

ABOUT RAM

CAST AND CREDITS

Puppeteers on Stage

Mohammad Shameem
Avinsh Kumar
Pawan Waghmare
Anurupa Roy
Shamshul

Lights Design

Milind Srivastava

Animation Design

Vishal K Dar

Leather Shadow Puppets

Chidambara Rao

Music Composition

Abhijeet Bannerejee

Puppet builders

Anurupa Roy
Pawan Waghmare

Direction

Anurupa Roy

ABOUT

This play has no words, only music and visuals. This is an adaptation that looks at the Ramayana as a tragic love story and is based on several versions.

Scene 1

The exiled prince Ram looks across the sea to Lanka where he must reach to rescue his abducted wife Sita. Sitting by the sea he feels the distance between them is impossible to scale. He looks at his ring and memory scrolls unfold the past in fragments. He remembers his days as the prince of Ayodhya, riding the royal elephant and learning archery. He remembers the court of Janak where he breaks the bow of Shiva and wins the hand of princess Sita, but then they are sent on exile by the hand of Kaikaye. At the Ashoka forest the golden deer distracts Ram while Ravan abducts Sita.

Scene 2

Sitting by the sea, desperate to reach his Sita by leaping across its vastness, Ram is in agony. And from the depths of emotional despair brings to life his super-human alter-ego. Hanuman is born. He dives into the sea and swims across towards Lanka.

Scene 3

Once he reaches Ashok-Vatika(forest), Hanuman explores his beautiful surroundings. He finds Sita and delivers Ram`s message in the form of his ring. Sita looks at the ring. The moon emerges and within it she sees her beautiful memories of a shared love with Ram.

Scene 4

Soon after Hanuman is captured by a warrior demon. As punishment, Hanuman`s tail is set on fire. This leads to an enraged Hanuman who in turn sets Lanka on fire.

Scene 5

Then Ram declares war on Lanka. Monkeys and demons engage in war. Ram turns into a fierce warrior who in the end slays Ravan.

Scene 6

In the aftermath of the war Ram is covered in blood and full of doubt. He sees Sita who stands arms out-stretched towards him. Ram turns to her too but suddenly a voice blocks his path. The doubt cast by the washerman. Is Sita still pure? Did the glittering Lanka change her? Is she still devout? These questions become voices in Ram`s head, loud whispers he cannot subdue. He is unable to face his beloved Sita, one look at her and the whispers start resounding. He turns away. A heartbroken Sita sinks into the earth.

Ram becomes king of Ayodhya and rules for many years- alone...

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