

The Ramayana A Shortened Modern Prose Version Of The Indian Epic Penguin Classics

The Indian Epics Retold
The Valmiki Ramayana
The Little Book of Hindu Deities
The Abduction of Sita
Rama the Steadfast
The Man-eater of Malgudi
THE MAHABHARATA
Ramayana - The Story of Lord Rama
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The Financial Expert
Talkative Man

The Indian Epics Retold

“Astonishing. . . . [Satyamurti’s Mahabharata] brings [the] past alive . . . as though it were a novel in finely crafted verse.”—Vinay Dharwadker
Originally composed approximately two thousand years ago, the Mahabharata tells the story of a royal

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dynasty, descended from gods, whose feud over their kingdom results in a devastating war. But it contains much more than conflict. An epic masterpiece of huge sweep and magisterial power, “a hundred times more interesting” than the Iliad and the Odyssey, writes Wendy Doniger in the introduction, the Mahabharata is a timeless work that evokes a world of myth, passion, and warfare while exploring eternal questions of duty, love, and spiritual freedom. A seminal Hindu text, which includes the Bhagavad Gita, it is also one of the most important and influential works in the history of world civilization. Innovatively composed in blank verse rather than prose, Carole Satyamurti’s English retelling covers all eighteen books of the Mahabharata. This new version masterfully captures the beauty, excitement, and profundity of the original Sanskrit poem as well as its magnificent architecture and extraordinary scope.

The Valmiki Ramayana

A sweeping tale of abduction, battle, and courtship played out in a universe of deities and demons, The Ramayana is familiar to virtually every Indian. Although the Sanskrit original was composed by Valmiki around the fourth century BC, poets have produced countless versions in different languages. Here, drawing on the work of an eleventh-century poet called Kamban, Narayan employs the skills of a master novelist to re-create the excitement he found in the original.

The Little Book of Hindu Deities

The Mahabharata is the more recent of India's two great epics, and by far the longer. First composed by the Maharishi Vyasa in verse, it has come down the centuries in the timeless oral tradition of guru and sishya, profoundly influencing the history, culture, and art of not only the Indian subcontinent but most of south-east Asia. At 100,000 couplets, it is seven times as long as the Iliad and the Odyssey combined: far and away the greatest recorded epic known to man. The Mahabharata is the very Book of Life: in its variety, majesty and, also, in its violence and tragedy. It has been said that nothing exists that cannot be found within the pages of this awesome legend. The epic describes a great war of some 5000 years ago, and the events that led to it. The war on Kurukshetra sees ten million warriors slain, brings the dwapara yuga to an end, and ushers in a new and sinister age: this present kali yuga, modern times. At the heart of the Mahabharata nestles the Bhagavad Gita, the Song of God. Senayor ubhayor madhye, between two teeming armies, Krishna expounds the eternal dharma to his warrior of light, Arjuna. At one level, all the restless action of the Mahabharata is a quest for the Gita and its sacred stillness. After the carnage, it is the Gita that survives, immortal lotus floating upon the dark waters of desolation: the final secret! With its magnificent cast of characters, human, demonic, and divine, and its riveting narrative, the Mahabharata continues to enchant readers and scholars the world over. This new rendering brings the epic to the contemporary reader in sparkling

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modern prose. It brings alive all the excitement, magic, and grandeur of the original-for our times.

The Abduction of Sita

Rama the Steadfast

A retelling of the Tamil epic poem which records Prince Rama's search for his abducted sweetheart, Sita.

The Man-eater of Malgudi

An examination of the origins of India's three-thousand-year-old epic recounts the story of the Ramayana as it leads the reader along Rama's route through the India of today, visiting the battlefield of Lanka and the birthplace of Ayodhya. Reprint.

THE MAHABHARATA

The Talkative Man tells the story of a mysterious stranger who arrives at the Malgudi train station to pursue a purported U.N. project. The stranger winds up

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staying at Talkative Man's home, where he begins to seduce the librarian's daughter.

Ramayana - The Story of Lord Rama

After she and Rama are banished from the kingdom, Sita is imprisoned in a garden and must prove herself to be true to Rama, in a graphic adaptation of the great Indian legend.

Grandmother's Tale And Selected Stories

The Ramayana

The greatest Indian epic, one of the world's supreme masterpieces of storytelling A sweeping tale of abduction, battle, and courtship played out in a universe of deities and demons, The Ramayana is familiar to virtually every Indian. Although the Sanskrit original was composed by Valmiki around the fourth century BC, poets have produced countless versions in different languages. Here, drawing on the work of an eleventh-century poet called Kamban, Narayan employs the skills of a master novelist to re-create the excitement he found in the original. A luminous

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saga made accessible to new generations of readers, The Ramayana can be enjoyed for its spiritual wisdom, or as a thrilling tale of ancient conflict. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators. From the Trade Paperback edition.

Rostam

Ravana, the Supreme Lord, has enslaved all the gods. Although he now rules the world, he cannot resist a beautiful woman. When he catches a glimpse of the princess Sita, he falls under her spell and steals her away. Her beloved husband, Rama, will do anything to get her back.

Gilgamesh

"I am inclined to call this the last chapter, but how can an autobiography have a final chapter? At best, it can only be a penultimate one; nor can it be given a

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rounded-off conclusion, as is possible in a work of fiction." So begins the last chapter of *My Days*, the only memoir from R. K. Narayan, hailed as "India's most notable novelist and short-story writer" by the *New York Times Book Review*. In his usual winning, humorous style, R. K. Narayan shares his life story, beginning in his grandmother's garden in Madras with his ferocious pet peacock. As a young boy with no interest in school, he trains grasshoppers, scouts, and generally takes part in life's excitements. Against the advice of all, especially his commanding headmaster father, the dreaming Narayan takes to writing fiction, and one of his pieces is accepted by *Punch* magazine (his "first prestige publication"). Soon his life includes bumbling British diplomats, curious movie moguls, evasive Indian officials, eccentric journalists, and "the blind urge" to fall in love. R. K. Narayan's larger-than-life perception of the human comedy is at once acute and forgiving, and always true to it.

God on the Hill

Countless ages ago, when men and animals could speak together and powerful brahmanas could effect miracles, the uncontrollable King Ravana was terrorizing the universe. This edition records the adventure of Rama, the Lord of righteousness, as He struggles to overcome the forces of Ravana. The absorbing narration has delighted and enlightened countless generations in India, and its timeless spiritual insights are compellingly relevant in today's confused world.

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Gods, Demons, and Others

Inspired by his mother's kitchen, in *Modern Indian* Rishi covers the traditional Indian dishes his mother used to cook in his hometown of Kolhapur, India, combined with his modern twist on Indian cooking. This book showcases his love of food and a unique exploration of Indian recipes with modern cooking and a contemporary style of food. All the recipes are traditionally from different regions of India and they do not all require exotic produce or ingredients. Includes over 80 recipes.

The Ramayana

Warrior-prince Rama is about to be crowned Young King, when he hears the devastating news that his father, King of Ayodhya, has been tricked into banishing him to the forest. His devoted wife Sita insists on accompanying him in exile, but the evil ten-headed lord Ravana has fallen deeply in love with the beautiful princess and steals her away. Aided by Hanuman, mighty captain of the monkeys, Rama sets out across the world to find her and destroy Ravana in a deadly battle. *Rama the Steadfast* was composed in the oral tradition in about the fifth century BC and has been retold over the generations ever since. With its fantastical characters ranging from monsters to apes, a very human hero and its profound

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moral purpose, it is one of the greatest of all Indian tales.

Ramayana

In a novel set in both modern-day India and Europe, a young Brahmin intellectual finds himself caught between two cultures as he seeks to find his true identity.

Reprint. 25,000 first printing.

Sita's Ramayana

This work offers a study of the physical representations of God as the central feature of Hinduism. Each of the essays explores a different topic of religion in India: bhakti, popular village procession, puja rituals, spirit possession and guru cults.

The Life of a Text

The devotional poems of Annamaya (15th century) are perhaps the most accessible and universal achievement of classical Telugu literature, one of the major literatures of pre-modern India. Annamaya effectively created and popularized a new genre, the short padam song, which spread throughout the

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Telugu and Tamil regions and would become an important vehicle for the composition of Carnatic music - the classical music of South India. In this book, Rao and Shulman offer translations of 150 of Annamaya's poems. All of them are addressed to the god associated with the famous temple city of Tirupati- Annamaya's home-a deity who is sometimes referred to as "god on the hill" or "lord of the seven hills." The poems are couched in a simple and accessible language invented by Annamaya for this purpose. Rao and Shulman's elegant and lyrical modern translations of these beautiful and moving verses are wonderfully readable as poetry in their own right, and will be of great interest to scholars of South Indian history and culture.

My Days

THE ENDURING EPIC OF GOOD VERSUS EVIL, NOW IN ITS DEFINITIVE TRANSLATION
The Valmiki Ramayana remains a living force in the lives of the Indian people. A timeless epic, it recounts the legend of Rama, the exiled prince of Ayodhya, and his battle to vanquish the demon king Ravana. Exiled on the eve of his coronation, Rama enters the forests of Dandaka with his beautiful wife, Sita, and devoted brother, Lakshmana. When Sita is abducted by Ravana, who takes her to his isolated kingdom on the far side of the southern ocean, the two brothers set out to rescue her. What follows is a heroic tale filled with intrigue and adventure, gods and demons, colossal battles and ancient wisdom. But the Ramayana is also an

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intensely personal story of love and loss, duty and honour, petty jealousies and destructive ambitions. In Bibek Debroy's majestic new translation, the complete and unabridged text of the Critical Edition of this beloved epic can now be relished by a new generation of readers.

The Mahabharata

A retelling of the Tamil epic poem which records Prince Rama's search for his abducted sweetheart, Sita

The Ramayana

There is no better introduction to R.K. Narayan than this remarkable collection of stories celebrating work that spans five decades. Characters include a storyteller whose magical source of tales dries up, a love-stricken husband who is told by astrologers he must sleep with a prostitute to save his dying wife, a pampered child who discovers that his beloved uncle may be an impostor or even a murderer. Standing supreme amid this rich assortment of stories is the title novella. Told by the narrator's grandmother, the tale recounts the adventures of her mother, married at seven and then abandoned, who crosses the subcontinent to extract her husband from the hands of his new wife. Her courage is immense and her will

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implacable -- but once her mission is completed, her independence vanishes. Gentle irony, wryly drawn characters, and themes at once Indian and universal mark these humane stories, which firmly establish Narayan as one of the world's preeminent storytellers.

Mahabharata: A Modern Retelling

The "Mahabharata," together with the other great Sanskrit epic, the "Ramayana," embodies much of the cultural and religious heritage of India. Based on the narrative of the great war between the Kauravas and the Pandavas, it tells of warriors, kings, saints, and goddesses caught up in the romance and drama of family intrigue. With its diversity of plots and themes-including the philosophical teachings of the "Bhagavada Gita"-the "Mahabharata" has entertained and influenced Indian audiences for nearly two thousand years. R. K. Narayan's abbreviated prose version provides a superb and elegant rendition of this great epic.

Modern Indian

Following in the footsteps of the storytellers of his native India, R. K. Narayan has produced his own versions of tales taken from the Ramayana and the Mahabharata.

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Carefully selecting those stories which include the strongest characters, and omitting the theological or social commentary that would have drawn out the telling, Narayan informs these fascinating myths with his urbane humor and graceful style. "Mr. Narayan gives vitality and an original viewpoint to the most ancient of legends, lacing them with his own blend of satire, pertinent explanation and thoughtful commentary."—Santha Rama Rau, *New York Times* "Narayan's narrative style is swift, firm, graceful, and lucid . . . thoroughly knowledgeable, skillful, entertaining. One could hardly hope for more."—Rosanne Klass, *Times Literary Supplement*

Arrow of the Blue-skinned God

Darśan, Seeing the Divine Image in India

Beginning with an investigation of the possible non-Vedic, Dravidian origins of Vishnu, this book describes his form, aspects and attributes, as well as his various incarnations, such as Matsya the fish, Kurma the tortoise, Vamana the dwarf and many more.

An End to Suffering

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The Ramayana is certainly one of the world's oldest legends. Modern scholars claim that it was first composed around 300 BC. The devout Hindu believes that Rama lived many hundred millennia ago, in the Treta Yuga, and that was also when the Valmiki first told his immortal story. The epic is called the Adi Kavya, the world's first poem. The God Brahma himself is meant to have inspired Valmiki to create his classic, in twenty-four thousand slokas. The sages of India have always said that the true purpose of the Ramayana is to awaken its reader spiritually, and to send him forth on the great journey that leads to moksha, to God. These masters of old held that listening to the Ramayana washes one's sins and purifies the body and the mind. They also believed that hearing or reading the epic with faith will give a man anything at all that his heart desires. Besides, the legend is a literary masterpiece in every sense, full of enchantment, mystery and wisdom. Hardly a handful of books in any language, from any age or part of the world, can be compared to it. The epic came through the mists of time in the ancient oral tradition of guru and shishya, before it was first written down. Along the way, surely, numberless variations and embellishments were introduced into it by a host of now forgotten rishis, pauranikas, and even grandmothers telling Rama's story to their grandchildren- in so many different languages and folk traditions. There is also a comparatively recent tradition of retelling the Ramayana in English, to which this volume belongs. Though he takes no liberties with the story, Ramesh Menon's Ramayana is a novelist's lush, imaginative rendering of the epic, rather than a scholar's translation. Yet, even if the language he uses is modern and

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exciting, his book remains, first and last, a work of worship, of bhakti. As he wrote and rewrote it for ten years, this was his offering to Rama.

The Illustrated Mahabharata

A delightfully straightforward and lyrical retelling of the ancient Indian epic of loyalty, betrayal, redemption, and insight into the true nature of life -- one of history's most sacred ethical works, rendered with completeness and sterling accuracy for the modern reader. Here is one of the world's most hallowed works of sacred literature, the grand, sweeping epic of the divine bowman and warrior Rama and his struggles with evil, power, duplicity, and avarice. The Ramayana is one of the foundations of world literature and one of humanity's most ancient and treasured ethical and spiritual works. Includes an introduction by scholar Michael Sternfeld. From the Trade Paperback edition.

The Ramayana

A Pixar animator offers a colorful, close-up look at the most important gods and goddesses of the Hindu religion, in a collection of full-color illustrations, accompanied by concise profiles and the stories of Hindu mythology. Original. 40,000 first printing.

The Ramayana : A Modern Translation

Rama, the prince of Ayodha, is exiled to the forest, but after many adventures he discovers that his wife has been abducted by Ravana, the king of demons, and Rama needs the help of Hanuman and his army of monkeys to rescue her.

The Valmiki Ramayana

In the novels of R. K. Narayan (1906-2001), the forefather of modern Indian fiction, human-scale hopes and epiphanies express the promise of a nation as it awakens to its place in the world. In *The Financial Expert*, a man of many hopes but few resources spends his time under a banyan tree dispensing financial advice to those willing to pay for his knowledge. As charming as it is compassionate, this novel provides an indelible portrait of India in the twentieth century.

The Romantics

The Rámáyan is one of the first and most important Hindu epic poems telling the story of the hero Rama as he is exiled from his home because of his father's second wife. He then wanders the forests for over a decade and marries his true love Sita who is eventually kidnapped and killed by a demon king. Rama goes to

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war with this king to avenge the loss of his wife and best friend. The importance of this poem is evident in the long list of tales that followed it after its publication and the story also shows the Eastern Indian ideals of the perfect relationships, faith and philosophy. The poem stands alone in its grandeur and is one of the longest and grandest of epic poems ever to be written.

The Rāmāyan of Vālm'ki

One Of India's Finest Novelists Retells The Two Great Indian Epics As Well As Some Well-Known Tales From Hindu Mythology And Folklore. While The Eleventh Century Tamil Poet Kamban's Version Inspires His Ramayana, Narayan's Mahabharata Is Based On Vyasa's Monumental Work. In Gods, Demons And Others, He Includes Stories From Kalidasa's Sanskrit Classic Abhijnana Shakuntalam, The Tamil Epic Silappadikaram, The Shiv Purana And The Devi Bhagwatam.

The Book of Vishnu

The great Indian epic rendered in modern prose India's most beloved and enduring legend, the Ramayana is widely acknowledged to be one of the world's great literary masterpieces. Still an integral part of India's cultural and religious expression, the Ramayana was originally composed by the Sanskrit poet Valmiki

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around 300 b.c. The epic of Prince Rama's betrayal, exile, and struggle to rescue his faithful wife, Sita, from the clutches of a demon and to reclaim his throne has profoundly affected the literature, art, and culture of South and Southeast Asia—an influence most likely unparalleled in the history of world literature, except, possibly, for the Bible. Throughout the centuries, countless versions of the epic have been produced in numerous formats and languages. But previous English versions have been either too short to capture the magnitude of the original; too secular in presenting what is, in effect, scripture; or dry, line-by-line translations. Now novelist Ramesh Menon has rendered the tale in lyrical prose that conveys all the beauty and excitement of the original, while making this spiritual and literary classic accessible to a new generation of readers.

The Ramayana

"The range of Manas performance traditions captured here is immense. What is wonderful and remarkable is that each is presented vividly, with careful ethnographic detail, so that they become living traditions to the reader."--Susan Wadley, Syracuse University

The Ramayana

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This is the story of Nataraj, who earns his living as a printer in the little world of Malgudi, an imaginary town in South India. Nataraj and his close friends, a poet and a journalist, find their congenial days disturbed when Vasu, a powerful taxidermist, moves in with his stuffed hyenas and pythons, and brings his dancing-women up the printer's private stairs. When Vasu, in search of larger game, threatens the life of a temple elephant that Nataraj has befriended, complications ensue that are both laughable and tragic.

The Ramayana

An English-language rendering of the world's oldest epic follows the journey of conquest and self-discovery by the king of Uruk, in an edition that includes an introduction that places the story in its historical and cultural context.

The Ramayana

THE ENDURING EPIC OF GOOD VERSUS EVIL, NOW IN ITS DEFINITIVE TRANSLATION
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the art of war

The Financial Expert

The selected adventures of Persia's Hercules, from Iran's great national epic No understanding of world mythology is complete without acquaintance with Rostam, Iran's most celebrated mythological hero. According to the Shahnameh (the tenth-century Book of Kings), this titan, magnificent in strength and courage, bestrode Persia for 500 years. While he often served fickle kings - undergoing many trials of combat, cunning, and endurance - he was never their servant and owed allegiance only to his nation's greater good. Anyone interested in folklore, world literature, or

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Iranian culture will find Rostam both a rousing and illuminating read. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout world history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Talkative Man

An End to Suffering is a deeply original and provocative book about the Buddha's life and his influence throughout history, told in the form of the author's search to understand the Buddha's relevance in a world where class oppression and religious violence are rife, and where poverty and terrorism cast a long, constant shadow. Mishra describes his restless journeys into India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, among Islamists and the emerging Hindu middle class, looking for this most enigmatic of religious figures, exploring the myths and places of the Buddha's life, and discussing Western explorers' "discovery" of Buddhism in the nineteenth century. He also considers the impact of Buddhist ideas on such modern politicians as Gandhi and Nelson Mandela. As he reflects on his travels and on his own past, Mishra shows how the Buddha wrestled with problems of personal identity, alienation, and suffering in his own, no less bewildering, times. In the process

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Mishra discovers the living meaning of the Buddha's teaching, in the world and for himself. The result is the most three-dimensional, convincing book on the Buddha that we have.

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