

Shabari was the daughter of a hunter that belonged to the Nishada tribe. One day before her marriage, she saw thousands of goats and sheep that her father would kill for the wedding feast. That night, Shabari ran away from her home and the wedding, Shabari had renounced the world. For days she searched for a Master that would teach her and came across Sage Matanga, and accepted him as her guru. When Guru Matanga's time came, Shabari, now old, said she wanted to reach the same "abode of peace" that her guru had. Upon hearing this, Sage Matanga replied, "By the virtue of your seva, Lord Ram shall give you darsha, you must await his arrival." , and her guru passed. Abiding her master's words, Shabari waited for Lord Ram. Everyday Shabari would pick fresh berries so that if He happened to come, he would only receive the freshest of berries. It never occurred to Shabari that she should not taste the offerings she was to give to Lord Ram, she tasted them so that the Lord would only receive the tastiest of berries. Then she made a hand-made leaf bowl to put the berries in. She also picked up all thorns on the path to her hermitage and covered the entire path with hand-picked flowers.

The days passed and Lord Rama finally arrived! Shabari was ecstatic! Shabari happily passed Him the hand-made leaf bowl of berries she had picked that day. Lakshmana noticed that Shabari had tasted the berries, but Ram himself said that they were the best berries He had ever tasted. Happy with Shabari's devotion, Lord Rama blessed Shabari with His vision. Then Lord Ram noticed how hard Shabari had worked to make the bowl out of leaves so He blessed the tree so that its leaves would be bowl shaped as soon as the sprouted. Shabari happily accepted her blessings.

This was the story of Shabari from the Ramayana, Shabari was very kind and compassionate. She has many virtues, such as being devoted to her master and Rama, and running away from home just so that the animals would not be killed. She always did her best to please the Lord.

These are the virtues and non-virtues that I have found in the information I have collected on Shabari. Very few people know what Shabari's life was like before she renounced the world. She may have had other virtues and non-virtues in that particular part of her life. Shabari was an important figure in Indian history.