

|| OM namo bhagavate vasudevaya OM ||

1 In this way, Lord Rama, who is the owner of the Universe, performed all the activities and stayed on earth along with Sita; Because of that, all the people were experiencing increasing happiness day after day due to the ripening of their devotion; During that time, the King, after listening to his ministers, got into the preparation of coronation of his dear son as the future King; That news fell on the ears of Manthara; She was verily Alakshmi who had come down to earth.

2 That Alakshmi was first born during the churning of the milky ocean; Then, due to a lot of effort, she obtained the position of an "Apsara"; Therefore, in order to quickly send her to Andhatamas, Brahma told her - "You take birth on earth as a servant and block the coronation of Lord Rama; If you do so, you will obtain your 'Swagati'" (Swagati actually means position that one qualifies for); Thus instructed, she was born as Manthara; And she did exactly as she was told.

3 Kaikeyi, who was inspired by her words, took away the kingdom by the force of two boons which the King had promised to oblige; Lord Rama entered the forest along with Sita due to the respect He had for his parents; Lakshmana, whose devotion for the Lord was increasing day after day also followed Him; Before leaving, Lord Rama prevented all the beings, who had given up all their desires out of the pain of separation, from following Him; The actual reason for the Lord leaving for the forest was to satisfy the prayers of the devatas and rishis by destroying evil.

4 Lord Rama, who had left everything including trees, birds, elephants, insects, father, friends, mother and others, was worshipped by Guha just like how Shiva was worshipped by Shanmukha; After that, He crossed the River Ganga, which was actually born from His own feet; He accepted the worship offered by the son of Bruhaspati, Sage Bharadhwaja, along with other rishis; From there, he went to the excellent hill known as Chitrakoota and resided there happily for a few days.

5 At the same time, King Dasharatha passed away due to the sorrow of separation from his son; His two other sons were made to return from the Kingdom of Kekaya by the ministers who were guided by the son of Brahma, Sage Vashishta; They returned and immediately performed all the preta rituals according to the Shrutis; Filled with grief, they immediately started following the path taken by Lord Rama, along with the people of the city and their mothers.

6 After having strongly admonished Manthara, who is the abode of all sins, and Kaikeyi, Bharata and Shatrugna, along with several sages, reached the feet of Lord Rama; There, Bharata prayed to the lotus-eyed Lord Rama and said thus - "O Lord! For the sake of our happiness, please return immediately to your own Ayodhya; And, along with your brothers, rule this world".

7 The Lord of all, Lord Rama, after having been prayed upon in this way by Bharata, in order to give joy to the devatas and also to ensure His words were kept, said "No" to Bharata, who

had bent down due to extreme devotion; Seeing Bharata repeatedly request Him, He assured him that He would do as he said immediately after 14 years; He asked him not to have any doubt regarding this.

8 Bharata, who listened to the words of Lord Rama, made a vow that he would jump into a pyre if Lord Rama did not return as per His words; He made another vow that he would not enter the city of Ayodhya till Lord Rama returned; He returned with the golden sandals of the Lord of Sri, Lord Rama, and started living in the village of 'Nandi' which was just outside of Ayodhya.

9 After all the residents of Ayodhya left the place, along with His brother Bharata, the Supreme Lord started living in Chitrakoota; Then, the son of Indra, Jayanta, came there one day in the form of a crow; The presence of an Asura inside him is what made him do so.

10 That Jayanta, due to the influence of the Asura, tried to put his beak to the breast of Sita, who is Mahalaksmi herself; Lord Janardana saw him do so and immediately picked up a blade of grass and shot it at him; The bright and burning blade of grass started following him and he took to his heels.

11 He tried to resort to Brahma, Rudra, Indra and other great devatas; But all of them were great devotees of Lord Hari and were incapable of doing anything against the insurmountable strength of the Supreme One; Therefore, all of them banished him.

12 Finally, he came back to Lord Rama and pleaded with Him; The Lord then killed the asura present in his eyes by destroying the eye itself and let him go; That asura had obtained the boon of not facing destruction from the beholder of the moon, Shiva himself.

13 That Asura was staying in the eyes of all crows due to the boon of Shiva; With the blade of grass released by Lord Rama, that Asura, along with the eyes of all crows, was burnt away.

14 Crows, assuming that the asura staying in their eyes would give them additional strength, had allowed to him to enter their eyes; Therefore, the Lord of Ramaa destroyed their eyes; For the same reason, all the crows possessed only one eye even in the future.

15 That daitya, by name Kuranga, had obtained a boon from Shiva which was thus - "Till the time crows are born with two eyes intact, let there be no harm to him who stays in their eyes".

16 Therefore, in order to ensure that the asura was not born again, the primordial Being Lord Raghava, ensured that crows became one-eyed; After that, the son of Indra took the permission of Lord Rama and left.

17 After that, Lord Rama was taken to Dandakaranya by a group of Munis; He heard from them the tales of the world being tormented by Khara and other powerful daityas, due to the power of Rudra's boons; He immediately left (for the forest) along with His wife.

18 In that forest, there lived an old sage called Sharabhanga; He had an immense desire to obtain Lord Hari's abode; The sage worshipped Lord Rama by offering Arghya and others; The Lord of Ramaa was pleased with him and gave him His abode.

19 "When it becomes impossible to perform the duties of the ashrama due to loss of strength, one's life must be given up in fire etc" - this is a rule applicable to those in Vanaprastha; Therefore, that Sage gave up his body in a pyre in front of Lord Rama and reached the abode of the Lord of Ramaa.

20 Then, Lord Rama found a Rakshasa called Viradha in that forest; He was actually Tumburu, the Gandharva; Due to him uniting with Urvashi, he was immediately born as a Rakshasa due to Kubera's curse; He had become indestructible due to Shiva's boon.

21 In order to respect the boon of the lotus-born Brahma, Lord Rama cut off the shoulders of the Rakshasa and put him inside a cave; He gave the Gandharva an excellent end even though, as Rakshasa, he had lifted Him on his shoulders along with His brother.

22 Thereafter, Lord Rama reached the ashrama of Sage Agastya, who was born in a pot and was a great devotee; He was worshipped by the Sage with great devotion; The primordial Being then accepted the Shringa bow from the Sage which was actually His own bow and was sent by Indra (to the Sage).

23 That bow was given by Lord Hari to Indra so that it could be used in His form of Rama; Indra handed it over to Sage Agastya only so that it could reach Lord Rama; That bow was now accepted by Lord Rama and He started protecting the sages and living in Dandakaranya.

24 During that time, the sister of the ten headed Ravana once approached Lord Rama; Her husband had been accidentally killed by Ravana; After that, she was engaged in searching for a new husband; Two Rakshasa brothers of hers, by name Khara and Dooshana, were helping her in this.

25 Due to the order of the leader of the nocturnals, Ravana, Shurpanakha, along with two brothers of hers, was living in that forest; She approached Lord Rama and asked Him to become her husband; It was like darkness approaching Sun desiring union.

26 Lord Rama, in front of the daughter of King Janaka, made fun of the Rakshasi and said "You go to my brother; don't be here"; Having said so, He got her ears and nose cut by His brother, in order to ensure that it creates a reason for the destruction of all nocturnals (asuras).

27 Lord Rama killed Khara, Trishiras, Dooshana and other 14 thousand relatives of Shurpanakha who attacked Him after being provoked by her; He did so, by wielding the mighty bow Shringa which cannot be faced by anyone, so that there is peace for all.

28 The best amongst Raghus thus gave assurance to the sages about their safety; And gave a lot of fear to the nocturnals; Having listened to the might of Lord Rama through his sister

and also through Akampana, Ravana, the King of Rakshasas got very worried.

29 Having thought about what he should do, Ravana went to the place near the coast (Gokarna); And he met Maricha over there, the one who had got into a penance due to the fear of Lord Rama's arrow.

30 When Ravana asked him to cheat Lord Rama, Maricha, who had already experienced the pain caused by His arrow spoke thus - "You will never be able to face Lord Rama; I already have experienced the pain of being hit by His arrow".

31 Ravana then withdrew his sword from the sheath and spoke to Maricha thus - "If you do not listen to me, I will kill you"; Maricha was extremely frightened listening to these words; He naturally was also an evil person and therefore he ran immediately towards Lord Rama.

32 He took on the form of a golden deer; He put on multiple colors like those of gems; He ran around Sita multiple times very quickly; Sita is Mahalakshmi herself with full and eternal knowledge; Still she spoke the way she did in order to ensure Rakshasas were killed and daityas were put into illusion.

33 "O Lord Rama! Please bring this playful deer to me at the earliest" - As soon as Sita spoke thus, Lord Rama, knowing fully well that the Rakshasa Maricha was the one in the form of the deer, took His bow and arrows and went behind it; And He killed him.

34 As soon as Lord Rama hit Maricha with an excellent arrow, he should "Ha Lakshmana" with a painful voice and died shouting; When Sita heard this, she provoked (Lakshmana) with cruel words; Then, Lakshmana also took his bow and arrows and went in the direction of Lord Rama.

35 Whatever acts the Lord of all, Sri Hari, performs, Ramaa Devi also emulates the same; Just by that, one should not doubt Sri Hari or Sri Mahalakshmi with any sort of defect; After all, aren't they the great Lords!

36 Just by the sheer glance of her eyes, Mahalakshmi performs all activities including creation, sustenance, destruction, illusion and Moksha; How then can there be ignorance of any kind for her? How then can there be danger to her? How can these ever happen to Lord Hari? Therefore, these activities are just a play for them to act like ordinary devatas and humans.

37 Then, Ravana approached Sita; Lord Sita, who has immeasurable strength, made an alternate form of hers and left immediately for Kailasa; In Kailasa, she resided and was worshipped by Parvati and Shiva.

38 Indra entered into the alternate form of Sita; For the sake of serving the purpose, Sita was also notionally present in this alternate form; The King of Rakshasas took her and started; On the way, he killed the eagle Jatayu with great difficulty when it opposed him.

39 When he was flying away like that, even though Hanuman saw him, he did not kill Ravana

after being stopped by Sugreeva, the son of Surya; Hanuman knew the work of the Lord; He also desired that the praise and credit should go to Lord Rama; And he was also aware of the boon given to Jaya and Vijaya.

40 The Rakshasa Ravana then reached his city Lanka and kept the alternate form of Sita there and started protecting her; Lord Rama returned to His ashrama after killing the cruel Rakshasa Maricha; He started behaving as if He couldn't find His wife.

41 Lord Rama, who had set out as if He was in search of Sita, saw the eagle Jatayu who had been badly wounded by the enemy; His bodily activity had already deteriorated; The Lord listened the entire episode from him; And then when he died, the Lord burnt him and also gave him the Gati he deserved.

42 In another place, Lord Rama, along with His brother Lakshmana, got caught by the huge hands of Kabandha; That Kabandha was invincible due to the boon of Brahma; He could not be killed; He had also suffered immensely due to the hit from Vajrayudha.

43 Along with His brother, the Lord cut off both his shoulders and got him to obtain his original form of 'Danu', a Gandharva who was a helper of Indra; That Gandharva was born as the son of Trijata; Lord Rama, after being worshipped by him, moved on from there.

44 Shabari then saw Lord Rama; She realized He was the Supreme Lord Hari; She entered a pyre in front of Him; Lord Rama gave her His world itself; According to the words of Sage Matanga, she was waiting for the Lord and had stayed in that Vana without any fear.

45 Lord Rama, in this manner, uplifted her who was originally an Apsara woman; The reason for her being born in the tribe of hunters was a curse from Shachi devi; The reason for the curse was that she had behaved arrogantly in front of Shachi's husband Indra himself; Lord Rama then went to Rishyamooka and met the son of Pavana (Hanuman); Isn't he, after all, the only one who always knows Lord Rama appropriately?

46 In all the animals, wherever Vayu is present, Lord Hari is also present only there; And wherever Lord Hari is present, that is where Vayu is also present; The statement from the Vedas 'Kasmin Vahan Tu' is therefore very popular; It is the same in His avataras as well; Therefore, for the sake of Vayu's son Hanuman, Lord Rama protected the son of Surya, Sugreeva.

47 Similarly, Lord Hari, in his form of Krishna, got the son of Surya (Karna) killed through the son of Indra, Arjuna, due to His affection for Bhima and protected Arjuna; The Lord killed the enemy of Sugreeva, Vali, because the son of Surya had taken the shelter of Maruti.

48 The devatas are always under the control of Lord Vayu; Therefore, the devatas took the refuge of Sugreeva in this avatara and the son of Indra, Arjuna, in the next avatara; So, Lord Rama, along with His brother Lakshmana, proceeded towards Hanuman to bless him.

49 Lord Rama is the Supreme Being Himself and Lakshmi, Brahma, Rudra and all the other rulers of the worlds accept the dust of the lotus-like feet of the Lord on their heads; He

Himself is the Lord of all; He is the Supreme one and is full on infinite strength with which He achieves all His work; What then is the use of the monkeys' help for such a being?

50 As soon as Lord Rama arrived, all the monkeys along with the son of Surya, Sugreeva, were extremely frightened and started running helter-skelter; The son of Vayu then stopped them.

51 After having stopped the leaders of the monkeys, Hanuman fell at the feet of Lord Rama knowing that He was the father of Brahma himself; He knows the infinite attributes of the Lord very well.

|| End of chapter 5, known as 'Hanumaddarshana', from the Mahabharata Tatparya Nirnaya, composed by Srimadanandatirtha Bhagavatpada ||

|| Sri Krishnaarpanamastu ||