

Balvignan Presents

Dada Bhagwan

Part-6

Pictorial
story



Forward

Dada Bhagwan was an outstanding Atma Gnani of the modern age. Since childhood, he was interested in realising the soul and the ultimate truth. He used the scientific approach of analysing the events of daily life. He broke free from rigid wrong beliefs behind them and adopted true understanding. He adopted an amazing way of solving world's puzzle by asking logical questions to himself and contemplating on them. Many inspiring incidents of his personal and professional life give us insight of 'inquisitive' urge in him.

His life's episodes will inspire one and all to give beautiful direction for learning the art of living. This book will give a hearty introduction to several such inspiring episodes of his life.

An attempt has been made to present the episodes from Dada Bhagwan's life in a pictorial manner in a way that's as close to his own narration of his life as possible. If you find any mistake in the book's pictures or text, it's due to compiling inefficiencies. We apologise for any such inadvertent mistakes.

Jay Satchitdanand

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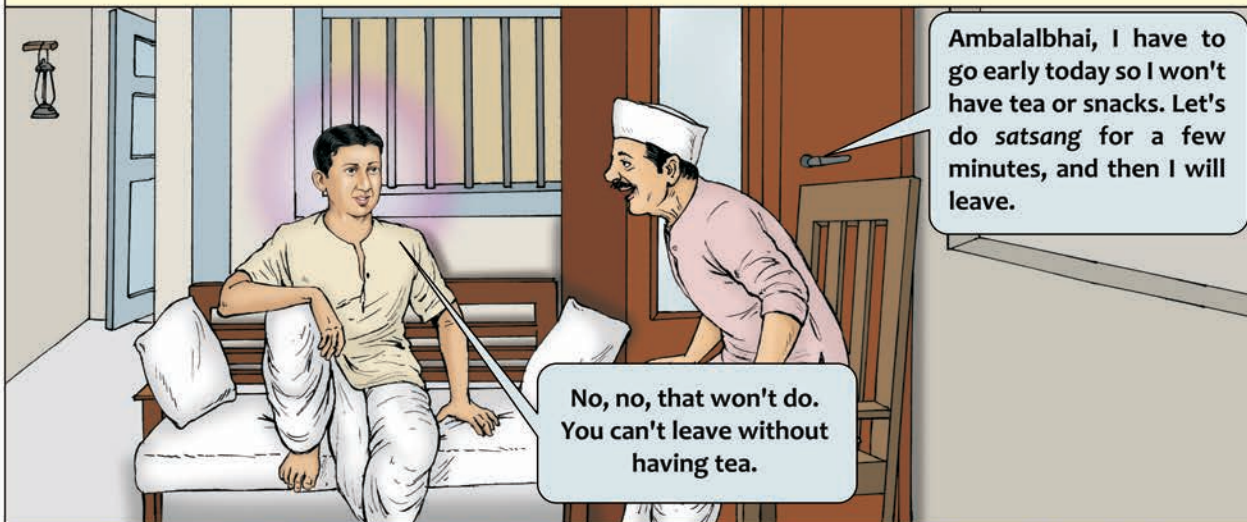
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DADA BHAGWAN

Part ⑥

Ambalalbai's relative, Chhotabhai Patel used to visit every afternoon and they would have tea and light snacks like *papad-paapdi* (thin crisp cake) together. Thereafter they would do *satsang* (spiritual discussion) for a while and then Chhotabhai would go home. One day, he came but was in a hurry.

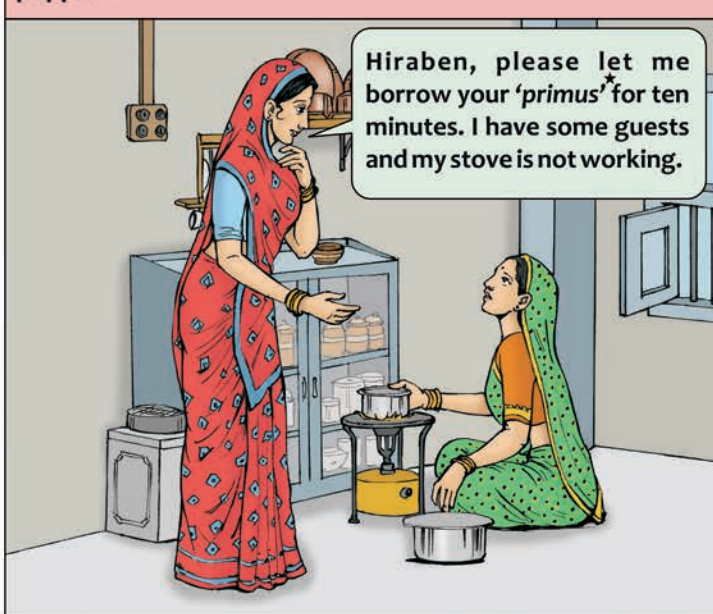


At that time even Ambalalbai used to insist that any guest who comes should not leave without having tea and snacks.

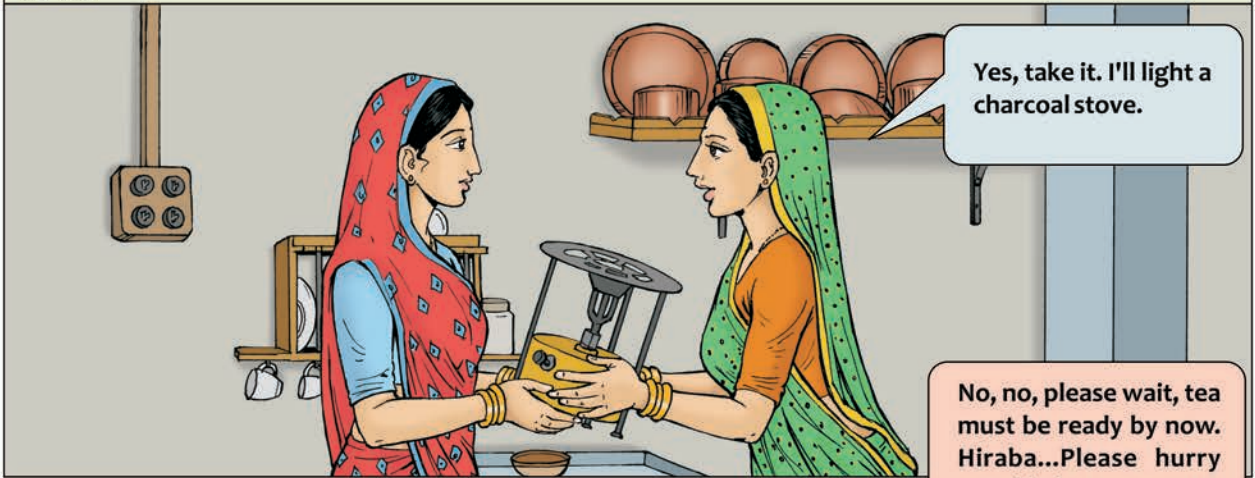
Hiraba was caught up with chores in the kitchen.



Hiraba was about to light the stove when the neighbour popped in...



Hiraba was under the impression that Chhotabhai would stay and do *satsang* as usual so there was no hurry for tea.



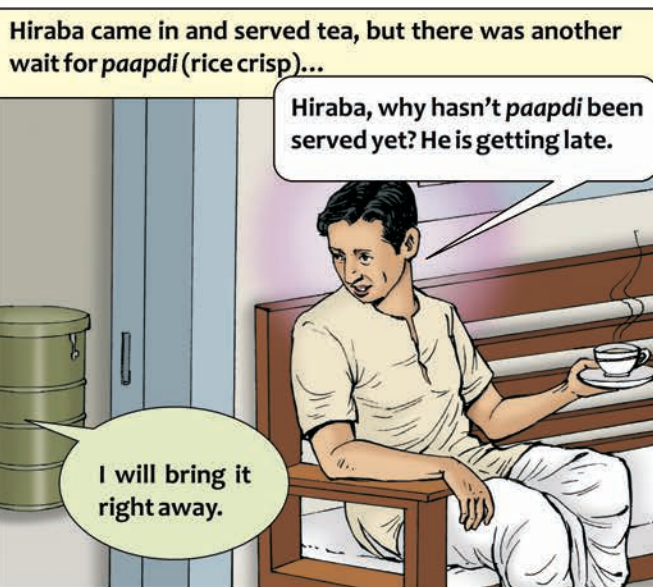
Ambalalbai had no idea that circumstances in the kitchen had changed. Hiraba had no idea that tea had to be made right away! That day turned out to be a total farce...! Ambalalbai sensed something odd so he went into the kitchen to check.



At that time Ambalalbai was not ready to disclose the actual reason for the delay, to the guest.



Tea is on its way. Don't worry.



Hiraba came in and served tea, but there was another wait for *paapdi* (rice crisp)...

Hiraba, why hasn't *paapdi* been served yet? He is getting late.

I will bring it right away.

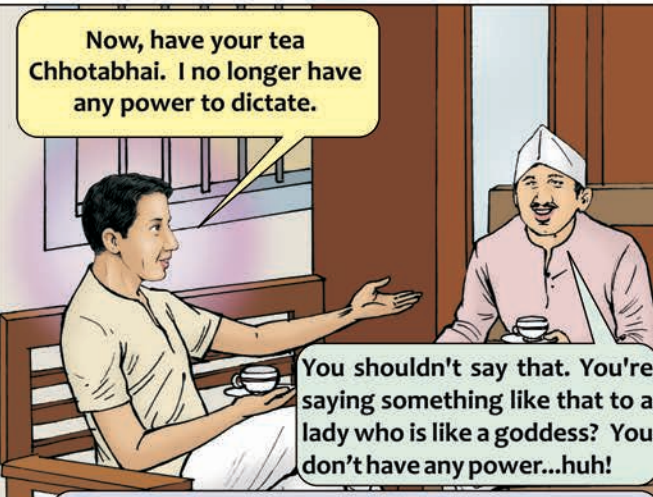
After a while Chhotabhai began to feel uneasy as Hiraba still hadn't appeared with *paapdi*.



My circumstances suddenly changed so I could not carry out your request. You are ruining my reputation by uttering such words!

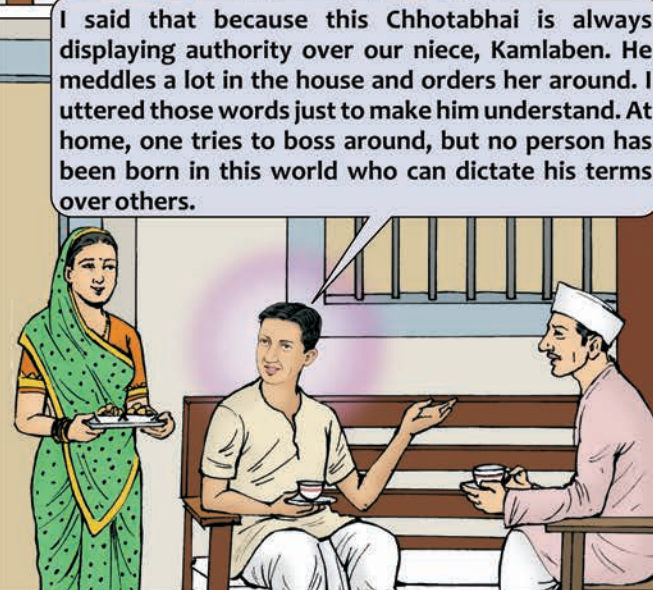


I won't do that again. Right now it has been ruined, but it won't happen again.

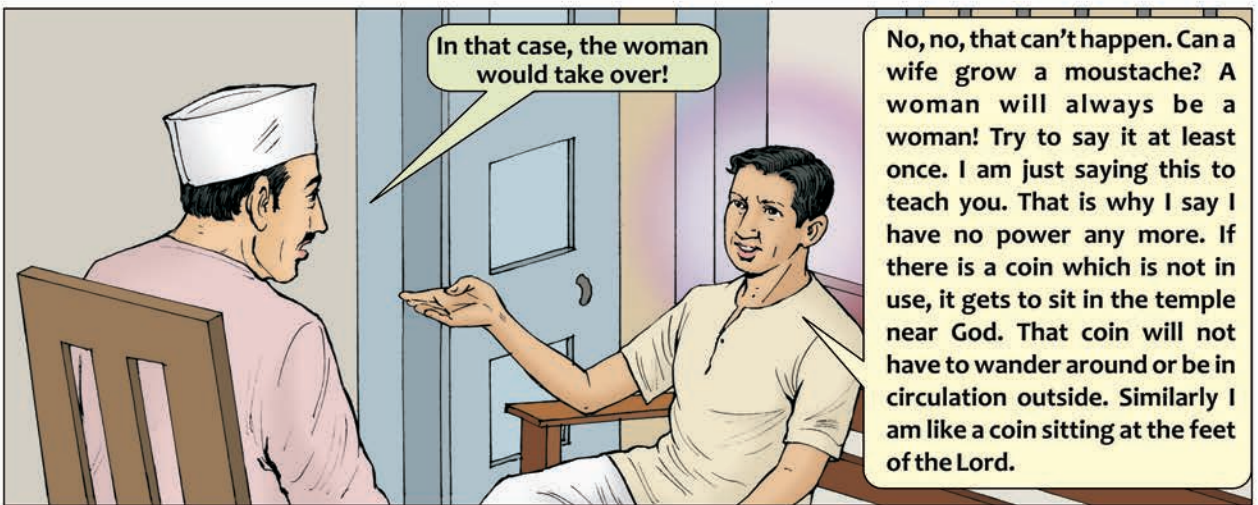


Now, have your tea Chhotabhai. I no longer have any power to dictate.

You shouldn't say that. You're saying something like that to a lady who is like a goddess? You don't have any power...huh!



I said that because this Chhotabhai is always displaying authority over our niece, Kamlaben. He meddles a lot in the house and orders her around. I uttered those words just to make him understand. At home, one tries to boss around, but no person has been born in this world who can dictate his terms over others.



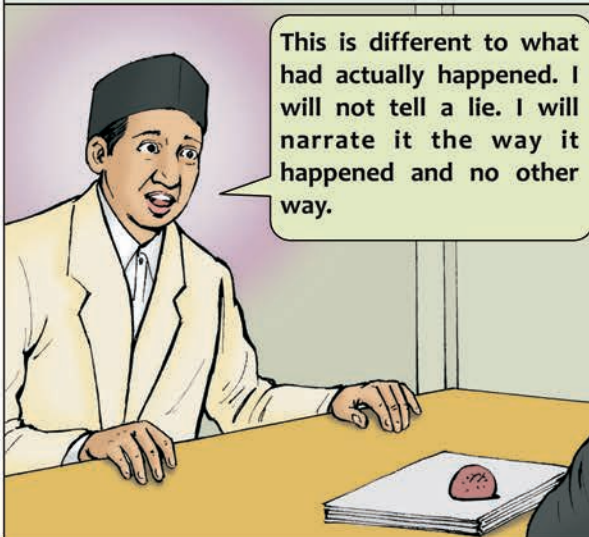
No, no, that can't happen. Can a wife grow a moustache? A woman will always be a woman! Try to say it at least once. I am just saying this to teach you. That is why I say I have no power any more. If there is a coin which is not in use, it gets to sit in the temple near God. That coin will not have to wander around or be in circulation outside. Similarly I am like a coin sitting at the feet of the Lord.

In order to avoid any clashes at home and also not to hurt anyone, Ambalalbhai had thought deeply about 'not to be authoritative'. In reality, it is in the hands of the circumstances. The coin which is in circulation passes through many hands, but the coin which is not in circulation gets to sit close to the Lord and remain in bliss.

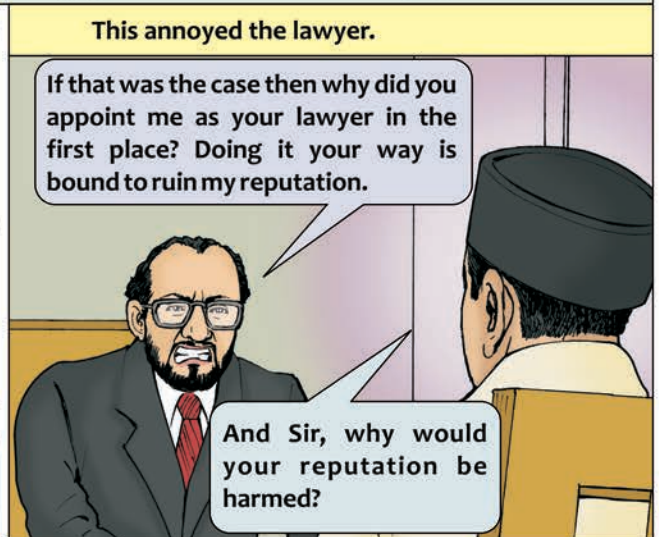
Ambalalbhai once had to go to court as a witness. The case was already being handled by a lawyer.



The lawyer had prepared a witness statement by twisting quite a few of the facts as a ploy to win the case.



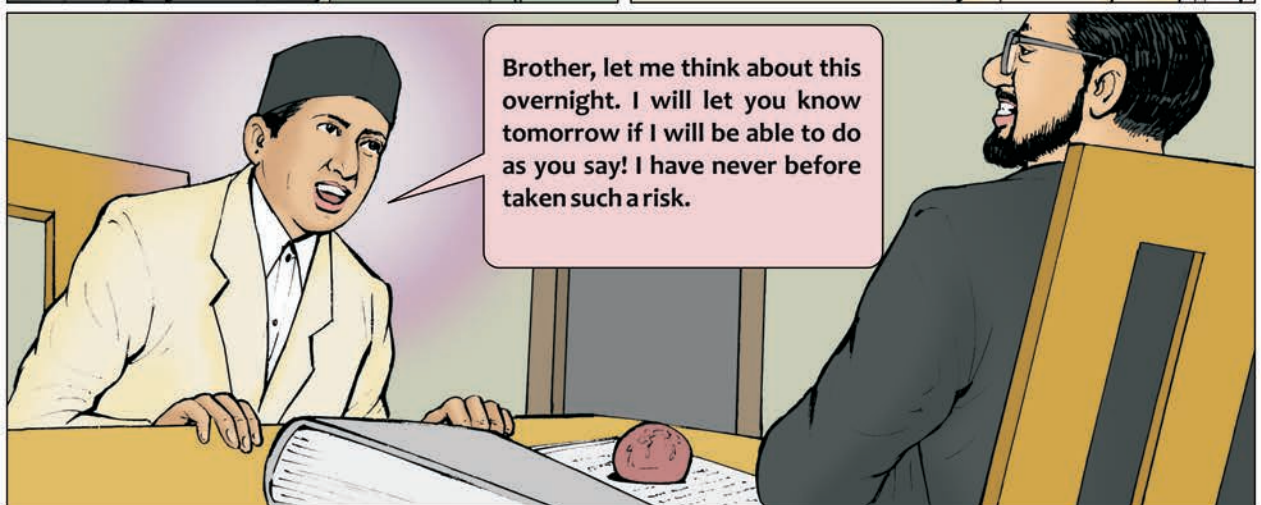
This is different to what had actually happened. I will not tell a lie. I will narrate it the way it happened and no other way.




This annoyed the lawyer.

If that was the case then why did you appoint me as your lawyer in the first place? Doing it your way is bound to ruin my reputation.


And Sir, why would your reputation be harmed?





Until now, I have never had to lie like this. So what are the odds if I agree to this?

The answer to his question came from within.



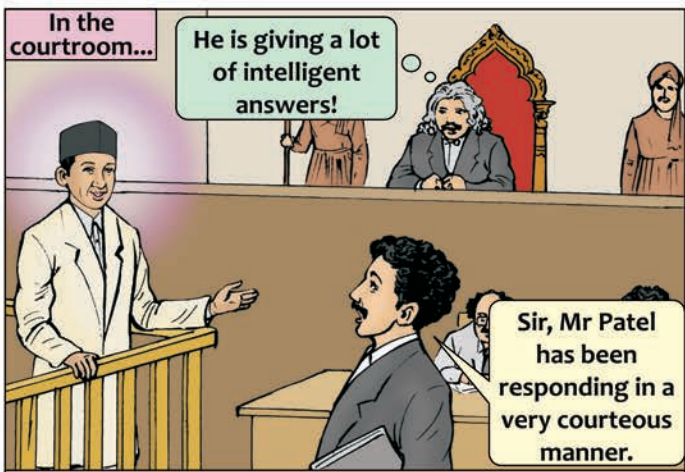
In this particular situation, it will be better if I repeat what the lawyer wants me to say. But how can I lie? Then again, the lawyer is the teacher and the learner is like a parrot... The parrot speaks the way it is taught, and thus it holds no liability for what it says. If it's asked to say 'Ram', then it will say 'Ram'.

The next day Ambalalbhai went to see the lawyer and showed his willingness to testify as per his instructions.



I will speak as per your instructions...

In the courtroom...



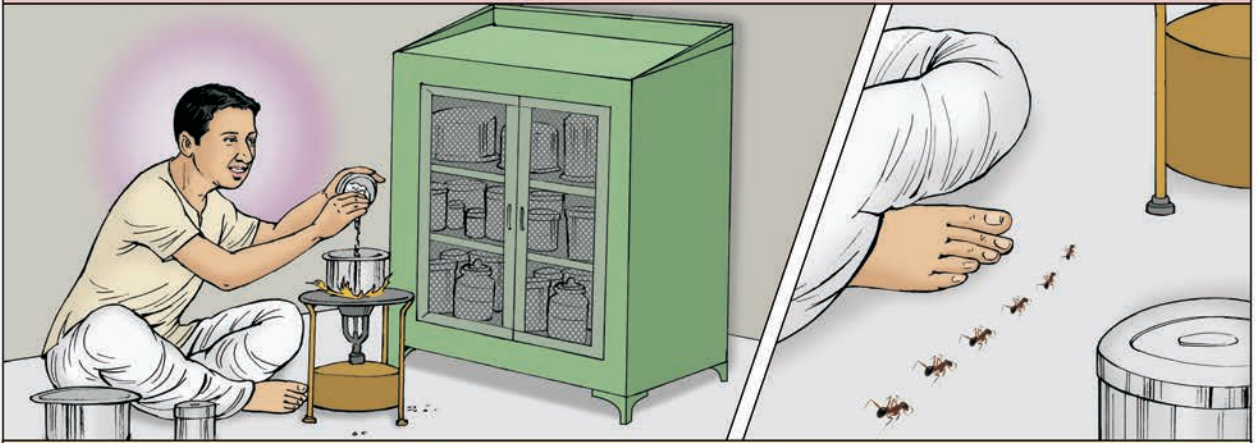
He is giving a lot of intelligent answers!

Sir, Mr Patel has been responding in a very courteous manner.

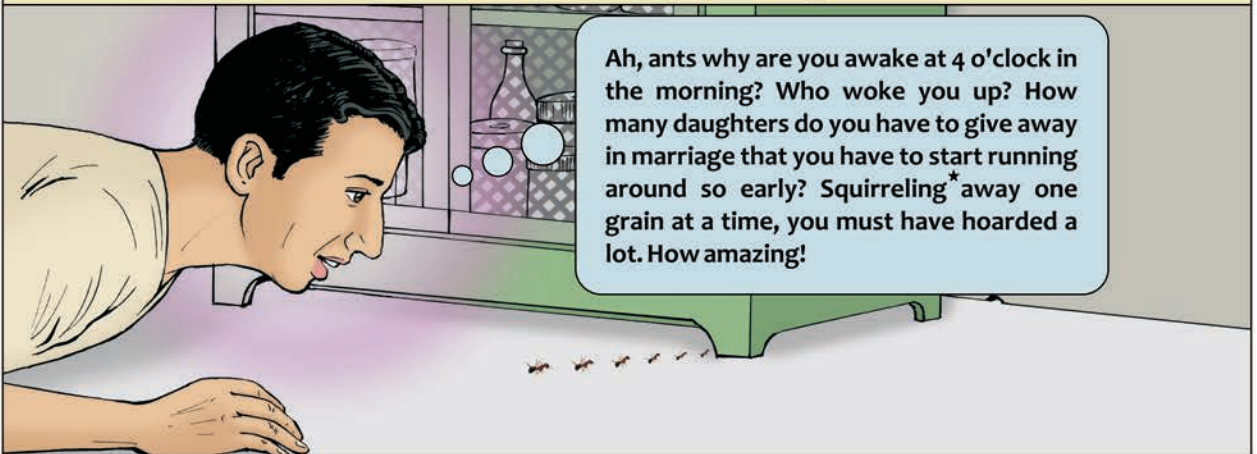
In the end, Ambalalbhai wins the case.

This case would not have been resolved as quickly and smoothly if Ambalalbhai had stuck to his own principles. Quite possibly, it could have caused more harm than good. Therefore, by succumbing to the constraints of the circumstances and to the lawyer's lead and control, Ambalalbhai managed to get the case resolved.

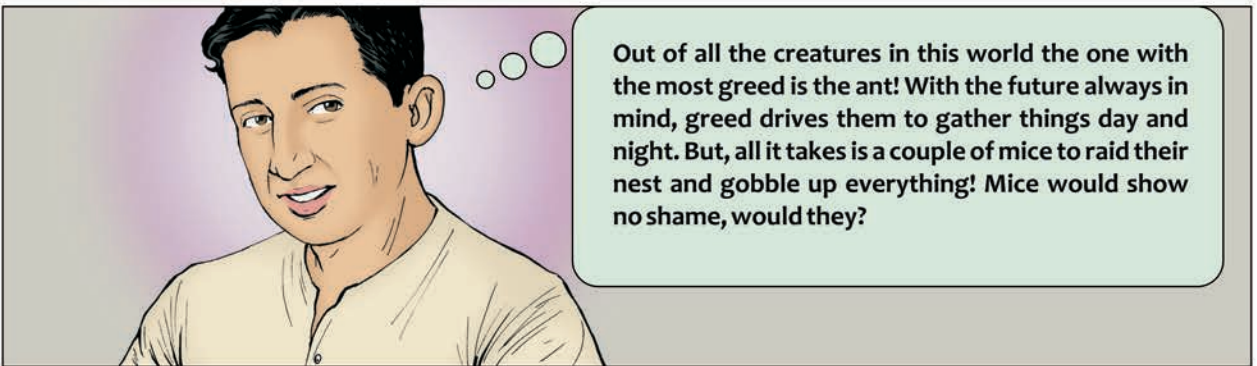
Once, Ambalalbhai had to wake up early in the morning to go out of town. He woke up at 4 o'clock in the morning and proceeded to make a cup of tea for himself. His gaze fell on the granules of sugar that had scattered on the floor. Interestingly, he noticed a line of ants carrying away the grains of sugar to their home.



Ambalalbhai started thinking upon seeing the ants.



Ah, ants why are you awake at 4 o'clock in the morning? Who woke you up? How many daughters do you have to give away in marriage that you have to start running around so early? Squirreling* away one grain at a time, you must have hoarded a lot. How amazing!



Out of all the creatures in this world the one with the most greed is the ant! With the future always in mind, greed drives them to gather things day and night. But, all it takes is a couple of mice to raid their nest and gobble up everything! Mice would show no shame, would they?

Ambalalbhai brilliantly questions greedy people to ask themselves if there is ever going to be an end to their hoarding. One should become alert before it is too late and put all of the 'stash' to good use in order to earn merit karma for themselves to tread the path of ultimate liberation! At the end of the day, where there is a greedy person, there will always be a cheat or a rogue not too far away. That is the way the law of nature works! Hence, the more a person hoards, the more chance there is of getting fleeced!

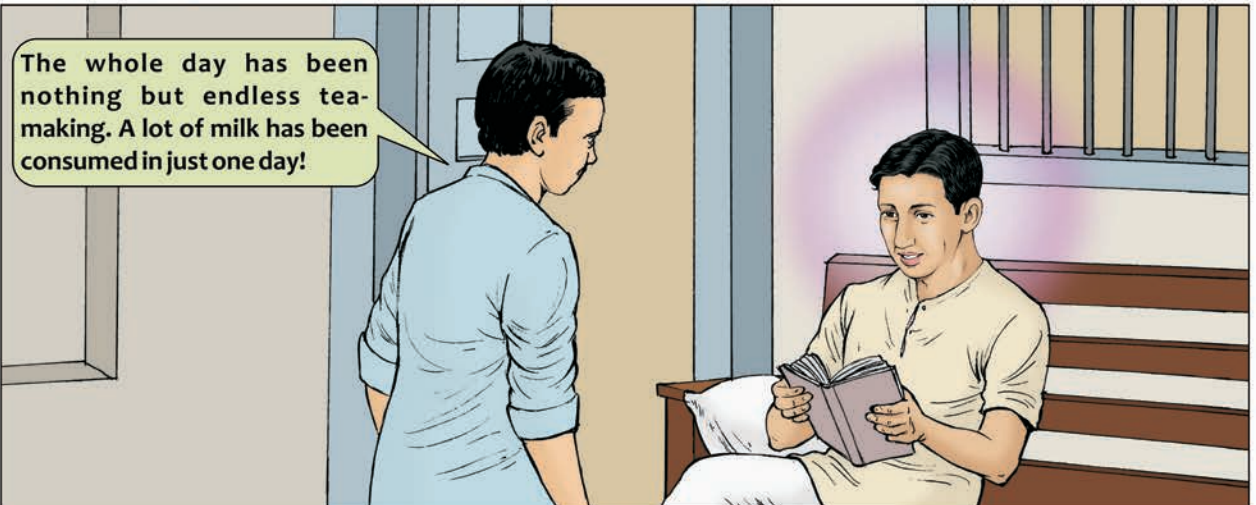
Ambalalbai had a cousin, who used to take charge of getting his room ready whenever Ambalalbai was visiting. He was so fond of Ambalalbai that every day he would make his bed and he wouldn't let anyone else touch it.

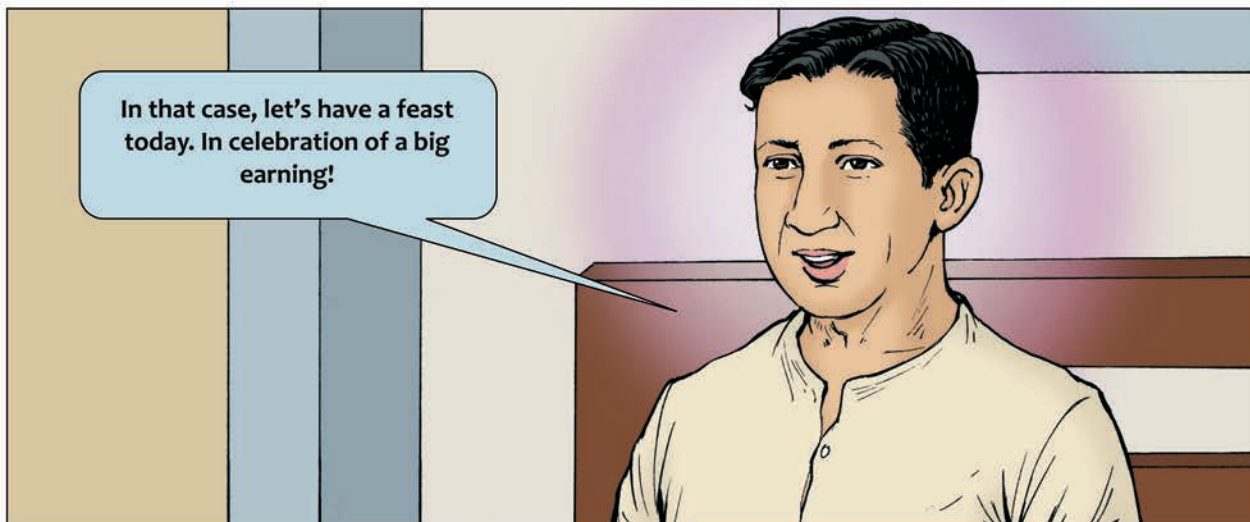


The same cousin once came to stay at Ambalalbai's house. One day during his stay, they were overwhelmed with so many guests coming and going that someone had to run out for milk three to four times so that tea could be served to all.

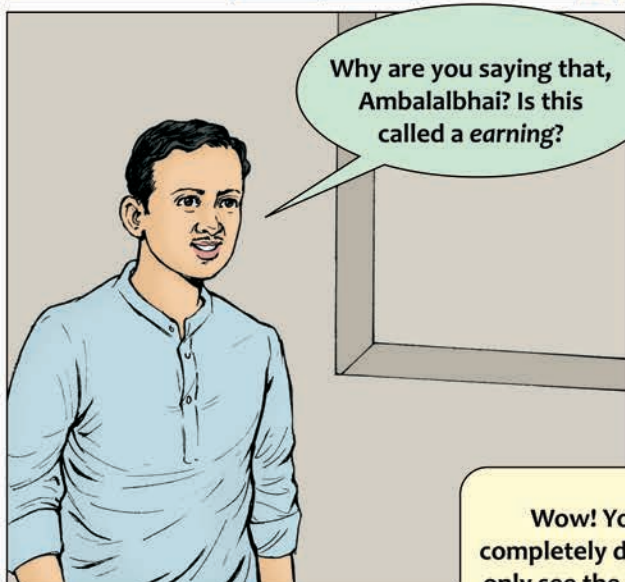


The whole day has been nothing but endless tea-making. A lot of milk has been consumed in just one day!





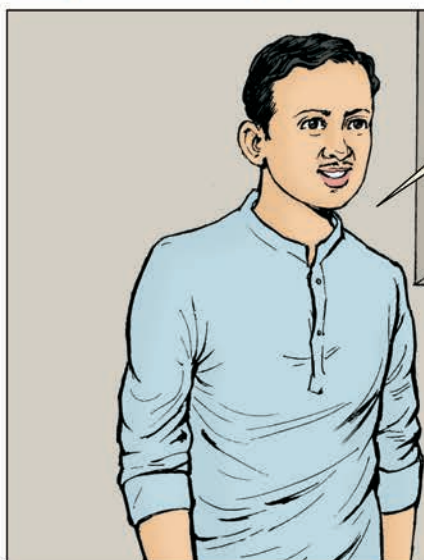
In that case, let's have a feast today. In celebration of a big earning!



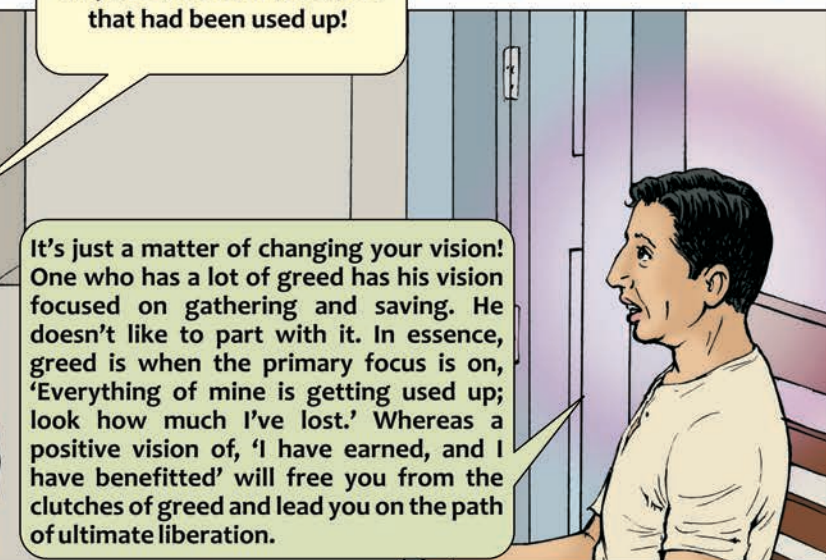
Why are you saying that, Ambalalbai? Is this called a *earning*?



Why brother! Those people who run hotels would be happy to receive more guests. Doesn't that mean good business for them!



Wow! Your vision is completely different! I could only see the amount of milk that had been used up!



It's just a matter of changing your vision! One who has a lot of greed has his vision focused on gathering and saving. He doesn't like to part with it. In essence, greed is when the primary focus is on, 'Everything of mine is getting used up; look how much I've lost.' Whereas a positive vision of, 'I have earned, and I have benefitted' will free you from the clutches of greed and lead you on the path of ultimate liberation.

Ambalalbhai's wife, Hiraba, had glaucoma in one eye. They went to the doctor for medical assistance. The doctor tried to treat the eye, but while doing so, the eye got damaged and Hiraba was left with permanent loss of sight in that eye.



Ambalalbhai and Hiraba didn't have children so when Hiraba lost an eye, according to people, Ambalalbhai was again eligible to re-marry. Anxious to settle their daughter into a good home, Ambalalbhai became a prospective son-in-law. One Patel from Bhadran approached Ambalalbhai and put forward a proposal on behalf of one of his relative.

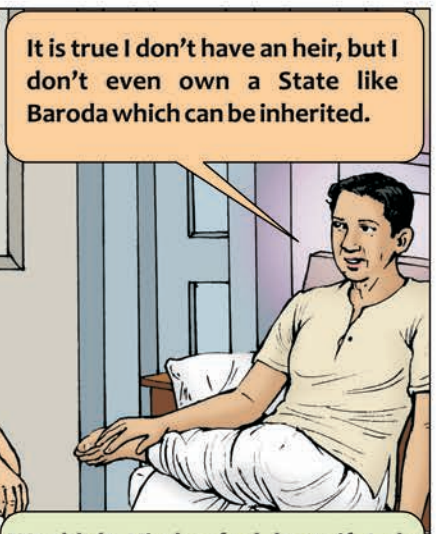




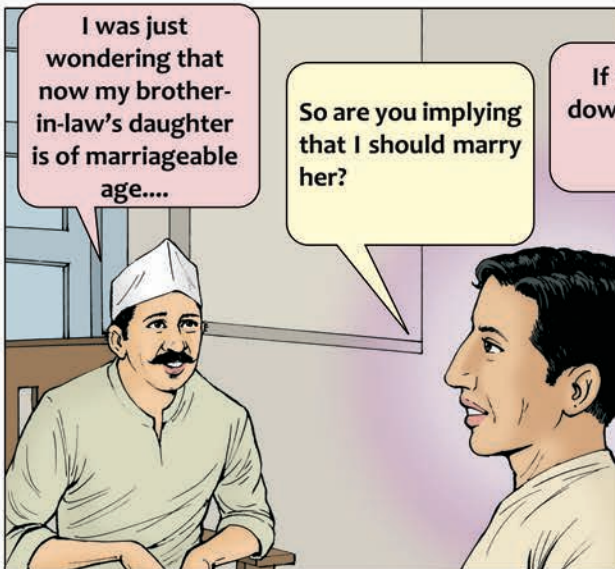
So, what are you trying to say?



You don't have any children either.



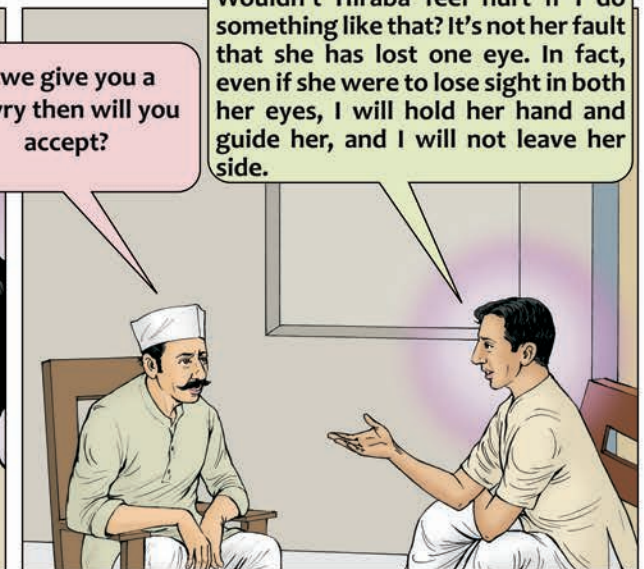
It is true I don't have an heir, but I don't even own a State like Baroda which can be inherited.



I was just wondering that now my brother-in-law's daughter is of marriageable age....

So are you implying that I should marry her?

If we give you a dowry then will you accept?



Wouldn't Hiraba feel hurt if I do something like that? It's not her fault that she has lost one eye. In fact, even if she were to lose sight in both her eyes, I will hold her hand and guide her, and I will not leave her side.

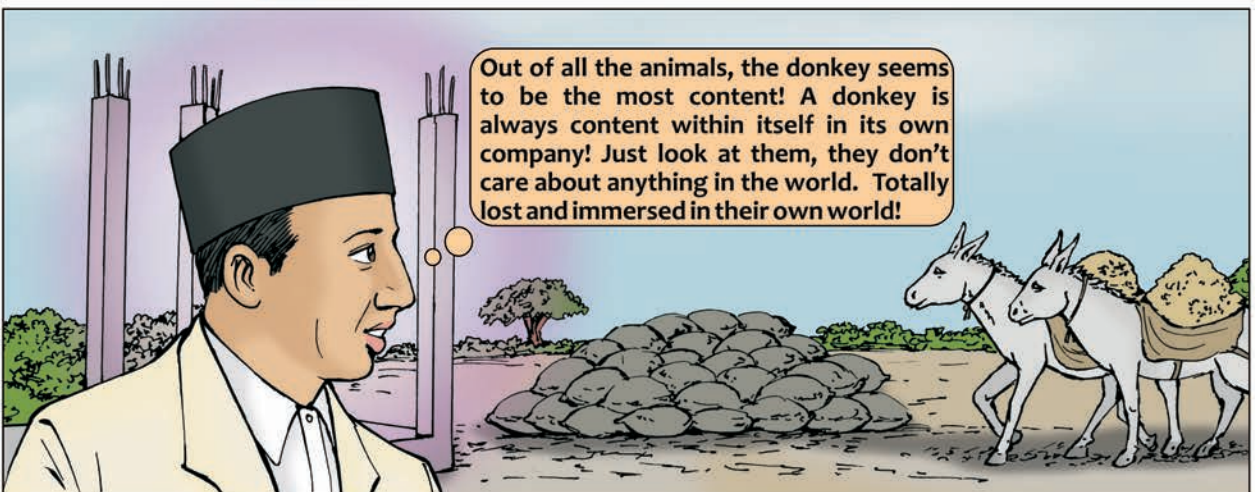


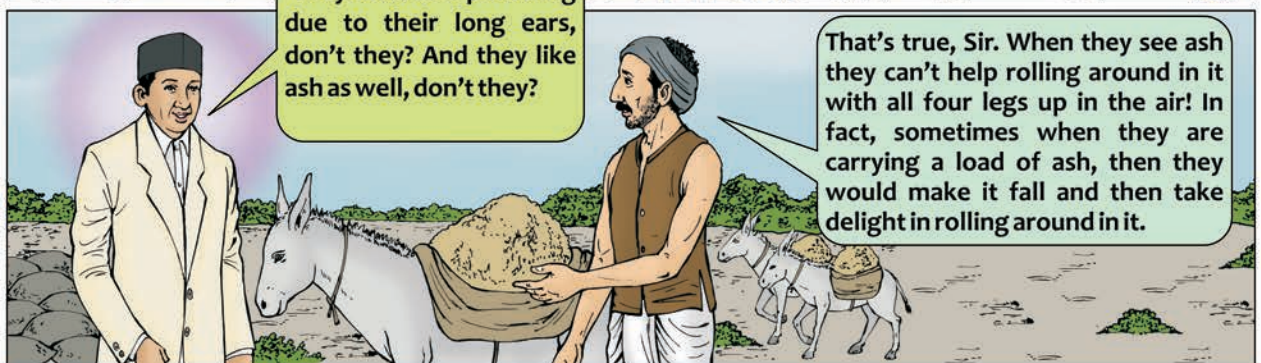
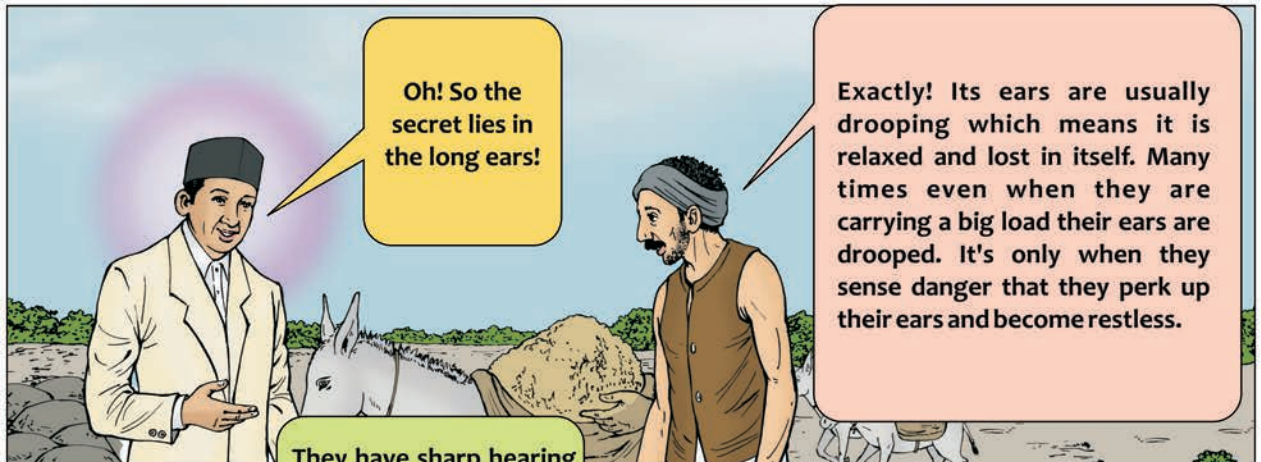
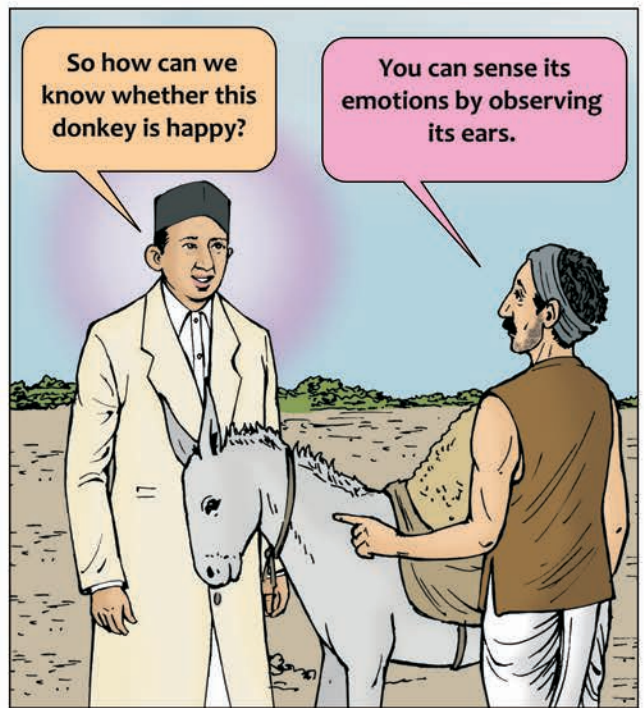
At the time of getting married, I had made a promise to Hiraba that we shall bear together whatever circumstances life may place upon us. That equates to a 'promise to pay' (vow). And I would never dream of breaking my word – even if the world turns upside down, a promise is a promise!

Ambalalbai's business involved taking contracts for construction work. He had various building projects on the go including construction of jetties in places like Elephanta, Jaygadh, Mandvi Bandar etc. where the foundation of the jetty would begin some forty to fifty feet under the sea.



Ambalalbai had to make site visits to ensure work was carried out properly. Materials like sand, bricks, bags of cement etc. were transported to the site on donkeys.



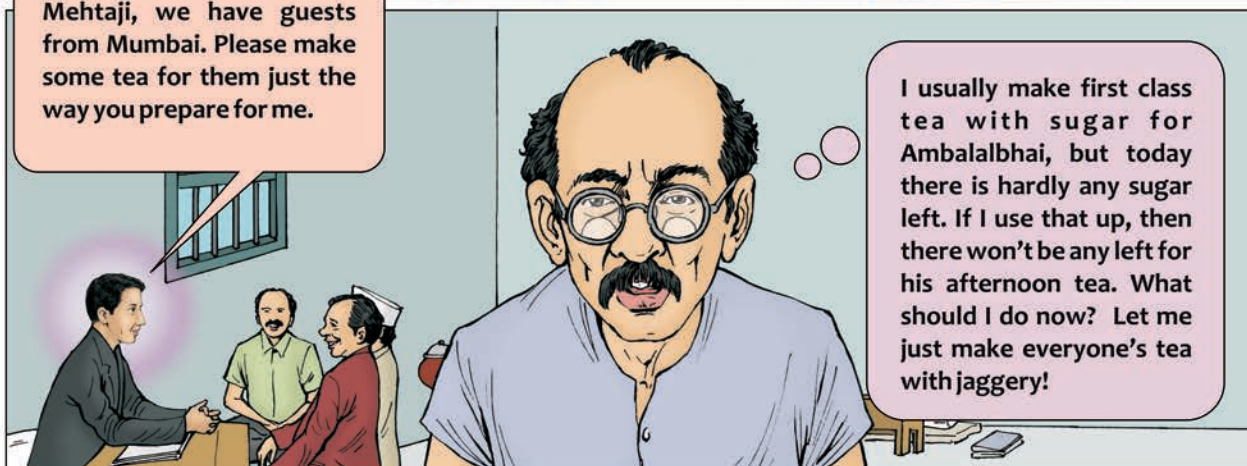


Ambalalbhay would treat everyone as his own no matter how 'big or small' the status of the person was. His focus was always on analysing the personality and characteristics of people and new things, and eventually he would link them to spiritual knowledge.

In Jaygadh, the construction of jetty was being carried out in full swing. One day three people from Mumbai paid a visit.

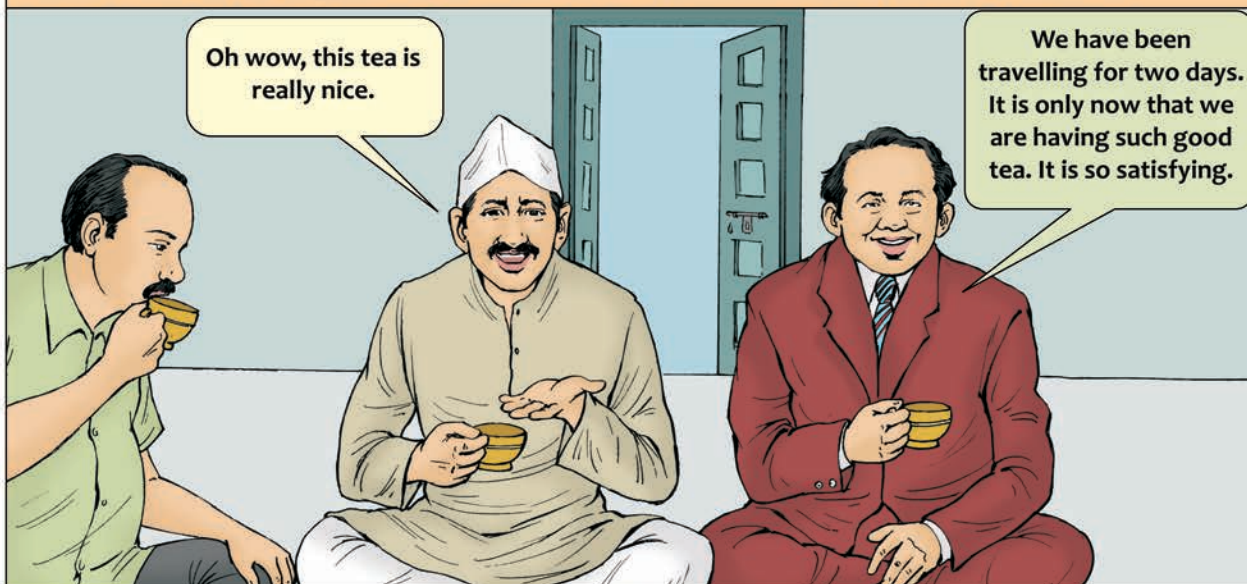


Mehtaji, we have guests from Mumbai. Please make some tea for them just the way you prepare for me.



I usually make first class tea with sugar for Ambalalbai, but today there is hardly any sugar left. If I use that up, then there won't be any left for his afternoon tea. What should I do now? Let me just make everyone's tea with jaggery!

Mehtaji made tea for the guests. He didn't make any for Ambalalbai because he already had some.



Oh wow, this tea is really nice.

We have been travelling for two days. It is only now that we are having such good tea. It is so satisfying.

They talked about business for a short while and left.

Mehtaji, you made really good tea today. All of them praised it.

Ambalalbhai, I had made it with jaggery.

Oh, you gave them tea with jaggery and still they praised it!

It is only because now you know that it was jaggery that you feel concerned. But people generally won't notice the difference.

Jaggery? But I had asked you to make tea like the one I normally have.

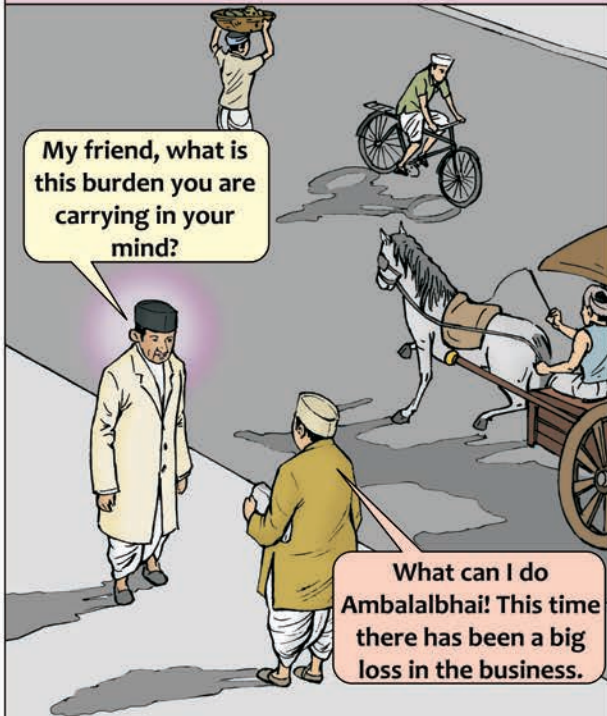
Yes, brother, but what else could I have done? There was very little sugar left so I decided to keep it for your afternoon tea and used jaggery for their tea.

But, these were guests from Mumbai!

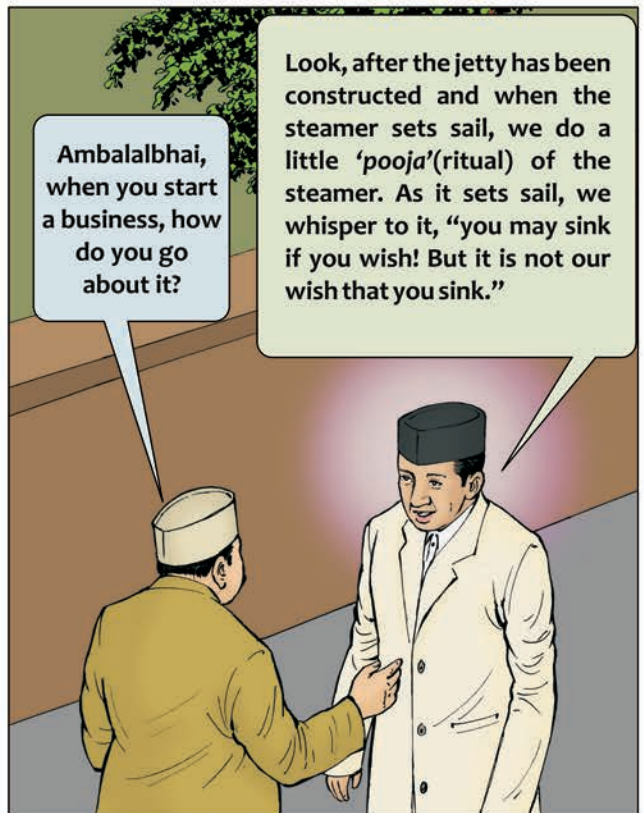
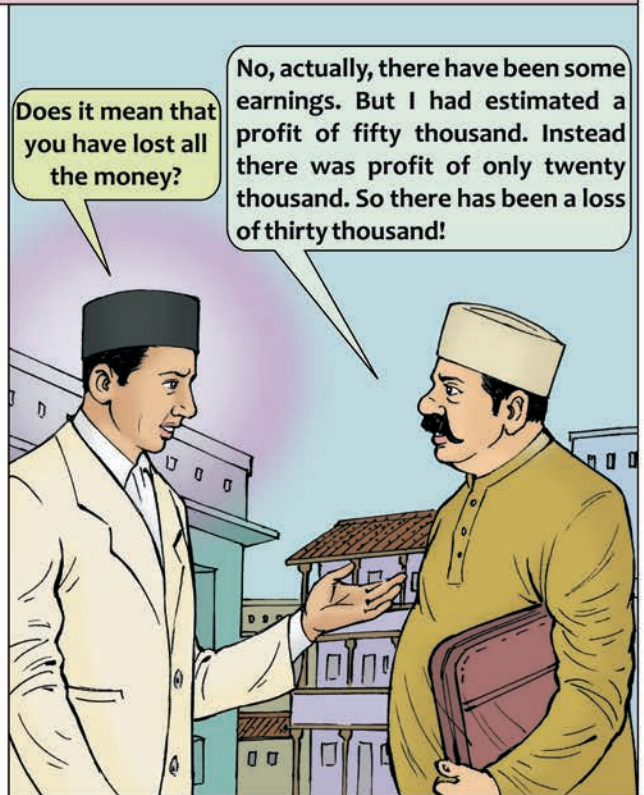
Whether they are from Mumbai or any other place in the world! People generally cannot differentiate between jaggery or sugar.

This is something to think about! If people cannot know whether the sweetness was from sugar or from jaggery once the mixture has been made, then how challenging it would be to distinguish between what's true and not true in this world!

One day Ambalalbai met a business colleague. He looked extremely worried.



What? You set expectations for yourself and when you don't achieve them, you assume that it's a loss and start moaning. What sort of attitude is that? In such a case I would underestimate and assume that ten thousand will be made. And then if I get twenty thousand from sales, then at least I will see a profit of ten thousand. That way I can remain content. No one is as happy as the one who pre-decides a loss in this way!



What is the point of saying 'you may sink if you wish' to the steamer?

It is a way of preparing the mind for the worst. And if the steamer does not sink, then it means that it's a bonus! If it really sinks then at least we are mentally prepared. If we tell the steamer that 'you can sink whenever you want', then that's risky, it's like sending it away for good. By saying 'it is not our wish that you sink', we play safe!

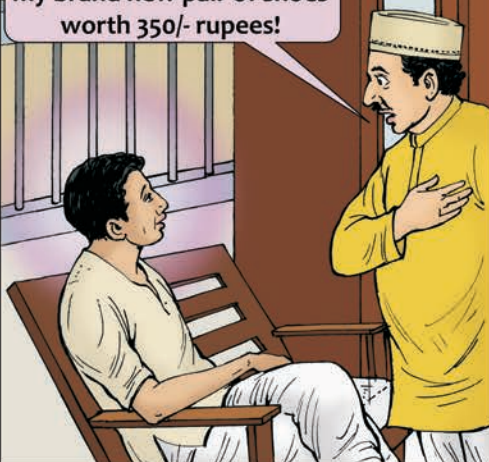


There is always a risk involved in business. If the earnings are more than anticipated, then it brings happiness. But what if there is a big loss? Then you would get a big shock! Therefore, before making any business deal Ambalalbbhai would always be mentally prepared for any unfortunate circumstances. However, at the end of the day happiness or sadness, profit or loss, are all matters of the mind.

A similar incident had occurred with a mill owner of Ahmedabad.

He was distraught and breathless when he approached Ambalalbbhai.

Ambalalbbhai, something terrible has happened! Someone has robbed me of my brand new pair of shoes worth 350/- rupees!



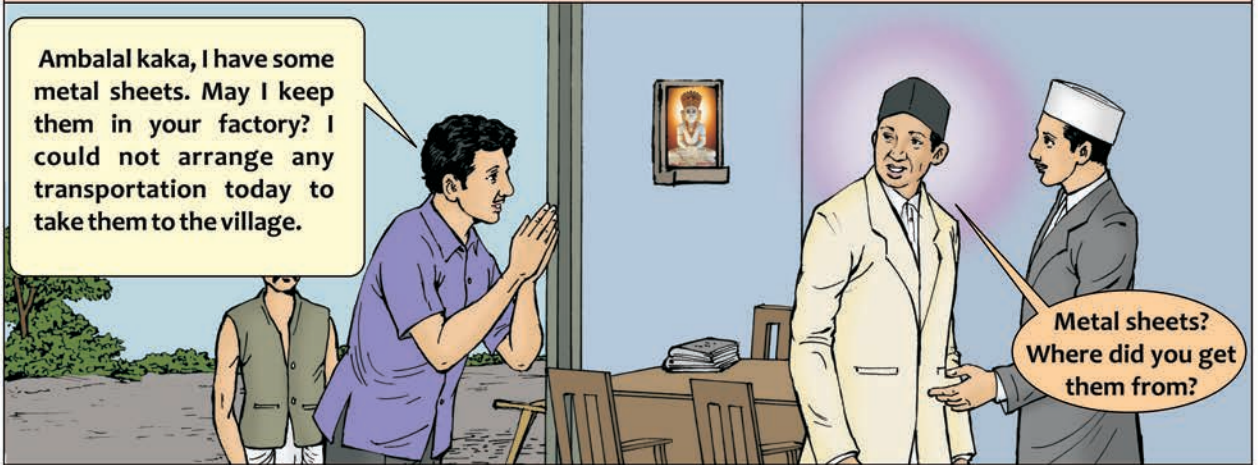
You should not moan about such things! Whenever we leave our shoes outside, always be aware that this sort of things can happen! When circumstances come together they are naturally going to dissipate. Hence, when an end comes, it shouldn't come as a shock to you. You will immediately accept it and won't feel hurt!



Ambalalbbhai always prepared himself mentally for any incident that might occur and always remained happy.

Besides the construction business, Ambalalbai also ran an iron and steel works business called 'Bitco Engineering Company' for a few years. During that period...

One day Ambalalbai was busy discussing some business tasks with his partner, when a person from his village appeared.

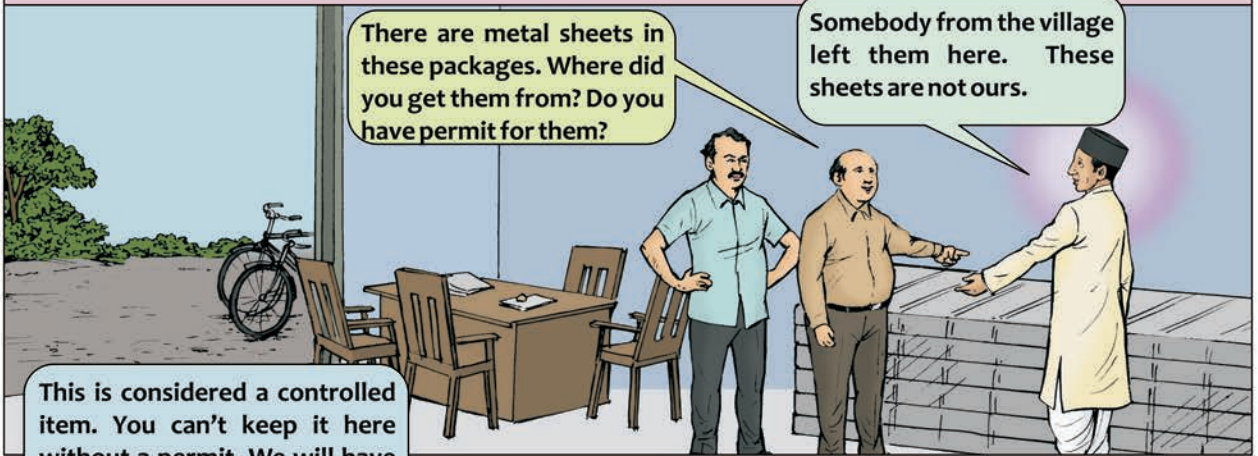


In those days, the buying and selling of metal sheets had to conform to government laws. Such items could not be traded without a government permit.

Without wasting any time this man brought six boxes inside the workshop, each box containing about eight metal sheets. Ambalalbai informed his business partner of this short term arrangement, 'let the poor fellow keep the stuff here. What do we have to lose?'



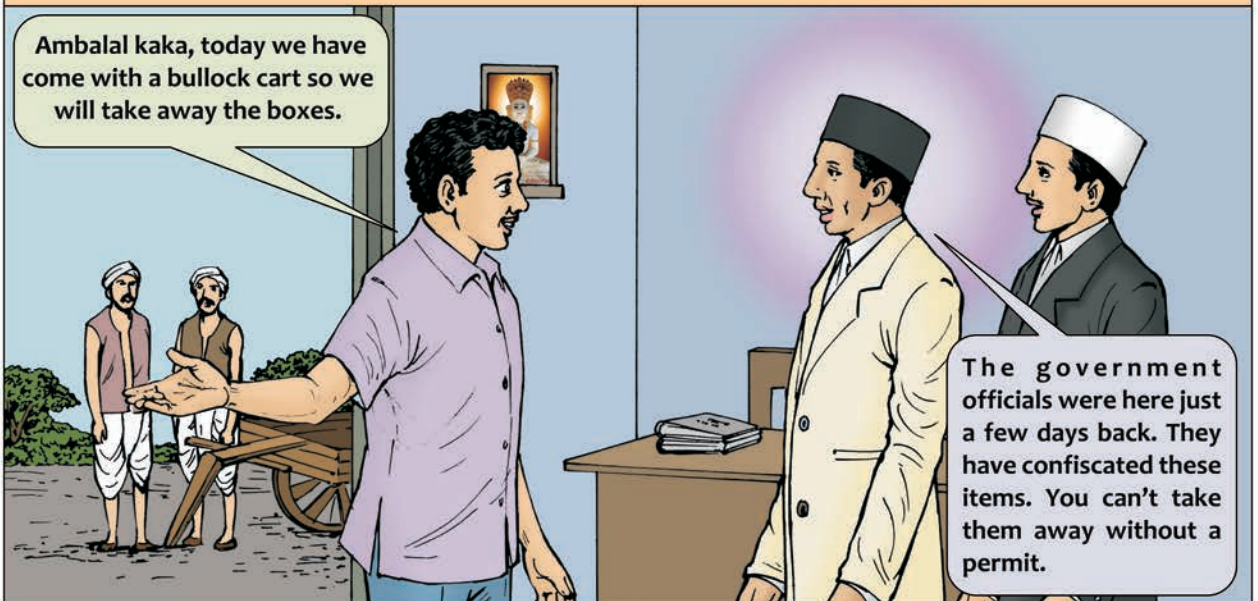
And then for the next 10 to 12 months that person did not turn up to collect his goods! The metal sheets were still lying in the factory. Incidentally, one day the government officials came to the factory for inspection.

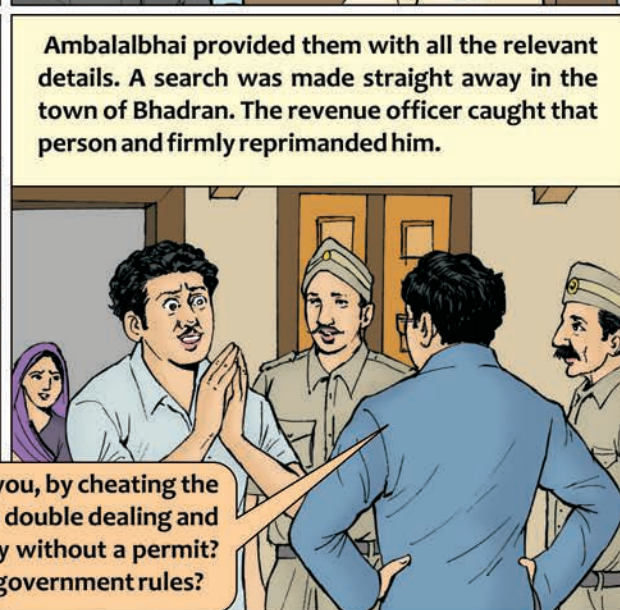
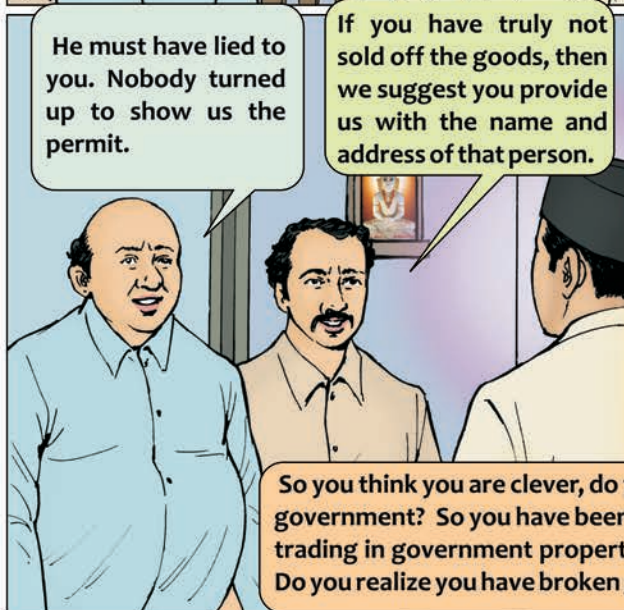
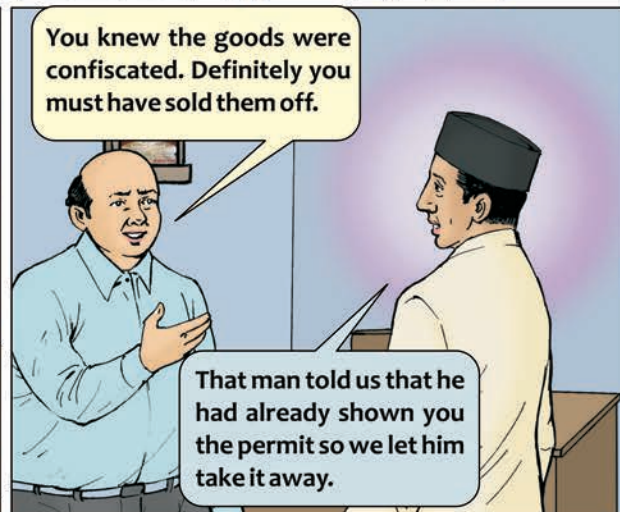
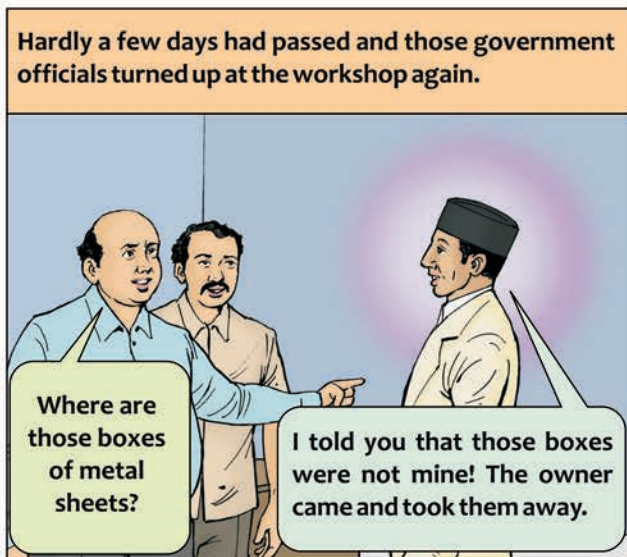
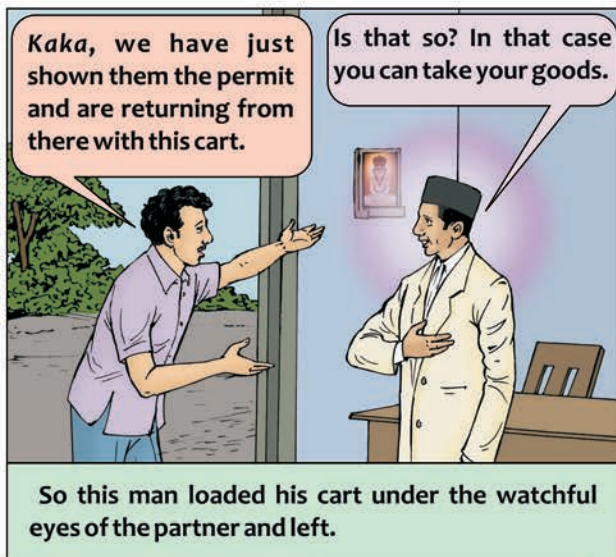


This is considered a controlled item. You can't keep it here without a permit. We will have to confiscate the goods.



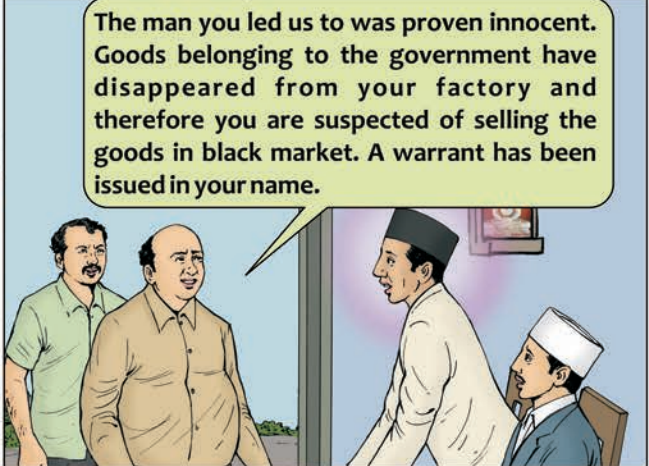
A few days later, the owner of the metal sheets turned up...







No evidence was found relating to the metal sheets at the man's house hence he was found not guilty and got away. The officials once again returned to Ambalalbai's factory.

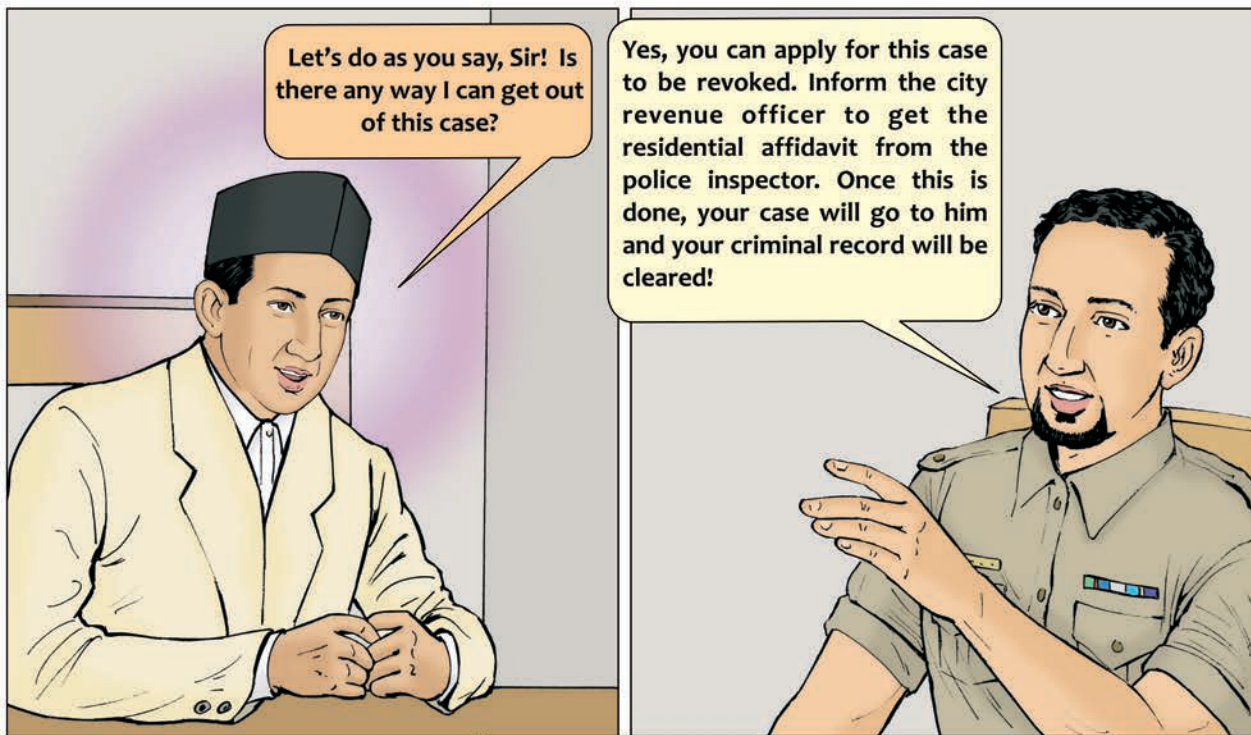


It was evening 5.30 p.m. Ambalalbai was sitting in his room when the police arrived with a warrant and took him to the police station. A fair young crime inspector, about 30 years of age, was sitting at the desk at the police station. His name was Ahmed Miya. As soon as he saw Ambalalbai, his sharp vision at once gauged out Ambalalbai's circumstances.



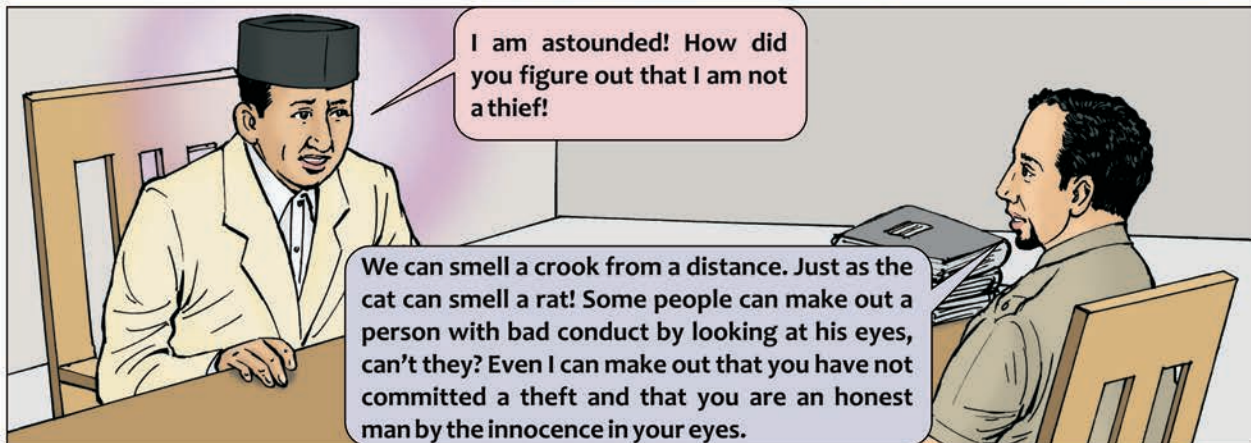
Ambalalbai explained in detail exactly how he got pulled into this mess.

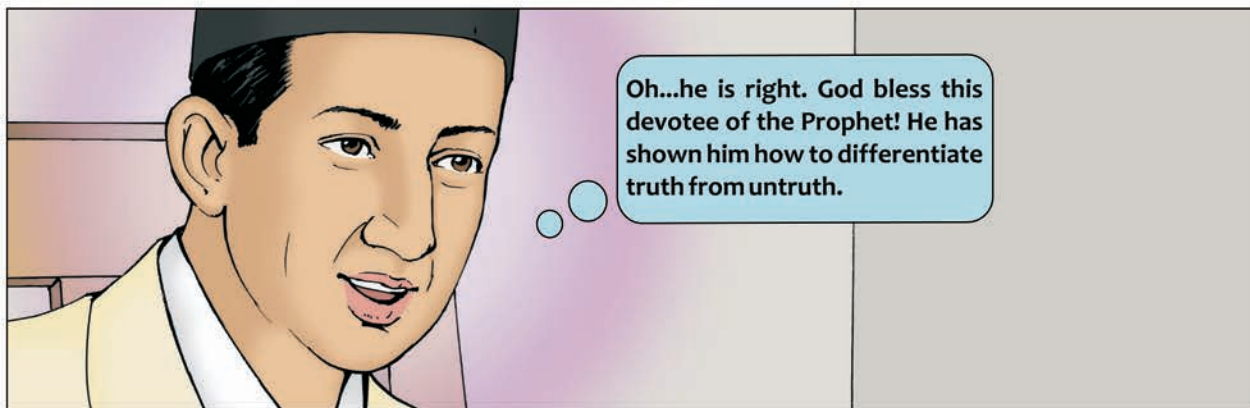




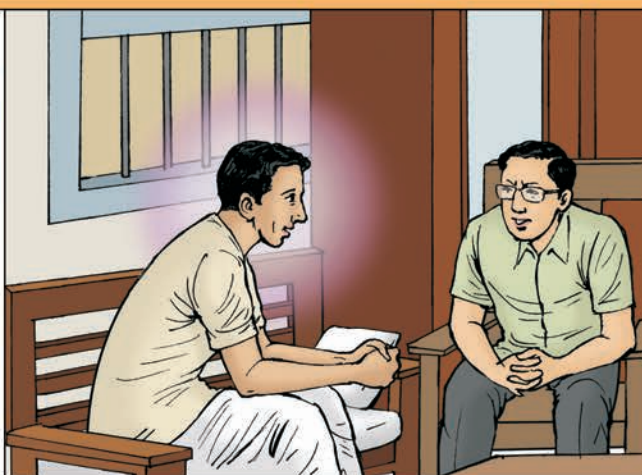
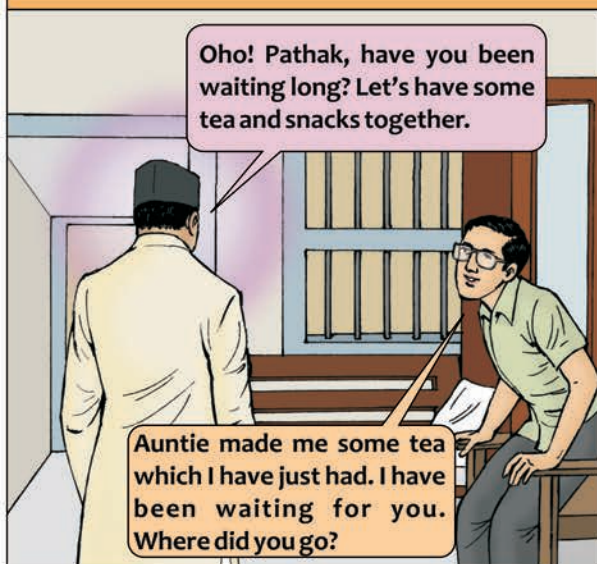
The crime inspector helped Ambalalbhai fill in a request form to revoke the criminal case.

He later ordered tea for Ambalalbhai. Moreover, he refused to take any money from Ambalalbhai.

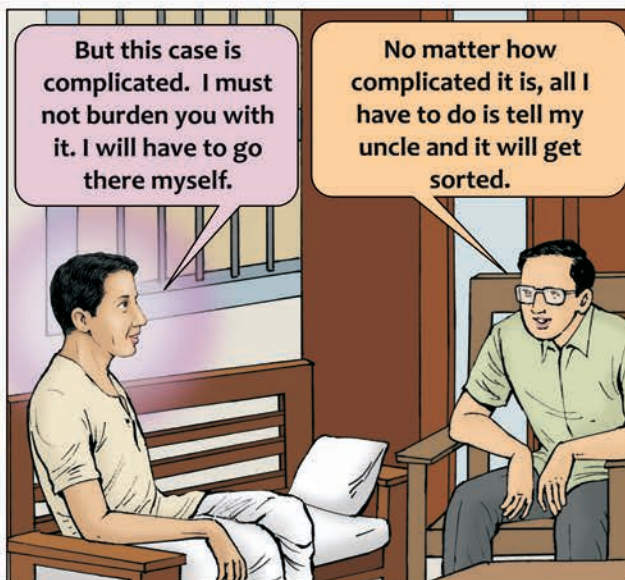
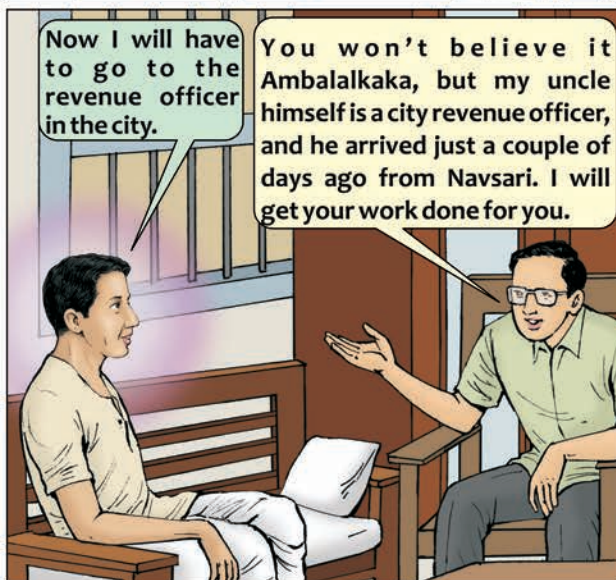


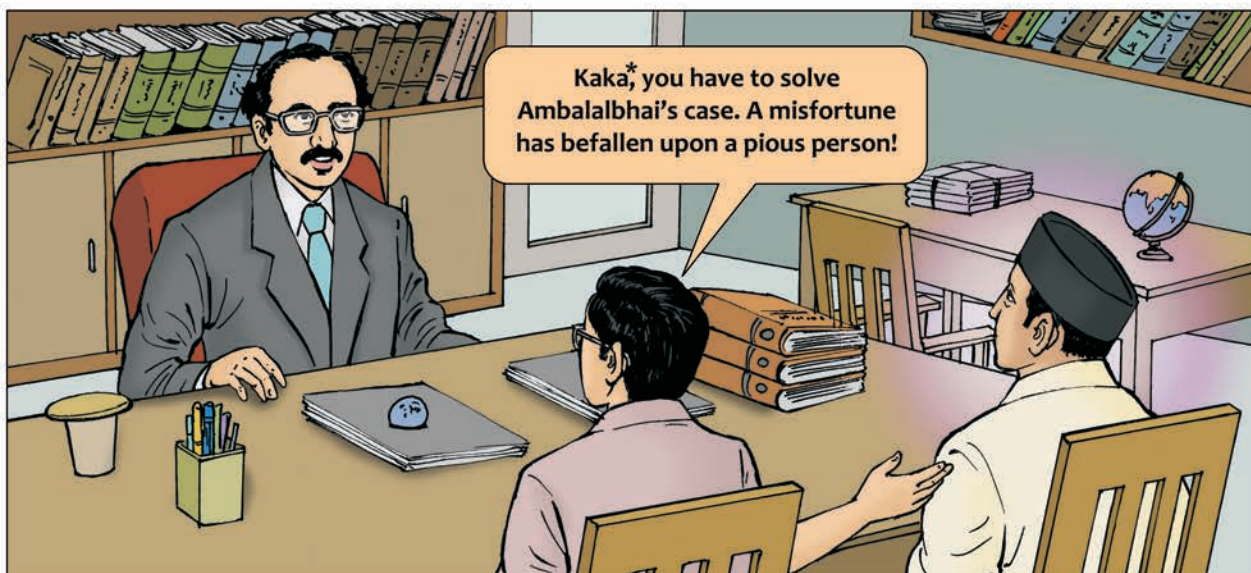


When he returned home, Ambubhai Pathak, was waiting for him. He had a diploma in construction and he often came to Ambalalbai to learn from him.

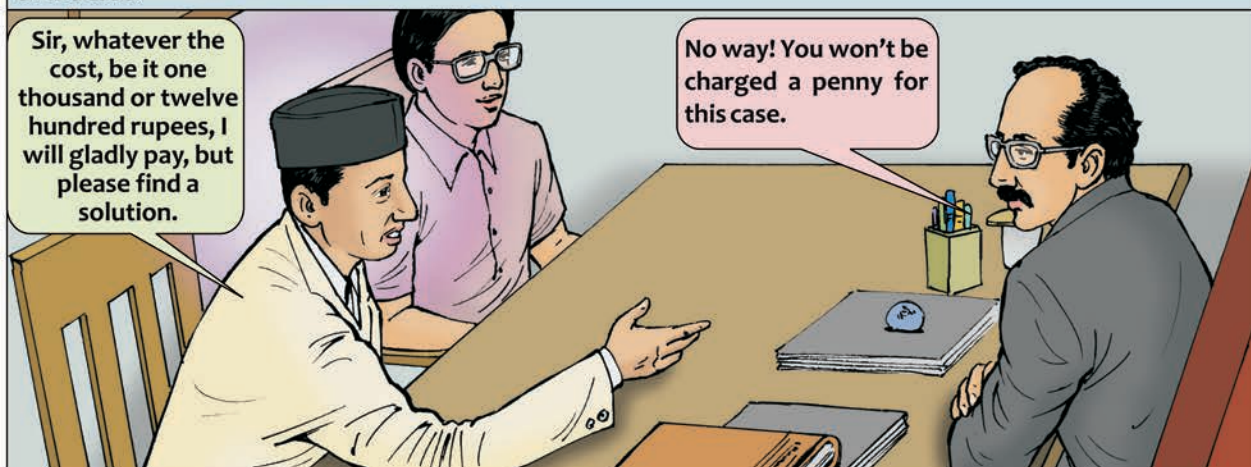


Ambalalbai narrated the whole ordeal to Pathak.

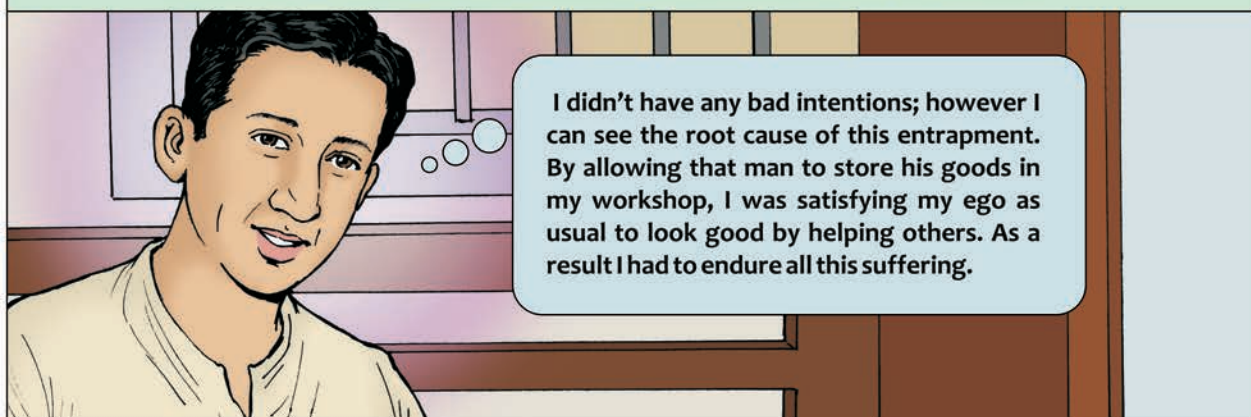




The city revenue officer read Ambalalbai's request which Ahmed Miya had suggested, and listened to details of the case.

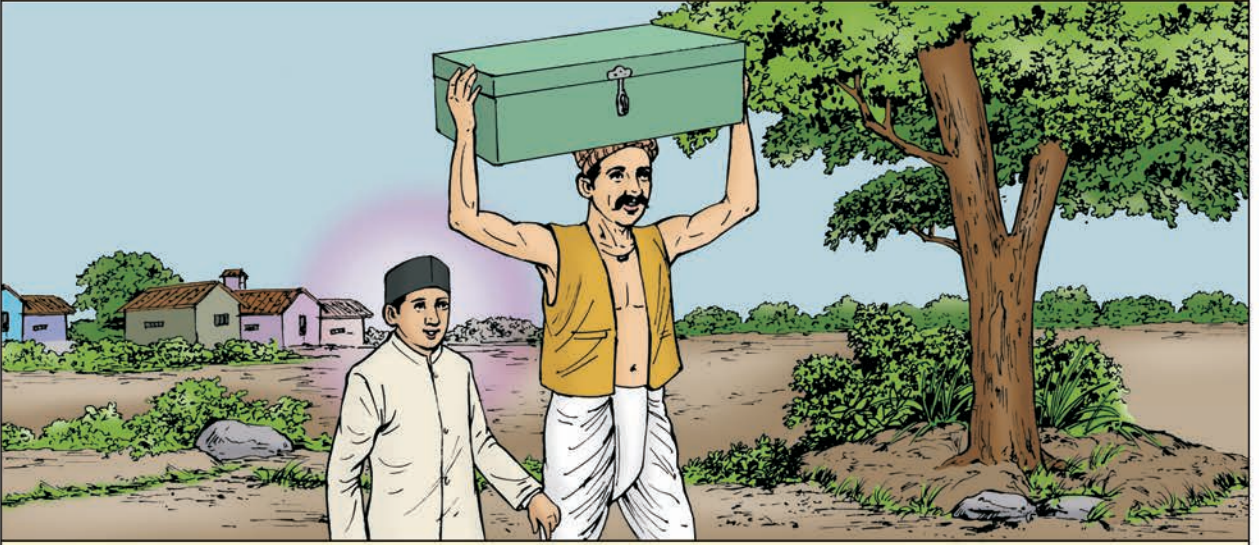


On that very day he closed the case and freed Ambalalbai from this dilemma.



Ambalalbai was determined to find out the root cause of any suffering and become free from it.

Right from childhood, Ambalalbai wasn't used to lifting heavy things. He would always find someone to carry his luggage for him. Even when he was as young as ten years of age he never got a chance to carry his luggage. The servant of whoever came to pick him up at the station would carry his bag for him. His dignity was such that he did not get chance to carry anything.



Ambalalbai never desired or insisted on possessing material things. He only kept things that were absolutely necessary. But he learnt from the city folk to carry bedding with him during long journeys, which soon became a habit. Taking along bedding created a good impression.



One day, while travelling to Vadodara, Ambalalbai had packed some raw mangoes in his luggage. Hence his luggage had become quite heavy. After getting off at the Vadodara station ...

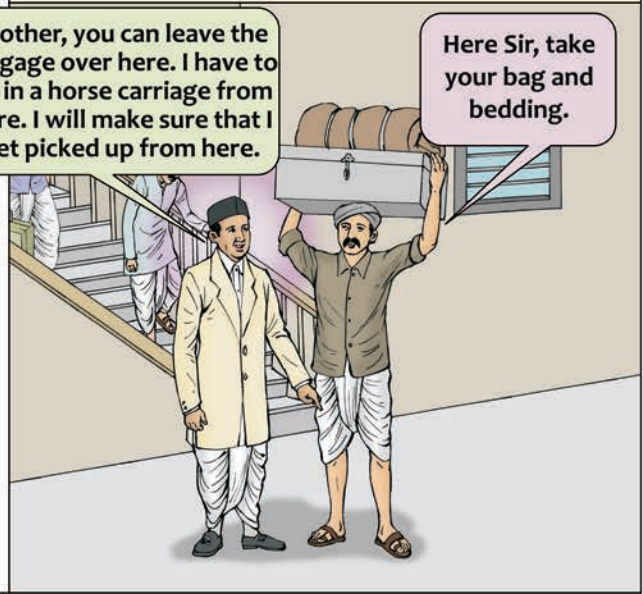
The luggage was too heavy for the porter to lift it all by himself, so Ambalalbai helped him lift it up onto his head.

They crossed the platform and made their way out of the station.

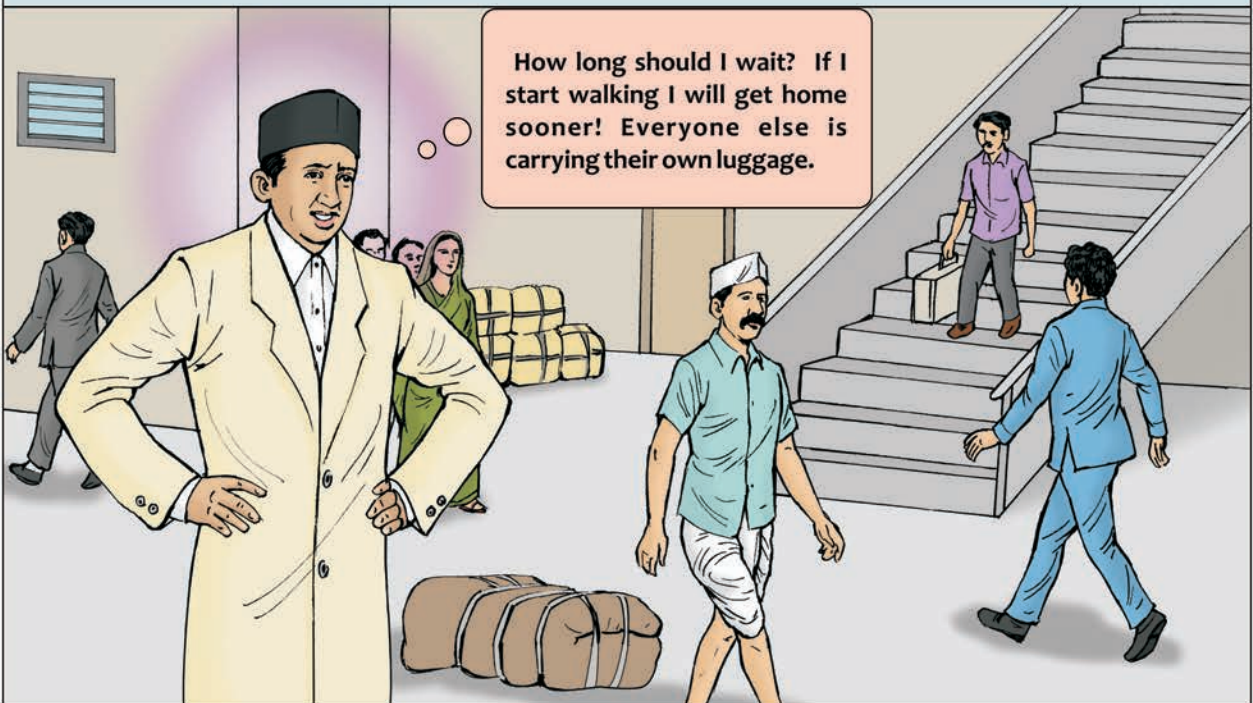


Brother, you can leave the luggage over here. I have to go in a horse carriage from here. I will make sure that I get picked up from here.

Here Sir, take your bag and bedding.



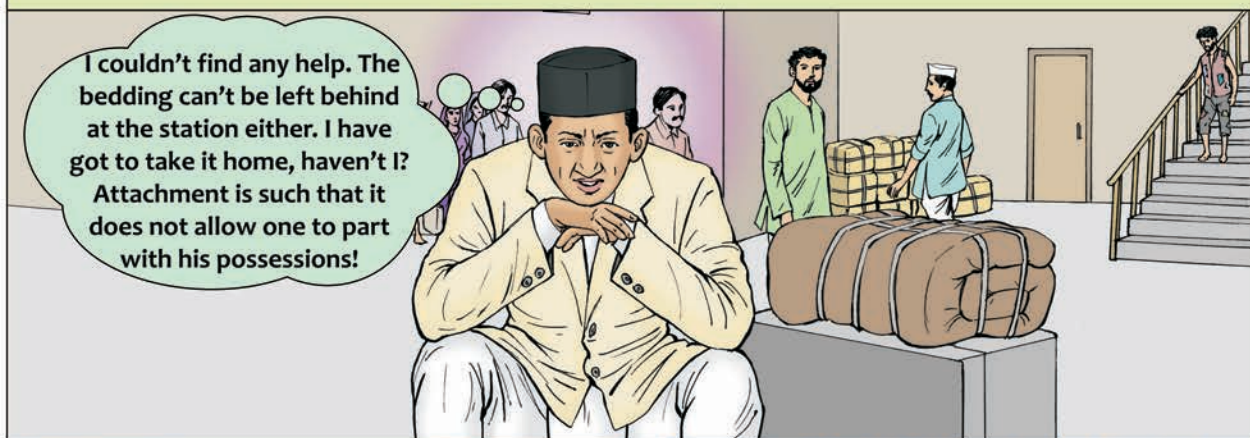
Ambalalbai paid the porter and sent him off and then waited for the horse carriage. After some time, when the horse carriage did not show up, Ambalalbai began to feel restless.



How long should I wait? If I start walking I will get home sooner! Everyone else is carrying their own luggage.

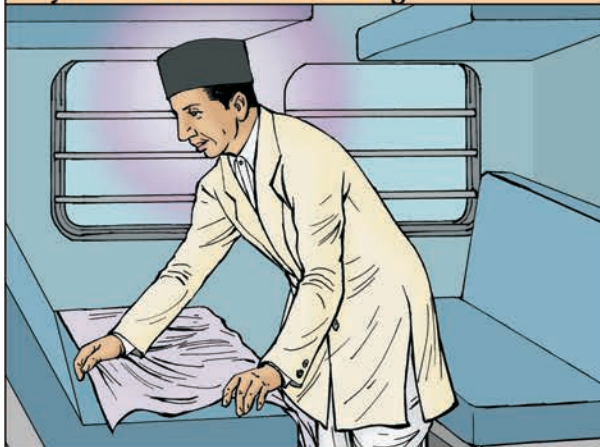


But the bedding was too heavy to lift. So Ambalabhai had to wait half an hour before the horse carriage arrived. He felt quite frustrated as so much time had been wasted.



I have lost my independence because of that! From now on I will take only what I can carry by myself. Why did I get into competition with others?

Thereafter, if Ambalabhai needed to sleep in the train he would spread out one single bed sheet and keep a thin pillow. He made it a point to take only what he could fit in his one bag.

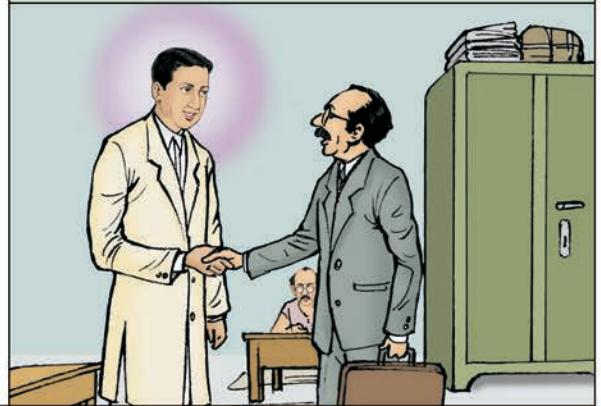


In this way, he would allow his experiences to guide him and let go of old habits. Whenever he learnt a lesson from something he would immediately change his ways and was determined never to make that mistake again.

Ambalabhai lived a simple life. His business partner advised him to always travel in upper class during train journeys. Hence, from 1942 onwards he started travelling in upper class, but he never enjoyed the experience. Very few people travelled in upper class and they were usually people with etiquette. Ambalabhai felt uncomfortable around them as they came across as being opportunists.



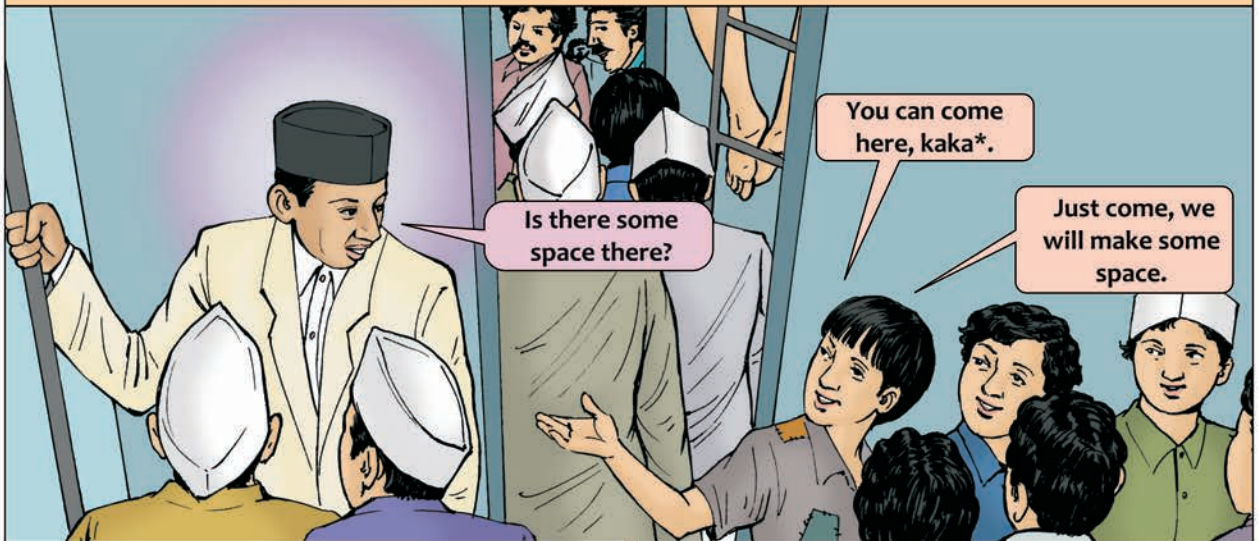
The passenger asked many more questions and even managed to get Ambalabhai's exact address. One day he even surprised Ambalabhai by turning up at his house in Mumbai with a selfish motive. When people asked Ambalabhai such questions, he would answer truthfully as he couldn't tell a lie. As a result many people took advantage of him.



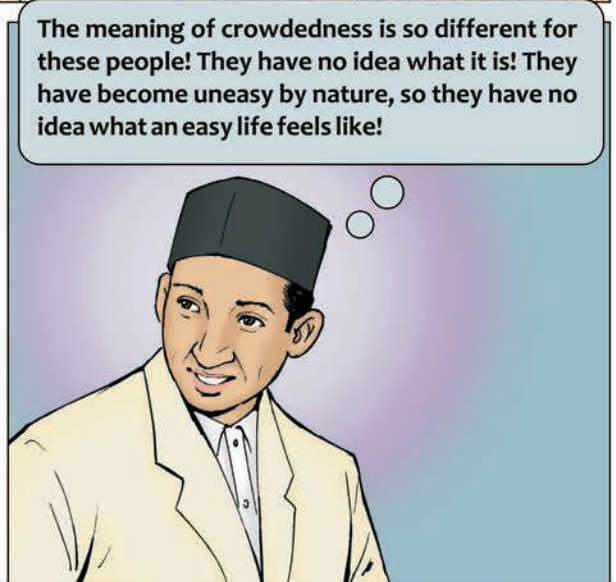
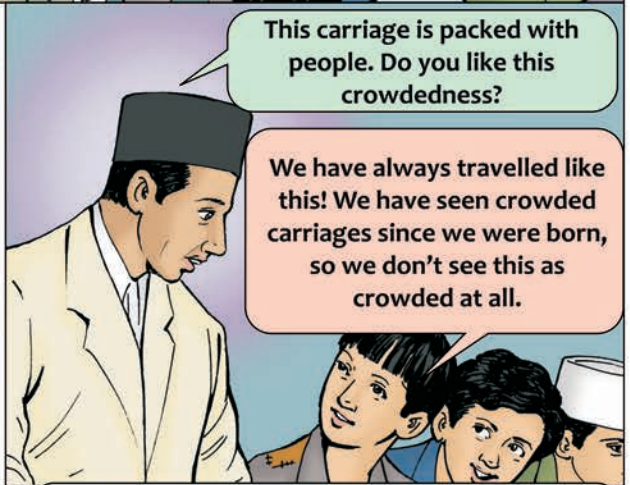
Therefore, to be safe from the headache of such people he decided to travel by third class, which was normally very crowded and there were hardly any empty seats available! Ambalabhai would carry with him only one large suitcase, which was sturdy and easy to carry. As soon as he entered a carriage, he would find a space for his suitcase and sit on it!



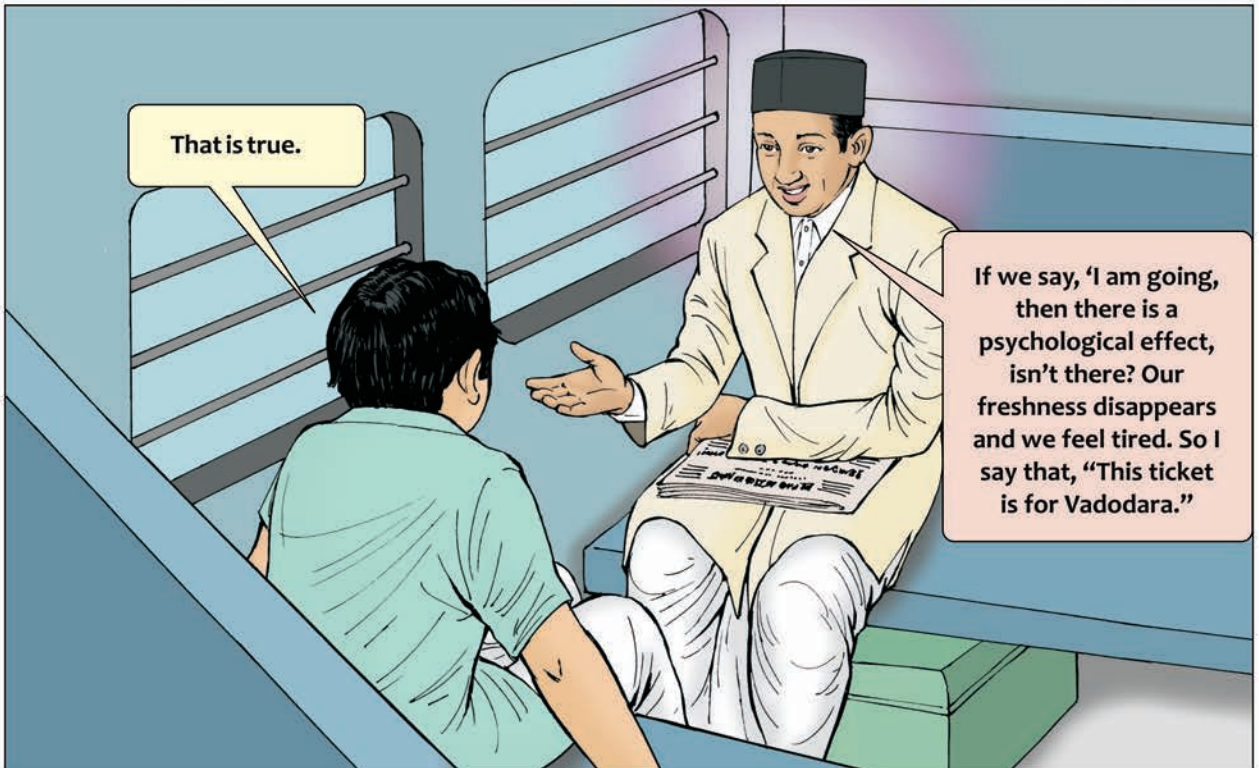
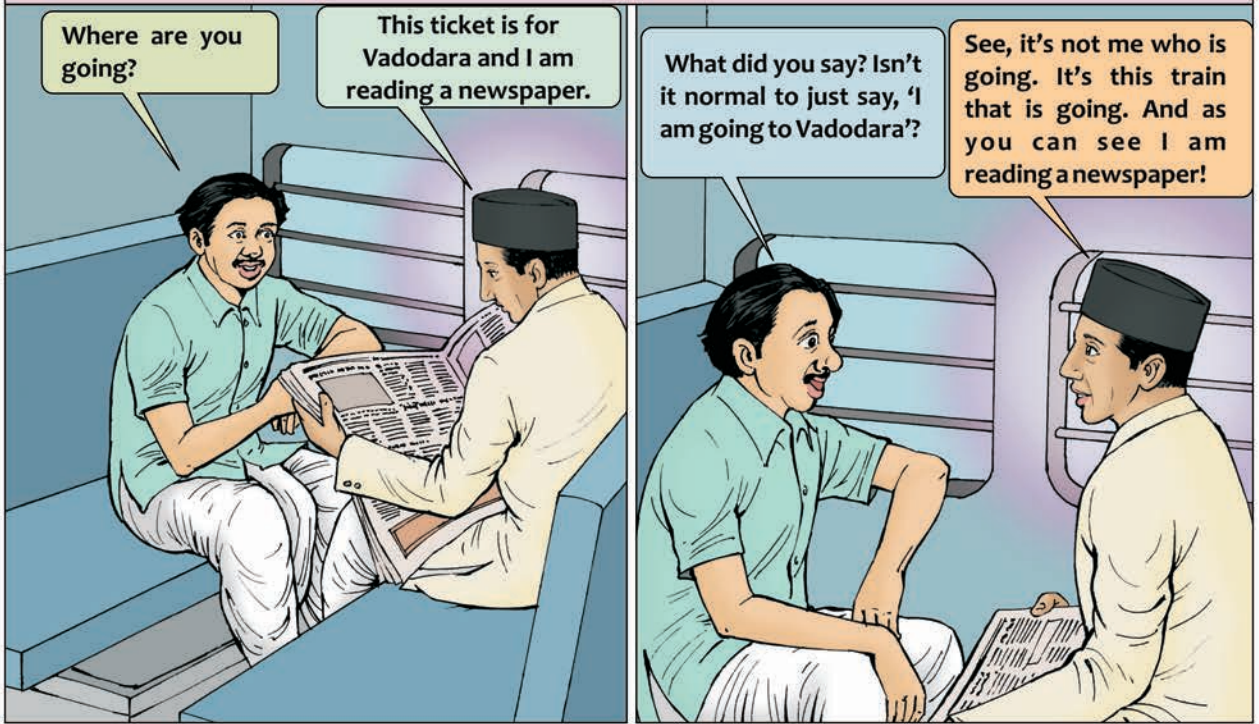
Sometimes the carriages were so crowded, that there was no space at all for his suitcase!



The children squeezed in a little to make some room.



During a train journey from Mumbai to Vadodara, every passenger has in mind that 'I am going to Vadodara'.



Ambalalbhai always used to be alert in this way. That is why he never felt tired from long journeys and remained fresh as he was able to dwell in bliss during that free period of time.

Whenever Ambalalbai's cousin needed some money, he had formed a habit of helping himself to some cash from Ambalalbai's coat pocket. Having been born and raised in a 'Kshatriya' (warrior caste) family, asking for money seemed as good as dying!

One day...

Brother, do you know that whenever I needed money, I have helped myself to small amounts of cash from your pocket?

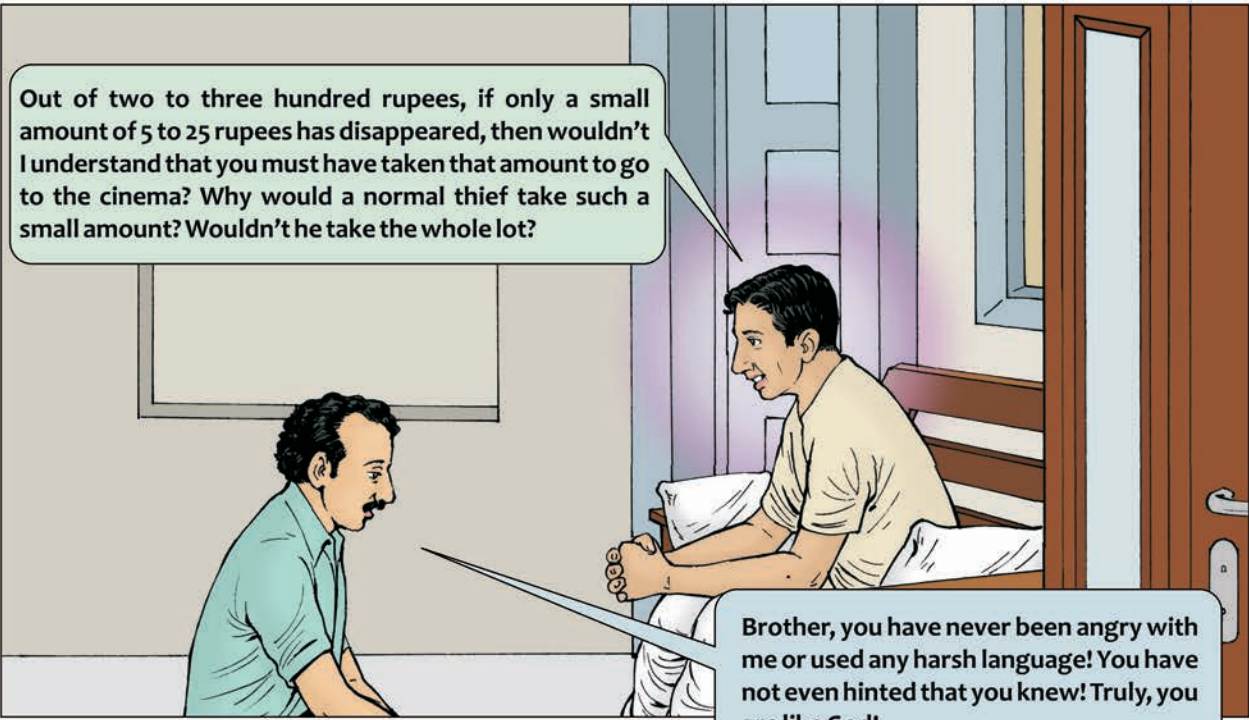
Of course I know! I know who has been taking it!

But brother, you have never told me about this. You have neither become angry with me nor have verbally shown your disapproval. So I was under the impression that you were not aware of this.

Of course I would know whenever the money became less! I knew it all along, but didn't say anything. I understand that it is not in our blood to ask for something, so I just kept quiet. Where else would you have gone if you needed some money?

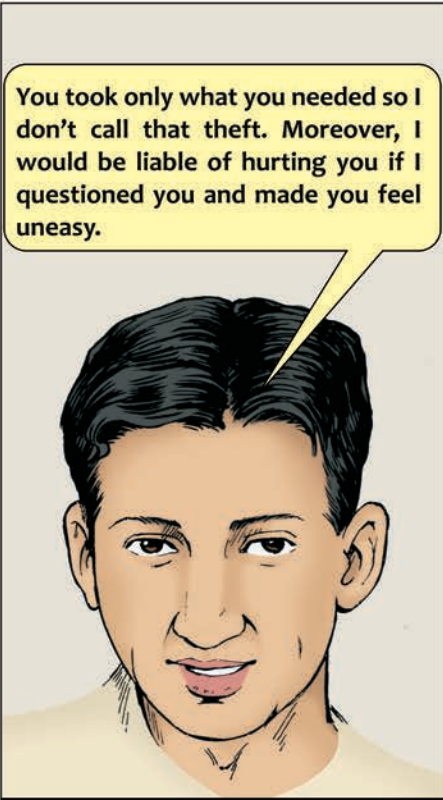
Even I don't think I can ever ask anyone. In fact, I have found it difficult to ask for repayment of my own money after I have lent it to someone. I would think that he would feel miserable if I ask for the money and he didn't have the capacity to return it. That is why I can understand your hesitation to ask.

I used to take money from your pocket once in a month or two months when I was in need.




Out of two to three hundred rupees, if only a small amount of 5 to 25 rupees has disappeared, then wouldn't I understand that you must have taken that amount to go to the cinema? Why would a normal thief take such a small amount? Wouldn't he take the whole lot?


Brother, you have never been angry with me or used any harsh language! You have not even hinted that you knew! Truly, you are like God!



You took only what you needed so I don't call that theft. Moreover, I would be liable of hurting you if I questioned you and made you feel uneasy.



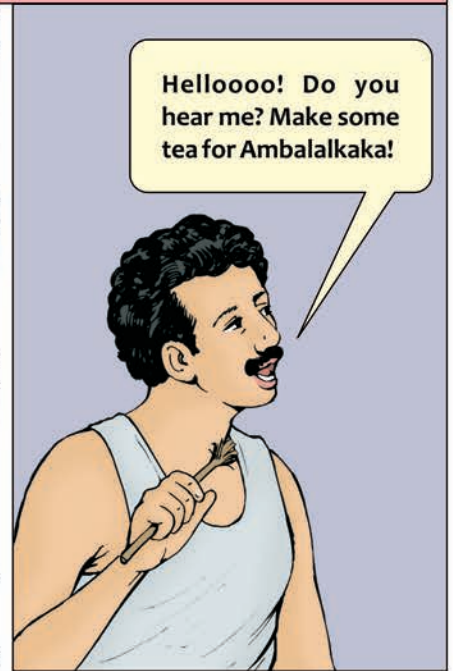
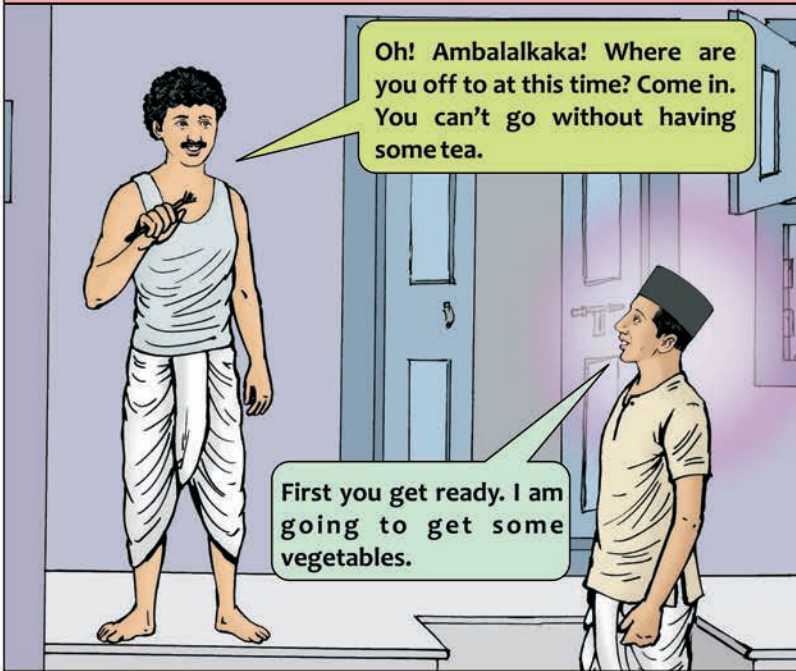
You have an amazing insight!



In which case your reputation remains intact and so does mine!

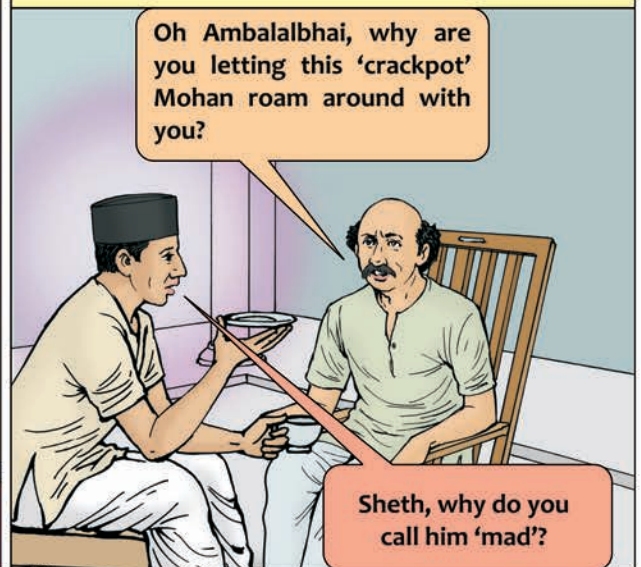
People used to undergo transformation by coming into contact with Ambalalbhai. Those who saw Ambalalbhai's actions in a positive way, actually improved their understanding and had a change of heart and became virtuous.

A well-to-do businessman by the name of Mohanbhai used to live in the same neighbourhood as Ambalalbhai. He was quite good looking and used to wear a long over-coat just like Ambalalbhai. He was very straightforward by nature and had a fondness towards Ambalalbhai. One morning Mohanbhai was doing datan* when Ambalalbhai happened to pass by.



Mohanbhai, with his datan* in hand, led Ambalalbhai into the house and wholeheartedly offered him some tea.

Ambalalbhai had good relations with Mohanbhai's father and uncle. They had a lot of respect for Ambalalbhai. Ambalalbhai would evaluate a person by his wholeheartedness. In his eyes, Mohanbhai was an honest and warm-hearted man. However, his father, uncle and family members used to call him 'crackpot'.



Since some time I have opened a shop for Mohan. I have been telling him to go and earn at least ten rupees. He is not even capable of that. I wonder why this 'crackpot' has been born as my son!



Why, Mohanbhai, you should respect your father, shouldn't you? Why should he have to complain about you? Why are you not earning any money?



My father is telling me to earn ten rupees by any means possible. Even if it means by incorrect weighing or overcharging customers! But I have no intention to earn money in this way. My father has a lot of wealth. He has earned thousands of rupees. So I don't see any point in going through this anxiety to earn money by cheating.



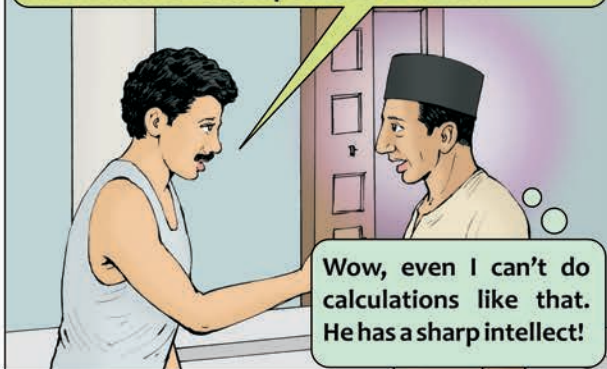
Fair enough, you may not want to tread the wrong path to earn money, but you will end up inheriting this wealth from your parents! So don't spoil your inner intentions towards them.



What ridiculous times we are in! Such a straightforward and honest person, but just because he can't earn a living the wrong way, he is considered 'mad'! And, all those who know how to earn money are considered worthy and smart! The one who truly is 'mad' is considered 'worthy' if he is capable of earning money!



Uncle, it is a good thing that one can't take anything with them when they die. If that was possible then my father would leave me with a debt of five hundred thousand rupees. He would take a stack of 1000 rupee notes with him.



Wow, even I can't do calculations like that. He has a sharp intellect!

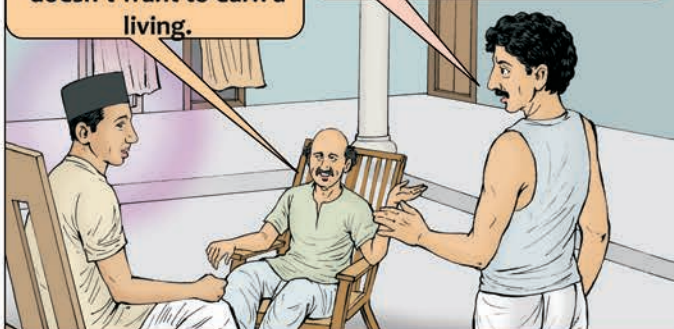
Ambalalbhai then went to talk to Mohanbhai's father.

He is such a humble and straightforward person and yet you call him 'mad'. Aren't you ashamed? How can it be acceptable for his own family to call him 'mad'? Make sure that you don't call him names again! He was a saint in his previous life. A holy person has come into your house.



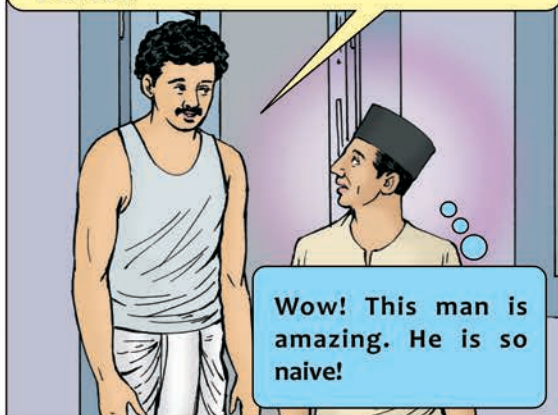
We have been telling him to go and renounce everything and join the Jain monastery if he doesn't want to earn a living.

No, no, I don't want to join a monastery. Over there one has to serve a 'Guru Maharaj', which I am not willing to do.



After that, his father stopped uttering negative words about Mohanlal.

Ambalalkaka, upto now you have only witnessed the insults I get at home. I want to show you other places outside where I get insulted.



Wow! This man is amazing. He is so naive!

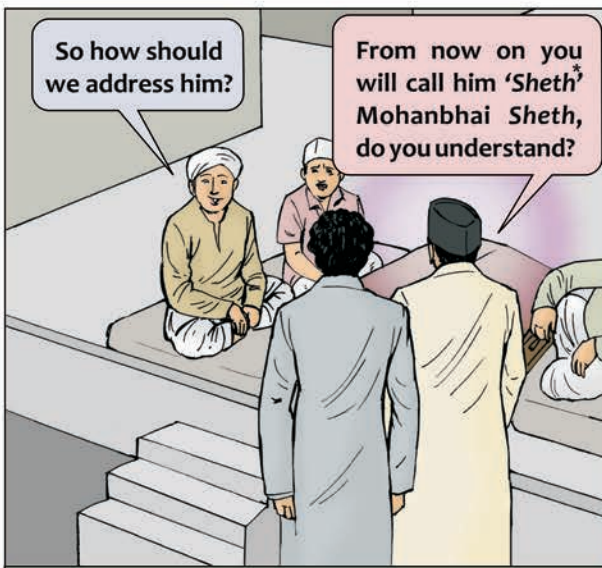
Mohanbhai took Ambalalbhai to one shop where the owner and a few other people enjoyed making fun of others. They knew how naive Mohanbhai was. They started mocking at Mohanbhai in the presence of Ambalalbhai.

Does it suit you to speak such degrading words? Who are you making fun of? Do you have any idea who this is?



Yes, we know all too well!

Are you taking advantage of this man's straightforward nature? How can you say such hurtful things? Do you know him? He is a businessman right now, but he was a saint in the previous life! You have no idea that by doing this you are bringing harm upon your own self! From now on, you had better stop teasing him!

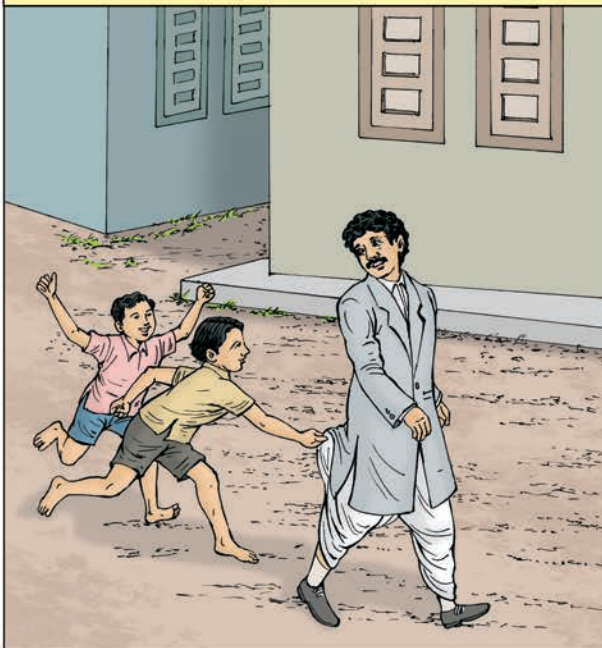


After this warning, those three men stopped teasing Mohanbhai. They changed the way they looked upon him.

Similarly, there was a tailor in another shop. He used to harass Mohanbhai by taunting him. Even this tailor got reprimanded by Ambalalbai. From that day the tailor stopped his abusive ways and started addressing Mohanbhai as 'Mohanbhai Sheth'.



Even little kids used to pester Mohanbhai and upset him. As soon as he was out and about the kids would come and pull out the end of his dhoti!** This would annoy Mohanbhai, and the kids would pester him even more and clap with glee!

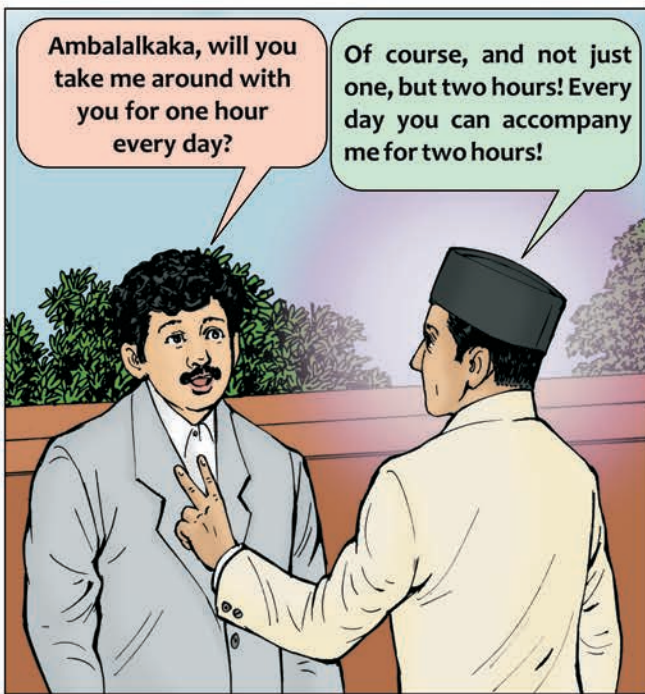


*Sheth- big merchant of repute

Eh Mohanbhai, there is no point in getting annoyed! The more you get annoyed, the more they will pester you. People like to tease those who tend to get annoyed. If someone pulled out the end of my dhoti, I would start laughing with them! Then they would not find it so much fun and give up!



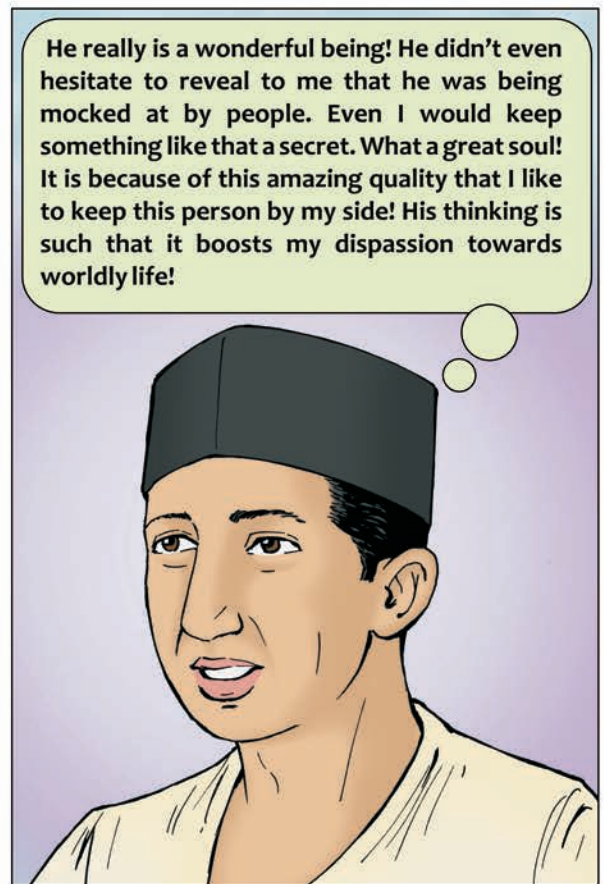
**Dhoti- men's clothing wrapped around the waist



Ambalalkaka, will you take me around with you for one hour every day?

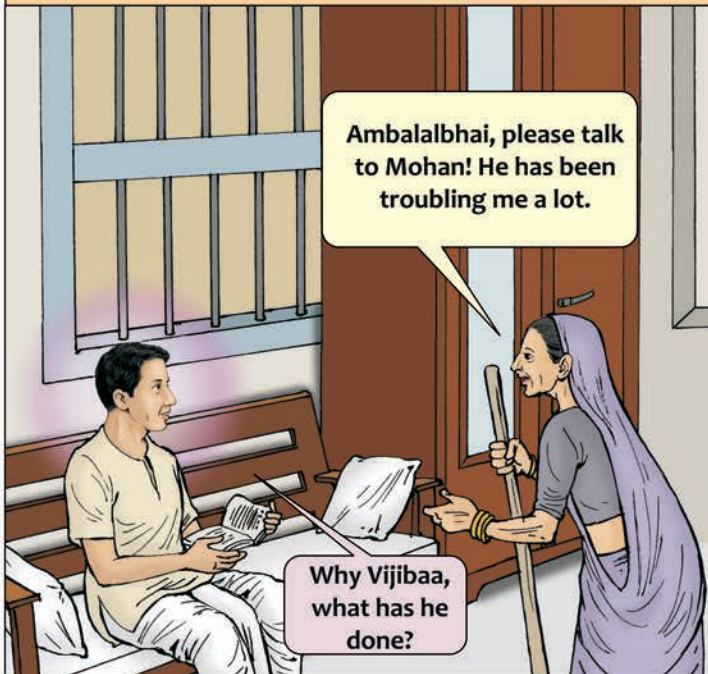
Of course, and not just one, but two hours! Every day you can accompany me for two hours!

The kids stopped pestering Mohanbhai once he started accompanying Ambalalbhai. Ambalalbhai made sure that the kids addressed him as Mohanlal Seth and even made them bow to him.



He really is a wonderful being! He didn't even hesitate to reveal to me that he was being mocked at by people. Even I would keep something like that a secret. What a great soul! It is because of this amazing quality that I like to keep this person by my side! His thinking is such that it boosts my dispassion towards worldly life!

Mohanbhai's mother's name was Vijibaa. She was a gentle and kind natured lady. One day she came to see Ambalalbhai with a complaint about her son, Mohanbhai.



Ambalalbhai, please talk to Mohan! He has been troubling me a lot.

Why Vijibaa, what has he done?



Ambalalbhai consoled her and assured her that he will talk to Mohanbhai.

Ambalalbhai went to see Mohanbhai and reprimanded him...

Mohanbhai, why are you demanding gold from your mother? What makes you think you can ask for something like that? Does it seem right to cause your mother such distress?



Mohanbhai listened in silence. But later when he got back home he was really cross with his mother.

Firstly, you won't give me any gold and then you go and complain about me to Ambalalkaka! Why do you have to go and tell him about our private matters?



The next day, Vijibaa went to see Ambalalbhai again.

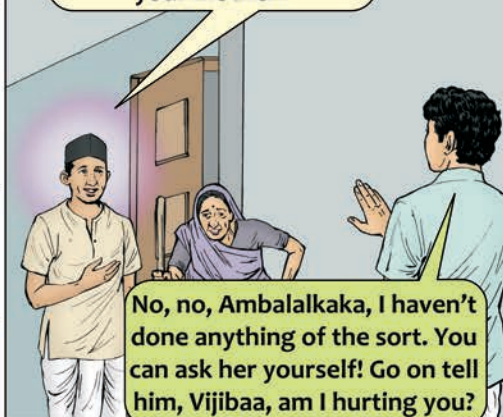
Ambalalbhai, Mohan keeps getting angry at me, asking why I had to go and speak to you about our personal matters!



Vijibaa's nature was such that she would never complain about anyone, and upon hearing her complain about her son in this way, Ambalalbhai stood up.

Ambalalbhai went straight to Vijibaa's house with her.

Mohanbhai, what's going on? Why are you hurting your mother?



No, no, Ambalalkaka, I haven't done anything of the sort. You can ask her yourself! Go on tell him, Vijibaa, am I hurting you?

Do not intimidate Vijibaa with your words, do you understand? She will yield to you right now, but raising your voice at her and demanding gold from her is not right. Do you understand? By hurting Vijibaa, you have committed an offence, and for that we will punish you. From now on, I will no longer take you around with me!



No, no, uncle! Please don't do that, or else I will die! You moulded me into a proper human being and it is because of you that people in the community now address me as 'Mohanbhai'! I won't be able to live without you. I beg of you not to punish me in this way.

Well, in that case listen to me! From now on, you will not harass Vijibaa. Is that understood? If you value your association with me then you will have to take heed of what I am telling you. Go! Ask for your mother's forgiveness. Bow down to her by lying flat on the ground!

Mohanbhai wasn't very young, and even at that age he did what Ambalalbhai asked him to do and he prostrated at the feet of his mother. The whole household gathered around to watch this act of forgiveness between mother and son.

Mother, please forgive me. I will never behave like that again!

Such a straight forward man and yet this type of karmic account with his mother! What a karmic bondage created in the previous life!

From that day onwards, Mohanbhai stopped troubling his mother.

At one time Mohanbhai came across some difficulty regarding an income tax issue. Although he managed to get through it, he was left hugely shaken.

Mohanbhai, please come and tell me if you are ever faced with financial difficulties or issues regarding income tax. If your father can't help you, I will help you with 1000 – 2000 rupees as per your need. Rest assured, this Patel will always be with you and knowing this I hope it will give you courage and relief.

Yes, Ambalalkaka, I will keep this blank cheque that you have given me right to the very end. It is like a life line and I must not misuse it. I will only cash it when I am on my death bed, counting my last breath and not before that!



What a wise plan! 'At the time of death, I will cash your cheque'. Saying this Mohanbhai had in fact put forth an intention that 'during my last breath, may the Lord grant me the ability to utter the glory of His name and may I be blessed to receive His divine protection'!

Reading about his life experiences, it is quite apparent that even before Ambalalbhai became known as 'Dadabhagwan' following Self Realization, he was able to understand, analyse and extract the essence of many incidents. Whether it was himself, or another person stuck in a difficult situation he was able to use the right key to come out of that situation. As a result, people would hold a great deal of respect and admiration for him. For every situation, he always had everyone's best interests at heart and helped one to grasp things at a spiritual level and make him/her worthy of treading on this path of 'moksha' (ultimate liberation).

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for kids

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for youth



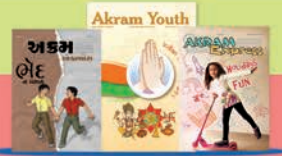
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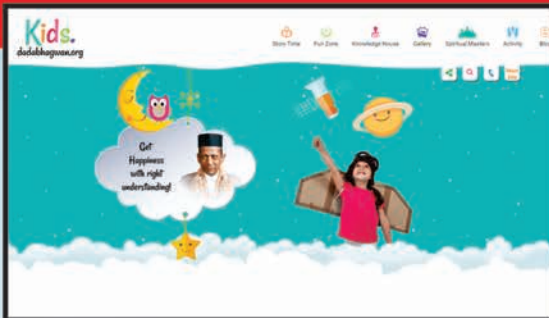
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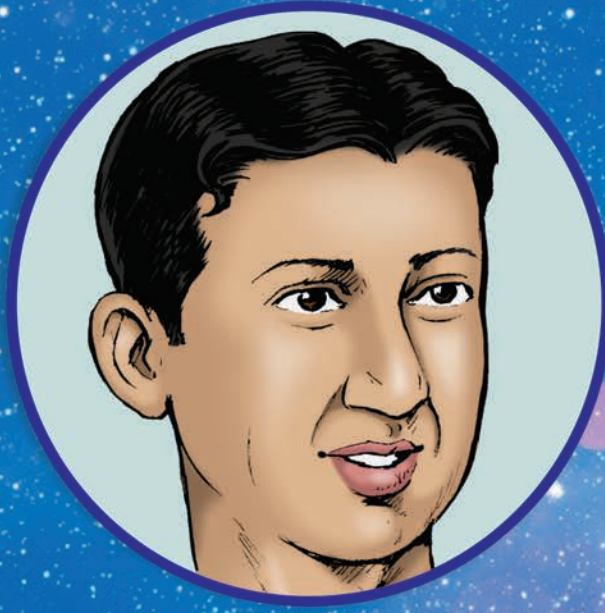


Websites

kids.dadabagwan.org

youth.dadabagwan.org





'To learn from one's own experiences is indeed a great understanding. However, the ability to learn from other people's experiences needs a much higher vision.

Param Pujya Dadashri had this great vision. He could conclude and learn lessons by observing the behaviour of not only humans, but also of other living creatures. One could see his ability to apply this knowledge to his own life in order to make it simple and peaceful. Many such incidents have been mentioned in this booklet. '

