



Fourth
International Ramayana Conference

April 23-25, 2021

Shri Ram Charit Bhavan
Houston, USA
www.ramacharit.org

Conference General Chair

Dr. Omprakash K. Gupta
College of Business
University of Houston-Downtown, Houston, USA

Conference Co-Chair

Shivprakash Agrawal
AIMS International, India

Chief Guest

Dr. Suryanarayana Nanda
Arya Samaj Greater Houston
Houston, USA

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Balakrishnan Muniapan
Wawasan Open University, Malaysia

Review Committee

Ram Mallik
C. Kameswari
Vinita Mishra
Madhu Chaturvedi
Balakrishnan Muniapan

Inagural Session

23 April 2021 (Friday)

9-10 pm (India Time) – 10:30-11:30 am (Houston Time)

Chief Guest

Dr. Suryanarayana Nanda
Acharya, Arya Samaj of Greater Houston,
Houston, USA

रामो विग्रहवान् धर्मः।

Ram, the Embodiment of Dharma

BOOK LAUNCH: Pearls of Ramayana रामायण के मोती

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Balakrishnan Muniapan
Wawasan Open University, Malaysia

Academic Research from Ramayana

In this presentation, the speaker will share his perspectives on academic research from Ramayana. Ramayana research is a careful and systematic process of inquiry (*jignasa*) to create knowledge, to contribute significantly to theory and practice, and to find answers to current world problems from Ramayana. Although the focus of the presentation will be on management and governance from Ramayana, other areas such as ethics, psychology, sociology, anthropology, geography, history, economics, politics, arts and culture, botany and science will also be explored. The presentation is expected to provide researchers to explore their areas of specialization from Ramayana by employing appropriate methodologies and the possible journals for publication.

SAA, 24 April, 2021
8:30 a.m.-10:10 a.m. (India Time)
Session Chair: Vinay Sharma, IIT Roorkee, India

151 हिन्दी साहित्य में राम काव्य : एक दृष्टिपात

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रामकथा के बारे में कहा जाता है कि, 'हरि अनंत, हरिकथा अनंत, कहहि सुनहि बहूविध श्रुति संता'। वैसे तो वेदों, महाभारत, बौद्धग्रंथों, जैनग्रंथों आदि में रामकथा के पात्रों का या कथा का यत्र-तत्र उल्लेख मिलता है। पर सबसे पहले वाल्मीकि 'रामायण' में ही रामकथा सूत्रबद्ध रूपमें मिलती है। हिन्दी साहित्य में सबसे पहले चंदबरदाई रचित 'पृथ्वीराज रासो' में रामकथा का उल्लेख मिलता है। इस प्रकार चंदबरदायी कृत 'दशावतार प्रसंग' में रामकाव्य का रूप प्रायः वीर रसात्मक है। विष्णुदास कृत 'रामायन कथा' भी उल्लेखनीय है। यह ग्रन्थ अप्रभंश साहित्य और तुलसी साहित्य के बीच की कड़ी है।

152 Grooming HR Innovations and Principles from Ramayana: The Need of the 21st Century Organisations

Partha Naskar, Kolkata Pay & Accounts Office II, naskarpartha@yahoo.co.in

The business world in now recognizing the people factor and efficiently managing human resources is highly challenging for this era leaders. The greatest epic Ramayana embraces new lessons and thoughts and in itself is a classic example of putting HR practices as is best use and getting the work done. The paper attempts to portray the teachings of Ramayana can help to develop innovations for HRM for perennial improvement of work force and sustainable development of organisations. The essence of the paper focuses on reinventing futuristic HR trends blended with treasured human consciousness and inner commitment doctrines of Ramayana.

155 Principal Ideas of Yoga Vasistha

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Yoga Vasistha is a detailed conversation between Shri Ram and his spiritual teacher Maharshi Vasistha. The ideas contributed in this greatest classics ever recorded are mostly in the form of parable stories . This book also known as Maha Ramayan, composed in 32000 verses and 64000 lines. The book deals with six major sections. On knowing Shri Ram's reason for depression Maharshi Vasistha contributes following ideas for liberation. There are four gatekeepers to the Realm of Freedom: 1. Shanti (Self Control), 2.Vichara (spirit of enquiry), 3.Santosh (Contentment), and 4. Satsanga (good company).

156 Panorama of Science & Technology in the Ram Charit Manas

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It's a spiritual panorama of God Rama's virtues in the poetic diction sung by the different Devotees from the different geographical regions of India, and overseas, labelled with different names of their devotional choice exhibiting the beautiful bouquets of chanting divine flowers for the wellness of the humanity. The 'Panorama of Science & Technology in the Ram Charit Manas' is a quadrant of panoramas of virtues of God Rama, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu as per the Hindu mythology. 'Ram Charit Manas' is summation of three words Ram + Charit (Good Deeds)+ Manas (Lake), adorned with the God Rama Spectrum of 7 Colours representing Solar -Family ('Surya-Vansh') ,comprising Seven colours.

158 Introduction to Rāmeṇa Rāmadāseṇa Likhitaṃ Vālmīkirāmāyaṇam

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śrī Samartha Rāmadāsa Svāmī was a philosopher, poet, writer, and spiritual Guru. At the age of twelve, he is believed to spend the next twelve years at ṭākalī near Nāśika, as an ascetic in complete devotion to Rama. During this period, he wrote entire Vālmīkirāmāyaṇam. Its colophons support in as evidence of the same. This MS is quite unique in as much as it contains passages that are not found in any published editions such as Gorresio's ed., Lahore ed., Western and South Recension. Hence, the study of this MS may enhance the history of the textual transmission of Vālmīkirāmāyaṇa.

SAP, 24 April, 2021
9:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. (India Time)
Session Chair: Omprakash Gupta, Uni. of Houston-Downtown,
Houston, USA

157 सीतान्वेषण : एक भक्ति प्रवास

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भक्ति रूप सीता माता की खोज में, हनुमान जी को स्वयं से ऊपर उठकर विभिन्न बाधाओं को लांघना पड़ा, उदाहरणार्थ: अंतःशत्रु (स्वार्थरूपी मैनाक, एवं काम रूपी सुरसा) बहिर्यशत्रु (घात रूपी निशिचरी, भयरूपी लंकिनी, एवं प्रलोभन रूपी लंका का वैभव)। कार्य की सिद्धि के लिए हनुमान जी को अपने सूक्ष्म मसक एवं दरिद्र ब्राह्मण का रूप धारण करना पड़ा। अतः भक्ति एक ऐसी स्वयं साधना है जिसमें अंतः एवं बहिर्य षड रिपुओं को पराजित करने के उपरांत ही भगवत प्राप्ति होती है।

163 आज के भूमंडलीकरण संस्कृति में भगवान् राम के “मैत्री भाव मैनेजमेंट” की प्रासंगिकता

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भूमंडलीकरण के इस युग में जहाँ हमारी जीवन शैली पूरी तरह से भूमंडलीय हो चुकी है। आज पूरा विश्व एक परिवार बन गया है। तकनीकी प्रगति ने भारतीय संस्कृति के मूल मंत्र ‘वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्’ के भाव को यथार्थ में चरितार्थ कर दिया है। परिवार सीमित हुए हुए लेकिन मित्रों पर आश्रितता, विश्वसनीयता, का दायरा बढ़ा है। आज जिस तकनीकी पर हम गर्व करते हैं उसका अतीत हमारे रामायणकाल से बेहतर क्या हो सकता है। ५००० वर्ष पूर्व जब अपने घर—परिवार—राजमहल से दूर श्री राम सुमंत्र को वापस भेजकर चौदह वर्ष के वनवास के लिए आगे बढ़ जाते हैं आगे की यात्रा निषाद राह गुहा जैसे मित्र से भेंट के साथ प्राम्भ होती है। वो नित नए मित्रों से भेंट करते हुए आगे बढ़ती हुई लंका के साथ युद्ध से पूर्व विभीषण जैसे मित्र के साथ पूरी होती है।

164 तेलुगुवालों के भद्राचलम तथा श्रीराम कल्याणोत्सव

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श्रीराम की भक्त वत्सलता विश्वविश्रुत है। दक्षिण भारत में भद्राचलम नामक पुण्य क्षेत्र में वे ‘राम नारायण’ के रूप में पवित्र गोदावरी के तट पर निवास करते हैं। कहा जाता है कि मेरुपर्वत के पुत्र भद्र ने भगवान विष्णु के लिए घोर तप किया। तब विष्णु भगवान लक्ष्मी समेत प्रत्यक्ष हुए तो भद्र ने भगवान से अपने ऊपर युगांत तक वास करने का वरदान मांगा, लेकिन भगवान ने कहा तुम्हारी इच्छा मेरे रामावतार में पूरी होगी। अपने वचन के अनुसार भगवान विष्णु ने अपने रामायण में वनवास के समय इस भद्रगिरी पर कुछ समय वास किया। यहां राम ने सीता के लिए दो कुंडों को सृष्टि की जनमें एक गरम पानी का है और दूसरा ठंडे पानी का (अब भी ये कुंड हैं) इस महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्र में राम ‘राम नारायण’ नाम से प्रसिद्ध हैं क्योंकि यहां राम के चार हाथों में धनुर्बाण के साथ शंख—चक्र भी हैं। ये ‘शांत राम’ के रूप में दिखाई देते हैं और इनके वामांग में सीता विराजमान हैं। इन दोनों के साथ लक्ष्मण की मूर्ति भी है।

167 महर्षि वाल्मिकी रचित रामायण में सौंदर्यसृष्टि

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महर्षि वाल्मिकीकी महत्वपूर्ण विशेषताको देखें तो वह है "रामायण की सौंदर्यसृष्टि" निबंध सारांशमें सौंदर्यसृष्टिके दो उदाहरण प्रस्तुत हैं। पहला उदाहरण है ,कविने विविध व्यक्तिरेखाओंके लिये विशेष संबोधनोंका प्रयोग किया है। राम लक्ष्मण जब महर्षि विश्वामित्रके साथ जाते हैं तब मार्गमें प्रातःसमय निद्रासे जगानेके लिये 'कौसल्यात्मज, रघुनंदन' ऐसे अनेक सुंदर संबोधनोंका प्रयोग करते हैं जिससे ऋषीका वात्सल्य,कविका पदलालित्य और भावनिक सौंदर्यका संगम होकर एक अनोखा चिरंतन सौंदर्य निर्माण हुआ है । द्वितीय उदाहरण है, रामचंद्रजीका वनवास निकलना. उस समय कुलगुरु वसिष्ठ कहते हैं "सीता पालयिष्यति मेदिनीम्." इसमें सीताका ज्ञान,राजकारणपटुत्व,वसिष्ठकी गुणग्राहकता आदि विशेषताएं प्रकट होती हैं.

170 करुणानिधान श्रीरामकी अतिशय प्रिया जगज्जननी सीताजी

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रामचरित मानस में सीताजी और उनके करुणानिधान रामजी के पारस्परिक संबंध का वर्णन सर्वप्रमुख और मनोरंजक है। तुलसीदासजी कहते हैं कि जगज्जननी सीता करुणानिधान राम की अतिशय प्रिय हैं और दोनों अभिन्न हैं। मिथिला नरेश की पुष्पवाटिका में प्रथम मिलन में दोनों स्नेह में बँध गये। विवाह के पश्चात राम एक राजकुमार से मर्यादा पुरुषोत्तम हो गये और सीताजी के करुणानिधान भी। उनके जीवनमें सुख दुख आये परन्तु उनके प्रेममें कमी नहीं आई। वनबास में साथ रहे। वन में राक्षसों का संकट देखा तो रामजी ने सीताजी को अग्निदेव के पास रखा और लीला में माया सीताजी को प्रस्तुत किया। रावण द्वारा सीता हरण के बाद सीताजी के वियोग में दुःखी होकर भटकते हुये खग-मृग से उनका पता पछूते रहे, सदैव उन्हींका स्मरण करते रहे। रावण का संहार कर सीता जी को मुक्त किया और अग्निदेव से वास्तविक सीताजी को लेकर अयोध्या वापस आये। अवध का राज्य सँभाला सीताजी को रानी बनाया। बाद में जनसमुदाय में उनपर लांछन लगाये गये। गर्भवती सीताजी वाल्मीकि मुनि के आश्रम में रहने लगी। वहाँ उन्होंने दो जुड़वा पुत्रों को जन्म दिया। रामजीने सीताजी को राजसभा में अपनी पवित्रता प्रकट करने का आदेश दिया। सीताजी अपनी धरती माता की गोदमें बैठकर चली गईं। इन कथाओं में विविधता है और उनपर अनेक विवाद भी। परन्तु सीताजी और उनके करुणानिधि रामके के बीच के अतिशय प्रेम और पारस्परिक विश्वास पर कभी कोई संदेह नहीं है।

175 रामायण के चिर स्मरणीय पात्र

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वाल्मीकि ने रामायण की रचना के समय बिना किसी भेदभाव के स्त्री और पुरुष को समाज में समान महत्व दिया है, परंतु ऐसा लगता है कि हम मानव ने इसे सही रूप में समझने का प्रयास नहीं किया है। हमने अपनी रुचि और मानसिकता के अनुरूप उन्हीं अंशों को ग्रहण किया है, जिन्हें हमने श्रेष्ठ और उत्तम माना है। हमारी दृष्टि में जो निम्न और बुरा है, उसे हमने समझने का प्रयास नहीं किया। प्रस्तुत प्रपत्र के माध्यम से हम रामायण के कुछ नकारात्मक पात्रों का विश्लेषण करेंगे, जो रामायण गाथा के महत्वपूर्ण अंश हैं।

SUA, 25 April, 2021

8:30 a.m.-10:10 a.m. (India Time)

**Session Chair: Balakrishnan Muniapan, Wawasan Open University,
Malaysia**

162 Lessons for Effective Business Leadership - Ramayana Depicts through Many Real-life Examples

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Across the globe, there are many people holding various leadership positions but it is common to listen that there is dearth of actual leaders. On the other hand, in business, it is very common to listen from people holding responsible positions that team spirit is missing among subordinates and it is very difficult to manage with them. Despite several top management institutes, leadership coaching and best of business oriented teachings, such adverse observations indicate that there are definite gap areas. Those gap areas can be filled by the Ramayana which, through many real-life examples, carries lessons for effective business leadership.

169 A Conceptual Study to Review Management Lessons from Ramayana - A Study to enhance strategic effectiveness in Modern Management Practices

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Our ancient Indian scriptures are repositories of data and references of recent management theories and practices is found in them. Ramayana, one of the most popular scriptural texts of India has many lessons on management that can well be a part of modern management literature. The present paper is an attempt to draw insights from Ramayana to enrich modern management practice. But, management doesn't appear as a preferred topic of research from the Sanskrit literature, though Valmiki Sanskrit literature is full of content which may give learning outcomes to modern managers. Our ancient Indian scriptures are repositories of information and references of contemporary management theories and practices is found in them. Ramayana, one in all the foremost fashionable scriptural texts of Asian country has several lessons on management knowledge which will somewhat be a region of contemporary management literature. This paper fills the gap by applying the teachings of Ramayana to the Strategic Management discipline. Various lessons for enhancing strategic effectiveness from this Ramayana literature have been explored in this research paper.

171 The Story of Lord Hanuman's Birth and Early Life

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Lord Hanuman is a Hindu deity. The story of his meeting with Bhagwan Ram and his subsequent activities and accomplishments have been narrated in great details in all

Ramayanas and other Ramakathas. However, the story of his birth and early life is practically missing except some interpolations with varying accounts. Hanuman is generally recognized as the son of Kesari the mighty king of Sumeru Hill and a forest dweller (vanar) and his wife queen Anjani. Kesari is credited with killing terrible demons. Hanuman's real name has been mentioned Sundar and his jaw was broken while watching the sun and hence Hanuman a person with deformed jaw. He got proper education in Vedic system as appropriate for a prince. On the contrary the various Ramakatha sources mention Wind God, Shiva and several others as father and a cursed apsara born as Anjana. As a child Hanuman swallowed sun and was hit by Indra's thunderbolt in his jaw. He got his education from by flying and following. The authors of source books on Hanuman such as Catherine Ludvik explain these fantastic accounts by telling that Ramastory (Ramakatha) is not history but rather a legend.

173 Shri Rama, The Universal Ideal!!

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In this paper, the learning from Ramayana has been illuminated and its relevance to virtuous management has been advocated. Lord Shri Rama lived human life in the most practical way possible in its different aspects of social relationships firmly established in the Dharma, through His well-regulated personality and highly refined conduct. An ideal life, whether corporate or personal, can be lived on earth by following the guidance of this glorious leader of humanity, the true representative of the Supreme Divinity who manifested himself for the benefit of all subsequent generations.

174 Principles and Practices of Management: The Ramayan way

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This paper is drafted on the basis of a subjective exploration philosophy (hermeneutics) it is simply the translation of previous writing (Valmiki Ramayana) and review of Management Practices. Valmiki Ramayana has exercises in all parts of human existence. It likewise has exercises in governance issues, financial matters, social science, behavioural and psychological research, the human qualities, and morals, etc. Ancient civilisations since the commencement crafted and used strategies for management (planning, decision making, organising, leading, motivating, controlling etc). The Management Style of Lord Rama is highlighted here in getting work done through and with individuals by applying principles and practices of management.

177 राम को कौन बताए कि वो कहाँ रहे

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राम महर्षि वाल्मीकि के आश्रम में आ पहुंचे हैं। लम्बा वनवास काटना है तो एक निरापद जगह की तलाश में हैं। वन गमन के पिता के आदेश की पूरी कथा बतला कर वे वाल्मीकि से सहसा ही पूछ बैठते हैं – मुनिवर वह जगह बताइये जहाँ मैं, सीता और लक्ष्मण के साथ कुछ समय व्यतीत कर सकूँ। वाल्मीकि सुनकर मुस्करा पड़ते हैं। सकल ब्रह्मांड का स्वामी, सर्वव्यापी का यह मासूम प्रश्न वाल्मीकि को मानो निःशब्द कर देता है – अब वे क्या उत्तर दें। कौन सी जगह उन्हें बता दी जाये जयं वे न रहते हों, राम कण कण में व्याप्त हैं और कोई जगह उनसे अछूती रहा गयी हो तो न बताई जाये।

SUP, 25 April, 2021
9:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. (India Time)
Session Chair: Rajat Agrawal, IIT Roorkee, India

159 Linguistic Relativity: A Lesson Learned from the Story of Maharishi Valmiki

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This paper explores the concept of linguistic relativity from the marvelous epic and first written literature in Indian context- Valmiki Ramayana focusing on the event of emergence of Maharishi Valmiki from his old self; a robber, after utterance of 'Ram' in a continuous mantra. This incident elucidates the concept of linguistic relativity; linguistic variation occurs due to individualistic pattern-system of language and their unique systematic organization of the world. This channels variations in reasoning and consciousness and the ultimate thought process. The purpose of this paper is to present the existence of the concept of linguistic relativity in Indian Vedas and detect its presence in Ramayana in particular.

160 Shri Ramcharitmanas and Medicinal Plants: Projecting Medicinal, Sociocultural and Spiritual Importance in Contemporary Times

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Epic Ramayana is bristling with magnificent descriptions of nature's glory. The sanctity of plants, as depicted in Lord Rama's journey, has a special significance in Ayurveda. This article is aimed to review the ethnopharmacological records of medicinal plants described in Shri Ramcharitmanas, with detailed information on parts used, local name, therapeutic uses, spiritual values, sociocultural and ritual beliefs associated with the plants. About 182 plants, including trees, shrubs, climbers, tubers and fruits, are described in Ramayana, out of which this paper illustrates six plant species vividly found in various regions of Uttarakhand state. The selected plants are primarily used to cure various diseases and ailments.

161 Business Crisis due to Corona Virus Pandemic and Importance of Lessons from Ramayana

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In continuing fight with Corona Virus pandemic, there were forced lockdowns in many countries and severe restrictions were imposed in movements of man, machine and material. These have adversely impacted and created crisis situation for majority of the business sectors all over. In this business crisis situation which has shaken economy of majority of countries, lessons from Ramayan would certainly be of great importance. The Ramayana while depicting Lord Rama's life and struggles during various crisis situations carries many important management lessons. This paper highlights that lessons from Ramayana can be of great help to overcome present Business Crisis situations.

171A The nine kinds of devotion illustrated in Ramayana

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This paper presents an illustration of the nine kinds of devotion as enumerated by Prahlada (the son of Hiranyakashipu who was killed by Lord Narashimha) within the context of Ramayana. More information about Lord Narasimha, Prahlada and Hiranyakasipu is available in Bhagavata Purana or widely known as Srimad Bhagavatham. The nine kinds of devotions. Valmiki in his Ramayana illustrates all these nine kinds of devotion through nine characters to foster Bhakti in the minds of those who reads, listen and speaks about Ramayana.

172 Ram an Ideal Manager, Diplomat and Politician

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Lord Ram was an ideal manager, diplomat and politician. Ramayanas narrate episodes illustrating his great accomplishments in Team Building and leadership, Personnel Development, formulating a winning Execution plan, Decision Making, Art of Dialogue, considering ideas and suggestions, encouraging team members to keep morale high, Diplomatic and political incidents. Famous examples are the development of Hanuman to godhead, crowning of Sugreva in Kishkindha and Vibhishan in Lanka, construction of sea bridge, action on the Sea King, killing of Ravan and installation of Shivalinga in Rameshwaram and acknowledging the achievements of his associates. On his return to Ayodhya he becomes the king and establishes an ideal form of governance.

176 The Yogic Leadership and Shri Ram Charitmanas: Wisdom of Bharat for Holistic Wellbeing and Sustainafinity

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The existing sustainable development paradigm provides a good framework to move the world on path of humanistic development. While on paper, the progress made appears to be excellent, often we find the gaps in theory and practice of sustainability, which is caused by a number of factors including the ethical behaviour and leadership role. The 'yogic leadership' framework, which is drawn from the wisdom of Indian scriptures Srimad Bhagwadgita and Shri Ramcharitmanas, provides a framework that aims to address the root cause instead chasing and treating indicator. Once the leadership mindset and behaviour is aligned with purity to the contextual need, the potential of infinite sustainability (sustainafinity) is sparked and system starts moving in holistic development cycle. The talk is based on review of secondry sources as well as experiences and observations.