



# **THE SABHA OF THE DIVINE (MYTHOLOGICAL)**

*AGENDA: Restoring Balance Between Nature and Civilisation, A Divine Intervention*

**BACKGROUND GUIDE**

## **Letter From The Executive Board**

Greetings To the Esteemed Deities of the Sabha of the Divine!

We are delighted to welcome you all to the Sabha Of The Divine (Mythological) Committee at JAMUN 2025. This committee brings together the Gods and Goddesses to discuss one of the critical problems in today's world, the growing **imbalance between nature and human civilization**. Rapid development, urbanization, and the overuse of natural resources have damaged the Earth. Forests are being cut, rivers are getting polluted, and many species are disappearing. Humanity's progress has come at a great cost to nature. In this sabha, each one of you, as the symbols of divine wisdom and harmony, is invited to restore the disrupted balance between nature and civilization. The goal is to find a way where progress and preservation go together, where modern growth does not harm the planet. Whether through promoting sustainable development, encouraging mindful living, or awakening spiritual awareness, the main purpose remains the same: to heal the broken bond between humans and nature. Be curious, bring energy, and go beyond just attending! This committee is all about five key values: wisdom, respect, humanity, critical thinking, and teamwork.

Remember, this background guide is only the beginning. Dive deeper into your divine role and understand your deity's powers, beliefs, and connection with nature. You're representing a God or Goddess, so stay true to their values and actions, even if that means standing apart from others when needed. *The Executive Board is here to guide you throughout this journey, helping you shape realistic and impactful solutions for both the heavens and the Earth. If you have any doubts or need support, feel free to reach out to:*

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Good Luck, divine delegates! Make this committee a grand success!

***The Executive Board***

## **1.1 Introduction to the Committee**

*Welcome, Divine beings!*

You are not humans in this committee- you are **Gods, Goddesses, and powerful divine forces** who have gathered together in this committee. From above, the divine have been watching over the human civilisation; they have built cities, bridges, industries, factories, machines, and technology- but have destroyed the evergreen forests, rivers, and animals in the process. Mother Earth (your Divine creation) is destroyed, with pollution all across, due to an imbalance between human beings and nature.

Hence, you gather together at the *Sabha of the Divine* to discuss and deliberate on the restoration of balance between human life and nature. Each of you is a divine creation representing essential forces like water, fire, air, wisdom, or death.

Nature is asking for help. You, the divine powers, must debate how to bring back **harmony**. **YOU MUST DELIBERATE ON PROVIDING SOLUTIONS FOR THE SUCCESS OF THIS COMMITTEE.**

Remember, this committee isn't just about rules or debates; it's about **stories, emotions, and the divine drama that unfolds between gods and mortals.**

**For Example:** “I am Gaia, Mother of Earth. I’ve watched humans rise from huts to towers of smoke and steel, but now my forests weep, my rivers choke, and my skies darken. I do not wish to destroy them, only to remind them that progress without respect leads to ruin. Let them plant where they’ve taken, cleanse what they’ve poisoned, and learn to live with the rhythm of the Earth once more. The balance must return through harmony, not hatred.”

## **1.2 Proofs and Evidence Accepted:**

### **1. Scriptural or Mythological Evidence**

Delegates can refer to stories, events, or verses from **Mythological texts** like the *Ramayana, Mahabharata, Bhagavad Gita, Bible, Quran, Greek or Norse myths, Egyptian legends*, etc.

**Examples of divine actions** showing how gods restored balance, for example: Lord Vishnu’s avatars restoring dharma, Goddess Ganga’s descent to purify the Earth, Zeus punishing humans for arrogance, and Gaia rising to defend the Earth in Greek myth.

**Example:** “In the Mahabharata, when humans disturbed dharma, Krishna intervened to restore order. Similarly, divine forces must act to bring balance to nature.”

## **2. Environmental or Real-World Facts:**

Delegates can include simple, real-world data or facts to support their divine arguments:

- a) Global warming, pollution levels, deforestation rates, endangered species, etc.
- b) Major events like forest fires, floods, droughts, and their impact on nature.
- c) Successful environmental initiatives (like afforestation drives, renewable energy projects).

**Example:** “According to the UN, more than one million species are at risk of extinction, even with divine intervention, human responsibility.”

## **3. Historical and Cultural Examples**

You may cite examples from ancient civilizations or cultures that maintained harmony with nature:

- a) The **Indus Valley Civilization's** clean waters.
- b) **Ancient Egyptian** respect for the Nile River.
- c) **Native American** beliefs that the Earth is sacred and humans are caretakers.

**Example:** “In many ancient cultures, nature was worshipped as a mother, this respect must return for balance to be restored.”

## **4. UNACCEPTED EVIDENCES:** To uphold proper committee decorum, and to maintain proper committee flow, the following must be avoided:

- No personal comments or remarks to be made on any delegate. If Personal opinions are being put, you must support them by reasoning; unsupported opinions are invalid.
- Any verbal or written submissions generated using AI tools, including ChatGPT, are strictly prohibited. You will be gagged from the committee if found using them.
- False or fabricated “statistics” must be avoided, unless explicitly presented as creative or myth-based.

### **1.3 How to research for the “Sabha of the divine” Committee**

#### **1. Start by understanding your divine portfolio**

Every delegate represents a God or Goddess, a deity or spirit from mythology. So your first step is to understand your god/goddess's domain, values and stories.

- What elements of nature do they control or represent? (e.g. water, fire, earth, crops, sky)

- How have they reacted to human behaviour in mythological stories?
- Are they known for mercy, destruction, or creation?
- What symbols or powers do they hold that connect to natural forces?

**Example:**

If you are Lord Varuna (god of water), research how modern water pollution, overfishing, and climate-related floods would anger or concern you.

If you are Athena, focus on how wisdom and innovation could guide sustainable urban development instead of destruction.

**2. Linking mythology to modern crisis:** Look for global examples of how rapid urbanisation has caused harm, e.g. deforestation, floods, species loss, air pollution, river degradation, and then imagine how your deity would *respond* to it.

**3. How to Frame Your Speech or Position Paper**

Your role is to act as a **divine being debating with other gods**, not a politician.

So, your tone should sound mythological yet logical. You can frame your points like:

- **Opening Statement:** “I, god/goddess, have watched humans poison the seas I once blessed...”
- **Proposed Solutions:** “Let the mortals restore balance through cleaner waters, sustainable fishing, and respect for the ocean’s depths.”
- **Divine Alliances:** “Perhaps XYZ god/goddess and I shall unite to remind mankind of the power of the Earth and Sea.”

**5. Suggested Research Flow**

1. **Know Your God** → Read myths about your deity.
2. **Know Your Domain’s Modern Crisis** → Research real issues (e.g., air pollution for wind deities).
3. **Find Symbolic Links** → Connect mythic morals to real data.
4. **Build a Divine Agenda** → What would your deity advocate for in the Sabha?
5. **Form Alliances** → Which other gods/goddesses would support your cause?

***“In this Sabha, gods are not distant figures they are voices of the natural world, called upon once more to decide whether humanity deserves guidance, forgiveness, or reckoning.”***

## **1.4 INTRODUCTION TO AGENDA:**

### **AGENDA: Restoring the Balance Between Nature and Civilisation: A Divine Intervention**

Since the beginning of time, nature and civilization have coexisted, supporting, protecting, and depending on one another. The forests, rivers, mountains, and skies are not just parts of the Earth; in mythology, they are living forces, often represented by gods and goddesses. But as humans began to build cities, factories, and machines, this balance started to break. In the name of growth and comfort, people began cutting down forests, polluting rivers, and filling the air with smoke.

The Earth, once calm and kind, now seems tired and angry. **This agenda examines that imbalance from the divine perspective. You may consider the following:**

- What happens when the gods finally decide to speak up for the planet?
- How will they react to seeing their creations destroyed by human greed and carelessness?
- Will they punish, forgive, or guide humankind toward a better path?

In this committee, every delegate represents a god, goddess, or divine being from mythology. Together, the divine council, the Sabha of the Divine, will discuss how to restore harmony between nature and civilisation.

#### **The goal is to understand:**

- How urbanisation has caused ecological strain on the Earth.
- How ancient values of balance and respect for nature can guide modern humans.
- What actions should the gods take to bring peace between man and nature again?

*This agenda encourages delegates to use mythology and imagination, but also to think about real-world environmental problems pollution, deforestation, global warming, and loss of biodiversity. Through this debate, the Sabha must decide:*

***Will the gods intervene to save the Earth, or will they let humans face the consequences of their own actions?***

## **1.4 Committee Sub-Topics:**

You may research the following sub-topics and include them in your speeches, related to the agenda:

- A) Restoring Balance between Human life and nature: Find solutions to the problem to restore harmony, and address the problem based on your portfolio (the assigned Deity given). You may include the power of mindfulness, the art of using sustainable practices.
- B) Innovation in Service to Nature: Feel free to put up your approaches, creative ideations, or innovations that help restore balance in an ecosystem. You may highlight the role of technology.
- C) Lessons from the Past: Use your mythological knowledge or wit to quote any historical fact or data, and you may urge the committee to learn from ancient wisdom, traditions, and stories of our ancestors.
- D) Healing Communities: How communities can come together to restore natural spaces and biodiversity, What can each person do daily to honor nature and reduce harm, and How deforestation, pollution, and overconsumption disturb the balance of life.

## **1.5 Case Studies:**

### **(i) The River Yamuna- From Divine Flow To Polluted Stream**

**Divine Reflection:** In Hindu mythology, Yamuna is the sister of Yama, the god of death — symbolic of purity in the face of mortality. Her current state reflects how humanity's greed is pushing life toward decay. If she were to speak in this Sabha, would she bless civilisation for progress or curse it for neglect?

**Moral:** This case reminds us that spirituality must inspire sustainability. Reverence for nature is not in prayer alone, but in protection and responsible action. The delegates must rethink: How can modern cities grow without silencing the rivers that sustain them?

### **Discussional Angle:**

- How can urban development and industrial growth be **balanced with the protection of sacred rivers** like the Yamuna?

- Which measures—such as **waste management, river-cleanup drives, and stricter industrial regulations**—can restore both ecological and spiritual balance?
- How can **cultural and religious reverence** be leveraged to encourage sustainable practices among local populations?



## (ii) The Himalayas In Distress- The Melting Abode Of The Gods

In the modern era, the Himalayas face an unprecedented crisis. **Global warming is causing glaciers to melt faster than ever**, leading to:

- Devastating **floods and landslides** downstream.
- Loss of **freshwater resources** for over a billion people.
- Threats to **rare species** of flora and fauna that call the high mountains home.

This ecological disruption is compounded by deforestation, unsustainable tourism, and climate-induced natural disasters. The mountains that once symbolized permanence and divine protection are now showing signs of fragility, sending a warning about humanity's disregard for nature.

**Divine Reflection:** It is as if Lord Shiva himself watches over the Himalayas, his meditative gaze saddened by the melting glaciers and roaring rivers. The mountains seem to weep through their icy peaks, sending a warning: *"I dwell in these sacred heights, yet humans exploit and harm them. Restore balance, honor the land, or face the collapse of life itself."*

**Moral:** The Himalayas remind us that true reverence for nature goes beyond rituals and prayers; it requires action, care, and responsibility. Every tree preserved, every glacier protected, and every river kept clean is a step toward restoring balance between humans and the divine forces of nature. Lord Shiva's presence teaches that the mountains are living guardians, and harming them disrupts not only ecosystems but also spiritual harmony.

### **Discussional Angle:**

- How can modern solutions such as **renewable energy, sustainable tourism, and glacier protection** be implemented without violating the spiritual sanctity of these landscapes?
- Should the symbolic guidance of **Lord Shiva or other divine guardians** be incorporated to emphasize **ethical environmental decision-making**?



### **(iii) Ravana And The Destruction of The Divine Kingdom of Lanka:**

*Ravana*, the powerful king of Lanka, is often remembered for his strength, intelligence, and devotion to Lord Shiva. However, legends also tell of his greed, arrogance, and misuse of natural resources. Lanka was described in the Ramayana as a lush, vibrant island filled with forests, rivers, and wildlife, blessed with natural beauty and resources. Ravana's desire to build an opulent kingdom, with golden palaces and massive fortifications, led to large-scale deforestation, diversion of rivers, and disruption of the island's natural balance. The Ramayana narrates how Ravana's pride blinded him to the harmony of the ecosystem, and despite being a learned scholar and devotee of Shiva, he exploited nature for personal gain, disturbing both the environment and the spiritual equilibrium of Lanka.

Ravana's actions, though mythological, reflect a timeless truth: unchecked greed and development can destroy ecosystems. In Lanka:

- Forests were cleared to build palaces and fortresses.
- Rivers and water bodies were diverted to serve urban luxuries.
- Wildlife habitats were disrupted, threatening biodiversity.

This legend illustrates how human ambition without respect for nature leads to ecological imbalance, social unrest, and eventual downfall.

**Divine Reflection:** It is as if Lord Shiva observes both Ravana's devotion and destruction, silently warning: "Knowledge and power are blessings, but when used without respect for life and nature, they lead to ruin. True greatness lies in harmony, not domination." The devastation of Lanka's natural beauty mirrors the consequences of arrogance and neglect.

**Moral:** The tale of Lanka teaches that wealth, power, and knowledge are meaningless without respect for the environment. Humans must learn that exploiting natural resources recklessly harms both life and spirituality. Just as Ravana's downfall was tied to his hubris, modern societies risk ecological collapse if they disregard harmony with nature.

#### **Discussion Angle:**

- How can nations pursue **development and urbanization without harming the environment?**
- Can lessons from mythology, like Ravana's misuse of Lanka's resources, **inspire modern environmental ethics?**
- What **divine or moral responsibilities** do humans have when exploiting natural resources?
- How can ancient wisdom and modern science **work together to restore ecological balance?**



#### **1.6 Questions To Consider:**

You may answer the following questions to incorporate or deliberate upon during the committee:

- 1) Have human actions disturbed the harmony between nature and civilization?  
Should humans be punished, guided, or forgiven for harming the Earth?
- 2) Can nature heal itself if humans stop causing damage, or must we actively intervene? How? Highlight the role of technology, innovation, etc.

- 3) What spiritual or moral lessons should humans learn from the imbalance they have caused?
- 4) Who, according to you, is responsible for this? What factors affect it?
- 5) How can ancient wisdom and traditions guide you to sustainable living and solutions?

Yours Sincerely,  
The Executive Board.

