

# Ram & The Software-Rajya

-Mahesh Balasubramanian

I, the modern day valmiki may have the privilege of enlightening you with the times of the modern day "ram-rajya". I am in a bit different from my Satya-Yug counterpart, in the sense that I'd get some pocket money (honorarium) for writing this piece, which even the alike of yesteryears may not have got.

So, cut to the times of Mr. Ram Singh, IT (information technology) boom & it's subsequent slowdown. Ram Singh, earlier a top-notch software developer by profession was in exile. The exile was forced upon him as one close-confidante of company's chairman, Mrs. kaikeyi, prompted to act on a well thought-out plan to bring in her son Bharat Singh to take the place that was about to be that of Ram's.

Our hero Mr. Ram Singh was not even sure how long he'd be in exile as opposed to his satyug counterpart who had surety to return after 14 long years. His good-for-nothing & unemployed brother Lacchman Prasad Singh accompanied him. So did Seeta Rao, her teammate and a promising developer who thought Ram could help change the scenario of the software field. She was more than willing to follow him wherever he went.

The recession still wasn't over. One Ravan Singh of another company, who was infamous for spreading deadly viruses chanced to know of Seeta Rao's talent. So when our hero was away to find projects, Ravan lured her away by promising her a decent lifestyle working on his Visual Basic projects. Ravan had evil designs of becoming "teeno lokon ka swami" by establishing his monopoly. Ram's neighbor Mr. Jatayu Singh saw while all this was going on.

Ram on returning was told by jatayu Singh of the recent happening. But he refused to divulge identity of Ravan Singh, as Ravan gave him a rs.50 note. He behaved more like Manoj Prabhakar. So Ram gave him twice the amount. "Ravan! That rascal!" roared Ram.

So together went Ram & Lacchman in search of Seeta. On their way they befriended Hanuman Singh, a not well to do detective of Sugreev investigation agency. Ram decided to write her a letter. Among other things, he apprised Seeta of the fact that he'd punched holes not once but thrice on his belt after she left.

Ram handed over the letter along with her JAVA certified Programmer's logo to Hanuman asking him to hand it to Seeta Rao on finding her. "Ji maalik", obliged Hanuman & went ahead for boarding the train to Ravan's territory. But Hanuman wasn't successful as he was pushed off from the jam-packed train. So he decided to employ his truck instead.

Meanwhile, Ram started developing vaccine against Ravan's viruses. Now Ram eagerly waited for Hanuman's return, puffing away his time. On Hanuman's return, he decided to meet Seeta personally and convey her about his vaccine's victory over viruses. Impressed as she ever was by Ram's ingenuity, Seeta obliged to return.

On returning to normalcy, Ram Singh as ever, searched the TOI daily for existing vacancies. To his excitement, there's an ad of his earlier company seeking one experienced JAVA developer for team-leader's post. The recession period's over, he thought. So

returned our confident hero, back in the folds of the company. Thus went Mr.Ramsingh on his way to establishing Ram-rajya, where software professionals were in abundance, a state of affairs where predators (oops! I mean Managers) and programmers used the same vending machine for their regular quota of coffee.

“Jay Siyawaar RamChandra Ki!!!”