ogress, attendant of Devi Sita in Ashokavana

Durwasa : A Rishi who is short tempered

Dvividha : A vanara warrior.

**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

Gavya : 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

Himavan/  
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 Devas, Husband of Indrani. The chief of Gods

Indrajit : Son of Ravana a very great warrior skilled in the use of Astras and divine 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....*



Kesari : The Vanara king and husband of Anjana  
 Khara : One of the Rakshasa Warriors.  
 Kinkaras : Soldiers  
 Kishkindha  
 kanda : Fourth book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana  
 Kubera : God of Wealth. He also known as Vaishnavana. 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.  
 Kumbhakarna: Son of Vaishnavas by his Rakshasa wife Kaikasi. He is Ravana's younger brother.  
 Kumbha : Son of Kumbhakarna. A Rakshasa Worrier  
 Kumuda : A Vanara Warrior  
 Kusadhwaaja: Younger brother of king Janaka of Mithila. Father of Mandavi and Srutikeerthi  
 Kusha : A variety of grass, Dharbha.  
 Kusha : One of the two sons of the Sri Rama. The other son Lava

**L**  
 Lakshmana: Son of Dasaratha/Sumitra. Incarnation of Adisesha. Younger brother of Sri Rama  
 Lakshmi : Wife of Vishnu. Goddess of wealth.  
 Lankini : Embodiment/Spirit of Lava. Guard of Lanka.  
 Lava : One of twin sons of Rame & Sita. The other son being Kusha  
 Lavana : A notorious demon, Satrugna killed him at the behest of SriRama

**M**  
 Mandavi : Wife of Bharatha and daughter of Kusadhwaaja.  
 Madhavi : Another name for Goddess of Earth.  
 Madhu : One of the two mongsters, the other one being Kaitabha.  
 Mahabali : An Asura, who became a powerful ruler and A rival to Gods. He was the son of Virochana and Grand son of Prahlada  
 Mahadeva : Lord Shiva  
 Mahaparsva: A great Rakshasa warrior.  
 Mahendra : Another name for Indra  
 Mahesha : Lord Siva  
 Mahodara : A great Rakshasa warrior.  
 Mainda : A great Vanara Warrior  
 Makaraksha : A Rakshasa warrior  
 Malayavan : Aged Rakshasa. Mandodari's Father Grand Father of Ravana

Manthara : A hunch backed hand maid of Queen Kaykeyi.  
 Mandodari : Daughter of Maya. Wife of Ravana, Mother of Indrajit  
 Manu : An illustrious ancestor of SriRama of solar race. The first Law-giver  
 Maricha : A wily Rakshasa who helped in the form of a golden deer while abducting Devi Sita from Panchavati  
 Maruti : Another Name of Hanuman. Being son of Marut, the god of Wind  
 Maruts : The storm Gods of the Vedas. Friends and allies of Indira armed with lightening and thunder bolts. Maruts are 49 in number  
 Matali : The charioteer of Indira  
 Matanga : A Great Sage  
 Maya : A great architect of Asuras  
 Meghanath : Indrajit Son of Ravana  
**N**  
 Nala : The vanara warrior, who built the causeway(sethu)on the sea.  
 Narada : The divine sage.  
 Narantaka : A Rakshasa warrior.  
 Narayana : Another name for Vishnu  
 Nikumbhila : A cave / A grove in Lanka, where oblations are offered to goddess Kaali. A patron goddess of the Ogres in Lanka.  
 Nila : The wanara warrior. Commander-in-chief of the Vanara Army.  
 Nimi : Famous king of Mithila.  
 Nishadas : A feudatory hill tribe people  
 Nriga : A King turned into a chameleon because of procrastination  
**P**  
 Paramatma : The supreme spirit.  
 Parusurama: An incarnation of Vishnu,  
 Parvati : Shiva's consort.  
 Pinaaka : Bow of Siva  
 Pingala : A prostitute.  
 Praghosa : A Rakshasa warrior  
 Prahasta : Commander in chief of The Rakshasa Warrior  
 Prahlada : Son of HiranyaKasyapa. A great devotee of Vishnu  
 Prajapathi : The creator  
 Pulasthya : A son of Brahma  
 Purushothama: Literally the best of Men. Supreme soul Sri Rama  
 Pushkala : Son of Bharata  
 Pushpaka : The aerial car, a chariot of Kubera, designed by Viswakarma, acquired by Ravana. After killing him, Rama gave it back to Kubera

**R**

- Raghava : Another name for Rama  
 Raghu : An illustrious ancestor of Sri Rama.  
 Raghu : Famous king of Solar Race  
 Raghuvir : Sri Rama  
 Rama : Son of King Dasaratha of Solar Race. The prime character in Ramayana  
 Ramachandra : Sri Rama  
 Ramayana : The story of the Deeds of Sri Rama, Devi Sita and Ravana.  
 Rambha : A beautiful Apsara  
 Rasmikethu : A Rakshasa warrior  
 Rati : Daughter of Daksha. Wife of Manmatha, the God of Love.  
 Ravana : Rakshasa king of Lanka.  
 Ramachandra : Sri Rama  
 Ramayana : The story of the Deeds of Sri Rama, Devi Sita and Ravana.  
 Rambha : A beautiful Apsara  
 Rasmikethu : A Rakshasa warrior  
 Rati : Daughter of Daksha. Wife of Manmadha, the God of Love.  
 Ravana : Rakshasa king of Lanka.  
 Rishyasringa : A great sage that helped Dasaratha to perform Putra Kamesti Yaga for getting children. He is the son of Sage Bibhandaka  
 Rohini : The beloved wife of Moon, Daughter of Daksha.  
 Romapada : The king of Anga Desa and A friend of Dasaratha  
 Rudra : Siva  
 Ruma : Wife of Vanara King Sugriva

**S**

- Sachi : Wife of Indra  
 Sagara : Illustrious ancestor of Sri Rama / The presiding deity of oceans  
 Sampathi : Brother of Jatayu, Son of Garuda  
 Sandhya : Morning and evening twilight  
 Sarama : Wife of Vibhishana. One of the  
 Sarana : A Rakshasa spy  
 Saraswati : The Consort of Brahma. Vagdevi  
 Sarbhanga : A great sage whom Sri Rama met in Dhandakaranya  
 Satrugna : One of the Brother of Sri Rama. One of the twin sons of Sumitra and Dasaratha  
 Simhika : A sea monster who could attract living creatures by her shadow. Hanuman killed her

**S**

- Sita : The prime women character in Ramayana  
 Sruta Keerthi : Wife of Satrugna Daughter of Kusha Dwaja Younger brother of King Janaka  
 Subahu : A Rakshasa. An accomplice of Maricha. Son of Tataka  
 Sugriva : Brother of Vanara King Vali.  
 Suka : A Rakshasa warrior.  
 Sukra : Guru of Asuras, also the planet : Venus  
 Sumantra : Adviser and chief charioteer of King Dasaratha  
 Sumitra : Wife of Dasaratha  
 Sunda : Father of Maricha  
 Sundara Kanda : The fifth book (part) of Srimad Ramayana  
 Surasa : Mother of Nagas, whom Devata's requested to test the courage and prowess of Hanuman  
 Surpanakha : Daughter of Kaikasi and Sister of King Ravana  
 Surya : Sun God  
 Suryashatru : A Rakshasa Warrior  
 Susena : A Vanara warrior and Medical expert.  
 Suteekshana : A great sage, whom Rama met in Dandakaranya

**T**

- Takshasa : One of the two sons of Bharata. The other being Pushkala  
 Tara : The wife of Vanara King Vali. After his death she became the wife of Sugriva  
 Tataka : Wife of Sunda, A Rakshasa. Mother of Maricha  
 Trijata : An ogress attendant of Devi Sita and Ashokavana  
 Trisara : Commander of Rakshasa Army  
 Triveni : A confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswathi rivers at Allahabad

**U**

- Uma : Wife of Shiva. Another name of Parvathi  
 Urmila : Wife of Lakshmana Daughter of King Janaka of Mithila  
 Urvashi : An Apsara  
 Uttara Kanda : The seventh and the last book (part) of Srimad Ramayana

*Contd....*

## Who is Who in Valmiki Ramayana

### V

Vajra	: Indra's weapon, Thunder bolt
Vajradamshta	: The trusted commander of Ravana's Army
Vajra Jwala	: Wife of Kumbha Karna
Vali	: Vanara King and elder brother of Sugriva.
Valmiki	: Maharshi Valmiki. The Adi kavi, who indited Srimad Ramayana
Vamadeva	: Sage & Counsellor in King Dasaratha's Court.
Vamana	
&Varaha	: The dwarf and bear incarnations of Lord Vishnu
Varuna	: God of Water / Oceans also called God of Justice and morality
Vashista	: A great sage. Brahmarshi. Chief priest and advisor in the court of Dasaratha.
Vasus	: Eight dieties 1. Earth (Dhara), 2. Water (Apa), 3. Sky, 4.Fire, 5. Wind, 6. Sun, 7. Moon, 8. Dhruva - Polestar representing constalations
Vayu	: The God of wind
Vayunandan	: Hanuman, the Son of Vayu
Vayuputra	: Hanuman. Son of Vayu and Anjana
Vibhandaka	: A sage. Father of Rishya Sringa
Vibhishana	: Youngest brother of King Ravana
Vidyujihva	: A Rakshasa Warrior and an expert in Sorcery
Vinata	: Mother of Garuda
Viradha	: The monster, whom Sri Rama killed in Dandakaranya
Virupaksha	: A Rakshasa Warrior
Vishnu	: The preserver among the Trinity
Visravas	: A great Rishi - Father of Ravana
Viswakarma	: Architect of Devatas
Viswamitra	: A great and powerful Rishi. Taught many astras to Sri Rama and Lakshmana
Vrita	: An Asura, killed by Indra
Yagnakopa	: A Rakshasa Warrior
Yama	: God of death
Yojana	: A measure of distance equalent to 8 miles
Yudhajit	: Son of the King of Kekaya. Brother of Kaikeyi. uncle of Bharata
Yudha Kanda	: The sixth book (part) Srimad Ramayana
Yupaksha	: A Rakshasa Warrior

**Who is Who in Valmiki Ramayana : Completed**

## Gems of Valmiki Ramayana

A10

- ◆ *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 Dharmas, wealth and happiness are obtained. 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 a 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 Fate that controls the destines of men and their actions.*

## *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 Viswamitra are the gurus who guide the intellect. Sri Rama 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.*

*Sri Rama'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.*

*Sri Rama'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 Sri Rama 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.*

- Abhisheka : Religious rite of pouring or sprinkling water on the head of one who is to be installed as king.
- Adharma : Literally anti dharma. unrighteous
- Aditya Hridayam : 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
- Agni : God of fire
- Ahuti : An offering, Oblation
- Airawata : Four Tusked Elephant, which emerged from the primeval churning of the ocean by devatas and rakshasas.
- Alakapuri : The capital city of Kubera, the God of wealth.
- Amaravati : The city of Heaven. The capital city of Indra
- Amrita : Nectar, produced at the churning of the ocean of milk, supposed to grant immortality
- Anjali : Folding of palms together and raise them to the level of head, in salutation. A mark of respect and salutation.
- Ankush : 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.
- Anustup : A class of metres in poetry. The poem Ramayana has been composed in this metre by Maharshi Valmiki.
- Aranya : Forest
- Aranya Kanda : Third Book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana
- Arista Mount : Name of the Mount in Lanka which was used by Hanuman to take a leap from Lanka North Words across the ocean.

*Contd....*

# GLOSSARY

## APPENDIX - 8

(A12)

Artha : 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

Aryaputra : Noble Prince

Asana : A Pasture

Ashrama : 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. Grihastha, 3. Vana Prastha, 4. Sanyasa

Asoka : An evergreen tree which bears red flowers

Asokavana : The pleasure garden of King Ravana in Lanka

Asta Vasus : 1. Apudu, 2. Dhruvudu, 3. Somudu, 4. Adhwarudu, 5. Aniludu, 6. Pratyushudu, 7. Analudu, 8. Prabhanudu

Astra : A miraculous weapon, A missile

Asura : An enemy of the gods (Daityas)

Aswamedha Yaga: A horse sacrifice

Aswani Twins: 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.

Aum : A sacred syllable it is considered to represent the Brahman

Avatara : An incarnation of God.

Avidya : Ignorance

Ayodhya Kanda : Second book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

Bakta : Devotee

Bala & Atibala : (Power and Super Power) The two mantras taught by Viswhvmitra to Rama and Lakshmana, which had the power to rid the fatigue, thirst and hunger

Bala Kanda : The First Book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana

Bhageerathi : Another name of Ganga

Bhakta : Devotee

Bheda : One of the four Upayams : Saama, Daana, Bheda and Danda diplomacy of playing one against another in the enemy camp.

Bhoogavati : The city of Varuna

Bhoota : An evil spirit

Brahmacharyam: Celebacy

Brahmajnana : The realisation of the supreme being

Brahman : The supreme being. The all pervading soul

Bramhachari : A celibate

Bramharshi : The highest type of Sages & Rishies

Chaitra : First of Telugu months. Falling in the second half of March

Chakravarthy : An emperor

Chamara : A whisk made of soft silk, An incignia of a king

Chandana : Sandal Wood

Charana : A spy

Chitra kuta : 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.

*Contd....*



# G L O S S A R Y

## APPENDIX - 8

(A13)

Chudamani : The crest Jewel of Devi Seta given to Hanuman to be shown and given to Sri Rama

Daana : Gifting in order to bring the enemy to our fold . One of the four Upayas. See Bheda

Daityas : Sons of DITI & Kasyapa prajapathy enemies of Devas.

Daivam : Divine, God

Danawaas : Sons of Diti and Kasyapa Prajapathy. Enemies of Devas

Danda : Physical punishment. Force used in neeting the enemies. One of the four Upayas. See Bheda

Dandakaranya : The Forest situated between rivers Godavari and Narmada. It is to this forest Sri Rama was exiled for fourteen years

Darbha : A specie of sacred groass used in religious rites.

Devaloka : A world of celestial beings.

Devarishies : Sage of Heaven

Devas : Celestial beings The gods. Sons of Aditi and Kasyapa.

Dhanush : Bow

Dharma : Virtuous duty

Dikpalakas : 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.

Dwadasa Adityas: Indrudu, Dhata, Parjanya, Twashta, Pooshudu, Aryamudu, Bhargudu, Vivasvantudu, Vishnuvu, Amsumanthudu, Varunudu, Mitrudu

Ekadasa Rudrulu: Ajudu, Ekapadudu, Ahirbhudhyudu, Tuasta, Rudra, Hara, Shambhu, Traimbaka, Aparajata, Eesanyudu, Tribhuanudu

Five Elements: Either, Earth, Water, Light, Wind

Five senses : Touch, Taste, Hearing, Smell and Sight

Four actions of

Devotion : Seva = Service, Sridha = Faith, Tapasya = Penance, Bhakti = Devotion

Four fruits/  
Chaturvidha Phala

purushardhas : Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha if Artha and Kama by means Dharma the destiny be Moksha

Four stages of life: Bramhacharya, Grihasta, Vanaprasta and Sanyasa

Four ways of  
getting things : Sama, Dama, Bedha and Danda

Free verses : Verse without conventional metre of rhyme

Gada : The mace

Gandharvas : A class of semi devine beings, celestial musiceans

Ghat : On the bank of a River, a place made suitable for taking bath in the river

Ghee : Heated and clarified butter and as offering in yagas.

Guru : Acharya

Havis : An oblation or burnt offering

Ikshwaku : An illustrious King of solar race from whom the name came for the line of the kings of solar race.

Indra Astra : Missile presided over by Indra/ Missile charged with an invocation of Indra

Indrias : Ten in Number. Five Senses and Five Organs

Five Senses : Touch, Taste, Hearing, Smell, Sight

Five Organs : Speech, Evacuation, Sensual desires, Walking, Giving

*Contd....*

Jambawan	: Name of a king of bears who was of signal, service to Rama at the siege of Lanka.	Kokila	: The cuckoo
Jiva	: The individual living soul.	Krauncha	: A Bird
Jnana	: Spiritual knowledge Realisation	Krodha	: Anger
Jnani	: The knowers of reality.	Kusha	: A Kind of grass used in religious rites
Kaama	: Desire usually referred for innelative to sex.	Malyavati	: A stream flowing at the foot of mount Chitra Kuta.
Kaamadhenu	: The divine cow	Manmatha	: God of love
Kailasa	: The abode of Siva	Mantra	: A bunch of letters / words the repetaiton of which prouces some special power. Sriptural Incantation
Kala	: Time, also Yama	Maricha	: Uncle of Ravana
Kalpa	: A day and night of Bramha.	Marichi	: One of the Prajapati Brahmas
Kalpaka	: A celestian tree which grants fulfilment of any wish to people	Maya	: The Architect of Asuras. Father of Mandodari
Karma	: Action, Deed. The law that governs action and its un beatable consequences of the doer	Mrita Sanjeevani	: The herb which restores the dead to life
Karmayogi	: One who practies the way of performing action for salvation.	Mudgara	: A favourate weapon of the Rakshasa
Kasyapa	: A celebrated sage, son of Brahma and father of Devata and Danawan	Muhurtha	: An auspicious period of time.
Kekaya	: The kingdom ruled by Aswapati, Kaikeyi's father	Naagas	: A class of semi divine beings, serpents
Kinkaras	: Rakshasa soldiers.	Nandanavana	: The renowned pleasure Garden in the abode of Indra
Kinneras	: A Class of Celestial beings like Gandharvas	Nandigrama	: A village in the outscuts of Ayodhya, Bharata lived here and ruled the kosala Kingdom while Rama was in exile
Kishkindha	: Ancient Kingdom of Vanaras situated on the bank of Tungabhadra. Vali was the king of Kishkindha	Niyata	: Law
Kishkindhakanda	: Fourth book (part) of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana	Ogres	: Rakshasas
Kodanda	: Sri Rama's bow	Ogresses	: Rakshasis (female rakshasa)
		Paaraayana	: Reading a purana or epic as a daily devoted spiitual exercise.
		Paarijata	: A Celestial flower tree

*Contd....*

# G L O S S A R Y

## APPENDIX - 8

(A15)

Paayasam	: Kheer, A sweet preparation of milk, rice and sugar / Jagery
Paduka	: Foot wear
Panchavati	: Its a picturesque near Nasik on the bank of near Godavari. A picturesque place with five banyan trees
Pataala	: The nether region
Pattabhishekam	: Coronation. Royal crowning ceremony, with religious rites.
Pinaka	: Bow of Shiva
Pooja	: Worship
Prasravana Mount	: 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.
Puranas	: Sacred Legends
Pushpaka vimana	: The aerial chari originally belonged to Kubera
Putra Kamesti	: The fire rite performed for getting Male children
Raga	: A tune
Rajasik	: Egoistic, Arrogance
Rakshasa	: An ogre
Rakshasi	: An ogres
Rama	: The prime and principal character in Ramayana
Rama Rajya	: The period of reign of Rama (When virtue prosperity and welfare are given to every person)
Rambha	: An apsara of exquisite beauty
Rishi	: A Sage
Saama	: A peaceful approach to get things of one (Negotiation)

Sabdabedhi	: An astra with which one can hit an invisible target by hearing the sound
Sandhana Karani	: The herb that causes broken bones to reunite
Sanyasa	: A recluse
Sanyasini	: A female recluse
Sarayu	: A tributary of the river Ganga flows by the side of Ayodhya.
Sastras	: Sacred lore. A science sacred precepts.
Satrunjaya	: The name of Sri Rama's Royal Elephant
Savarna Karani	: A herb that is capable of rectifying the disfigurement or decoloration of the skin
Shoola	: A weapon, A trident
Shraadhha	: A rite or ceremony performed in honor of a departed soul
Shyeni	: The wife of Aruna and the mother of the two eagles sampati and jatayu
Siddha	: A class of celestial being of great purity and perfection, said to possess the eight supernatural faculties; Anima, Mahima, Laghima, Garima, Prapti, Prakamyam, Ishatvam, Vashitvam
Siddhashrama	: The sacred Ashrama (hermitage) where Viswamitra performed Yagna which was guarded & protected by Sri Rama and Lakshmana.
Simhika	: A sea demon who attracts the living creatures with the help of their shadow. Hanuman during his leap to Lanka across the sea, Simhika abducted 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.
Simshupa	: A type of tree with rich cluster of leaves

*Contd....*

# G L O S S A R Y

## APPENDIX - 8

(A16)

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 ; a distance 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.*