STORY CARDS: THE RAMAYANA

Use these objects in the Asian Art Museum's collection to sequence events from the Ramayana.

Mandodari approaches her husband, the demon king Ravana, while Prince Rama and his allies convene outside the palace, from a manuscript of the Ramayana (Story of Rama), 1595-1605. Northern India. Opaque watercolors and gold on paper. Gift of the Connoisseurs' Council with additional funding from Fred M. and Nancy Livingston Levin, the Shenson Foundation, in memory of A. Jess Shenson, 2003.4.



Many ask the demon-king Ravana to free Sita so she may return to her husband, Rama.

Jatayus, the heroic king of the vultures, attempts to prevent Ravana from abducting Sita, from the Ramayana (Story of Rama). Approx. 400–500. India; probably Uttar Pradesh state. Terra-cotta. Gift of the Connoisseurs' Council, 1988.40.



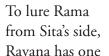
The vulture king, Jatayus, tries to save Sita but is wounded by Ravana, who slices off Jatayu's wings with his sword.

Hanuman's encounters with demons on his journey to Lanka, from the Balinese version of the Story of Rama, approx. 1900–1950, by I Gusti Nyoman Lempad, (Indonesian, 1862–1978). Ink on paper. Gift of Karen A. Signell, 1998.90.

Hanuman helps rescue Sita from captivity in Lanka, Ravana's island kingdom.



Theatrical headdress for the magical deer in the Story of Rama dance-drama, approx. 1950–1960, Central Thailand. Papier-mache, glass, and mixed media. Gift from Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's Southeast Asian Art Collection, 2006.27.10.9.





of his demons take the form of a beautiful magic deer. When Sita sees it, she asks Rama to hunt it down for her.