

# INSPIRATIONAL TALES

## Āchārya Shri Vasunandi Muni

परस्परोपग्रहो जीवानाम्

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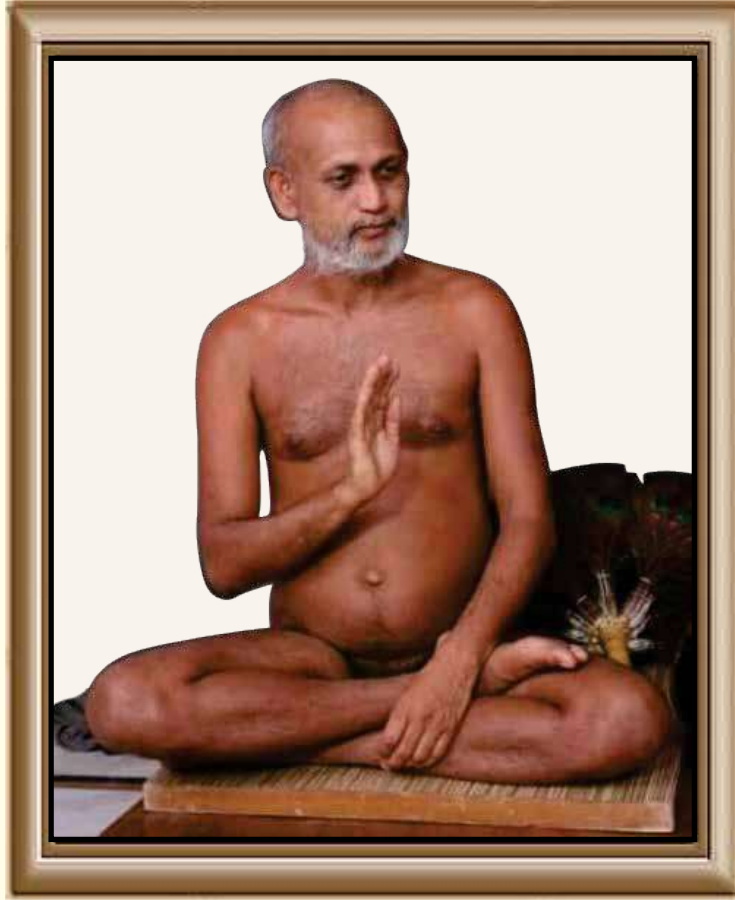
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**ĀCHĀRYA SHRI VASUNANDI MUNI**



*Donated by:*

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# CONTENTS

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Chapter Name</b>	<b>Page No</b>
	<b>Preface</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Foreword</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>The Sweetest Fruit</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Who Had Killed The Cow?</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Benevolent Arvind</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Hundred Beatings With A Shoe</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Hospitality</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Three Moral Of Three Lacs</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>A Boon</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Heaven On Earth</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Who Is Eligible?</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Tit For Tat</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>To Serve</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Fortune</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>13.</b>	<b>A Misunderstanding</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>14.</b>	<b>Fortune</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>15.</b>	<b>A Dramatic Group</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>16.</b>	<b>Do Good, Get Good</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>17.</b>	<b>The True Donation</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>18.</b>	<b>A Magic Spell</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>19.</b>	<b>A Man of Three Heads and Three Legs</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>20.</b>	<b>Nilla and Pilla</b>	<b>94</b>



# Preface

The stories hold a unique place in world literature. Stories are the easiest way to understand. Stories teach us to have patience in bad circumstances, how to live life in harmony and how to face every situation bravely. These are not only stories but also a guide to the upliftment of the soul. Stories generates the feelings of love, coordination, collaboration, sympathy and benevolence etc. within the self.

Stories provide ethical character in the soft hearts of the children and elders as well. These stories have touched the culture of ancient India. In actual sense, work done by the people with moral attributes become culture. And this sets up an example for the generations to come how should one live one's life? Following their life one can understand, what place do the patience, wisdom, service, hospitality etc. hold in one's life? The answer to every question is hidden in the story.

With a disciplinary method, success can be achieved and that can be learnt by the stories easily.

The stories are really very interesting. These inspirational stories will be a source of knowledge and worldly wisdom. The moral of these stories will encourage the readers to develop strong character and sound mind-set.

The stories in these books are written in simple and well-structured language illustrated with beautiful pictures.

Param Pujya Acharya Shri Vasunandi Ji Gurudev is really a talented person and endowed with virtues. He is a great scholar of any type of scriptures Siddhant, Nyaya, Naya, Grammar, etc. And he knows many languages as Sanskrit, Prakrit, English, Bengali, Marathi, Kannad, Telegu etc. He has written many scriptures in Sanskrit, Prakrit, Hindi and English. Acharya Shri Kund-Kund Swami said that the people should be explained in their own languages. And looking at present condition he presented the stories in English. However he wants to show the true path to the children through this easy genre.

Recently, a book named “Inspirational Tales” has presented by Acharya Shri Vasunandi Ji Muniraj. It is the English translation of a story book “Sadguru Ki Seekh.” In the edition of this book if the mistake is left, then readers should read and filter them just like a swan does.

Anyone who helped in formatting, publishing and printing this book, Guru Ji's blessings are always with them for their better tomorrow.

More than hundred years, this world filled with the fragrance of his knowledge and penance. May he achieve his ultimate aim very soon that is liberation. With this auspicious wish I bow to Pujya Gurudev Acharya Shri Vasunandi Ji Muniraj with Siddha, Shruta and Acharya Bhakti.

Aryika Vardhasva Nandini

# Foreword

अज्ञानतिमिरान्धानां, ज्ञानाञ्जन शलाकया।  
चक्षुरुन्मीलितं येन तस्मै श्री गुरवे नमः॥

I bow and after my prayers to all the Gurus who uplift the soul and help us to move from ignorance to knowledge and from darkness to light.

Writing the foreword for this collection of short stories is like trying to find a flicker of hope or a ray of light in this dark world of ours. As the task has been assigned to me, I feel fortunate enough and am filled with gratitude as I pay my homage to the Guruji and all his sangh. His stories guide us not only in our spiritual Journey, but our daily affairs which stories are a reflection of.

Far from the humdrum of life, the short stories refresh us with their flavour of Ancient India, taking us to Hastinapur, the Girnar mountain, Vatskavati etc. Based on the moral values of patience, truth, benevolence, simplicity, humility, service to God and friendship each story moves through situations of anger, greed, pride, lust etc. and arrive at events where the character learns his lesson of life through these moral values. The stories are thus a great source of motivation and inspiration for children, students and elders as well. They are simple yet profound in meaning and content. Succinct and concise but with their realistic and life like details they are able to retain the reader's interest till the end.

The translation is comprehensible and well-written. It is able to capture the pulse, the feel and the aura of Ancient India. Though written in English, the stories are culturally sensitive. One can sense the audience moving through Indian villages with bullocks and farms and travellers moving on foot. The kingdoms have their kings and Saints as well. With a penchant for accuracy and clarity, he has been able to present these stories to a varied audience who would enjoy and love to read them.

**Dr. Veena Jain**



# The Sweetest Fruit

India is known as the world's preceptor. India was earlier divided into many small countries. There was a country, Kurujangal. Which is now called Hastinapur. Near Hastinapur, there was a small village, Manikpur. A learned Brahmin used to live in that village named Buddha Bihari Lal. His wife sharbati was simple, soft spoken and pious. They had a son Keshavdas.

His son Keshav was brilliant. Keshav's teacher advised his father to send him to Banaras for getting higher education. He reached there and became a great scholar. After some years, he left Gurukul.

Wherever he used to go, people considered it their pleasure. People respected him a lot. By and by he reached his village. There was a great procession in his welcome. Seeing this, his parents were elated.

In spite of this, Buddha Bihari Lal interrupted him at every step, but Keshav did not relish this because he considered himself a great scholar, he had an aversion to his father's interruptions.

One day he thought, “to get rid of this problem, I should kill my father”. One summer night, when his parents were taking a rest on the terrace, he reached there with a wicked intention. That time his parents were talking with each other.

Mother said, “Look how beautiful this moon is ! It is scattering its gleam all over the world.” He answered, “O ! you don't know the truth. This moon has marks, but our son is the real moon. I am proud of him.” His wife asked, “then why do you scold and interrupt him every time ?” He answered “only because of his good, otherwise pride would degrade him. If I will not scold him then who will scold him?”



Keshav was listening to the whole conversation. He came back to his place. Next morning he asked his father,

“If a son thinks about the killing of his parents, so what should he do for penance ?”

He replied, either he should donate hundred cows made of gold or be bare feet, taking food once in a day, he should live like a monk for twelve years in other city.”

Keshav went to his wife and said, “Sushila, you do one thing you go to the city's honourable man, Jindas. Give my slip to him and in exchange whatever he gives you, receive that.





She went to Jindas house and gave that slip. Jindas read that slip. It was written, “Don't take any step in rage. Have patience because patience pays.” In that note Keshav wrote, “please give one Lac rupees, after some time I'll pay you back with interest.”

So Jindas gave one Lac rupees to his wife. Keshav left his home for twelve years after taking the permission from his parents. His father understood the whole matter.

The slip which was given to Jindas, he hung that on his almirah. For business, he went abroad. When he left his country, he had a little son, Arhadas and wife Vimla. After some years he came back to his home abruptly.

He saw that his wife Vimla was sleeping with a young man.

Seeing this, he flew into a towering rage. He took out his sword. As soon as he was going to kill them, his sword hit the almirah where that slip was hung. The slip had a message written on it, “Don't take any step in rage. Have patience, because patience pays.”

He read and thought, “I should wait for a while”. He woke up his wife. Seeing her husband, she was very glad. She touched his feet and said to that young man, “O Son ! wake up, see your father has come after many years. Stand up and look.”

Hearing this, Jindas was startled. He thanked God because he couldn't recognize his own son. If he had not read that message his family could have been ruined.

On the other hand, Keshav's penance was over. He returned home. He said to his wife, “now one thing I will have to do, I am indebted to Jindas. I would pay him.” Sushila said, “but that slip has been returned and there it is written-paid”.

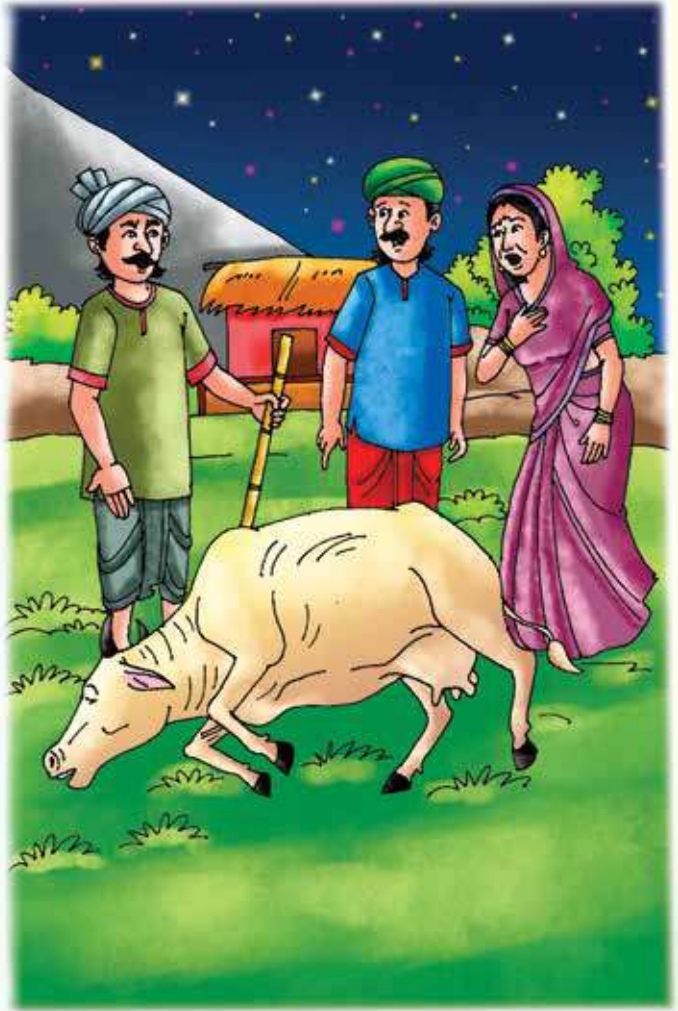
Soon Keshav reached Jindas' home. Jindas told him the whole incident. Jindas touched his feet. Now by his politeness and knowledge his fame spread all over the country.

**Moral** - Parents never think wrong about their children. Even if they scold them, it is only for their good.

**We should never take any step in rage.**

**Have patience because patience pays.**

There was a Kanakpur city in Malav Country. In that city, a farmer, Chaganlal used to live with his wife, Dhanvati and son, Dhandev. Chaganlal was righteous. Near the Chaganlal's field, Maganlal's field was also there. Maganlal usually left his cattle for grazing in his field, but some of the cattle would enter in Chaganlal's field silently. Chaganlal tried many times to stop them, but still at night cattle would enter. In that herd, there was a cow who would often spoil the crops. Chaganlal tried to get rid of that cow, but all went in vain.

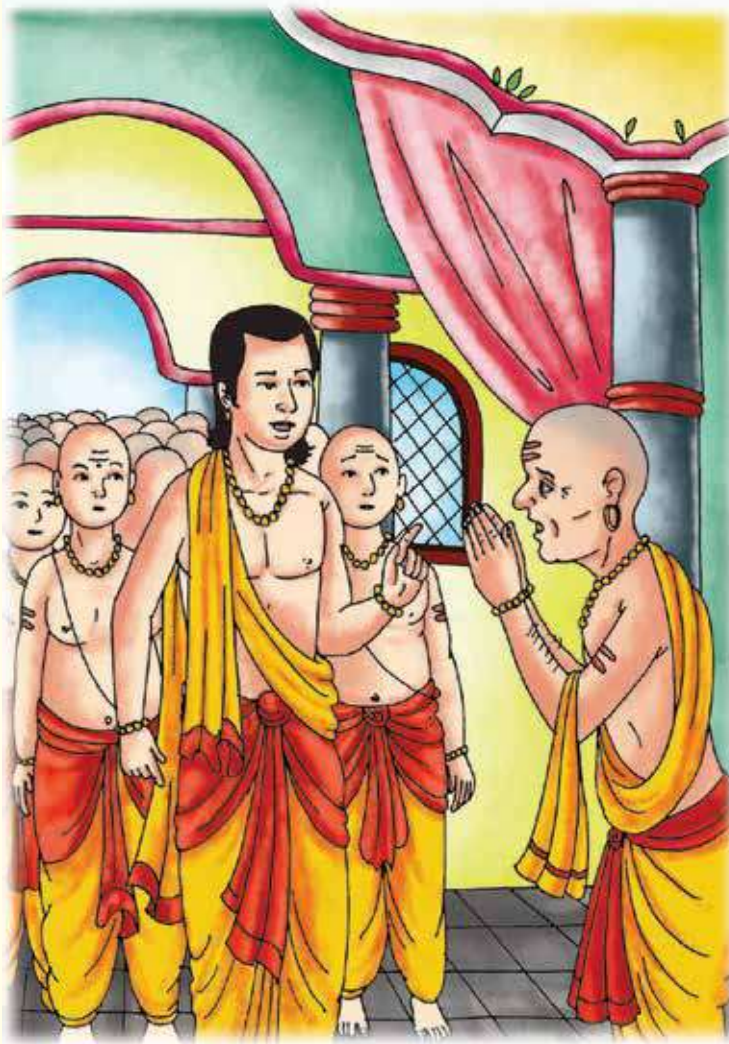


One day Chaganlal stayed in his field for looking after his crops. That night a cow was coming there again and again. Chaganlal drove it away many times, but the cow came again and in rage chaganlal beat it with a stick. That stick hurt it's soft place, and it died at once.



Chaganlal was very sad. His intention was not to kill her but it died. Maganlal knew everything so he spread this news all over the village that Chaganlal had killed a cow.

Panchayat was held in that village. He was expelled from the village. Villagers said, “if you want to come again in this



village, first you will have to penitence. You go and take a bath in the Ganga with a cow's tail.

He left his place with a cow's tail. When he was going then he said to everyone that I am innocent. I am a devotee of Lord Rama, If the cow has been killed by me then Lord Rama has killed it.

He reached in a forest, he was screaming that I have not killed the cow. Lord Rama has killed it. He will go to Ganga for taking bath. He said, “O! God , please forgive me. How will I go to Ganga? Please, take this tail and go for a bath”.

Hearing this, a god (Vandevta) appeared in disguise as Lord Rama, because he thought that Chaganlal was a great



devotee of Lord Rama so he said, “okay, I am a killer, you give me the tail, I'll take a bath in the river.”

He went away. Then Chaganlal thought, “I will not go to my home. I have seen this mean world.” He decided to pass the rest of his life as a saint. Coincidentally, he had a vision of a saint, Shankeshwar Das. He served him and became an ascetic. He became very famous by the name of Haridas, which was given by his Guru Shankeshwar Das.

Now people began to come for having his glimpse and invited him to their place. Once there was a big occasion. A Yagya (offering of oblation into the fire) was held in a village. Thousands of people gathered there.

At the same time a man came and asked, “By whom is this Yagya being held?” Everyone answered, “Don't you know? It is being held by Baba Haridas.” Asking this, he moved ahead and reached the temple. He was asking the same question and getting the same answer.

Pushing everyone, he reached near Baba Haridas. He asked him the same question. Baba Haridas said, “Don't you know? I am the organizer of this yagya.”

That young man said, “If you are the organizer of this yagya, Then you are the killer, you have killed the cow. Rama has killed the cow and yagya is being held by you. Take this tail and go to Ganga”. Actually the young man was that Vandevta.

The ascetic regretted. He thought, “when the offence was done by me, then I blamed lord Rama. And when the organizer

of yagya is being praised then I am taking credit myself.” Baba Haridas was pardoned but now he was exposed.

**Moral** - Every person has to endure the fruition of his own karmas. If it can be done, then blame yourself for bad deeds and for good deeds attribute it to your preceptor. By this, you will never be proud.

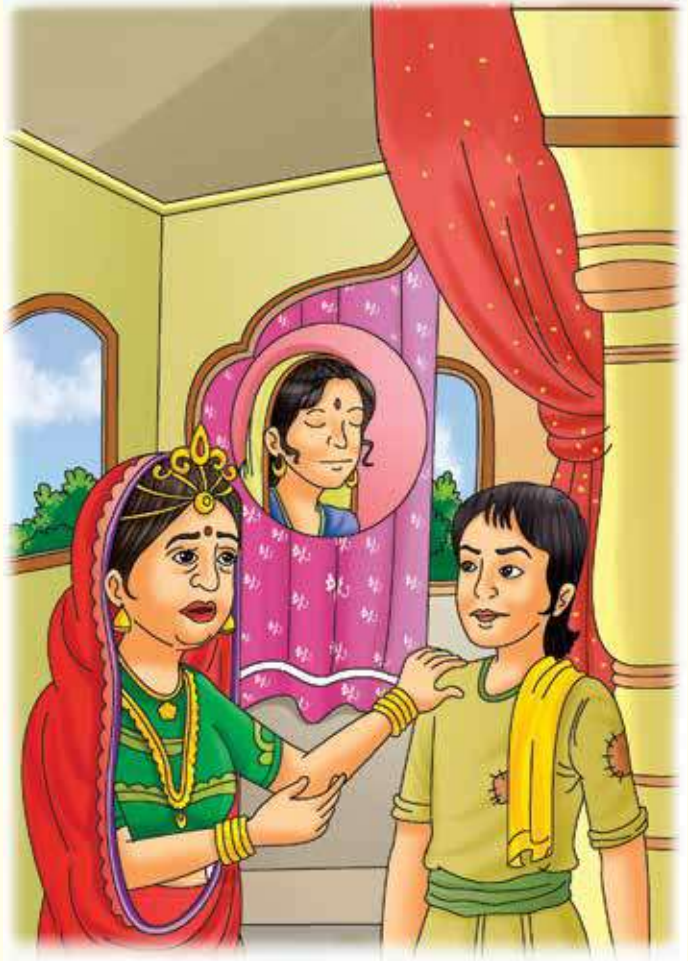
## Benevolent Arvind

Kumbh Bal was a king of Singhpur Nagar near Dasharn Country. He had a queen, Ambuja. But they were sad because they had no child.

Asking from an astrologer they came to know that they would definitely get a son but the king will not be able to see his son's face. Hearing this, the queen became sorrowful.

But who can change the fate? The time came, when she got a son, but as it was said the king died. After sometime, Queen Ambuja followed her husband to the grave. She also died. Her son was given a name Arvind.

His relatives looked after him, but because of his previous life's karmas that kingdom was ruined. Now he became like a beggar. His relatives advised him to go to a great monk to ask that how long he would have to endure the fruition of his bad deeds and when he would get back his kingdom?



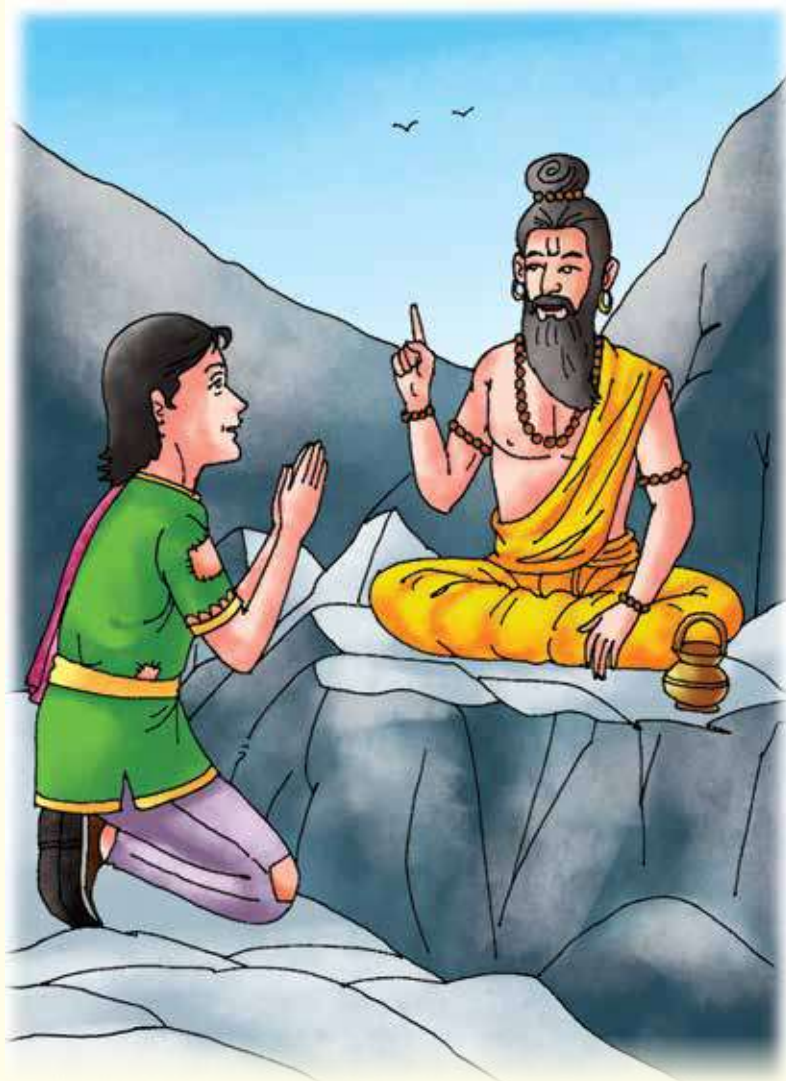
That monk was at Girnar mountain in Girinagar of Saurashtra Country. He used to worship there. It is said that 22nd Tirthankar Neminath of Jains, got liberation from that place. Narayana Krishna and Rukmani also got married there.

After some days Arvind started his journey and reached Mahendrapur. But the kingdom was looking lifeless. A high fort, palace, army etc was there, but still it was looking lame. After asking he came to know that there was no king in that palace. The king's mother ruled over that kingdom. She had a daughter and she was blind from birth, so there was no future of that country.

Arvind met the Rajmata. They talked for some time and he told about that monk. She said, “please do me a favour. Tell that monk that my daughter is blind from birth. Will she ever be able to see this world? If yes, then how?” He took the blessings of Rajmata and continued his journey.

After some days he reached Himmatgarh. Reaching there he had to pass his whole night in a garden. The Gardener of that garden greeted him. He chatted for some time and told about his journey. The gardener said if you are going there, please ask my question also. “I plant in this corner of the garden, but it never grow, after some days plants dry up, why?” Arvind assured him of asking his question and moved ahead.

He reached Junagarh after some days. There he met a saint. He narrated his whole story to the saint. The saint said, if you are going to that great, monk please ask about me, “why I have not been able to achieve Siddhi?” He bowed and went away.



Gradually, he reached Girnar. He had a glimpse of that monk. As soon as he was going to ask the question, the law was told to him, “you may ask only three questions.” But he wanted to ask four questions. He got puzzled. At last he thought, “Come what may. I can not leave those people's questions who relied on me.” So he took the solutions of their problems.

He was not permitted to ask 4th question. He thought, “I am a young man. I can come again here. At least I have done something good, so I am pacified.” He started his journey towards his kingdom. First, he met that saint who asked about Siddhi. He told him that “You have an attraction towards worldly things. You have kept a diamond in your beard. If you will give up that Kohinoor diamond, you will achieve your aim.” Hear this, he took out that diamond and gave it to Arvind. After giving up each and everything the monk got engrossed in his penance.



Arvind now reached that gardener. He said, “the ascetic told that where you plant the trees, they don't grow up because eight pots of jewels are buried there in the earth.” The gardener started digging up the earth. As the monk said, eight pots full of jewels were dug up from the ground. Gardener gave this news to his owner. He came and gave four pots to Arvind, two to gardener and rest of two he donated and distributed among the poor people.

After this, Arvind reached Mahendrapur. He said to Rajmata that if eyes could be washed with the water, which is boiled with the Kohinoor diamond, she would be able to see. That young man stayed there for some days and did the same. Gradually she became a good viewer. Rajmata was so happy that she got her daughter married to Arvind and made him the successor of the kingdom.

**Moral** - If we do good to others, we get same in return. So we should do good, think well and speak good. Be Benevolent.



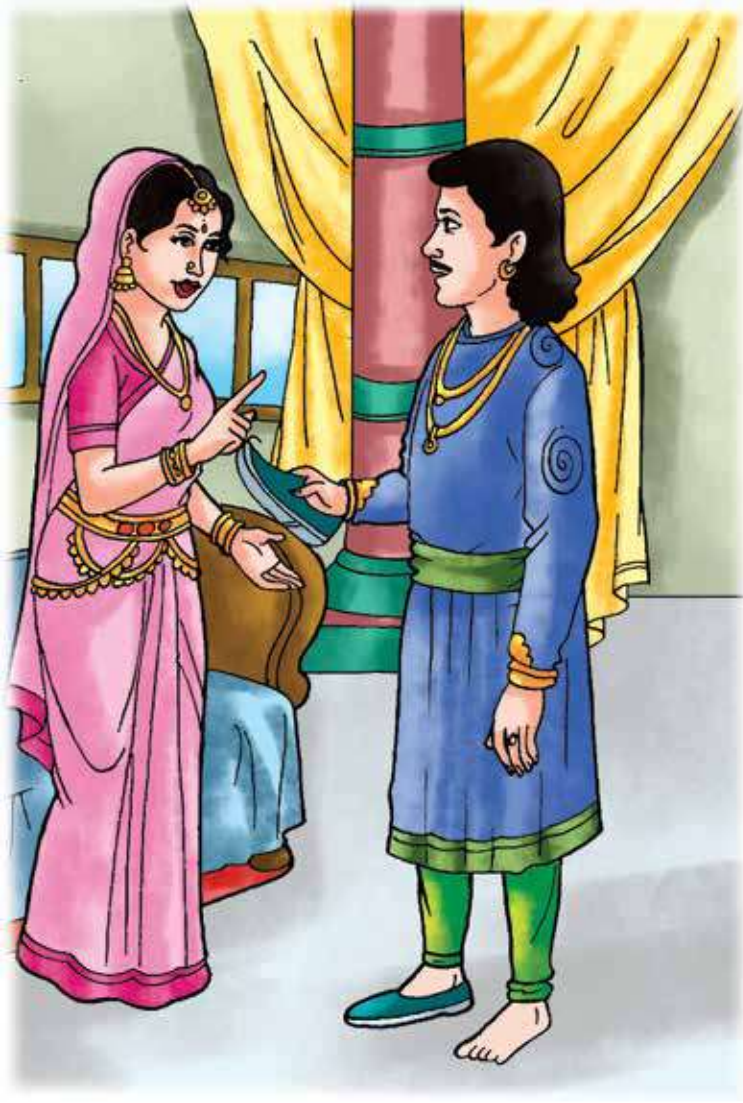
## **Hundred Beatings With A Shoe**

Hemprabh was the great king of Rathnupur. His beloved wife was Chandraprabha. They were blessed with a son, Rantnashekhar, but he was pampered by his parents. He couldn't get good education because he wasn't interested in that. He was egoistic.

There was a neighbourhood kingdom named Vatsa. King Digvijay ruled over the Country. His wife was a pious lady named Jyotirmala. They had a prudent daughter, Aparajita. She was famous for her wit and wisdom. Her parents wanted her to get married. The king's minister advised him to get her daughter married with prince Ratnashekhar.

After the engagement, princess' parents came to know that prince Ratnashekhar has kept a condition. The condition was, “the girl whom I will marry, she will be given hundred beatings with a shoe. I'll beat her hundred times with my shoe daily.” His parents persuaded him not to do this but he did not understand.

When Aparajita's parents came to know about this, they became very sad. They said we will not get our daughter married to him. Hear this, the princess was taken aback. She said, “No my father, it is impossible. I'll marry only him and no one else. I want to see that man who has the power to beat me hundred times with his shoe.” They got married with great pomp and gaiety.



Next morning Ratnashekhar said to Aparajita “according to my condition I'll beat you with a shoe”. She said, “Yes, I'm ready, but only then, when you will feed me with your earnings. You have earned nothing for me till now.”

He said angrily, “What do you know? Everything is mine here.” She said, “No, all this is your father's.” When you earn yourself, then you'll have a right over those things.”

His parents with great difficulty permitted him to go out for earning. He looked here and there for any job but he couldn't get any because he was unable to do something special. One day he reached at a place where oil was being taken out with the help of bullocks. He asked, “May I get a job.” They replied, “Yes, of course, you will have to pull this cart in place of bullocks.” He said, “Okay, but what will I get?” “Half a plate of rice once a day and a rupee in a month,” they said. He accepted it.



The owner got the hole made in his nose. He put a string in his nose as it is put in the nose of a bullock. He started his work. His clothes became dirty and oily. A long time had passed. So his hair, whiskers and moustaches had grown up.

Many days passed. His parents looked for him everywhere, but all in vain. His wife Aparajita was brilliant. At night she went for searching him in disguise as a man. She was looking for her husband here and there.

One day she reached the same place where her husband used to work. She recognized him. Aparajita went to the owner and said, “leave him, we'll pay for your loss.” She ordered him to give one rupee and sent him to the palace on a chariot with kingly wears.

In the morning Ratna Shekhar reached his palace. He went to his wife and said, “now I will beat you”. She said, “but till now you haven't fed me with your earnings.”

As soon as he showed her one rupee, she showed him his oily clothes, a string and cut



hair. Seeing that, he didn't take time to understand that the person who came to him and made him free was none other than his wife.

Ratnashekhar was embarrassed. He said, “you throw away all these things and let it be forgotten. I promise you, I'll never boast now.” He apologized to her. Now Ratnashekhar became a responsible prince and began to work hard.

Seeing this, his parents became very happy that their daughter-in-law had changed their son. They both sacrificed their kingdom and took on the path of liberation.

**Moral** - When a person has no ability, till then he is an egoist. When really he is an able man, the more polite he becomes. More ability, more polite he becomes.



## Hospitality

Jaisen was the king of Vatskavati. Jayawati was his beloved wife. They had a daughter named Nandita and a son named Anand. One day when the court had assembled, a gardener came to the king and said, “Sire! an ascetic has come in the forest because of that the scene of the forest has completely changed. The dried pond is now filled with water, dried trees have become greener, all the fruits and flowers of six seasons have blossomed together. That ascetic is naked. Only kamandal and a picchi made of peacock's feathers are with him.” Hearing this, king Jaisen stood up from his throne, walked seven steps ahead and bowed in the same direction.

A drum was beaten in the city and announced, “everyone will have to go and see muniraj in the forest tomorrow morning.” Everyone reached there. Damvar muniraj was engrossed in prayer. The king and citizens bowed to him and joining his hands the king said to muniraj to preach for their welfare.

Muniraj preached about selfless service. He said, “to serve is a medium to wash the sins, as blood spots can be washed by water. A seed which is sown in the earth gives birth to thousand of seeds, similarly worldly pleasures and liberation can be achieved by hospitality.”

Everyone returned to their place, but the king didn't go to his palace, he went to the forest. No one was there with him. He

was visiting in disguise. Suddenly, he heard that someone is crying. He reached there and asked, “O, old woman! What are you doing alone in this dense forest and why are you crying?”



“O son! I've heard that our king is going to die.” Predicting certain month, day, date and time she again said, “ a snake will reach him and it will bite him and he will die. I want to save him. He is the lover of his subjects. He looks after his subjects like his own children. He is pious and also a great warrior.”

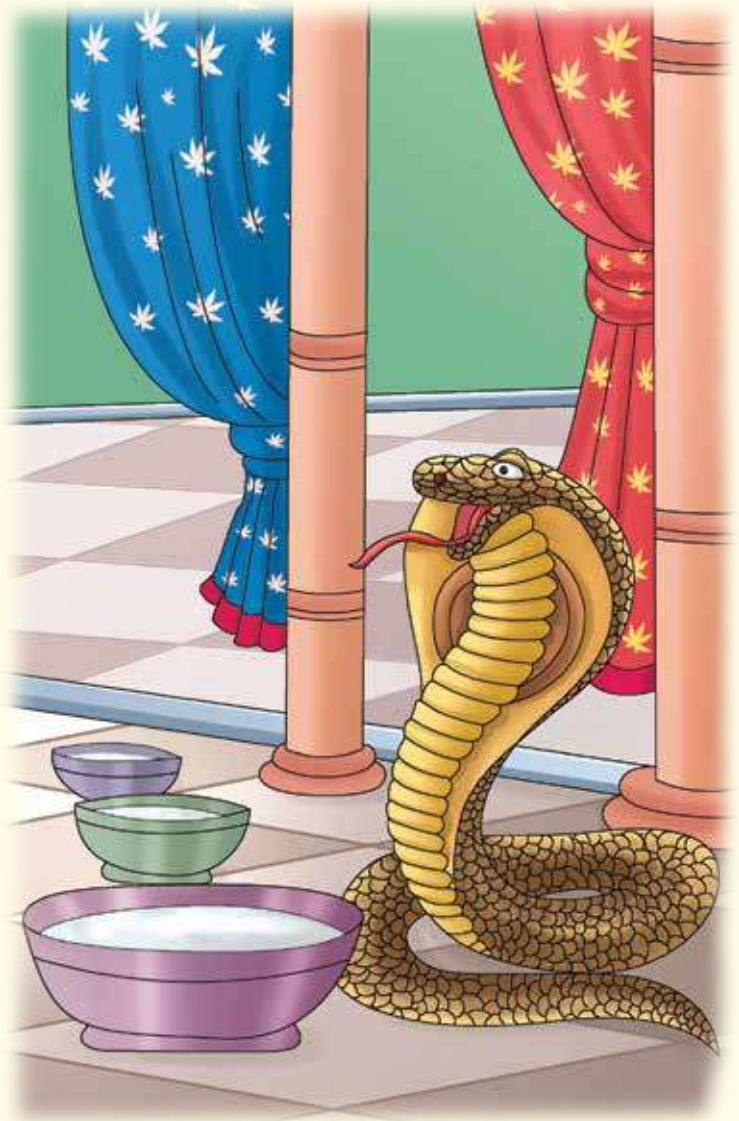
The king said, “O! Is this the only matter? But everyone's death is certain, so why are you getting worried.” “I know the person who has taken birth will have to die. But it should not happen before that certain time, otherwise our subjects will become orphans,” Saying this, she sobbed.

Listening to this, the king also became a bit sad and moved ahead. “From whom has this old woman came to know all this?” He mumbled. As soon as he turned for asking about this mystery, he was surprised when he found no one there.



Really, she was not a woman, she was a deity. She came to attend the king lovingly. Now the king was waiting for that certain day. Preachings of the muniraj about serving others, it affected him more. Every monk or ascetic he came across, he used to feed his guests daily. Gradually, that certain day came. He thought “that snake is also my guest. so what if it is coming for biting me. I will not misbehave with it. He is also a part of my kingdom. I won't harm it, king's duty is to protect everyone.” So he made preparations in his welcome.

From the way it was to come, he got that way decorated with flowers. Bowls full of milk were put on both the sides of the road so that the snake could take that. The snake came at the predicted time. Seeing flowers and milk it became glad. It was too pacified by the king. First he didn't feel like biting him, but as it was predicted, it bit the king. But due to extreme hospitality, there was no effect of poison on the king.



The snake thought that “the king has done good deeds. I came for biting him, but he didn't consider me like an enemy.” So the snake took out its nag mani (jewel) and gave it to the king, bowed to him and went back to its place.

**Moral** - A person who serves, gets goodness at every step of his life. Who knows when and in whose form god may come at our door. “Atithi devo bhavah” so everyone should serve. To serve is the root of religion.



## Three Moral Of Three Lacs

Padmasen was the king of Padmakhet city. It was the capital of Kaashi. Padmasen was judicial and valiant. His beloved wife Padmavati gave birth to a daughter named Padmalata and a son named Padmesh. They both were growing up with a good education and a lot of love. In the same city there was a layman Dhanpal. He was a renowned businessman. His wife was a noble and pious lady. They had a son, Gunpal and a daughter, Gun Shri.

Once Dhanpal's son Gunpal went abroad for earning money and he earned a lot. After twelve years he thought of coming back home. Then he thought, "I have a lot of money. Dacoits and thieves may loot it on the way." That's why he bought three diamonds.

One day he was passing through a dense forest. In the evening he reached a village. He thought, "where should I pass my night?" Then an idea struck in his mind that a holy place is safe for me. He looked for a temple and he found that out. Psalms & hymns were being sung there. He took his place.

After some time, programme was over. Only a saint was left. Gunpal thought "what shall I do?" The saint said to Gunpal "You should go, now it is too late." "O great saint! I am a foreigner. I want to pass my night here", Gunpal said modestly.

“No-no, not here”, saint said immediately. He implored that “I have precious jewels, so I want to stay here safely”.

Saint said, “Oh! you have precious things, so you cannot stay here with them.” Now showing his diamonds to a saint, he requested again to stay for a night because of their safety.

As soon as saint saw them, greed took place in his heart. He uttered, “remember, I never let anyone stay with me. I may permit you but on one condition”. “I accept your every condition”, interrupting he said. “Then listen, you cannot sleep here and also cannot speak loudly. Apart from you, no one can come here”, Saint asserted.

On these conditions he stayed there. He persisted to tell a

story. Saint accepted his request and fixed the price of a story a diamond. He accepted. Saint told “If you want your good, never say bad to others. And remember never do bad with others.”

As per condition providing a diamond to the saint, he said, “please once more.” He told next story and told its gist, “we should never expose one's mistake. If you are able to cover that, then cover it, because dirt smells but when you cover the dirt it decreases.”





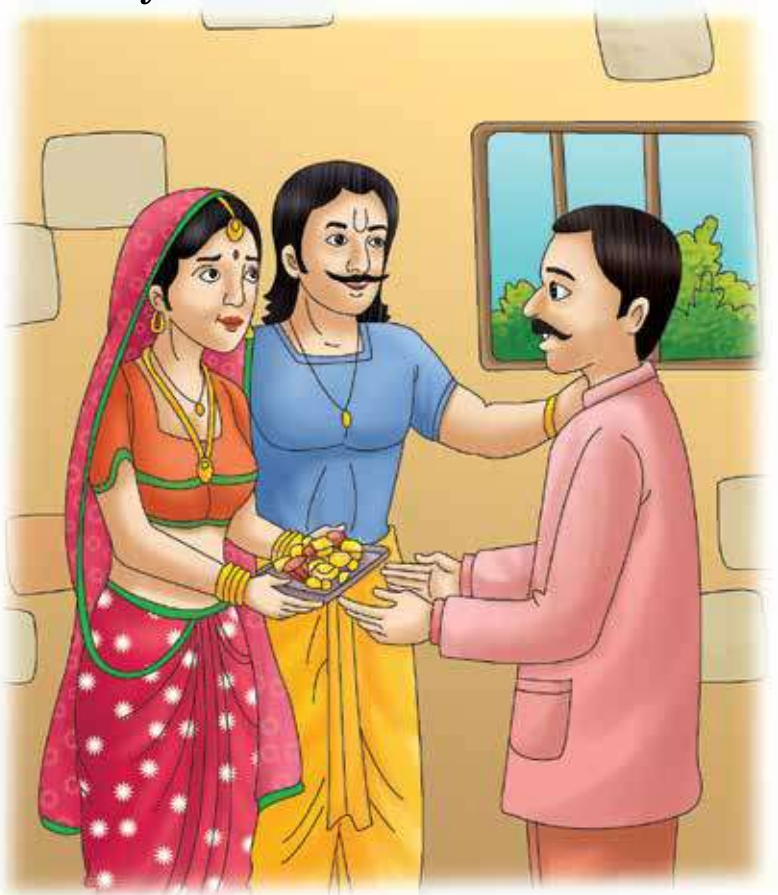
Providing him another diamond, he was perplexed that “if I leave this place this time, then I am not safe. And if I stay here, I'll have to listen one more story and only one diamond is left. But if I leave this place, one can loot me. It's better to give it to a saint.” So he decided to listen to a story.

Saint told, “Never take your food before offering it to someone else. If you take care of others, you will never be hungry.” Third story was over, but the night was still left. He was not restless now. He slept.

Early in the morning, he woke up and paying thanks to the saint he started his journey.

On the outskirts of the city there was a well. Wild animals used to quench their thirst. He also got down the stairs and as soon as he filled his hands with water, a god and goddess appeared. Seeing them he got afraid.

They said, “No need to get afraid. We will not kill you. There is a dispute between us. Now you decide, who is more beautiful between us?”



He memorized saint's first moral, "If you want your good, never say bad to anyone". So he answered "You both are beautiful." They asked many times but he gave the same answer. Being happy they gifted him with celestial jewels.

He reached his city. It was night. He saw a shadow of a man on the main gate of the city. He chased that shadow. There was a room near the gate. A lady and a man were sleeping on a bed. He remembered the second story.

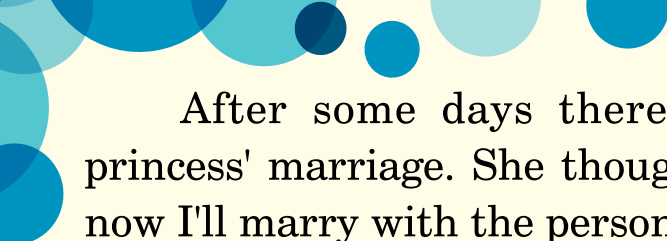
He thought one can come here and can see that easily. So he covered them with a blanket. They both woke up and were surprised to see that a stranger had covered them.

They both stood up and said "we apologize, but please don't disclose this mystery. She is the princess of this kingdom and I am a commander. We both love each other." "I never expose others because I have learnt from a saint," he replied.

After some days Gunpal attended a function held in the palace. It was meal time. when the food was served, the moral of third story stuck in his mind that before taking food, offer it to others.

He thought "I am myself taking the king's food, then how can I offer it to others. But it makes no difference. The commander was sitting beside him. He put his laddoos in his plate silently. As soon as the commander took them, he died.

The Princess wanted to serve those laddooes to Gunpal deceptively. She was afraid as she thought that he would expose them. Now the palace was tumultuous. The commander was cremated. Gunpal returned home.



After some days there was some discussion about princess' marriage. She thought, “commander has died. But now I'll marry with the person who had alerted me.” She told this to the king. The king and the minister were surprised. King became angry. First the king did not agree but later he got ready.

They both got married with great pomp & show. Half of the kingdom was also given to him because of the rising of his good deeds.

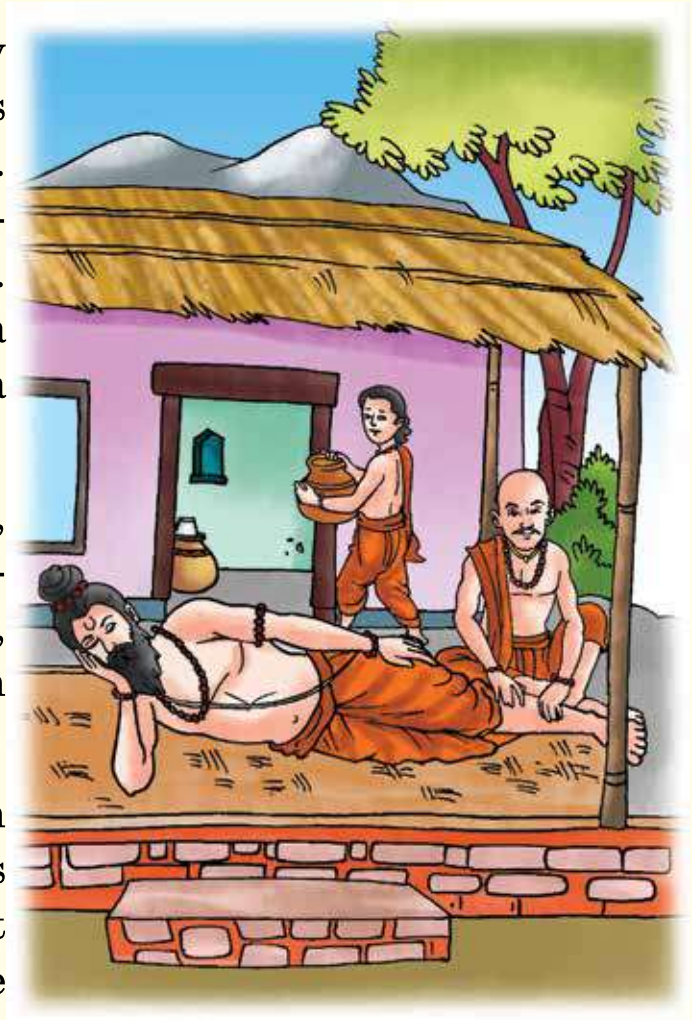
**Moral** - If we accept the teachings of the true saint in our life then we can go to heights.

Anga was the country of the king Aditya Raj. Its capital was Aaditya Puri. His beloved queen Kundprabha was like a nymph. They were blessed with a son, Rajvardhan and a daughter, Yashvardhini.

In the same country, there was a layman, Saraswat. He served a monk, Aparajit. He used to live in the forest.

As he was on the path of penance, many devotees came to him. But Saraswat and Champat lal served the monk by heart and soul.

They both served for twelve years. The monk was pleased by their service. So once he said to Saraswat, "You have served me a lot but I haven't given you anything." "O saint ! your blessings are always with me. Whatever I have got, it is the fruition of your kindful sights", he said. The Monk said, "I see that you don't have enough money. You cannot look after your family. So you ask for something."





He said, “but your blessings are always with me, so I don't need anything.”



“I want to be indebted. So you will have to ask for something”, The saint insisted.

“If it's your order, then I'll think about it. I'll ask from my family members also”, he affirmed.

After that, the monk said the same to Champat Lal. Listening to this, he said swiftly, “Yes, I want a boon from you as I have been serving you for a long time and not only me, my family members will also ask for something. So

you give us three boons.”

Next day Champat Lal reached to the monk with his wife Durgawati and mother Chudawati. The monk told them to ask for a boon. First he asked Chudawati but his wife Durgawati said, “no, first I'll demand.” Champat Lal made his wife understand that mother is respectable, so let her ask first. There was a dispute between Durgawati and Chudawati, so she got irritated.

Chudawati said, “You make me a beautiful girl of sixteen”. In a twinkling of an eye she became a pretty girl. As Durgawati saw this, she was jealous and said I demand that make my mother- in-law a donkey. In a blink of an eye, she became a donkey from a pretty girl of sixteen. Now his son got into hot water. He demanded to make his mother as she was.

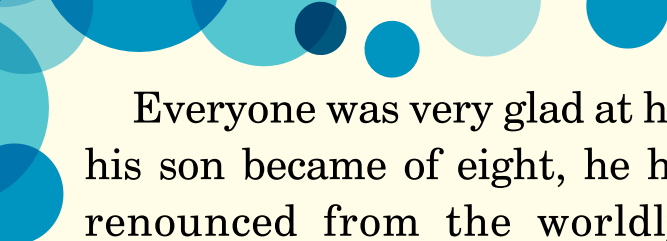
In this way they couldn't use their three boons.

On the other side Saraswat reached his home. He told his father, “the monk wants to give me a boon. What should I ask for ?” His father said, “You see that for a long time we have been living in the thatched home. You ask for a house of seven storeys.” Then he asked his mother. She replied, “O son ! Don't you know what does your blind mother want? I want light in my eyes.” Now he went to his wife for knowing her desire. She replied, “we have passed many years of our married life but we don't have any child yet. Please, you ask for a son.”

Saraswat listened to everyone's desire but he was restless that whole night, thinking that whose desire should he get fulfilled.

Early in the morning he reached the monk. The monk asked his desire. He said, ” if you insist me for demanding something, then give me a boon. My mother wants to see her grandson, taking porridge and other sweets on the seventh floor of my own home.”

The monk gave this boon to him and said you are really very generous. You have fulfilled everyone's wish in a sentence. The monk blessed him and he returned home.



Everyone was very glad at his home. After some years when his son became of eight, he handed over everything to him, renounced from the worldly pleasures and initiated as digamber muni.

After penancing, he left his body with equanimity and got Indra pad in the heaven.

**Moral** - One should be benevolent and serve without any selfishness.

Varanasi was a very beautiful and clean city. It was the capital of Kashi. Arinjay and Abhaymati were very dear to their subjects. They had two sons Samvega vardhan and Gun vardhan and a daughter Aalok vardhini.



Gun vardhan and a daughter Aalok vardhini.

In the same city there was a rich merchant, Dhananjay. His wife Damyanti was of irritating nature but still she was a hard worker. He had seven sons Veersen, Shoorsen, Devsen, Ketusen, Dharmesen, Mahasen and Vishnusen.

After sometime six sons got married with Chandraprabha, Suprabha, Vimalprabha, Kundprabha,

Dharmaprabha & Divyaprabha respectively.

After some days her youngest son Vishnusen got married with Vinay prabha. When she spent her two days there, she felt that the environment of this home was like hell.

“O God ! where have I come ?” She mumbled but she knew the theory of karmas. So she had patience and thought this is



no one's fault. It is the fruition of my previous bondage karmas. She determined to change the atmosphere of that home.

She woke up early in the morning. She saw that the other daughter-in-laws were sleeping and the house was dirty. Actually, they weren't sleeping, they were only pretending. Her mother-in-law commenced to clean the home.

At that time Vinay Prabha came and touched the feet. “O mother ! will you sweep in our presence. No, you will not do this,” taking the broom from her hand, she spoke. “No, you have got married just now. We will not let you do any work. Your sisters may have got tired, so let them take a rest. I can do work,” she uttered.

But holding her mother-in-law's legs, she asserted, “I will not let you do any work.”



She started sweeping. All daughter-in-laws were looking at this. Her mother-in-law said, what will the people say? Just now you have got married and you are working.”

Vinay Prabha said, “You don't worry about this.” You tell me, is sweeping in the temple good or bad?” “It's good, It's also a worship,” she replied. She said, “my home is like a temple for me, so please let me sweep.”

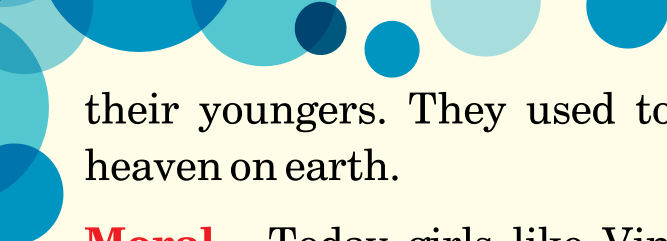
Now it was breakfast time. Other daughter-in-laws got up but they were waiting for the one whose chance was to prepare breakfast. But that daughter-in-law was lying down making an excuse of a headache.

Vinay Prabha said, “I'll prepare the breakfast.” When her mother stopped her, she asked, “is preparing food for saints, good or bad.” She replied, “it's a good deed”. Vinay Prabha said, “I consider my in-laws as saints, so let me do this good deed.”

After this, she saw that clothes were scattered. She gathered them and started washing them. When mother-in-law denied her to do this, she asked, “is washing the clothes of worshippers good or bad?” “It's sacred work”, she answered. Then she said “please, don't take this work from me.” She did all her duties. She worked very well, considering it her own duty. Some days passed. Seeing this, all the family members were astonished. The daughter-in-laws went to their mother-in-law and apologized.

Now they started living with love and peace. She really did what she thought. She created an atmosphere like heaven. She said, “I request you to go to the temple, early in the morning and we will read the scriptures for five minutes in a day.”

Now it was the daily routine of that happy family. Younger ones respected their elders and the elder ones loved



their younger. They used to serve each other. It is called heaven on earth.

**Moral** - Today girls like Vinay Prabha are needed. So the people should never demand money and other belongings but look for a well behaved and good girls. Don't go to the beauty of the girls, look at their behaviour. Merits are the true beauty of a person. Tell the girl's father, "I want a daughter in the form of daughter-in-law." Girls like this can fill your home with love, peace and happiness.



## Who Is Eligible?

Shauripur had been a famous country many years ago. North Mathura was its beautiful city. The king Aridaman used to rule over that country. His wife Laxmimati was really like the statue of Laxmi.

Killing even an animal was prohibited in his kingdom. If any offender was found, rigorous punishment was given to him. Hunting, stealing or any type of crime was not there that time.

There was a money lender named Arhadas. He was a great devotee of Jinendra Dev. His wife Jindutta was a noble lady. Gunmal, Jaymaal, Jagmaal and Sukmaal were their affectionate sons. They liked four virtuous girls for their sons. Their names were Gunmala, Jaimala, Akshamala and Ratnamala respectively. A great love was there among them.

Many years they passed happily. Now Arhadas became old. So he thought, “how should I divide the work among them?” It was like a challenge that to whom would he give which work.

Once he called his daughter-in-laws and said, “I am giving you some rice. When I ask for this again, you return it to me.”

First daughter-in-law Gunmala took it and thought “I don't have time to keep it. When he'll ask for some rice, then I'll give from the rice-sacks.” And she threw it out.



Second one-Jaimala thought “if father-in-law has given, so it is special” So considering it holy food, she had it.

Now Akshamala thought, “I don't know the mystery of this rice. I will just keep it in the almirah cautiously, when he would ask for it, I'll give him back.”

Ratnamala, the forth daughter-in-law was prudent. She thought the father wants to examine us through these. So she

gave them to a farmer for sowing them. Crops of the rice grew up. Again and again she got them sown. In this way some rice got converted into many sacks of rice.

After five years Arhadas called his daughter-in-laws for returning rice to him. He asked the first one about rice he had given.

“O father! I have thrown them out. I thought when you ask for some rice, I'll give you from store-room”, she replied.

Asking the second one she said, “I have eaten them considering it holy food.”



Now he asked the third one. "I have kept them cautiously in my almirah," Saying this she gave them back.

It was Ratnamala's turn now. She said, "father, I can't bring them here. You will have to come out to see them. The rice you gave me, I got them sown. Then whatever I got, I got them sown again. In this way many sacks of rice we have today."

Seeing this, he distributed the work among them. He said to eldest daughter-in-law that she will clean the home because she doesn't like dirt. Second one will prepare the food. Third one will handle the keys of almirah and younger one will transact in this home.

In this way he also called his sons and he divided the work among them also. They all were eligible for their works. After handing over everything Arhadas was initiated as digamber muni and Jindutta was initiated as an Aryika.

**Moral** - Work is not given to anyone. It is only achieved by their own competence. So don't be jealous and increase your own ability.





Vijay was the valiant king of Kalinga. His queen Vijay Sundari was charming. Doing their duties towards their subjects, they used to think of their good and welfare.

In this kingdom, there was a merchant's son Suvrat. He was very simple and artless. At the same place there was a swindler named Bhujakkad Das.

Once Suvrat was going to the market. He had a garland in his hands. Bhujakkad asked

him, “where are you going with this beautiful garland?”

“I am going for selling it”, he replied. Bhujakkad said, “O! where are you going for selling this lovely garland. This is not more than two paise. I will pay you two paise and you give this garland to me.” And he took that garland. Poor Suvrat couldn't speak even a single word.

After some days, he was going with a lamb for selling it to the market. Again Bhujakkad didn't let him go and said, "this lamb of yours isn't more than four paise. Take this money, give me your lamb and go back to your home."

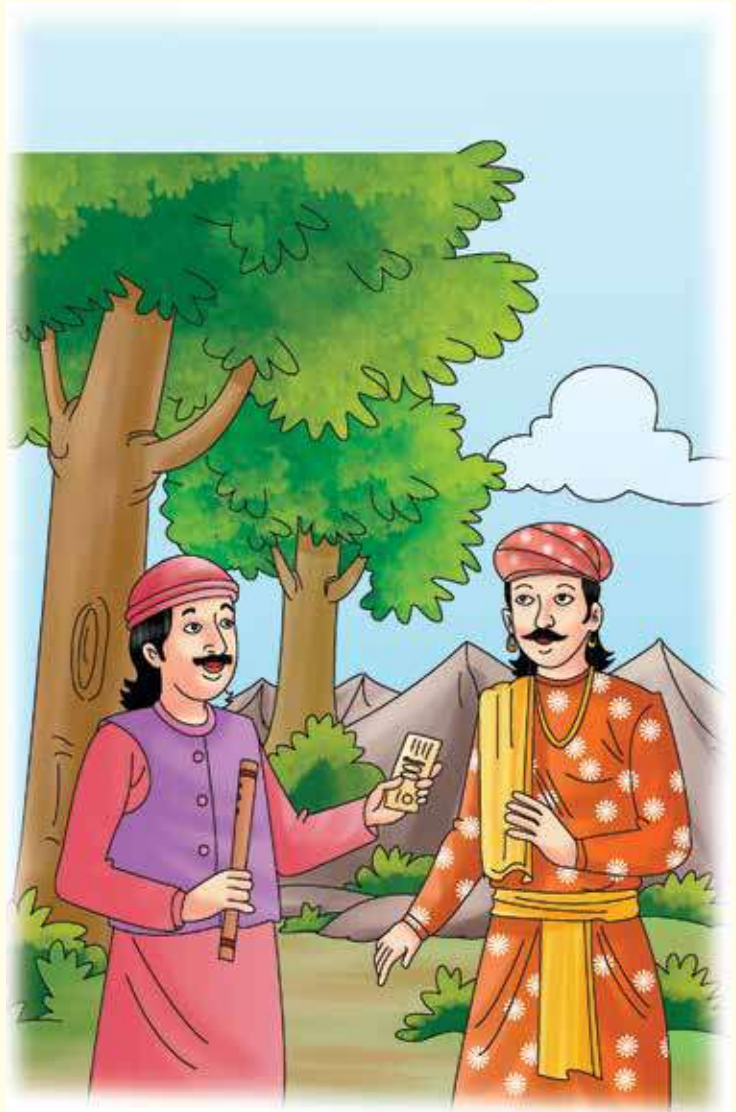
Suvrat was unable to say anything, but still he became glad and began to sing.

*"Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna, Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna  
Do aane ki Maala bechi, Char aane ka Memanna."*

Now this time he had coral in his hands. Again, that swindler obstructed his way. He asked, "Where are you going?" "I have a coral and I'm going to sell it," he answered frightened.

Taking coral from him Bhujakkad said, "O! this is not more than four rupees, give it to me. No need to go to the market."

Suvrat simply came back to his home. Next time he was going with emerald to the market, escaping from that





swindler. But as Bhujakkad was chasing him, he again came in his way.

He saw that emerald in his hand and said, “O! this stone is imitation of real stone. It is not more than eight rupees. You give it to me and now you may go back to your home”.

*After sometime he sang :*

*Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna, Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna  
Do aane ki Maala bechi, Char aane ka Memanna.  
Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna, Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna,  
Chaar Rupey ka Moonga becha, Aath rupey ka lo panna.*

One day Suvrat thought of teaching him a lesson. He made a plan. He prepared a gold plated flute which was made of iron.

Now this time he went to the market and pretended as though he had something precious which he was hiding.

As usual Bhujakkad met him on the way. He asked “What are you hiding?” He seized that flute. Suvrat said, “You return my flute. It is made of gold and it's very expensive.”

Bhujakkad said it isn't more than hundred rupees. Suvrat said, “may be, it is made of iron.” Bhujakkad said, “You want to make me a fool. Take this hundred rupees and go away.” Then Suvrat Sang.

*Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna, Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna  
Sau rupey ki bech bansuri, Ghar pahunche hum Tadhinna.  
Chaar baar Tu mujh thag leena, Ek bar main thag leena.*

When Bhujakkad heard it, he asked, “What are you saying?” Suvrat sang again.

*Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna, Tadhinna bhai Tadhinna.  
Ghar mein jakar dekh bansuri, Khabar Lagegi Tadhinna.*

Bhujakkad thought I have swindled him many times. But he can not swindle me. He immediately reached his home and rubbed that flute. It was really made of iron. He thought, “the money which I earned in four times from him, he has taken it in one time.”

**Moral** - Never try to cheat anyone. Don't get pleased after cheating. Always think how much he believed in you, the trust which you have broken. Be honest because tit for tat is the rule of the nature.



Podanpur was the lovely city of the Suramya Country. The king of that country Yugbahu was enjoying his royal life with his beloved wife Saud-amini. Saudamini couldn't give birth to a child. So for the sake of heir, he got married with Mrigavati. Mrigavati gave birth to a son Shashank and two daughters Mrignayni and Mriganki.

There wasn't even the name of envy between Saudamini and Mrigavati. They used to live like sisters.

Shashank was pious, benevolent and a devotee.

Once he got influenced by having a vision of a saint in the forest. Now he made his duty to serve him daily. The saint's name was Dayamitra.

Many people used to offer jewels to the saint. His disciples collected them in a room so that it would be distributed among the poor people.

One day he called his two devotees Shashank and a cowherd, Sukraat. He said, "I am going to leave my body now. You both have served a lot. Whatever is collected here, you divide between both of you". Both were blessed and the saint died.

After that there were two rooms. They saw a room filled with ornaments and jewels. Some woods and sandal were there in another room.



Sukrat thought, “What if prince Shashank will ask for the room of ornaments and jewels. What will I do with woods?”

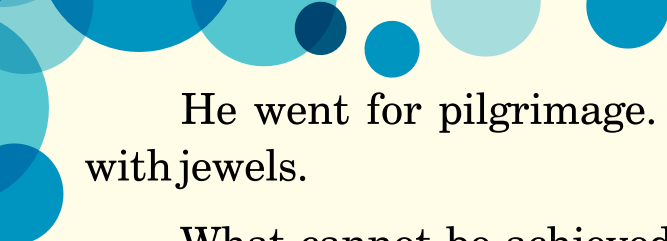
Seeing them, Prince was thinking, “I don't want any ornaments and jewels but if I tell Sukrat to choose first, he may choose these woods. Which would be used in grazing cows and oxen.”

In this way both were afraid. But still Shashank said to Sukrat, “you choose first because it's my duty to give first chance to you. Whatever will left I'll keep that with me.”

Hurriedly, Sukrat took the ornaments and left jewels considering them stones and went away.

Shashank saw that there is a cot of wood. Putting on the sandals, he sat on the cot with the jewels which were left by Sukrat. It flew in the sky.





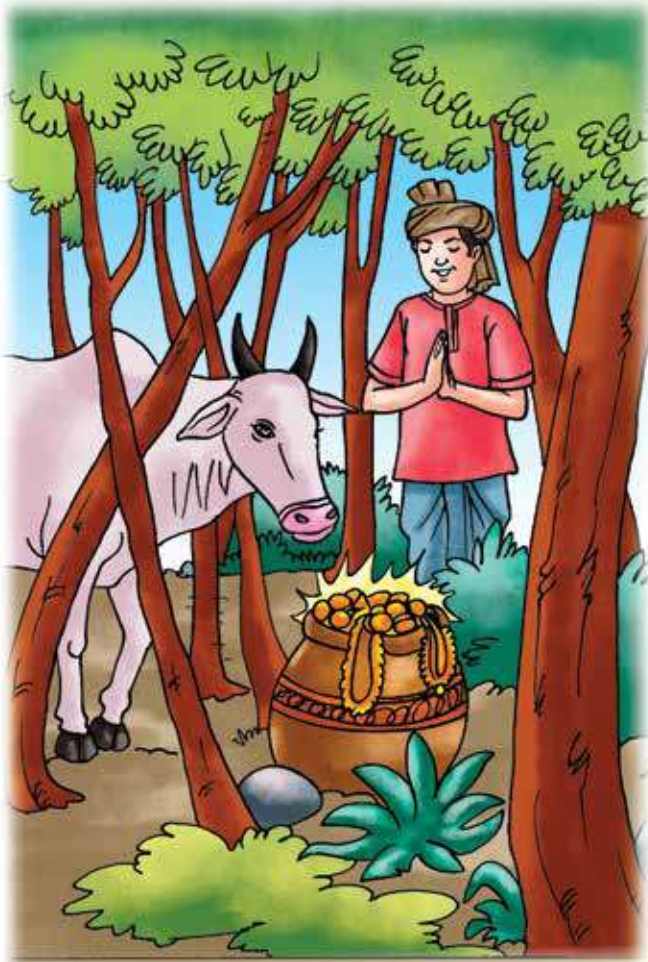
He went for pilgrimage. He worshipped Jinendra Deva with jewels.

What cannot be achieved by the service of the saints. It means everything can be attained. If liberation can be attained then worldly pleasure is really nothing.

**Moral** - No pains, no gains. So serve the saints and obey your duties honestly.

Hastinapur has been a historical city of Kurujangal. Aridaman was the just king of this country and Mrigavati was

his charming queen. They had a daughter Shobhna and a son Arinjay.



Arhadas was a rich man in that city. His wife Jinmati was a devotee of Jinendra Dev. He had a placid cow-herd, Gopinath. He didn't know anything about religion but he had a great faith in God. Because he used to see his honour worshipping, donating etc.

He was very simple and innocent. He had heard from his honour the theory of tit for tat so he

became very careful in every action. He never hurt others, never spoke slang language etc.

He made the cows graze for his honour. And it was the means of his livelihood, but he and his wife Radha were contented.



Once, after the cows had grazed, he was returning to his home. Suddenly a cow went into a bush and got stuck there. Gopinath went to take it out sympathetically. He took it out and saw a golden pot full of gold coins.

“O God ! you want to examine me but I am an honest person. If you want to give it to me, send it to my home,” Saying this he went home.

After taking meals he lied down. Seeing him restless his wife asked, “what is the matter? You are looking dejected and it seems you are hiding something.”

Then he told everything to his wife. She got angry and said. “Why do you not understand? That pot was for us. I haven't seen a fool like you.” “If God wants to give us, he should give us at home,” he asserted. “Okay, now let's go. We both will bring that,” Radha said. No, he said.

Their neighbour was hearing everything. She went to her husband immediately and explained everything to him. They both went silently to take that at night.





When they entered into the bushes, their clothes got torn and they were wounded.

They took that pot and returned to their home. They shut the door and opened the pot. Seeing that they were surprised. No coins were there, it was filled with snakes and scorpions.

They covered that at once and said “his plan was to kill us, now look.” He poured that pot in his house through the thatched roof.

Gopinath and Radha were astonished to see the falling diamonds and jewels. It was really a miracle. He said to his wife, “I was right. I said if God wants to give us, he will give us at home.”

Seeing this the neighbours fainted. When they were in their sense, they spoke “It was not for us. Gopinath's luck was good.”

**Moral** - Count on your fortune. Do good, speak good and think good.



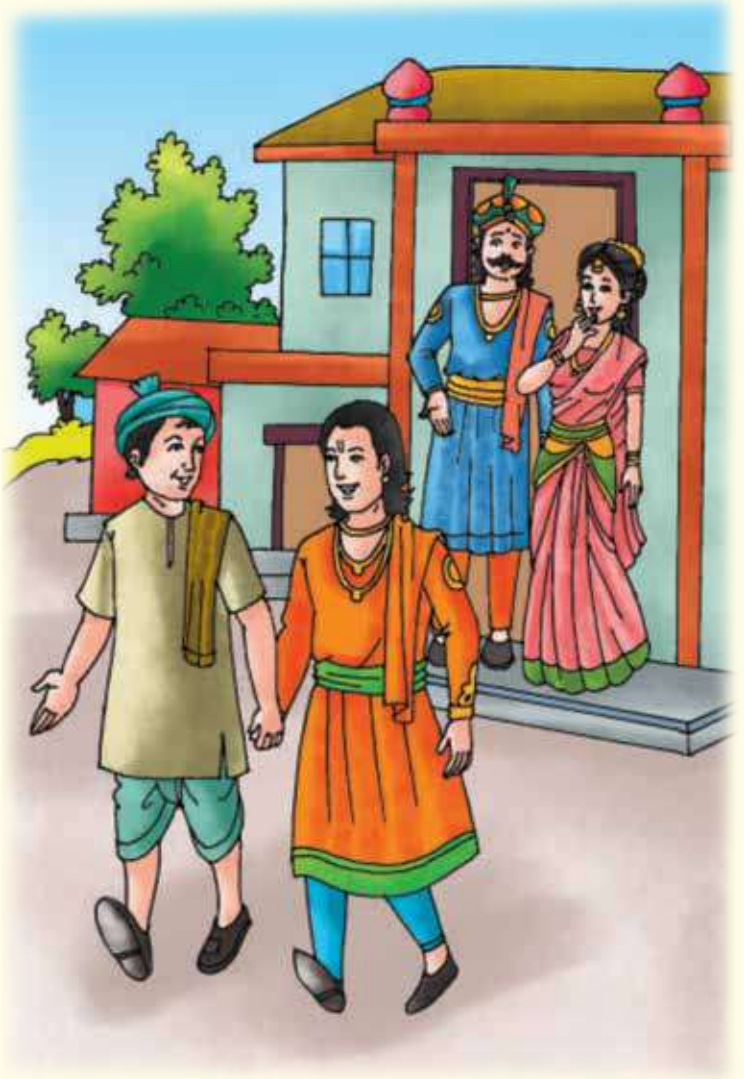
## A Misunderstanding

Ujjain was the capital of Avanti country. Maniprabh was the king and ruled over the country. Mani Prabh was the only son of Vishambhar Prabh and Shashiprabha. Vishambhar Prabh was just, subject loving and a great warrior.

Vishambhar Prabh got his son married with a princess Mani Prabha. After some time king Mani Prabh and queen were blessed with a son, Vidyut Prabh and a daughter, Chandra Prabha. Vidyut Prabh was pious and holy. He was detached towards his kingdom. He had a friend, Kumud Prabh. Ishwar Prasad and Dhaneshwari were his respected parents.

Ishwar Prasad was the famous betel' seller. He used to sell betel only for liveli hood. His intention and purpose was not to collect lot of money. Ishwar had a great belief in the king. He was pacified and a hard worker. His son Kumud heard a lot about the prince's virtues. On the other hand the prince also heard good about Ishwar and his family. They both wanted to meet each other. One day all of a sudden both met each other. They talked and became fast friends. Now king Maniprabh was in hot water because of his son. He made his son understand and said, "you should also pay attention towards the kingdom. Kumud is not worthy of your friendship. Due to him you are not serious about your future". But Vidyut was not affected at all. The king and minister made him understand , but he was not ready to give up his friendship.

One day the king was looking worried. The queen discussed about his problem and gave some suggestions to the king. According to the suggestions, king Mani Prabh called some ambassadors. First was Lilawati. The king asked about her art. She said "sire! If I want, I can burn fire in the water". The second one was Mandakini. She said, "sire! I can tear the sky. King then called the third one, Mahod bhuta.



She said, "sire! I can make a hole in the sky and then can stitch that. I can break the friendship and can make them friends again, I can give life to a dead person and I can kill one. You please order me I won't take time to complete the work."

The king said, "prince is young enough to rule over the kingdom but he is detached. You have to break their friendship and then make them friends again until the prince is able to rule over the country". She accepted and moved away.



Once the prince and Kumud were sitting in the garden. Just then a girl reached with a chariot and two bullocks. She was joining one bullock in the front and the other in the back. Seeing this the prince and his friend thought she seems to be a fool. She heard their words and pointing towards Kumudprabh called him. She pretended as if saying something in his ears.

Prince was seeing all this. When he came back prince asked him "what was she saying?" He answered , "nothing." Continuously for three or four days she came in disguise with the same excuse and pretended as though saying something in Kumud's ears.

Seeing this, the prince got angry because he used to ask daily from Kumud about that girl but really she didn't say anything. "Now, we are not friends and I don't want to see your face again," saying this in rage, he left his place.

Some days passed. The king saw that his son was in a rage. He told everything to the king and said, "you sentence him and



I want a jug of his blood and his eyes ." In the court the king ordered the same. As per the order Kumud was caught. According to Mahodbhuta's plan he said to Kumud, "prince is angry with you. You leave this place just now and go abroad because you haven't done anything wrong. So you move fast".

They killed a doe. They took a jug of blood and it's eye and showed it to the king. The prince was now interested to rule over the country. Now he also got married.

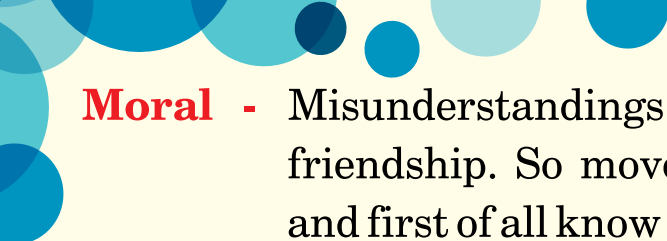
After some months, some people came to his palace to show a play. They showed "how friendship can be broken"? They played the same scenes which broke their friendship. Seeing this, the prince became restless. He thought,"my friend was right. The girl was only pretending to say something." He regretted a lot.

He said to his father, "I cannot live without my friend". The king called Mahodbhuta and told her to continue her plan. They said to the prince, "as per your order we have taken out his eyes and blood. If he is still living we will find him out". They brought Kumud to the prince. His eyes were bound and he was looking too weak. Prince was stunned to see him.

Kumud said, "It's not your fault. It was the fruition of my previous bondage karmas. Saying this, he untied his bandage from his eyes. Prince was startled to see his eyes that were quite well.

They hug each other and the prince apologized. They again became fast friends. Everything was quite well. Coronation was done and Vidyut became king. King Mani Prabh initiated. Kumud became the minister of king Vidyutprabh.





**Moral** - Misunderstandings often breaks relationship and friendship. So move away from them, avoid them and first of all know the truth.

King Kirtidhwaj used to rule over the country Purimtalpur. The queen Sukirtimati was very kind and generous. They had two sons Makardhwaj and Dharmdhwaj.

The king took muni diksha after leaving wordly pleasure. Makardhwaj was coronated and Dharmadhawaj was ordained as Crown-prince.

In this city there was a capitalist, Jindatta. He was modest and courteous. He had seven sons, Devadutta, Dhandutta, Gundutta, Brahmadutta, Indradutta, Sridutta and Priyadutta respectively.

They used to live with love and affection. They all got married.

The Happiness and tranquility of the family turned into conflict gradually.

It was because Jindutta had got old and some of his sons didn't want to do any work. Devdutta was a farmer, Dhandutta was a merchant, Gundutta was a jeweller, Brahmadutta became a Juror, Indradutta was a gambler, Sridutta was blind and Priyadutta was a devotee.

Devdutta, a farmer and Dhandutta, a merchant were hard workers but rest of them were unemployed. They didn't want to do any work.

Once Devdutta's wife said to him, "You work so hard, and get tired. Many people are there in our house, why do you work alone?" "Oh! why do you think so? This is our family. If we will not pay attention towards it, then who will take care of the family. After all I am an elder brother." He replied.

Hearing this she mum-bled, "then everyone should work hard."

The same was with Dhandutta and his wife. This was their daily task.

Thinking of their wives, they both reached their father. Before they could say something their eyes were full of tears: So without saying anything, they returned.

After four or five days, their wives created the same drama.

Getting troubled, they went to their father again. They said "father! we want to get divided."

Listening these unexpected words his father got astounded.

After few minutes he said. "but if you would divide who will take care of the family?"

"Everyone should work, for how long time one can work for others?" They uttered.

"Dear sons! everyone gets according to their karmas or of one's fate. Who knows this may be your destiny," father tried to make them understand.

They spoke, "fortune is nothing we cannot earn for everyone. We have passed half our life in taking care of others. Now we want our part."

Father said, "Okay but before dividing I think we should move for pilgrimage. Who knows whether we will meet again." They agreed.

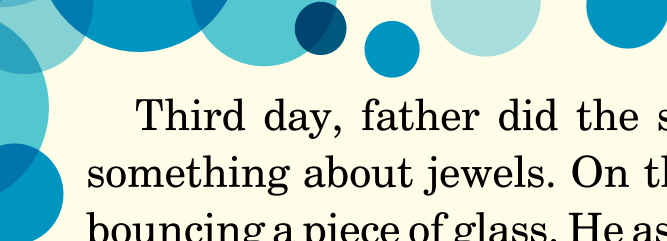
On the decided date and time Jindutta and his wife, their seven sons and daughter-in-laws left for pilgrimage.



First day they stayed at a place and giving one hundred rupees to Devdutta he said, "Son ! take this and arrange food for sixteen members." When he reached the market he was baffled. He was unable to understand what he could buy for sixteen members in hundred rupees. Then he went to a farmer. He bought tomatoes and cucumbers for everyone.

Next day they stayed at another place. He called Dhandutta. Giving him hundred Rs. he ordered to manage food for sixteen members.

He went to the market. He bargained with them and bought the things cheaply and sold them expensively. In this way he earned five hundred Rs. Then he bought food with that. Food was not enough, but still whatever he brought everyone took it.



Third day, father did the same with Gundutta. He knew something about jewels. On the way, he saw that a man was bouncing a piece of glass. He asked him to sell it and Purchased that in hundred Rs. and sold in ten hundred Rs. Actually it was a diamond.

He bought enough tasty food for his family.

Now it was Brahmadutta's turn. On the next day, he went with hundred Rs. He was a juror. He reached at a place where were two havelis. There was throng of people.

Two ladies were quarelling. The first lady said, "No one has come in my home except her. So she has stolen my precious necklace made of jewels." The other said, "I am really speaking truth, I saw the necklace, but I have not taken." Both were arguing.

Brahmadutta listened carefully, then said, "If I make the judgement then what will you give me?"

First lady said. "I'll give Twenty five thousand rupees." Other one said, "I'll also give the same amount if you will prove me innocent."

He asked the first lady, "Where did you put your necklace?" Telling the actual place she said "but no one has come here apart from her."

"Yes, she is absolufetly correct. When I came I saw that but I have not taken the necklace". She uttered at once.

Brahmadutta asked about the necklace. She said, it was made of jewels and it's string smelled of sandal.



He thought it was only string. May be it was oily so any animal could take it easily. He saw here and there. Suddenly he saw a hole in the wall. He dug that and found that necklace. It was taken by a rat.

Both ladies became glad and they both gave twenty five thousand rupees to him. He brought the delicious food of twenty thousand Rs. and rest of the money he gave to his father.

Now it was fifth day. As per turn Indradutta moved with hundred rupees. He was a gambler. On the way, he saw that some people were gambling.

In gambling, he got one lach and eighty thousand rupees. He bought food for the family members and gave one lac and sixty thousand to his father.

Sridutta was blind but still he was ready. "May I go along with my wife", he persisted to his father. He permitted.

On the way he was kicked by a stone. He said to his wife. "Please keep it a side otherwise a man may be wounded." As she lifted that stone, it was with a stroke of luck that they found a gold pot filled with diamond, gold coins and jewels.

Dhanshri took a jewel and sold it in the market. With that she bought the food and came back with that pot. They told everything to their father.

On the last day Priyadutta went for making arrangements. As he moved, he thought many days have passed I haven't done any good deed. He was craving for having the vision of Jinendra Dev.

He looked for a temple and worshipped there. When he was worshipping, a god came to know everything about him and his family.

A goddess said that we should help him. So god reached in disguise to his family with carts full of luggage.

After some time he disappeared. When Priyadutta reached his home, he apologized to his father for not bringing the food. Father said, "but you have sent carts." He said, "no, I haven't sent anything. I was simply worshipping." Father thought for a moment and said, "a god helped you and it may be the fruition of your good deeds."



After seven days he came back to their home. The father explained, "I gave hundred rupees to everyone. With that money who has brought what, you all have seen. It was your own future. Now tell me who wants to get divided." Making

them understand he uttered," you had not done good deeds previously. So you will have to work hard for earning."

"Your fortune is better than farmer," he said to the merchant. Father appreciated the jeweller's & juror's luck also.

The blind son's and devotee's fortune was also praise worthy.

Father made them understand that everyone gets according to one's luck.

Seven brothers decided that they would never talk about division. They said, "We will never compare ourselves with other and will never feel jealous". They began to live together.

**Moral** - Everyone should have faith on their fortune. If one's lives in joint family, one can face any problem and can give more time to worship but single family can't do this so one should live together with love and affection.



## A Dramatic Group

Suramyapur was the capital of Mangal. Anantvirya was an intrepid but a stingy king. Once performers of a drama came to the palace.

The minister informed the king that the knower of stagecraft had come there and wanted to perform a mimic play. As soon as the king got the news, he denied this because he didn't want to give anything to them.

But the queen, the minister and the courtiers requested the king for watching drama. The king told "Why don't you understand? These people roam like this only. Our exchequer is also scant. He has not taken a royal tribute. How will we recompense them."

The minister said, "you don't worry about it we can give them a prize. Citizens want to watch the drama and we have talked with Kautuki, name of a dramatic group dramatic group. They don't want a certain amount. Whatever they get they will be pacified."

At last the king permitted. At night they commenced their programme. The throng of people was there to watch the drama.

It was about to end, but no one had given even a paise as a gift to actors. Seeing this, the person who was playing tomtom lost his patience. So there was some difference in the beat of

tom-tom. The Director felt it. The he made him understand by singing some lines.

*"Bahut Gai thodi rahi, thodi hu ab joye*

*Ja Thodi Ke Karne, kyon rahe taan churaye".*

Listening this, the tomtom player thought that "I've played it the whole night but no one has rewarded me. Doesn't matter. I'll play tomtom without any prize".

Hearing the couplet (Bahut gai...) a hermit stood up and gifted his blanket, silver sandal and a small cane full of gold coins to the Kautuki dramatic group.

Now the hermit had only his loin cloth, a rosary and Kamandal. He put on a sacred thread called janeyu and a yellow cloth.

Seeing this, everyone was astonished. People were thinking that why has this mendicant sacrificed a lot? In the mean time, the prince stood up and gifted his gold bangle.

Before people could think something the princess stood up and gifted her necklace and her gold bangles.

Seeing this, the queen couldn't sit silently. She also gifted her ornaments to them.

The king was baffled to see all this, but he was curious to know why everyone had given their precious things.

Now it was dawn. The programme end. First the king called that mendicant and asked why he had gifted them?



"O king! I listened the couplet which opened my eyes.

*"Bahut gai thodi rahi, thodi hu ab jaye.*

*Ja thodi ke karne, kyon rahe taan churaye."*

I have passed many years of my life. Now I can't say when I'll die. I have penanced but I couldn't give up my fascination towards money and wealth. Listening those lines, I came to know this fascination is obstructing in my penance so I gave that up," he narrated.



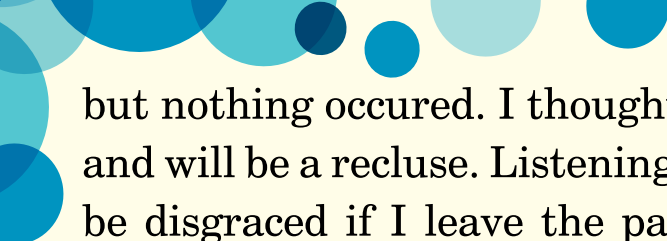
Again the king asked his son the reason for giving the gift. He replied, "I apologize but I am thirty six years old now. Other kings have made their princes "heir-apparent" at the age of sixteen or eighteen. I have got tired after waiting so long but my father has not done it. I also wanted sovereign authority or royal dignity. I determined to kill you tonight and got coronated.

But listening to those lines I thought what abominable thought I was thinking. My father has become old now. He will give his kingdom to me on his own. Those lines saved me from being a regicide."

Now the king asked her daughter. She spoke, "Pardon me, but I am thirty two years old. I was thinking when will you worry about my marriage? Many kings made a proposal of their sons but you were thinking that if you get your daughter married you will have to spend a lot of money, you rejected. But today I planned to elope with Rashmikant, son of king Vijay sagar. But when I listened to these lines I changed my plan. I thought if I elope then I'll be blemished, so I gifted him."



Now it was the queen's turn. She uttered, "You have not taken me for pilgrimage. When I told you to donate, you simply denied. I thought you will think of your welfare, for asceticism



but nothing occurred. I thought that I'll leave this royal palace and will be a recluse. Listening to these lines I thought that I'll be disgraced if I leave the palace like this. Condemning my husband is not legitimate. I'll wait for sometime and imitate him."

Listening to all of this the king proclaimed that he would sacrifice his royal life and proceed on the path of welfare. In this way the court was adjourned. He coronated his son, Hitanker. He got his daughter, Priyamvada married to Prince Rashmikant.

Discarding everything the king and the queen both were initiated.

**Moral** - We have also passed enough life. We can't say about future. So never do bad or sin. You pray to God for being honest and always do duties on time.

Ujjain's elegance was beyond the words. It was the capital of Avanti. King Mahapadma and queen Manohara's married life was going on smoothly. After sometime, she gave birth to twin daughters named Manorma and Manodaya. The king and queen prayed to God for a successor and they got one named Lalitanga. Lalitanga was a devotee and a benevolent soul.

Lalitanga was very dear to everyone since childhood. He used to donate a lot. His father denied him to donate a lot otherwise state fund would end. But he always said, "When it is the rise of good deeds, we get each and everything. I cannot detain myself from donating." At last the king proclaimed that he had no right to live in his kingdom.

Before going, he went to his mother and touched her feet. Filling her eyes with tears she said, "I can't disobey the king's order but I will give you some jewels. On the way you may need them." He left his palace with royal dress next day.

On the way, he met a stranger. He asked, "Where are you going?" "I have not yet decided", the stranger replied. Lalitanga asked again, "What is your name? Would you tell me something about you?"

"I am Sajjan Kumar. I am the only son of king Kshemanker and queen Kshemankara. He ruled over the country Kundpur. I was a rogue and wicked since childhood. So Becoming vexed, my father expelled me", asking about him he explained.



Lalitanga started saying about him, "I am the son of Mahapadma, the king of Ujjain. My mother is queen Manohara. I have two sisters Manorma and Manodaya. It is the rise of my bad deeds that my father has expelled me. Although I didn't do anything wrong. He was sick of my donating nature."

They both began their journey together. Sajjan said, "You are very benevolent. It's not good." "Why?" Lalitanga asked. "See you had expelled because of your good deeds or your benevolent nature. Look at me, I loitered a lot since my childhood. Although my father has expelled me but still whenever I want, I'll go back to my kingdom." He uttered proudly.

Lalitanga spoke, It is said, "who would sow well, must reap well." "It's not so, that time has gone," Sajjan asserted.

"Karma theory never changes, fire is always hot, the sun rises in the east, it is universal truth so do good tasks," He said politely.

Now argument took place between them. Sajjan said "You will have to wager. If you are right then I'll give you my jewels and if I am right, your jewels will be mine" Lalitanga kept quiet.

As they went ahead they saw two people were quarreling with each other. After asking them they replied. "A few days earlier seeing his bad condition, I gave my home on rent to him. Now he says, "You give me some money, otherwise I am not going to leave your home. Now he wants possession of my home. This is not the time of doing good."



Listening this Sajjan spoke slyly, "Now you give me your horse and jewels."

Now Lalitanga started walking on foot. Again Sajjan said, "do you accept what I said?". He answered, "No, the fruition of good deed is always good". Sajjan said, "it's your illusion. If you don't accept, you wager. If you'll win, I'll give my royal dress to you and if I'll win, you will have to put off your royal dress." Lalitanga was quiet this time too.



They reached a village. Two young boys were scrambling there. One was saying, "I've seen there is nothing in religion. I always do good with others but I get it's opposite."

Now Sajjan kumar got his dress put off and said, "you accept whatever I say otherwise let's have a condition again. If you win I would return your dress but if I'll win I would make you blind."

Seeing Lalitanga quiet, they moved ahead and reached at a place where

vicious people were standing. Sajjan asked them, "Is it good to worship and donate?"

"Why it is good ? If a person has earned money then they should be merry. A person who donates is a fool wasting his money in charity," they told.

Sajjan said, "have you listened or not, now come with me." They reached on the outskirts of the village and he squeezed the leaves of a tree into Lalitanga's eyes, which made him blind.

In the evening Sajjan ran away with all the things leaving him alone in the forest.

Lalitanga thought, "I'm enduring the fruition of my previous bondage karmas. Whatever it is, but I can't accept bad deeds. Good deeds are never worth leaving."

He sat down under a banyan tree for taking rest but he couldn't sleep. On that tree there was a bird named Bharund. It had a small kid.

The kid asked, "O Dada ! where did you go today?" "I went to Champapur city of Anga Country. I saw a miracle there", he uttered. Interrupting he asked, "What was that miracle?"

He explained, "I saw that the Princess of that country, Shobhna is very beautiful". Her parents king Mahasen and queen Vasundhara love her very much, but....

"But what" ? the kid asked eagerly. "But she is blind. The king has proclaimed that the one who'll give light to my daughter, I'll get her married with him with half of the kingdom," he told.

"Then she will be blind forever", he exclaimed. "No, on which tree we are sitting there is a creeper. If a person squeeze it in the eyes he will be a watcher," he spoke.

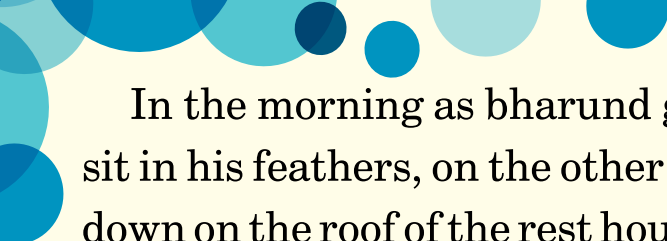
Lalitanga was hearing all of this because he was the knower of bird's language. So he groped the creeper and squeezed them in his eyes immediately. Now he was really able to see everything as before.

That kid asked, "Dada! how long you have been living in this tree?" "About three hundred years," he answered. "So have you seen something amazing here?", he asked again.



"Yes, in the front of this tree, golden pots full of diamonds and jewels are buried. Many years ago two merchants came and fighting with each other they died but treasure is still here", he explained.

Lalitanga was still listening. He dug in front of tree and got golden pots full of jewels. He kept that with him and climbed up the tree.



In the morning as bharund got ready to fly. he made his kid sit in his feathers, on the other side Lalitanga sat up and he got down on the roof of the rest house in Champapur.

Lalitanga gave some jewels to a warder and said to bring royal dress and royal ornaments. After sometime he got ready and distributed the treasure among the people.

Everyone was saying that this prince is an incarnation of god. Everyone liked him.

Then he went to the palace with great pomp and show and announced that he can give light to the princess's eyes.

The king permitted him. He squeezed the leaves of the creeper in her eyes. "O! I can see everything," she said screamingly.

According to his assertion, the king got his daughter married to him and awarded half of his kingdom.

For visiting Lalitanga went to the forest next day. He heard a wailful sound. He went towards the sound and saw a person who was groaning in the well. He made him come out by ordering his bodyguards. That person was Sajjan. He asked him that how did he get in the calamity?

"Leaving you alone I was going to Champapur but on the way some dacoits looted me and made me in this condition," he told.

Lalitanga treated him well. After recovering he apologized to Lalitanga. He forgave him and proclaimed him as minister.'



Once king Mahasen called Sajjan in his palace and asked why did Lalitanga ordain you as minister ?"

It is said: Black will take no other hue. According to this saying Sajjan didn't change a bit. He said, "Sire ! he was the son of my slave. I was a prince. He was exiled from the country. And he has become your son-in-law I wouldn't expose him so he has conferred me as minister", he narrated.

Hearing this the king got angry and said he has cheated me: Tell him to meet me at 12 'O' clock tonight and come through the tunnel", he ordered immediately in rage.

Sajjan went to Lalitanga and said, "Your father-in-law has called you through tunnel at 12 'O' clock tonight."

When Shobhna heard, she thought something is wrong. She said to Lalitanga, "Sajjan has cheated you. Still you have made him your minister. Now Counting on him you are going to meet my father. No, If my father wants to meet you call in the noon and not through the tunnel."

She said again, "You are the king so order your minister to go through tunnel." He did the same.

Sajjan thought "I'm a great believer of my king. If he is sending me I should go. The king will tell all his plannings to me.

He went away. Four people were standing there with swords by the king's order. As the minister reached, they all struck at him. He died.



In the morning the king got angry when he saw Lalitanga is alive. He called out Lalitanga and challenged to fight with him. He said "you have cheated me and got married with my daughter. Now I'll not leave you."

Shobhna had foreseen everything. She said, "I know my father very well. Sajjan must have said something wrong about you to my father. You go to battle field and introduce yourself with your gallantry".

He went for combating. Lalitanga defeated his father-in-law without any weapons. Mahasen assaulted a lot but at last Lalitanga got him prisoned. Then Mahasen felt that a slave's son cannot do this. Undoubtedly he is a prince.

Then Shobhna told each and everything to his father. Mahasen apologized. Joining his hands he said, "It doesn't suit you. You are my father. It was only a misunderstanding."

In some years he won many countries and became an emperor. At last he reached at the border of his country.

Listening about their son, his parents came to welcome him. He coronated his son and initiated as digamber muni. He ruled over the country for many years and at last he also took diksha.

**Moral** - The fruition of good deeds is always good so always do good deeds. The world is like an echo sound. Whatever you give to other, you get the same.

Purnachand was a pious, merciful and a great donator of Shrawasti city. His wife Ratnawati was virtuous. She gave birth to a son, Shashichand.

After sometime Purnachand gave his wealth to his only son. Although Shashichand also donated a lot but it was only for name and fame.

Very soon he lost all his wealth and became poor. He had got married to Shashikanta. She was a noble woman. She used to inspire him for good deeds.

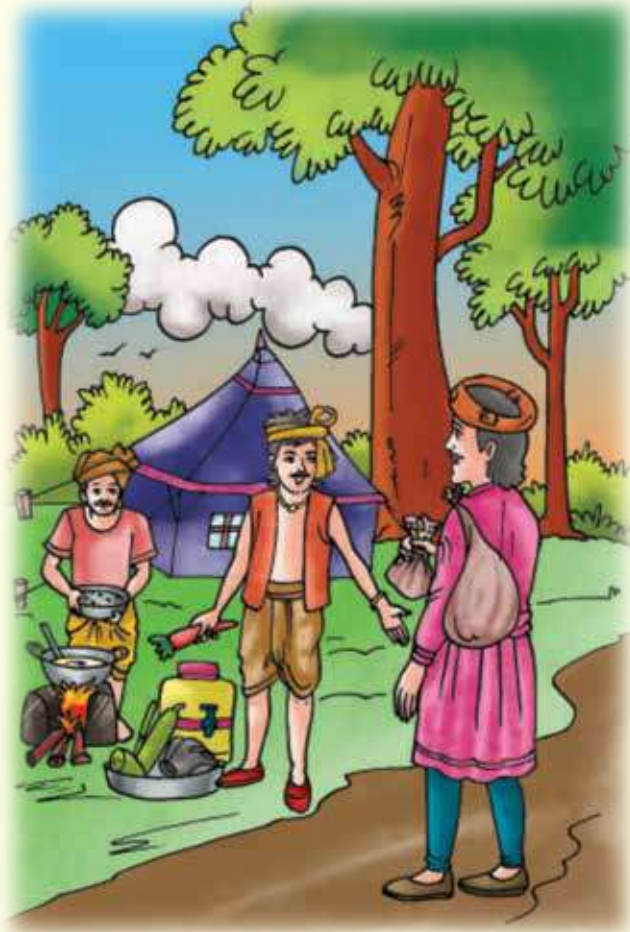
Gradually, Shashichand's condition became very poor. They didn't have even enough food to eat. He lost not only wealth, but also the dignity of his parents. Now dejection filled their life.

Once Shashikanta said to her husband. "It will be good if we do some business." "Yes, you are right but for that first we need money," he replied.

Shashikanta spoke again, "Mahidutta, the king of Mahendrapur is a pious and kind person. If a person pledges to do sacred deeds, he will lend him money. Why don't you go there and pledge your sacred deeds."

"Oh yes, I have done many holy deeds. I can pledge any one of them," he affirmed. "But it will take three or four days to reach there, how will I live being hungry", he told hopelessly.

"Don't worry. I'll arrange something", saying this she collected some pulse and rice from neighbour and said, "prepare Khichdi a dish made by rice and pulse whenever you need on the way."



Shashichanda who was known as Punia because of his father's good will, commenced his journey.

He stayed on the bank of the river. He thought, "How shall I prepare food?" Just then he saw a tent at some distance. Reaching there he came to know that a capitalist is staying here. He has many employees.

Meal was being prepared. Shashichand requested. "If you don't have any problem, then may you get my khichdi

prepared." Listening this that capitalist welcomed him by heart and soul. And ordered his employees to prepare khichdi. But Shashichand gave his own pulse and rice.

The merchant was prosperous. After sometime the food got prepared. The merchant wished to give Aahar Meal of Digamber muniraj to muniraj (saint).

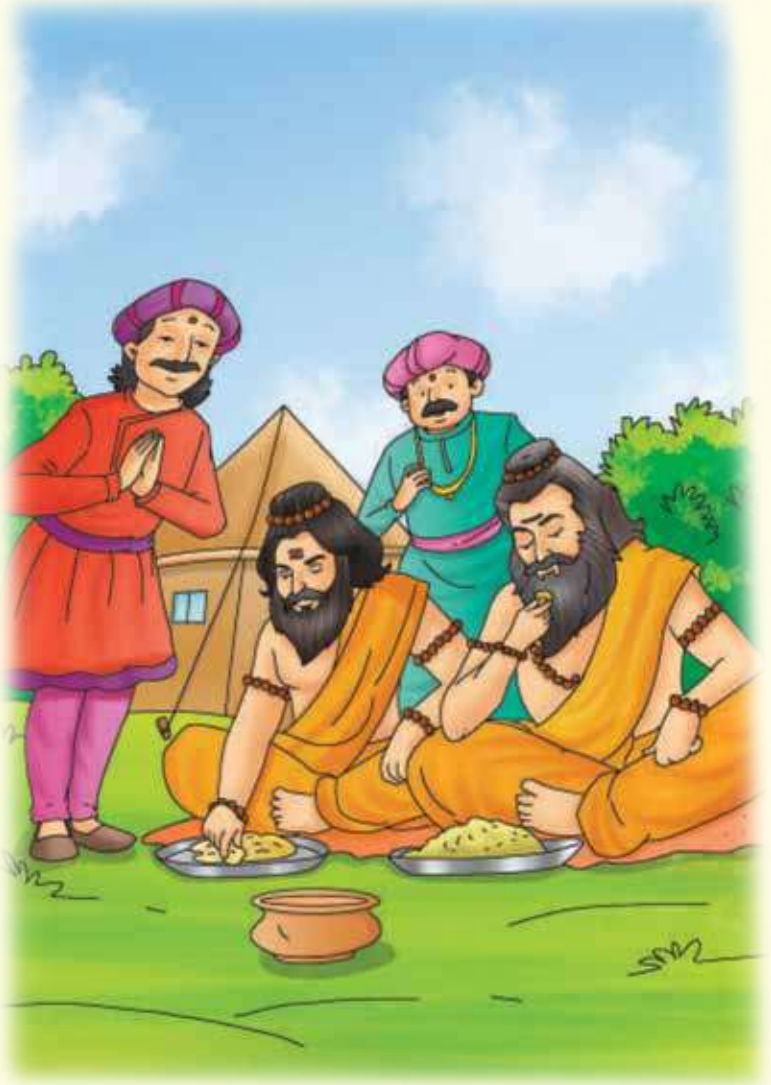
Although there were no munis in the forest but because of his virtuous actions, two Charan Riddhidhari A riddhi by which they can walk in the sky. Muni Amitgati and Amittej came there.

Merchant did their Padgahan. A special action invite muni for having food. They didn't take anything except khichdi in the Aahar.

Punia was glad immensely because Muniraj took his khichdi only.

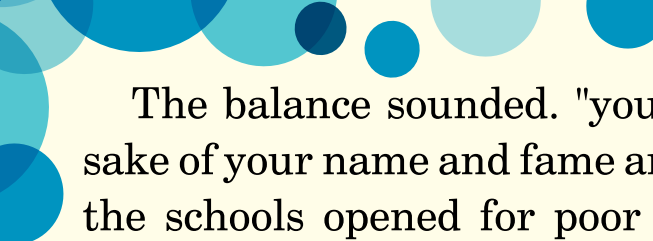
On Insisting, he took food at merchant's tent house.

Then he reached Mahendrapur. He went for pledging his virtuous action.



The king asked "What's the matter?" "I have come here to pledge my good deeds," he answered.

The king affirmed, "Write your virtuous action on a paper and keep it on one of the pans of this automatic balance". He did the same.



The balance sounded. "you have got that inn built for the sake of your name and fame and you've got it. He wrote I've got the schools opened for poor children. In this way he wrote many things but all in vain because balance sounded again and again, it was only for name and fame.

King Mahidutta asked "have you done something good without name and fame?" He said, "No, but on the way two munis took aahar of khichdi which was prepared by my pulse and rice but many dishes I have taken, what will I get?"

The king said just write it on a slip. Let's see.

As he put it on a pan, it got down. The king put gold coins but the pan on which the slip was kept didn't get up.

He put hundred gold coins but again slip pan didn't get up. Then he kept lot of gold coins and jewels, even all his exchequer had, but slip pan didn't get up.

At last joining his hands the king said, "My treasure is not enough in front of your virtuous action. You can lend some money for business how much you need."

He borrowed some money and came back to his home. He said to his wife that "I've got money." "I said that pledge your good deeds. You will certainly get money", She uttered happily.

He said, "You have really opened my eyes. I did all the good deeds for name and fame but all in vain." He told everything to his wife which occurred on the way.

Again Shashichand did business and returned the money to



the king with interest. He earned a lot of money and became a merchant richer than his father.

After some time they got blessed with a son. He gave all his wealth to his son and took diksha from Pihitashrava muni. His wife also took diksha from Suvrata Aryika.

**Moral** - Don't do any virtuous action for your name and fame otherwise it's all in vain.'

Not only worldly pleasure but also liberation can be achieved by Aahar dan. Giving food to muniraj. Serve all saints. Never mock at them. never censure them. Respect the saints you'll be honourable..

Chedi was a part of India. Prabhas Nagar was its lovely city. King Dharnidhar was its great king. He was known as incarnation of justice. Padmavati was his righteous wife. She was versed in Holy writ.

Near this city, there was a village Kundanpur. There was a business man named Bhanudutt. His wife Vimla was sympathetic, religious and allegiant. She was self restrained too.

But Bhanudutt was opposite in nature. Where Vimla wanted to serve saints there Bhanudutt didn't want to have a vision even. If his wife was pious then he was heterodox.

Once Vimla was keenly desirous of giving Aahar to Muniraj because she prepared dishes that day.

Because of the virtuous actions an Ajitanjay muni came. Fortunately Bhanudutt was not at home. Her daughters Kavya sri, Saumya Sri and son Amitprabh approved of Aahar dan.

After having Aahar Muniraj went to the forest. Just then Bhanudutt entered. He saw some grains and water was spilled on the floor. He asked who had spilt it?

"Muni came at our home for taking aahar," his children said happily.

He spoke, "Muniraj took Aahar. It doesn't make any difference, but why has he spilt water here?"

Vimla made him understand that Muniraj takes Aahar in anjali. Joining hands they don't use utensils. So water and grain can be spilt.



He said "It doesn't matter, I'll talk to Muniraj and will ask why he had spilt water while taking food?"

His wife made him understand a lot but he didn't get it. He went to the forest and saw muniraj, meditating in the cave.

He asked, "Muniraj ! You took aahar at our home today. I don't hesitate to give food to anyone but why did you spill?"

"Digamber muni takes aahar in both of

their hands so it can fall down," Muniraj said smilingly.

He said "I don't know, you pay me for the food you spilt."

Muniraj was clairvoyant so he came to know what is likely to occur. He knew he would do his welfare very soon.

Muni said, "Doesn't matter. What do you want now ?" "The

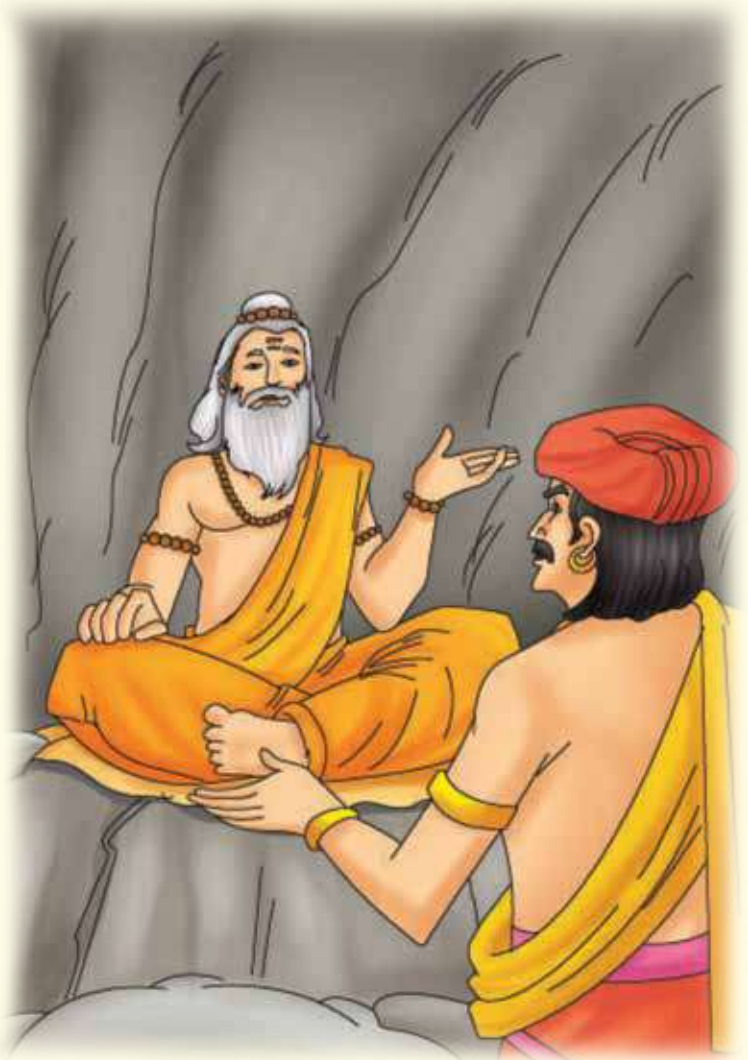
amount that you have spilt I want that payment," he answered.

Muniraj uttered again, "I have a pichhi and a kamandalu, what shall I give you?"

"Many devotees came to you, so through them you can get me paid," he asserted.

Muniraj affirmed, "Okay, I am writing a letter to the king. You take money from him. By his clairvoyance knowledge he came to know that Padmawati, the wife of king Dharnidhar is pregnant. She is going to deliver a child but the queen and her child both are in danger.

So he wrote a mantra (spell). "Om Namah Siddhebhyah" (ॐ नमः सिद्धेभ्यः) and gave it to merchant. Taking that letter he reached the palace and asked "Where is Padma?" Everyone was astonished that a simple man is speaking the name of a queen like this.



The king called him and asked. Then he told, "Muniraj has sent me here with a letter for Padma."

He said, "Yes, Pad-mawati, my wife is the great devotee of muniraj. Show me what is written in it?"

"Apart from her I can't give it to anyone," he said. Then king got that letter sent to the queen. Padamawati read it. "Om Namah Siddhe-bhyah" was written there. Reciting that she gave birth to a child calmly. Both were out of danger now.

Getting this news every person was very glad. The queen said to the king that "because of reciting that mantra I and your child is alive today." I wish to award him who has brought that letter.

The king called that merchant and awarded him. The king gave him ten gold coins. He was greedy, he said only this. King told ten thousand, but he denied. King offered one lac, ten lacs but he rejected. At last he said, "I give you half of my kingdom."

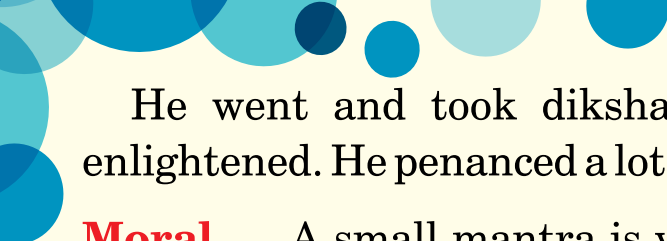
Then he said, "Wait, you return that letter to me. I will first go to muniraj then I'll tell you."

He went to muniraj and said, "If you knew everything then why did you write ten thousand or ten lacs gold coins or half of his kingdom? Why did you not write the whole kingdom?"

Muniraj told, "If you want the whole kingdom, you will have to be like me." He accepted. Muniraj spoke, "No, not like this, first go and ask your family."

He went to his home and told everything to his wife. Listening this she understood that knowing his future muniraj has said this.





He went and took diksha. Studying scriptures he was enlightened. He penanced a lot.

**Moral** - A small mantra is very powerful. We should recite this mantra. 'Om namah Siddhebhyah." Reciting this mantra desires get fulfilled and it is for everyone's welfare.

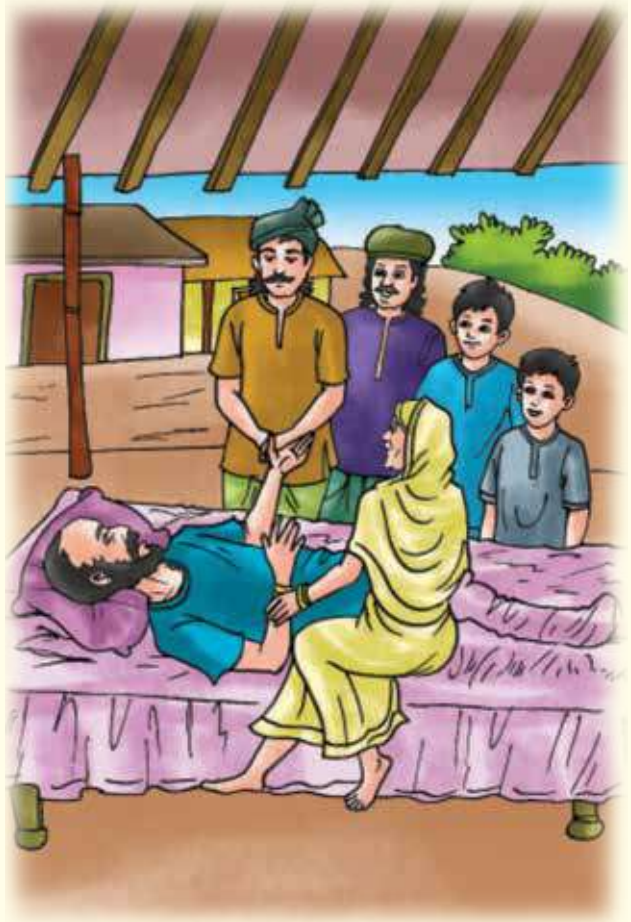
## A man of three heads and three legs

There was a simple farmer named Dayamitra. His wife Gunwati was gentle. They both used to live in Dhanyapur of Malaw. They had four sons Sripal, Devpal, Vijaypal and Amarpal respectively.

Obeying their father, they studied in their childhood, but as they grew up they didn't feel like studying and used to quarrel. Dayamitra tried a lot to settle his sons but all in vain. They didn't want to do any work.

Dayamitra had a shop which was famous all over the village. When he fell ill and felt that his life was about to end, he called his sons and his wife. He said, "always remember what I'm going to say.

1. Go in shadow and come in shadow.
2. Build the home in every village.
3. Always eat sweets.
4. Giving something to others, never go to anyone to ask for anything.



5. If you need some money then on Vaishakh Sudi Teej, at 11:35 A.M., dig the pinnacle of the temple and take out the treasure."

If you follow these thing you, will not have any type of problem for livelihood. But still if something is wrong, then take advice from a man of three heads and three legs.

After saying this, he died. His wife and sons moaned and cremated him.

They followed the instructions given by his father.

The first one was, "Go in shadow and come in shadow." They got a white cloth spread from home to the shop. Now they used to go and come in the shadow.

Every week they had to change it because it was torn. In this they spent a big amount.

Then they recalled the second instruction "build home in every village." So they got five or six houses built in near by villages. In this lot of deposits were spent.

Now the third one was, "always eat sweets." So everyday they got many sweet dishes prepared. They didn't pay attention on shop, so expenditure was more than earning. And deposits they had lost in constructing home.

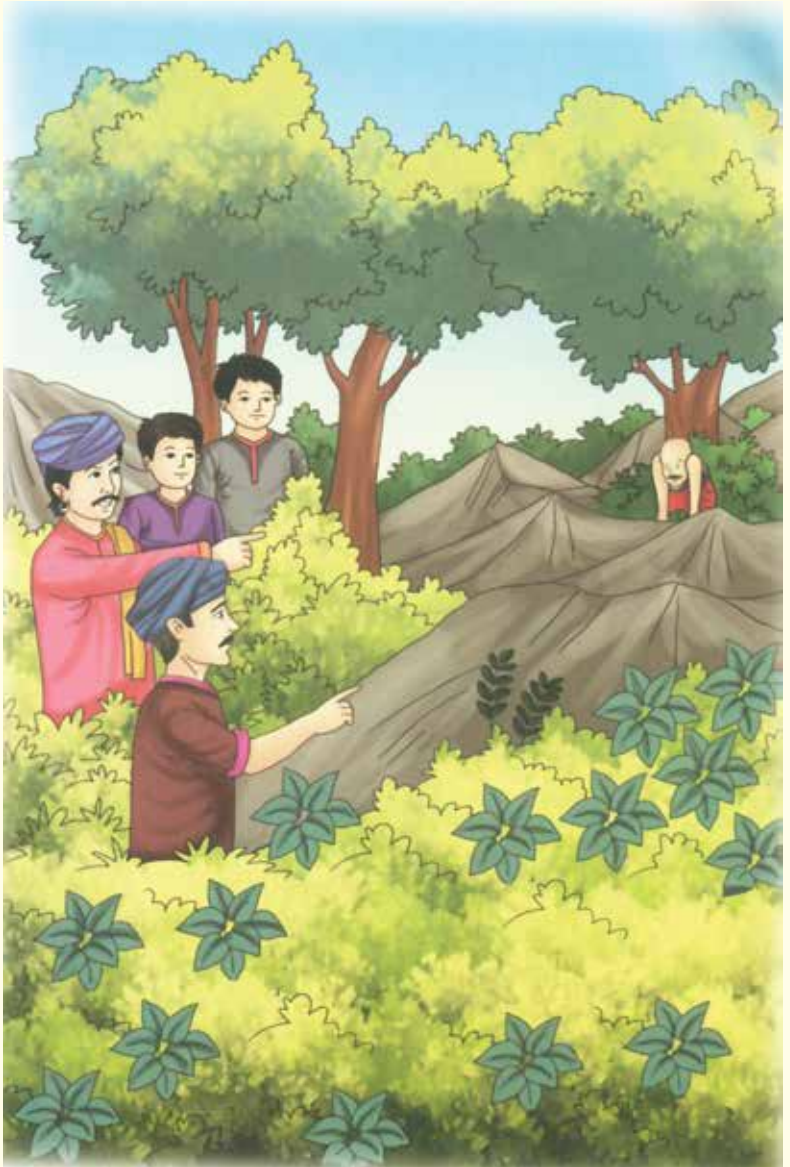
They followed another one, "giving something to others. never go to anyone to ask for money." Now at the shop, if a customer paid immediately, then it was okay, otherwise they didn't ask for anything. In this way they got into hot water. Their condition became hand to mouth.

In the mean time suddenly their mother died. This incident made them more weak. But "God's will be done," According to this, they consoled each other.

They all were married. Now they were not able to tolerate the burden of their families.

They remembered the fifth instruction to dig the pinnacle of the temple for taking out wealth. So on the fixed day and time they climbed up the pinnacle and started digging. They made a hole but didn't get anything.

Now the villagers started mocking at them and thought they had become mad because of losing their father and wealth. They also lost the dignity of their father.



Four brothers decided to go to the man of three heads and three legs. They thought our father can never misguide us, surely we have not understood the meaning of his advice.

They started searching the man of three heads and three legs. They were wandering in his search. One day from very far they saw someone sitting under the banyan tree on the peak of the mountain.

As they looked at him they screamed "look ! A man of three heads and three legs is sitting there. I am looking at his three heads."

They ran rashly but as they reached there they became disappointed and said, "O! he does not have three heads. I was mistaken."

That man listened to them and asked, "What did you say ?" They said, " We were looking for a man who has three heads and three legs. From a distance we saw you. It seemed you have three heads but we were wrong."

That old man said, "Yes ! you were right. I am a man of three heads and three legs."

They asked, "but how ?"

"Look ! as I am sitting putting my head between both the legs so you doubted if I had three heads because I don't have hair on my head. This is called three heads", he replied lovingly.

"But how are you the man of three legs ?" They asked.

"I have two legs and one is my stick. It helps me to walk. These are called three legs", he explained.



Listening this they became very happy and told their own story to that old man.

An old man said, If you take advice from a young man, he may mislead you. So your father told you to take advice from a man of three heads and three legs, which means an old man.

They told all the teachings of their father to an old man. He told the meanings of every teaching.

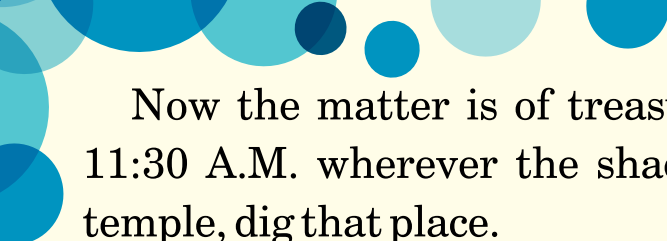
First one was "come in shadow & go in shadow. It means to live the care of under an elder person. An elder person who may direct or lead you and advice you. And the other means you have to go to your shop before dawn and return after dusk.

Second one was. "build home in every village." It means many people come to your shop. Behave sweetly and in a friendly manner.

The way you go to another village and ask, "whose home is this?" They reply it's yours, you make yourself comfortable here."

Third one was "always eat sweets". It means a person who has patience is considered to be eating sweets. It is said "Have patience because patience pays." Eatables which maintain your health are sweets. A sweet words make the other sweet. So always speak truth and be sweet.

Fourth one was, "after giving something, never go to anyone to ask for anything.": It means don't lend anything. If you want to lend then first keep their precious things with you. When you'll keep their precious things you will not have to go to them. They will come themselves to pay".



Now the matter is of treasure. On Vaishakh Sudi Teej at 11:30 A.M. wherever the shadow lies in the pinnacle of the temple, dig that place.

They saw that shadow was lying in their courtyard. They dug and took out four earthen pots full of gold & jewels.

Through them they started their business again and got their dignity and wealth back.

**Moral** - Virtuous persons can achieve success, accepting the instructions and directions of their respected parents, teachers or elders.

## Nilla And Pilla

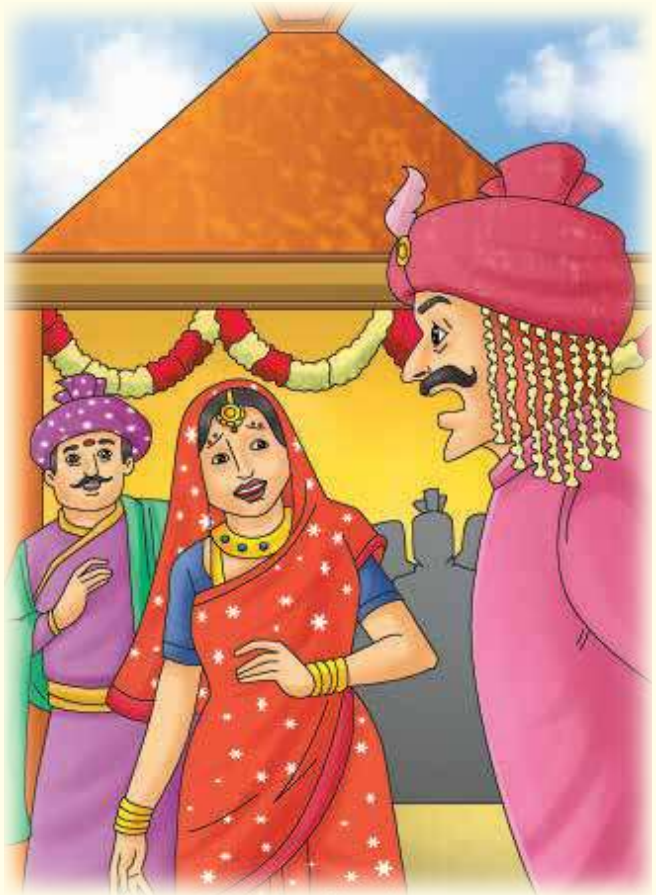
There was a town Prahaladpur. Neel Kumar was the headman of the town. He was known as "Nilla" also, because his parents used to call him "Nilla" lovingly in his childhood. He got married to a beautiful girl 'Prabhavati'

His best friend Peel Kumar or 'Pilla' was the leader of Girinagar. His lawful wife was Padmini.

One day Nilla and Pilla went for hunting. They wandered the whole day but couldn't get any animal as hunt. At night when they were returning, they strayed into a jungle. They decided to spend their night under a banyan tree, but they couldn't sleep because they were afraid of wild animals.

About 3:00 A.M. they saw some peculiar things. One of them saw an old woman sitting at some distance. They wondered if she was a deity or a ghost.

They took out the swords and went to her. "Who are you"? they asked. "I am a match-maker" a. She replied. "What do you



do?", They asked again. "I make couples and try to find that who will marry with whom," she answered.

"Please, make my match", Neel said curiously. The woman said you've got married to Prabhawati already."

Peel persisted to make his match. But she denied because he had also got married to Padmini.

Taking sword in his hand Neel said angrily, "you will have to make my match otherwise I'll slay you."

"You don't know what you are going to do. It's not valid. It's result wouldn't be good," she asserted.

"Come what may, whatever be the result you will have to make my match," he said stubbornly.

"Go, you will be a sinner with your own daughter." she said these words as curse. They both went away and Neel Kumar told her friend, "We'll see how will her words come true. I will not let a daughter be born."

After sometime Prabhawati got pregnant. fortunately, a beautiful daughter was born. Her parents were surprised to see her. An augur prophesied that their daughter was not auspicious for them.

Listening this Neel Kumar remembered the deity's words.

"I might become passionate towards her when she grows up," thinking this he ordered to kill her.

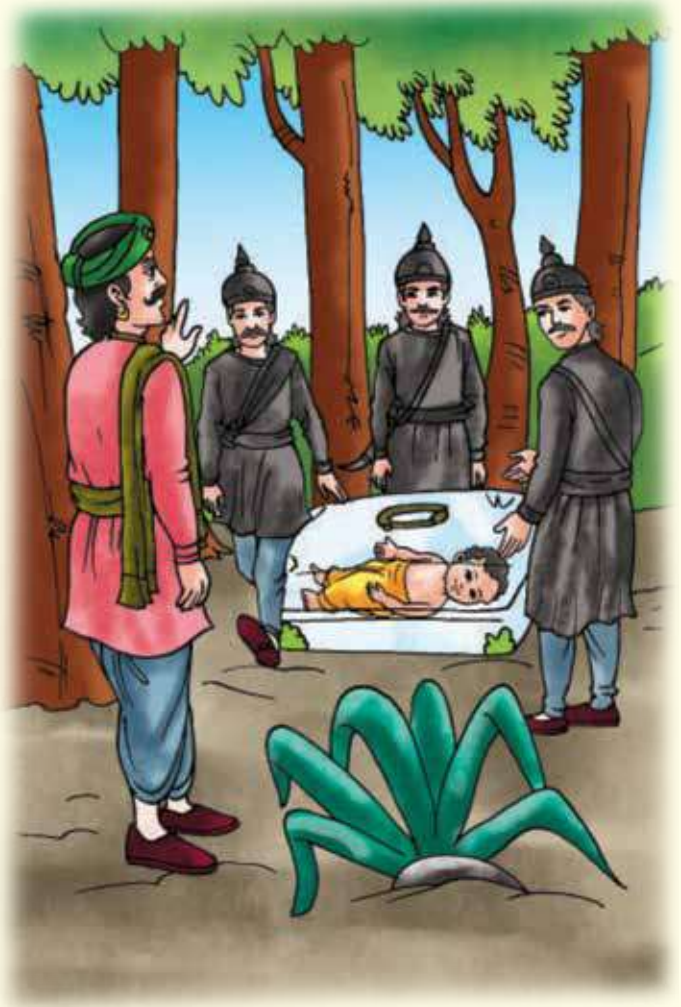
Soldiers went to the forest with that innocent daughter. They didn't kill her but they were afraid of king so they didn't keep her at their home. Keeping her in a chest they left her in the forest.

Peel Kumar was passing by in a chariot. He saw a chest. He got it unlocked and saw a small kid. He took her lovingly in his lap.

He went to his palace and told Padmini, "fortunately, this child we've got today. I'll call her "Sorath" fondly.

They looked after her. She was very dear to everyone.

On the otherside Neel Kumar spread the news that a dead child was born and Peel Kumar spread the news that a girl had been delivered.



After sometime other sons were born of Peel Kumar. Sorath was very dear to her brothers too.

One day she went to a function with her parents. Neel Kumar was also there. Neel and Peel both met each other. When Neel saw her, he thought that she is a celestial nymph, She was stupefying. Seeing her he was allured.

Peel Kumar understood his emotions. They talked formally and returned to their palace.



Now Neel Kumar was restless because of that girl and the girl was also in love with him.

When Peel came to know this, he fixed the date of marriage.

On the fixed date, when Neel was going with his marriage procession. A he-goat and she-goat were talking, "Look at this age, a father is going to marry her own daughter.

Neel Kumar ignored them but actually they were not animals they were celestial beings.

Then a dog and a bitch were talking with each other.

"What is going to happen, is oppression." Neel Kumar didn't pay attention towards it. Many ill-omens occurred, Astrologer said this marriage will be a cause of great sin. Then Neel Kumar remembered when a daughter was born she had a mark on her forehead.

Then he saw the same mark and he turned back his procession.

He regretted and took Diksha. Prabhawati looked after his son and made him the leader.

Peel Kumar came to know that this daughter was of Neel.

Once the king of Gurjar, Raur listened about the beauty of Sorath. He declared that, "the person who will bring Sorath to me, I'll give him half of my kingdom".

No one was ready for this in his court. His nephew Khangar accepted it. Arrangements were made for him.

He went to Giri Nagar and met with Sorath. Sorath agreed to go with him but later he took her to his home.

"Khangar has not given that girl to king. He has kept her with him," people were discussing with each other.

Listening this Khangar sent news to his maternal uncle that the princess is with me, I'll send her very soon. Although they both fell in love but Khangar had to give Sorath to king Raur.

Raur and Sorath got married but she was determined that until she see the face of Khangar she will not take food.

After marriage Khangar stayed for some days, but after some days Raur became suspicious so he sent Khangar away.

From there, he could change his form so he began to come in the form of bird early in the morning daily. He used to show his face to Sorath and flew away.

In this way some days passed. People said, "Khangar comes now also." When Raur came to know, he killed him. Hearing this, Sorath was also dead.

They both were cremated. She was the daughter of Neel, Peel looked after her, Khangar loved her and she got married with Raur.

**Moral** - A person gets what is there in his fate. So he should do good deeds. Obey their duties without being stubborn otherwise he is unable to attain its result. Never try to take others things. Rely on your own fate.