

In Ramayana, of all the women characters, I am choosing to write about Ahalya not only because she was the most beautiful women in the world created by Lord Brahma, but also because of the role she played.

Ahalya's virtues and non-virtues has been given importance to and discussed to understand why Sita Devi had to step in the fire, to prove her purity.

Her character, virtues and non-virtues that gave Lord Sri Ram his most popular name "Patita Pavana Sita Ram".

Patita Pavana Sita Ram means Sri Ram who is inseparable from Sita Devi forgives sins or non-virtues unknowingly committed by his innocent people or devotees like Ahalya.

In Ramayana, Sita Devi herself was compared to Ahalya's virtues of all the other women characters.

Ahalya, the most beautiful woman married sage Guatam and lived happily in his ashram.

Lord Indra wanted to marry such a woman like

Ahalya. So before pre-dawn, long before sunrise, in sage Gautama's absence, Indra disguised himself as sage Guatam and visited Ahalya's cottage and spent time with her. Ahalya thought Indra was sage Gautama until she saw real sage Gautama enters the house.

Sage Gautama was furious and cursed Ahalya to become a stone.

Lord Ram felt Ahalya was innocent even when others including her husband sage Gautama excluded her and gave a curse on Ahalya to turn into a stone. Sri Ram saw Ahalya as a woman who was being punished for something that was not her fault.

Lord Ram blessed Ahalya by placing his feet on the Ahalya stone and forgave her by giving her beautiful form back. Sri Ram stood by Ahalya's virtues and is the reason we all praise him as Patita Pavana Sita Ram.

“Sri Ram Jaya Ram Jaya Jaya Ram; Patita pavana Sita Ram”...