

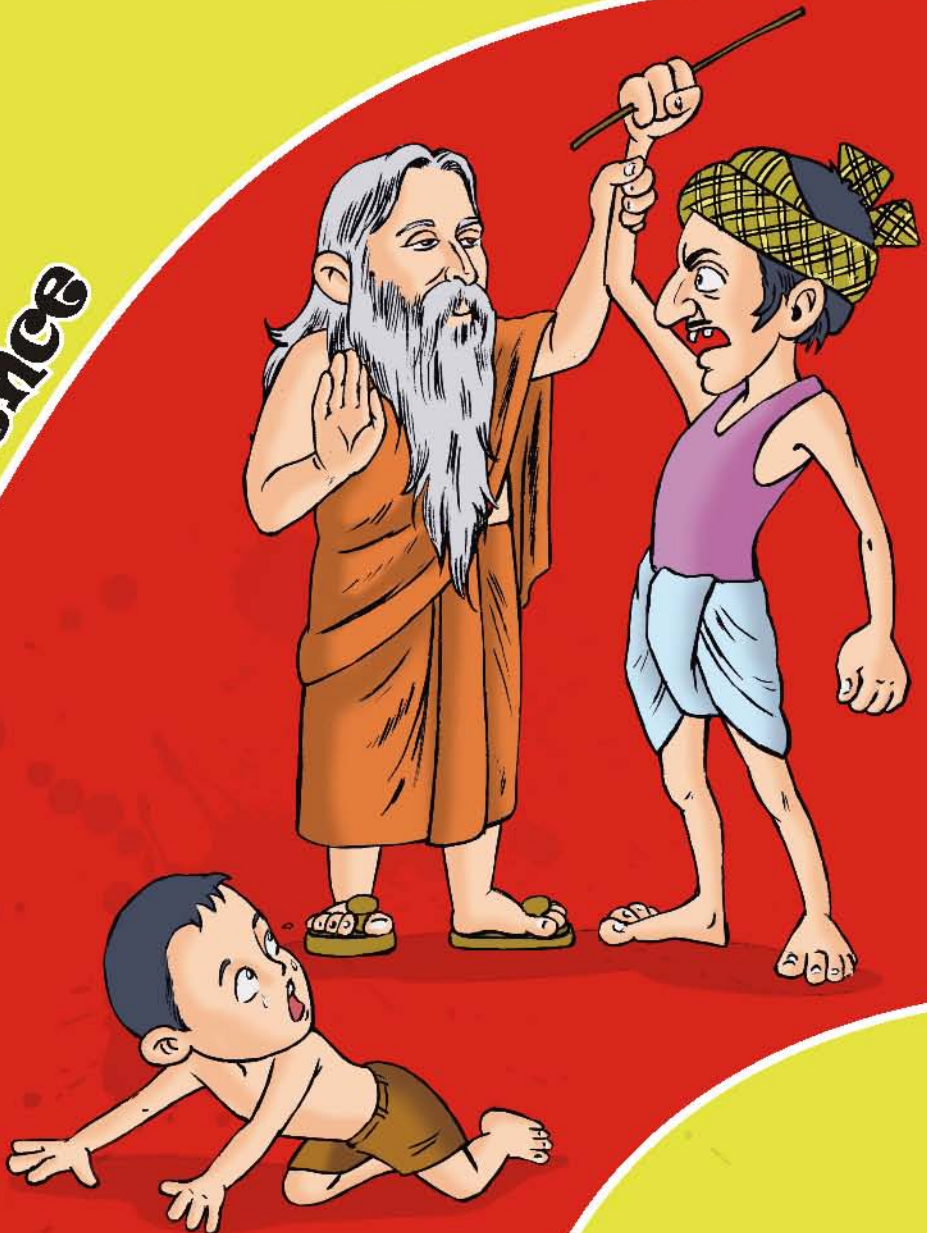
June 2011

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Dada Bhagwan Parivar's

# AKRAM Express

**Violence**





Friends,

'I shall give you one hot slap,' we must have used such words many a times with our siblings or friends. We might actually have hit them quite a few times too! Many a times we must have caught ants, bugs or cockroaches and harassed them or even killed them! Have you ever thought about how much suffering others must have endured when you harass them, hurt them, or kill them? If someone were to hit us, what would we feel? What right do we have to hurt others? Did you know that all those who have become Bhagwan, have treaded on the path of non-violence.

In this issue, Param Pujya Dadashri has revealed the answers to questions like, 'what is violence', 'why should one not be violent', 'what are the benefits of non-violence' and 'who has the right to kill.'

Generally, violence can occur by way of mind, speech and action, but in this issue we shall focus only on violence by action.

So come along, let us understand violence and non-violence and make progress on the path of non-violence.

- Dimple Mehta.

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## Violence

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name of 'Mahavideh Foundation'.

Dadaji  
Says...  
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The Kite  
Flying  
Festival  
2

Absolutely  
New And  
Different!  
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## Dadaji Says...

**Questioner:** What does violence mean? What would you consider as violence?

**Dadashri:** To kill living beings is violence. Eating meat is violence. When the other person feels hurt, that is called violence. So where there is violence, there is no such thing as religion. All these are living beings that are dying. When another living being is hurt, then that act is called violence. The word 'hurt (maar)' itself insinuates violence.

Let me logically explain to you, what right you have to kill. You have a right to destroy that which you can create. You have no right to kill that which you cannot create. You can make this chair and so you have the right to break it. You can make cups and saucers so you have the right to break them too. But you have no right to hurt that which you cannot create. If anyone in this world can even create a single bedbug by himself, then he has the right to kill it.

**Questioner:** But these mosquitoes harass us a lot.

**Dadashri:** If you want protection, use a mosquito net, use something else, try other solutions, but killing them is a sin.

**Questioner:** It is said that the consequence of eating meat is rebirth in hell.

**Dadashri:** That's absolutely right. Besides, there are many other things that can be eaten. Then why slaughter a goat? When the hen is slaughtered and eaten, does it not suffer pain? Won't its mother and father suffer the agony as well? How would you feel if your child was eaten? Eating meat for even one day numbs a person's mind, making the person brutish!! So if a person wants to maintain a healthy

mind, then he should stop eating eggs and stop eating meat.

**Questioner:** Please give us the guidelines to observe 'ahinsa' (non-violence).

**Dadashri:** First of all, do not hurt those being which feel afraid of you. Don't harass them. There is no problem with eating wheat, millet and rice. They do not feel afraid of us; they are in a state of unconsciousness. While these ants run away, so you should not kill them. You cannot even think of hurting those beings that move about. If you catch bedbugs, then they feel harassed. So do not kill them. Just as we feel pain,

other beings feel pain too.

Those who want to kill insects will get the circumstances to do so, and those who do wish to kill insects will get the circumstances not to do so. Therefore, if you observe non-violence instead of violence, you will never come across circumstances leading to violence. That's how this world is.

Thus, our actions should be such that no living being is hurt, be it animals or even small insects.

A person with the intent that, 'May no living being ever be hurt even to the slightest extent by my mind, speech or actions' is considered the most non-violent of all. So nurture this intent every morning.



# The Kite Flying Festival

It was Uttarayan, the day of the kite flying festival. Sahil's Uttarayan had actually begun a month ago but today his enthusiasm knew no bounds. Sahil had invited many of his school friends to celebrate the kite flying festival from the terrace at his home. By 8.00 o'clock the school gang had arrived. The neighbouring terraces were also brimming with children and youngsters. In no time at all, the sky was covered with colourful kites. The environment was filled with sounds of, "I've cut it! ... Oi, retract the string."

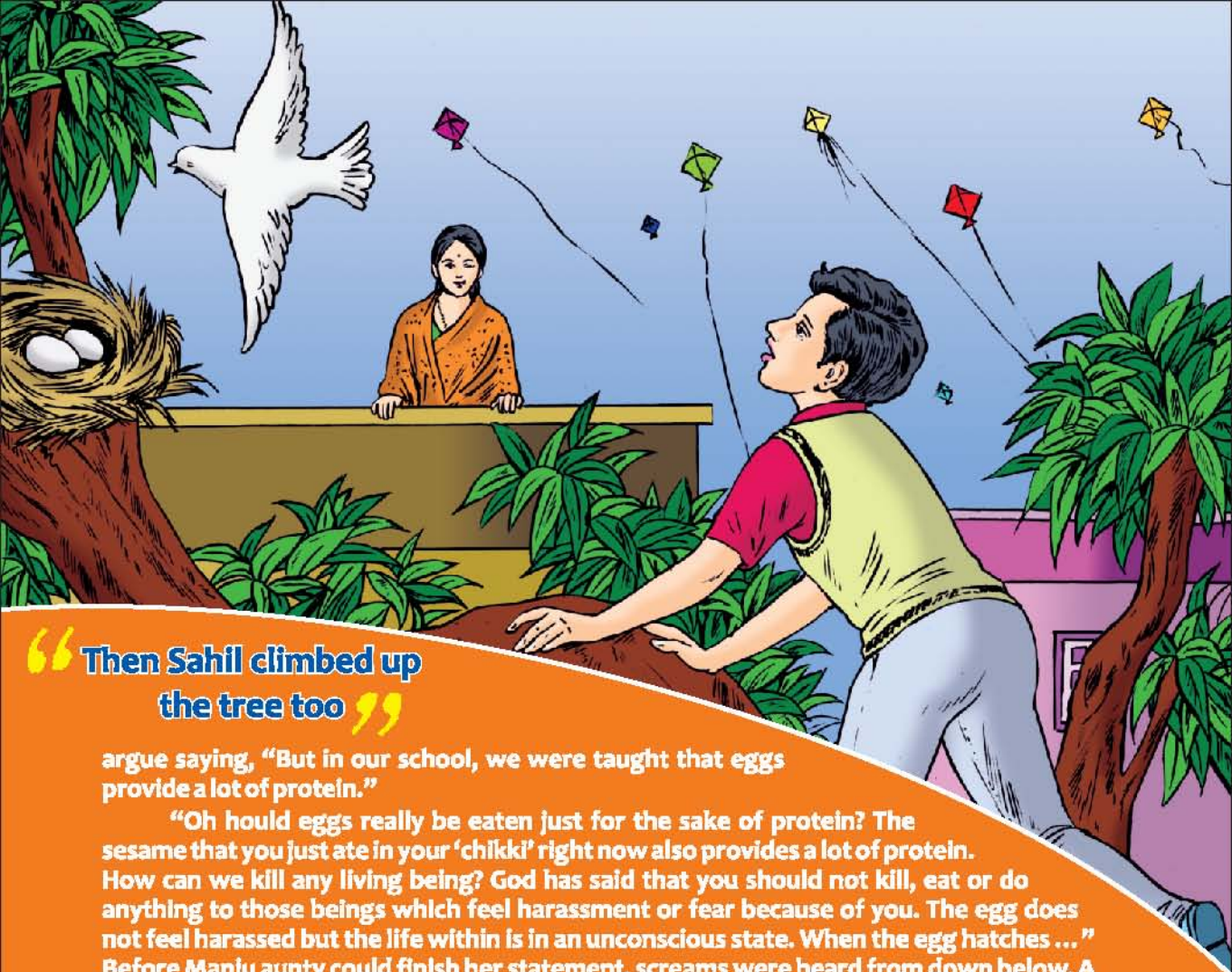
Songs played on a music system in one corner of the terrace. In another corner lay a pile of kites and heaps of tangled thread. Sahil's neighbour, Manju aunty sat in the shade and untangled the knots in the thread and bound them to the opposite corners of the kites. If the need arose she even helped by holding the reels of thread for the children. When the boys came to her for more kites they took along a piece of Manju aunty's home made 'sesame chikki' (a sweet snack) to munch on.

Thus, the day was being spent in fun and enjoyment. In the evening around 4:00 or 5:00 pm, Sahil's friend Tarang brought chocolates, cakes, chips and cold drinks from the nearby bakery. Sahil cut the cake into pieces and offered one to Manju aunty who asked, "But dear, this cake must have eggs. That baker doesn't make eggless cakes, does he?" Sahil replied with laughter and mischief, "Oh aunty, cakes only taste good when they are made with eggs. Eggs can be eaten because they don't have life. They are considered vegetarian." But when he saw Manju aunty's grave expression, the smile on Sahil's face vanished. Then Manju aunty solemnly explained, "Sahil, in this world nothing without life can be eaten. If there was no life in an egg then an egg would not be edible either. It would have been considered an object."

Sahil was able to digest the explanation, however, he continued to

**“ But dear, this cake must have eggs ”**





## “ Then Sahil climbed up the tree too ”

argue saying, “But in our school, we were taught that eggs provide a lot of protein.”

“Oh hould eggs really be eaten just for the sake of protein? The sesame that you just ate in your ‘chikki’ right now also provides a lot of protein. How can we kill any living being? God has said that you should not kill, eat or do anything to those beings which feel harassment or fear because of you. The egg does not feel harassed but the life within is in an unconscious state. When the egg hatches ...” Before Manju aunty could finish her statement, screams were heard from down below. A few people from the building had gathered underneath a dense tree. Seeing this Sahil and his friends ran down too. There they saw a bird in the tree which was entangled in thread from a kite. It attempted to fly away many times, but got all the more entangled. One of Sahil’s friends tried to free it but his efforts were futile.

Then Sahil climbed up the tree too. The bird was terribly frightened. Sahil’s heart was overwhelmed with emotion to see its’ fear. He started untangling the thread gently. Just then, his gaze fell on the bird’s nest. There was a small egg inside it. It seemed like the bird was desperate to reach out to its baby which lay within the nest. Finally, Sahil’s hard work paid off. He freed the bird from the tangled thread and everyone heaved a sigh of relief. The bird immediately flew to its’ egg. Seeing the bird’s struggle and its’ attachment for its egg, reminded Sahil of Manju aunty’s words. He now understood that the bird’s baby was living within the egg. How can a person kill another being for his own happiness? How can we punish others for the sake of our own enjoyment? Sahil’s interest in eating that cake with eggs had disappeared and his heart was filled with repentance.

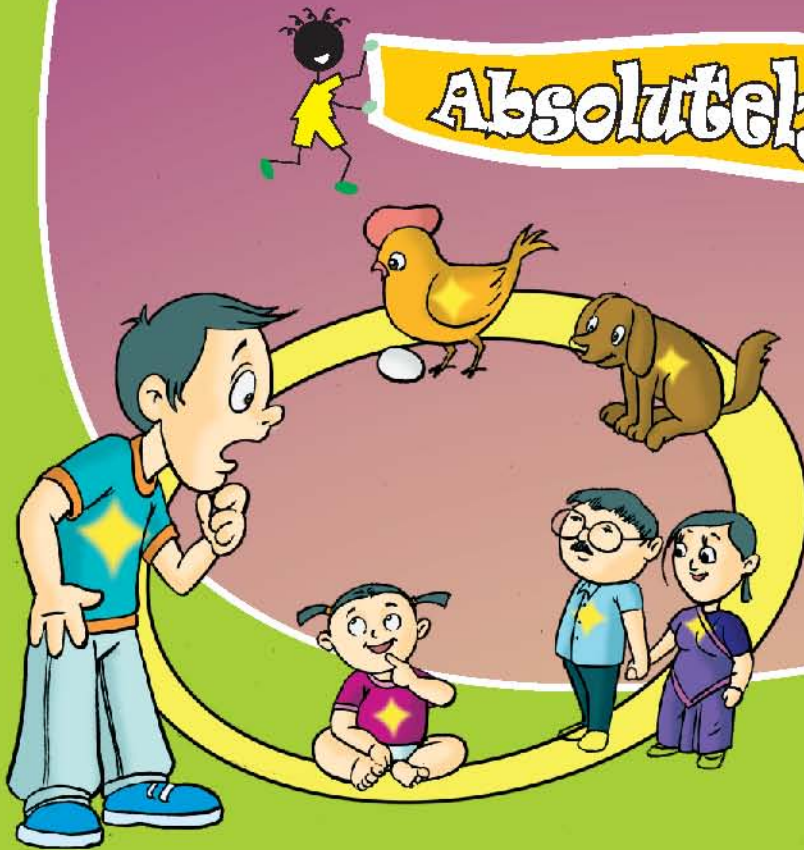
Manju aunty witnessed the entire incident from the terrace. Sahil and his friends once again went up to the terrace. The cake seemed to be awaiting them but Sahil and his friends attacked the box of ‘chikki’. Seeing this, Manju aunty’s face lit up with a smile and she said, “From today onwards, always remember that while you play be sure that no living being is being hurt! Be aware of this much.”

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# Absolutely New &



**G**od resides in every living being. Who will you kill? Who will you hurt? For example, harassing or hurting any human being, bird, animal or insect in any way is considered to be an act of violence.

**N**ow, the law of nature is such that, even if you throw out one lakh bedbugs from your house, but if seven are to bite you tonight, then nothing can stop them from biting you. Even if you kill all of them, seven bedbugs will bite you. Even if you throw them out of the house, seven will bite you. Even if you dispose off them far away, seven bedbugs will still bite you and even if you don't do anything at all, then seven will bite you.



4

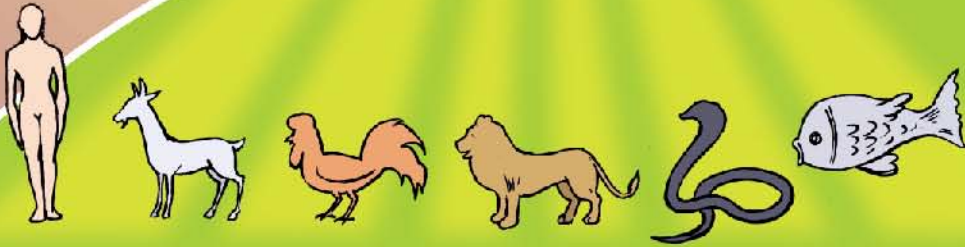
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June 2011

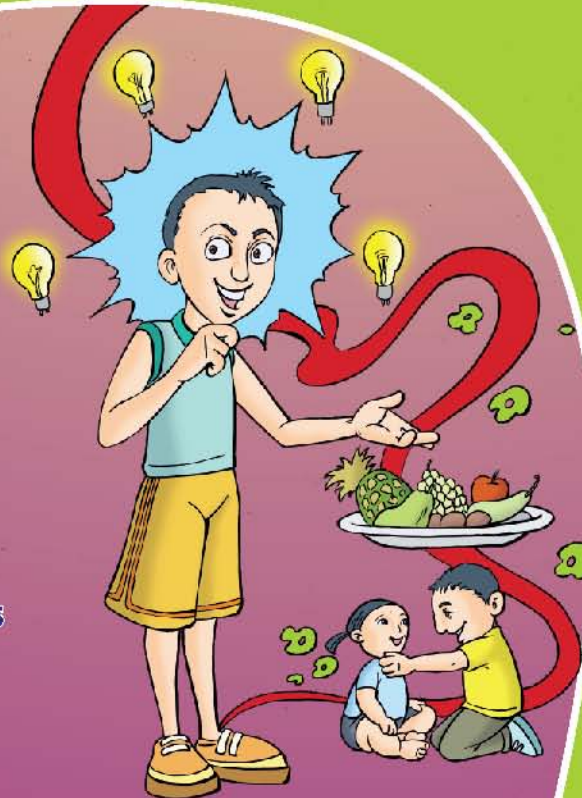
# Different



If a person achieves a state of absolute non-violence then he can become God.



When a person observes non-violence, their intellect develops phenomenally.



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# Sevagram Ashram



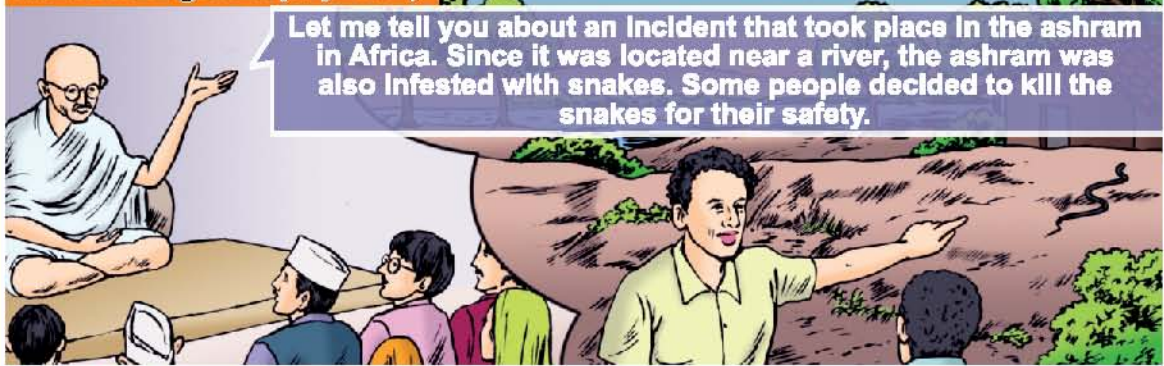
Bapu, the number of snakes around the ashram has been increasing. People have been saying that we should kill the snakes for our safety. Please guide us.



We shall discuss it this evening in the prayer hall.

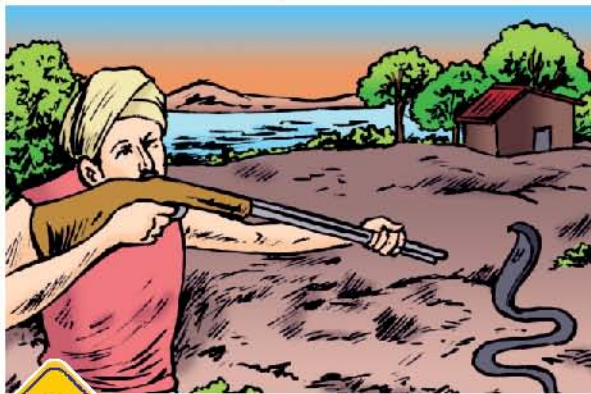


In the evening at the prayer hall,



Let me tell you about an incident that took place in the ashram in Africa. Since it was located near a river, the ashram was also infested with snakes. Some people decided to kill the snakes for their safety.

One day an Indian shot a snake and killed it. After a few days a European man residing in the same ashram saw a snake moving around in the premises.



His first instinct was to kill the snake but then he immediately remembered the principle of non-violence and calmed down. The snake then crawled up to him and slowly slithered out of the ashram.



See! Even violent animals calm down in the presence of a person who does not wish to kill or hurt anyone.

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Later one evening, everyone was praying in the prayer hall. Just then somebody from the crowd screamed in fear.



Everyone started running helter skelter in fright. An atmosphere of fright had spread through the hall.



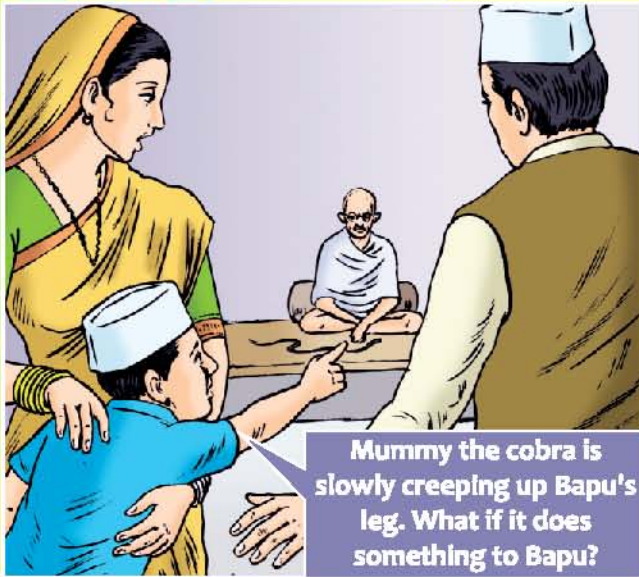
Don't be afraid and just stay wherever you are.



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Mummy the cobra is slowly creeping up Bapu's leg. What if it does something to Bapu?



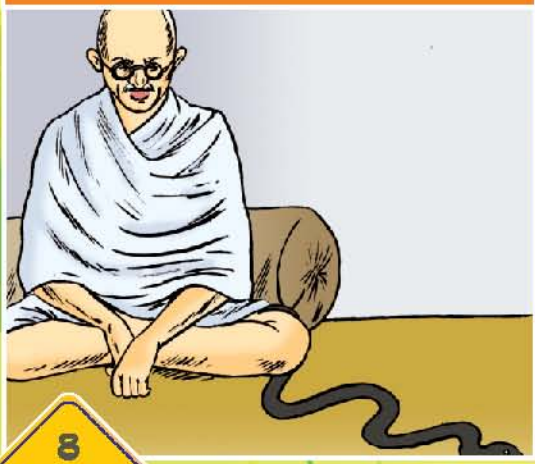
There was pin drop silence in the hall. None had the courage to move or utter a single word.



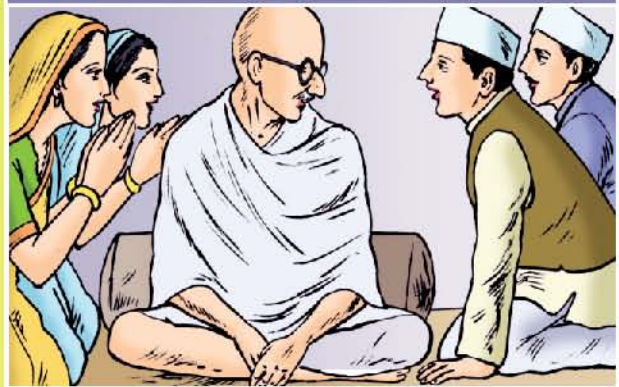
Ram, Ram, Ram ...

... Ram, Ram, Ram

After sometime the cobra slithered out of the hall without harming anybody.



Everyone happily gathered around Bapu.



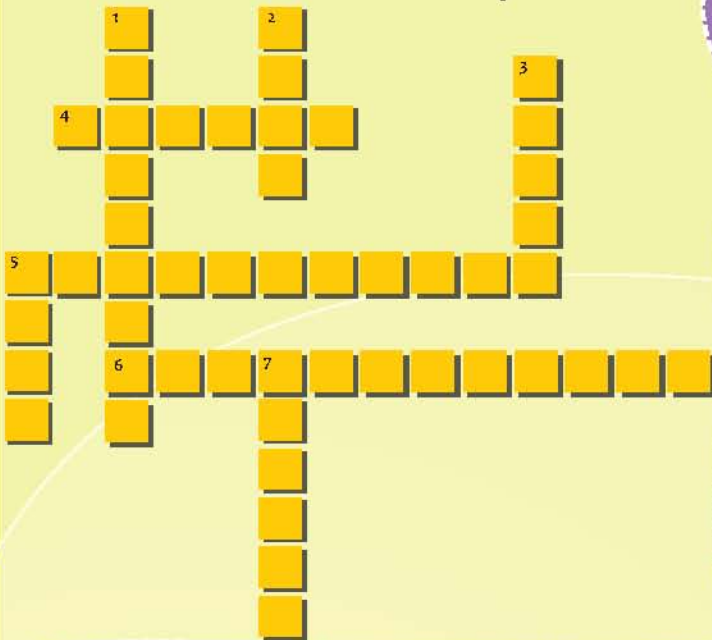
"Gandhiji had never killed a snake and to date no snake has ever bitten anybody in any of his ashrams."

So friends, do you see the power of non – violence?

# Introspect yourself!



Using the understanding provided in this issue, fill in the cross word puzzle.



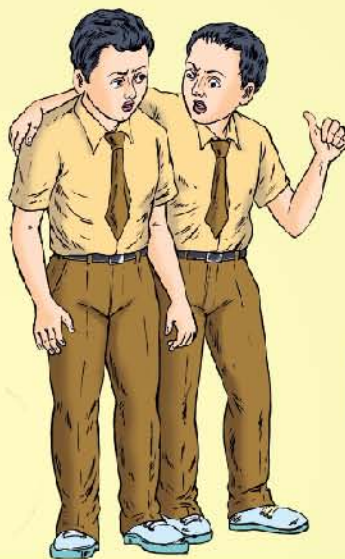
## Vertical

- 1) As a result of violence, terrible \_\_\_\_\_ is bound. (9)
- 2) Eating meat just once, numbs a person's \_\_\_\_\_. (4)
- 3) Keeping the house \_\_\_\_\_ prevents the breeding of pests and rodents in the house. (5)
- 5) If there are ants, mosquitoes, pests and rodents in the house, then \_\_\_\_\_ to the pure soul within them saying, "I don't want to hurt you. Please leave from here." (4)
- 7) You have no right to kill that which you cannot \_\_\_\_\_. (5)

## Horizontal

- 4) The word 'hurt' (maar) itself insinuates the \_\_\_\_\_ of violence. (6)
- 5) Do \_\_\_\_\_ for the violence committed in the past. (11)
- 6) If you decide to observe non-violence instead of violence, then you will never come across the \_\_\_\_\_ leading to violence. (13)

## My Understanding



A student in Pankhil's class used to tease him regularly. Many a times Pankhil felt like teaching him a good lesson but he did not have the heart to hurt anybody. One day his friend, Vishal provoked him saying, "If I were in your shoes, I would have hit him long ago and showed him his place."

What should Pankhil do in such a situation?

Answers: Vertical-1) Vengeance 2) Mind 3) Clean 5) Pray 7) Create Horizontal-4) Intent 5) Practitioner 6) Circumstances

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# Mythological Stories

In a previous issue, we read about Kamath who bound strong vengeance with Marubhuti after being insulted. This vengeance lasted for ten consecutive incarnations. In every birth Kamath's incarnation would kill Marubhuti's incarnation. In this way, in the tenth reincarnation Marubhuti's was reborn as Lord Parshvanath and Kamath was reborn as an ascetic. Seeing everyone crowding around Kamath, Parshvakumar also went close to him. Now, read on...

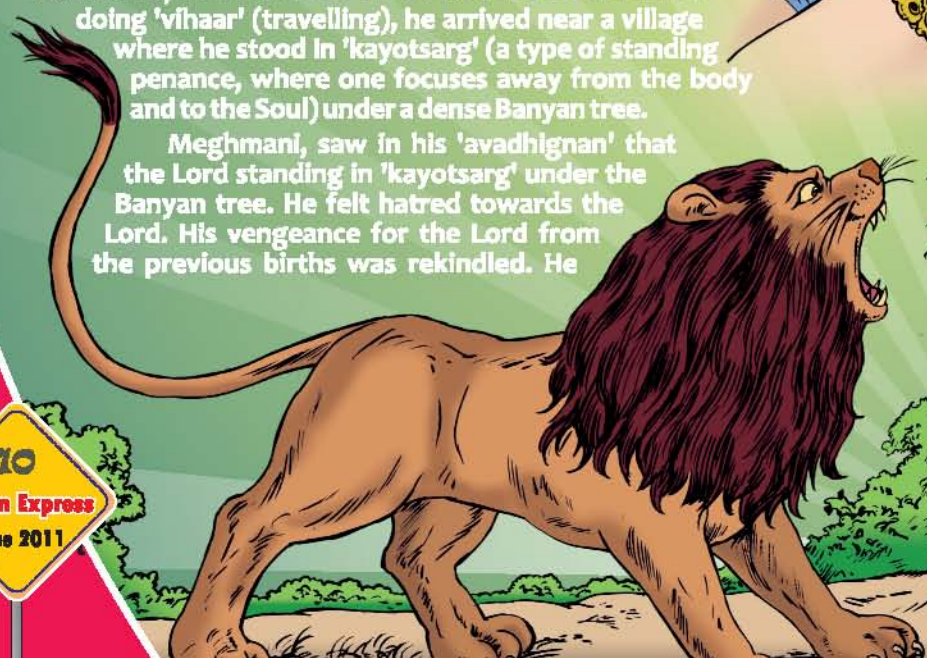
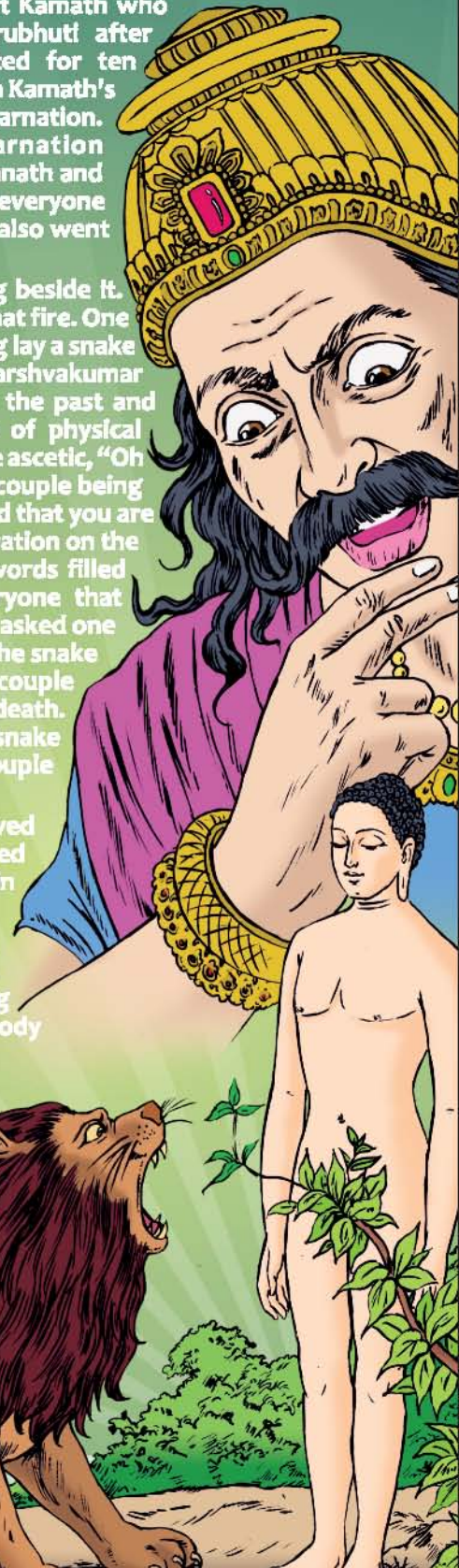
Kamath had lit a big fire and was sitting beside it. There were many pieces of wood burning in that fire. One large log was only slightly burnt. Within that log lay a snake couple who were about to be incinerated. Parshvakumar realized this in his 'avadhignan' (Knowledge of the past and future nature of things within the limitations of physical elements - space, time and feeling) and said to the ascetic, "Oh ascetic! You are completely unaware of a snake couple being incinerated within a log amongst the pile of wood that you are burning for your penance. How can one attain salvation on the basis of such ignorant penance?" Hearing these words filled Kamath with fury and he tried to convince everyone that Parshvakumar's allegation was false. Parshvanakumar asked one of his servants to pull out from the fire, the log with the snake couple. Then splitting it open he removed the snake couple from within but the pair was already on the verge of death.

Parshvakumar chanted the 'navkaar mantra' to the snake couple and elevated their next incarnation. The snake couple was reborn as Dharnendra Dev and Padmavati Devi.

Kamath felt shocked and deeply insulted to be proved ignorant and a liar in front of his own followers. He performed severe penance for the rest of his life, died and was reborn in the celestial world as Meghmani Dev.

Meanwhile, Parshvakumar renounced the world. While doing 'vihaar' (travelling), he arrived near a village where he stood in 'kayotsarg' (a type of standing penance, where one focuses away from the body and to the Soul) under a dense Banyan tree.

Meghmani, saw in his 'avadhignan' that the Lord standing in 'kayotsarg' under the Banyan tree. He felt hatred towards the Lord. His vengeance for the Lord from the previous births was rekindled. He



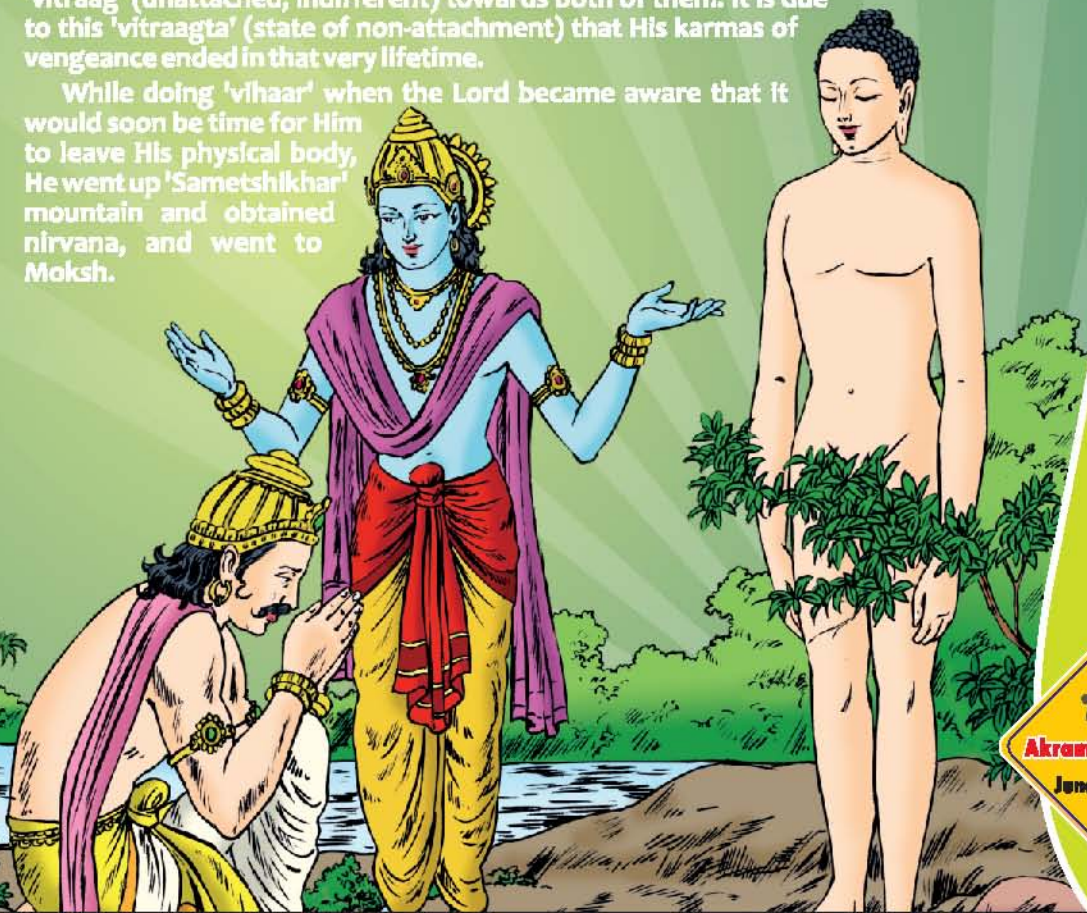
went to the Lord and took various different small and large forms such as an elephant, a lion etc and inflicted horrendous pain on the Lord to the best of his ability. But the Lord was not fazed at all. When all his attempts failed, then Meghmani poured heavy lashes of rain on the Lord with thunder and lightning. The harassment of the downpour was so severe that it brought the untimely death of birds and animals. Nevertheless, the Lord stood undeterred. Ultimately, the water level rose so high that it reached the Lord's earlobes and it further increased to the tip of his nose, yet the Lord remained unmoved.

Meanwhile, Dharmendra Dev, the incarnation of the snake that the Lord had pulled out from the fire, saw in his 'avadhignan' that Meghmani was tormenting the Lord. Dharmendra Dev arrived there and bowed to the Lord. He created a golden lotus underneath the Lord's feet and lifted the lotus high up. Padmavati Devi sheltered the Lord from above with a seven-headed snake hood. Then Dharmendra Dev said to Meghmani, "Oh evil one! What are you doing? When you were burning snakes along with the wood, this very Lord saved you from committing a sin. Instead of acknowledging His obligation, do you even know what you are doing towards the Lord out of vengeance? Is this your way of repaying His obligation! If you want to be spared from suffering, ask the Lord's forgiveness and take His refuge."

Meghmani listened to Dharmendra's Dev. He understood his mistake. Meghmani realized that although the Lord had such strength that if He wished He could smash mountains with just one blow of His fist, He did not react with anger or hatred towards Meghmani. Meghmani immediately withdrew his evil spell and bowed down to the Lord and asked for forgiveness.

The Lord was still in deep meditation. Dharmendra Dev protected the Lord from torrential rains, yet He did not have any attachment towards Dharmendra Dev, nor did He have any abhorrence for Meghmani who had tormented Him so much. The Lord remained 'vitraag' (unattached, indifferent) towards both of them. It is due to this 'vitraagta' (state of non-attachment) that His karmas of vengeance ended in that very lifetime.

While doing 'vihaar' when the Lord became aware that it would soon be time for Him to leave His physical body, He went up 'Sametshikhar' mountain and obtained nirvana, and went to Moksh.





# Sweet Memories

This is about an incident that took place in the year 1991. A young man who was just 20 years old had recently taken gnan. He started attending satsang regularly and had the intent to follow celibacy. His family members decided to go abroad on a trip. They all decided to visit Hong-Kong, Singapore, Bangkok, Pataya and a few other places. Having taken gnan, this youngster was not keen on travelling but he agreed to go due to the insistence of his family members.

Once the decision was taken, he went to Niruma to tell her that, "Niruma, I am going abroad on a trip." This left another lady in a quandary, wondering that, 'he has recently taken gnan and is sincerely observing celibacy. Now in these circumstances if he goes abroad, it will affect his celibacy.' So she said to Niruma, "Niruma, think twice before granting him permission."

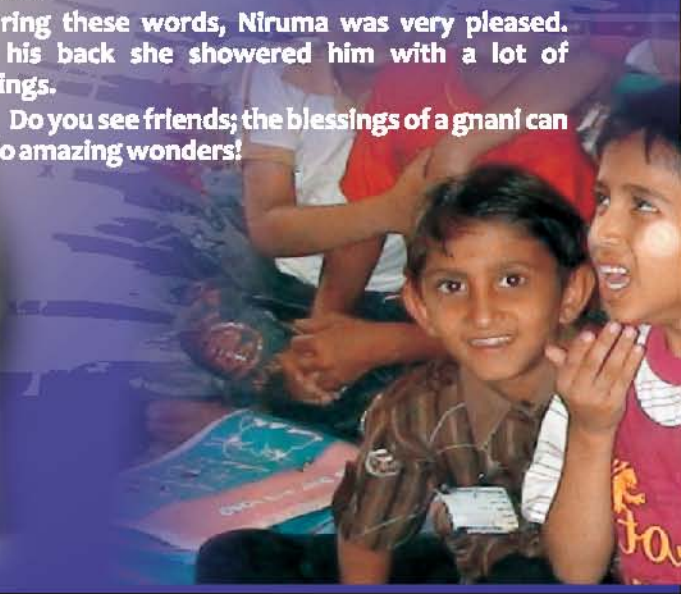
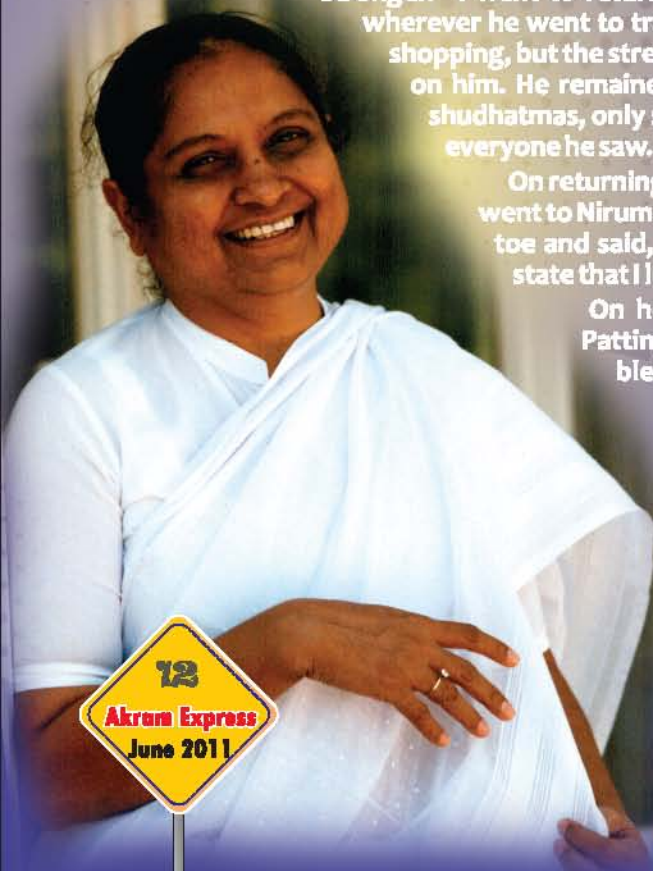
This youngster was deeply attached to Niruma. He bowed down to Niruma and asked, "Niruma, I am going only for a few days. What should I bring back for you? I shall bring whatever you ask for." Upon hearing these words, Niruma just kept looking at him without uttering a single word. The youngster asked Niruma five to six times but Niruma did not ask for anything. Then after a while she smiled sweetly at him and said, "Come back in exactly the same state that you are leaving in." The youngster again bowed down to Niruma touching her feet and said, "Niruma, these are the very blessings I wanted from you."

Then he visited Singapore, Hong-Kong and a lot of other places. The atmosphere in all these places was full of materialistic pleasures. The circumstances were such that one would easily succumb to the material pleasures but he kept recalling Niruma's words, 'Come back in exactly the same state that you are leaving in'. This made his resolution that, "I do not want to get trapped in any attachment or materialistic pleasure over here," even stronger. "I want to return in the same state that I have come in." Thus, wherever he went to travel, whether he went to a beach or to do some shopping, but the strength of these attractions did not have any impact on him. He remained unattached wherever he went. He could see shudhatmas, only shudhatmas everywhere. He could see Niruma in everyone he saw.

On returning to India, the very next morning the first thing he went to Niruma and bow down at her feet placing his head at her toe and said, "Niruma, I have come back in exactly the same state that I left in."

On hearing these words, Niruma was very pleased. Patting his back she showered him with a lot of blessings.

Do you see friends; the blessings of a gnan can do amazing wonders!



# Niruma With Kids



**Q**uestioner: My brother and I quarrel a lot and then he hits me. This angers me and I even start to cry. What should I do?

**Niruma:** What do you quarrel about?

**Questioner:** My brother had to go for tuitions. I like the same bag that he likes too. We both wanted to take the same bag, and what's more, mummy asked me to take another bag. I refused to give him the bag so he got upset and hit me. I sulked. Finally, pappa said that, "It doesn't matter; for today you take this bag then later I will get you another bag just like this one."

**Niruma:** So should we really have so much attachment? I want this bag and I want that bag. Ultimately we are just going to put books in it, right! Because you were adamant, then this was bound to happen. Don't be adamant. One should be flexible enough to be steered as needed. If you do as you are told, then these quarrels will not happen.

**Questioner:** Yes.

**Niruma:** And is this really such a big matter? Whether you take this bag or another bag, its all one and the same.

**Questioner:** But the agreement between us in the first place was that, mummy had purchased this bag for me, then my brother said that, "I will give you my bag, and then you give me your bag." I had agreed to this. Now, my brother says that, "From now on, this bag is mine. I will

not give it to you." Then later... so every time I want the bag, this is what happens.

**Niruma:** Oh dear! You should say, "Here, take my bag and take your bag as well and take me to your tuitions too." From now onwards don't quarrel like this. Now, do you do 'pratikramans' for your brother or not?

**Questioner:** No, I don't know how to do 'pratikraman'. So I told my mummy that, "I am not even comfortable doing pratikramans" and she said that I should ask Niruma.

**Niruma:** Your brother is elder than you, right! So, you should not quarrel with him. Immediately, after a quarrel, you should say 'sorry' and ask for forgiveness saying, "Dear Shudhatma Bhagwan! I ask for your forgiveness."

**Questioner:** But I feel that if he is at fault, why should I ask for forgiveness?

**Niruma:** While doing pratikraman you should not see anyone's faults. It is 100% my fault, with this in mind, you can progress further. It is I who suffers so the fault is always of the sufferer. So if we do pratikramans then we will not have to suffer again. Then we are home free.

**Questioner:** But the fault is his, isn't it.

**Niruma:** If it is his fault, then he will suffer. He will do the 'pratikraman' for it. We have to do our 'pratikraman' for our suffering. One should not seek justice or injustice or try to evaluate who is at fault. Since I had to suffer, I was the one who quarreled and I hurt others, then I should do 'pratikraman'.



13

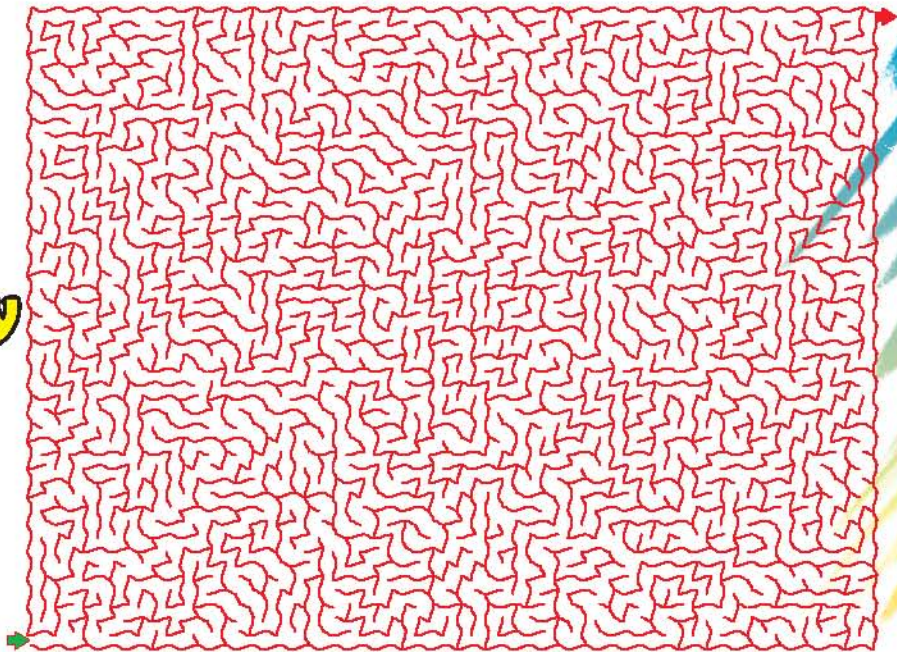
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# Let's Play...

## 1

Find  
a way  
out

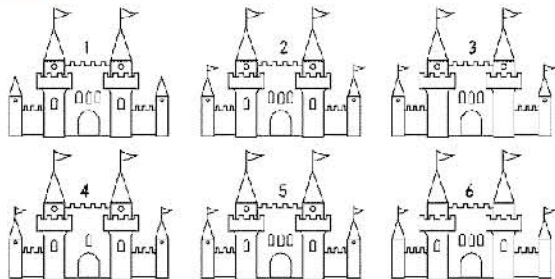


## 2



## 3

From the pictures below find any  
two identical pictures.



From the picture below find the total  
number of cup-saucer pairs.



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# Creative Writing Competition

Friends,

Congratulations to all the participants of the creative writing competition. We have received wonderful stories. The winners will have their prizes delivered at home. We hope that you will continue to participate in every competition like this. The winning stories have been displayed here.

All the animals came to find out how the sick elephant was feeling...

**7 to 9 Year  
First Prize**

**Mr. Fatty's Fast**

One day in a Greenland forest Mr. Jumpy, the Monkey and Mr. Spotty, the Giraffe came on the bank of the river to drink water. There they met Mr. Fatty, the Elephant who also came to drink water.

To have fun, Mr. Jumpy and Mr. Spotty started teasing Mr. Fatty saying that because of this elephant we did not get sufficient water to drink and food to eat. On hearing this remark, Mr. Fatty got hurt but he kept silence and went away. From that day he stopped drinking water and eating food. Day by Day he became weaker and fell sick. Mr. Lio, the king of Greenland heard about Mr. Fatty's fast and called up all the animals and said that everybody lives and eats according to his own nature. We should not hurt anybody. Mr. Jumpy and Mr. Spotty realized their mistake. All the animals came to find out how the sick elephant was feeling. Mr. Jumpy and Mr. Spotty wholeheartedly requested Mr. Fatty to forgive them and break the fast. After that all the animals lived together happily in Greenland.

**Moral – Words are like weapons, so we must be cautious while using it.**

Name - Anurag Abhilash Munot.  
Age - 7 Years, Ahmednagar 414001

When I opened my eyes,  
I found myself  
in the land of the fairies...

**7 to 9 Year  
Second Prize**

**My Dream**

બાળમિત્રો, ઉનાળાનું વેકેશન તો શરૂ થઈ ગયું. બરાબરને ! હવે રમવા ફરવા જવાની તમને બધાને ખૂબ મજા આવશે. મારે પણ વેકેશન પડ્યું એટલે મારી કેન્ડ મારી ઘેર રોકાવા આવી. અમે ખૂબ જ રમ્યા. અને અમે ફરવા પણ ગયા હતા. રાત્રે જમી અને વાર્તાની બુક વાંચી સૂઈ ગયા. અને મને સપનું આવ્યું.

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સપનામાં મેં આંખ ખોલી તો હું પરીઓના દેશમાં હતી.

હું સરસ મજાના મહેલમાં ફરવા લાગી. ત્યાં થોડી પરીઓ આવી મારી સાથે રમવા લાગી. તે મને જોઈને ખૂબ જ ખુશ થતી હતી. તે મારો હાથ પકડીને તેના સુંદર બગીચામાં લઈ ગઈ. ત્યાં રંગબેરંગી ફૂલો હતા. ત્યાં ઝાડ પે બાંધેલો ગુલો હતો. ત્યાં અમે હીંચકા ખાધા. અને અમે બધા ખૂબ જ હસતા હતા. ત્યાં અવનવા પક્ષીઓ પણ હતા. રંગબેરંગી ચકલીઓ થી... થી... કરી આખા બગીચાની શોભા વધારતી હતી. ખૂબ જ સરસ દ્રશ્ય ચાલી રહ્યું હતું.

ત્યાં મારા મમ્મીએ દરવાજો ખોલ્યો અને અવાજથી મારી નીંદર ભીડી ગઈ. અને હું જાગી ગઈ. ત્યાં જ મારું સ્વપ્ન પૂરું થઈ ગયું. “વાહ! આ સ્વપ્ન તો કેટલું સુંદર હતું. આ સ્વપ્ન તો મને ક્યારેય નહીં ભૂલાય.”



Name: - Arpita Manishbhai Lathigara  
Age: - 9 year, Rajkot

After that, Petu the frog left his habit of eating more than necessary...

10 to 12 Year  
First Prize

The Last Laugh

It was a gloomy afternoon, but we were enjoying playing a soccer match in school. It had rained like cats and dogs the previous night and our pitch was water logged.

I lobbed the ball over my marker and my team-mate Preet took possession. He was dribbling the ball and in a split second – “splosh”, “thud”! The next thing I saw was Preet had landed face first in a mucky puddle as he had been slide tackled by Anuj.

I dashed towards him, but when I saw him getting up, I stopped dead in my tracks. His upper body was dripping with mud and even his face was covered with it. He looked like an ugly, chocolatey brown monster! It was such an amusing site that I burst out laughing... and my stomach was hurting because of laughing so much.

After a few days, my friend Suraj came up to me and informed me that he had seen a huge frog in the school swimming pool. As I was curious to see the frog, I rushed towards the pool area. In my excitement, I tripped over a hose pipe and plunged into the pool with my school uniform still on.

In a flash I recollected the incident when Preet had landed in the puddle. I realized that such mishaps could happen to anybody and I should have really been more considerate and should have gone to assist him instead of mocking him.

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Name: Rushil B Malde  
Age: 10 Years, Nairobi



## 10 to 12 Year Second Prize

After that, Petu the frog  
left his habit of eating more  
than necessary...

એક કૂવામાં એક દેડકો હતો. તે બધા જ દેડકાઓથી તંદુરસ્ત અને ચૂસ્ત હતો. કોઈ પણ તેને પૂછે કે તે આટલો તંદુરસ્ત અને ચૂસ્ત કેમ છે તો તે બધાને એમ કહેતો કે હું તો ખૂબ ખાઉં છું. એટલે મને જૂઓ હું કેટલો તંદુરસ્ત છું. તે બધાને વધુ ખાવાની સલાહ આપતો. દિવસે દિવસે તેનું પેટ કૂલાતુ ગયું અને બધા જ તેમને પેટુ દેડકો કહીને બોલાવવા લાગ્યા. તેને તે ગમતુ ન હતું. પણ તે ખાધા વગર રહી શકતો નહીં. તેણે ઘણા પ્રયત્નો કર્યા પણ છતાં તેની વધુ ખાવાની આદત છૂટી નહીં. હવે તો તે વધુ કૂદી પણ શકતો નહીં. એક વખત ઉનાળાના સમયમાં ખૂબ તાપ પળવાથી કૂવાનું પાણી સૂકાઈ ગયું અને કૂવામાં પાણી સૂકાઈ જવાથી બધા જ દેડકાઓ આ કૂવામાંથી બહાર નીકળી તળાવના પાણીમાં ચાલ્યા ગયા. પેટું તો કૂદી પણ નહોતો શકતો વળી તે વધુ ખાવાથી બિમાર પડી ગયો. તેને ખૂબ મુશ્કેલી પડી. ત્યાર પછી પેટુ દેડકાએ જરૂર કરતા વધારે ખાવાની ટેવ છોડી દીધી. અને હવે તો તેને વધુ ખોરાક પણ નહોતો મળતો ત્યાર પછી સમય વિતતો ગયો અને ચોમાસું આવ્યું અને વરસાદના કારણે કૂવો પાણીથી ભરાઈ ગયો બીજા બધા જ દેડકાઓ જે તળાવમાં ગયા હતા તે કૂવામાં પાછા આવ્યા. અને તેઓએ જોયું કે પેટું હવે ચૂસ્ત અને તંદુરસ્ત તો છે પણ હવે તે વધુ ખાતો નથી. તેને સાજો થયેલો જોઈ બધા દેડકાઓ પણ ખુશ થઈ ગયા. અને પેટુ દેડકાને પણ સમજાઈ ગયું કે જરૂરથી વધુ કોઈ પણ ચીજ કરવી નહીં.

જોયું મિત્રો જરૂરથી વધુ કરવાનું શું પરિણામ આવે છે !



Name:- Nirav R. Tanti  
Age:- 11, Rajkot

Seeing the King worried,  
the queen planned a trick...

## 13 to 15 Year First Prize

Good Company Or Bad Company?

Once there was a happy royal family in the small island of Null. The king and queen were loved by all their subjects... How happy they were... They had one and only son, who was a genius. He too was a man of determination. But trouble aroused when their son, Prince Ram got into a bad friendship. His parents tried to turn him many times but their effort was in vein. The prince would reply "Actually, I don't want their company but I can't leave it." Being their only son, the parents did not force him much... Seeing the king worried, the queen planned a trick... She asked the king to make the prince come to the durbar the next day. She also told her plan, which hoping to work fine, the king agreed. On the other hand the spoilt prince had started intake of wine and addiction to opium. It was so hard for the king to digest that his beloved hope of the kingdom was crashing. His worthless friends were also the same and were making innocent Ram worse. He also spent less time on his subjects of royal work... The next day, the prince got ready to go to the durbar. But when he reached to the durbar, he saw a great disorder. His father, the king stood clinging hugged to a pillar! He had hugged the pillar and kept clinging to it! When prince Ram asked the

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reason of this strange conduct, his father replied that "I DON'T WANT TO CLING THIS PILLAR BUT IT DOES NOT LET ME GO!" Just according to the plan, the queen interepted saying "How can the pillar hold and keep you hugged?" "Yes" remarked the prince. Then both, the king and the queen looked at young prince Ram in utmost amazement. He got his message. He told his parents that he did understand... Slowly but surely he did improve. He turned out to be a new leaf. He soon ascended the throne and was loved by all his subjects. He was just ruler and was proud to have such parents.

Name : Sanchit Virani  
 Rajkot



13 to 15 year  
 Second Prize

Seeing the King worried, the queen  
 planned a trick...

એક હતુ નગર. ધનનંદ તેનો રાજા. ખૂબ મોટું તેનું રાજ્ય. અને એવો જ મોટો તેનો ખજાનો. એક વાર તેના ખજાનામાં ચોરી થઈ. ચોર દરબારનો જ કોઈક માણસ હતો. પણ પકડાતો ન હતો. તેથી રાજાને ખૂબ ચિંતા થવા લાગી. રાજાને ચિંતામાં જોઈને રાણીએ એક યુક્તિ ઘડી. તેમણે દરબારમાં જાહેર કર્યું કે, "મેં એક મહાત્માને ચોર વિશે પુછ્યું હતું. તેમણે જણાવ્યું હતું કે આવતા સાત દિવસમાં ચોરને માથે એક કાગડો બેસશે. સિપાઈઓ નગરમાં ફરશે અને તેને પકડી લેશે." પેલો ચોર ગભરાયો. તે વિચારવા લાગ્યો. માથે કાગડો બેસશે તો પકડાઈ જઈશ! બીજે દિવસે પેલો ચોર બહાર નીકળ્યો. તેણે એક હાથમાં લાકડી રાખી હતી. જેથી કાગડો માથે બેસવા આવે તો ઉડાડી શકાય. રાજાના સિપાઈઓએ આ જોયું તેઓ ચોરને પકડીને રાજા પાસે લઈ ગયા. રાજાએ તેને ધમકાવીને કહ્યું, "બોલ તે જ ચોરી કરી છે ને...?" ચોરે ચોરી કબૂલ કરી. અને ધૂપાવેલું ધન રાજાને બતાવ્યું. બીધ :- કોઈ ખરાબ કાર્ય કરીએ તો આપણને સતત તેનો ડર રહ્યા કરે છે. અને ડરને કારણે આપણે એક દિવસ ચોક્કસ પકડાઈ જઈએ છીએ.

Name:- Kavita Ashvinbhai Pujara  
 Age:- 15 Year, Rajkot



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