

February 2012

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Dada Bhagwan Parivar's

AKRAM Express

"I'll see you"



The redemption of vengeance

Editorial

Friends,

Every living being likes happiness. No one likes sorrow. Therefore, if we hurt someone knowingly or unknowingly then although that person may not say anything verbally but internally he binds vengeance. Then, in next birth, he redeems that vengeance by hurting us. That is why, Param Pujya Dadaji persistently warns us not to hurt anyone.

Param Pujya Dadashri has provided the understanding to questions such as, "How is revenge bound? What are its consequences? How do we become free from it?" etc. in this issue.

So let's read this issue and apologize to whoever we have hurt and thus free ourselves from vengeance.

-Dimple Mehta

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Akram Express

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name of 'Mahavideh Foundation'.

Dadaji says...



Dadashri: If one even slightly instigates someone, knowingly or unknowingly, then that person may resolve to take revenge. He may resolve, "I will finish this person!" If one harasses any living being then that being binds vengeance, and one gets the fruit of that vengeance in the next birth!!!! The fruit is such that one's entire life becomes miserable.

Therefore, we should not oppress anyone. Even if someone is troubling you, you should stop troubling that person in return, if you want to become free from vengeance. The seed of vengeance is sown the moment one gets into a conflict. Vengeance is bound for the conflicts that happened in the past, and today that vengeance is being repaid in the form of conflicts.

One should never scorn even the most menial of people e.g. labourers. Scorn hurts the persons' ego, and one can bind intense vengeance! If vengeance is bound against a person, then it can ruin seven lifetimes. The person will say, "I do not want to go to Moksh, but I will also make sure that you also cannot go!"

Questioner: Does one take revenge because he was hurt?

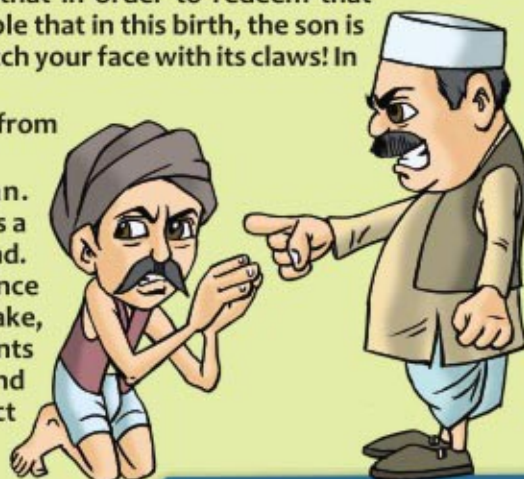
Dadashri: He has a reason for taking revenge. He is redeeming the pain you caused him in the past. When he has too many clashes with someone, then he takes offense. He resolves, "When I get an opportunity, I will crush him." He cannot refrain from taking offense! Every living being takes offense. Then, he ruins us in the next life. You know, he may even become a snake and bite you!

Questioner: If we have bound vengeance with someone in our past life, then do we have to come together in another lifetime in order to redeem that vengeance?

Dadashri: No, it is not like that. The moment one binds vengeance, one feels attachment and abhorrence from within. For example, in the previous birth if you have bound vengeance with your son, then it is not necessary that in order to redeem that vengeance, you have to be born as the son. It's possible that in this birth, the son is reborn as a cat, and when you offer it milk, it will scratch your face with its claws! In this way, your vengeance is settled.

Questioner: What should one do to become free from vengeance?

Dadashri: That's why we do pratikraman. Pratikraman is not solely a key to salvation, rather it is a phone call to God to stop vengeance from being bound. If one falls behind in doing pratikraman, then vengeance is bound. Therefore, as soon as you realize your mistake, you should immediately do pratikraman. This prevents the binding of revenge. Even if a person wants to bind vengeance, he cannot; because we are making a direct phone call to that persons' soul.



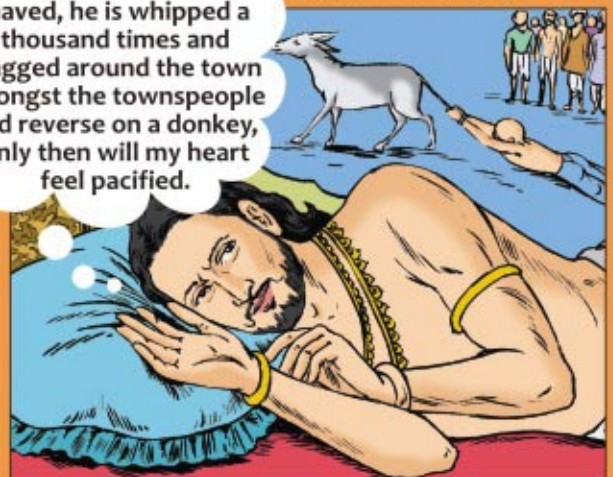
Vengeance does not subside with vengeance

In order to redeem the vengeance of many years held against Mewapur's King Sumant; King Balraj of Rajgadh attacked Mewapur. He imprisoned Sumant and his family and destroyed Mewapur.



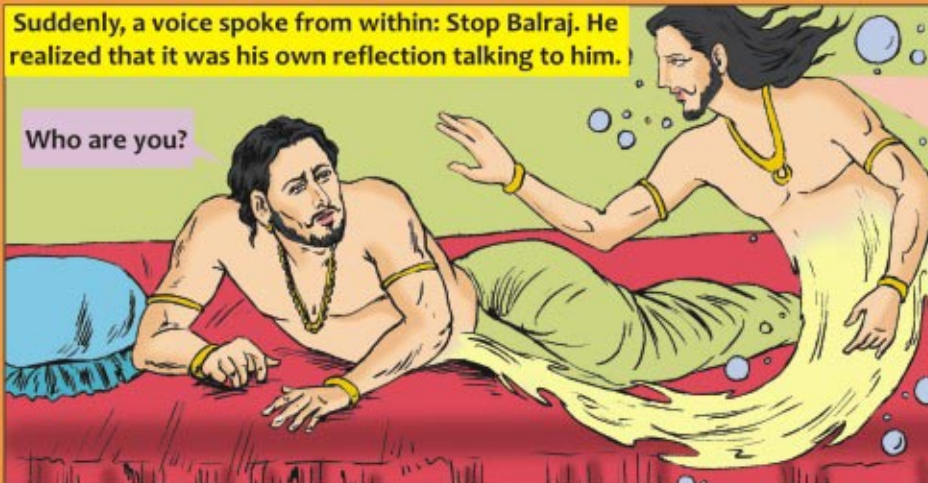
What punishment should I give Sumant? The punishment should be so severe that every child in Mewapur would tremble upon hearing the name of Balraj.

When his head is shaved, he is whipped a thousand times and dragged around the town amongst the townspeople tied reverse on a donkey, only then will my heart feel pacified.

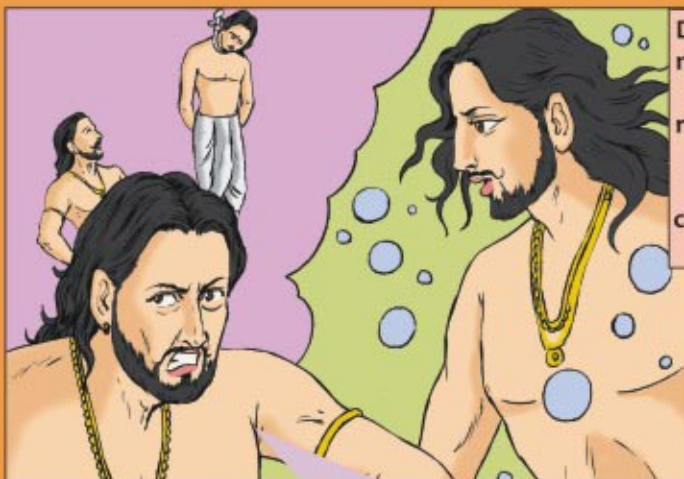


Suddenly, a voice spoke from within: Stop Balraj. He realized that it was his own reflection talking to him.

Who are you?

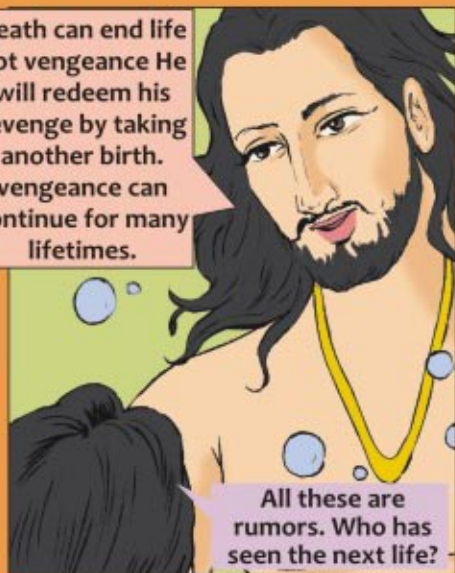


I am your good intellect. Do you feel that by doing such a thing your vengeance will end? Will Sumant not want to retaliate?

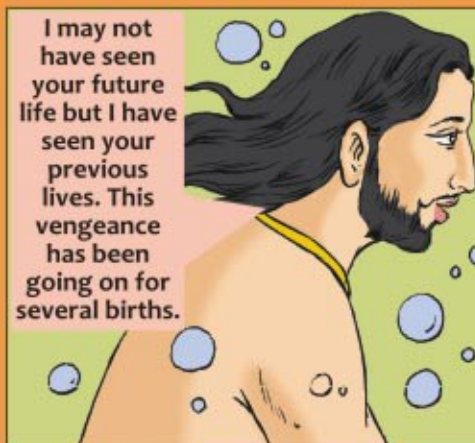


Death can end life not vengeance He will redeem his revenge by taking another birth. vengeance can continue for many lifetimes.

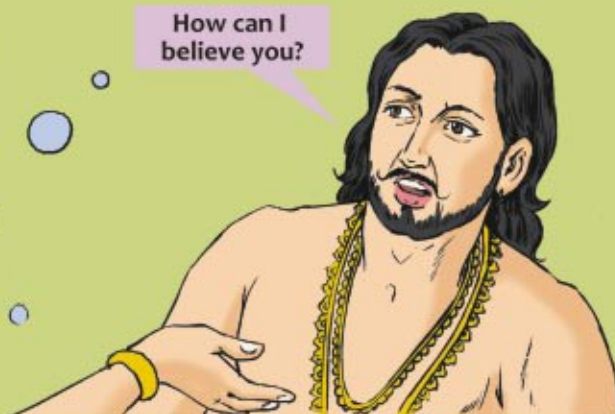
He will only be able to retaliate if I set him free. I will keep him imprisoned for life. If, after that, he does not straighten up, I will give him the death sentence.



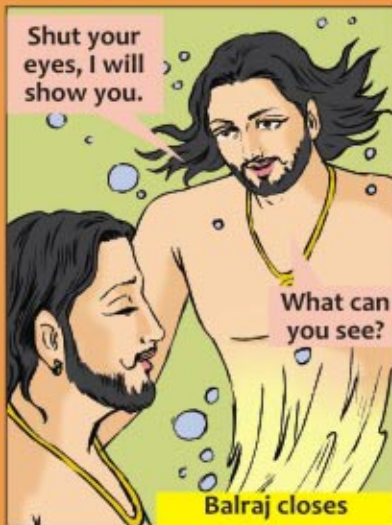
All these are rumors. Who has seen the next life?



I may not have seen your future life but I have seen your previous lives. This vengeance has been going on for several births.



How can I believe you?



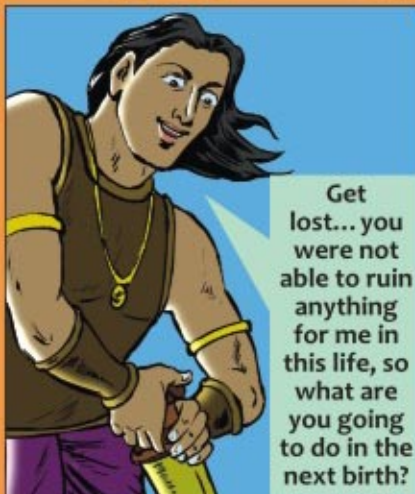
Shut your eyes, I will show you.

What can you see?

Balraj closes his eyes.



In the previous life, Balraj and Sumant were twin brothers; princes of a King. Balraj's name is Preetam and Sumant's name is Kishan. Kishan conspired against Preetam in order to gain the throne and Preetam also made a plan to kill Sumant.



In the next birth, Balraj's soul was reborn as a snake and Sumant's soul took birth as a wolf in the same jungle. One day this snake bit the wolf with such a poisonous sting that it died after suffering severely.



In this way, Balraj was able to see his eight previous births. In each birth, Balraj's soul would kill Sumant's soul. He squirmed on seeing all this and woke up with a start.





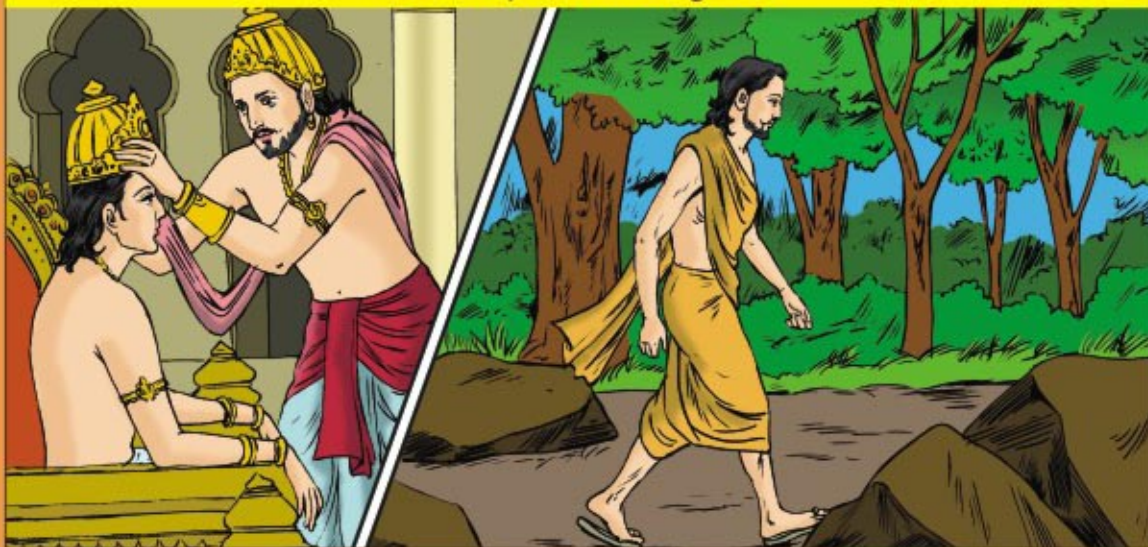
There is only one way to end this revenge. I will restore Mewapur to Sumant. If I take revenge then he will not remain without retaliating and I will have to wander for several lifetimes due to this vengeance.

The next morning,

Soldiers, escort Sumant and his family with due respect and honour to their kingdom, Mewapur.



After this Balraj handed over the royal throne to his son and left for the jungle in order to repent for his vengeance.



We should not look at others faults at all. We should only focus on our own faults. Instead, people see each others faults, "you are like this and you are like that", and that is why vengeance is bound inside. One binds vengeance by seeing faults in others.



Absolutely New



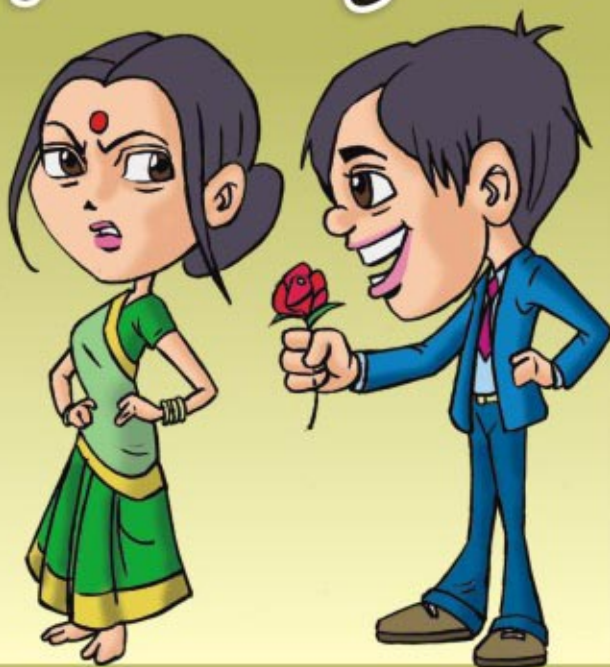
Once pratikramans are done, no matter how much vengeance there is, you can become free in this very life only. Pratikraman is the only solution.



Otherwise, vengeance increases with vengeance. If you try to get back at someone, then the vengeance multiplies. For example, if one takes offense and the opposite person takes offense too, then will the vengeance increase or decrease?

and Different!

When vengeance leaves, pure love arises. For example, as long as you hold a grudge against someone, you cannot feel love for that person.



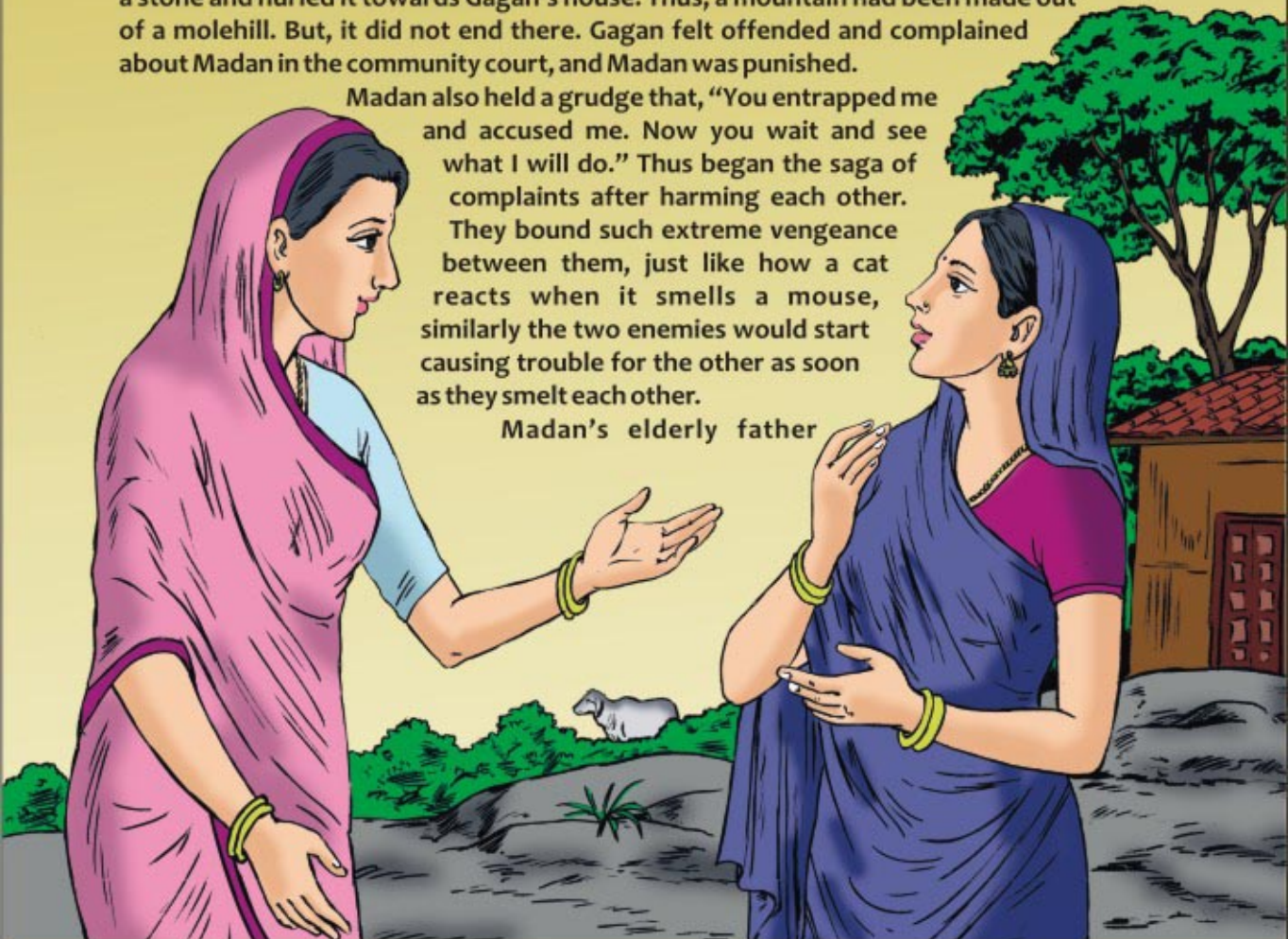
The redemption of Vengeance

In a village, there once lived a farmer named Madan. Madan and his family could easily have lived very peacefully; they had no want for anything. Nonetheless, Madan's mind would remain dissatisfied all day. The reason for this was a conflict with his neighbor, Gagan. When Madan and Gagan's fathers were taking care of the house, there was a lot of unity between the two families; it was as if they belonged to one family. But, from the moment Madan and Gagan took over the responsibilities, everything changed. Friendship turned into enmity, and it all started because of a very petty issue.

One day, a calf belonging to Madan's cow entered into Gagan's courtyard by mistake. Madan's wife started looking for the calf. Gagan's wife was not aware of what had happened and therefore said that she had not seen the calf. But, when the calf was actually found in Gagan's courtyard; Madan's wife accused Gagan's wife to be a thief. Due to this, Gagan's wife's ego was terribly hurt. She also started accusing Madan's wife without thinking about it. The rivalry between them increased. Within no time, Madan and Gagan also joined the quarrel. And then a lot of commotion began. Both the families started accusing each other, "You are like this and you are like that, you are a thief and you are a rascal." Finally, out of anger, Madan picked up a stone and hurled it towards Gagan's house. Thus, a mountain had been made out of a molehill. But, it did not end there. Gagan felt offended and complained about Madan in the community court, and Madan was punished.

Madan also held a grudge that, "You entrapped me and accused me. Now you wait and see what I will do." Thus began the saga of complaints after harming each other. They bound such extreme vengeance between them, just like how a cat reacts when it smells a mouse, similarly the two enemies would start causing trouble for the other as soon as they smelt each other.

Madan's elderly father



would many a times try to make Madan understand, "Son, try to talk to Gagan and solve this issue with proper understanding. Settle the issue with Gagan. Become free from this enmity. If you retaliate then the enmity will increase. Overcoming vengeance with vengeance simply augments it. Moreover, the consequences of this enmity is such that one suffers to such an extent that life is not worth living anymore. Thus, free yourself from this enmity in whichever way you can." But Madan would never heed his father's advice.

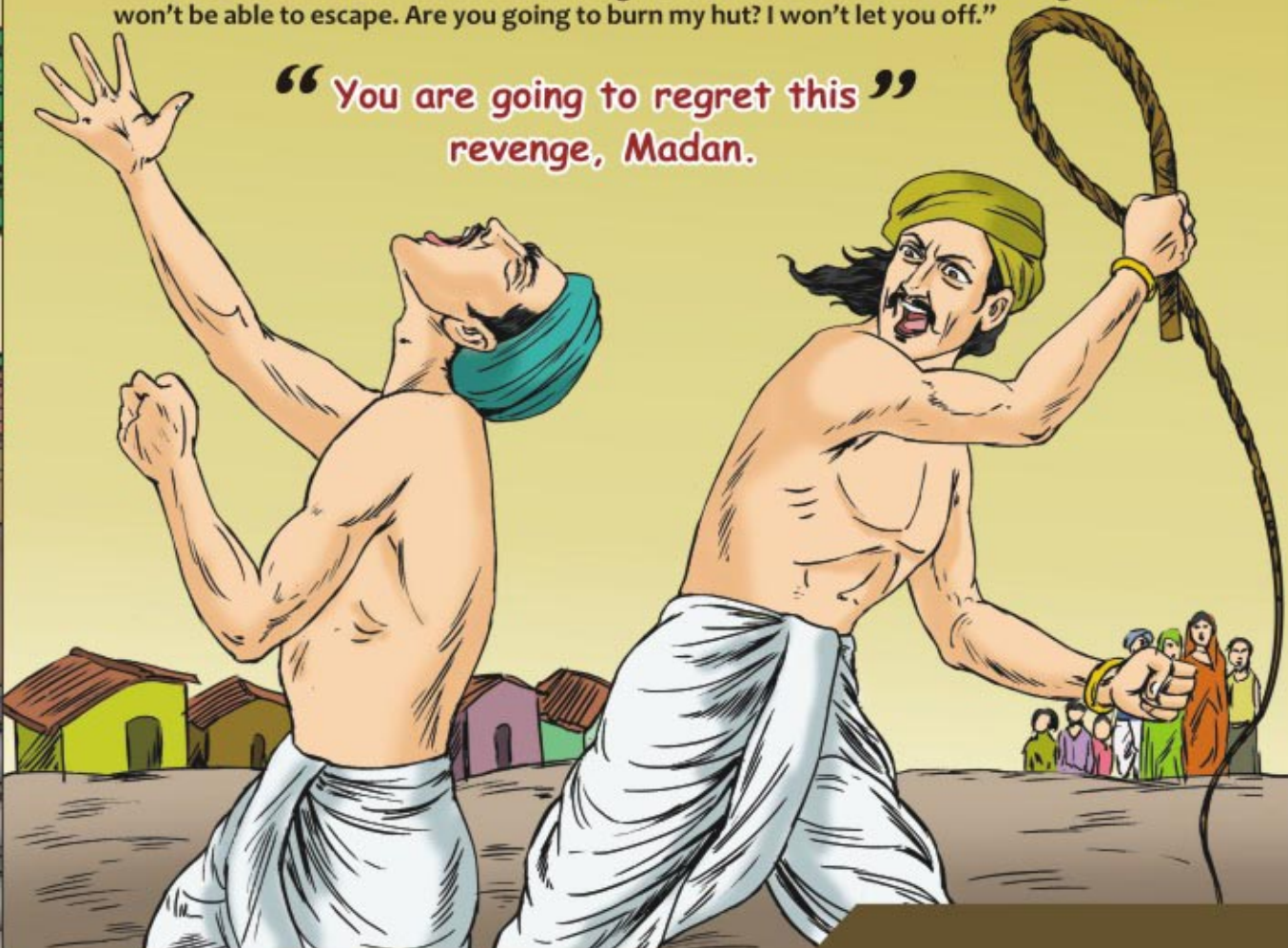
In this way, six years passed by in this quarrel. Finally, one day Madan's vengeance hungry attitude reached its zenith. He accused Gagan of having a bad character and the community court sentenced Gagan to be punished by being whipped forty times. With intense poisonous hatred in his eyes, Gagan spoke, "You have burnt my back, now you see what I burn."

When Madan's father came to know about this, he said with a sigh, "You will have to pay a big price for this vengeance, Madan."

Meanwhile, the injured Gagan was moaning in agony. The intense flames of revenge were burning in his heart. Although his wife was applying a soothing paste of sandalwood on his wounds, the fire of vengeance would not allow the wounds to heal. Night was passing by but he was not able to sleep. He got up and set a log of wood on fire.

Madan was also awake. He observed Gagan's movements in the dark of the night. "You won't be able to escape. Are you going to burn my hut? I won't let you off."

**"You are going to regret this
revenge, Madan."**



Thus, smouldering with suppressed anger Madan ran towards Gagan. But before he could catch Gagan, Gagan hurled a terrible blow at Madan's head and he collapsed unconscious. When he regained consciousness, Gagan was nowhere to be seen, but Madan saw his hut burning. In a little while, even Gagan's hut caught fire. Madan and Gagan's families were saved; even Madan's father was rescued but both their huts were burnt to ashes and both were homeless now.

Madan was sitting with his hands on head. Madan's father asked him, "Who burnt the hut?"

"It's him! I saw him burning it with my very own eyes. He has caused me an immense loss." Madan angrily retorted.

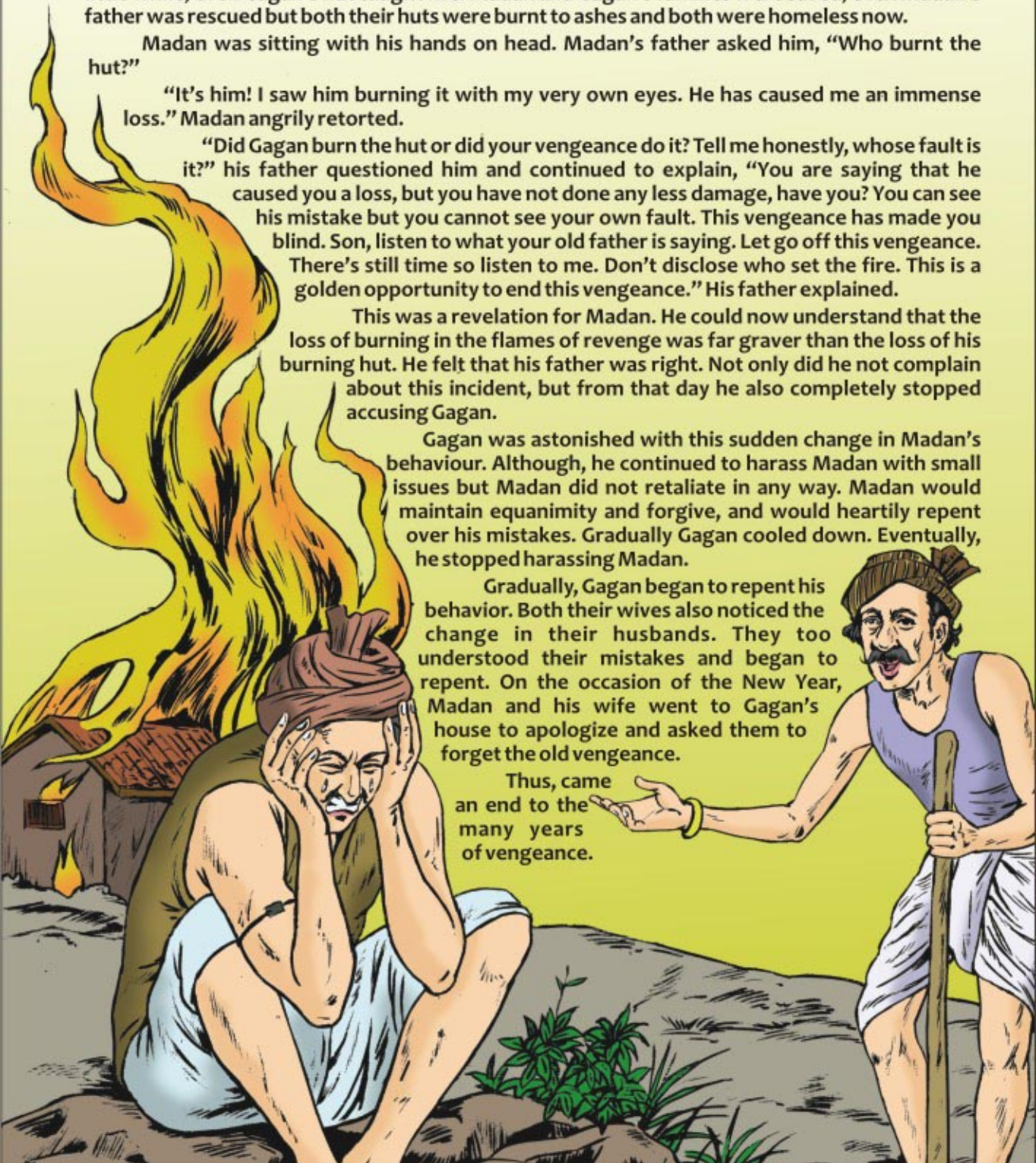
"Did Gagan burn the hut or did your vengeance do it? Tell me honestly, whose fault is it?" his father questioned him and continued to explain, "You are saying that he caused you a loss, but you have not done any less damage, have you? You can see his mistake but you cannot see your own fault. This vengeance has made you blind. Son, listen to what your old father is saying. Let go off this vengeance. There's still time so listen to me. Don't disclose who set the fire. This is a golden opportunity to end this vengeance." His father explained.

This was a revelation for Madan. He could now understand that the loss of burning in the flames of revenge was far graver than the loss of his burning hut. He felt that his father was right. Not only did he not complain about this incident, but from that day he also completely stopped accusing Gagan.

Gagan was astonished with this sudden change in Madan's behaviour. Although, he continued to harass Madan with small issues but Madan did not retaliate in any way. Madan would maintain equanimity and forgive, and would heartily repent over his mistakes. Gradually Gagan cooled down. Eventually, he stopped harassing Madan.

Gradually, Gagan began to repent his behavior. Both their wives also noticed the change in their husbands. They too understood their mistakes and began to repent. On the occasion of the New Year, Madan and his wife went to Gagan's house to apologize and asked them to forget the old vengeance.

Thus, came an end to the many years of vengeance.



Sweet memories

This incident happened in 1980. One of the mahatmas of Ahmedabad requested, "Dada, come to Ahmedabad and visit my home. We shall celebrate the festival of paryushan here. I will make all the arrangements." As Dada's health deteriorated suddenly, he sent Niruma to this mahatma's place. As per Dada's instructions, after some talk of satsang, Niruma would make the mahatmas do samayik twice daily, in the morning and evening. On the last day of paryushan (savantsari), she made everyone wash off the sins of their whole life by doing pratikraman for two hours.

As soon as the pratikraman finished, that mahatma went straight to Niruma, paid obeisance to her by lying prostrate on the ground and said, "While doing Pratikraman I saw something of the past. I saw that nine hundred years ago I had bound vengeance against you. Today I am asking for forgiveness, paying my obeisance to you by prostrating before you, and apologizing directly in order to wash this sin away."

He then elaborated, "900 years ago, Dada was a renowned spiritual guide (acharya) and you were his principle disciple. I was your fellow-disciple. Once, when something was needed, you asked me, "Please go out and finish this particular work." As it was night time, at first I refused, because ascetics were not allowed to go out at night. But, you insisted that I would have to go. As you were senior to me, I had no option but to obey you. So, although I went, it bothered me a lot that you made me break my vow. I had held a grudge since that day. This extended for 900 years. Today, while doing Pratikraman, layers were removed and I could see. Today I am apologizing in front of everybody and am washing off this vengeance."

Hearing this Niruma accepted what he said, immediately prostrated before the mahatma and apologized saying, "At that time when we were in power, we committed this injustice. We are also apologizing for this." In this way, they both washed away their vengeance.

See friends, the terrible nature of vengeance! An ascetic, when forcibly made to do something he disliked, bound vengeance, despite having the shelter of a highly renowned spiritual guide and the goal of salvation.

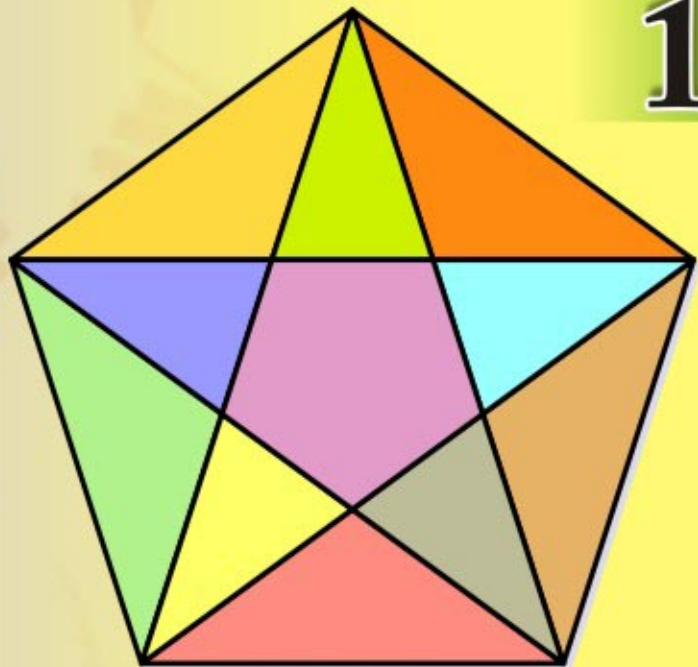
And how strong is the Gnanis' intense desire for becoming liberated that the moment they realize their mistake they immediately ask for forgiveness. They don't even wait to analyse whether such a thing had occurred or not.



Let's Play...

1

Find out how many triangles are enclosed in the picture given alongside.



2



Can you find the landlord of this beautiful landscape who is hiding in it?

3

Magic!

Find out the special relation of the numbers written in the frame given below.

96	11	89	68
88	69	91	16
61	86	18	99
19	98	66	81

4

Find the month that is hidden in the image given below.



My Vision

Tinku and Minku were classmates. Tinku was clever and smart in all ways, whereas Minku was naïve and weak. Hence, Tinku would often get angry with Minku and would humiliate him all the time. He would make fun of him in front of everyone. Minku did not like it, but he was helpless. When he would feel extremely hurt, he would even cry secretly. Sometimes, when he would feel angry then he would feel vengeful towards Tinku and resolve in his mind to "I'll sort you out."

What understanding would you give both Tinku and Minku in this instance?



Mythological Stories

There was once a king named Shrenik who reigned over the kingdom of Magadh. He had several queens but the most renowned was Mahadevi Chellna.

When Queen Chellna was pregnant, she developed a craving; a thought suddenly sprung to her that, "I want to consume the flesh of King Shrenik's heart."

The queen became very unnerved by the premonition. She loved king Shrenik endlessly. She felt, "The soul in my womb is certainly my husband's enemy! Otherwise, I would never have had such a thought."

Queen Chellna trembled with fear. The queen decided in her mind that the moment the child was born she would have it thrown in the jungle! "I certainly cannot love my husband's enemy!"

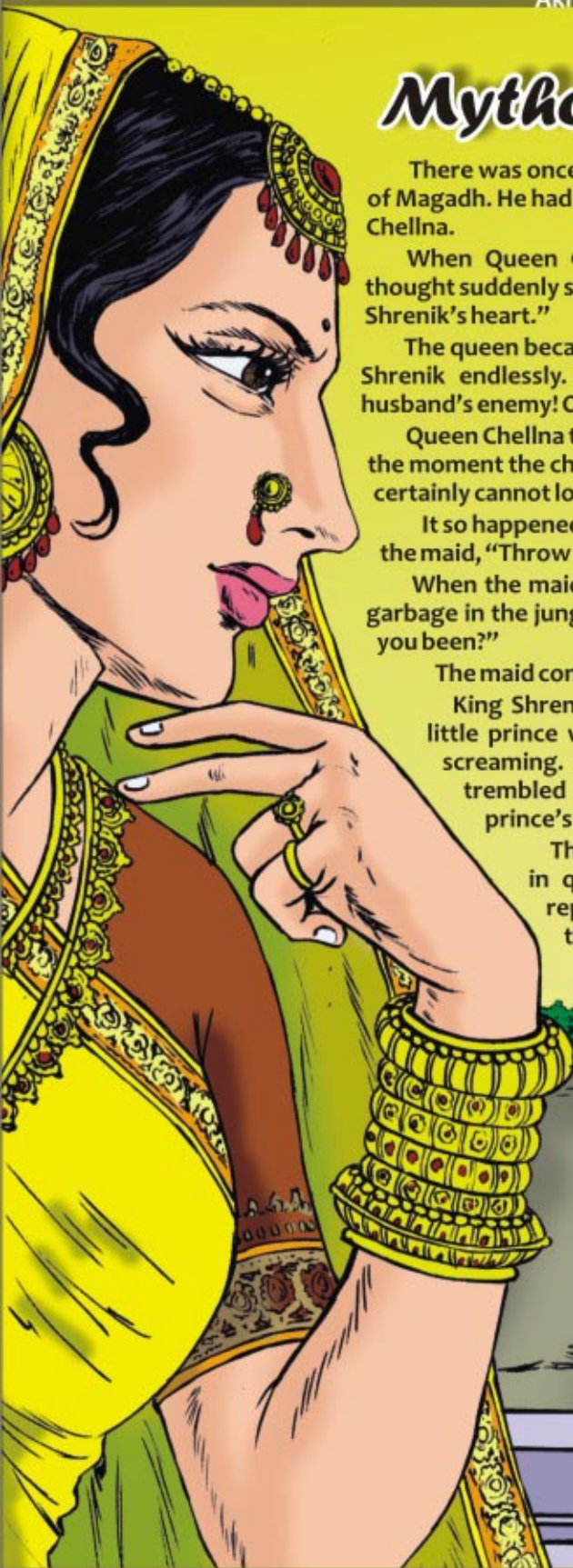
It so happened that as soon as the child was born, the queen ordered the maid, "Throw this child in the jungle!"

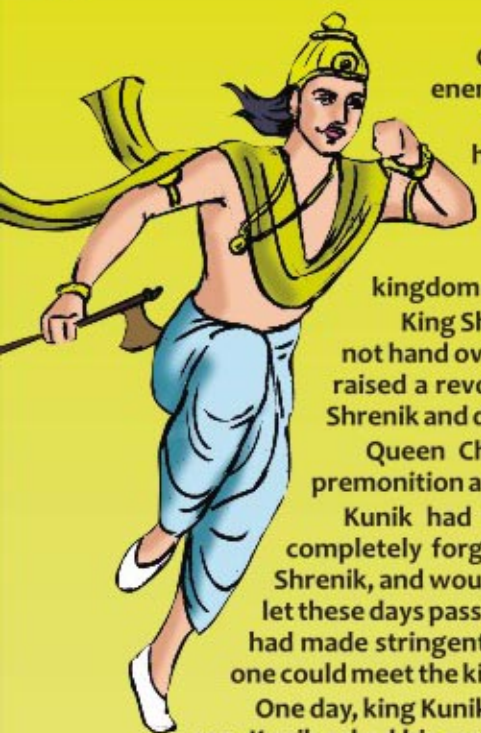
When the maid was returning after throwing the child in a heap of garbage in the jungle, King Shrenik saw her. He asked her, "Where have you been?"

The maid confessed the truth out of fear.

King Shrenik ran towards the jungle. He discovered where the little prince was. A fox had bitten his finger and the prince was screaming. As King Shrenik lifted him up, his paternal heart trembled upon seeing the bitten finger. He placed the young prince's finger in his mouth and the baby was pacified!

The king brought him to the palace. He placed the prince in queen Chellna's lap and while looking at her with reprimanding eyes, he said, "Devi, should one do such a thing?"





Queen Chellna was sobbing, "Your highness, this child is your enemy. Your enemy can never be dear to me."

The king convinced the queen to accept the child. They named him Kunik.

Kunik grew up to be valiant and was very ambitious. He found his father's methods of ruling the kingdom outdated.

Once, he blatantly told king Shrenik, "Father, hand over the kingdom to me now!"

King Shrenik was dumbfounded. Kunik thought that his father would not hand over the kingdom to him! He took the army in his confidence and raised a revolt against the king. That very afternoon, he imprisoned king Shrenik and declared himself the king of Magadh!

Queen Chellna was very devastated to hear this. She felt that her premonition at the time of Kunik's birth had come true!

Kunik had become cruel towards King Shrenik. It was as if he had completely forgotten that king Shrenik was his father. He would whip king Shrenik, and would deprive him of food and drink. King Shrenik would however let these days pass by with equanimity. Kunik had made stringent arrangements so that no one could meet the king.

One day, king Kunik was playing with his little son. Kunik asked his mother Chellna, "Mother, do you think any father in this world loves his son as much as I do?"

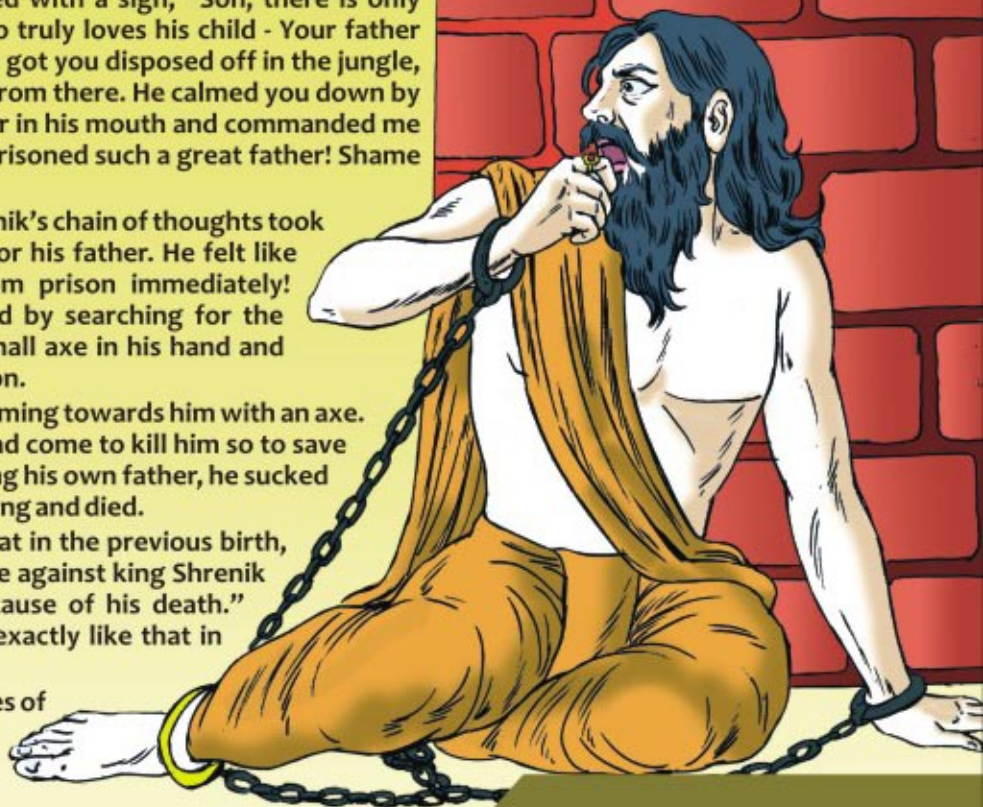
Queen Chellna replied with a sigh, "Son, there is only person in this world who truly loves his child - Your father king Shrenik! When I had got you disposed off in the jungle, he himself brought you from there. He calmed you down by placing your bitten finger in his mouth and commanded me to bring you up. You imprisoned such a great father! Shame on you!"

Hearing this, King Kunik's chain of thoughts took a turn. Affection arose for his father. He felt like releasing his father from prison immediately! Instead of being delayed by searching for the blacksmith, he took a small axe in his hand and headed towards the prison.

Shrenik saw Kunik coming towards him with an axe. He thought that Kunik had come to kill him so to save him from the sins of killing his own father, he sucked the poison hidden in his ring and died.

The scriptures say that in the previous birth, Kunik had bound revenge against king Shrenik that, "I should be the cause of his death." Therefore, it happened exactly like that in Kunik's birth.

See, the consequences of vengeance!

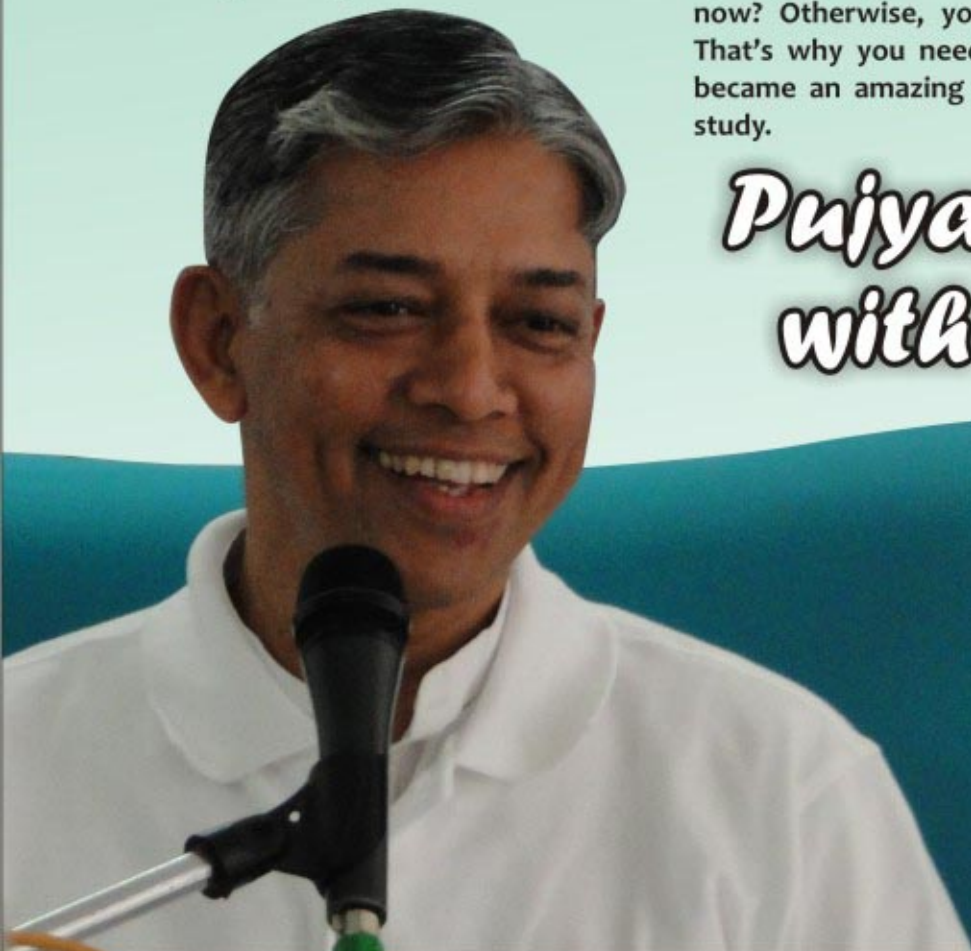


Questioner: I don't like to study, so my parents scold me all day long. What should I do?

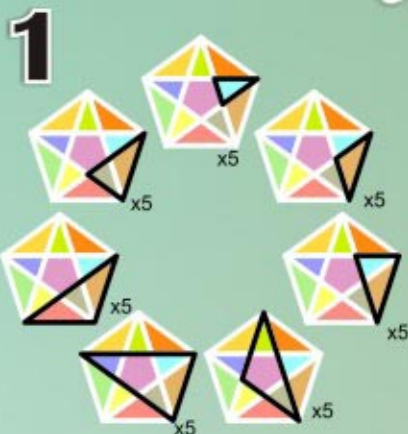
Pujyashree: We like to play, but there can't only be play in one's life. If someone were to tell you to play twenty-four hours and you don't have any girl friends to play with, then will it do? Then when you are not allowed to sleep, to eat, only play, will that work for you? You need a little of everything. When your body is tired, don't you need to sleep? When you are hungry, don't you need food? A little play, a little food, a little sleep, a little study; do a little of everything. Do you think studying is essential in life? Why should one study? If we have studied something worthy then we know how to

stand on our own feet. We can do a job or start a business on our own. By studying, our intellect develops. Therefore you should remove the thought of "I do not like to study" from your mind, because studying is just as important in our life as eating or drinking. Just like the body needs nourishment, similarly the mind needs study. Study is the nourishment for the mind. The intellect and mind all develop with studying, therefore, it is essential in life. Study, but set a schedule. Tell your mother, "Mummy, I will play for an hour, study for one and a half to two hours, and I assure you that I will not get low marks." If you get good marks, your parents won't feel the need to scold you. I too have studied well. I was running three businesses, earning Rs 25000, so imagine how comfortably I can live now? Otherwise, you would feel helpless. That's why you need to study. Niruma too became an amazing doctor. So, you should study.

***Pujyashree
with kids***



Puzzle answer



Answer: 35

2

Turn the picture
90 degrees
anticlockwise.
You will see his face.

4

The total of 4 numbers
which appear in each
vertical, horizontal and
diagonal line is 264.
Not only that, but even if
you turn the frame
upside down, the total
will still be the same.

3

If you cover the
top half of the image,
you will be able to
read the month "JULY".



j
o
k
e
s

1

Father: You should work hard
and do such great work that
you become renowned in
every corner of the world.
Son: Dad, that's impossible
Father: Why?
Son: Because the earth is
round.



2

Judge (To the thief): Are you
aware of where you will go if you
steal and lie?
Thief: Yes Judge, I am certain that
I am going to hell.
Judge: And what if you speak the
truth?
Thief: I will go to jail.

3

Teacher: Hardip, what
is the difference
between truth and
illusion?
Hardip: Teacher, it is
true that you are
teaching us, but it is
your illusion that we
are learning!

Good News!!!

Glimpses of the opening ceremony of the Book Shop in Surat Station which took place in December 2011. The Book Shop is at the same spot where Param Pujya Dadashri attained Self Realization.



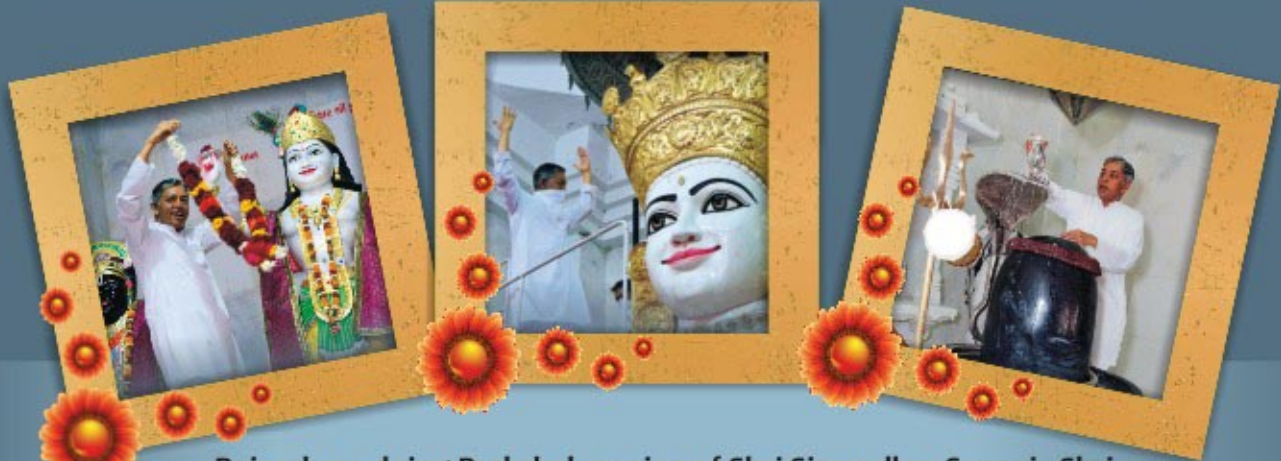
Dada Bhagwan Vignan Bhandar



Surat Station

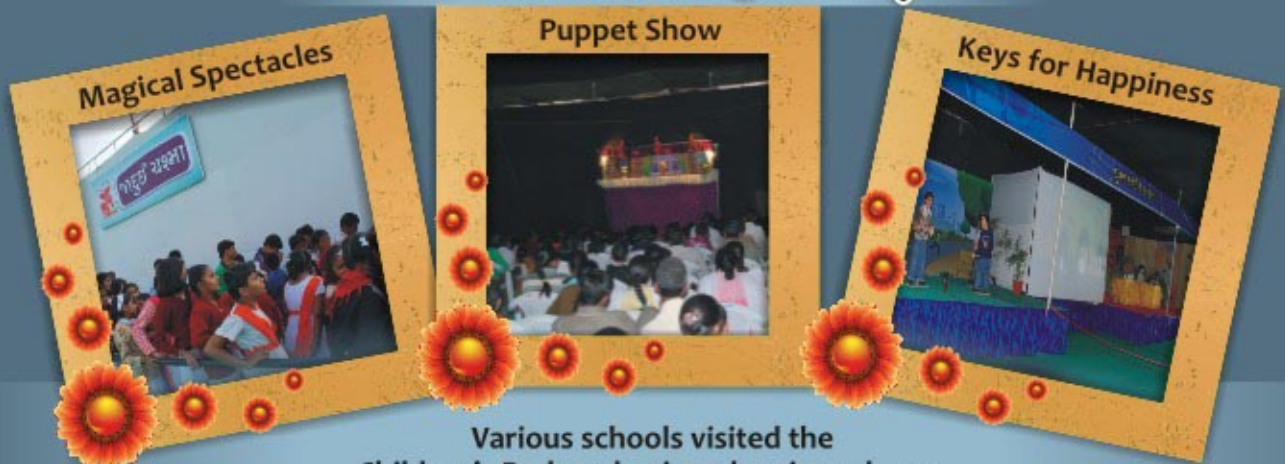


Glimpses of the Godhra Trimandir Pran Pratishtha Celebrations



Pujyashree doing Prakshal, poojan of Shri Simandhar Swami, Shri Krishna Bhagwan and Shri Shiv Bhagwan after the Pratishtha

Children's Park



Various schools visited the Children's Park and enjoyed various shows.

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