

**Teacher's Guide to
The Adventures
of
Lord Rama**

(Madhava Class)

The Adventures of Lord Rama

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Hare Krishna Sunday School
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Introduction

Most of the children, if not all, in your Sunday School may already be familiar with the story of the *Ramayana*. Many videos have been produced, as well as books for children. This session attempts to tell the story of the *Ramayana* in a simple way for this age group. If possible, have available a copy of the *Srimad-Bhagavatam*, Ninth Canto, Part Two so the children can learn to refer to Srila Prabhupada's books for more information. In chapter 11, His Divine Grace describes how Lord Rama returned to Ayodhya and ruled the entire world. Two verses from this chapter are written at the end of the student workbook for discussion at the end of the session.

Included in the teacher's guide, as well as the student workbook, is a copy of the *Ramayana* play written by three Sunday School students at the Philadelphia Hare Krishna Sunday School. The play was successfully performed in the temple room at a Sunday feast program. The students also made the simple stage props and costumes which they worked on every Sunday during class time. They learned a great deal about the *Ramayana*, as well as their own creative abilities. They also had fun and learned the art of "cooperation."

Since a professional stage was not used, the entire set was divided into three sections (all showing at once.) The forest of Pancavati was in front of the temple room to the left, an "ocean" was in the center and the golden city of Lanka was to the right. The children made Lord Rama's cottage from a large refrigerator box which they painted and then attached silk flowers and greens. Potted silk trees were placed around the cottage to give the appearance of a forest. For the "ocean" a piece of blue cloth was

placed on the floor with pillows hidden underneath to form “ocean waves.” The younger children made “boulders” for the monkey soldiers to form a bridge by gathering large amounts of newspaper in the shape of a rock or boulder, wrapping masking tape around it so no newspaper could be seen and painting them with brown tempura paint. For the city of Lanka, an inexpensive plastic lawn chair was spray painted metallic gold and decorated with sequins, gold tinsel, strands of gold beads, etc. (Christmas season is an opportune time to purchase these items in stores.) Gold tinsel was wrapped around the temple pillars and gold beads strung here and there. Rama and Laksmana’s bows were made from large, curved sticks and string. Inexpensive crowns were purchased at a costume store and then decorated with “jewels.”

These simple set decorations are only a suggestion. You can get more elaborate if your budget allows. If you plan to perform this play, set aside time at the end of each class to rehearse the script and make the props or, if possible, extend the session a few weeks and use the class time to rehearse and make the set decorations. Ask a few of the parents to help create the costumes. The monkey soldiers wore brown, long-sleeve, pull-over shirts and small, red dhotis. Tails were made from “furry” brown material cut approximately 36" x 8". Each tail was sewn and stuffed with newspaper and a piece of wire so the tail could be curled at the end.

Even if you decide not to perform the play, this session should be a fun, learning experience for your students. Other activities are provided in the student workbook as well as the teacher’s guide.

Lesson One

1. Ask how many students have seen or read a children's story of the *Ramayana*. (There are many different versions.) Begin by reading aloud the introduction in the student workbook. Explain that Srila Prabhupada has written about the pastimes of Lord Rama in the *Srimad-Bhagavatam*, Ninth Canto. (If possible, have a copy available.) An important point to emphasize is that Lord Rama was an incarnation of Lord Krishna. His experiences while being banished to the forest for 14 years were His desire and part of His transcendental pastimes. He does not suffer and is not subject to the laws of *karma* as are the conditioned souls in this material world.

2. Before class, have the session verse (Sanskrit and English) written on a poster board and mounted on the wall. This is a long verse, but an essential one for the student's to learn for this session. Show them the page in the *Srimad-Bhagavatam* where the verse is written. If their parents have the Ninth Canto, encourage them to look up the verse at home. (Again, this will teach them to refer often to Srila Prabhupada's books.) Recite each word, then each line of the Sanskrit. The children should repeat after you. Then the translation can be said with them repeating each line after you.

3. Read aloud Lesson One while the children follow along in their workbooks. If you have students who are able to read the text, ask for volunteers to read aloud one or two paragraphs.

4. Complete the Check for Understanding page. This exercise reinforces the personalities introduced in this first lesson. After they have completed this page, you may want to play a memory game. Have each name listed on page 6 written on 3 x 5 cards. (One name

per card.) Have written on 3 x 5 cards (one per card) the description of who they are. (Also, from the list on page 6). Mix up the cards and have the children put the personality card with the correct description card.

For example: Dasaratha.....Lord Rama's father, etc. Depending on the size of your class, you can have several sets of these cards made, divide the class into teams of three or four students and have a "race" to see who can match the cards first.

5. On the next page, have the children circle the animals that live in the forest.

6. On page 8 are instructions for a "board game" contained in their workbooks. The object is to find Lord Rama's cottage in the forest. Review the instructions. Help them to carefully remove the next four pages in their workbooks. Provide scissors for each student. They can cut the game cards along the dotted lines and place them in a pile. They should also cut the player pieces on page 11. Divide the class into groups of 3-4 students. Each group uses only one board game, set of cards etc. Each student chooses a player piece and begins the game following the instructions already discussed.

7. If you are planning to perform the *Ramayana* at the end of the session, save time to read aloud the script with the children following along in their workbooks. Explain when and where this will be performed and that a great deal of study and cooperation is needed for its success. Ask them to think during the week about who they would like to play in the performance.

8. Next week's project involves making Sita's basket and flowers using the cut-out pages from their workbooks. Ask if any of the boys would prefer to make another project next week. If so, ask them to

search for and bring in a curved stick (small or large) to make Rama's bow. (If they choose this project, you will need to bring in string and 1/2 inch wide ribbon to wrap around the "bow.")

Lesson Two

1. Chant the session verse.
2. Read aloud Lesson Two as the children follow along in their workbooks or ask for volunteers to read a paragraph or two aloud to the class.
3. Complete the Check for Understanding page using the words in the box at the top of page 16.
4. Have the students carefully remove pages 18, 19 and 20 from their workbooks. Following the instructions on page 17, assist them in making a basket of flowers for Sita. If any of the boys (or girls) would prefer to make Rama's bow (and they remembered to bring in a curved stick,) assist them in making this project.
5. Your local library should have many books on the art of making paper flowers. Some are made with colored tissue paper and green pipe cleaners (as stems). If time allows, have ready the materials and demonstrate this project as the children follow along.
6. If you are planning to perform the *Ramayana*, the roles can be assigned today. Usually the older students decide amongst themselves who will play each role, but it is more difficult for the younger students to do this. If more than one student wants to play a particular role, a fair way to settle this is to have try-outs for the part. More than one teacher or others who are objective should be the judges. Encourage the players to read the script during the week and familiarize themselves with their particular part.

Lesson Three

1. Chant the session verse.
2. Read aloud Lesson Three as the children follow along in their workbooks. This lesson covers many events, so pause often to ask questions to reinforce understanding.
3. Complete the Check for Understanding page by having the children match the personalities on the left with the description on the right.
4. Supply markers, colored pencils and crayons for the students to color the palace on page 28.
5. On page 29, the students are to fill in the missing letters to form the names of personalities in the text.
6. Allow time for the children to complete the maze on page 30.
7. **Sequence of Events Game:** Have the children sit in a circle on the floor. Begin telling about *The Adventures of Lord Rama* by saying, for example, “Lord Krishna appeared thousands of years ago as Lord Rama. He was banished to the forest for 14 years because his step-mother did not want Him to be king. She wanted her son, Bharata, to be king instead.” The first student continues the story using a short explanation, as well. (Try to limit them to a few sentences so everyone gets a turn.) Continue going around the circle as many times as necessary in order for the children to tell the story through Lesson Three.

8. If you plan on performing the *Ramayana*, begin reheasal today. As they read their parts, direct where and when they are to come on stage. They should carefully listen to the other students speaking so they know when it is their turn to speak.

Lesson Four

1. Chant the session verse.
2. Read aloud the text in Lesson Four. Pause often to reinforce understanding.
3. Complete the Check for Understanding page by placing the events in sequence. This exercise will help the students with the following page.
4. Have the students carefully remove pages 39 and 40 from their workbooks. Provide scissors for them to cut the cards on the dotted lines. The instructions for this game are at the top of page 39.
5. Provide crayons, markers, etc. for the children to draw a picture of the golden deer on page 41. If possible, provide gold glitter and glue for a “three-dimensional” picture of the deer.
6. If time allows, the following game can be played outdoors or in a large room:

The Kidnaping of Sita

One player is chosen to be Sita and one player is chosen to be Ravana. The other players represent Jatayu who tries to save Sita from Ravana. They join hands and form a circle. Ravana chases Sita around the circle. The children playing Jatayu help Sita escape by raising their arms to let her in and out of the circle. They try to keep Ravana out by lowering their arms, representing the flapping of Jatayu’s wings in his fight with Ravana. While doing so, all the children in the circle chant

loudly, “Raghupati Raghava Raja Rama, Patitapavana Sita Rama/ Sita Rama, Jaya Sita Rama, Sita Rama, Jaya Sita Rama.” When Sita gets caught, the child playing Ravana becomes Sita, and a new child is chosen to be Ravana. The first Sita joins the circle, and the game continues.

7. You may want to have the song “Raghupati Raghava...” typed or printed on an 8x11 inch paper. Give each student a copy of the song and ask them to sing it at home with their families during the week. If their brothers and sisters do not know it, the students can teach it to them.

8. If you are planning to perform the *Ramayana*, allow time to rehearse the play. At this point, costumes and set decorations should be in the process of being completed. (Ask for parent volunteers who would like to get involved in these activities.) If the children have been studying their lines at home, they should be very familiar with their parts by now. (They may not have memorized all of their lines at this point, but should be familiar with when to come on and off the stage.) Begin advertising the *Ramayana* by posting flyers around the temple. Ask the students to invite friends and family members for the big event! Programs can be printed with a list of cast and crew. Include a special thanks to the parents for their assistance. This can be handed out the day of the performance.

Lesson Five

1. Chant the session verse.
2. Read aloud the text in Lesson Five or ask for volunteers to read one or two paragraphs to the class.
3. Complete the Check for Understanding page by having the students fill in the blanks to complete the sentences.
4. Have the children recite the poem on page 51. This can be sung using a simple tune.
5. Divide the class into two teams and have a race unscrambling the words on page 52.
6. Provide art materials for the students to draw a picture of Hanuman flying over the ocean on page 53.
7. The following game can be played. It is best to play this game outdoors, but if that is not possible, play a variation of the game using whatever facility is available.

Hanuman's Search for Sita

A player is chosen to hide a small object which will represent Sita captive in the Ashoka garden. (A doll may be used.) The other children represent Hanuman searching for Sita throughout Lanka. They turn their backs while the object is being hidden. Then they start searching. To help them discover Sita, the child who hid the object gives indications of how close Hanuman is to Sita, such as: ("Hanuman is at the gate of

Lanka.” --If Hanuman is very far from her. “Hanuman is inside the city.”--If Hanuman is getting closer to her. “Hanuman is inside Ravana’s palace.”--If Hanuman is getting even closer to her. “Hanuman is inside the Ashoka garden.”--When Hanuman is very, very close to her.) Whoever finds the object becomes the next player to hide Sita.

8. Allow time for play rehearsal if you are planning to perform the *Ramayana*.

Lesson Six

1. Chant the session verse. By now, the students should be able to recite the verse without prompting. Provide stickers, maha-prasadam or another reward for those who have memorized the verse. Encourage those students who still need prompting.

2. Read aloud the text in Lesson Six.

3. Complete the Check for Understanding page by asking the students to circle all TRUE statements.

4. On page 60, have the children fill in the words to form the sentence: THE MONKEY SOLDIERS BUILT A BRIDGE FOR LORD RAMA.

5. The students can carefully remove page 61 from their workbooks. Provide construction paper in various colors, glue, crayons, markers, sequins, etc. Ask the students to mount this page on colored construction paper and decorate. The finished project can be given to their parents as a gift to mark the end of another successful session in the Hare Krishna Sunday School!

6. Review the verses on the next page from the *Srimad-Bhagavatam*, Canto 9, Chapter 10.

7. If time allows, the following game can be played either outdoors or in a large room:

Hanuman Hop

This game is for two teams. Each team lays out a row of sticks which represents the ocean. The sticks should be about 18" apart. (2.5m) There must be as many sticks in each row as

there are players on each team. As soon as the starter calls out, “Hanuman Hop,” the first player on each team hops over each stick, picks up the last stick in the row, and still standing on one foot, turns and hops over the remaining sticks. As soon as he/she returns he taps the next player in line on his/her team. This player then hops over the remaining sticks, picks up the last one and returns in the same manner. The next player then proceeds. Any player whose foot touches the sticks must go back to the first stick and start over. The same rules apply if anyone puts both feet on the ground. The first team to pick up all of their sticks, WINS!

8. If you are planning to perform the *Ramayana*, continue with rehearsal. Encourage the children to memorize their lines during the week. Costumes and props should be completed at this point.

9. Remind the children that there will be session quiz next week. After the quiz, you may want to have a dress rehearsal of the *Ramayana*.

Session Quiz

Fill in the blanks using the words in the box below:

Ravana	Dasaratha	Mareecha	Laksmana
Sita	Surpanaka	Rama	Hanuman

1. The golden deer was actually the magician named _____.
2. _____ was Ravana's sister.
3. The evil, ten-headed King of Lanka was _____.
4. Lord _____ ruled the world as a most noble king.
5. _____, is Lord Rama's eternal consort.
6. The monkey soldier who found Sita was named _____.
7. Rama's father was named _____.
8. _____ was Lord Rama's faithful brother.

Circle the statement below that is TRUE:

1. Lord Rama was banished to the forest for 12 years.
2. Laksmana and Sita went to the forest with Lord Rama.

The Ramayana

Compiled by ISKCON Philadelphia's Hare Krishna Sunday School Students:
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Players:

Narrator
Rama
Sita
Laksmana
Hanuman
Ravana
Jatayu
Golden Deer
Surpanaka
Monkey Soldiers
Demon Soldiers

Narrator:

Once, thousands of years ago, the earth was terrorized by powerful demon kings. The strongest was King Ravana, the leader of Lanka. Mother Earth, deeply distressed by the horrific acts of the demons, went to Lord Visnu seeking refuge. Lord Visnu then promised her He would be born on Earth as the first son of King Dasaratha, the ruler of Ayodhya. He would then rid the Earth of demons.

Thus, He appeared on Earth as Rama. He appeared with His expansions, Bharata, Laksmana, and Satrugha. Time passed and Rama grew to be a virtuous and handsome man who was well-loved by the residents of Ayodha. Dasaratha was becoming too old to rule the kingdom and decided to pass the rule to Rama. But, one of Dasaratha's queens, Kaikeyi, stopped him and ordered him to honor the two boons he had once promised her. One was to make her own son, Bharata, king. The other was to exile Rama to the forest for 14 years. Although grief-stricken, Dasaratha was forced to fulfill the two boons Kaikeyi desired. Soon, Rama, accompanied by his wife, Sita, and His brother Laksmana, left Ayodha to live in the forest.

Scene 1 -In The Forest (Trees, cottage, and Jatayu by a tree)

Rama:

Laksmana, take care. Demon, beware of the power of my invincible bow.

Jatayu:

My dear child, do not kill me, for I am an aged friend of your father. I'm just an old eagle, named Jatayu. Please allow me to help you in your stay in the forest. Perhaps I could protect Sita whenever you must leave her alone.

Rama:

Dear friend, I thank you for your offer and look forward to a long and lasting friendship with you. Come to the place we now call home. You can live in a tree nearby.

Jatayu:

Thank you, Rama. Thank you. **(Flaps wings and in “bird voice” says “Jai, Jai”)**

Narrator:

Then one day, a she-demon approached the cottage. **(Surpanaka comes toward the forest to the cottage.)** She was Surpanaka, the sister of the evil, ten-headed demon, Ravana, King of Lanka. When she spotted Rama, her heart was immediately filled with desire. Although she was horribly ugly, she used her magical powers to assume the form of a beautiful maiden. She went before Rama, speaking to him in a sweet voice.

Surpanaka:

Oh, dearest one. Who are you with your strong limbs and handsome face? You have won my heart. Come with me, Surpanaka, and wander through the woods. You and I could be so happy together.

Rama:

Oh, fair maiden, I am Rama, Son of the great King Dasaratha. I thank you for your offer, but I must reject it, for I am already married. Look. There is my wife, Sita. My brother, Laksmana, however, is equally handsome and heroic and is living alone in the forest. I am sure he would make a more suitable

match. Offer your hand to him.

Surpanaka:

Oh, how right you are! **(Moves toward Laksmana)** Laksmana, my hero. Come with me. I will marry you instead.

Laksmana:

No, it would not be proper. I would not be a fitting match, for I am just a servant of my brother, Rama. And you must surely be a princess. My brother is cheating you. Insist on him. He will soon forget his wife and prefer you instead.

Surpanaka:

It is that horrible creature, Sita, that stands between me and you. I will devour her in a second and then I will marry you by force. **(Makes demon sounds and attacks Sita. Laksmana cuts off her nose. Surpanaka runs away screaming.)**

Scene 2--Inside Ravana's palace. Ravana is on his throne.

Narrator:

Surpanaka rushed to seek the aid of her brother, Ravana. In the golden city of Lanka, stood Ravana's great, golden palace. Ravana was the king of the demons. He struck terror into the hearts of all living creatures. With his ten heads, large eyes and huge limbs, Ravana was frightening to the mightiest of men. His majestic body bore scars of many wounds received in battle. Seated on his golden throne and dressed in fine garments and costly jewels, he appeared as brilliant as the sun.

(Surpanaka comes running in and lifts her veil to show her nose to Ravana.)

Ravana:

My dear sister, who has cut off your nose and ears? Tell me and I will avenge you.

Surpanaka:

It was the two sons of Dasaratha, King of Kosala, who are wandering

fearlessly in our forest. They have not only dared to injure me, but have also slain our brothers, Khara and Dushana and defeated their whole army. They are accompanied by the wife of Rama, a lovely creature, who is surely the most beautiful woman in the creation. She would make a perfect queen for you, dear brother. Avenge this insult to our family! These two princes must be destroyed!

Ravana:

Fear not, dear sister. I have a plan. I will seek the help of Maricha, the magician. I will destroy the princes of Ayodhya and carry off the woman as my bride. **(Laughs and walks off the stage.)**

Narrator:

Ravana had a golden chariot driven by mules which could fly in the sky. He used this airplane to fly to the den of Maricha who could assume any form at will. Maricha agreed to help Ravana with his wicked plans. They flew over great mountains and rivers until they reached the forest of Pancavati and Rama's cottage. The magician, Maricha, assumed the form of a golden deer. Sita was gathering flowers when she noticed the creature. She was spellbound by its wonderful beauty. **(Golden deer enters and dances around the forest. Sita, Rama and Laksmana are outside their cottage.)**

Sita:

Oh, Rama. Look at that beautiful deer. Please go and catch it for me. I would love to have it as my pet.

Laksmana:

Rama, beware of this animal. It is too beautiful to be true. It could be a magical trick, a creation of some wizard.

Rama:

Fear not, Laksmana. Sita shall have the deer. If this creature is a wizard's creation as you say, I will bring it down with my bow. Guard Sita while I am gone. Under no circumstances must you leave her alone in the forest. **(Rama follows deer off the stage.)**

Narrator:

Rama pursued the deer into the forest. The cunning wizard, Maricha, imitated Rama's voice and called for help. **(Rama yells from backstage, "Sita, Laksmana, help me. Help me.")**

Thinking the voice to be her husband's, Sita pleaded with Laksmana.

Sita:

Laksmana, do you not hear the cry of your brother. Go immediately to help him. He is surely in great danger.

Laksmana:

Rama can defeat any man, demon or wild beast. Do not worry. This cry for help must be a trick of the demons.

Sita:

You do not care about Rama. You want him to die. You have served us all these years simply waiting for your chance to take me as your own.

Laksmana:

Such thoughts are cruel and unjust. Your words burn my heart like a red-hot fire. Very well. I will do as you say and go and search for my brother, thus disobeying his instructions. I fear greatly for your safety. Before I go, I will create a magical circle around the cottage. On no account must you step outside of it or let anyone in. It will be your safekeeping while I am gone. **(Laksmana forms a circle in the ground with his stick and leaves the stage as if going into the forest.)**

Narrator: (Ravana, with a saffron chaddar over his head and shoulders, slowly walks toward Sita.)

Thus creating a magical circle and going into the forest to search for Rama, Sita was now alone. This was the moment Ravana had been waiting for. Disguised in the dress of a holy man, Ravana came before Sita. Sita welcomed him with respect and offered to get him some food and water. While she was away, Ravana tried to enter the cottage, but could not do so because of the magical circle created by Laksmana. It appeared as though there was an invisible wall. When Sita returned, Ravana, pretending to be old

and weak, coaxed her to bring the refreshments to him. She crossed the circle. Now she was unprotected at the hands of the King of Demons.

Ravana:

My dear beautiful lady. Why do you live here alone in the forest full of man-eating demons and fierce beasts dressed in simple clothes and living like a pauper. You belong in a palace served by thousands of maid-servants who will adorn you with fine jewels. Do not stay with this wretched Rama. Come with me, Ravana. Come to my palace in Lanka where I will serve you. Come with me and be my bride.

Sita:

Oh, you cruel, wicked wretch. Be off with you before my Rama returns. If you harm me, He will destroy you and your whole demon race as well.
(Ravana grabs Sita's arm and pulls her away)

Sita:

Rama, please come and save me. Brother Laksmana, please forgive me for speaking so harshly. Please, come to my aid.

Narrator:

Jatayu, Rama's old eagle friend, heard Sita's cry and attacked the demon king. **(Fight between Jatayu and Ravana begins)** His sharp talons tore the flesh off of Ravana's back. The furious demon shot fierce arrows at Jatayu. Although the bird was badly wounded, Jatayu attacked Ravana again and again. He made the powerful demon fall onto the ground. This was too much for Ravana. With a terrible cry, he chopped off Jatayu's wings and talons. **(Ravana pretends to chop Jatayu's wings with his sword. Jatayu falls to the ground.)** Sita cried as she saw her old friend fall injured on the ground. Ravana turned to her, and by his magical power raised both himself and Sita into the air and flew once again, towards his palace in Lanka. **(Ravana and Sita go toward Lanka and off the stage.)**

Narrator:

After killing the deer and discovering it was Maricha, the magician, Rama rushed back to the cottage, meeting Laksmana along the way. He was very

angry to learn that Sita had been left alone. **(Rama and Laksmana enter the forest near the cottage)** Arriving at the cottage, his fears were confirmed. It was deserted.

Rama:

Laksmana! How could you leave Sita? I told you not to do so under any circumstance. I fear we have been the victims of an evil trick.

Laksmana:

I did not leave her unprotected. I created a magical circle around her to protect her. Oh, please understand my dear brother. It was my love for you and her harsh words that drove me away.

Rama:

Where is my Sita? Surely she has been attacked and killed by the demons. **(They run through the forest looking for her and come upon the dying Jatayu crying out in distress).**

Rama:

Jatayu, who has done this to you?

Jatayu:

It was the wicked demon, Ravana, King of Lanka. He flew South, taking Sita with him. She was screaming for your help. Do not worry, Rama. You will find her and be happy once again. Now, I beg your leave. Now, I will depart, Rama.

Narrator:

Rama and Laksmana wept as their dear friend gave up his life. They then traveled many days until they came across the kingdom of monkeys, led by Sugriva, who promised to help Rama. The chief minister was named Hanuman who promised to search for Sita. Rama was certain that Hanuman, who was a great and powerful warrior, would meet with success.

Rama:

You will find Sita for me, Hanuman. Here, take my ring. It will tell Sita that you are my messenger.

Hanuman:

I will not return until I find her, my Lord. Allegiance, forward!!! **(Monkey soldiers follow Hanuman to the ocean. Monkeys chant “Jai Rama, Jai Rama.”)**

Narrator:

Hanuman and the monkey soldiers journeyed far through forests, across rivers and over hills until they reached the southern seashore. But, how were they to cross the ocean to Ravana’s kingdom? Hanuman stepped forward. Before everyone’s startled eyes, the monkey warrior grew to an enormous size. **(Hanuman can now squat down on the floor and then slowly rise, holding his club straight in the air--giving the illusion that he has gotten taller.)** He was so tall that he was higher than a mountain. With a great leap, he flew into the air faster and faster until he reached the shore of Lanka. He landed on top of the hill. Turning himself into the tiniest of monkeys, he passed through the city gates. **(He can squat down again and then slowly rise)** Hanuman searched every house and garden for Sita and finally found her in a courtyard, under a tree. She appeared so sad, her face bathed with tears.

Hanuman:

Sita, wife of the great King Rama, I am your husband’s messenger, Hanuman. He is in great distress without you and has sent me to search for you.

Sita:

How do I know that you come from my Rama? You may have been sent by the demons to taunt me.

Hanuman:

I have brought Rama’s ring. **(Shows Sita the ring)**

Sita:

Indeed. This is Rama's ring! Thank you, dear friend. Take this jewel to Rama and tell him I wait, day and night, for his arrival here. **(Sita gives him a jewel)** Please accept this fruit also to refresh yourself. They grow on trees all over the garden.**(Sita offers Hanuman some cut fruit on a plate)**

Hanuman:

(Eats the fruit.) Mmmmm!!! Oh, it's delicious. Mmmmm!!! Heehaa!!! I could eat lots more. Hoooho hoooho!!!

Narrotor:

With these words the monkey swung from tree to tree eating all the fruit in site. **(Hanuman jumps around the garden)** He made so much noise that the guards awoke and soon a great battle started.**(Hanuman fights with guards)** Hanuman killed many of the guards. But then he was captured and taken before Ravana. The demon king was outraged.

Ravana:

You impudent monkey. I will teach you a lesson. Guards, set the monkeys tail on fire!!**(Gaurds pretend to set Hanuman's tail on fire. Hanuman crouches down. Hanuman runs around with his tail on fire and burns Lanka and jumps over ocean)**

Narrator:

Hanuman's tail was set on fire by the demon soldiers. But, Hanuman had a trick or two to play. He suddenly became so small that he loosened the ropes and soon escaped. Returning to his orginal size he danced from building to building swinging his big tail until the whole city was ablaze. Only the part where Sita sat was left untouched. Hanuman was very pleased with himself, although he felt very hot at his tail. **(Hanuman blows on the pretend fire on his tail)** The monkey warrior dived into the ocean to put out the fire and with a giant leap flew once again to other shore and returned to Rama. **(Jumps over the ocean)**

Hanuman:

Lord Rama, I have found Sita. The she-demons are tormenting her, but she is patiently awaiting your arrival. Look. Here is a jewel she gave me to give to you.

Rama:

Look, Laksmana! It is Sita's jewel. Come monkey soldiers. Let's march to the ocean shore to arrange to go to Lanka. **(Hanuman leads the monkey soldiers to Rama saying "Victory to Rama, Victory to Rama" and then soldiers say it after Hanuman. At the shore, monkey soldiers toss paper boulders into the "ocean" to form a bridge. Then they all cross the bridge)**

Narrator:

Rama sent a messenger to Ravana ordering him to surrender Sita and thus avoid war. **(One monkey goes to Ravana. Hands him a paper. Ravana shakes his head "NO!" and monkey returns to the other monkey soldiers.)** Ravana refused, believing the monkeys to be no fit match for his mighty demon army. There was no other course of action. The invasion of the golden city would begin.

Monkey Soldier:

Monkey soldiers forward! To war! To war! **(All monkeys follow Hanuman and say "To War! To War! Fight begins with monkeys and demon soldiers in Lanka. Hanuman and Ravana fight. Then Rama and Ravana face each other)**

Ravana:

How dare you come here with your army of monkeys! You. A king without a kingdom! **(Laughs)** I shall finish you now and take your wife once and for all.

Rama:

Ravana, you wretch! You are like a dog who steals food from the master's kitchen while he is away from home. You stole my wife when I was absent. From that day your life was doomed. **(Rama uses His bow and pretends to**

kills him. He falls to the ground. Monkeys jump up and down in joy saying “Jai Rama, Jai Rama”)

Narrator:

Rama was reunited with his beloved, Sita (Sita enters and places a garland around Rama’s neck) She was overjoyed to see her Lord again. They flew home to Ayodha in an airplane made of flowers and pulled by swans. (Rama, Sita, Laksmana and Hanuman walk to the center of the stage and stand in their “traditional” positions. Hands in position, Hanuman kneeling etc.)

The beloved exiles had finally returned to their kingdom. Rama ruled for many years as the most just and noble king ever known to the world. Thus, his glories will be sung for ever more. (Someone chants Rama bhajan in microphone. All actors enter and stand next to Sita, Rama, Laksmana and Hanuman. Everyone bows together.)
