

AYODYA KANDAM

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Hard hearted crone Kooni
beguiles Kaikeyi to wrench a bubo-boon
in enormity which the generous
but plagued King denies not;
by sinister bond of word, he bids adieu;
"O, Prince of our clan, go and dwell
in the woods". Deserting the domain,
renouncing the crown, leaving
his mother that begot him,
forfeiting the dark tusker-herd,
all cattle, horses, chariots,
with armorial covers and caparisons none,
clad in cuscus grass of calm grace,
looking utterly altered,
timidly accompanied by Vaideki
of soft tender sober mien;

a person's look
or character

Him, his younger, guarding
with bow and sword,
he leads into the woods
where roam deer, mammoths, stallions wild...

Devoted Guhan ferries Him
across Ganga into the forest.
raw and ripe fruits, his meagre eat;
scarce sleeps on the rock
beneath some odd tree-shade;
camps at Chitrakoot.

“What have you obtained, Kaikeyi why sinned
to evict your son, to sprit me away
to heavens?”, “readiness is all”, saying thus,
Dasaratha ascends the sky.

Unto Chitrakoot of bee-hovering
groves and verdure slopes
young Bharatha and Sumatra
with Vasishta and retinue,
with herds of elephants, steeds
and chariots, arrive;

to whom He offers His wooden footwear
as surrogate, granting sovereign
power, elephants, steeds
and demesne entire; giving leave,
to Dhandakaranya He moves
in the weal augured direction
to set right aright and set at ^{nothing} naught the wrong.