



Lord Rama -
 Appearance
 Celebration

Friday -
 April 3rd
 5:30 pm



Festivities
 Include -
 Guru Puja
 Tulsi Puja
 Abhishek
 Lecture
 Gaura
 Aratik
 Prasadam
 Feast



“Rama Lakshmana Janaki
 Jai Bolo Hanuman Ki”

*****Latest Temple News*****

Nine Processes Of Devotional Service

1. hearing
2. chanting
3. remembering
4. worshipping
5. serving the lotus feet of the Lord
6. offering prayers
7. carrying out the orders of the Lord
8. making friends with Him
9. surrendering everything to Him

“One can engage in all nine devotional processes, or eight, or seven, or at least in one, and that will surely make one perfect.”

Srila Prabhupada, Bg 11.55

Gaura Purnima Celebration



Chaitanya from the Sri Caitanya Caritamrta. The highlight for everyone was the abhishek portion, where our Nimai-Nitai deities were personally bathed by the devotees in attendance. All the devotees, young and old, took great joy in personally rendering this great service to Krishna. Thank you to all who attended and helped organize this event. May Lord Chaitanya continue to bless us and allow us the opportunity to constantly chant His holy name.

On Tuesday, March 10th, the temple celebrated the appearance day of Lord Shri Krishna Chaitanya. This is always special since Lord Chaitanya is one of our presiding deities at the temple. Our program included the regular Sunday feast style program with our lecture time featuring selected readings about Lord

tees, young and old, took great joy in personally rendering this great service to Krishna. Thank you to all who attended and helped organize this event. May Lord Chaitanya continue to bless us and allow us the opportunity to constantly chant His holy name.



Vaishnava Calendar

Friday April 3rd - Rama Navami
(Appearance Day of Lord Ramachandra)

Sunday April 5th - Ekadasi

Monday April 20th - Ekadasi

Monday May 4th - Ekadasi

Thursday May 7th - Narasimha Caturdasi
(Appearance Day of Lord Narasimhadeva)

Latest Pictures



Lord Rama

Rama Navami celebrates the appearance day of Lord Ramachandra, the incarnation of Lord Krishna dedicated to righteousness and the protection of the brahmanas. The following excerpt from the Srimad-Bhagavatam briefly gives a description of Lord Rama's life and pastimes.



Being prayed for by the demigods, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, the Absolute Truth Himself, directly appeared with His expansion and expansions of the expansion. Their holy names were Rāma, Lakshmana, Bharata and Shatrughna. These celebrated incarnations thus appeared in four forms as the sons of Mahārāja Dasharatha.

O King Parikshit, the transcendental activities of Lord Rāmacandra have been described by great saintly persons who have seen the truth. Because you have heard again and again about Lord Rāmacandra, the husband of mother Sitā, I shall describe these activities only in brief. Please listen.

To keep the promise of His father intact, Lord Rāmacandra immediately gave up the position of king and, accompanied by His wife, mother Sitā, wandered from one forest to another on His lotus feet, which were so delicate that they were unable to bear even the touch of Sitā's palms. The Lord was also accompanied by Hanumān [or by another monkey, Sugriva], king of the monkeys, and by His own younger brother Lord Lakshmana, both of whom gave Him relief from the fatigue of wandering in the forest. Having cut off the nose and ears of Shurpanakhā, thus disfiguring her, the Lord was separated from mother Sitā. He therefore became angry, moving His eyebrows and thus frightening the ocean, who then allowed the Lord to construct a bridge to cross the ocean. Subsequently, the Lord entered the kingdom of Rāvana to kill him, like a fire devouring a forest. May that Supreme Lord, Rāmacandra, give us all protection.

In the arena of the sacrifice performed by Vishvāmītra, Lord Rāmacandra, the King of Ayodhyā, killed many demons, Rākshasas and uncivilized men who wandered at night in the mode of darkness. May Lord Rāmacandra, who killed these demons in the presence of Lakshmana, be kind enough to give us protection.

O King, the pastimes of Lord Rāmacandra were wonderful, like those of a baby elephant. In the assembly where mother Sitā

was to choose her husband, in the midst of the heroes of this world, He broke the bow belonging to Lord Shiva. This bow was so heavy that it was carried by three hundred men, but Lord Rāmacandra bent and strung it and broke it in the middle, just as a baby elephant breaks a stick of sugarcane. Thus the Lord achieved the hand of mother Sitā, who was equally as endowed with transcendental qualities of form, beauty, behavior, age and nature. Indeed, she was the goddess of fortune who constantly rests on the chest of the Lord. While returning from Sitā's home after gaining her at the assembly of competitors, Lord Rāmacandra met Parashurāma. Although Parashurāma was very proud, having rid the earth of the royal order twenty-one times, he was defeated by the Lord, who appeared to be a kshatriya of the royal order.

Carrying out the order of His father, who was bound by a promise to his wife, Lord Rāmacandra left behind His kingdom, opulence, friends, well-wishers, residence and everything else, just as a liberated soul gives up his life, and went to the forest with Sitā.

While wandering in the forest, where He accepted a life of hardship, carrying His invincible bow and arrows in His hand, Lord Rāmacandra deformed Rāvana's sister, who was polluted with lusty desires, by cutting off her nose and ears. He also killed her fourteen thousand Rākshasa friends, headed by Khara, Trishira and Dushana.

O King Parikshit, when Rāvana, who had ten heads on his shoulders, heard about the beautiful and attractive features of Sitā, his mind was agitated by lusty desires, and he went to kidnap her. To distract Lord Rāmacandra from His āshrama, Rāvana sent Mārica in the form of a golden deer, and when Lord Rāmacandra saw that wonderful deer, He left His residence and followed it and finally killed it with a sharp arrow, just as Lord Shiva killed Daksha.

When Rāmacandra entered the forest and Lakshmana was also absent, the worst of the Rākshasas, Rāvana, kidnapped Sitādevi, the

daughter of the King of Videha, just as a tiger seizes unprotected sheep when the shepherd is absent. Then Lord Rāmacandra wandered in the forest with His brother Lakshmana as if very much distressed due to separation from His wife. Thus He showed by His personal example the condition of a person attached to women.

Lord Rāmacandra, whose lotus feet are worshiped by Lord Brahmā and Lord Shiva, had assumed the form of a human being. Thus He performed the funeral ceremony of Jatāyu, who was killed by Rāvana. The Lord then killed the demon named Kabandha, and after making friends with the monkey chiefs, killing Vāli and arranging for the deliverance of mother Sitā, He went to the beach of the ocean.

After reaching the beach, Lord Rāmacandra fasted for three days, awaiting the arrival of the ocean personified. When the ocean did not come, the Lord exhibited His pastimes of anger, and simply by His glancing over the ocean, all the living entities within it, including the crocodiles and sharks, were agitated by fear. Then the personified ocean fearfully approached Lord Rāmacandra, taking all paraphernalia to worship Him. Falling at the Lord's lotus feet, the personified ocean spoke as follows.

O all-pervading Supreme Person, we are dull-minded and did not understand who You are, but now we understand that You are the Supreme Person, the master of the entire universe, the unchanging and original Personality of Godhead. The demigods are infatuated with the mode of goodness, the Prajāpatis with the mode of passion, and the lord of ghosts with the mode of ignorance, but You are the master of all these qualities.

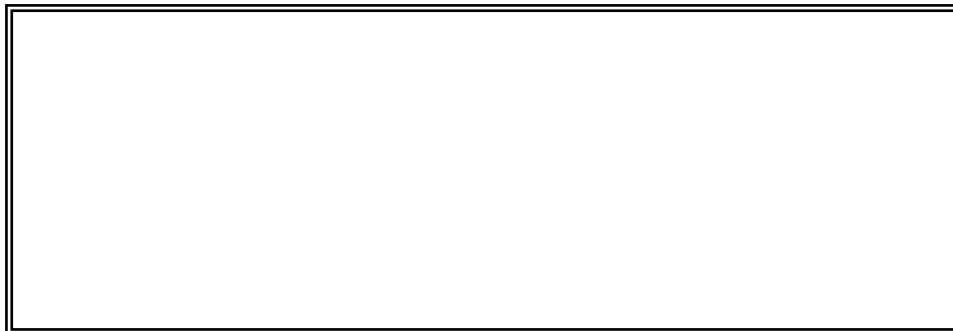
My Lord, You may use my water as You like. Indeed, You may cross it and go to the abode of Rāvana, who is the great source of disturbance and crying for the three worlds. He is the son of Vishravā, but is condemned like urine. Please go kill him and thus regain Your wife, Sitādevi. O great

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...Continued from page 3...

hero, although my water presents no impediment to Your going to Lankā, please construct a bridge over it to spread Your transcendental fame. Upon seeing this wonderfully uncommon deed of Your Lordship, all the great heroes and kings in the future will glorify You.

Shukadeva Gosvāmi said: After constructing a bridge over the ocean by throwing into the water the peaks of mountains whose trees and other vegetation had been shaken by the hands of great monkeys, Lord Rāmacandra went to Lankā to release Sitādevi from the clutches of Rāvana. With the direction and help of Vibhishana, Rāvana's brother, the Lord, along with the monkey soldiers, headed by Sugriva, Nila and Hanumān, entered Rāvana's kingdom, Lankā, which had previously been burnt by Hanumān.

After entering Lankā, the monkey soldiers, led by chiefs like Sugriva, Nila and Hanumān, occupied all the sporting houses, granaries, treasuries, palace doorways, city gates, assembly houses, palace frontages and even the resting houses of the pigeons. When the city's crossroads, platforms, flags and golden waterpots on its domes were all destroyed, the entire city of Lankā appeared like a river disturbed by a herd of elephants.

When Rāvana, the master of the Rākshasas, saw the disturbances created by the monkey soldiers, he called for Nikumbha, Kumbha, Dhurmāksha, Durmukha, Surāntaka, Narāntaka and other Rākshasas and also his son Indrajit. Thereafter he called for Prahasta, Atikāya, Vikampana and finally Kumbhakarna. Then he induced all his followers to fight against the enemies.

Lord Rāmacandra, surrounded by Lakshmana and monkey soldiers like Sugriva, Hanumān, Gandhamāda, Nila, Angada, Jāmbavān and Panasa, attacked the soldiers of the Rākshasas, who were fully equipped with various invincible weapons like swords, lances, bows, prāsas, rshtis, shakti arrows, khadgas and tomaras.

Angada and the other commanders of the soldiers of Rāmacandra faced the elephants, infantry, horses and chariots of the enemy and hurled against them big trees, mountain peaks, clubs and arrows. Thus the soldiers of Lord Rāmacandra killed Rāvana's soldiers, who had lost all good fortune because Rāvana had been condemned by the anger of mother Sitā.

Thereafter, when Rāvana, the king of the Rākshasas, observed that his soldiers had been lost, he was extremely angry. Thus he

mounted his airplane, which was decorated with flowers, and proceeded toward Lord Rāmacandra, who sat on the effulgent chariot brought by Mātali, the chariot driver of Indra. Then Rāvana struck Lord Rāmacandra with sharp arrows.

Lord Rāmacandra said to Rāvana: You are the most abominable of the man-eaters. Indeed, you are like their stool. You resemble a dog, for as a dog steals eatables from the kitchen in the absence of the householder, in My absence you kidnapped My wife, Sitādevi. Therefore as Yamarāja punishes sinful men, I shall also punish you. You are most abominable, sinful and shameless. Today, therefore, I, whose attempt never fails, shall punish you.

After thus rebuking Rāvana, Lord Rāmacandra fixed an arrow to His bow, aimed at Rāvana, and released the arrow, which pierced Rāvana's heart like a thunderbolt. Upon seeing this, Rāvana's followers raised a tumultuous sound, crying, "Alas! Alas! What has happened? What has happened?" as Rāvana, vomiting blood from his ten mouths, fell from his airplane, just as a pious man falls to earth from the heavenly planets when the results of his pious activities are exhausted.