

4. Ramayanam (Siva Dhanur Bhangam)

Scene-1:

The ballet begins with a Verse of Valmiki at the hunter's merciless shooting of one of a couple of birds. Brahma appears and orders him to write the story of Rama. The characteristics of the hero are described.



Scene-2:

The technique of narration of the story is presented in the second scene. Here, the story is narrated

Scene-3:

This scene takes us to the finding of Sita by Janaka while plowing a piece of land for a sacrificial ritual advised by Satananda. Satananda also tells Janaka the earlier story of Sita. He tells Janaka that only the one who can string Siva's bow can marry her.

Scene-4:

Rama and his brothers are shown learning archery. Viswamitra comes to the court of Dasaratha and requests him to send Rama and Lakshmana with him to the forest to protect his sacrifices. Rama and Lakshmana go with Viswamitra.

Scene-5:

This scene is woven around the grown up Sita and her sisters. They are seen by Janaka and his wife, who thinks of getting them proper bridegrooms.

Scene-6:

The sage Viswamitra initiates Rama and Lakshmana to Bala and Atibala the sacred mantras of archery and valor. Rama kills the demon Tataka.

Scene-7:

The scene begins with a worship of Siva's bow by Sita and her sisters. Swayam Varam, a process in which the bride herself chooses her bridegroom is proposed to be announced.



Scene-8:

Viswamitra teaches archery to Rama and Lakshmana and asks them to protect his Yaga, the sacrifice from the demons. Maaricha, a demon is thrown off into the sea by an arrow of Rama, and Subaahu, another demon is killed.

Scene-9:

A challenge is held for the Kings and Princes of various countries who assembled to marry Sita by stringing Siva's bow. Janaka becomes disappointed because no one is able to perform the task.

Scene-10:

Ahalya turned into a stone by a curse from her husband Gauthama comes back to life at the touch of the feet of Rama.

Scene-11:

This scene brings Rama and Lakshmana to Mythila, the palace of Sita. Viswamitra introduces them to Janaka. Rama attempts to string Siva's bow and in the process, breaks it.

Scene-12:

The final act includes the Sri Sita Rama Kalyanam and concludes with praise by Gods.

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