

Rama Term Reader



Stories and more about our devotional themes

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Lord Rama is perfect.



Lord Rama is a perfect king.

Lord Rama loves the people of Ayodhya. He always takes care of them. He shows them how to live as good devotees. In Ayodhya, everyone is happy and peaceful. The people feel safe with Lord Rama as their king.



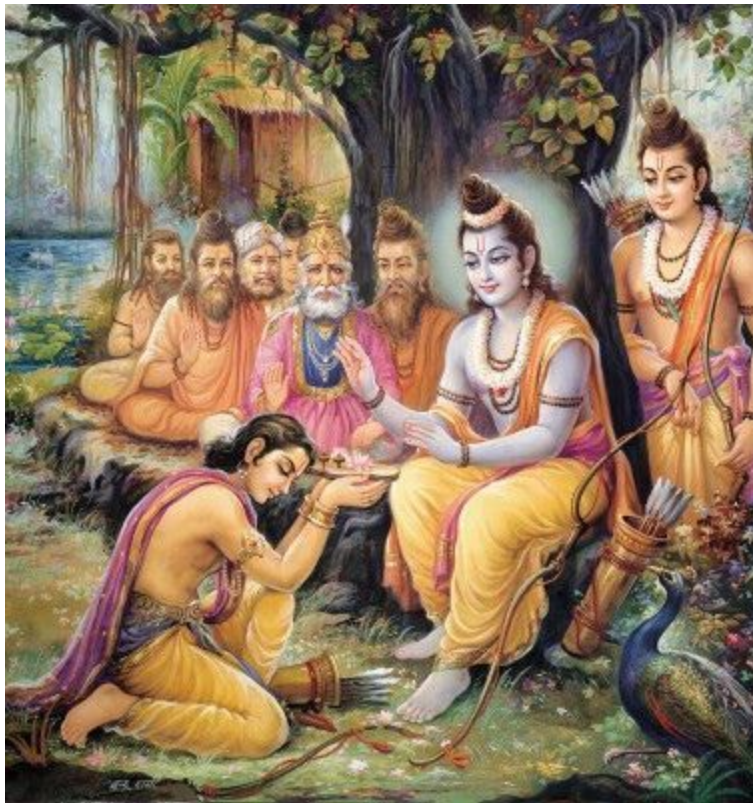
Lord Rama is a perfect leader.

Lord Rama goes to the forest for fourteen years. In the forest, life is not easy. Sometimes demons come. There are no houses. There are no people around. Lord Rama **protects** Sita and Laxman. Lord Rama shows everyone how to live simply in the forest. Sita and Laxman have a happy life in the forest with Lord Rama.



Lord Rama is a perfect husband.

Lord Rama loves his wife Sita. Lord Rama takes care of Sita. In the forest, Lord Rama and Laxman make a house for Sita. Ravana the demon comes to take Sita away from Lord Rama. Ravana locks Sita up in his palace. Lord Rama cannot find Sita. Lord Rama looks for Sita everywhere. Lord Rama has an **army** of monkeys and bears. The army looks for Sita everywhere. Finally, Hanuman, the best monkey **soldier**, finds Sita. Hanuman does not bring Sita back. Hanuman tells Lord Rama where Sita is. Lord Rama fights Ravana. Lord Rama wins the **battle**. Lord Rama brings Sita back home.



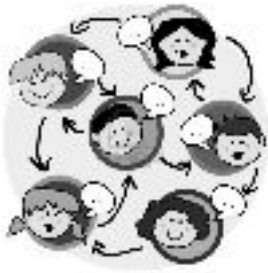
Lord Rama is a perfect brother.

Lord Rama is the **eldest** son in the family. Lord Rama has three brothers and one sister. Laxman is Lord Rama's brother. Bharata is Lord Rama's brother. Shatrugna is Lord Rama's brother. Shanta is Lord Rama's sister. Lord Rama teaches his brothers how to fight. Lord Rama teaches his brothers to be good and to follow their father. King Dasaratha is Lord Rama's father. King Dasaratha has three wives. Kaushalya is King Dasaratha's wife. Kaushalya is Lord Rama's mother. Kaikeyi is King Dasaratha's wife, too. Kaikeyi is Bharata's mother. Kaikeyi wants Bharata to be king of Ayodhya. Ayodhya is their **kingdom**. Lord Rama gives the kingdom to his brother Bharata. Lord Rama goes to the forest. Bharata is sad. Bharata does not want to be king. Bharata goes to the forest. Lord Rama gives Bharata his shoes. Bharata puts Lord Rama's shoes on his head.



Remembering what you read - *can you answer these questions?*

1. How does Lord Rama show His love?
2. For how many years does Lord Rama go to the forest?
3. What is life like in the forest?
4. How do Lord Rama, Laxman, and Sita live in the forest?
5. What does Ravana do?
6. How does Lord Rama find Sita?
7. Who is Kaushalya?
8. What does Bharata do with Lord Rama's shoes?



Let's talk!

What about your family - do you have brothers and sisters? How do you show your love for them?



Lord Rama and the Squirrel



Lord Ramachandra loves everyone. He loves his monkey soldiers. He loves the birds in the sky. He even loves a little squirrel.

Word list - *do you know these words?*

army leader	pleased pebbles	stroke appear
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An **army** is a group of soldiers. Soldiers are ready to fight.

A **leader** is a person who takes charge of other people. He tells them where to go and what to do.

Pleased is a feeling. Something makes you happy. You are **pleased**.

Pebbles are small rocks.

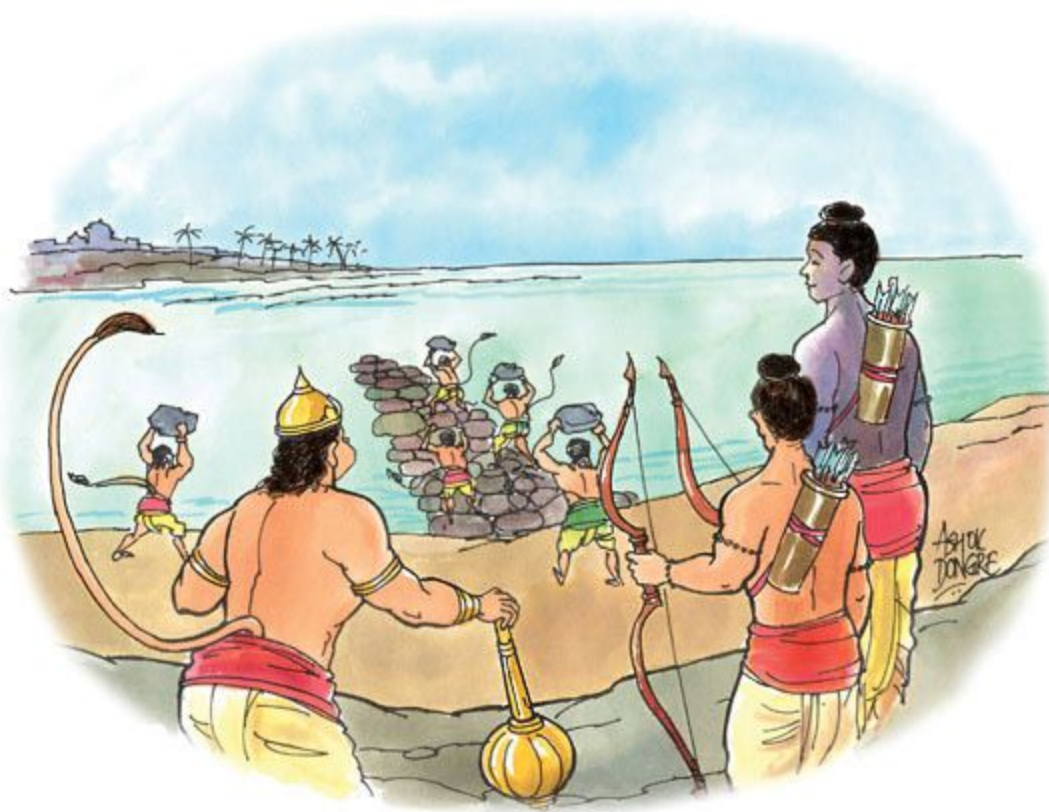
When you **stroke** something, you run your fingers back and forth on it.

When something **appears**, it comes out and you can see it.



Now read this story:

After Ravana comes and takes Sita away, Lord Rama starts making a bridge over the sea. The bridge goes to Lanka, Ravana's kingdom. Lord Rama gets help from many animals. The **army** of bears helps Lord Rama. Their **leader** is Jambavan. The monkey army helps Lord Rama, too. Their leader is Sugriva. All of the animals work hard. Lord Rama is **pleased**.



A little squirrel works hard, too. She picks up **pebbles** in her mouth. She carries the pebbles. She puts the pebbles on the bridge. Her mouth is small. She picks up one pebble at a time.



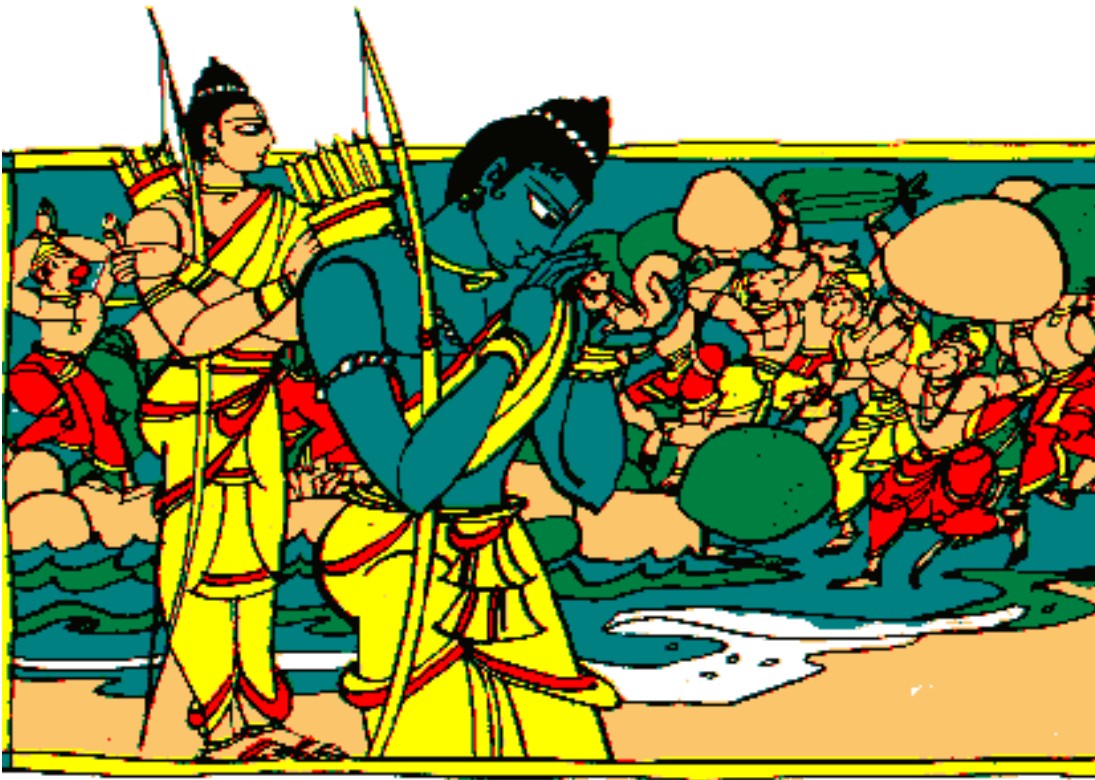
A monkey sees the little squirrel. The monkey says, “Move away! You are too small!” The little squirrel looks up. The monkey says, “You cannot help us. Move away!” The other monkeys come. They say, “Yes, you are too small. Move away!” The little squirrel looks down. She feels very sad.

Lord Rama sees the little squirrel. She cries softly. The Lord comes. He says, “Please do not cry. You are helping me.” Lord Rama picks up the little squirrel. His long fingers **stroke** the little squirrel’s back. Two long white lines **appear** on her back. Even now, squirrels have two white lines on their backs. Lord Rama tells the little squirrel, “Your work helps me. Every little pebble makes the bridge longer and stronger.” The little squirrel smiles again.



Remembering what you read - *can you answer these questions?*

1. Where does the bridge go?
2. Who makes the bridge?
3. And the little squirrel - how does she help?
4. What do the monkeys say to the little squirrel?
5. What does Lord Rama do then?



Lord Rama gives love to the little squirrel. She is little, but her size does not matter to the Lord. Even a little animal can do some service. Even a little girl or a little boy can do some service. What service can you do? Look at the pictures. Complete the sentences:

1. I can _____
2. I can _____
3. I can _____



Mother Sita in the Forest



What animal do you see in the picture? What colour is this animal? It's a golden deer. When something is gold in colour or made of gold, we say it's **golden**.

gold → golden

We can add *-en* to other words, too:

wool	→	woolen
wood	→	wooden
earth	→	earthen
ash	→	ashen



Copy the correct form of the words to complete these sentences:

1. The pot is made of earth. It is an _____ pot.
2. She has a pink jacket! It is made of soft pink _____.
3. This is a pile of hot ash. The _____ pile is very hot.
4. My pencil box is made of wood. It is a _____ box.



Word list - *do you know these words?*

palace	beggar	caught
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A **palace** is a big, beautiful house. The king lives in a **palace**.

A **beggar** is a poor person. He asks people for food and money.

Caught is the past form of catch. If you are **caught**, you cannot go away.



Now read this story:

Sita is a very special woman. Sita is Lord Rama's wife. Sita goes to the forest with Lord Rama. She does not want to stay in Ayodhya without her husband. Sita lives happily in the forest. She does not have a nice house. She does not have servants. She eats fruits. She plays with the squirrels and deer. She is happy.



One day, the demon Ravana sees Sita. He wants to take Sita to his **palace**. Ravana's **palace** is in Lanka. Ravana plays a trick on Sita. Ravana makes a golden deer run past Sita. Lord Rama and Laxman go to catch the golden deer. Laxman draws a magic ring around Sita. No one can step into the ring. Ravana dresses up like a **beggar**. He asks Sita for some fruit. Sita steps out of the ring. She gives Ravana the fruit.



Ravana takes Sita's hand. Now Sita is **caught!** Ravana locks Sita in his garden. There are demon ladies with Sita. Sita is scared. Sita cries for Lord Rama. Lord Rama hears Sita's cries in His heart. Lord Rama sends Hanuman to Lanka. Hanuman finds Sita in the garden. Hanuman shows Sita Lord Rama's ring. Now Sita knows Lord Rama is coming for her very soon.



Remembering what you read - *can you answer these questions?*

1. What is life in the forest like for Sita?
2. What trick does Ravana play on Sita?
3. Why does Sita step out of the magic ring?
4. Where does Ravana keep Sita?
5. What does Hanuman show Sita? Why?



A Song for Lord Rama - Shree Rama Stuti

By Goswami Tulsidas

1.

shree ram chandra kripalu bhaju mana
harana bhavabhaya daarunam
navakanj lochana kanjamukh kara kanjapada kanjaarunam
shree ram chandra kripalu bhaju mana

2.

kandarpa aganeeta ameeta chabi nava neela neeraja sundaram
patapeeta maanahum tarita ruchi-suchi navmi janaka sutaavaram
shree ram chandra kripalu bhaju mana
harana bhavabhaya daarunam

3.

bhaju deena bandhu dinesha daanava daitya-vansha-nikandam
raghunanda aanandkanda kaushala chanda dasharatha nandanam
shree ram chandra kripalu bhaju mana
harana bhavabhaya daarunam

4.

sira mukuta kundala tilaka chaaru udaaru anga vibhushanam
aajaanubhuj sar chapadhara sangraama-jita-khara dushnam
shree ram chandra kripalu bhaju mana
harana bhavabhaya daarunam

5.

iti vadati tulsidaasa shankara sheesh muni manaranjanam
mama hridayakanja nivaasa kuru kaamaadi khaladalaganjanam
shree ram chandra kripalu bhaju mana
harana bhavabhaya daarunam



Translation

1.

Oh, my heart! Sing praises of Shree Rama Who removes the greatest fears due to the cycle of life and death, and Whose eyes, mouth, hands, and feet are like a newly blooming red lotus

2.

I bow to Shree Rama, Whose beauty cannot be compared with that of the cupid Kamadeva, Whose pleasing appearance is beyond any measures, Whose body is like a newly formed dense blue cloud, Whose yellow robes are shining like lightning (on His cloudlike body), Whose beauty is gleaming, and Who is the consort of the daughter of Janaka (Sita)

3.

Sing praises of Shree Rama, Who is the friend of poor, Who is the Lord of the Sun, Who stopped the dynasty of demons from Danu and Diti, Who is the dear one of Raghu, Who is like a cloud of happiness, Who is like a moon for Kausalya, and Who is the dearmost one of Dasharatha

4.

Sing praises of Shree Rama, Who has a beautiful crown on His head, Who has beautiful ear-hoops, Who has a beautiful colored mark (tilak) on His forehead, Who has long and beautiful limbs decorated with ornaments, Whose long arms reach His knees, Who holds a bow and arrow, and Who defeated Khara and Dushana in a fierce battle

5.

Tulsidas says this: Rama, charmer of Shiva, Shesha (Sheshanaga), and the saints, reside in my lotus-like heart, and destroy all of my material desires



Hanuman is Lord Rama's best devotee



Hanuman, Lord Rama's best devotee



Doing your best

Hanuman tries very hard. He tries **as hard as** he can.

Hanuman flies very far. He flies **as far as** he can.

Hanuman serves Lord Rama a lot. He serves **as much as** he can.

Now you do it:

1. I try very hard. I try _____ I can.
2. The plane flies very far. The plane flies _____ it can.
3. We serve the Lord. We serve Him _____ we can.



Now read this story:

Hanuman is Lord Rama's best devotee. Hanuman does everything for Lord Rama. He tries as hard as he can. He **lifts** mountains. He **fights** whole armies. He jumps high into the sky. He flies for many miles. He gives all of his **energy** to Lord Rama. He serves Lord Rama with his whole heart. Hanuman tries his best to do his service. He is kind to everyone. He is simple and **pure**. He lives to serve Lord Rama. Hanuman loves Lord Rama.

Hanuman finds Sita in the garden. She is putting some red powder on her head. She **dips** her finger into a jar. She **wipes** the red powder into the **part** in her hair. Hanuman watches Sita.

"What is that powder, Mother Sita?" Hanuman asks.

"It's called sindoor, dear prabhu," Mother Sita explains. "I **wear** this powder to protect Lord Rama from danger. This powder gives Lord Rama a long life, too."

Hanuman thinks for a moment. Hanuman takes the sindoor from the jar. He wipes the red powder all over his body. Hanuman wants to protect Lord Rama.

When Hanuman returns to Lord Rama and his army, the monkey soldiers laugh at him. Hanuman is all red!

Lord Rama asks Hanuman, "Son, why do you have red powder all over your body?"



Hanuman smiles, "Because I want to protect you, my Lord. I want to give you a very long life."

Lord Rama smiles back., "Then, anyone who **offers** sindoor to Hanuman gets my **blessings!**" Jai Shree Rama! Jai Hanuman!



Write about it

Use the ten words in **boldface** in the story in original sentences of your own. Try to make the sentences about Lord Rama.



Remembering what you read - *can you answer these questions?*

1. Name three qualities of Hanuman.
2. What is Sita doing with the red powder?
3. Why does Sita wear the red powder?
4. And Hanuman - what does he do with the red powder?
5. What does Lord Rama say when He sees Hanuman?



Jai Shree Rama!