

Panchatantra Stories - 4

The Bird with Two Heads

Once upon a time, there lived a great bird named Bharunda on the banks of a lake. It was strange because he had two necks with two heads, but shared the common body. One day, as the bird was wandering, it found a delicious looking red-golden fruit.

One of the heads mumbled, "Oh, what a delicious looking fruit. I am lucky to have found it. I am sure the fruit is sent from heavens only for me". On saying so, it started eating the fruit with utmost pleasure. While eating, it kept on praising how it was the most delicious fruit he had ever eaten. Hearing and seeing all this, the other head requested, "Oh dear, please also allow me to taste the fruit that you are praising with all your heart".



The first head did not want to share it, so it laughed and said, "We share the same stomach. Whoever amongst us eats the fruit, it goes to the same stomach. It makes no difference on who eats the fruit. Moreover, since I am the one who found this fruit in the first place, I have the right to eat it myself."

This selfishness of the first head hurt him very much, and he went silent with disappointment on hearing the first head's reply. Few days later, as they were wandering the second head found some fruits. The fruits were from a poisonous tree. He declared to the first head, "You are a deceitful person. The other day you had insulted me by not sharing the delicious fruit. Now I am going to eat this fruit and avenge your insult".

The first head pleaded, "Please don't eat this fruit, it is a poisonous one. We share the same stomach. If you eat it, we will both die." Mocking at the first head, the second head replied, "Shut up! Since I am the one who found this fruit in the first place, I have the right to eat it myself".

Knowing what would happen, the first head began to cry. The second head ate the poisonous fruit without bothering the first head's requests. As a consequence of this action, as soon as the poison reached the stomach, the bird died. Thus, both of the heads lost their lives.

Moral: Unity is Strength / Sharing of a good thing with others is always good

The Loyal Mongoose and Farmer's wife

Once upon a time there lived a farmer and his wife. They had a new born son. The farmer's wife wanted to have a pet animal to protect the child which would also be a companion to the child. They debated and decided upon a mongoose. So they brought a mongoose and started rearing it.

A couple of months later, one day the farmer and his wife wanted to go out of the house leaving the child at home. The farmer thought that the mongoose would take care of the child while they were away. So they left the mongoose and the child at home and went out.



The farmer's wife returned earlier and on returning home found that the mouth of the mongoose was stained with blood and she immediately inferred that the mongoose had killed the child. In anger she threw a box on the mongoose and the mongoose was hurt badly. She then rushed inside to see what

happened to the child. She was surprised to find a dead snake lying in the room. She could infer that that the mongoose had saved the child's life by killing the snake. Realising the mistake she went out of the room only to find the mongoose dead on the floor. She cried out loud at her hasty action.

MORAL: Dont act in haste. Think and act.

Vishun Stotra:

**Shuklambharadharam Vishnum Shashivarnam Chaturbhujam,
Prasanna Vadanm Dhyayet Sarva Vignopa Shantaye**

Rama Mantra:

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

Durga Stotra:

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

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

Coloring exercise:

