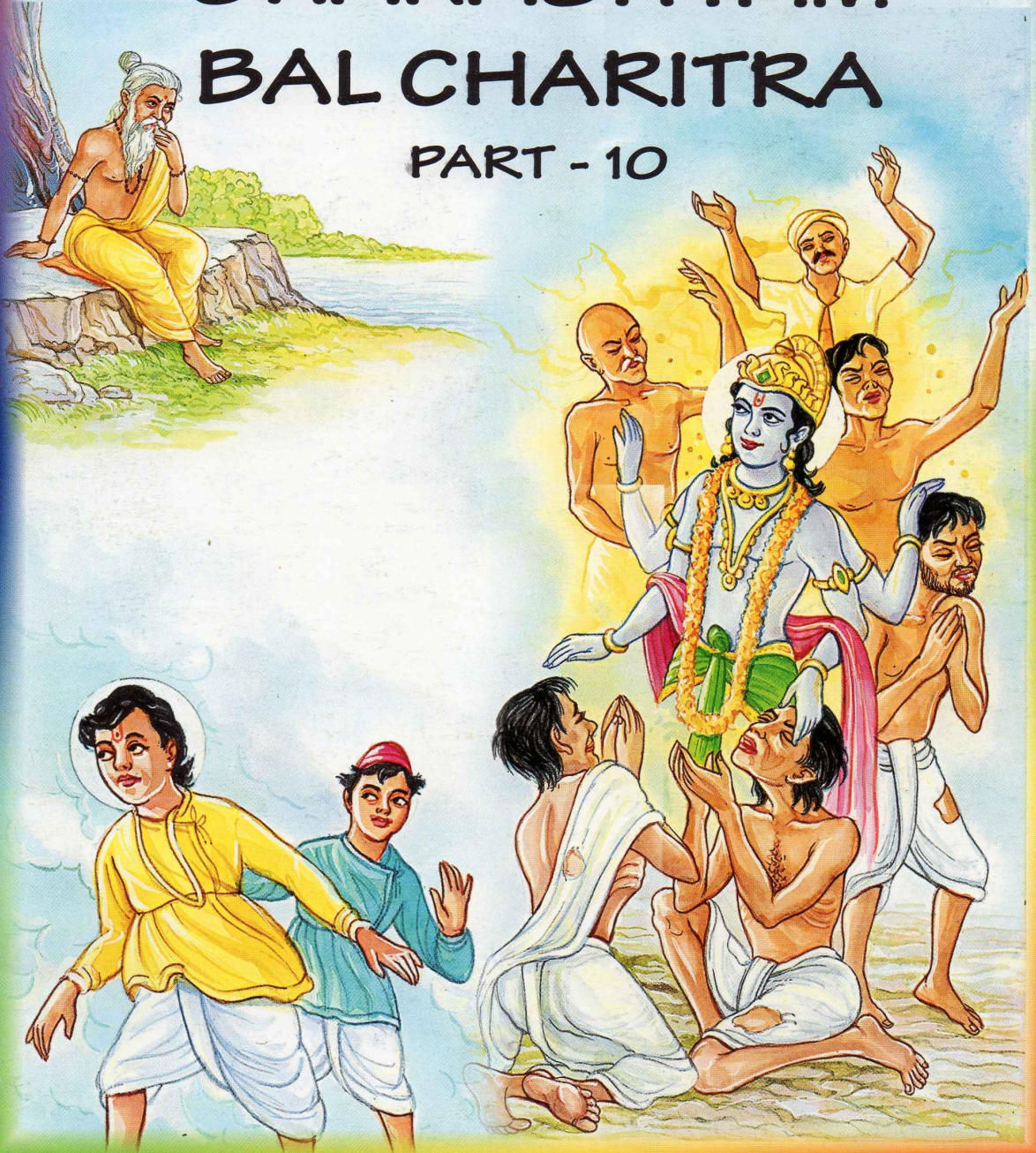


|| Shree Swaminarayano Vijaytetram ||

SHREE
GHANASHYAM
BAL CHARITRA
PART - 10

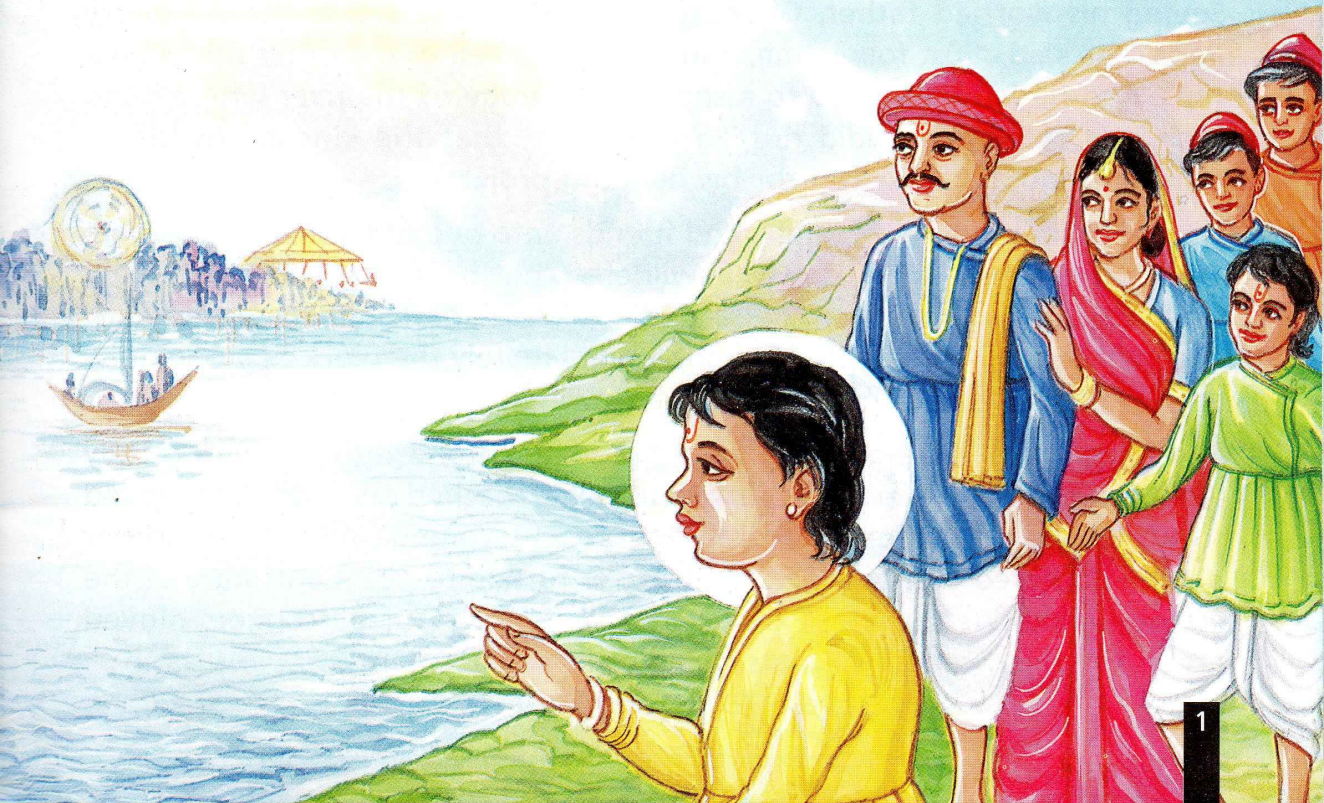


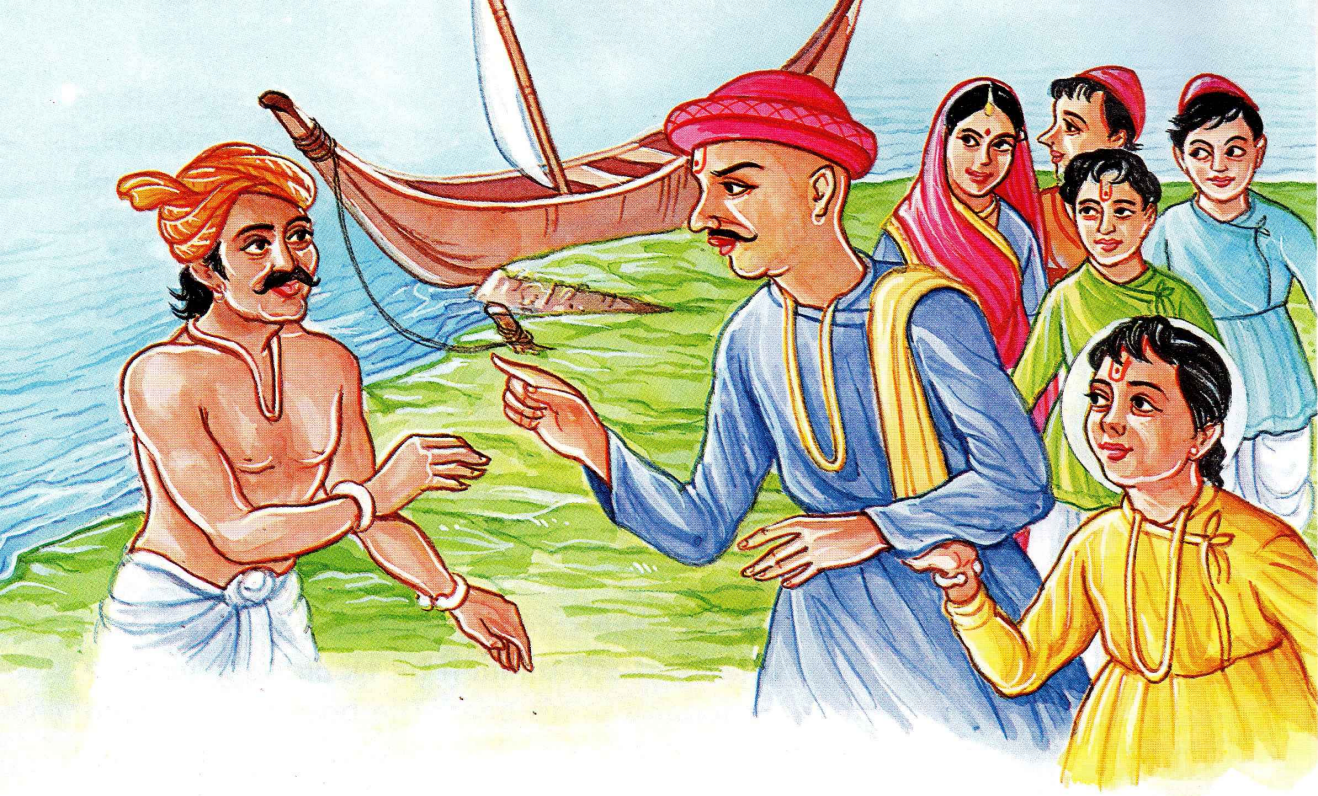
CROSSING THE RIVER

It was Ram Navmi, the day of celebration of Lord Ram's birthday, and a big fair was being held at Ayodhya. People from far and near were heading toward the city to join in the celebrations. Among them were Dharmadev, Bhaktimata, Ghanshyam and several other friends who had walked from the village of Chappaiya.

As they approached the Saryu river, they were confronted by a huge crowd, jostling to get on the ferryboats that would take them to the other side, and to the city. The boatmen were trying to make as much money as possible, and filling the boats with too many people. The boats were dangerously low in the water.

Seeing this, Dharmadev worried for the safety of his family and friends, and so he approached a boatman and asked him if he would take just the small group of people from Chappaiya in his boat. The boatman frowned shrewdly. He said he was willing to take them, but they would have to pay twenty-five percent more. Dharmadev then tried another boatman, but he wanted fifty percent more. Dharmadev was perplexed. If they spent so much on the boat, they would not have much money left for the fair.





Seeing his worried father, Ghanashyam pulled on his arm. "Don't worry Papa," he said, "just follow me, and I'll take you all to the other side. Come on!" And he led the group to a spot on the edge of the river where huge blocks of stone were laid out on the shore, that the king of Ayodhya, Darshansingh, had ordered for his building projects.

Ghanashyam ushered his family and friends onto one of the blocks of stone, and ordered them to sit down. Bewildered, but believing in him, they did as he said. When they were all settled down, Ghanashyam leaned forward and touched the stone with his finger. Immediately the block of stone quivered with energy and began to move slowly toward the water!

The group of people gripped the edge of the stone tightly, fearing they would enter the water and drown. But as it reached the water, it moved forward gently and floated on the surface. Everyone gasped! All the other people gathered on the shores of the river turned to point and stare at the strange sight. As the block of stone and its cargo of passengers moved across the river, others in boats called out in amazement.



The strange craft reached the other shore, slid up onto the land, and the grateful passengers quickly got down. Immediately they were surrounded by crowds of people, touching the strange boat, trying to see what it was made of. But it was just a block of stone!

Then, turning to Ghanashyam, the people began to touch his feet in wonder and reverence. Word about the miracle spread quickly that day among all the visitors to the Ram Navmi fair, and as the group of visitors from Chappaiya wandered among the temples and shops, everywhere they were greeted with words of praise for the young Lord Ghanshyam.



STUDY:

1. Complete the sentence. "Ram Navmi is the day we celebrate_____".
2. Why did Dharmadev want a boat only for his family and friends?
3. What did Ghanashyam use as a boat?
4. Who was the king of Ayodhya at that time?



THE FLOODED FIELD

Moti Tarwadi had a farm on the edges of Bhatiya lake. It was the monsoon season, and he had sown rice in his fields to feed his family. That year it rained much more than usual. For four months the rains poured down almost continuously. As the rains fell, the water in the lake began to rise. Soon it was full to the brim. And then it overflowed and poured into the field of Moti Tarwadi, submerging the growing rice. Moti Tarwadi was distraught. His rice would be spoiled, and he would have nothing to feed his family.

At that time, Dharmadev and Ghanashyam came to visit Moti Tarwadi. The worried man told them about his flooded field, and they asked to go and see it.

Standing on a small mound under the shelter of a big mahuda tree, the three men surveyed the expanse of water. The whole field was covered,





and not a blade of rice was to be seen. In fact, it was even difficult to see where the field was. Dharmadev shook his head and spoke to the down-cast Moti Tarwadi. "I'm afraid there's no hope of saving the crop," he said.

Ghanashyam had a knowing smile on his face. "Uncle" he said, "What would you give me if I saved your crop?" Moti Tarwadi looked up in surprise. "Why, I'd give you a piece of farmland for yourself," he said. "But nothing can save it now," he added dejectedly.

Then Ghanashyam began to head out into the flooded field. The water was up to his waist, and he stopped in the middle. Then, lifting his foot, he plunged his big toe into the soft earth beneath the water, then pulled it out again. Where his toe had been there was now a deep hole in the earth, and the water began to swirl round as it emptied into the hole.

From the mound, Dharmadev and Moti Tarwadi watched in amazement as they saw the water swirling like a whirl-pool. The water level began to drop, and now they could see the tops of the rice crop. Down and down the water dropped, until it had all drained away, leaving only fish, flip-flopping among the rice.

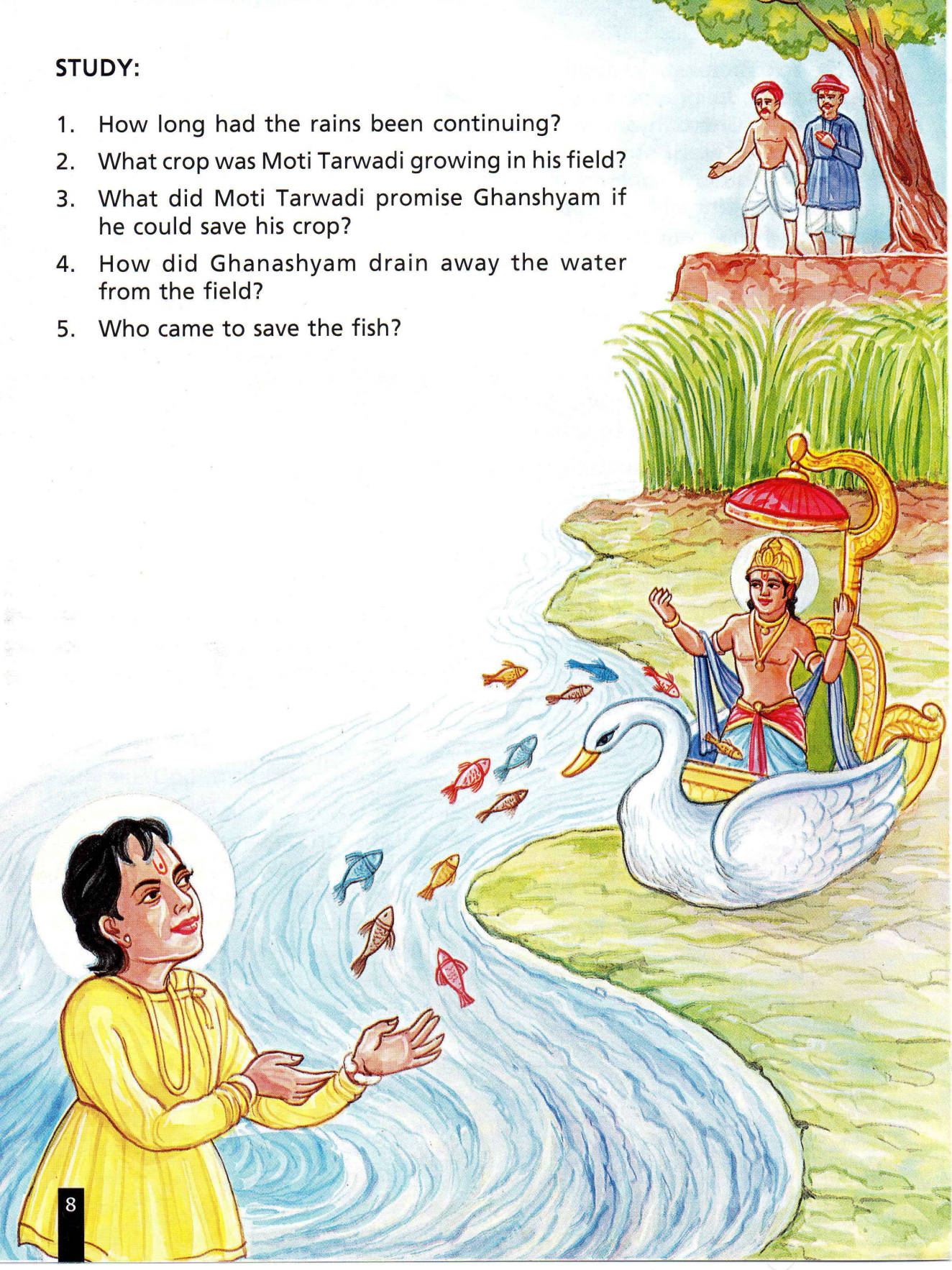
As the two men watched, other villagers began to gather round to see the wondrous sight. Ghanashyam was still in the field, and he was upset to see the fish gasping for breath. Looking up, he called on Indra the King of heaven to come and save the fish. Immediately Indra came swooping out of the sky on his winged chariot. Bowing before the young Lord, Indra then raised his arms, and all the fish flew up from the ground and into the chariot. Then, bidding farewell to Ghanashyam, Indra drove off in his chariot, taking the fish to safety.

Ghanashyam came back to the two men, still standing on the mound. Moti Tarwadi hugged the boy tightly in gratitude. All three stood looking at the field. The sun was coming out, and the be-draggled green stalks were drying and beginning to straighten out. The crop had been saved, and Moti Tarwadi's family would not go hungry.



STUDY:

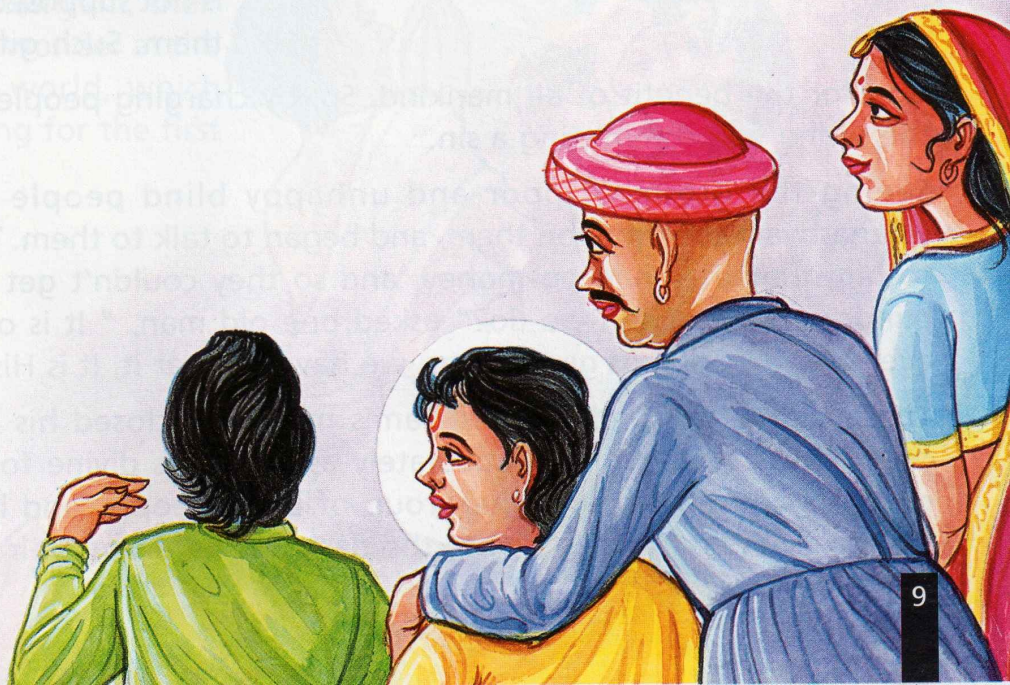
1. How long had the rains been continuing?
2. What crop was Moti Tarwadi growing in his field?
3. What did Moti Tarwadi promise Ghanshyam if he could save his crop?
4. How did Ghanashyam drain away the water from the field?
5. Who came to save the fish?

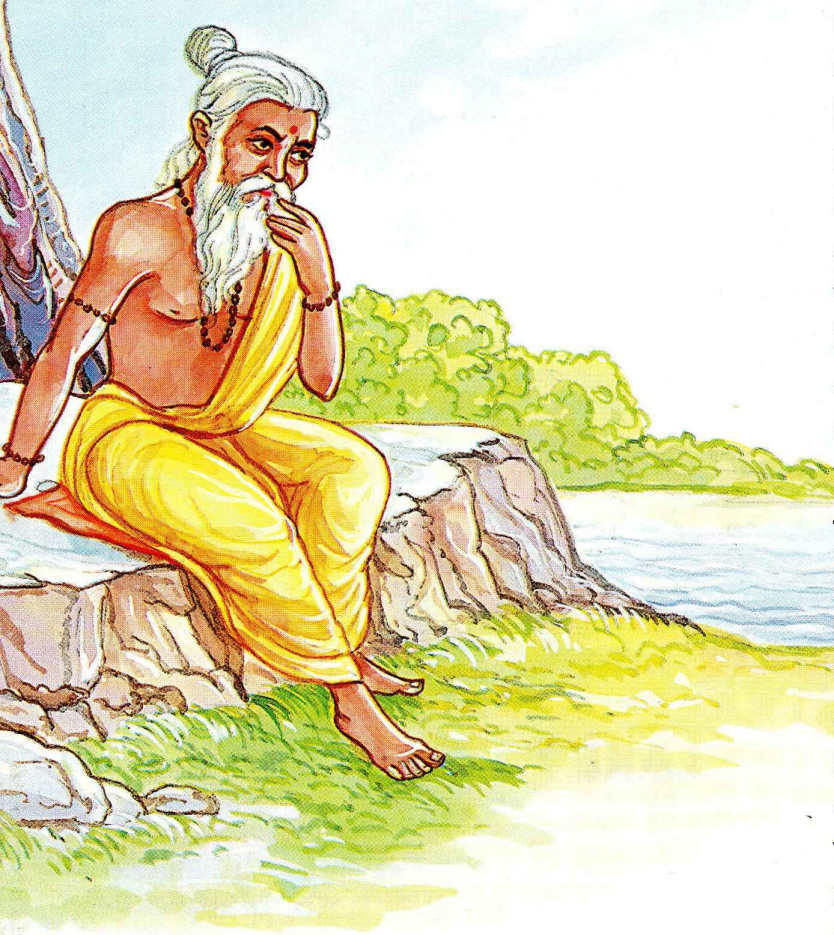




THE BLIND MEN AT THE LAKE

It was the day of Ekadashi, or full moon, and as is the custom, Ghanashyam was at the Shraavan lake with his family to take a ritual bath. Many other people were there, and there was a happy carnival atmosphere.





On one side of the lake, seated on the shore, sat a sadhu, or holy man. This sadhu was famous for his miraculous powers of making the blind see again. Gathered around him were many blind people who had come to the lake in hope of a cure. But the sadhu was refusing to cure people if they wouldn't pay him.

Those who could afford to pay the sadhu, were being cured. They were praising him loudly, and touching his feet. But there was a group of poor blind people, sitting to one side, who could not afford to pay. No matter how much they pleaded, the sadhu refused to cure them.

Now, a person who receives miraculous powers from God is not supposed to profit from them. Such gifts are given by

God for the benefit of all mankind. So, by charging people to cure them, the sadhu was committing a sin.

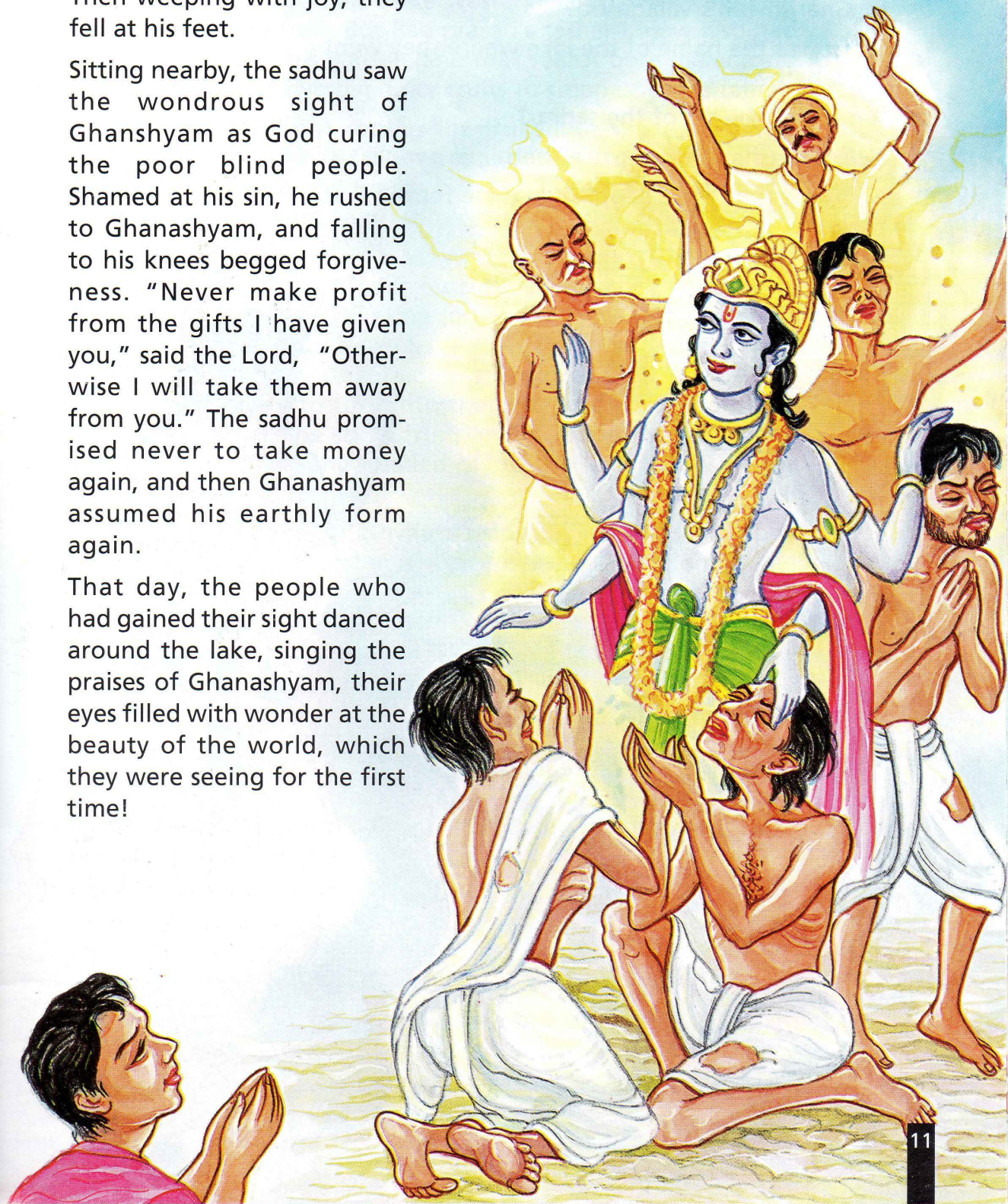
Seeing the group of poor and unhappy blind people sitting there, Ghanashyam took pity on them, and began to talk to them. They explained to him that they had no money, and so they couldn't get cured of their blindness. "What can we do?" asked one old man, "It is our fate. Whatever burden God has given to us, we have to bear it. It is His wish."

These words touched Ghanashyam's heart. He closed his eyes briefly in concentration, and then immediately assumed his divine form as God. He raised his four arms over the group of blind people, and his holy power flowed from his hands. At once the darkness fell from their eyes, and they

gazed in wonder at the divine being in front of them. Then weeping with joy, they fell at his feet.

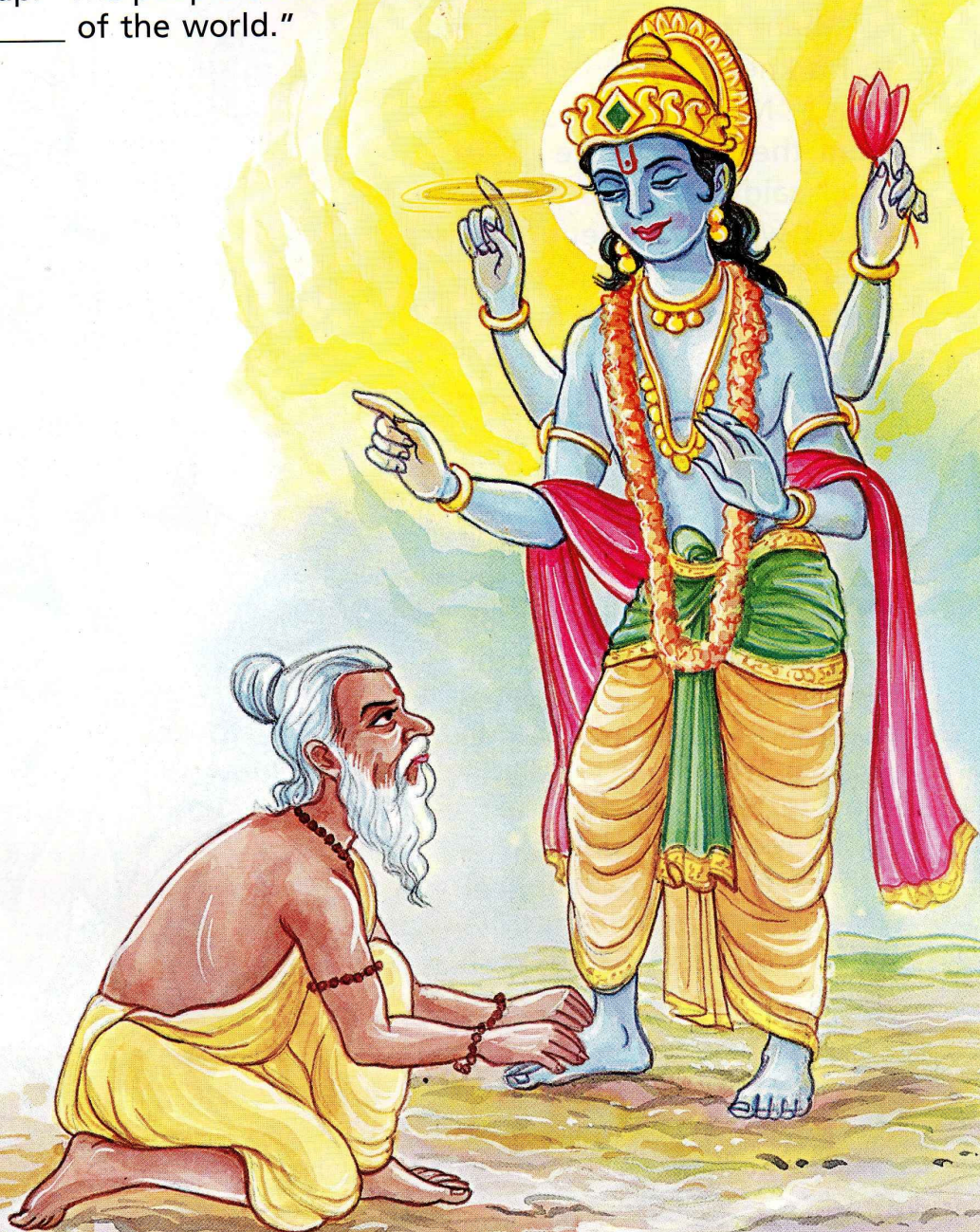
Sitting nearby, the sadhu saw the wondrous sight of Ghanashyam as God curing the poor blind people. Shamed at his sin, he rushed to Ghanashyam, and falling to his knees begged forgiveness. "Never make profit from the gifts I have given you," said the Lord, "Otherwise I will take them away from you." The sadhu promised never to take money again, and then Ghanashyam assumed his earthly form again.

That day, the people who had gained their sight danced around the lake, singing the praises of Ghanashyam, their eyes filled with wonder at the beauty of the world, which they were seeing for the first time!



STUDY:

1. On the occasion of Ekadashi, what do the people of Ghanashyam's village do?
2. What was the name of the lake where they went for a bath?
3. What was the sin of the sadhu?
4. How did Ghanashyam cure the blind people?
5. Fill in the gap. "The people could see for the first time the _____ of the world."



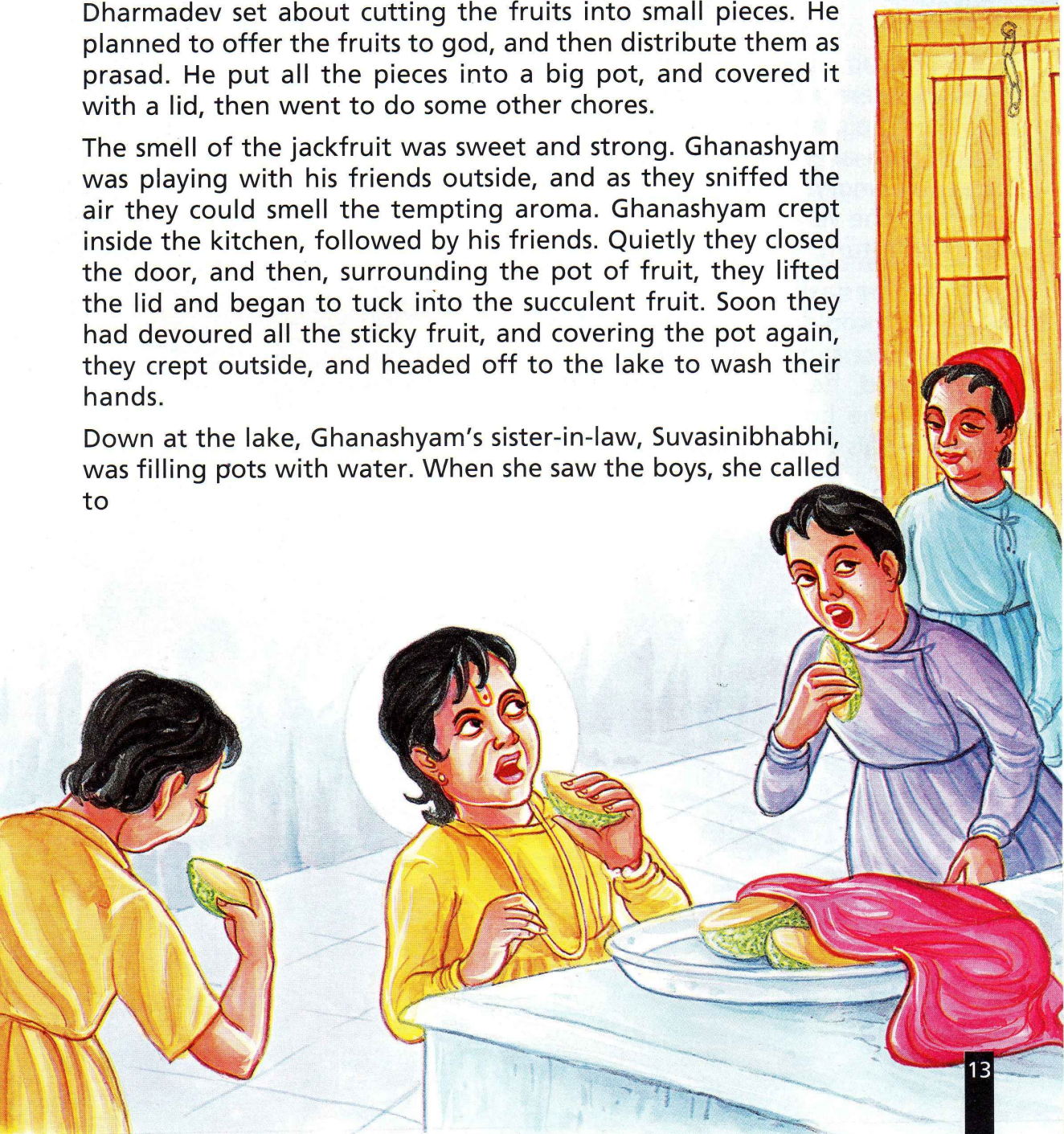
THE WISHING TREE

In Ghanashyam's garden there was a jackfruit tree. One year the tree bore no fruit. But Ramprasad's father-in-law also had a jackfruit tree in his garden, and that year it bore many fruit. So he sent round five big, juicy fruits to Ghanashyam's family.

Dharmadev set about cutting the fruits into small pieces. He planned to offer the fruits to god, and then distribute them as prasad. He put all the pieces into a big pot, and covered it with a lid, then went to do some other chores.

The smell of the jackfruit was sweet and strong. Ghanashyam was playing with his friends outside, and as they sniffed the air they could smell the tempting aroma. Ghanashyam crept inside the kitchen, followed by his friends. Quietly they closed the door, and then, surrounding the pot of fruit, they lifted the lid and began to tuck into the succulent fruit. Soon they had devoured all the sticky fruit, and covering the pot again, they crept outside, and headed off to the lake to wash their hands.

Down at the lake, Ghanashyam's sister-in-law, Suvasinibhabhi, was filling pots with water. When she saw the boys, she called to



them and asked them why they needed to wash their hands. Ghanashyam remained silent, but Veniram explained that they had been eating jackfruit, and their hands were sticky.

Suvasinibhabhi suspected what had happened. When she returned home she checked the pot of jackfruit, but found it empty, and then went to Bhaktimata and told her that the boys had eaten all the fruits. Bhaktimata was very angry. Picking up a stick, she went to the verandah to wait for the boys to return.

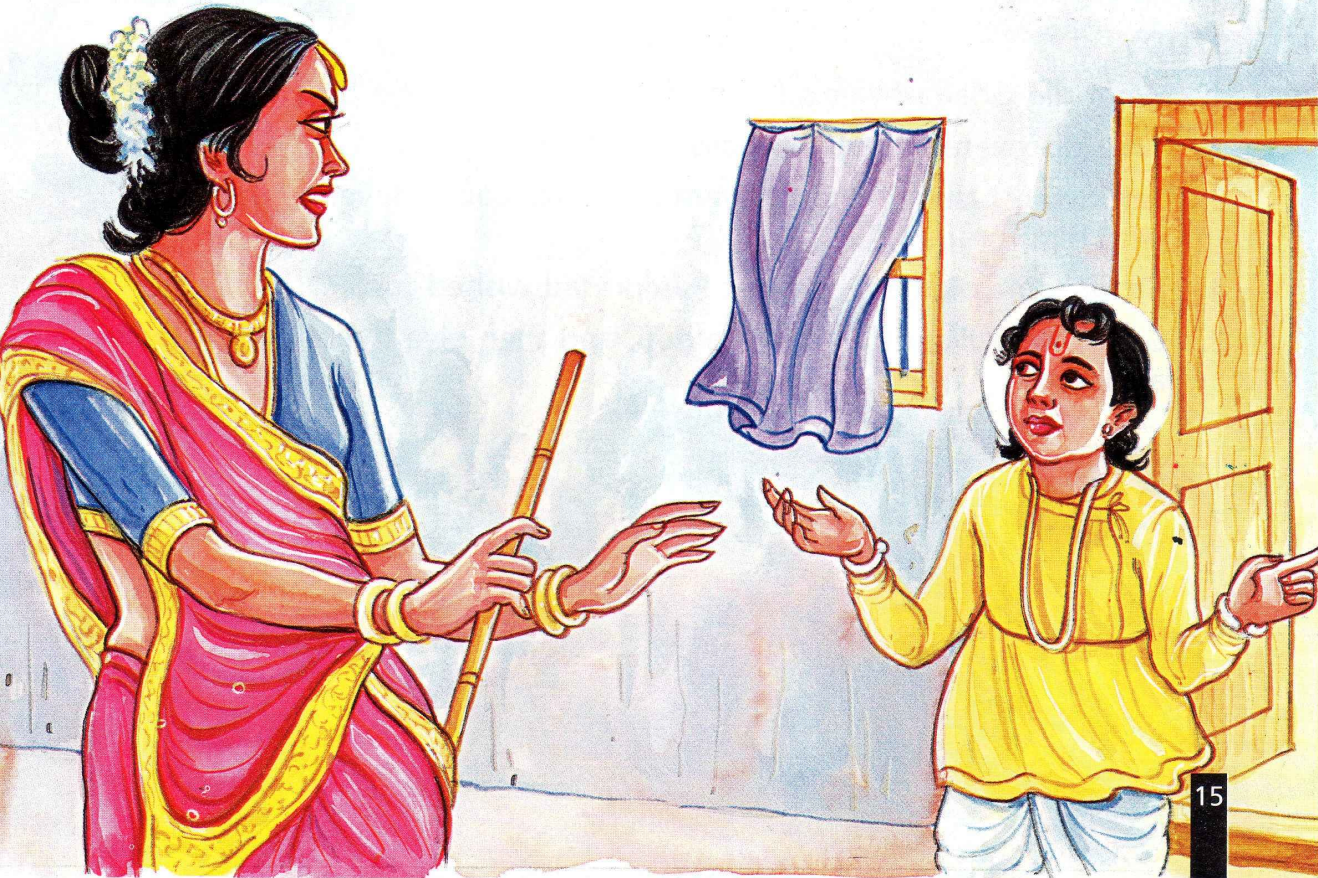
When Ghanashyam came near his house, he could see his angry mother waiting for him. Feeling very guilty and afraid, he sneaked around the back of the house and went inside, avoiding his mother. But Bhaktimata

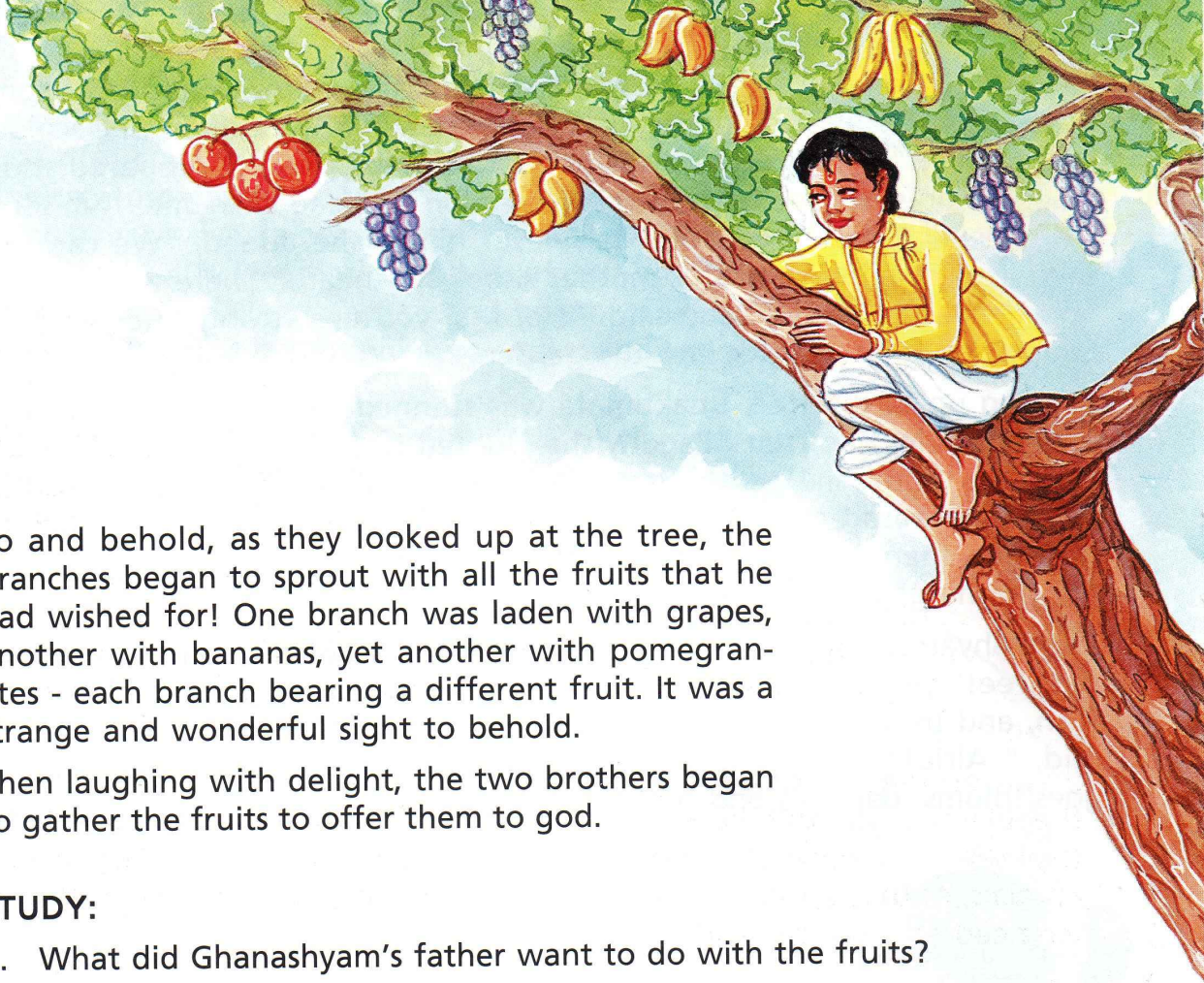


could never remain angry with Ghanashyam for a long time. After some time, she came into the house, and finding Ghanashyam there, she scolded him gently. "Don't you know, your father had specially prepared those fruits for prasad." she said. Ghanashyam hung his head in shame. "I'm sorry, Ma. I never knew." He said. "But never mind," he added, "We can pick some from our garden." His mother shook her head. "There are no fruits on our tree this year." she said. "No, Ma, you are wrong!" he said, and taking her hand, led her into the garden.

Looking up at the tree, Bhaktimata was stunned to see the tree was covered with big, ripe fruits. Eagerly she plucked two from the tree. Then taking them inside, she set about preparing the fruits to offer to god. At that time, Ramprasad came home. He saw Ghanashyam standing beneath the tree, and then, looking up he exclaimed, "That tree didn't have any fruits this morning! Where have they all come from?"

Ghanashyam laughed. "Don't you know brother, that this is a special wishing tree!" he said. Whatever fruits you want, you only have to make a wish, and they will be there on the tree." His brother scoffed at him, but said, " Alright! Then I wish for coconut, betel-nut, pomegranates, mangoes, plums, bananas and grapes!"





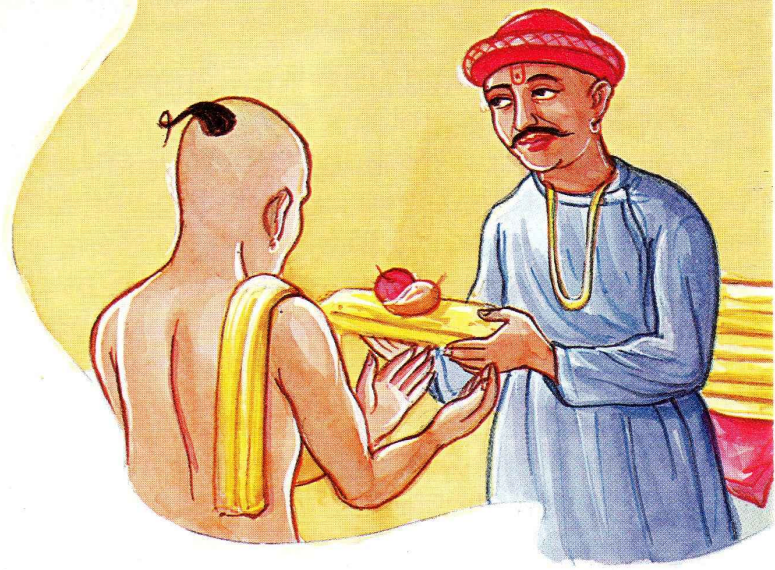
Lo and behold, as they looked up at the tree, the branches began to sprout with all the fruits that he had wished for! One branch was laden with grapes, another with bananas, yet another with pomegranates - each branch bearing a different fruit. It was a strange and wonderful sight to behold.

Then laughing with delight, the two brothers began to gather the fruits to offer them to god.

STUDY:

1. What did Ghanashyam's father want to do with the fruits?
2. Who discovered what the boys had done?
3. Fill in the blank. "Ghanashyam's mother could never remain _____ with him for long."
4. Name some of the fruits that Ramprasad wished for.
5. Get some fruits, offer them to god, and then give them to your family as prasad.





THE TEARS OF MOTHER EARTH

The festival of Uttarayan is a very special day in India. On this day in winter, when the skies are clear and the winds strong, people come out in the streets and on their roof-tops to fly kites. The whole sky is filled with the colourful paper shapes, and the air is filled with the excited chatter of people.

It was on the day of Uttarayan that Ghanashyam and his father went to the lake Narayan to take a ritual bath in the cold waters. After their bath, they set about gifting sweets to brahmins and cows. Cows are very special animals, as they symbolise our Mother Earth who provides us with all that we need to live a comfortable life.

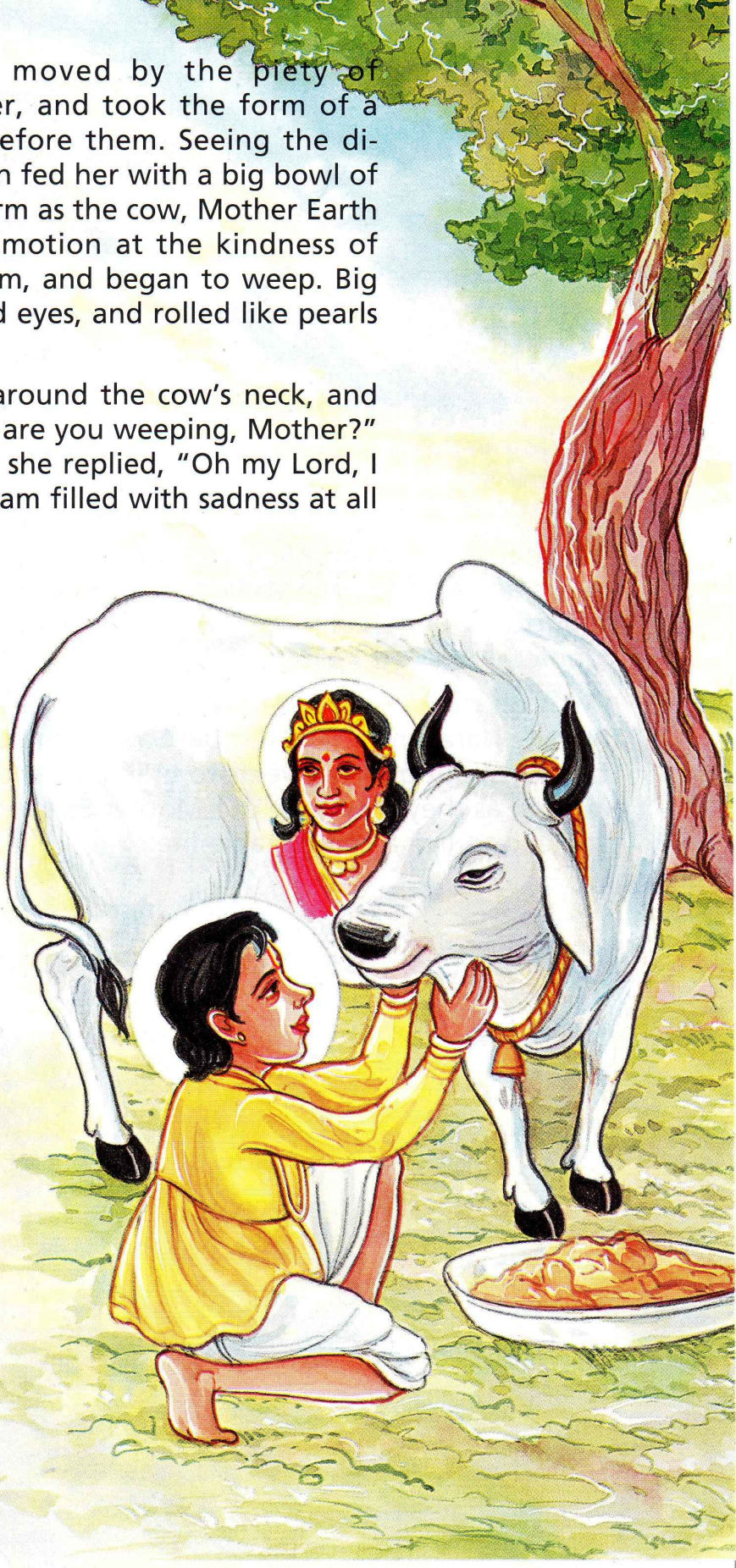


The Earth Goddess was moved by the piety of Ghanashyam and his father, and took the form of a beautiful cow to appear before them. Seeing the divine creature, father and son fed her with a big bowl of tasty, sweet halva. In her form as the cow, Mother Earth was filled with love and emotion at the kindness of Dharmadev and Ghanashyam, and began to weep. Big tears appeared in her limpid eyes, and rolled like pearls down her soft cheeks.

Ghanashyam put his arms around the cow's neck, and whispered in her ear. "Why are you weeping, Mother?" Then, speaking to his mind, she replied, "Oh my Lord, I am the Earth Mother, but I am filled with sadness at all the sins that are being committed on me, polluting my body. Only you can cleanse me of these terrible deeds. It is for this that you were born into this body. Dear Lord, take up your duty and cleanse this world of evil." she begged.

At this time, Varundev, the God of wind and air, was swirling the kites in the sky above. Hearing the Earth Mother's plea, he also came down and appeared before Ghanashyam.

"Dear Lord," he said, "the Earth Mother is right. Look around you and see how mankind is polluting this earth with evil. Look at the lake here. See the bodies of the poor fish on the shore, killed by Man in his greed. Won't you do something?" he pleaded.



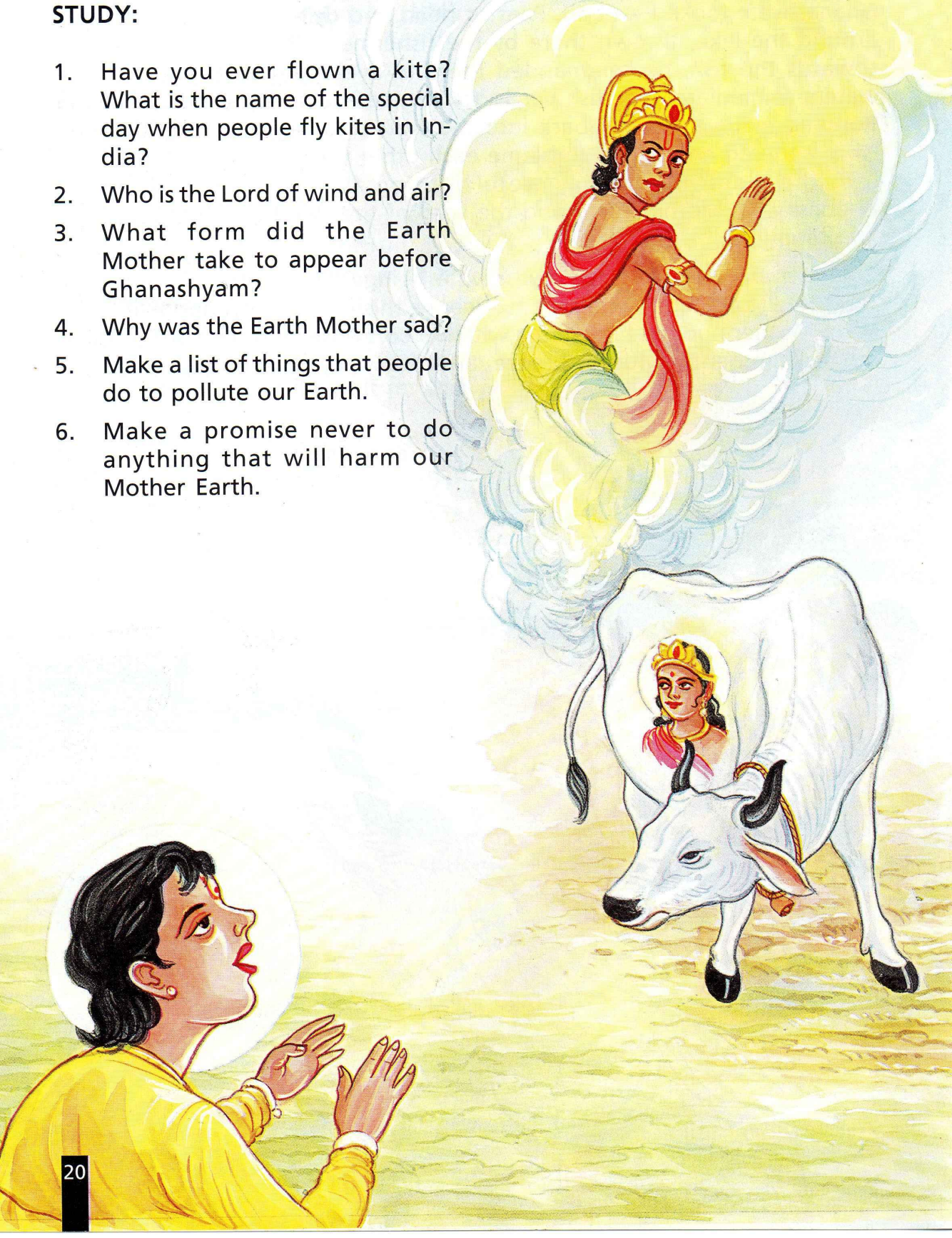
Ghanashyam looked around. Piles of dead and dying fish were scattered around the lake, thrown there by the fishermen. Then raising his hands towards the fish, he commanded them to live again and return to the waters. Immediately the fish began to wriggle and jump, and flipping and flopping made their way back into the water. Seeing this, the fishermen were angered and began to blame each other for throwing the fish back into the water. Soon they were fighting fiercely with each other. Ghanashyam, Mother Earth and the Lord of the Wind watched the scene and laughed.

Ghanashyam turned to the two divine beings. "Never fear." He said, "Soon I will take up my mission to cleanse this Earth of sin and evil." The Earth Mother nudged him gently with her soft nose, and the Lord of Wind fanned him gently with his breeze, and then they both disappeared.



STUDY:

1. Have you ever flown a kite? What is the name of the special day when people fly kites in India?
2. Who is the Lord of wind and air?
3. What form did the Earth Mother take to appear before Ghanashyam?
4. Why was the Earth Mother sad?
5. Make a list of things that people do to pollute our Earth.
6. Make a promise never to do anything that will harm our Mother Earth.



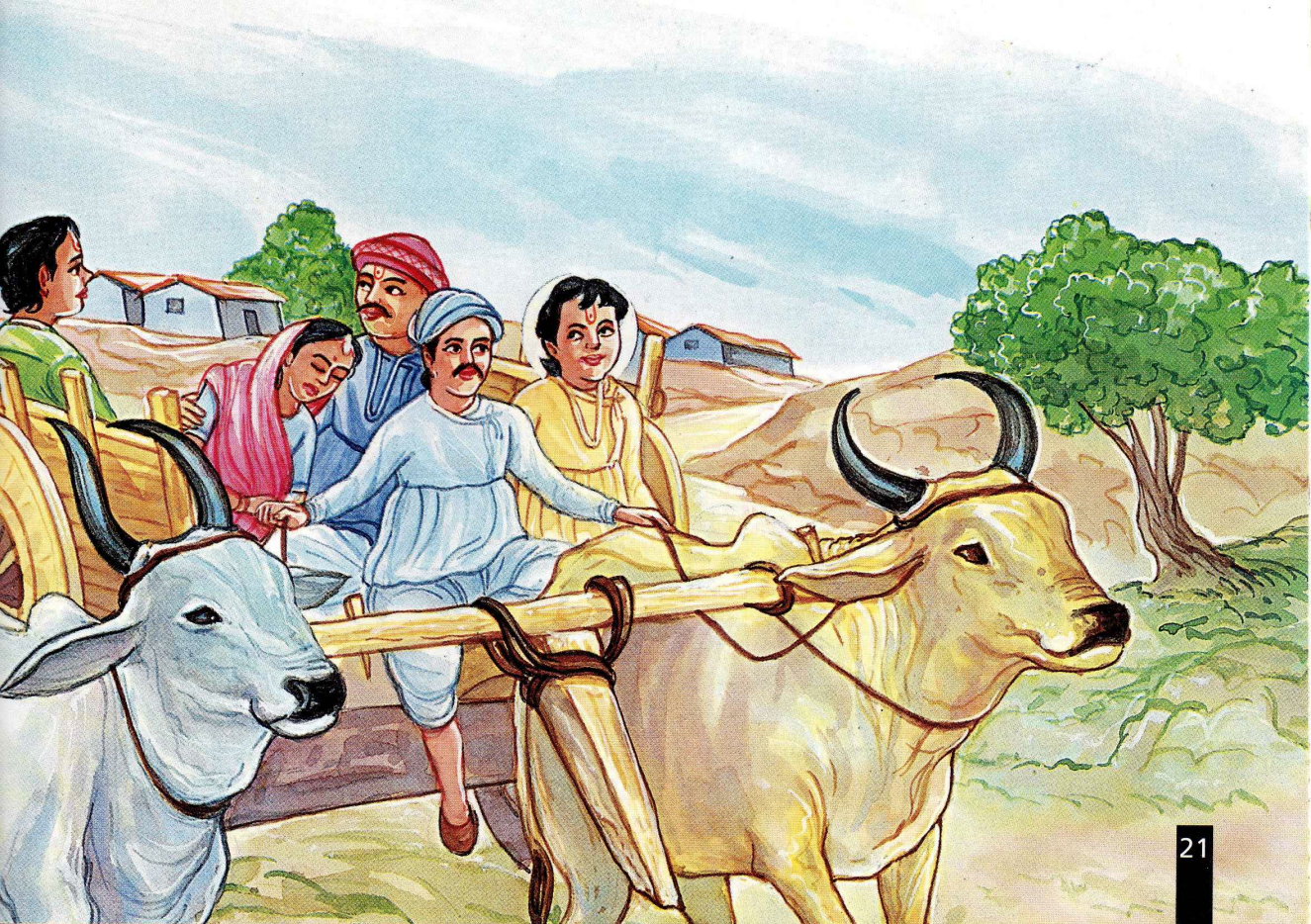
THE DEATH OF BHAKTIMATA

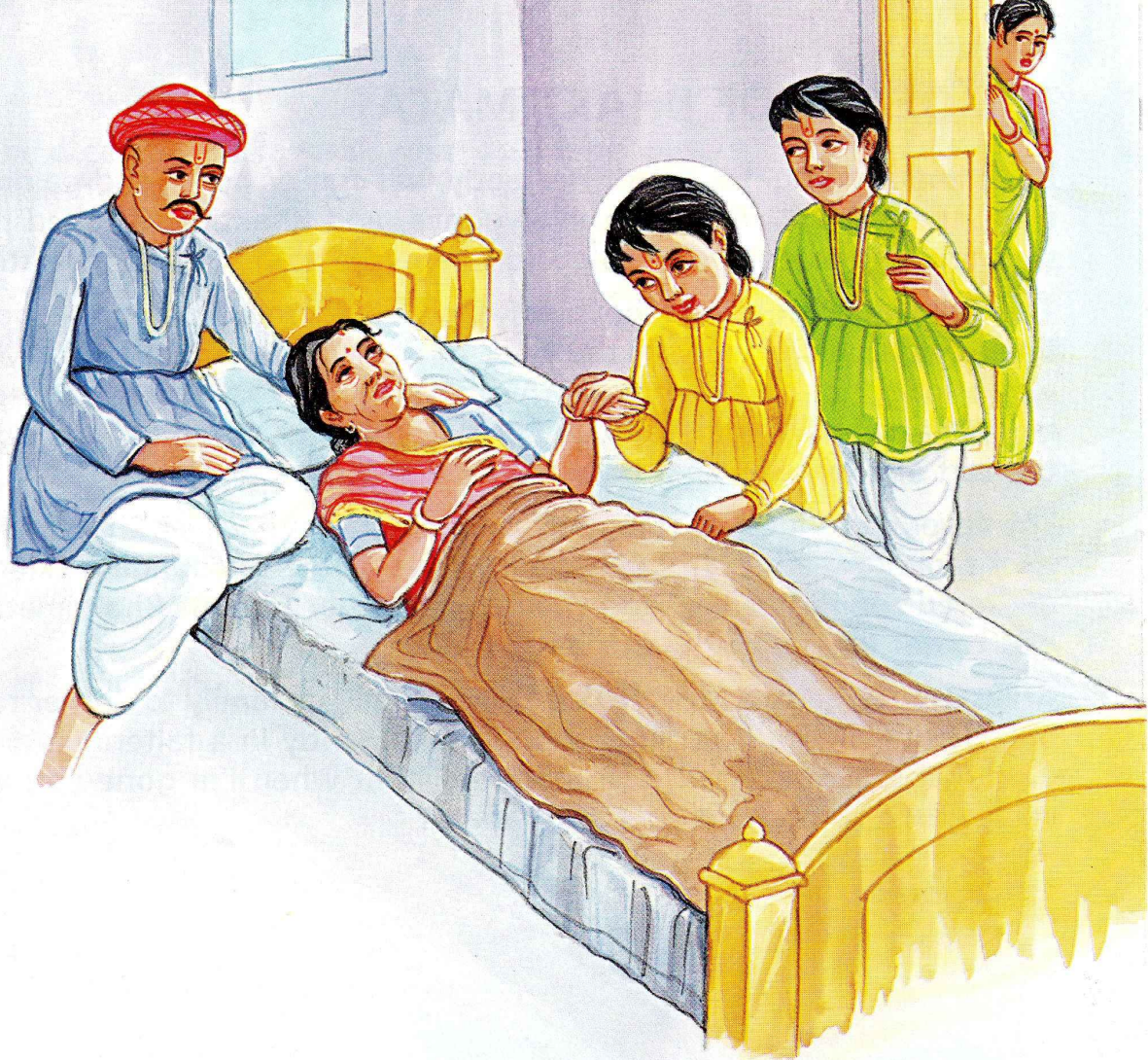
Bhaktimata was getting old. Her body was full of aches and pains. At that time, the family was staying in Ayodhya, and Bhaktimata called her three sons and expressed a wish to go to Chappaiya to be near her relatives.

The following morning, the family packed some belongings, and seating Bhaktimata comfortably in the back of a cart, they set off for Ayodhya. It was a long, hot and bumpy journey, and by the time they reached the village, Bhaktimata had developed fever. Gently, her sons lifted her down from the cart and laid her on a bed.

The fever continued for many days. During this time, all Bhaktimata's relatives came to see her, from Chappaiya, and all the surrounding villages. They gathered round her bed and tried to cheer her up. But Bhaktimata continued to get weaker with each passing day.

At last, in a weak and feeble voice, she called her family to gather round her bed. Taking Ghanshyam's hand, she spoke gently in a faltering voice. "Son, I am dying. I want you to promise me, that when I'm gone you will obey your elder brother and your sister-in-law."





Then turning to Rampratap and Suvasini, she asked them to take care of Ghanashyam as if he was their own son.

Struggling to keep their tears from falling, the children agreed. Then Bhaktimata turned again to Ghanashyam. A tear rolled down her cheek. It hurt her soul to feel that she would not see her beloved Ghanashyam again. Ghanashyam consoled her. He talked to her about the wonderful times they had together while he was a little boy and growing up. Her eyes lit up as she remembered all the things they did together. She loved to hear Ghanashyam's sweet voice, and whenever Ghanashyam paused, she begged him to go on, so that his words would be the last she heard.

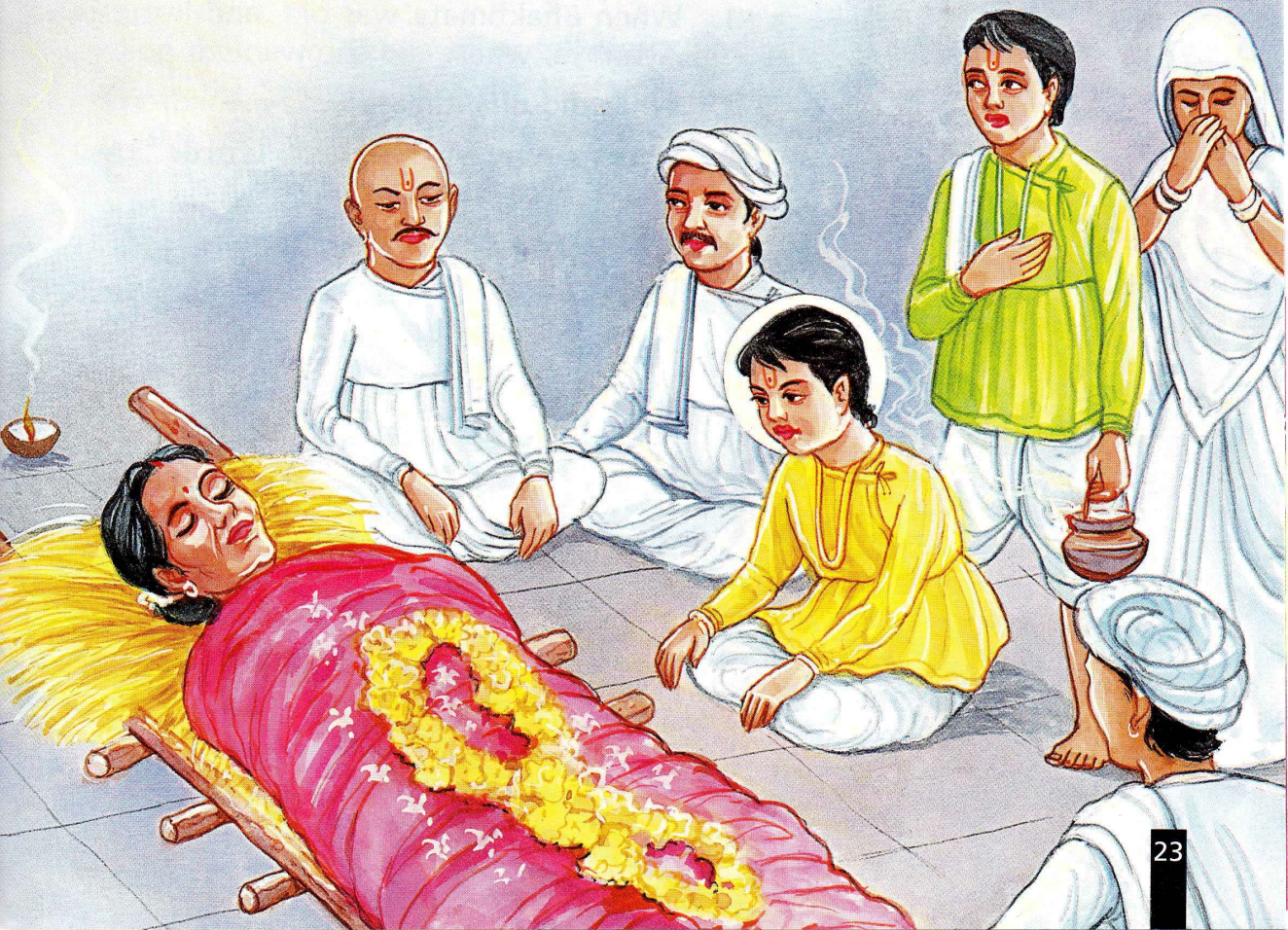
So Ghanashyam continued talking to her. He recited from the Bhagwad Gita, he talked about the soul, and how, when it is released, she would go to Akshardham. Finally, he revealed himself to her in his Godly form. As he sat on her bed, glowing with radiance, Bhaktimata closed her eyes and had a vision that she was with him in Akshardham, sitting happily beside

him in that divine place. Then she opened her eyes again, praised Ghanashyam, stared at him with love, and then her soul left the body.

As Bhaktimata's soul flew upwards, through the five universes, to heaven, her family sadly went about preparing her body for the funeral. Rampratap and some of the relatives washed her body with holy water from the river Ganges, and then laid her out on the floor. All the relatives then gathered round the body. Prayers were said, and bhajans sung, and many tears were shed by all.

Finally, wrapped in clean white cloth, Bhaktimata's body was carried in procession to the banks of the Narayan lake, where wood had been piled up for the cremation. The body was laid gently on the pile of logs, and amid the chanting of prayers, Ghanashyam walked round, setting the logs on fire. The three sons stood with eyes downcast as the flames roared higher, consuming once and for all the last remains of their mother, the beloved Bhaktimata.

When only ashes remained, the solemn crowd entered the waters of the lake for a ritual bath, and then departed.

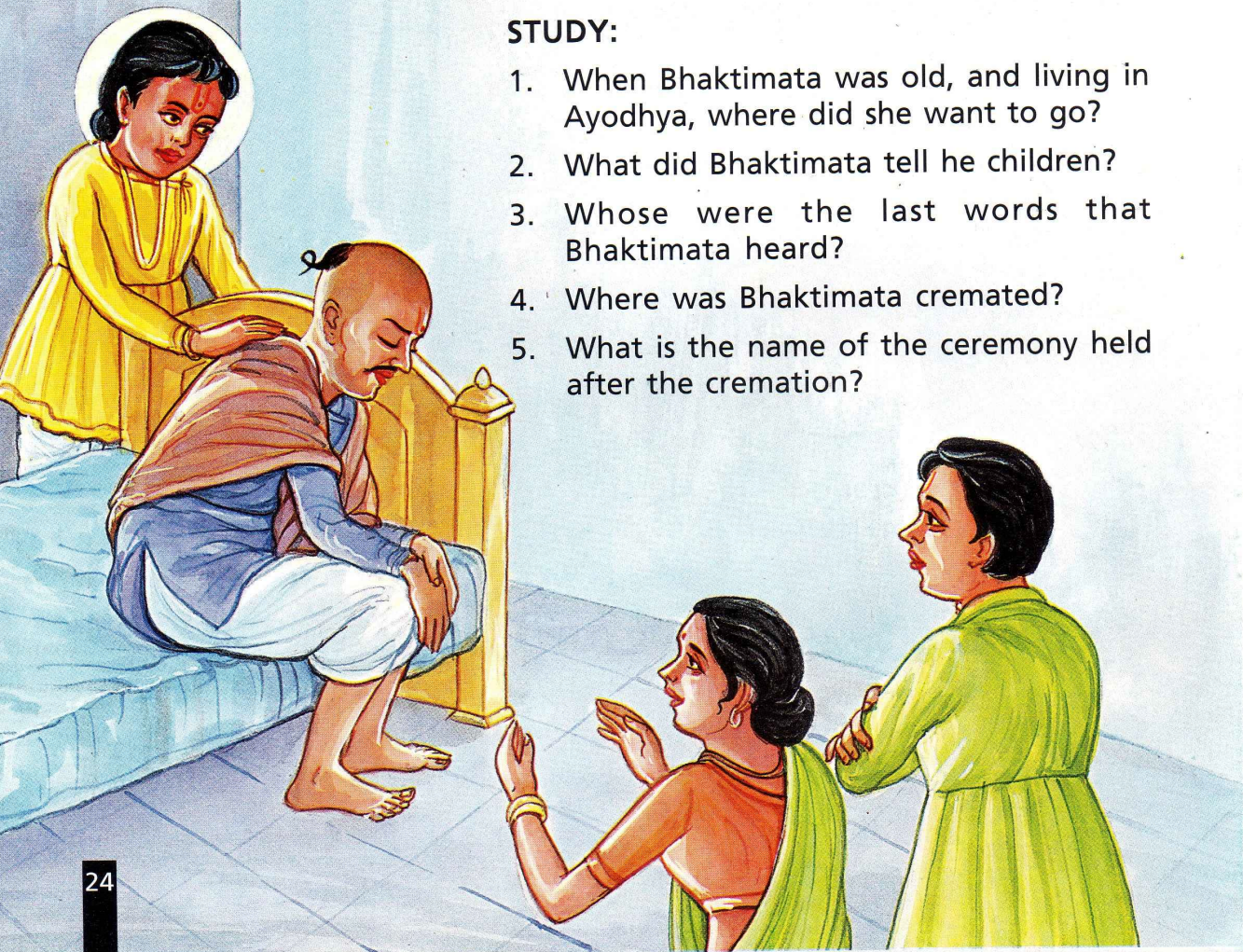


Rampratapbhai sent letters to all the relatives who lived far away, informing them about the death of Bhaktimata, and when they arrived to console the family, Ramprasad conducted the Shradh ceremony, and fed the visitors. On the thirteenth day, the relatives of Bhaktimata ritually bound Ramprasad's head with a turban, and then departed for their homes.

Alone, and without their mother, the sons sat quietly with their father, consoling him. Dharmadev stared emptily into space, saying nothing. The one who had shared his life, the beloved Bhaktidevi, was no more.

STUDY:

1. When Bhaktimata was old, and living in Ayodhya, where did she want to go?
2. What did Bhaktimata tell her children?
3. Whose were the last words that Bhaktimata heard?
4. Where was Bhaktimata cremated?
5. What is the name of the ceremony held after the cremation?

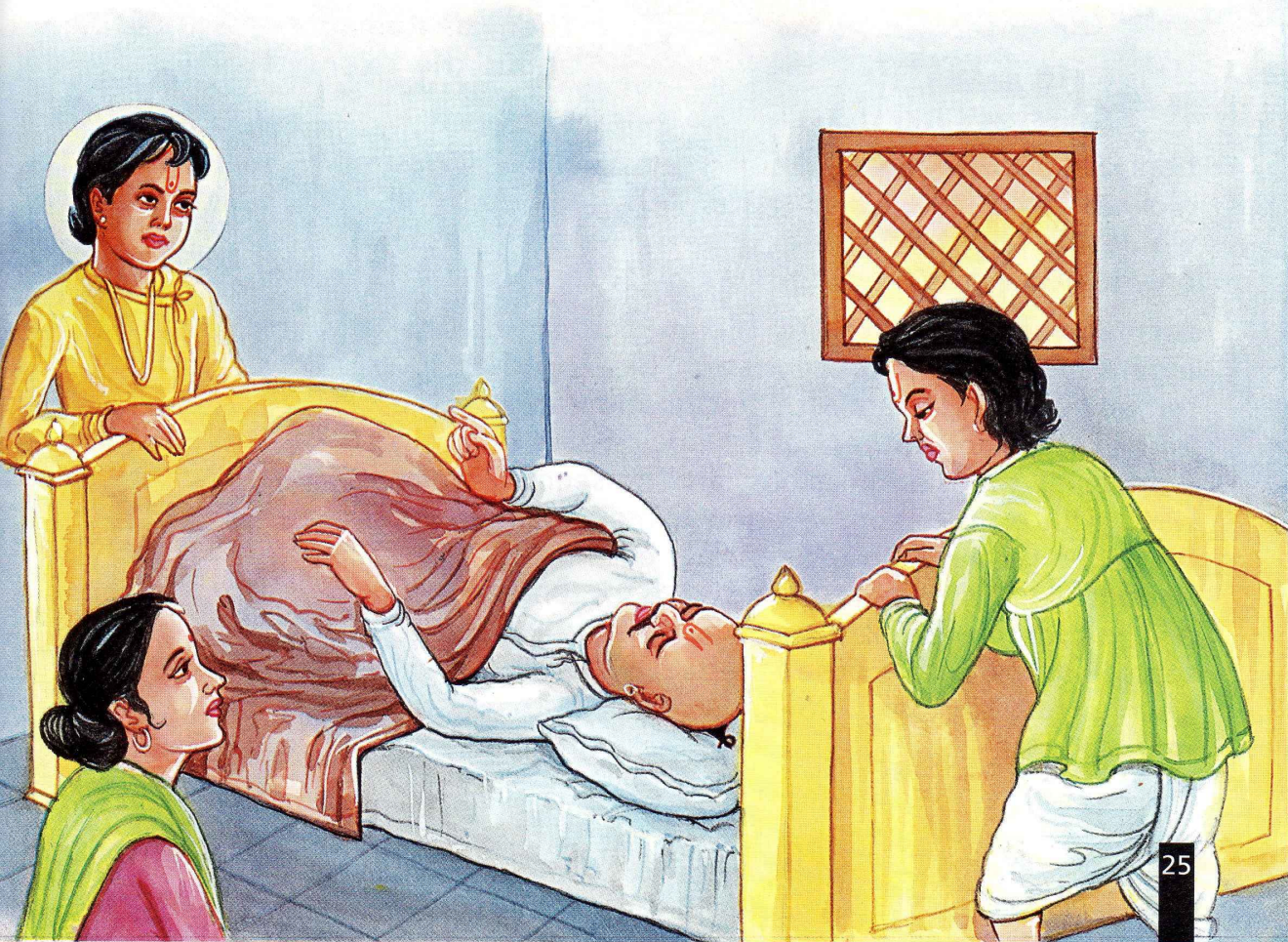


THE DEATH OF DHARMADEV

From the moment Bhaktimata passed away, Dharmadev lost his will to live. He stared emptily into space, and though Ghanashyam pressed him, he hardly touched his food. He only wanted to be with his beloved Bhaktimata, she who had shared all his joys and sorrows in life.

Only a few days after the Shraddh of Bhaktimata, he began to weaken, and could hardly get up from his bed. He called his sons and Suvasinibhabhi to his bedside. Looking up at Rampratap, he spoke in a quavering voice. "Son, soon I will be going to join your mother. Now I hand over all the responsibility for the house and farm to you. Ghanashyam has no interest in worldly affairs and family life. You must look after him. He is Krishna, he is Purna Purshottam. As long as you love each other, and follow my words, you will never have to want for anything in this life."

Turning now to Ghanashyam, he said, "And you Ghanashyam, guide your brothers and sister-in-law in life, and respect Rampratap. He is your elder brother. Always be there to guide your brothers."





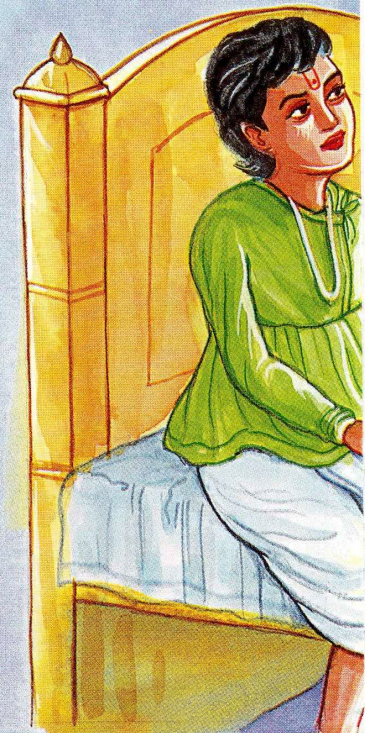
His children nodded their heads in obedience, struggling to hold back their tears. Then with a sigh, Dharmadev lay back, and closed his eyes. "I am tired of this world," he said wearily. "I want to listen to the Bhagawat Gita now, to refresh my soul."

Ghanashyam rushed to the house of pandit Ramahari, and brought him to his father's bedside. Other friends and relatives also gathered round the bed as Ramahari began the Bhagawat Saptah, the seven day reading of the Gita.

As the reading progressed, Dharmadev seemed to gradually withdraw into a world of his own. Then, as Ramahari was reading about the twenty-four incarna-

tions of God, Dharmadev's interest awakened. His eyes glowed as he stared into space. "How wonderful it would be," he said in a far-away voice, "if I could only see God in so many forms."

Ghanashyam was moved by Dharmadev's wish. Closing his eyes briefly in concentration, he expanded himself into all of his twenty-four incarnations around the bed of his ailing father. Dharmadev's eyes lit up in wonder at the glorious sight, and he seemed to be filled with a new energy. Easing himself off the bed, he folded his hands in reverence at each of the incarnations. As he finished, the incarnations disappeared, and in their place was the smiling Ghanashyam. With tears in his eyes, he touched the feet of his divine son. Then, sitting back on his bed, he began to chant holy mantras.

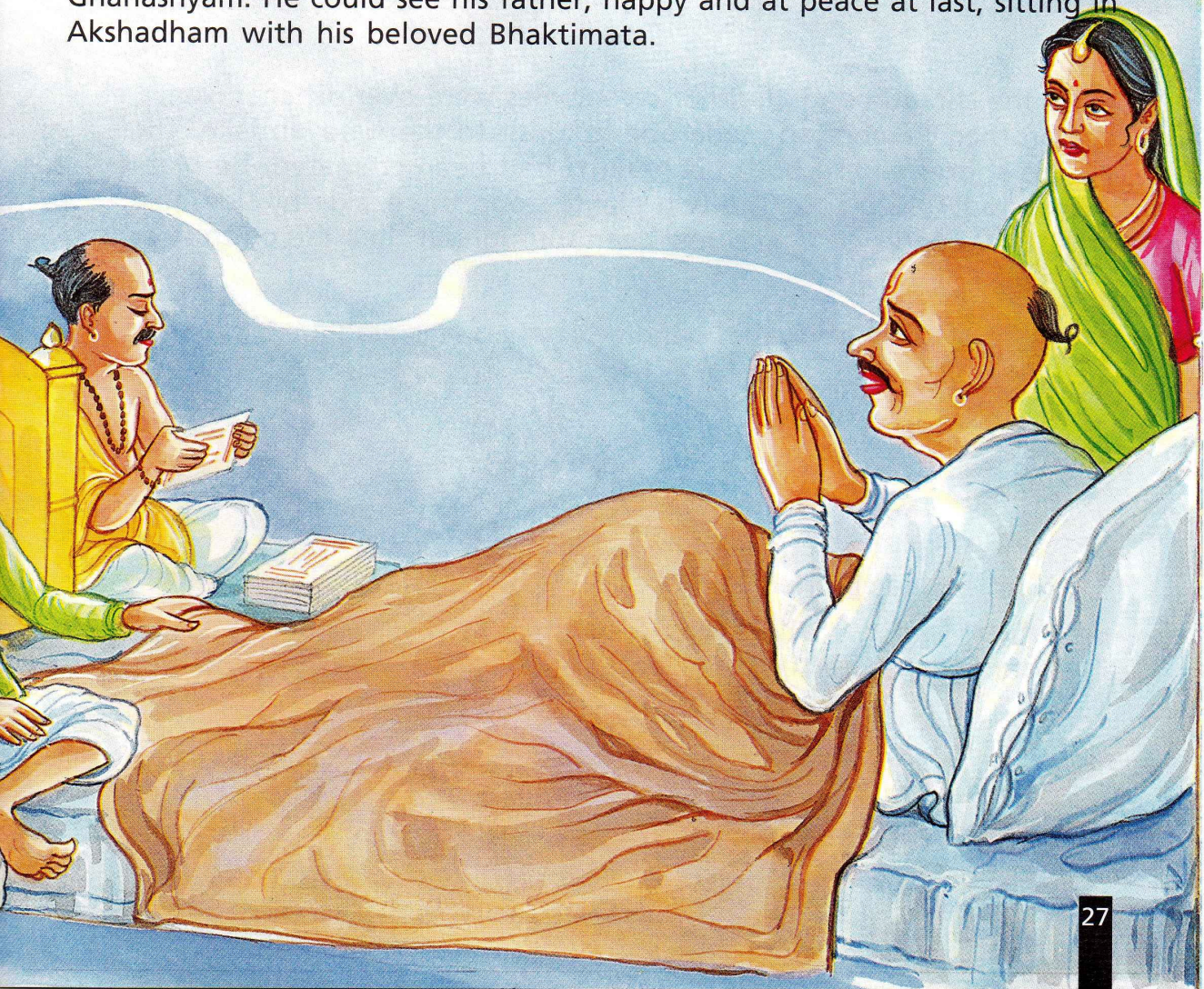


For six days Dharmadev sat there, chanting continuously, without taking food. On the seventh day he came down with high fever, and lay in a daze on his bed, again asking to hear the Bhagwat Gita.

At the end of the reading of the Gita, everyone worshipped the holy book, and then pandit Ramahari left. All the relatives then gathered round Dharamadev's bed, sitting cross-legged on the floor, and sung bhajans.

Later, Ghanashyam sat beside him on the bed, reading him stories of the life of Krishna. As he spoke, Dharmadev began to drift away, the life slowly ebbing out of his body, and finally he breathed no more.

As they had done only a short time ago with Bhaktimata, the relatives washed Dharmadev's body with water from the river Ganges, wrapped it in clean white cloth, and then proceeded for the Narayan lake for the cremation. As the body began to be consumed by the flames, the smoke rising up to the heavens, everyone was in tears - everyone, that is, except for Ghanashyam. He could see his father, happy and at peace at last, sitting in Akshadhham with his beloved Bhaktimata.

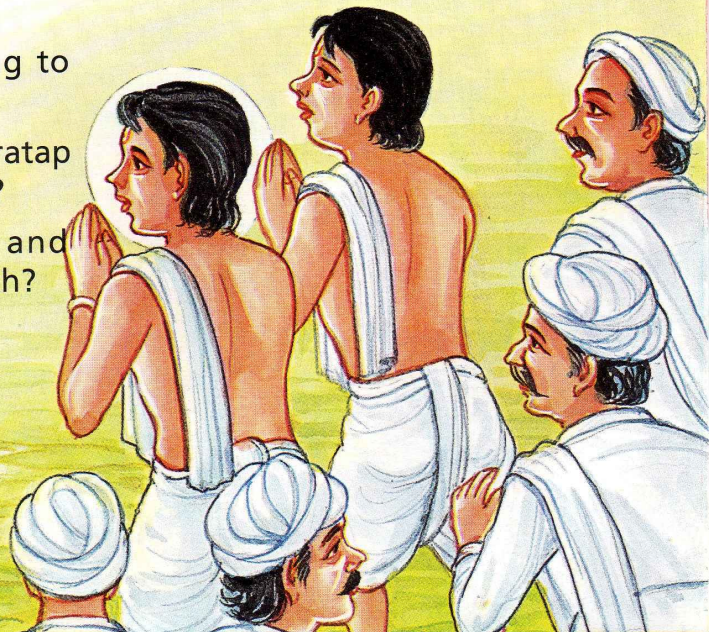




After the shraddh and all other ceremonies were over, Ghanashyam's elder brother, Rampratap made one last visit to the Narayan lake. There, on the shores where both his parents had been cremated, he planted two sacred Tulsi plants. The two plants stood there, side by side, just as Bhaktimata and Dharmadev had been throughout their life on this earth.

STUDY:

1. What was the book that pandit Ramahari was reading from?
2. How many incarnations of God were there?
3. What was Ghanashyam reading to his father when he died?
4. What kind of plants did Rampratap plant beside the Narayan lake?
5. Where did Bhaktidev and Dharmadev go after their death?

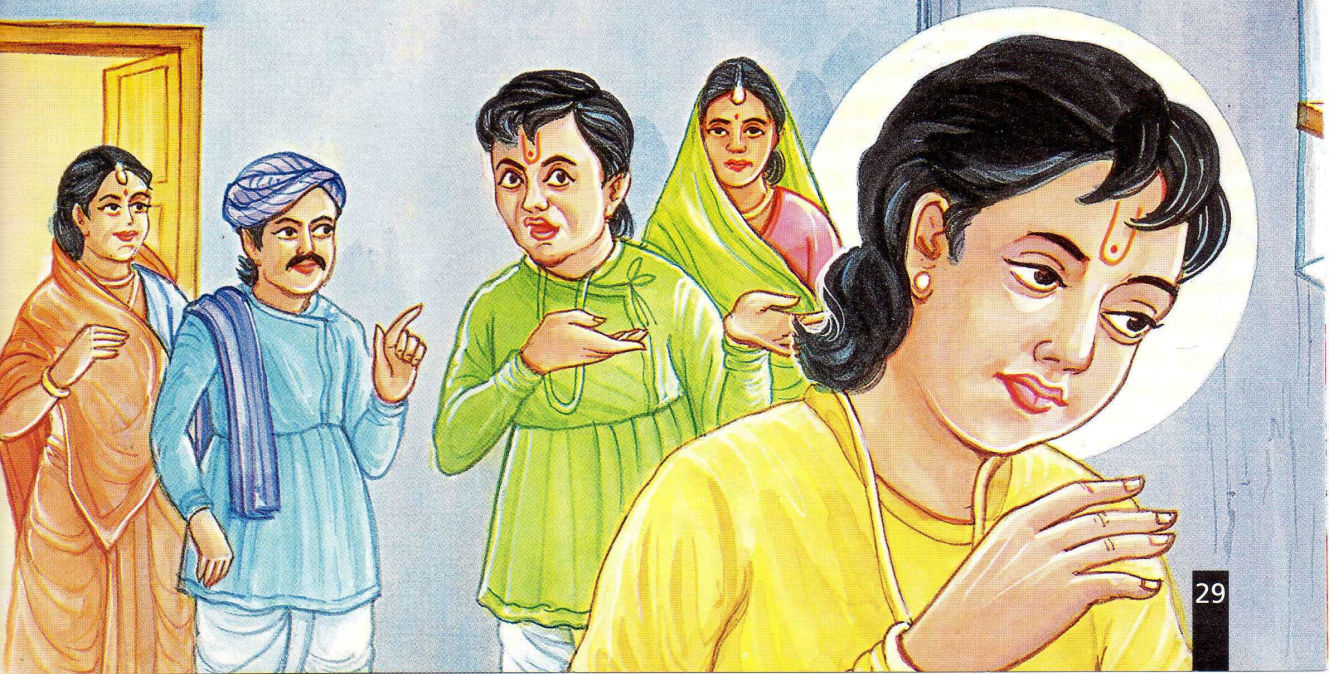


GHANSHYAM LEAVES HOME

Since a long time, Ghanashyam had often thought of leaving home, giving up this worldly life, and going to live alone in the forests. After the death of his parents, these thoughts became stronger and stronger. He was just waiting for the right opportunity.

One day, on his way home from the Hanuman temple, he passed a group of young men practicing wrestling. As he passed, they jeered at him, and challenged him to a fight. Ghanashyam tried to ignore them. These days he had no interest in wrestling. But the men grabbed him and taunted him. Finally, provoked, he turned on the men and thrashed them soundly.

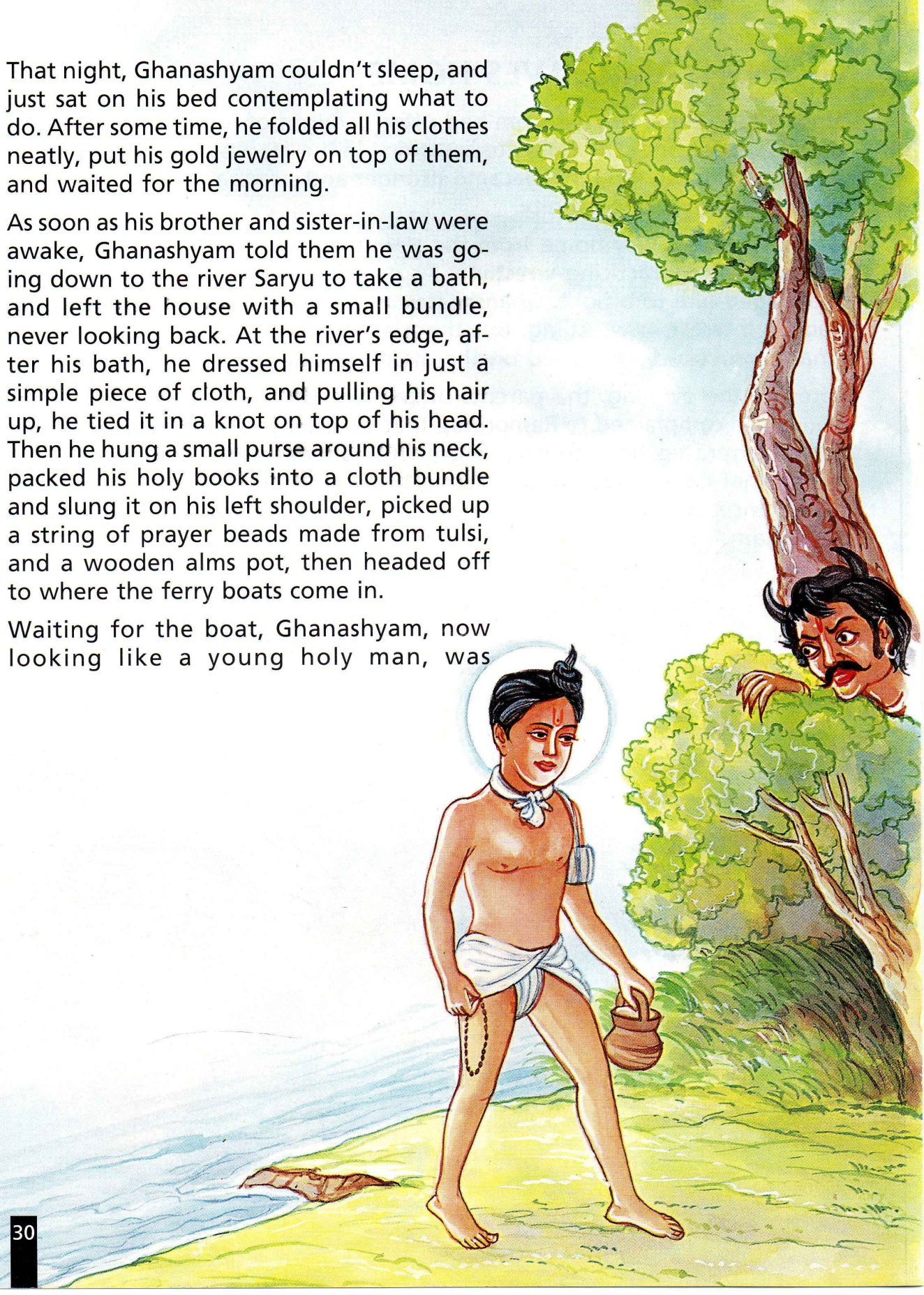
Later, in the evening, the parents of the wrestlers came to Ghanashyam's house and complained to Rampratap that Ghanashyam had beaten up their sons. Rampratap became very angry with Ghanashyam, shouting at him, saying that he was spoiling the family's name. Ghanashyam said nothing in his defence. He hung his head and mumbled, "Don't worry. It won't happen again."



That night, Ghanashyam couldn't sleep, and just sat on his bed contemplating what to do. After some time, he folded all his clothes neatly, put his gold jewelry on top of them, and waited for the morning.

As soon as his brother and sister-in-law were awake, Ghanashyam told them he was going down to the river Saryu to take a bath, and left the house with a small bundle, never looking back. At the river's edge, after his bath, he dressed himself in just a simple piece of cloth, and pulling his hair up, he tied it in a knot on top of his head. Then he hung a small purse around his neck, packed his holy books into a cloth bundle and slung it on his left shoulder, picked up a string of prayer beads made from tulsi, and a wooden alms pot, then headed off to where the ferry boats come in.

Waiting for the boat, Ghanashyam, now looking like a young holy man, was



ious that his brother might come searching for him, and try to take him back. As he sat there deep in thought, an evil asura, Kaushidutt, saw him. Kaushidutt was a companion of Kalidutt who Ghanashyam had destroyed many years ago. Now he saw his chance to take revenge. Along with his friends, Kaushidutt crept up behind Ghanashyam, then seizing him quickly from behind, he threw him into the swiftly flowing river!

Exhilarated, Kaushidutt watched as Ghanashyam was washed away by the waters. But his friends cautioned him that Ghanashyam was powerful, and may manage to escape from the river. So they set off along the river's edge, searching the banks for any sign of him. After twelve kilometres they found him, safe and sound, sitting quietly in meditation under the shade of a peepal tree. Angry, they took out weapons and rushed toward him.

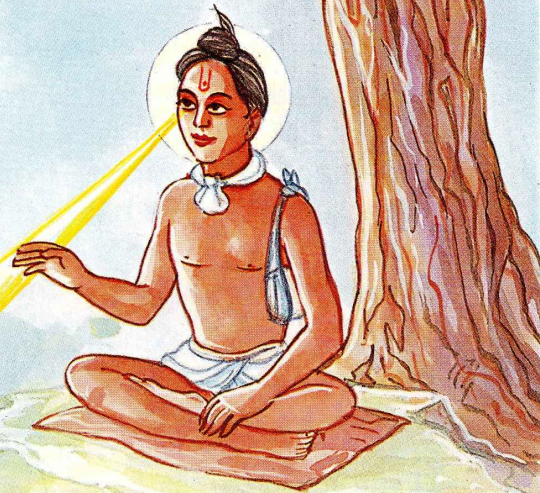
At that moment, Ghanashyam opened his eyes and stared on the asuras. His eyes were like red coals, sending out rays of light, and as the rays hit the asuras, a strange thing happened. The asuras suddenly turned on each other, and began fighting among themselves! So fiercely they fought, that at the end not a single asura was alive.

Back at home, Ghanashyam's friends had come to call on him. Rampratap was puzzled. He thought that Ghanashyam must have been with his friends. Now worried, they all began to search for him. They looked in all his favorite places, but Ghanashyam was nowhere to be found. Inside the house, Suvasini found his pile of neatly folded clothes, with the jewelry on top.



Realising that Ghanashyam had finally left home, she began to weep. The whole day Rampratap and the friends searched for Ghanashyam, wondering and worrying what had become of him.

But down by the riverside, Ghanashyam continued to sit in meditation under the peepal tree. Having withdrawn from the material world, he was no longer concerned for his friends, or for Suvasini and Rampratap.



STUDY:

1. Why did Ghanashyam want to leave home?
2. At the edge of the river, what things did Ghanashyam carry, and what did he look like?
3. How did Ghanashyam destroy the evil asuras?
4. How did Suvasini know that Ghanashyam had left home forever?
5. Why was Ghanashyam no longer concerned for his friends and family?



