

Valmiki Ramayana - Kishkinda Kanda

Yojana was 210 Yards (Dhanush Sata). Dhanush was 2.1 Yards. Furlong is one-eighth of a mile (220 Yards). Yojana is less than a furlong. According to the Arthashastra Dhanush sata was 210 Yards, a standard unit of measurement for distance. Valmiki used "Dhanush Sata" (4.11.72, see below) to mean a Yojana. Most likely Yojana and Dhanush Sata were interchangeable.

Vali tossed an object by one Yojana. Sugriva challenged Rama to toss it by two Dhanush Sata (Yojana) with his foot. Rama tossed it by ten Yojana with his toe. It was still there for everyone to go inspect in amazement.

Vali was ordered to keep a distance of one Yojana from a hermitage. Apex of a mountain has a width of one Yojana.

तम् तोलयित्वा बाहुभ्याम् गत सत्त्वम् अचेतनम् ।
चिक्षेप वेगवान् वाली वेगेन एकेन योजनम् ॥ ४-११-४७

47. *vegavaan vaalii* = hastiest one, Vali; *gata sattvam* = he who lost, stamina; a *cetanam* = inanimate one; *tam baahubhyaam tolaitvaa* = him, with both arms, by swaying; *ekena vegena yojanam cikSepa* = in a single, flick, to a yojana length, hurled.

"Then the hastiest Vali swayed that dead and inanimate demon with both of his hands and hurled him a yojana distance in a single flick. [4-11-47]

क्षिपता पादपाः च इमे संभग्नाः च असुरीम् तनुम् ।
समन्तात् आश्रमम् पूर्णम् योजनम् मामकम् यदि ॥ ४-११-५४
आगमिष्यति दुर्बुद्धिः व्यक्तम् स न भविष्यति ।

54, 55a. *asuriim tanum kshipataa*= demon's, body, by him who hurled;*ime paadapaaH ca sam bhagnaaH*= these trees, also, completely destroyed;*samantaat puurNam yojanam*= around, full, one yojana;*maamakam aashramam aagamiSyati yadi*= mine, hermitage, he places foot, if;*durbuddhiH*= evil-minded;*saH na bhaviSyati vyaktam*= he, will not, exists, evidently.

"By his hurling the demon's body these trees are also completely destroyed, hence he ought not set his foot in a distance of one full yojana around this hermitage, and if that evil-minded one places his foot then he evidently does not exist. [4-11-54, 55a]

एषो अस्थिनिचयः तस्य दुन्दुभेः संप्रकाशते ।
वीर्य उत्सेकात् निरस्तस्य गिरि कूट निभो महान् ॥ ४-११-६६

66. viirya utsekaat nirastasya = by valour's, vanity, hurled; tasya dundubheH = his, Dundubhi's; giri kuuTa nibhaH = mountain's, peak, in similarity; mahaan eSaH asthi nicayaH = huge one, this is, bones, heap; sam prakaashate = shining forth.

"This huge heap of bones that is shining forth like a mountaintop is that of Dundubhi, which Vali once hurled by the vanity of his valour. [4-11-66]

रामो निर्दारयेद् एषाम् बाणेन एकेन च द्रुमम् ।
वालिनम् निहतम् मन्यै दृष्ट्वा रामस्य विक्रमम् ॥ ४-११-७१

71. raamaH = Rama; eSaam drumam = among them, one tree; ekena baaNena nirdaarayet = with one, arrows, if rends; raamasya vikramam dR^iSTvaa = Rama's, valour, on seeing; vaalinam nihitam manye = Vali is, utterly dead, I construe.

"If Rama can rend one tree out of the seven with only one arrow, then on seeing Rama's valour I can construe that Vali is utterly dead at his hand. [4-11-71]

हतस्य महिषस्य अस्थि पादेन एकेन लक्ष्मण ।
उद्यम्य प्रक्षिपेत् च अपि तरसा द्वे धनुः शते ॥ ४-११-७२

72. lakshmaNa = oh, Lakshmana; hatasya mahiSasya asthi = dead, buffalo's, bone [skeleton]; ekena paadena udyamya = by one, foot, lifting; tarasaa dve shate dhanuH = with might, two, hundred, bow [lengths, two hundred bow-lengths]; prakSipet ca api = kicks and throws, also, even.

"Lakshmana, if he lifts and kicks the skeleton of this dead buffalo by the might of his foot, and makes it fall at a distance of two hundred bow-lengths, I can confide." So said Sugreeva to Lakshmana. [4-11-72]

एवम् उक्त्वा तु सुग्रीवम् सान्त्वयन् लक्ष्मणाग्रजः ।
राघवो दुन्दुभेः कायम् पाद अंगुष्ठेन लीलया ॥ ४-११-८४
तोलयित्वा महाबाहुः चिक्षेप दश योजनम् ।
असुरस्य तनुम् शुष्कम् पादांगुष्ठेन वीर्यवान् ॥ ४-११-८५

84, 85. raaghavaH = Raghava; who is;lakshmaNa agrajaH = Lakshmana's, elder brother;mahaabaahuH = dextrous one;viiryavaan = vigorous one;evam uktvaa = thus, saying;sugriivam saantvayan = Sugreeva, comforting;dundubheH kaayam = Dundubhi's, body – skeleton;liilayaa = sportively;paada anguSThena = with foot's, big-toe;tolayitvaa = swung it - lifting it;asurasya tanum shuSkam = demon's, body, withered one;paada anguSTena = with foot's, big-toe;dasha yojanam cikSepa = at ten, yojana-s, flung it - fliciked it.

Saying so to Sugreeva in a comforting manner, he that dextrous, vigorous Rama, the elder brother of Lakshmana sportively flipped the skeleton of Dundubhi with his big toe, and flicked that withered body of the demon with his big toe itself to a ten yojana distance without lifting his foot. [4-11-84, 85]

तत्र योजन विस्तारम् उच्छ्रितम् दश योजनम् ।
शृंगम् सौमनसम् नाम जातरूपमयम् ध्रुवम् ॥ ४-४०-५७

57. tatra yojana vistaaram = there, yojana, width; dasha yojanam ucChritam = ten, yojana-s, with height [at apex]; jaata ruupa mayam = completely golden; dhruvam = very firm; saumanasam naama shR^ingam = Saumanasa, named, pinnacle - is there.

"On the apex of that Mt. Sunrise there is another pinnacle with one yojana width and ten yojana-s height named Saumanasa, which is completely golden and very firm. [4-40-57]