

॥ Ganadhya Sankashti Chaturthi Katha ॥

Once, Pandava King Yudhishtira requested Lord Krishna to explain the significance of a vrat on the day mentioned above. Hence, Lord Krishna narrated a tale related to Ramayana. Once, King Dasharath of Ayodhya accidentally killed the only son (Shravan Kumar) of a poor and visually-impaired couple who lived in the jungle. And after learning the truth about their son's death, the old couple cursed King Dasharath and said that he too would bear the agony of separation from his son. The curse turned out to be true when years later, King Dasharath suffered the pain of seeing his son, Rama, move out of his kingdom to honour Kaikeyi's command

(Dasharath's third wife, who wanted her son Bharat to succeed the throne).

One day, Ravana, the demon king of Lanka, hatched a plot to abduct Sita (Rama's consort).

And after not finding Sita in their humble abode in Panchavati, Rama and Lakshmana moved southwards in search of her. There, they came across Sugreeva and one of his ministers, Hanuman. As Sugreeva's army began the search for Sita, they met Sampati (the elder brother of Jatayu, who lost his life while saving Sita from Ravana). Sampati, blessed with a divine vision, informed Sugriva about Ravana's kingdom across the ocean. He also said that among all his soldiers, only Hanuman had the power to cross the sea. However, when Hanuman wondered how he could achieve the mammoth task, Sampati asked him to observe the Sankashti Chaturthi Vrat.

Hanuman observed the vrat as suggested by

