

Dada Bhagwan Parivar's

June 2024

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Stubbornness

Editorial

Friends,

Everyone desires different things at different stages in their life. When we were toddlers, we wanted toys. Growing a bit older, our interests shifted towards gadgets. Then our interests may have changed to shoes, clothes, bikes, etc. As we grow older, our interests continue to change.

Have you ever displayed stubbornness to get something you desire? You might have obtained your favourite item by being stubborn, but did it give you permanent happiness? No! However, our stubbornness can certainly be hurtful to others.

In this edition, we will find out the easiest way to get what we desire. We will see how Krina mended her broken friendship, and how Nina skillfully handled stubbornness. So, let us learn how to solve a situation without being stubborn.

Additionally, let us find out whether Aaloo won the skating competition, and if Chilly achieved his dream.

- Dimple Mehta

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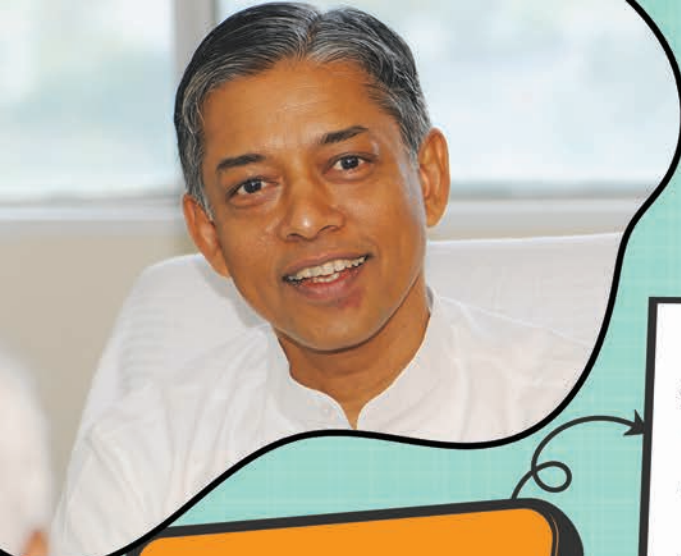
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Gnani Says...



Questioner: I act stubborn if I don't get what I want. So what should I do?

Pujyashree: Do you need that item immediately or is it fine to get it a little later on? You should tell your parents, "I like this item a lot. Please, can you get it for me?" Then leave it up to them. They will give it to you when the time is right. If you do this, then your stubbornness will decrease. If you have lost your temper or spoken harshly to your parents out of stubbornness, then you should do *pratikraman* (to confess, apologize, and resolve not to repeat a mistake).

Pujyashree: In my entire life, I have never put even a little bit of pressure on my father. I would feel that if I demanded something that he was not able to give me, then he would feel very hurt. Hence, I never asked for anything at all. Does sulking benefit you in any way? If you start sulking because your demands are not met, then who is the one who loses out? You are the one who ends up suffering and your day gets ruined. Simply decide, 'I want to adjust and not hurt my parents'.

Questioner: I feel hurt when my dad does not do what I tell him. Similarly, I start sulking if my mum does not make my favourite food. What should I do?

You can inform your mother, "I would like to eat this food, if possible," and she will surely make it within a few days. But, if you make a demand by saying, "I want it right now," then imagine how hurt she will feel. Our parents are always doing things for our happiness and when on occasion they are unable to fulfil our wishes, then should we hurt them? Shouldn't we sometimes also make an effort to do things that make them happy? You should tell your mother, "Mother, were you unable to do it? It is no problem at all. Do not feel burdened." If you tell her this, then she will be very pleased with you.



Mr Zero

Krina had moved to a new school in a different city, where she did not have many friends. She had just recently made two friends: 'Sassy' Samira and 'Maths Champ' Brinda.

They all had three common interests: visiting new places, eating good food, and reading books. Krina began to enjoy the new city thanks to her new friendships.

After their exams were over, Brinda asked with sheer excitement, “Would you like to go to the book fair this Sunday? All types of books will be available. Please, please, please!” Samira was up for going to the book fair, but Krina had a different opinion, “How can you think of going to a book fair in such hot weather? My home library has lots more interesting books than what you will find at the fair. You can take as many books as you like. So, this Sunday, you both have to come to my house. We will read books, hang out, and eat some tasty food. This plan is final. No changes allowed.”

Brinda was a little disappointed, but she immediately accepted Krina’s plan. The three of them spent that Sunday at Krina’s place, enjoying a day filled with fun and merriment.

On Monday, during recess, Krina had a distinct smile on her face.

“Have you got something special in your lunch box today?” asked Samira.

“It seems there is a special formula behind her smile,” commented Brinda.

“Ugh, Brinda, can you talk about something other than maths for once? You see, this coming Sunday, my mother is planning to take us to a clubhouse. It is going to be so much fun,” Krina said, her voice filled with excitement.

Samira and Brinda, having never visited a clubhouse before, also grew excited. The three of them were eagerly awaiting Sunday.

When Sunday came, they reached the clubhouse along with Krina’s mother. The first thing they did was dive into the swimming pool, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

“I’m hungry now,” said Samira.

“Oh, the ratio of hunger in my stomach is multiplying,” said Brinda. But Krina was not hungry and wanted to play table tennis.

“Let’s play table tennis and get a bit of exercise. That way, we will work up an appetite to really enjoy our meal,” coaxed Krina.

“Alright, you two play and I will watch. I have no energy left to play,” said Brinda.

Samira reluctantly agreed to Krina, feeling like she had no other choice. Finally, at 2 o’clock, when Krina became hungry, they headed to the clubhouse restaurant for lunch. Krina ordered Mexican tacos for everyone, without asking Samira and Brinda.

“Sorry, Ma’am, tacos are not available right now,” replied the waiter.

“What? How is that possible?” Krina asked angrily, getting into an argument with the waiter. Samira and Brinda tried to calm Krina down, suggesting they could order something else. They were extremely hungry, feeling as if hungry mice were rumbling and tumbling inside their stomachs. But Krina did not listen to them.

Finally, Krina’s mother arrived at the restaurant.

“Mother, I do not want to eat here. Let’s go somewhere else,” Krina told her angrily.

“Brinda and Samira are starving. Order something else for them from here,”

Krina’s mother said firmly. But Krina was unwilling to listen to her.

Ultimately, Krina’s mother asked Brinda and Samira what they wanted to eat and placed the order for them. Everyone’s stomachs were full, but their minds felt burdened for the rest of the day.

On Monday, the three of them met at school. However, Samira and Brinda now felt uncomfortable around Krina.



They did not express this to her, but their friendship was no longer the same as before.

One day, during recess, Krina brought them something. "Friends, here are the tickets for the cartoon film tonight. All three of us will be attending the show."

"Krina, at least ask us if we are able to go or not," said Brinda.

"I cannot come today. I have dinner plans with my family," Samira replied in an irritated voice.

"Go to dinner with your family next week," Krina said with her usual insistence.

"Today is my mother's birthday," said Samira as she walked away.

"How about you, Brinda?"

"I cannot make it either, Krina. I have to study for my exams next week."

Brinda also left, leaving Krina surprised. "Why are they acting as if they are irritated with me? What is wrong with wanting them to join me for some fun activities?" Krina thought to herself.

She sat down and continued to ponder. The recess was over and all the students went back to class. Brinda came back and sat next to Krina. It was a free period, so no teacher was coming to the class during this time.

Krina was very upset. Brinda drew a big zero in her notebook and asked Krina, "Should I tell you a story about Mr Zero?"

"Mr Zero?" asked Krina.

"Yes, Mr Zero. He was very stubborn. He always used to say his piece first and persuade others to go along with what he wanted. He would always want to stand ahead of all the numbers. That meant he had no value at all. No matter how big a number is, if it begins with a zero, then does the zero add any value?"

"No," Krina replied softly.

"As long as Mr Zero remained ahead of all the numbers and continued to persuade others to do what he wanted, no one would value him at all. Whether he was present or not, it did not make a difference to anyone. Mr Zero was beginning to feel hurt. Gradually, he understood his mistake. He learned to stay



behind everyone else and accept his mistakes. Because of this, all his friends began to value him. When he stayed next to the number 1, he made the number 10. Similarly, next to 10, he became a 100, and with 100 he became 1000.”

“Krina, anyone would like having their opinions heard and valued. But if someone always tries to get their way, their value becomes like Mr Zero. Would you like it if someone constantly pushed you to do things according to their wish?” asked Brinda.

“No,” said Krina as she shook her head. She now realised her mistake. Her stubbornness had been hurtful to others because she had not taken their feelings into account.

“I’m sorry...” said Krina.

Brinda gave her a big hug. “It’s okay.”

Samira, who had been observing from a desk at the back of the room, quietly came over and sat between Krina and Brinda. Krina apologised to Samira as well. Just then a teacher entered the classroom and said, “The maths teacher is absent today.”

“Yes, that is why we learnt an important life lesson today!” Krina said in a soft tone. All three of them burst into laughter.



Absolutely New

If your mother acted stubbornly by refusing to serve you breakfast because you woke up late, then would that be acceptable? Even if we wake up late, our mother still serves us food and milk, does she not? So, understand that being stubborn is wrong.

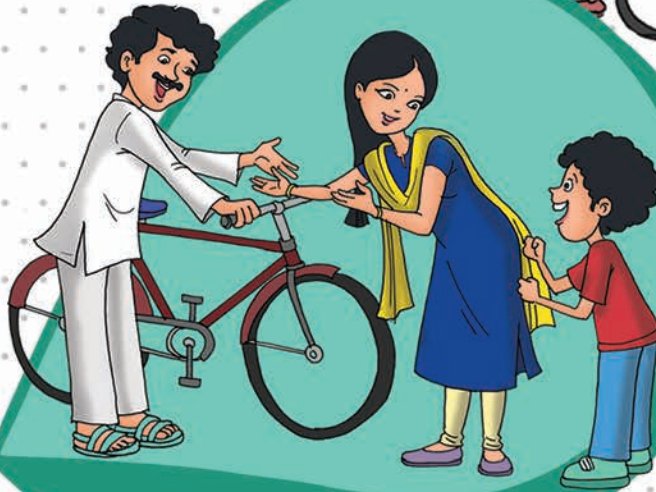
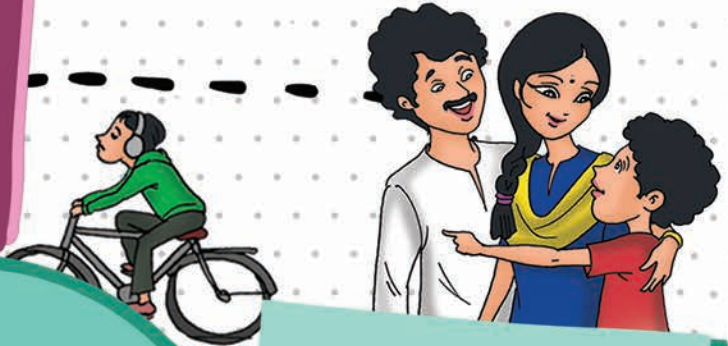


When you act stubborn to obtain something that is unnecessary, then you will miss out on getting something that is actually necessary.

For example: You stubbornly make your parents buy you a video game. Then, when it is time to take part in football team tryouts, and you are in need of football shoes, your parents might not be able to buy them for you on time. So you will be the one to lose out on something good.



**and
Different!**



If you wholeheartedly desire something, then sooner or later it will be fulfilled.

For example: If you want to get a new bicycle, then express it to your parents. They will surely buy it for you when the time is right.



If you do not become stubborn and demanding towards your parents, then they themselves will come to you of their own accord and offer to buy you whatever you need.

AALOO CHILLY



Sometimes I can't tell whether Aaloo is my friend or my enemy! I had made such cool banners for him, and he rejected all of them! And moreover, he banned me from flying over the ring!

Aaloo said to me, "Chilly, this banner will make Kulfi feel bad, and if you fly around with it, then I will get distracted while skating."

I purposefully made this banner to make Kulfi feel bad. If I can't fly with it, then it's fine, but I can at least sit in the stands and wave it from there. However, when Parsley and I were in the stands holding the banner, Giffy and Theo came and stood right in front of us.



In no time, even Parsley joined in and started singing the boring chants. Everyone was very happy because Aaloo gave everyone a big smile whenever he sped past. Honestly speaking, he didn't have to look at everyone. He could have just looked at me since I was his biggest supporter, was I not!

All else aside, Aaloo's skating skills were superb today! He did not fall even once. His win was inevitable after all our late-night practices and all the encouraging words I had given him throughout. I think Kulfi even lost balance and bumped into the ring boundary a couple of times due to Aaloo's speed.



Then came the time for Aaloo's victory speech. It didn't matter that no one was aware of the real reason behind Aaloo's success until now. I was certain that now was the time when they would be made to see and acknowledge all my hard work. But...

Aaloo said, "Thank you, Kulfi and Momo. Because you both lost, I won."

'You lost and so I won?' If there was a competition for the worst speech ever, then Aaloo would have won it for sure! With all of Aaloo's floods of tears, he's caused monsoon weather in the middle of summer for all the little animals! Giffy and Theo also started to cry. Amidst all of this excitement, Aaloo did not mention anything about me at all. But not to worry, there's still the party to go.



What party is Chilly talking about? Will Aaloo express his gratitude for Chilly at this party?

Nina the Butterfly

Nina and Jojo lived with their mother in a city named Flyland. One morning...



Smiling again? Did you have the same dream, Nina?

Yes! I will build **'Nina's Nectar Café'** for the poor, small butterflies, where I will offer free nectar drinks, books and...

Yes, go ahead and do it, but first complete the task I requested. Bring me some nectar.




At dinner...

Did you not bake a nectar cake? We brought you some nectar just this morning!

No, I want to eat it today!


It's not possible to make it today. I will make it tomorrow.

Dear, I did not have time! I will definitely make it for you tomorrow.



Then I will not eat anything. I should get what I want, when I want!

Nina went to her room in a sulk. Jojo went to Nina's room after dinner...



Nini, finish your dinner. Mother has made delicious nectar walnut bread and rainbow soup.

No!

You will be the one to lose out. You will starve all night and miss out on eating this delicious food. Go and finish your dinner.


But Nina did not budge. The following day, their mother sent the children out again to fetch her some nectar.



Nini, let's go to Daisyland! We will find such excellent nectar there that your cake will turn out super delicious!

Ok! We must return soon though, as I do not want to miss even a single second of tonight's 'Music and Light' show.

In Daisyland...



Oh, wow! Look over there, Jojo. Those flowers are so beautiful. We can get lots of nectar from there.

We must not go there. It is surrounded by a fence and there is a warning on the board that says, 'NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO ENTER'.

No one will ever know we went inside. Let's go. We will be quick.


Nina dragged Jojo inside. They were filling up their bottles with nectar when...

Who are you? Who did you get permission from to take the nector?

Sorry, sorry ... We just thought that...

Your apologies will not be accepted. You will be punished.

Water the flowers, plant the seeds in the garden, and fill up a bottle with nectar for me.




Ma'am, today we were wanting to go to the 'Music and Light' show in the evening. Can we do some of the work today and finish the rest tomorrow?

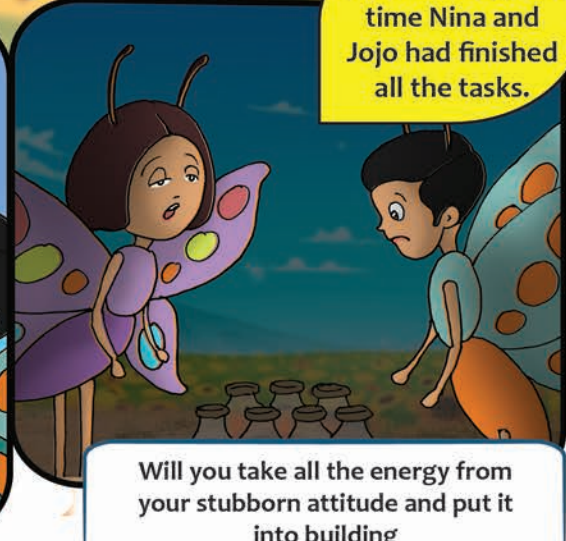
No! The work has to be completed today. I should get what I want, when I want!

Nina felt very hurt, being on the other end of those words.

It was dark by the time Nina and Jojo had finished all the tasks.



Sorry, Jojo. You missed the show because of me.



Will you take all the energy from your stubborn attitude and put it into building

Nina's Nectar Café?



What do you mean?

If you are truly sorry, then will you get rid of your stubbornness for unnecessary things, and instead put that energy into doing nice things?



Absolutely!

Let's Play

1) Find the ten differences between these two pictures.



2) Find the numbers 1 to 10 hidden in the picture below and circle them.



Magic Pen

Ananya's birthday party was just around the corner. A couple of days ago before, Ananya had asked her mother, "Mummy, will you make pizza for my party? I really want to eat pizza." Her mother told her, "Dear, it will take too long to bake pizzas for so many people. I will definitely make it for you during the weekend. We can serve Mexican food for the party." Ananya agreed.

On the morning of the birthday party, Ananya opened her birthday presents from her parents. She was convinced it would be a watch, but she received a bracelet instead, which made her cross.

"I wanted a watch! You don't care about me at all!" yelled Ananya as she stormed off to her room in a sulk. She only came out of her room once her parents promised her that they would buy her a watch.

Ananya had told everyone to wear red clothes to the party. Seeing that Saanvi had worn a pink dress, Ananya made her change. She said, "Saanvi, my photos will be spoilt. Here, wear my red frock."

When it was time to cut the cake in the evening, Ananya's mother said, "Let us first finish dinner and then we will cut the cake. The delivery boy for the cake is stuck in traffic."

Ananya replied stubbornly,

"I will not eat until I cut the cake."

If you had a magic pen and could change three incidents from today, then which ones would you change and how would you change it? Underline the incident. Then rewrite the incident and send it to us on +91 9313665562.

'Where are you?
I need your help.
Can you come
and see me?'



Sweet Memories

These words bring a smile to my face whenever I remember them. It was almost 1:30 in the afternoon. I had just finished lunch and was about to go out when the phone rang. It was Niruma. She asked me to come to *Vatsalya*.

When I arrived there, Niruma and Pujyashree were having lunch. Niruma said to me, "Sit here, without a word. I will be back." Whenever Niruma spoke to me so fondly, I felt very touched.



As soon as they finished their lunch, Niruma asked me to sit at the dining table, on the seat she had been sitting on. She arranged for a plate to be placed in front of me. There was a special lunch that day at *Vatsalya*. *Dudhpak* (sweet made of milk and rice), fritters, etc. had been prepared. Niruma and Pujyashree started to serve me food. I had already eaten lunch, but how could I miss this opportunity? I thought, 'Let it be. Let the food be served, I will eat some more!' Niruma and Pujyashree fed me with love.

That day, I realised that I may not have surrendered to Dada's *gnan* by just listening to it. Along with *gnan*, they had served me love. I do not feel any suffering in my life when I remember this incident! I have been showered with such pure love from Niruma and Pujyashree that not only this lifetime, but all future lifetimes, I surrender to Dada!



Glimpses from
Summer Camp
held for kids aged
4 to 12 ...



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