

PARTICIPANT INSTRUCTIONS

One Epic, Many Stories — Rama Katha Across Bharat and Beyond

Instructions for All 12 Events

General Instructions — Applicable to All Events Below

- Please report to your event venue at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.
- Only pre-registered participants/teams are eligible to compete, unless an event is explicitly marked open to all.
- All content submitted or presented must be original, respectful of the sacred subject matter, and free of political, sectarian, or otherwise contested framing.
- Judges'/organisers' decisions on all evaluations are final and binding.
- The organisers are not responsible for loss of personal belongings, including laptops and devices, at any venue.
- Wherever a laptop is required for individual/ group event (marked below), participants must carry their own device — the organisers will not provide laptops on-site. However, the registered Paper presenters can send their presentations through email.
- Participants are requested to adhere strictly to submission deadlines; late entries will not be considered.

Event-Wise Instructions

1. Paper Presentation Track

- Please refer to the separate "Instructions for Authors" document for all guidelines on submission, formatting, presentation time, and academic requirements.

2. Keynotes & Panel Discussions

- Open to all delegates; no separate registration is required.
- Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the session for seating; latecomers may be asked to wait for the next break.
- Maintain silence during the address; flash photography is not permitted.
- Written questions for the panel may be submitted beforehand or raised during the moderated Q&A, where opened.

3. Shastrartha & Quiz

- Team size: 2–3 members; teams may be inter-institutional.
- Format: Preliminary round (Day 1) → Semi-Final (Day 2) → Grand Finale (Day 3). Only qualifying teams advance to each subsequent round.
- Preparation scope: Valmiki Ramayana, major regional traditions (Kamban, Tulsidas, Krittivasi, Adhyatma Ramayanam, and others), and the conclave sub-themes.
- Report to the venue 15 minutes before each round; late arrivals forfeit that round.
- Only pre-registered teams are eligible — no on-the-spot registration.
- Engage with the text respectfully; contested or politically charged interpretations are not permitted.
- Judges' decisions are final at every round.

4. Ram Katha Trail — Campus Treasure Hunt

- Team size: 3–4 members; open to all delegates, no prior scholarly preparation required.
- Report to the campus start point 15 minutes before the scheduled start for briefing and clue kits.
- Duration: 60 minutes. All teams must return to the start point by the announced end time, regardless of progress.
- Clues are based on Ramayana episodes, geography, and verses — use only the provided clue sheet/QR codes; external search engines are not permitted.
- Do not tamper with, remove, or relocate clues intended for other teams.
- Wear comfortable footwear; water will be available at checkpoints.

5. Design Challenge — Engineering Wisdom of Ancient Bharat

- Team size: 3–5, engineering/architecture students.
- Carry your own device — a laptop pre-loaded with your chosen tool (CAD, SketchUp, QGIS, MATLAB, or equivalent). No software will be provided on-site.
- The problem statement is released at the start of the session; the full working window is approximately 3 hours (across the two linked slots).
- Submit your design file along with a short (2-minute) explanation video or slide summary by the announced deadline.
- Judging criteria: structural feasibility, fidelity to the textual description, and originality.
- Power outlets and Wi-Fi will be provided; please back up your own work periodically.

6. AI & Digital Heritage Lab

- Team size: 2–4, engineering/CS/technology students.
- Carry your own device — a laptop with your preferred development environment pre-installed; limited shared Wi-Fi will be available.
- Choose one track at the start: text-search tool, digitisation aid, or multilingual verse explorer.
- Working window: approximately 3 hours. Submit a working prototype with a short live demo.
- Use only open-source or properly licensed datasets and texts — do not scrape or reproduce copyrighted translations.
- Judging criteria: functionality, technical innovation, and respectful, accurate handling of the source material.

7. Case Study Competition — Rama Rajya: A Governance Model

- Team size: 3–4, management (UG/PG/PhD) students.
- The case document is released at the start of the session; teams get the working window to prepare before presenting.
- Presentation format: 8-minute pitch followed by 4 minutes of Q&A per team.
- Carry your own device — a laptop for your slides; a projector and pointer will be provided at the venue.
- Judging criteria: sound application of dharmic leadership principles, practical feasibility, and clarity of the proposed governance solution.
- Keep the analysis constructive and non-partisan — do not name or target real, living political figures or parties.

8. Ramayana Tourism Ideathon — Reviving the Ram Katha Circuit

- Team size: 3–4, management, tourism & hospitality, or design students.

- Carry your own device — a laptop for preparing and presenting your pitch deck; a projector and pointer will be provided at the venue.
- Working window: approximately 2 hours across the two linked slots.
- Deliverable: a pitch deck (maximum 10 slides), with an optional 1-minute mockup video.
- Pitch format: 6 minutes presentation + 3 minutes Q&A per team.
- Judging criteria: feasibility, sustainability, cultural sensitivity, and economic viability.
- Do not promote or feature any specific commercial brand, hotel chain, or company by name.

9. Leadership Dialogue

- Open to all delegates — no separate registration required; seating is first-come, first-served.
- Please arrive 15 minutes before the session; entry will not be permitted once the dialogue is underway, to avoid disruption.
- Questions for the panel may be submitted in writing beforehand or raised during the moderated Q&A.
- Please maintain silence during the dialogue; flash photography is not permitted.

10. Poster Presentation & Exhibition

- Individual or team (up to 3) submissions are welcome.
- Carry a printed poster (A1 size, portrait orientation) — mounting boards will be provided at the venue. A digital backup (PDF) on a USB drive or your own device is recommended in case reprinting is needed.
- Report to the exhibit hall at least 15 minutes before the viewing window to set up.
- Please remain near your poster throughout the viewing period to engage with judges and visiting delegates.
- Judging criteria: clarity, originality, and depth of research.
- Please refer to the separate "Instructions for Authors" document for detailed guidelines on poster content, formatting, and submission requirements.

11. Short Film / Documentary Competition

- Team size: 2–5.
- Runtime: strictly 5–7 minutes. Original footage and voice-over only; any music used must be licensed or royalty-free.
- Language: any Indian language, with English subtitles mandatory.
- Submission deadline: Day 2, 5:00 PM, via the provided upload link. File format and size limits will be shared with registered teams.
- Content must remain respectful and non-controversial — no political, sectarian, or otherwise contested framing of Ram Katha.
- Include full crew and cast credits at the end of the film.

12. Ramayana Heritage Photography / Reels Competition

- Individual entries only; up to 2 entries per participant.
- Photographs must be original and minimally edited (basic colour correction only); reels must not exceed 60 seconds.
- Entries must be from an actual Ramayana-linked heritage site, accompanied by a short caption or narrative (50–100 words).
- AI-generated images are not permitted — entries must be the participant's own original work.
- Submission deadline: Day 2, 5:00 PM, via the online submission form.

- Copyright remains with the participant; the organisers may use winning/shortlisted entries for conclave promotion with credit given.