

Lord Hanuman Himself tells why He was tied with chains in Tirupathi and Puri

(and why do even Good Karma cause sufferings sometimes)



There are two places in India where Lord Hanuman stands handcuffed- One is Tirupathi in Andhra Pradesh and another place is Puri in Orrisa. Nobody knew the full story behind this until Lord Hanuman Himself told about it few days ago. (Yes, Lord Hanuman is still alive and He appeared before a tribe in a jungle few days ago. He stayed with the jungle dwellers for many days and spoke about many things. Setuu is bringing to you details of every minute spent by Lord Hanuman with the jungle dwellers. If you are new to Setuu, first read this story of Lord Hanuman being handcuffed, then go to Home Page to know more about Lord Hanuman's recent visit in the jungle.)

As we all know, Lord Vishnu and Goddess Laxmi reside in Vaikuntha (the abode of Lord Vishnu). Once, Goddess Laxmi expressed her desire to visit Bhulok (Earth, the mortal world). Riding on Garuda, God Vishnu and Laxmi both came to earth. Garuda flew them from one place to another on Earth. At one place, the air was scented with heavenly fragrance. Laxmi asked Garuda to land. They landed in a very beautiful garden where there were different kinds of flowers with heavenly fragrance. They walked in the garden for some time. Laxmi plucked so many flowers from there that she was not able to hold them in her both hands.

A girl, sitting in the base of a tree nearby, was weaving reeds to make a small basket. Goddess Laxmi was mesmerized to see the way the girl was moving her fingers to weave reeds. After completing the basket, the girl leaned back against the tree trunk for a nap. Goddess Laxmi decided to take that basket to keep the plucked flowers into it. She said, "O Swamy, this girl has made a beautiful basket. I wish to reward her with immense wealth. I will take this basket to keep my flowers and give her immense wealth in return."

Lord Vishnu replied, "Devi, this girl has done hard work to make this basket. The reward for her work is this basket itself, not wealth. If you need a basket, let us ask Lord Brahma to give a basket to you."

Goddess Laxmi said, "Swamy, I need the basket only for few minutes until we walk in this garden. The girl is napping right now. We will finish our walk before she wakes up and I will keep the basket back along with the flowers I pluck."

Lord Vishnu did not say anything. Goddess Laxmi picked up that beautiful basket and they started walking again in that garden. She acquainted herself with fragrance of hundreds of flowers. She enjoyed watching beautiful birds and butterflies of different colors. The garden was so big and the flowers and other creatures of the garden were so diverse that they spent many hours walking there. Goddess Laxmi forgot that she had to return the basket to the girl who was sleeping.

When they came to the tree after finishing their walk, that girl was not there. From their divine vision they got to know that the girl had gone back to her village not very far from the garden. Lord Vishnu told Laxmi, "Devi, we must return this basket to the girl. This is her basket because she has done Karma for it."

They both went to the village. They saw the girl among a group of women who were fetching water from a well. God Vishnu and Laxmi were invisible for the mortals. Hence they went near the well and placed the basket near water pots. They stood aside and stayed there to see whether the girl picks up her basket or not. The girl looked at the basket but she did not recognize that it was her basket. She filled her water pot and walked away. Before Goddess Laxmi could pick up that basket from there another woman picked it up. She apparently mistook that as her own basket. Lord Vishnu was watching this from a distance.

Goddess Laxmi turned to Vishnu and said, "Swamy, the girl who did Karma and weaved the basket did not get results of her Karma. Somebody else has taken her basket. This is not fair according to laws of Karma with which you govern and protect this world. This has happened because of me. Shouldn't I compensate the girl by giving wealth to her?"

"Devi, the girl has not done any Karma which would result in wealth for her. Hence, if you give her wealth without any Karma, Laws of Karma will get violated." Lord Vishnu replied and started walking slowly towards the garden where the Garuda was landed. Goddess Laxmi followed.

Laxmi was not satisfied with the answer. She said, "Swamy, Laws of Karma have been already violated because the girl did the Karma (of weaving basket) but somebody else got the results! It was just a matter of basket though! But what would happen if, likewise, a person does bad karma and results of that bad karma are suffered by a good person?"

Lord Vishnu replied, "Devi, you have watched this world from the beginning. When Lord Brahma created this world, it was a perfect. There was goodness all around because

good was perfectly in balance with bad. But many times bad became more powerful than good. If from the beginning, every good person would get good results of their good Karma and Bad would get bad results of their bad Karma, this world would have been always perfect. Laws of Karma are not that simple. Laws of karma work in order to fulfill the universal truth that every creation has to destruct one day. This world is Lord Brahma's creation and it has to destruct one day. The same laws of Karma which protect this world are also taking this world towards destruction slowly as destined. Yes, sometimes a bad person enjoys because of Karmas of a good person. And sometimes a good person suffers because of Karmas of a bad person. This is how the world moves towards the ultimate destruction."

Lord Vishnu paused for a moment. Devi Laxmi was looking at Him and listening with curiosity. The Lord continued, "Devi, it is called "Karma Dosham" (fault in Karma) and it spreads from one person to another like an infectious disease. In this case, the Karma Dosham originated in the girl who weaved the basket. That girl not longer has this Dosham because it has now been transferred to the woman who has taken the basket home. Now that woman will do something and results of her Karma will be transferred to someone else. This way, this Dosham will travel like a wave- from one person to another."

"But that Dosham was started by me... Had I not taken the basket, this Dosham would have not started at all." Goddess Laxmi said with a sense of grief.

"No Devi, you just observed a Karma Dosham originating. All these Dosham are already there from the creation of this world. Every Dosham has a particular time at which it has to originate and start infecting the mortals. These Doshams are good for bad people and bad for good people. Because of this Dosham, bad person does not get the punishment of his/her bad Karma. Instead, punishment gets transferred to someone else. Because of this Dosham, good person does not get rewards of his/her good Karma. Instead the rewards get transferred to someone else." Lord Vishnu explained further, "This particular Dosham which we saw originating just now will also infect some good people and some bad people. And finally it will terminate at one point. All the "Karma Doshams" are like waves in an ocean. They originate out of the ocean and merge back into it. Like there are too many waves in an ocean, there are too many

Karma Dosham in this mortal world. The one Dosham which originated just now will infect only a few people and then it will finally end at one point."

Walking slowly, they had reached in the garden again. Garuda wanted to fly them to another place but Goddess Laxmi wanted to stay in the garden for some time. She kept walking in the garden and asked Lord Vishnu, "Swamy, you are the protector of this world. Cannot you end this Karma Dosham right here? Where shall it end?"

Lord Vishnu replied, "If these Doshams keep infecting people and never end anywhere, the world would have destructed by now. I am here to protect this world as long as I can. And I have given the task of terminating "Karma Doshams" to our beloved Hanuman. In this mortal world, only He has the powers to do so. And He will be there in this mortal world fighting with all the evil of this world till final destruction. I will also incarnate myself if the evil increases too much because of Karma Dosham."

On hearing about Lord Hanuman, Goddess Laxmi became very happy. She said, "I want to hear more about our beloved Hanuman. Please tell about His adventures in the mortal world. Please tell how He is going to terminate this particular Karma Dosham which we saw originating? How will this Dosham reach Him?"

Lord Vishnu smiled and said, "Devi, if this Dosham reaches to a devotee, it will reach Lord Hanuman too. He will make sure that this Dosham comes towards Him and when it comes to Him, He will terminate it. You have seen Him killing powerful demons. But Karma Dosham cannot be killed by any weapon or muscle power. I will show you how Lord Hanuman does it. When we reach Vaikunth, we will watch how this particular Dosham travels from one person to another and finally reaches Lord Hanuman."

After returning to Vaikunth, they watched how that Karma Dosham spread from one person to another. Many good people and bad people were infected by it. After many

days, a day came when this Dosham was about to reach Lord Hanuman. Goddess Laxmi was anxiously waiting for this day.

That day a demon came from the sea and attacked the city of Puri. Lord Jagannath was not present in the city at that time because of some divine reason. When Lord Hanuman got to know about this attack, He immediately reached Puri. By the time Lord Hanuman reached there, the devil had ruined one side of the city completely and disappeared into the sea. Lord Hanuman decided to stay there and wait for the demon to appear again.

When Lord Jagannath returned to the city, He became very angry to see one side of his city completely in ruins. He saw Lord Hanuman sitting near the debris quietly with His eyes closed. Lord Jagannath shouted at Him, "You cannot get away with this. This is not Lanka, this is Puri; my city. You will be punished for this evil act of yours."

Lord Jagannath then tied Lord Hanuman with thick chains.

Goddess Laxmi and Lord Vishnu were watching this from Vaikunth. Goddess Laxmi was surprised to see this. She asked, "Swamy, you are present there in the form of Lord Jagannath. You know that the city of Puri was damaged by the demon of sea. It was not damaged by Hanuman. Then why are you tying Him with chains? And why is Hanuman not telling the truth?"

Lord Vishnu smiled and told, "The demon that attacked the city of Puri was infected with the same Karma Dosham which was originated that day in garden. Because of that Dosham, he did not get the punishment of his bad Karma. Instead someone else is getting the punishment! Hanuman is getting the punishment of bad Karmas of demon."

"So through the demon, now the Karma Dosham has entered Hanuman." Goddess Laxmi was looking worried. She said, "Now Hanuman's Karma will bear fruits to

someone else and then this Dosham will get transferred further to that person who bears fruits of Hanuman's Karma. How is it going to end?"

"Devi, who is eligible enough on the earth at this time to bear fruits of Hanuman's Karma?" Lord Vishnu smiled and said, "No one but Hanuman Himself!"

"So this Karma Dosham will not work on Hanuman and it will end here?" Goddess Laxmi asked.

"The Dosham will work once and then it will terminate here itself." Lord Vishnu told.
"Fruits of Hanuman's Karma will be transferred to someone else and that someone else is standing right now in the city of Tirupathi."

Goddess Laxmi looked towards the city of Tirupathi. What she saw there was very surprising. Lord Hanuman Himself was standing there on a hilltop. Goddess Laxmi exclaimed with joy, "Hanuman is present in city of Puri and city of Tirupathi at the same time! And His hands and legs are tied with chains at both the places! They are two identical forms of Hanuman!"

"In this mortal world, Hanuman can be at multiple places at the same time. This is how He stops the Karma Dosha from transmitting further. It does transmit as per its nature. But it transmits from one form of Hanuman to another form of Hanuman and then it dies. Once the Dosham comes to Hanuman, it cannot transmit further. Where would the Karma Dosham go? Wherever it would try to go, it will find Hanuman right there! Because He can be at as many places as He wants, at the same time!" Lord Vishnu told.

But to stop that particular Karma Dosha, Lord Hanuman had to appear only at two places at the same time- at Puri and at Tirupathi.

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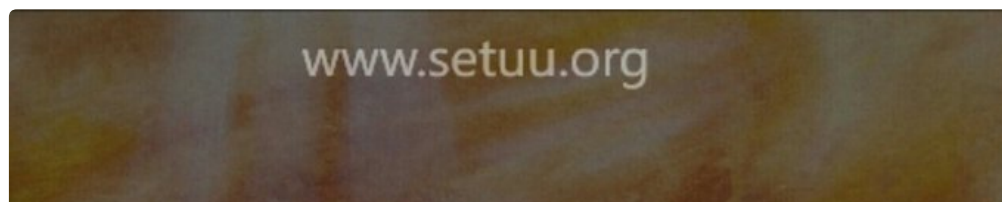
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