

## Foreword

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 'inquistive' 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 Sachidanand

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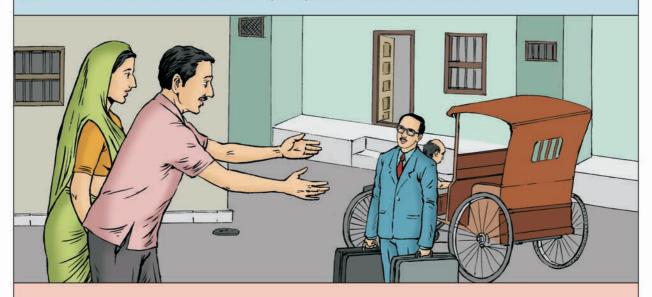
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# Dada Bhagwan Part 5

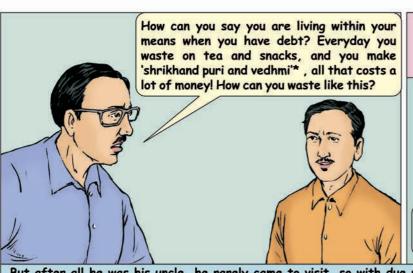
Shri Ambalalabhai Muljibhai Patel, who later became well known as 'Dada Bhagwan' encountered various kinds of experiences and circumstances during his life...

One nephew of Ambalalbhai used to stay in Africa. His nephew Bhikhabhai worked in Vadodara. Whenever he came from Africa to India, he would always stay at Bhikabhai's house in Vadodara.



Bhikhabhai's father had passed away. Uncle was about 5 years older than his nephew, but would still prevail upon him as an "uncle" and argue and find faults in petty issues with Bhikabhai.





Bhikhabhai felt agonized when he heard this



But after all he was his uncle, he rarely came to visit, so with due respect to him, Bhikhabhai used to bear it with humility. He never talked back. Because of his habit of finding mistakes and arguing unnecessarily, Bhikhabhai lost respect and love for him.



That uncle presented his frustration to Ambalalkaka.





Your mistake is that you have become his "uncle". You are prevailing upon him as an uncle. So naturally he is hurt by you! If your uncle scolded you and you felt hurt, then how can you as an uncle scold him in the same way? Did you not think that you would hurt him?

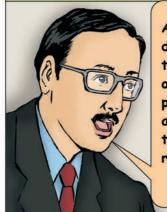
But...he is not even ready to accept monetory help from me. How can he tell you anything when he does not feel any love from you? Look, how he talks to me!



Ambalalbhai called Bhikhabhai to him.



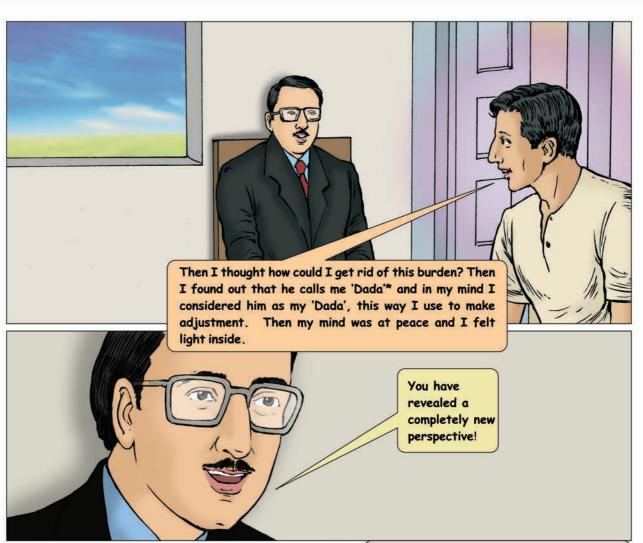
Uncle was very surprised when Bhikhabhai left.



Ambalalkaka! You definitely know the trick to get things out from anyone! This person did not share anything with me but told you everything right away!

There is no question here about trick or magic. See, He is younger than me, and I am his grandfather in relation. All these boys call me "Dada Dada"\* with love. I was feeling the burden of obligation towards them! Even though I am their 'Dada', I have not done anything for them. This added to the burden.







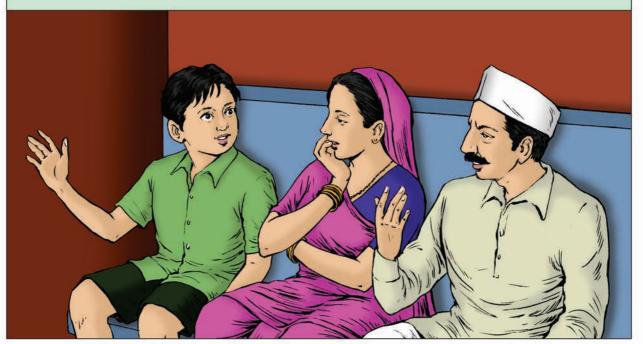
Once you know these boys, in the worldly matters they can put you down. When they call me 'uncle', then in a hidden way within me I consider them as my uncle. That counter balances. Their pride is taken care of and they are straight forward with me. And if in my mind I think that "I am the uncle", then immediately I will prevail upon them and they will feel threatened. Then how long will it take to clash?

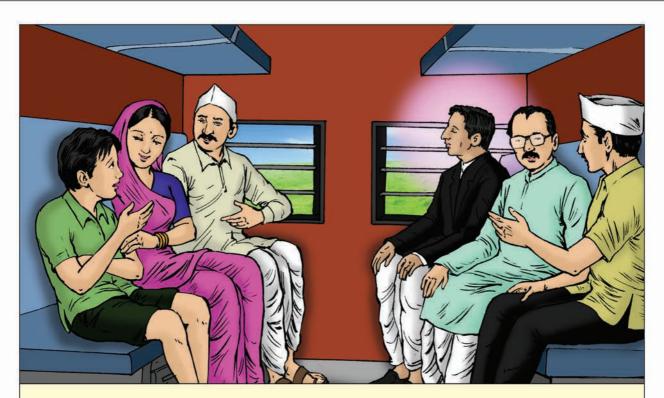
He use to make such inner adjustments and avoid clashes with others. How many people in this world would think of using counter balance like this in day to day life?

Whenever Ambalalbhai had to go out of station, his relatives would usually drop him at the station. The night train was ideal to travel from Mumbai to Vadodara. The train would leave Mumbai at night and reach Vadodara the next morning. At the station in Mumbai, when Ambalalbhai was ready to board, his relatives would make him bed. Once the train was ready for departure, they would disembark saying "Goodbye, Ambalalkaka goodbye".



Once the train leaves the station, slowly the faces of relatives disappear from the window. Ordinary people would spend most of their time thinking about the people they have left behind. Later, when their destination is approaching they start thinking about what they need to do and who will be waiting for them at the station.

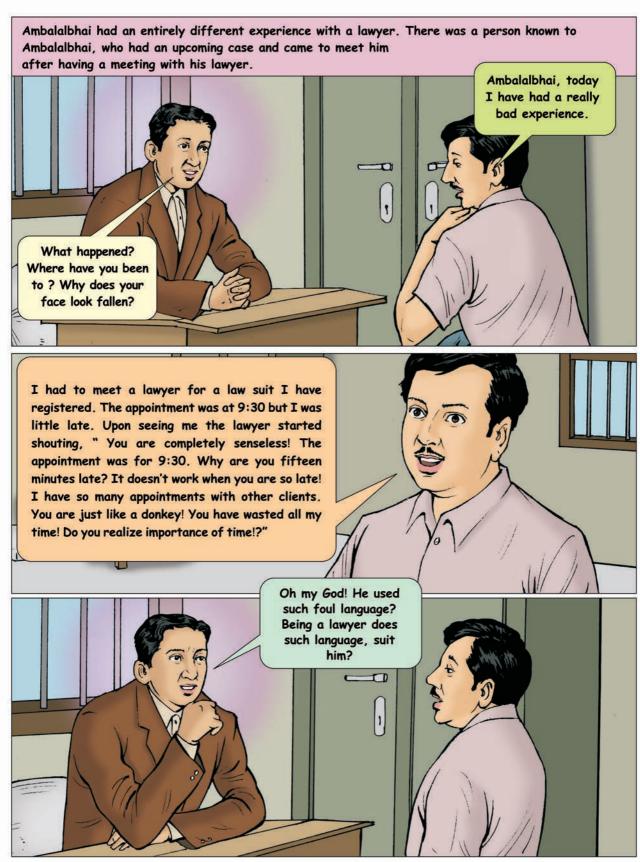




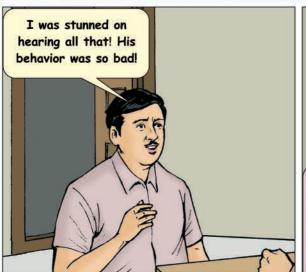
But Ambalalbhai was no ordinary person. He was made of some different material! He felt that every circumstance was bondage! His main wish was to be free forever. That is why, once he left Mumbai and people disappeared from the window, he would take a peaceful sigh, as he was free from their bondage. Then again Vadodara has not arrived, so the circumstances and the bondage of those people have not begun as yet!



Thus under such circumstances the thoughts would churn in his mind that if in this short duration, when I am relived from one place and am not yet bound to the other, I experience such liberation, what would be the bliss of permanent liberation! Also in life, when there is free time between two things, one should enjoy this happiness of liberation. One evidence is finished and the other has not arrived yet, for that much time, experience 'moksha' here itself!!

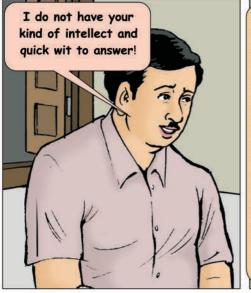








No need to fear! At that time you should have told the lawyer that "the condition between you and me is that of payment. The only condition is that I pay you and you fight my case. There is no condition for abusing. By abusing me you have created an extra item. Because of this extra item I can slam a case on you"!

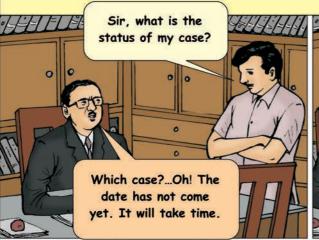


But the best way is that we do not have to go to court. A sensible man would never go to court. Something for which law suit is to be filed - if that truly belongs to me and if it has any karmic account with me, then I would get it back anyhow." Be assured about that. "And if it is not so then you will not get it - no matter how hard you try, even after you lodge lakhs of cases!" If one heartily believes in it, then one can get away from tedious procedures of the court!



An advance payment was made so that his work on the case goes smoothly and fast.

After sometime as there was no message from the lawyer, that person went to see him.





Sir, it will be better if you can get a date soon. If that is not possible then please return my case papers. It will be fine if you do not return my advance payment.

Upon hearing this, the lawyer pointed at the dog that was chained in the room.



In the end with a lot of effort and intervention of Ambalalbhai, he managed to get the case papers back but eventually had to let go of the advance payment!



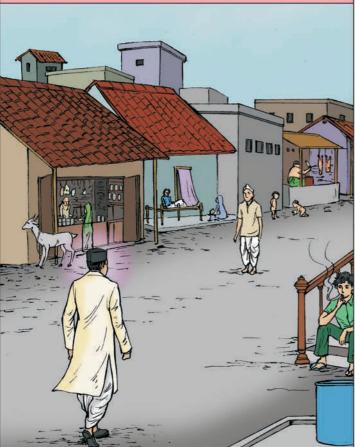
The practice of the world is so weird! Look. the lawyers take money from their clients and even misbehave with them! The entire world's relations are like this! When the other person is in trouble do you have to stress him or help him? When we understand the circumstances and act accordingly. that is humaneness!



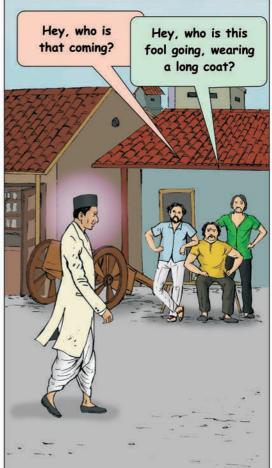
Everyone has to face different situations in their lives. Sometimes the situations are so entangled that in order to get through them successfully one requires distinctive insight and sometimes just plain common sense!

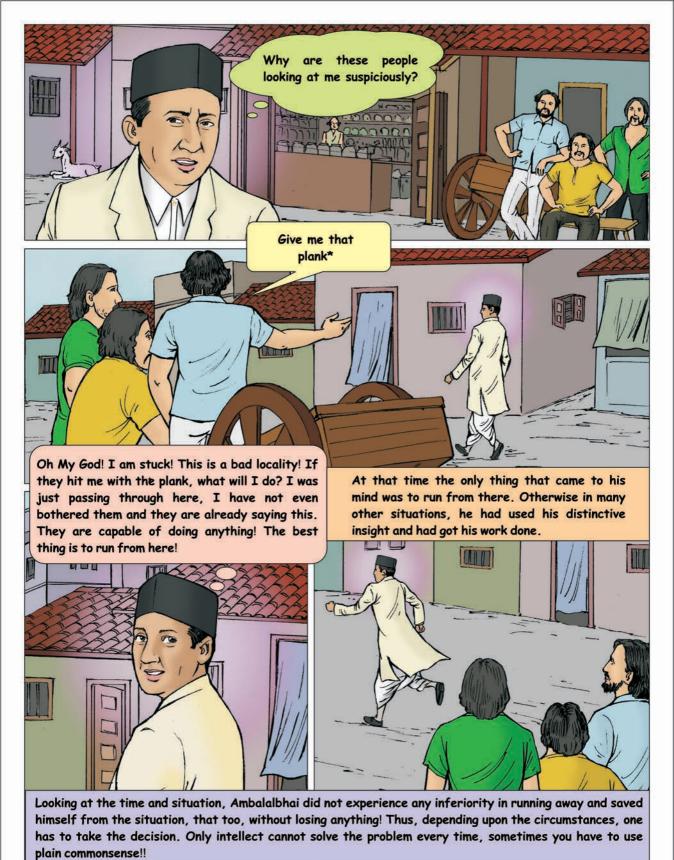


Once, he had to travel through one locality because of his work as a contractor. As per his liking, he had worn a long coat. He had no prior knowledge about this locality.



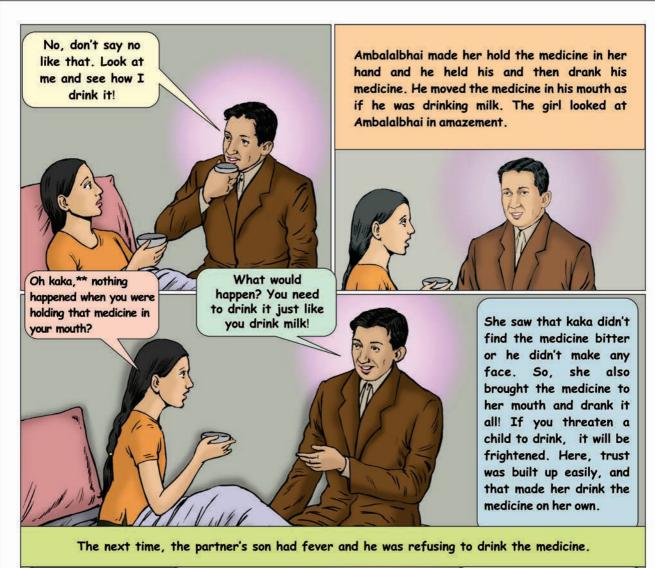
Seeing a person walking with pomposity....





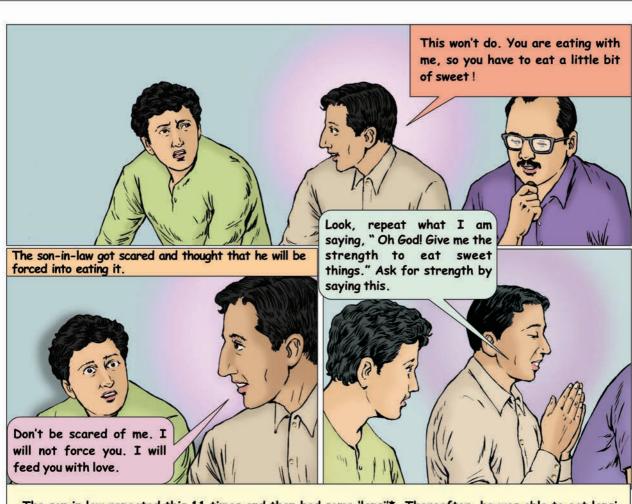
\* plank-wooden plank from a bullock cart









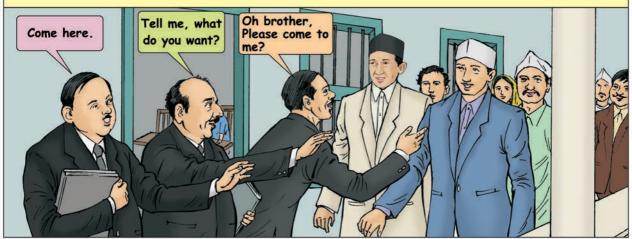


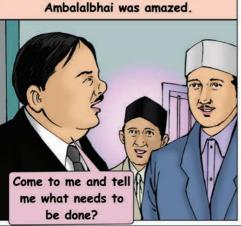
The son in law repeated this 11 times and then had some 'lapsi'\*. Thereafter, he was able to eat lapsi every day. And the father-in-law use to come everyday and say...



Once you say "I don't like sweet things" and is decided in your mind then that is stuck that you don't like sweet things and that creates a mental block. "If I drink bitter medicine then I will vomit" is decided in your mind then that keeps on repeating within and you are not able to drink the medicine; that creates a mental block! Ambalalbhai helped to free everyone from such mental blockages through his love and understanding!

Once in order to get an affidavit letter, he had to go to court. His partner accompanied him. There in the corridor from one door to another, all the lawyers were standing in a queue.

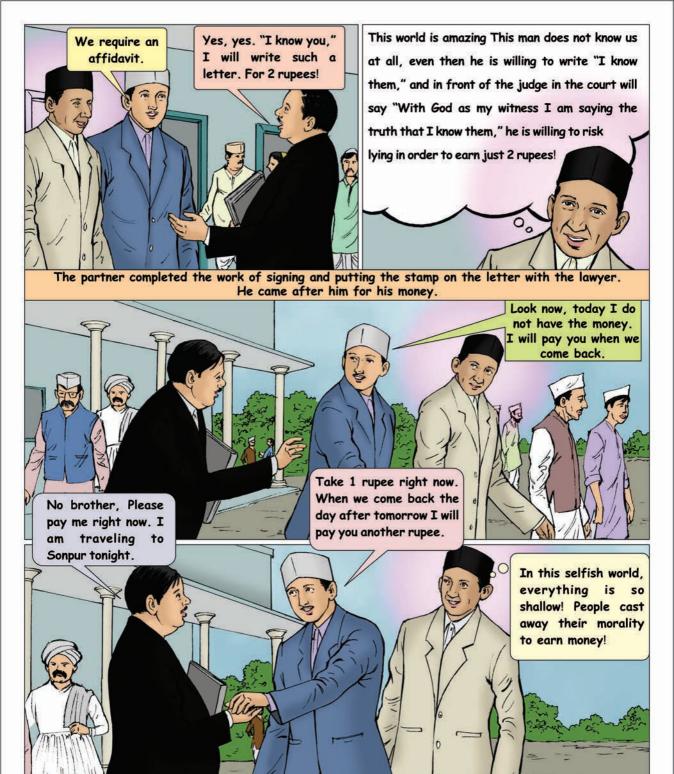






What kind of business is this? Scramble like this for clients? No hotelier does this to get clients into his hotel? For a small job like ours, so many are scrambling at the same time!

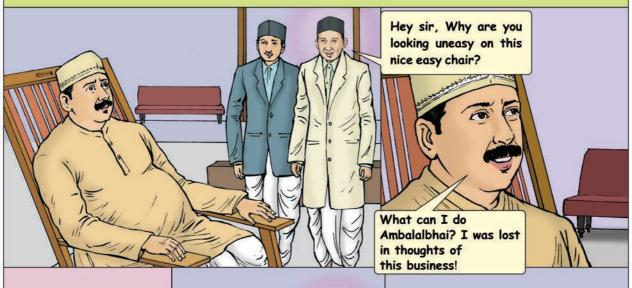




Ambalalbhai's partner was no fool either! He knew how to get his work done from a person who would not let go and keep on nagging! Even in business, he would deal and solve such problems. At such times, Ambalalbhai would just observe people's behaviour in this world, very minutely and without getting involved would analyse and come to conclusion.



When Ambalalbhai visited the businessman, he was sitting in his new easy chair. He was looking perplexed.



Ambalalbhai and his partner took turns to sit on the chair. It was a nice rocking chair. He liked the easy chair.







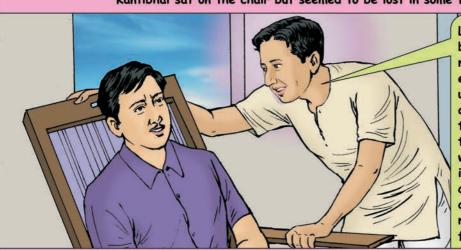
So he found a carpenter in Navsari\* and got a chair made just like that one. The carpenter made a similar easy chair and brought it to Ambalalbhai's house.

Ambalalbhai checked it out thoroughly. It rocked back and forth easily. When you sit the calves got massaged. You feel relaxed after a hard day at work. Ambalalbhai happily showed this chair to his partner.





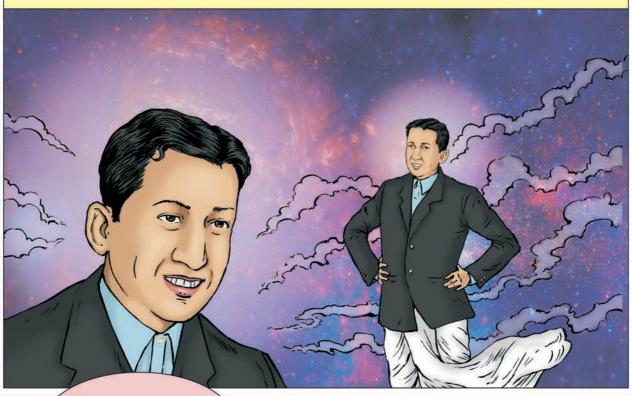
Kantibhai sat on the chair but seemed to be lost in some thought.

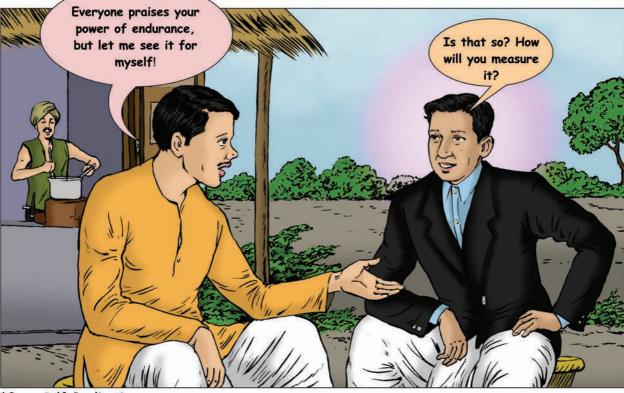


Look at you Kantibhai! Leave business aside for a few minutes! This is such a nice easy chair! Why are you uneasy in it? As long as you are sitting on the chair enjoy the rocking! If there is going to be a loss in business, loss will be in the books. Right now is there any loss sitting on this chair? Even the chair will feel offended that what sort of man is this, who is making me feel uneasy!

Dealings in the business, profit-loss, and various circumstances behind it take humans in past or future and does not let them enjoy the comfort and happiness they have at present. That's why, later on he used to say "Enjoy what you have, do not worry about what you don't have."

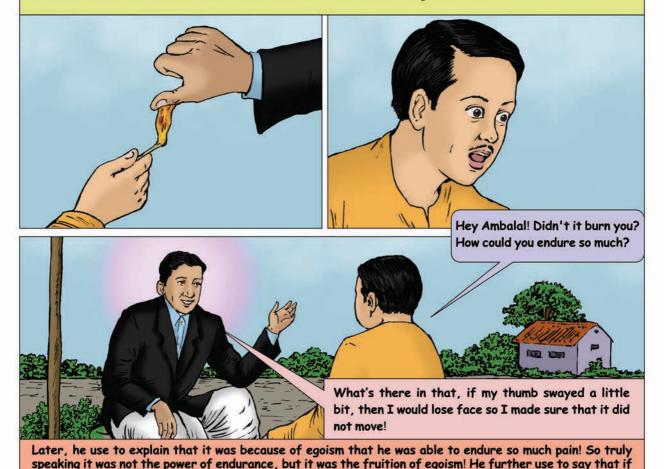
Even Ambalalbhai, was a victim of the ego before he had 'Gnan'\*. Do you want to know how strong his ego was when it came to bearing pain?







The friend thought that in a short while Ambalalbhai would take away his thumb. But Ambalalbhai did not remove his thumb till both the match sticks burned out! So the friend got scared.

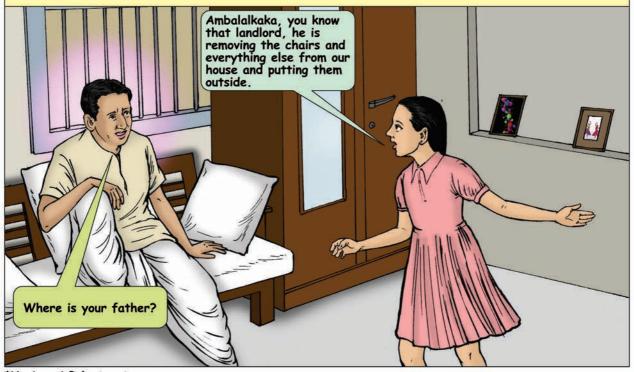


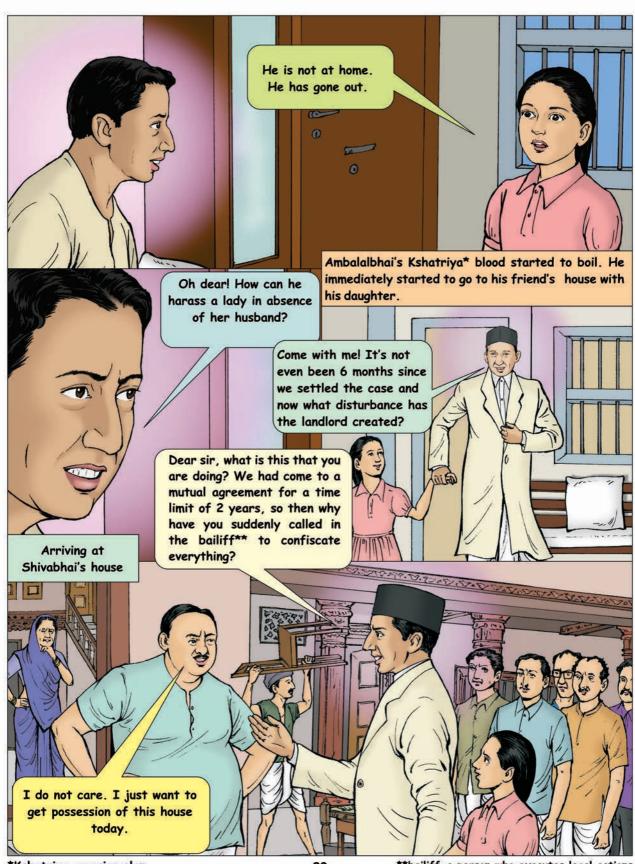
the end one has to suffer pain.

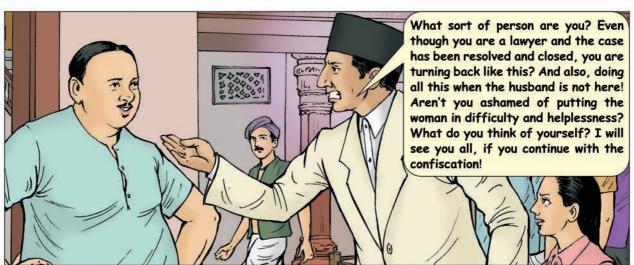
we have the right understanding present at all times then we would never have to endure anything. Bigger the ego, the more power it has to endure pain and suffering! But this is not the correct way. Eventually in There was a friend of Ambalalbhai called Shivabhai, who used to stay at 'Vaniya ni Pol'\*. Once, he got into a difficult situation. He had rented ground floor of a lawyers's house. The lawyer asked him to vacate the house. Shivabhai was not ready for this and because of that the lawyer lodged a court case against him. And so Ambalalbhai came to assist him. They decided with the lawyer to give him 2 years' time. It was agreed upon by the two parties that Shivabhai could stay in the house up to that time, but after that he would have to vacate the house. The problem was sorted out nicely and the lawyer agreed by giving the written consent.



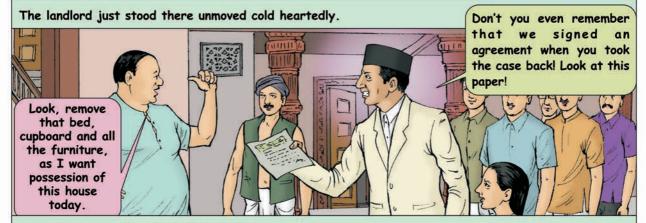
It may not have even been even 6 months since that incident, when suddenly one day Shivabhai's daughter came running, out of breath, to Ambalalbhai.







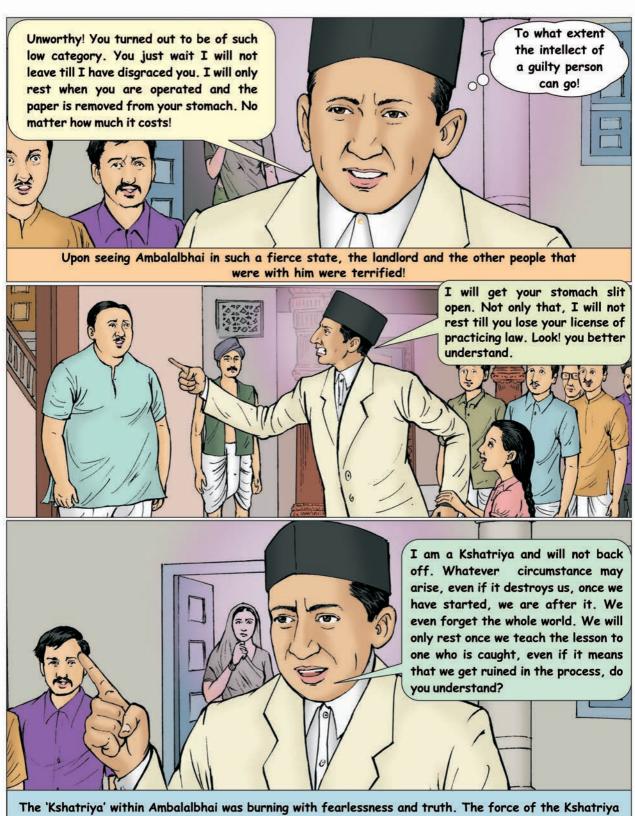
The fearlessness of 'Kshatriya'\* clan was burning within Ambalalbhai.. There was a completely different shine in his eyes! It was as if Lord Shiva himself was angry!



Snatching letter from Ambalalbhai's hand....

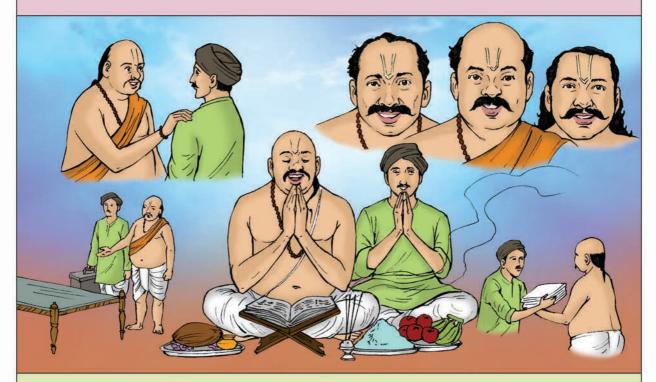


Upon saying that, he crumbled the paper and put it in his mouth. In front of Ambalalbhai's eyes he chewed and swallowed the paper!



The 'Kshatriya' within Ambalalbhai was burning with fearlessness and truth. The force of the Kshatriya was so invigorating that the lawyer softened and stopped the confiscation. In this way, he would give protection to the weak and fight against injustice by putting himself at risk.

Once, Ambalalbhai went to Mathura with his friend. Mathura is the birth place of Lord Shree Krishna, so worshiping there has utmost importance! But at these pilgrimage places you come across a lot of 'chobas' (choba - In the olden days, people did not stay in hotels or hostels, but would stay at the Brahmin's house, and that Brahmin made them perform rituals for God. When people left they would give a charitable gift and every year they would send a donation to them.)



Ambalalbhai got off the train at Mathura station. As soon as he stepped out, he got surrounded by lots of 'chobas'\*





Now he will take me to his house and feed me. Then he will expect some money and clothes from me. And they are so pesky that if I give him 10 rupees he will ask for 20. If I give him a piece of cloth he will ask for a 'dhoti' and grains too.





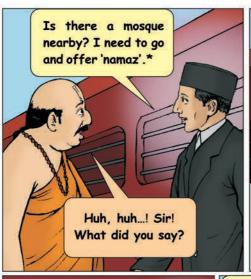
And how powerful and difficult they are! Look how strongly he has held my wrist that I can't break free! I am completely skinny and look how hefty he is! He must be weighing 100 kg! How much can I struggle with my skinny wrist? How can I free my hand from his powerful grip?



I think we will have to give them what they say! Once they are happy with us then only will they let us go. Right? Apart from this I can't see any other way out.

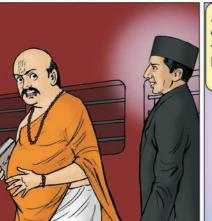


I do not like the idea of giving money and other things to this powerful and difficult person. Even after giving everything, we have to stay suppressed. I have to find a clever way out!





Upon hearing this, the Brahmin said "yuck, yuck, yuck, yuck" and in one push he let go of Ambalalbhai's hand, which he had been holding. He decided not to take Ambalalbhai to his house and repeating yuck, yuck, went straight to river Yamuna to cleanse himself.



Ahh..! My trick worked!
Otherwise that man was not going
to let go of my hand! Even if my
hand broke he would not leave it!

You are truly amazing! But Ambalalbhai, how could you say such a thing? Our reputation is at stake?

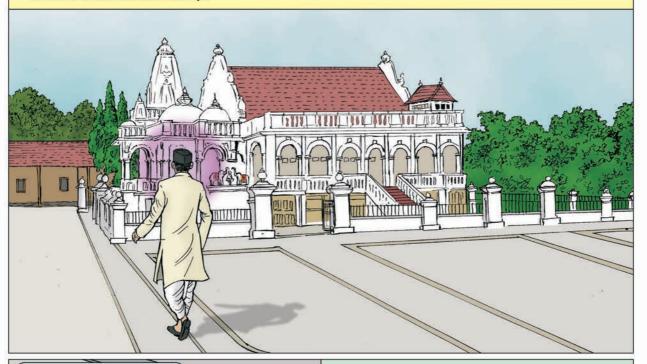
Why fear about reputation? We are Kshatriya by nature and if someone tries to clamp down my independence then that is something I do not like that. I like my independence and not someone's hold on me.

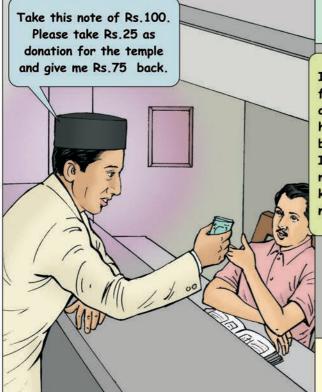
These are all worldly skills. The desired outcome was achieved. No matter how much we would have given him, would he have ever been satisfied? And upon hearing this he let go of his demands and we got freed from his trap.



Ambalalbhai would never let his independence to be lost and that too without hurting anyone. In this way, artfully, he would find a way out in any problematic situation.

Ambalalbhai had gone to Shrimad Rajchandra temple at Agas.\* At such places the devotees would donate to the different departments that were running to sustain the temple. At that time Ambalalbhai's contract business was booming, thus he did not have an issue with money. He too decided to donate some money.



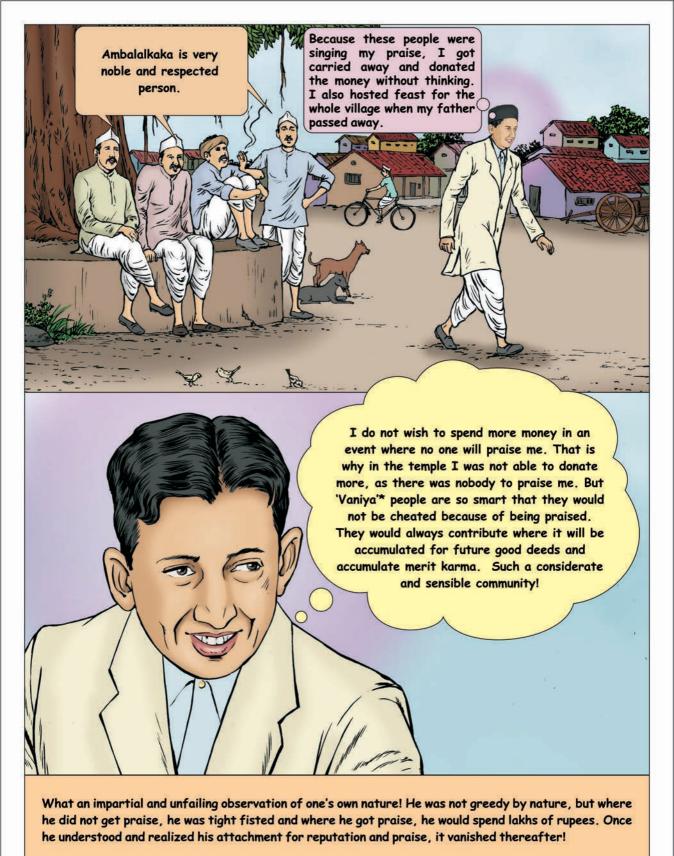


Rs.25 at that time would be equivalent to Rs.2500 today.

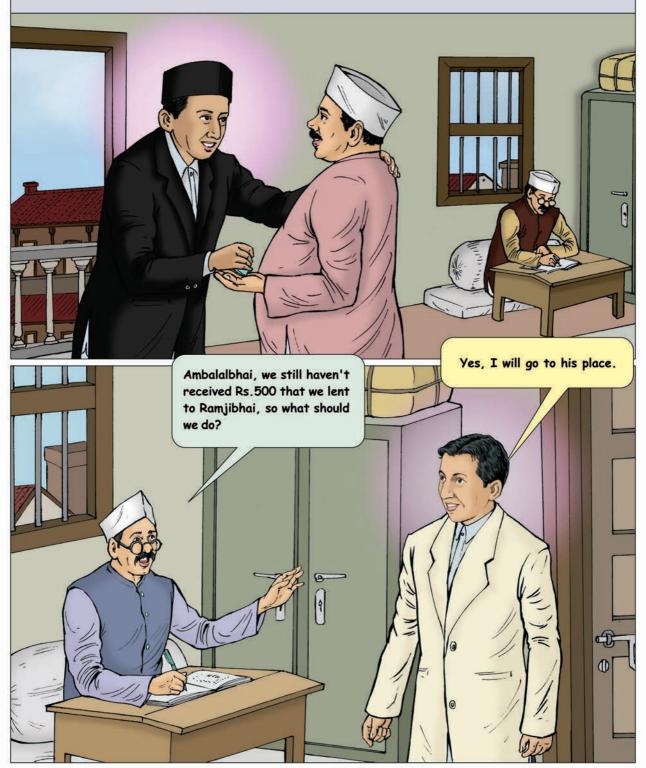
I wanted to give money (for religious activities at the temple and I have good income from business. Still why was I not able to donate more? Usually, people know me as a very noble person.

When the temple in Bhadran\*\* was being built he donated 7000 rupees

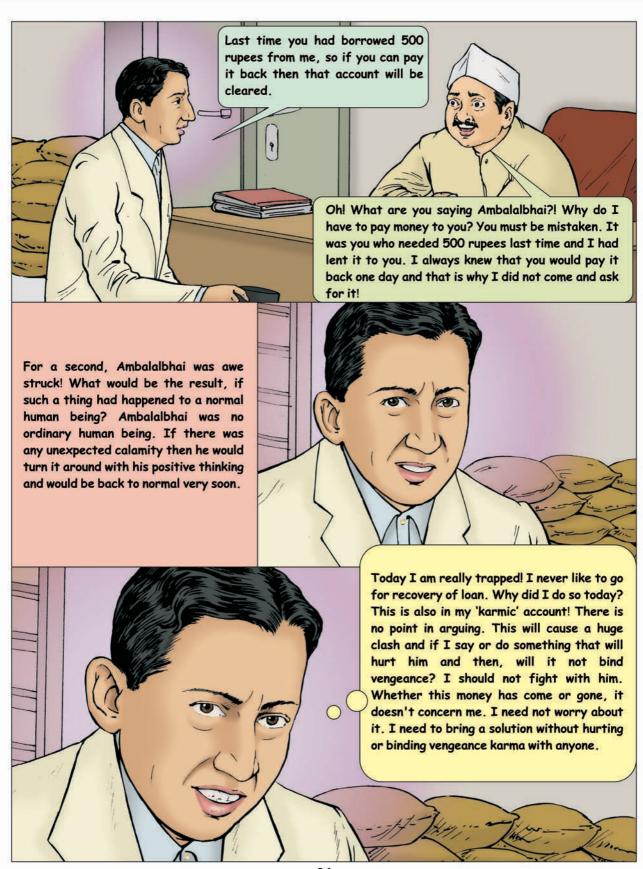
<sup>\*</sup>Agas-Place in Gujarat, India



Ambalalbhai was very generous by nature. Whenever someone had a shortage of money, or they were somehow making ends meet, he would immediately give them money without giving it a second thought. In the same way, he helped a businessman, who was in difficulty, by lending Rs.500.



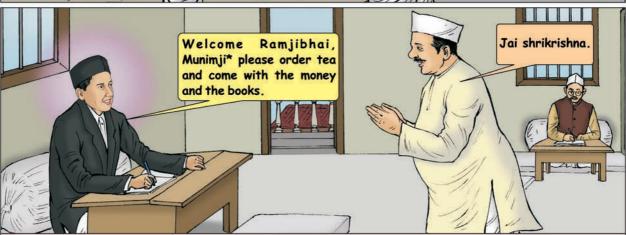








Oh dear, at least this came to an end with 500 rupees otherwise this person could even ask for 5000 rupees. There are such type of people also, in this world?!! You need to get free and debt free from such a person even by giving money! Really, with such person one should finish account and hope that they never come across in any lifetime.



From this incident, Ambalalbhai learnt that if you ever lent money to someone, think that you have wrapped the money in black cloth and thrown it in the ocean. Never hope of it ever coming back! It is best that any interaction with such people never arises. He use to get cheated purposely and incur loss in worldly life but never failed in his spiritual progress.

Ambalalbhai's maternal cousin, stayed in the town of Nadiad. He was five years younger than him. He was an engineer.

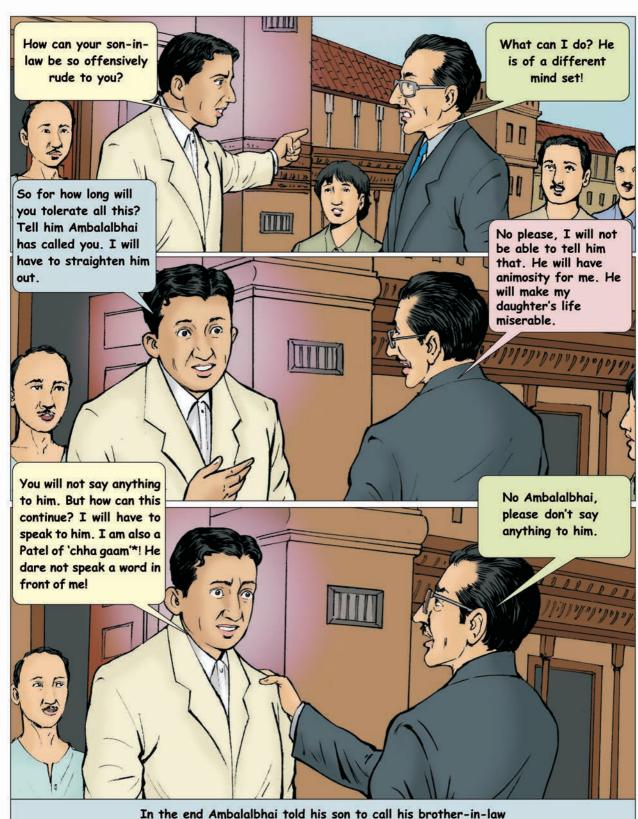
Cousin's son-in-law had once come to his house in Nadiad . In the morning, when the cousin was leaving for work, his son-in-law came from behind and got hold of him.



By behaving in this way, in front of everyone on the street, he ruined the reputation of his father-in-law! He was placed at so many jobs but he would run away from all of them and then bother his father-in-law! On that day people on the street were dumbfounded! Such a disgrace for a quiet and straightforward person! What sort of justice is that?

He was mild and gentle by nature, therefore use to tolerate such behaviour of his son-in-law. But that day when Ambalalbhai saw the behaviour of the son-in-law, the Patel within him got evoked!





and tell him that Ambalalkaka is calling him.

When the son-in-law came, Ambalalbhai called him inside the room and asked the door to be closed.





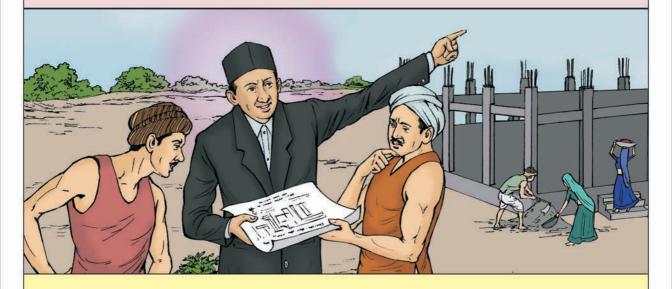
Hey, just because you are a son-in-law, you are showing this attitude? Just because you got big amount of dowry, you are feeling so high? But do you know that you aren't the only son-in-law in this world? Your father-in-law is someone's son-in-law, you know that? Your father is someone's son-in-law. Your, this uncle is also someone's son-in-law! Your brother-in-law is someone's son-in-law! They are all sons-in-law, you are not the only one. Do you understand? Aren't you ashamed of yourself by showing such attitude just because you are the son-in-law? Are you educated or not? Do you understand that you are not the only son-in-law in this world? Now learn to be humble!

Ambalalbhai, explained by illustrating it in this way and gave him good lesson. He always thought that, "I am the son-in-law and so I can prevail upon!" He was just stunned upon hearing all this from Ambalalbhai! After that he couldn't utter a single rude word in his entire life! In this way Ambalalbhai would bring down the elevated ego of so many people.

Ambalalbhai used to say that the people who have to get their daughters married would never use such hard language, because then nobody will accept their daughter in marriage. But he did not have to worry about that. He had taken up the challenge to dissolve ego of that son-in-law!

Due to contract business, Ambalalbhai had to deal with lot of workman and artisans. Ambalalbhai had such a powerful mind that it would make innumerable revolutions in a minute. There was so much skill involved in the instructions and understanding that Ambalalbhai gave to his workers, that they used to take a long time to grasp it all.

He could not stand the slow reaction and misunderstandings of the workers and would scold them out of frustration.

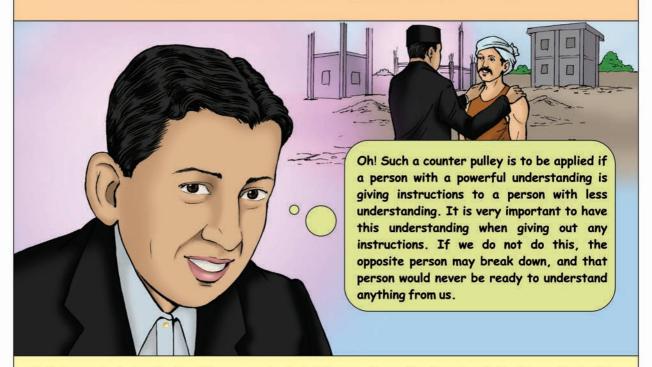


Being tender hearted and having a compassionate relation with everyone, Ambalalbhai used to repent on his angry behaviour. He would think over it for long time.



The revolutions of this motor are 600 and with its help the machine that needs to be run, has 100 revolutions only, so can it not be possible that the speed of the motor breaks the machine? Therefore, if the pulley of the motor is 6 in diameter, then the machine needs to have a counter pulley of 3 feet (6 times). By doing this, both the revolutions will be matched and the machine will work properly without breaking down.

After this understanding revealed within him, he would apply the 'counter pulley' (adjustment) in his dealings with the workers, and stopped getting angry with them.



In this way, by being the 'boss' he never shouted at the people working for him. In fact he protected the people who worked for him and acquired everyone's love and trust. He used to deal with them with such understanding that no one was afraid of him.



In this way, from the incidences of Ambalalbhai's youth, we can understand that his dealings were so ideally high that he would make other person understand, without hurting, by taking adjustments with them and helping others so that their sorrow is gone and they get happiness. That was the main goal of his life, which after 'gnan', resulted into "May the world attain the same happiness that I attained"- his life goal.

## **Bal Vignan's Other Presentations**

Available in Gujarati & English



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encounters different kinds of Everyone situation and pass through various experiences. But the way 'gnani' solves them becomes a guiding light for us all. If we see Dadashri's life incidences, he use to bring solutions in such a way that no one gets hurt under any circumstances but also brought solutions in a way that makes everyone happy. You will get glimpses of all that in this book.



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