

Panchatantra Stories - 2

The Mice and the Elephants

Once upon a time there lived a group of mice under a tree peacefully. But once a group of elephants came that way and destroyed the homes of all the rats as a result of which many of



them were crushed to death. Then the king of rats decided to approach the elephant chief and request him to guide his herd through another route. The elephant king agreed to this and took another route to the water. And so the lives of the rats were saved.

The king of the rats was very happy and pleased by the gesture of the chief of the elephant. He thanked the elephants and promised that in return the rats will surely help the elephants when needed in the future. Hearing what the rat said, the elephants laughed thinking how come a small rat help big elephants.

One day a group of elephant-hunters came and trapped the group of elephants in huge nets. Then the elephant king suddenly remembered the king of the rats. He summoned one of the elephants of his herd which had not been trapped, to go and contact the king of rats.

On listening to the elephant, the rat king took his entire group of mice and they cut open the nets which trapped the elephant herd. So the elephant herd was totally set free.

Moral: A friend in need is a friend indeed. Never under estimate anyone by their appearance.

The Pigeons and the Hunter

One day a hunter went out to catch birds. He spread out a net on the ground. He put rice all over the net. Then he hid in a bush nearby.

Soon some pigeons came flying by. They saw the rice. They did not see the net. They flew to the ground. They began to eat the rice.

The hunter in the bush saw the pigeons eating the rice. He pulled the string of the net. The pigeons were caught in the net.

The pigeons had a leader. He said to the pigeons, 'We are 'caught in a hunter's net. Don't get afraid. Do what I say. Then you will be saved.' 'We will do what you say,' said all the pigeons.

'Fly together up in the sky,' said the leader. All the pigeons flew up. They took the net off the ground. The hunter ran after them. But he could not catch them.

The leader said, 'We have got away from the hunter. But we have not got away from the net. Let us go to our friend, the mouse. He will help us.' They flew down to the ground. They found the mouse in his hole.

The leader said, 'Friend mouse, will you help us?'

'Most gladly! said the mouse. With his sharp teeth he cut through the net. He set all the pigeons free.

Moral: Unit is Strength. Obey your Leader and you will be Strong.

Rama Mantra:

**Sri Rama Rama Rameti, Rame Rame Manorame
Sahasrenama tattulyam, Rama Nama Varanane**

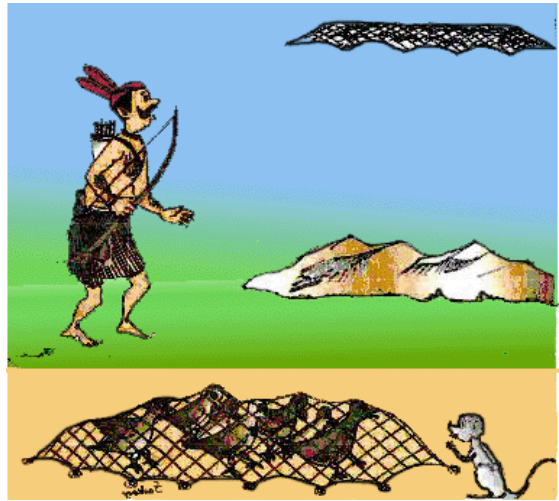
Meaning: Lord Shiva addressed Devi Parvati: "O Varanana (lovely-faced woman), I chant the holy name of Rama, Rama, Rama and thus constantly enjoy this beautiful sound. This holy name of Rama is equal to one thousand holy names of Lord Vishnu (Vishnu-sahasra-nama-stotram)."

Durga Stotra:

**Om Sarva Mangala Maangalye Shive Sarvaartha Saadhike
Sharanye Triyambake Gauri, Naaraayani Namostute**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfKdcmpprVY>

Meaning: Goddess Durga resides in us as physical strength, will power, determination, perseverance, courage and valor. She can be awakened by positive thinking, positive speaking, and positive actions.



Coloring exercise: Peace Pigeon

