



3

THE RAMAYANA - III

In previous lesson you have learnt that Dasharatha died in the grief of Rama. Bharat roled over Ayodhya. He went to forest to bring Rama back to Auodhya.



OBJECTIVES

After studying this lesson, you will be able to :

- recite all the shlokas correctly without taking help of the book;
and
- narrate the context of the Ramayana.

3.1 SHALOKAS 41-60

प्रविश्य तु महारण्यं रामो राजीवलोचनः ।
विराधं राक्षसं हत्वा शरभङ्गं ददर्श ह ॥1.1.41 ॥

सुतीक्ष्णं चाप्यगस्त्यं च अगस्त्यभ्रातरं तथा ।
अगस्त्यवचनाच्चैव जग्राहैन्द्रं शरासनम् ॥1.1.42 ॥



Notes

खड्गं च परमप्रीतस्तूणी चाक्षयसायकौ ।
वसतस्तस्य रामस्य वने वनचरैस्सह ॥1.1.43 ॥

Having entered the dense forest Dandaka, Rama slew the demon Viradha and saw the sages Sarabhanga, Sutikshna and Agastya with his brother.

As directed by sage Agastya, Rama received with extreme delight a bow, a sword and quivers with inexhaustible arrows, given by Indra to Agastya (to be passed on to Rama).

ऋषयोऽभ्यागमन्सर्वे वधायासुररक्षसाम् ।
स तेषां प्रतिशुश्राव राक्षसानां तथा वने ॥1.1.44 ॥

While Rama was dwelling in the forest (in the hermitage of sage Sarabhanga), all the ascetics along with others (sages) inhabiting the forest approached Rama requesting for the destruction of the asuras and rakshasas seizing upon their lives.

प्रतिज्ञातश्च रामेण वधस्संयति रक्षसाम् ।
ऋषीणामग्निकल्पानां दण्डकारण्यवासिनाम् ॥1.1.45 ॥

Rama promised those ascetics, who resembled flaming fire in lustre living in Dandakaranya inhabited by rakshasas to slay them.



तेन तत्रैव वसता जनस्थाननिवासिनी ।
विरूपिता शूर्पणखा राक्षसी कामरूपिणी ॥1.1.46 ॥

During his stay there a demon called Surpanakha living in Janasthana (resting place for the army of Ravana in Dandakaranya) and capable of assuming any form at will was rendered deformed by Lakshmana.

ततश्शूर्पणखावाक्यादुद्युक्तान्सर्वराक्षसान् ।
खरं त्रिशिरसं चैव दूषणं चैव राक्षसम् ॥1.1.47 ॥

निजघान वने रामस्तेषां चैव पदानुगान् ।
वने तस्मिन्निवसता जनस्थाननिवासिनाम् ॥1.1.48 ॥

Thereafter Rama killed in the fight all the rakshasas, Khara, Trisira, and Dushana with their followers in a battle who were instigated by Surpanakha's words.

रक्षसां निहतान्यासन्सहस्राणि चतुर्दश ।
ततो ज्ञातिवधं श्रुत्वा रावणः क्रोधमूर्छितः ॥1.1.49 ॥

सहायं वरयामास मारीचं नाम राक्षसम् ।
वार्यमाणस्सुबहुशो मारीचेन स रावणः ॥1.1.50 ॥



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न विरोधो बलवता क्षमो रावण तेन ते ।
अनादृत्य तु तद्वाक्यं रावणः कालचोदितः ॥1.1.51 ॥

During his stay in that forest Rama killed fourteen thousand rakshasas who were inhabitants of Janasthana.

Having heard the slaughter of fellow rakshasa, Ravana became violent with anger and sought the help of a rakshasa named Maricha.

Maricha repeatedly dissuaded him saying, 'O Ravana It is not proper for you to enter into hostility with the mighty and powerful Rama'.

Disregarding his words Ravana incited by fate left for the hermitage of Rama along with Maricha

जगाम सह मारीचस्तस्याश्रमपदं तदा ।
तेन मायाविना दूरमपवाह्य नृपात्मजौ ॥1.1.52 ॥

He with the help of deceitful Maricha drew the princes (Rama and Lakshmana) far away from their hermitage abducted Sita the wife of Rama and slaughtered vulture Jatayu.

जहार भार्या रामस्य गृध्रं हत्वा जटायुषम् ।
गृध्रं च निहतं दृष्ट्वा हतां श्रुत्वा च मैथिलीम् ॥1.1.53 ॥

Having seen and heard from the eagle Jatayu struck down by Ravana that Sita had been abducted Rama bewailed, choked with tears his senses dulled by distress.



Notes

राघवश्शोकसन्तप्तो विललापाकुलेन्द्रियः ।
ततस्तेनैव शोकेन गृध्रं दग्ध्वा जटायुषम् ॥1.1.54 ॥

मार्गमाणो वने सीतां राक्षसं सन्ददर्श ह ।
कबन्धन्नाम रूपेण विकृतं घोरदर्शनम् ॥1.1.55 ॥

Then he performed in the midst of tears the funeral rites of the vulture Jatayu. Wandering in search of Sita, he beheld a rakshasa named Kabandha who was dreadful, in deformed in appearance.

तं निहत्य महाबाहुर्ददाह स्वर्गतश्च सः ।
स चास्य कथयामास शबरीं धर्मचारिणीम् ॥1.1.56 ॥

श्रमणीं धर्मनिपुणामभिगच्छेति राघव ।
सोऽभ्यगच्छन्महातेजाश्शबरीं शत्रुसूदनः ॥1.1.57 ॥

Mighty armed Rama, having killed Kabandha, consigned his body to flames. While leaving for heavens he informed him saying, 'O Raghava, there is a female ascetic in Sabara community,



Notes

performing religious duties and proficient in practising austerities.
You may visit her'.

शबर्या पूजितस्सम्यग्रामो दशरथात्मजः ।
पम्पातीरे हनुमता सङ्गतो वानरेण ह ॥1.1.58 ॥

हनुमद्वचनाच्चैव सुग्रीवेण समागतः ।
सुग्रीवाय च तत्सर्वं शंसद्रामो महाबलः ॥1.1.59 ॥

Rama son of Dasaratha, destroyer of enemies and possessing great splendour approached Sabari who duly worshipped him??

On the bank of Pampa he met a monkey named Hanuman on whose advice he made friendship with Sugriva

आदितस्तद्यथावृत्तं सीतायाश्च विशेषतः ।
सुग्रीवश्चापि तत्सर्वं श्रुत्वा रामस्य वानरः ॥1.1.60 ॥

Mighty Rama narrated to Sugriva all that had happened right from the beginning, more importantly Sita's abduction and also to Hanuman.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.1

1. What was received by Rama from Agastya?
2. Who was Shurpanakha?
3. How many demon's were killed by Rama in Janasthau?
4. Who was Jatayu?



WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT

- Rama receives weapons from Agastya.
- Rama's fight with many demons.
- Lakshman deforms Shurpanakha.
- Sita's abduction.
- Rama's meeting with Hanuman and Sugriva.



TERMINAL QUESTIONS

1. Who was Maricha?
2. What was condition of Rama after Sita's abduction?
3. Who was Sabari?



Notes



Notes

**ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS****3.1**

1. A bow, a sword and a quivea
2. Shurpanakha was a demon and was capable of assuming of any form.
3. 14000 (Forteen Thousand)
4. A divine eagle bird.