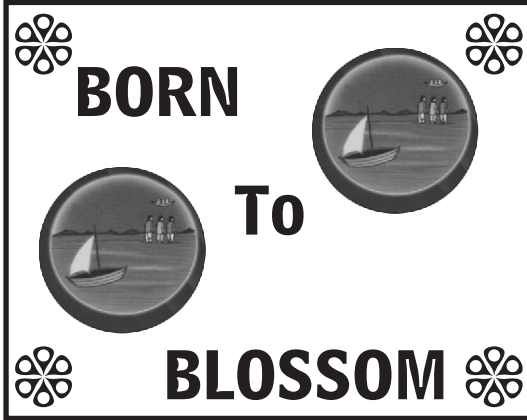


JAINAM JAYATI SHASANAM
LABDHI BAAL VAARTA Series

Part - 8



: COMPILED BY :

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PUBLISHERS NOTE

"LABDHI BAAL VAARTA" are wonderful short stories collected from various sources which were in different languages. We are grateful to all those authors. Specially Yashovarm Surijii, Muni Chandra Surijee and Shailesh Sagparia. Our appreciation to Poojya **Acharya Sri Raj-Yash Sooreeshwarjee M.S.** and his disciple Upadhyaya Vishrutiyash Vijayaji Gani (Prof. M.S.), Satish Mardia from Chennai & Ahd. for Assisting in compiling and editing, and all the donors and printers for their monetary & physical support.

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NOT FOR SALE

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FOREWORD

DOES RE-BIRTH EXIST ?

Now-A-Days Children Want to know Everything with Logic. If we tell them Anything to do, they will ask, why ? So, if we give them hundreds of Examples which happened with law of cause and effects like why Sitajee kidnapped by Ravan ? Why Draupadi Married with Five Husbands ? They will understand the matter and will do accordingly. So to bring them on the Right path it is the easiest way. What one gives that only one Receives. This is the Law of Nature. The western Authors also like arther c. Klarke and Dr. Brian weiss have given many examples which prove the existence of soul. Here the Lots of Examples are given of many historical characters with Refernce of the scriptures. (in Part 4) so if one wants to achieve good he will surely do good in this birth i.e. religion. I hope this book will surely make one to walk on the right path i.e. right faith, right knowledge and right conduct which is the way to salvation. Thus in Book 1 to 6-264 stories are given. Now in Part 7-8-9 New 185 stories all being published.

Dr. M. M. Begani, Bombay Hospital, Mumbai
12th July 2018

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THE AUTHOR

Acharyadev Shri. Rajyash Sooreeshwarjee Maharaj, exponent of discourses, visionary and promoter of renovation of various temples, the epitome of renunciation and great preacher is blessed by Shri. Labdhi Sooreeshwarjee M.S. & Shri. Vikram Sooreeshwarjee M.S., his Grand Guruji & Guruji respectively. Shri. Vikram Sooreeshwarjee, his Gurudev was very effective in attracting people towards the virtues of Jainism. He was a worshipper of 'BHAKTAMAR MAHASTOTRA', the practitioner of high standards of sadhana, and was a very simpleminded soul.

The Author-Shri Rajyash Sooreeshwarjee, a highly dedicated, courteous disciple of his Guru and lucky enough to serve, care, worship incessantly to such a greatGuru. Being a great personality, his bright and exalted oratory attracts people at the very first instance. Infact, a few seconds in his auspicious company, confers profound happiness and satisfaction.

He is deeply involved in various rites, rituals, disciplines & yet very compassionate towards everyone. He has a heart, very simple like a child and delicate like a flower.

He has suggested many novice ways for the

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propagation of Jainism. It is the outcome of his magnetic personality and devotion to God, that the renovation of temples at Bharuch Teerth, Kulpak Teerth, Uvasaggaharam Teerth, The Great Teerth of Banaras (Birth Kalyanak Place of Lord Parshwanath), Godi Parshwa-Padmavati Teerth at Prerna Teerth, Ahmedabad, jirnoddhar of Simandhar Swami and Jagvallabh Parshwanath Teerth at Vadachowta, Surat were made possible. With his blessings, the following penances were also undertaken,- * Fasting by 237 people for one month continuously (MASAKSHAMAN) and Fasting by 1008 people for 3 days (TELA) at Chennai.

* 360 people undertook the SIDDHITAP at Bangalore.

He organised JAINFAIR at Chennai, in 1999 which was an epoch making event. His dedication, devotion and involvement for the event are beyond words of appreciation. Jirnoddhar of Vanachara Teerth near Baroda, and many new Teerths are being established under the Nishra and guidelines of Shri. Rajyash Soreeshwarjee Maharaj both in India and abroad. For Example - Navkar Dham at Jivapur -Pallitana in India and Sankheshwar Parshwnath temple of Richmand - USA.

- Upadhyaya Vishrutayash Vijaya Gani
Dt. 30.7.2018 Palitana

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01. The Fragrance Of The Heart

A little girl. About twelve years old. Small age but big ideals. Low height but high thoughts. She belonged to a cultured Maharashtrian family.

'Utne' is a special custom of the Maharashtrians. Four or five aromatic substances are grounded and mixed. On New Year's Day, they bathe with this mixture. Aromatic bath at the beginning of the year and doing good deeds throughout the year leave fragrance in their lives.



The girl was struck by a good thought to use the aromatic mixture for a philanthropic deed. After the communal riots, thousands of people had become homeless and orphaned. She thought of helping them. She requested her mother to buy a big packet of materials for 'Utne' that year. When her mother asked her the reason, she gave a sweet, secretive smile and told her to wait for her surprise.

When she got the materials, she grounded them

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with her own hands and made small packets out of them. Her mind and heart became fragrant while doing this task.

Then she took the packets and went from house to house saying, "The cost of the packet is frugal. I have come to take the fragrance of your hearts in exchange. I have come to seek help for the victims of the communal riots."

Everyone was touched by her sweetness and they all gave her big or small amounts of money to which she added her own small savings. Then she contributed the entire sum to the State's Chief Minister Relief Fund. The girl's mother was delighted to know that this was her secret surprise. The girl did a big task for her small age. Her name was Rohini P. Ayaachit.

MORAL :- It is not the age, but the thought that matters.

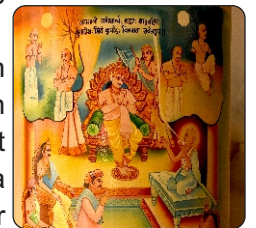
02. Who Will Stay Awake ?

Mahmud Begda, the Sultan of Gujarat, did not want any criminal activity in his state. He was

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always taking steps to develop the trade in his state and to make his subjects prosperous. He saw to it that the offenders of law were caught and punished.

One day, a few traders came to complain that they had been looted near the borders of Shirohi when they were bringing their goods from the north. They had set up their camp there for the night and were sleeping when the robbers raided them.



To their surprise, the Sultan asked why they had fallen asleep. The traders felt puzzled. They did not have a reply. But one trader courageously stepped forward, bowed and replied, "Sultan, we thought you must be awake."

The reply was an unexpected one but the Sultan felt the trader was right. If the Sultan is awake, then his subjects can sleep peacefully. He compensated the loss of the traders from the State Treasury and

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wrote a letter to the King of Shirohi, "Send me the compensation for the robbery that was carried out in your State."

The King of Shirohi ignored the letter. So, the Sultan launched an attack, defeated him and retrieved the compensation.

MORAL :- A good ruler is one who works day and night for the welfare of his subjects.

03. Positive Attitude

The music maestro, Pandit Vishnu Digambar Pulaskar was born in Maharashtra in 1872. He took his music training for ten years from an expert teacher, Guru Ramkrishna Buva Ichalkaranjkar.

After the completion of his training, Vishnuji decided to earn by giving music performances. He left his teacher's village, Miraj, and came to Satara where his first performance was at a function organised at a lawyer's house. Vishnuji felt bad when the lawyer paid him merely two rupees but he silently accepted the money since that was his only

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means of livelihood. However, he did tell the lawyer that he had undervalued his knowledge and talent of music. He also gave a challenge that he would give a second performance in the future but for that the lawyer would have to pay a fee of hundred rupees. The lawyer took up his challenge and promised that if Vishnuji became famous, then he would pay a hundred rupees next time.



For the next ten years, Vishnuji continued to give performances throughout India and also acquired more knowledge of music. When Vishnuji came to Satara, the lawyer approached him, requesting him to give a performance at his house the next day. Vishnuji accepted.

At the end of the performance, Vishnuji refused to take his fee of hundred



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rupees from the lawyer. He told the lawyer that it was his fee to the lawyer for awakening in him an ambition to earn a big name in the field of music.

MORAL :- Motivation and inspiration may come in our lives in different forms. It is up to us whether we rise to a challenge or back out of it.

04. The Dignity Of A True Indian

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was one of the many great leaders of India who rose above the differences of religion and caste and gave priority to their nation. He was the son of a powerful religious leader and he could have succeeded his father and won great acclaim and fame among his co-religionists. However, he strived his entire life to maintain the Hindu-Muslim unity and enable his religionists to become respectable members of a Hindu society.

To achieve his purpose, he published a newspaper called 'Al Hilaal' with the aim of awakening the people through education. Through

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his articles, he also targeted the foreigners, the landlords, the moneylenders, the capitalists and the employers who exploited the poor and needy people. These people used to send donations to Maulana for his patriotic and social causes but he would return their cheques because he knew that the intention behind these donations was that Maulana would write eulogies of the donors in his newspaper.



When Maulana returned the cheque to one such donor, he also sent him a letter which is exemplary for all journalists : "We have undertaken this task on the strength of our own arms and not on the strength of donations given by rich people to earn fame. We have not entered the market to earn profits but to bear losses. We are eager for criticism not praise. We do not seek the flowers of comforts but the thorns of adversity. We have not come to ask the world to sacrifice their wealth for us but to sacrifice ourselves. Will you be happy to help

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people like us ?”

“I do not know why you have sent this help. If you want to buy me, then the sum is too big. My value is less than even a stack of hay. If you want to buy my ideals, then I must inform you very politely that few pieces of your silver, add to that all your possessions, plus the Kohinoor Diamond and all the worldly wealth, all is worthless before my ideals. Trust me, only the Emperor of Emperors that is God can afford to buy my ideals.”

MORAL : Financial status should not be the yardstick of respectability. True dignity is in being a person whose ideals are firm and who does not get influenced by money, power or praise.

05. A Single Remedy For A Lakh Problems

Oliver Goldsmith is the author of the world famous novel 'The Vicar of Wakefield'.

He was studying medicine and right from his student days, he had earned the reputation of being an extremely generous man.

Once a labourer living in the poor locality of

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London fell ill. He lost his job owing to his illness and all his savings were used up in his treatment. Someone told his wife about Dr. Goldsmith's generosity. She did not have the money to pay the house visit fees, so she decided to meet the doctor, explain her husband's condition and request the doctor to give medicine for him.

Dr. Goldsmith said that he could not prescribe any medicine without checking the patient. He brushed aside the labourer's wife's worry about not being able to pay the house visit fees. He went to the labourer's house, checked him and then instructed the woman to come in the evening to his house for the medicine.



In the evening, Dr. Goldsmith put a box in her hand. He had written the following words on the box, “In times of necessity, take one from this. Keep patience. Keep yourself happy and never lose hope.”

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When the labourer's wife opened the box, she found the single remedy for a lakh problems - ten gold coins !

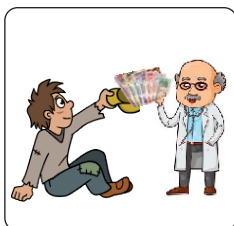
Dr. Goldsmith had understood that poverty was the cause of all the labourer's problems. With the gold coins the labourer bought nutritious food and proper medicines. In a few weeks, the labourer was fit and fine.

MORAL : Dr. Goldsmith inspires us to be generous and use a part of our wealth to help the poor and needy.

06. A Different Kind Of Pilgrimage Centre

This pilgrimage centre is a “Neem tree” located in Turkoliya village of Motihari District of Bihar. It is the pilgrimage centre of our freedom struggle and Mahatma Gandhi's leadership.

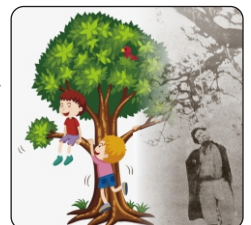
It was the beginning of the 20th century. The British had spread terror in regions of Bihar like Champaran and Motihari.



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They were forcing the farmers to grow only indigo and if they didn't obey they were arrested and hanged upside down on a neem tree. Then the Indian policemen, who were in service of the British Government, would whip those farmers. The same punishment was given to even those farmers who failed to produce at least four bales of indigo per acre.

The British had their Club near the neem tree. The British officers would sit in the patio of the Club with their wives, eat and drink and enjoy the spectacle of the farmers crying out in pain as they were whipped or beaten with sticks. Many a times, a farmer would succumb to the pain and die while still hanging from the tree but the cruel Britishers would continue their partying.



The news of such cruelty reached Gandhiji who started a *Satyagraha* against British government in 1917. The Collector of Motihari District ordered

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Gandhiji that he should not interfere in the matter since he was an outsider. Gandhiji threw a challenge, "This country and this land are mine. These farmers are my brothers. How can I be an outsider? You are an outsider! You go away from here! I will stay right here!"

Gandhiji stationed himself under the neem tree in Turkoliya. Finally, the treacherous British had to bow. The neem tree which was the witness of Gandhiji's success became a pilgrimage centre.

Moral : It is Due to great man that where they dwell become's the Pilgrimage centre.

07. Real Cleverness

King Solomon is considered to be one of the cleverest kings. He felt compassion for even the tiniest creatures.

Queen Sheba of Central Africa had heard about King Solomon's cleverness. She came to Jerusalem, the capital of King Solomon. Queen Sheba herself was a scholar. She met the King and asked him several questions which he answered

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correctly.

One day, King Solomon and Queen Sheba were out riding their horses. Their guards were with them. There were many ants in their path. King Solomon dismounted his horse and started laughing loudly to Queen Sheba's amazement. She asked King Solomon the reason for his laughter. He said that he had heard the conversation of the ants. The ants said that the clever King Solomon is riding this way and he will crush us under the hooves of his horse. He guided his horse along the side of the road and avoided crushing the ants.



Queen Sheba understood that the ants had not said anything. But King Solomon's heart was too soft and kind to kill the ants. No wonder he is known to be so clever!

MORAL : Real Cleverness is not acquiring knowledge from books but being compassionate and considerate towards all living beings.

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08 . Compassion For Enemy

The army of Peshwa Bajirao had laid a seige and as a result, the supplies of food to the army of Hyderabad was cut off. The enemy soldiers started dying of hunger.

The festival of Id was approaching. Bajirao called his officers and announced his decision to supply food to the army of Hyderabad so that it could celebrate the festival. The officers advised that they had got a good hold over the enemy, and they should seize this opportunity to attack the enemy and defeat them.



Bajirao replied, "Although the Nizam of Hyderabad is our enemy, we should not leave our humanity. It is an act of cowardice to attack an army weakened by hunger. The world should know that the Maratha warriors are gallant and they fight and

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defeat only those who are their equal in gallantry. The officers immediately carried out Bajirao's orders and food supplies were delivered to the enemy camp.

MORAL : The truly brave people display the virtues of compassion and humanity even towards their enemy.

09. A Friend Of The Friendless

For certain serious crimes, the accused is sentenced with capital punishment. If the sentence has been given in lower court, then the accused has the chance to file an appeal in the higher court. If the appeal is rejected in the highest court, then the accused has only one last resort. He can write a letter of appeal for mercy to the Head of state who is the King or the Queen in case of England and the President in case of Democratic Republics like the United States of America.

An accused wrote a letter of appeal to the President of the United States of America to revoke his capital punishment, since he was innocent.

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When the Secretary of the President read out the letter of appeal, the President decided to accept the appeal because the letter was clear, concise and conveyed the writer's honesty. The Secretary argued that the appeal could not be accepted because there was no accompanying recommendation letter of any Minister or lawyer. The President said that such recommendation letters could be obtained only by influential people with friends in higher positions and the accused had no such friends. He also said that being the President of the country he was the friend of the friendless and told his Secretary to write on the letter that the President had granted mercy.



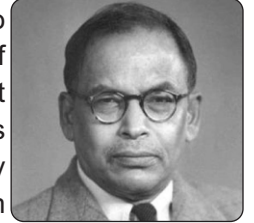
The President was none other than Abraham Lincoln.

MORAL : Abraham Lincoln is an ideal example of how a national leader should be.

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10. Saraswati Pooja Of A Scientist

It was the year 1954 and the auspicious day of 'Vasant Panchami'. The famous scientist Meghnad Saha lived in Calcutta (now Kolkata). A few boys from his neighbourhood came to him for contribution to the fund which they were collecting for *Saraswati Pooja*. Dr. Saha asked how they would perform the Pooja. The boys replied that they have ordered the sculptor to make a beautiful idol of Saraswati - the Goddess of art and knowledge. A Brahmin has been invited to chant the holy words (mantras) and perform the Pooja. They had arranged for a loudspeaker. Thereafter, there would be a musical performance and a skit. So, they were collecting a fund.



The boys asked Dr. Saha how he performed the Pooja. He told them to come with him to the upper storey of his house and he would show them. He took them to his study room where they were

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astonished to see shelves and cupboards brimming with thousands of books in different languages - Sanskrit, Bengali, English, French and German. The books were of varieties of subjects - science, history, religion and philosophy. There were piles of books and stationery on the desk.



Dr. Saha said, "Studying diligently is the real Pooja of Goddess Saraswati and not just creating and adorning her idol."

Dr. Saha died on 16th February, 1956 on *Vasant Panchami* as if proving that he was the **true son and devotee of Goddess Saraswati**.

MORAL : God helps those who help themselves. The favours of Gods and Goddesses cannot be won by rituals alone. For that one needs to constantly work hard and diligently.

11. The Skin Of A Human And A Tree

This is the childhood incident of Sant Namdev of

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Maharashtra. Once his mother fell ill. She could be cured with the bark of the Gulmohar tree, so she handed an axe to him and asked him to fetch it.

Namdev did as he was told. But thereafter, he seemed to be in a sad mood. After four or five days, his mother saw blood stains on his dhoti (lower garment wrapped around the waist). She became anxious that Namdev might have fallen and hurt himself while climbing the tree.

When his mother enquired about the blood stains, Namdev replied that he had removed some of his skin with the axe. His mother was shocked to see that from his thigh a portion of skin as big as one's palm had been cut off, the flesh was hanging out and blood was flowing.

When his mother asked him the reason for doing so, he said that the bark of the tree is its skin and he wanted to check how much pain is caused when the skin is cut off. Then he told his mother that it was really painful.



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His mother felt lost for words. She said that he was a divine being in human form and she felt fortunate to have a son like him.

MORAL : Compassion is the virtue of God. Real compassion can be felt for another living being only when one feels another's pain like one's own. Other is not other but my brother.

12. Even The Daughter Could Not Meet

Gopalkrishna Gokhale was so busy in his social welfare work that he had no time for his family.

One day, his eldest daughter came from her in-laws' house to meet him. She waited until night but the flow of visitors did not stop and Gokhaleji was busy in discussions on political matters with them. She left her father's house in a sulky mood as she did not get a chance to talk to him.

The next day, Gokhaleji felt sad when he came to know that his daughter had to leave without meeting him, but he also knew that the work of social service which he had undertaken demanded such sacrifices. He sent his daughter a gift of

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Banarasi saree to express how sorry he was. His daughter was mature and understood the demands of his work. She wrote a letter saying sorry to her father for sulking and sent him a Maratha turban as a gift.



Gokhaleji would always wear that turban as a loving memory of his daughter. He wore it even when he went to England.

MORAL : Where there is real love, there is mutual understanding and no expectations.

13. Practise What You Preach

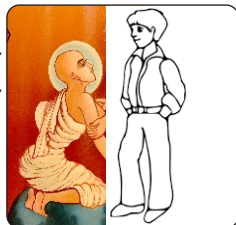
This is an incident of the life of the famous saint of Maharashtra, Sant Gyaneshwar. People used to come to seek his advice.

Once, a woman came with her son who was very weak. He used to eat lots of jaggery and the doctor had said that it was not good for his health. She requested the Sant to persuade her son not to eat jaggery. The Sant told the woman to bring her

30

son again after a week.

When she came again after a week, the Sant advised her son to stop eating jaggery. The woman was surprised and asked the Sant that if he had to say only that much, then why did he wait for one week.



The Sant laughed and said that he also used to eat jaggery every day, so he first wanted to test for a week whether he could stop eating it. He felt it was right to give advice to the boy only after he himself had first acted upon it.

MORAL : Always practise what you preach.

14. The Reason For India's Such Poor Condition

Sir M. Vishvesharaya is a big name in Indian history. He was a very good scientist, engineer and administrator. He was a true patriot. He was an ideal example of honesty and integrity.

This is an incident of his life which occurred when he was appointed as the Chief Minister of the

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princely state of Mysore. Once, he was on a tour of the state and he had to stay for the night in a village where there was no electricity. The Head man of that village came to visit Vishvesharaya late in the evening and saw that he was working at the desk. There were two candles on the desk, of which only one was lit.

Vishvesharaya welcomed the Head man and enquired about the purpose of his visit. He replied that he had come to give company to Vishvesharayaji.



Vishvesharayaji told him that they would start talking after a minute. Then he lit the second candle and blew out the first candle. The Head man was puzzled by his action and asked Vishvesharaya the reason for doing so. Vishvesharaya replied that the first candle had been bought from government money so it was alright to make use of it when he was doing official work but since his talk with the Head man would be personal,

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he had lit the candle bought with his own money.

MORAL : Every politician and government employee must follow the example of Vishvesharaya. The government money is people's money which is to be used only for people's welfare and not for personal purpose. Today, India is in poor financial condition because of lack of people like Vishvesharaya.

15. The Price Of Folly

Henry Thoreau is considered to be one of the greatest philosophers of the world. He was an epitome of truthfulness and integrity. He would preach only what he practised. Mahatma Gandhi considered him as one of his teachers.

Once, Henry bought a plot of land from a farmer. All the formalities of the deal were completed. Next day, the farmer came to Henry's hermitage. He was hesitant and spoke only after much coaxing from Henry. The farmer said that his wife had scolded him for his folly of selling the plot for a price far below its

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market value, so he had come to cancel the deal. The farmer also said that he was ready to pay the cancellation fee but since he was poor, he could pay only ten dollars.

To the farmer's bewilderment, Henry said that he had committed a greater folly than the farmer and so he must also pay a fee for his folly. Henry explained that he had committed the folly of agreeing to buy the plot at an undervalued price. He said that he did not have the market value of the plot assessed and thereby, he had become guilty of trying to cheat the farmer, though unknowingly. Henry felt that now he must pay the price of his folly by doing the transaction of the plot all over again but this time he would pay the farmer its full market value and he tore up the old documents.

MORAL : An honest person abides by honesty regardless of any loss he or she has to suffer.

16. True Compassion

This incident happened when Mahatma Gandhi was living in the hermitage of Vardha. A Brahmin

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Pandit named Parchure Shastri was suffering from leprosy. No one was ready to nurse him due to fear of getting infected. Gandhiji started nursing him. He would bathe him, apply ointment and feed him with his own hands. People were surprised that Gandhiji was putting his life in danger. This incident highlights his nature of social service.

Several people would suggest remedies to cure leprosy. One person suggested that a living black snake should be kept in a closed pot and kept on fire till the snake burnt to ash. Then the ash should be mixed with honey and given to the patient.



When Gandhiji heard the advice, he asked Parchureji whether he wanted to experiment. Parchureji replied emphatically that why should he not be burnt instead of the snake and why should an innocent snake be burnt alive. He did not want to get cured at the cost of another life.

MORAL : One must not harm any other living being

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for personal benefit and one must protect the well-being of another living being even if one incurs personal loss.

17. What Kind Of Rulers Do People Like ?

Confucius, a Chinese thinker, was once passing by a cemetery with his disciples. He saw a woman crying bitterly in the cemetery. Her grief moved him to tears. He asked a disciple to enquire about the reason of the woman's sorrow.

The disciple asked the woman whether someone near and dear to her had died. The woman said that a man-eating tiger had spread terror in that region. Her father-in-law, husband and daughter had become its victims.

The disciple conveyed the woman's plight to Confucius who felt puzzled that the woman was still staying in the dangerous place. The woman said that she was doing so because the King of the region was not cruel, the administrators were not corrupt and they worked for the people's welfare and the merchants did not cheat or exploit.

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MORAL: People consider a cruel king to be more dangerous than a tiger. They prefer a tiger in their neighbourhood to corrupt officers and profiteering traders.

18. Left School But Not the Truth

This incident occurred before the partition of India. A ninth standard student of Mission High School of Lahore was such a vociferous reader that he had become more knowledgeable than most teachers.

One day the Christian Principal of the school started criticising the Hindu religion and its followers.

All the students remained silent but this boy counterargued and not only proved the Principal wrong but also pointed out the deficiencies in Christianity. He stunned everybody with his brilliant logic and knowledge. The Principal was so angry at being proved wrong that he beat the boy with his stick and dismissed him from school.

The boy started spending his entire day at the

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library. Eventually, the Principal regretted his behaviour and called him back to school.

That boy was none other than Mahatma Hansraj of Punjab. He founded the Dayanand Arya University of Punjab. He dedicated his entire life for raising awareness amongst the youth regarding education and good health.



MORAL : Knowledge is the best virtue. one should not try to interfere in one's belief forcefully.

19. No Money To Buy Even A Stole

In pre-Independence era, Mr. Weilderback, the British Principal of a college in Kumbhkonom village of South India, was a strict disciplinarian. He had made a rule that all students must wear either a kurta or a coat and a dhoti.

One day a poor student named Shrinivas came, clad in only a dhoti. Since it was the rainy season, the only stole he owned was wet, so his upper body

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was bare. Thus, the Principal told him to pay a fine of eight annas

Shrinivas pleaded, "Sir, it is impossible for me to pay a fine of eight annas. The market price of a stole is six annas. If I had that much money, then wouldn't I have bought a stole ? Just yesterday my mother had to refuse to take the gift of raw mangoes which my father's friend had brought because we did not have the money to buy the spices and condiments required to make the mango pickle."

The Principal regretted his behaviour and revoked the fine.

Many years passed after that. In 1921, Mr. Weilderback had retired and returned to England. One day, he received the news that an Indian scholar had been appointed in the Viceroy's Advisory Council and was going to be felicitated. Mr. Weilderback's joy knew no bounds because the honourable scholar was none other than his student Shrinivas.



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MORAL : Shrinivas Shastri is an inspiration for all students that one can overcome all obstacles such as poverty and acquire success on the strength of one's ability and determination.

20. First Chance To New Poet

Sahir Ludhianvi was a very famous Urdu poet. He passed away in 1981. His greatness was in his humility and generosity. He was always supporting upcoming poets, singers and artists.

Once there was a poetry recital programme in Mumbai. When a new poet stood up to recite his poems, the audience started demanding that they wanted to listen to Sahirji. The new poet was in a dilemma but the organiser signalled him to resume. The audience started shouting, "Sahir! Sahir!"

Sahir took the microphone from the new poet and addressed the audience, "Every Sun has its



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radiance. Every ray of the Sun is as good as the Sun. To humiliate the ray is to humiliate the Sun. To obstruct the light of the ray is to obstruct the light of the Sun. So, first enjoy the light of the new Sun, then Sahir will come before you.” The audience calmed down.

MORAL : Always remain humble and help people to come up in life.

21. Will This Education Help Me To Serve My Country ?

A twelve year old boy, studying in Class V, would generally be interested only in eating and playing. But this boy, studying in a school of Maharashtra, was made of different mettle. It was the beginning of the 20th century and India's freedom struggle was in full swing. All Indians, young and old, were ready to make any sacrifice for their country. The boy had such patriotic fervour that even the greatest freedom fighters paled in



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comparison.

One day, the boy thought that by studying in a school under British administration, he was enslaving himself to the British. So, he left school and devoted his entire life to the service of his country.

The boy grew up to be Kedarnathji, a famous social welfare worker of India.

MORAL : Use your education to contribute to the betterment of your country and to serve your country.

22. Such A Tolerant Revolutionary !

This inspiring incident is related to **Sukhdev**, the comrade of Shaheed **Veer Bhagatsingh**.

There was a tattoo of 'Om' on Sukhdev's forearm. The British police knew this. When Sukhdev had to go underground, he executed a very horrific plan to avoid getting caught because of his tattoo.



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He poured acid over his forearm ! Within moments, his forearm got burnt. The pain was excruciating. The acid had burnt his skin and the flesh under it and created a deep wound.

Bhagatsingh scolded Sukhdev but he kept laughing and retorted, “Bhagatsingh! Have you any idea how intense is the effect of acid? I know as I have experienced it. More importantly, I am happy that I have removed the tattoo because otherwise it would have given me away to the British.”

It was such a unique quality of remaining joyous in a painful situation for the love of one's country.

MORAL : We must value the freedom which our freedom fighters have gained after making unthinkable sacrifices. We have many expectations from our country but do we ever think what we have done for our country?

23. What Is Your Priority - Work Or Children ?

After India gained independence, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar became a Cabinet Minister in the Central Government and started residing in

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Delhi. Mr. Mohanlal Rabari, who was in Babasaheb's service, had a five-year-old daughter named Chandra.

In the evening, Babasaheb would meet his visitors in the compound of his bungalow. Chandra would also come often. Regardless of how important the visitors were, they would have to wait and Babasaheb would always first play with her for half an hour or one hour. Such was Babasaheb's love for children !

MORAL : If Babasaheb, who had the responsibility of an entire country on his shoulders, could devote his precious time to an employee's daughter, then why cannot parents make time for their own children?

24. Limitless Love For Books

Bhimrao Ambedkar did not become a scholar just like that. His love for books and knowledge were at the root of it. Whenever he came across a



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new book, he could not control himself. He would spend on books without worrying about his household expenditure.

B.R.Ambedkar's monthly earnings were hardly five hundred rupees and one day, he spent this entire amount on buying a set of five books. When he reached home, his wife served him dinner but he was too lost in the new books to pay attention. His wife Ramabai gave him repeated reminders but every time he would eat a morsel or two and get lost in the books once again. He even reprimanded his wife for disturbing him, saying that he had got the books with great difficulty and for the cost of five hundred rupees. Ramabai remarked sarcastically whether it was written anywhere in the book that a person should forsake his family for the books.



B.R.Ambedkar was taken aback and asked his wife to repeat what she had said. Ramabai said, "Do

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your books tell you not to look after your wife, not care about your children's education, not worry whether there are necessary provisions in the house or not ? Do they tell you to spend all your earnings on them ? Moreover, neglect your food?

B.R.Ambedkar never gave a cause of complaint to his wife thereafter but his love for books did not lessen.

MORAL : Great books create great personalities. However, one must keep a balance in life between his passion and his family.

25. Completion Of Ten Years At The Stroke Of Ten

Mustafa Kamaal Pasha is called 'AataTurk' or the 'Father of Turkey.' When he became the Head of the State, many languages were being spoken in Turkey. He wanted to make Turkish as the national language but his officers displayed a negative attitude that it would take at least ten years to accomplish this.



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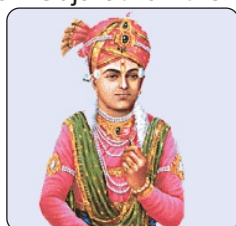
He didn't like their negativity and announced to his officers that it should be assumed that ten years would be completed at the stroke of ten the next morning and Turkish would become the national language.

MORAL : In our country, the public welfare schemes are implemented or completed over a very long period of time because the government officers do not have the enthusiasm to do new work. Only men like Mustafa Kamaal Pasha who do not tolerate laziness can keep such officers on their toes.

26. Which Is The Best Sacrifice ?

Saint Sahajanand Swami, the head of the Swaminarayan sect had freed many people of Kathiawad and other areas of Gujarat of their criminal activities and addiction to alcohol.

Once, Swamiji was gifted a well-bred horse which he enjoyed riding and the people also praised the horse a lot.



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One evening, Swamiji went to bathe in the river with a group of followers. A poor Brahmin came there and sought help. Swamiji handed over the reins of his horse and told him to sell it and use the money for his needs.

When his followers tried to stop him, Swamiji said, "I have become attached to this horse and have also developed a sense of pride in owning it. The best sacrifice is that of the thing which you consider the most lovable and precious. Saints should especially make such sacrifices."

MORAL : Attachment and worldly desires should be overcome because they destroy the virtues of the soul.

27. The Discourteous Cannot Gain Knowledge

Ustaad Alaaddin Khansaaheb was a maestro of Indian classical music. He believed in simple living and high thinking.

Once, he was working in his garden, clad in worn-out clothes. His clothes had become soiled. At that time, a well-dressed young man came to visit

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him but mistook him to be a gardener. He asked, "Where is Usteadji?" The maestro gazed at him silently. The young man asked angrily, "Are you deaf? Answer me whether I can meet Usteadji?"

Usteadji replied, "He is busy in some work." He had not lied. After all, gardening is also work. The young man ordered arrogantly, "Go quickly and tell him that a gentleman wants to meet him."

Usteadji went into the house through the backdoor and coming out of the front door, he said, "Usteadji has asked you to sit. He will change his clothes and come soon. Would you like tea or coffee?"



Just then a big motor-car arrived. A man dressed in royal clothes alighted with his companions and they bowed to Usteadji. The young man was surprised to learn from them that the man he had thought to be a gardener was in fact the great maestro himself. The man in royal clothes was the Nawab of Rampur.

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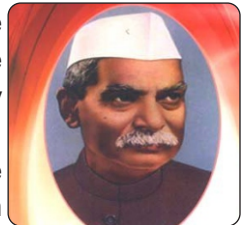
The young man sought Usteadji's forgiveness and requested to teach him music. Usteadji declined saying that he did not mind that he was mistaken to be a gardener but he did not like the young man's rudeness. A discourteous person is not fit to gain knowledge.

MORAL : Humility is the virtue of great people. Courtesy is the jewel of the learned.

28. Duty First

It was the eve of India's Republic Day - 25th January. The first President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, was in a dilemma because his paternal aunt, who had brought him up like a son, had just passed away and on the next day, was the Republic Day Parade. Being the Constitutional Head, he had to attend it to accept the salute of the Defence Forces and the other participants, or else they would be disappointed.

The preparations for the Republic Day Parade had been



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made with great effort and pride. So, Rajendrababu decided to control his grief and attend the call of duty. The Parade went on for three hours. After that, he broke down upon reaching home. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru became emotional about Rajendrababu's devotion to his duty.

MORAL : In the line of duty, great people have silently made many personal sacrifices.

29. The Passion Of A True Writer

This incident is from the life of a Jain literateur named Todarmal. He was from Rajasthan. (He is not the Todarmal who was one of the Nine Jewels of Emperor Akbar.) He wrote the famous book called '*Moksha Marg Prakashak*'.

Once, he complained to his mother while having lunch that she had forgotten to add salt to the food. His mother remarked that he seemed to have finally finished writing his book. Todarmalji affirmed that he had and wanted to know how



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she had guessed that. His mother replied that she had stopped adding salt to his food since the last six months but he had never realised before because his mind had been totally occupied in his book. He had sensed the taste of the food only because his mind was relaxed as he must have completed his book.

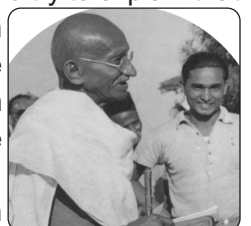
MORAL : Always do your work with passion and total involvement.

30. Self-Experience Is The Best Experience

This incident is related to the son of a couple who worked and stayed in Mahatma Gandhi's hermitage.

He was a glutton. His parents would always prevent him from over-eating and try to explain that over-eating spoils one's health and affects the working of the brain. However, stopping him would only increase his appetite and dissatisfaction.

Gandhiji took it upon



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himself to solve the problem. He instructed that the boy should be allowed to eat as much as he wanted. The boy gorged so much that he fell asleep right there at the table. When he woke up, Gandhiji asked whether he wanted to eat more and the boy started eating again.

Finally, the ill-effects of over-eating started to be felt. The boy suffered a terrible stomach ache the entire night. The boy understood that his parents were right. He never over-ate after that.

MORAL:- Our elders advise us on the basis of their foresight and experience. Their advice is well-meant as they want to save us from pain and suffering but we refuse to listen. In such a case, self-experience makes us realise our folly.

31. An Unsuitable Governor

Khalifa Hajrat Umar had just handed over an appointment letter to the new Governor of a province under his reign. Khalifa's small son came there and the Khalifa started playing with him.

The newly appointed Governor felt that a

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person whose religious authority spread from Europe to India should not indulge in such childish games. He told the Khalifa so and said that he had never even picked up any of his ten children in his arms because it was not becoming of a gallant man to do so.

The Khalifa gave him a piercing look and tore up the appointment letter, saying that he could not appoint him as the Governor because if he could not love his children how could he love his subjects?

MORAL :- Social status must not come in the way of the relationship between children and parents. Rulers are in a way parents of their subjects and they must look after the welfare of their subjects with as much affection as parents do regarding their children.

32. Sir C. V. Raman

A discussion regarding the origin and meaning of certain English words started among certain students of a college in Madras (now Chennai). None of them knew the answers so they went to

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Professor Jones, who was considered to be a master of the English lexicon. However, Professor Jones was also ignorant about the words which the students asked.

The students had an exceptionally brilliant classmate who was very studious and they approached him with their queries. He borrowed some books from the college library and poured over the books that entire night. The next day he had the full information regarding the origin, history and meaning of those words.

Professor Jones hugged him with joy and told him to write an essay on those words for the college magazine. Lord Raleigh, an English scholar, sent that student a congratulatory letter after reading his essay.

The student was the famous Indian scientist, Sir **C. V. Raman** - not only the first Indian but also the first Asian to win the Nobel Prize.

MORAL : One should appreciate nobel prize winner



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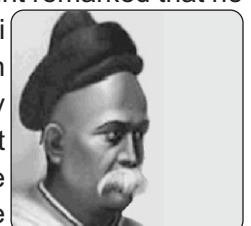
of our country.

33. Nobody Will Call Me Dishonest

Mahadev Govind Ranade was a great Indian personality born in Maharashtra. He was a judge and a social reformer. He had established the Hindu Council with the help of Sir Allen Octavian Hume. The following incident from his childhood sheds light upon his great character.

One day, Mahadevji was getting bored and he had no companions to play with, so he started playing the board game of Ludo with a pillar. He would throw the dice with his right hand to play on behalf of the pillar and for himself he used his left hand.

He lost the game, so his aunt remarked that he had lost to a pillar. Mahadevji explained that he had not been able to throw the dice properly with his left hand. His aunt asked why he had not used the right hand for himself. He



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replied that he did not want to cheat. He wanted to give a fair chance to the pillar to win.

MORAL : Mahadevji was unwilling to cheat even a non-living thing. Let us introspect how many times we cheat our fellow human beings for our profit.

34. Good Use of Money

It is a religious custom of certain Indians to organise feast for Brahmin Pandits and then give them monetary contributions because they believe the food and money will reach the departed souls of their family members. A rich man named Dunichand, who lived in Lahore, had once organised such feast.



Dunichand came to know that Guru Nanak and his disciple were in Lahore, so he invited them too. After the feast, Guru Nanak gave a needle to Dunichand and instructed him to keep it safe and give the needle to Nanak when he would meet him

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in heaven after death as it would be useful for darning his clothes.

Dunichand said that dead people are cremated and turn into ash, then how it would be possible for him to take the needle to heaven. Guru Nanak remarked in that case how could the food and money he gave to the Brahmin Pandits reach his forefathers in heaven.

Guru Nanak advised Dunichand not to spend his wealth on people whose basic needs are already satisfied and also not to make the needy people idle and lazy by directly giving them money. Instead, he should create opportunities of employment for the needy, so that they could earn their own living. This deed would earn him blessings and good fortune. Dunichand acted upon Guru Nanak's advice from then on.

MORAL : Help people to stand on their own feet so that they do not have to beg and also to prevent idleness and crimes.

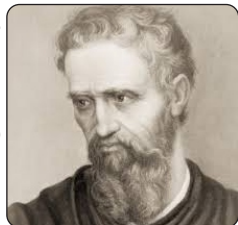


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35. Key To Success

Michelangelo, the great Italian artist, once saw a superior quality of marble stone inside a horse carriage passing by. Upon seeing the stone, a vision of the sculpture he would make out of that stone started taking shape in his mind. The imagination made him so excited that he started walking behind the carriage as if in a trance.

He knew that the stone was being brought to his workshop. No sooner was the stone set in its place, than Michelangelo shut the doors and started chipping away the unwanted stone with his hammer and chisel. He worked day and night, oblivious to hunger and thirst. He did not stop to rest. He set down his tools and opened the doors of his workshop only after the sculpture was ready.



MORAL : If a person pursues his goal with as much passion, persistence and single-mindedness as Michelangelo, then he is bound to be as successful.

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36. Overcome Your Hurdles

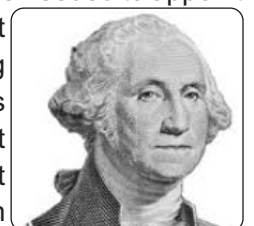
Dr. Samuel Johnson was the first person to prepare a comprehensive English dictionary. He was poor and blind, and had the assistance of just one young man named Boswell, yet he completed the uphill task in just five years.

On the other hand, forty scholars worked together to compile a French dictionary for which they took forty years.

MORAL :- Hurdles of physical handicap and adverse circumstances can be overcome when one has skill, passion and determination.

37. No Favouritism

George Washington was the first President of the United States of America. He needed to appoint someone for a very important and high salaried post. Among the several applicants was Washington's friend who, just like many others, believed that Washington would favour him



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for the post. However, Washington appointed an honest and skillful man from the Opposition party. Washington said that he loved his friend but he did not have the necessary capabilities for the post. The country's welfare must be put above all relations.

MORAL : National leaders must not misuse their power and position to favour their relatives and friends.

38. Real Recommendation Letter

The famous Russian writer, Leo Tolstoy owned agricultural land and once he needed a person to handle his estate. His friend sent him a man who had many recommendation letters but Tolstoy appointed a man with no recommendation letters.

Upon meeting, Tolstoy's friend complained to him about this. Tolstoy explained that the man he had sent had only written recommendations which were not proved by his behaviour. He had been ill-mannered and boastful whereas the man he had appointed had been mannerful and confident that he did not require recommendations as he could

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obtain the job on the strength of his capabilities.

MORAL : The sun shines by its own light. It does not need any introduction.

39. Life Flows Like A River

Swami Ramteerth was once sailing to Japan. He was surprised to know that a 90-year-old Japanese co-passenger, who was suffering from

Parkinson's disease and weak eyesight, was learning Chinese - the most difficult language of the world. Its script has about 56000 alphabets and symbols.

Very few Chinese know their own language completely.



Swamiji remarked that it was surprising that he was learning such a difficult language at such an age. He wondered when the Japanese would finish learning the language and when he would be able to use it.

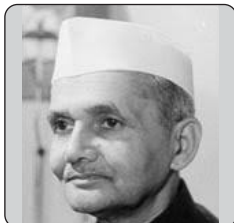
The reply given by the Japanese is an inspirational message and a good moral for all, "Till

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we are alive, we should keep learning something, or else life becomes meaningless. We all have to die one day, but sitting idle in anticipation of death is dishonouring life. What keeps flowing over different areas of knowledge is life."

40. Lal Bahadur Shastri

Lal Bahadur Shastri was the second Prime Minister of free India. The following incident occurred when he was participating in the freedom struggle of India.



The British had imprisoned him. He received the news in prison that his daughter was critically ill. He applied for permission to visit her. The British lay a condition that he would have to give a written statement that he would never participate in the freedom struggle. Lal Bahadur Shastri refused to accept this condition. He said that he could not allow anyone to take away his birthright to fight for his country's freedom.

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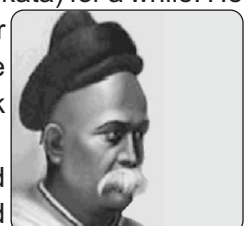
Finally, the magistrate had to give in and granted a long leave to Shastriji.

Unfortunately, Shastriji's daughter was dead by the time he reached home. He completed the last rites sorrowfully. After that, he got ready to return to the prison. A friend suggested that he should stay till his leave was over, but he said the purpose for which the leave had been granted was no longer existing, so he must return.

MORAL :-One must be true to oneself and protect one's honour.

41. A Barber - My Teacher

Mahadev Govind Ranade, a Maharashtrian scholar and lawyer who eventually became a judge, had to live in Calcutta (now Kolkata) for a while. He decided to learn Bengali for practical convenience. He learned from books and took help from the local people.



Once, his barber explained him a few difficult words and

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phrases. His wife remarked humorously that a scholarly judge was learning from a barber. Ranade replied seriously, "Guru Dattatreya had a thousand teachers, including a dog because it can teach the virtue of loyalty. I have no problem learning something good from a barber who I will keep at the top of my list of teachers."

MORAL : Accept as your teacher, without ego or false pride, anyone who can teach you something good and of value.

42. The Greatness Of Simplicity

Lenin, the President of Russia, had been allotted a mansion consisting of hundreds of rooms for residence, but he used only four rooms and the rest he allowed to be used for official work. There is another incident that depicts his simplicity. Although he was exhausted after a long day's work, he not only warmly received a poet who had come to meet him, but also made coffee for him with his own hands.

The great Indian leader, Rajarshi

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Purushottamdas Tandon, was also simplicity exemplified. When he came to know that a book was being written to honour his patriotic and social deeds, he instructed that time, effort and money should not be wasted for the book but should be put to good use for public welfare work.

MORAL : A country can become great if it is led by leaders of such great character.

43. Failure Inspires

Who would imagine the great writer and Nobel Prize winner, Ernest Hemingway had ever failed! It is true. He had participated in a story-writing competition and since he was the most intelligent student of the school, everyone, including himself, was confident of his win. He had a month's time but he waited till the last two days to write.

When the result was declared, he cried tears of shame and dejection. His sister consoled him and told him that over-confidence and under-preparation were the causes of his failure. She told him to take a lesson from his failure. Hemingway

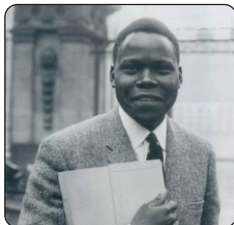
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remembered this lesson forever.

MORAL : Failure is the stepping stone to success. Hard work is the key to success.

44. Passion For Education

Legson Kayira was born in Malawi in 1938 in a poor African family. He managed to get secondary school education but for higher education he wanted to go to the United States for which he had no money. Once, he set out of his home and wandered on foot from one town to another, doing odd labour jobs for a living, hoping to somehow reach the United States. He covered almost 4000 kilometres on foot. In Khartoum, an American was impressed with him and not only paid for his journey from Khartoum to Cairo and the onward journey to the States but also wrote a recommendation letter to a professor of an American University. Kayira got degrees from the American University as well as the



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Cambridge University of England. His passion for education drove him to success.

Moral :- Such a passion is a great moral.

45. Worthy Of Honour Not Scolding

Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, a great Bengali saint, would always stand near a particular pillar when he went to the temple. One day, there was a large crowd of worshippers at the temple so a woman, who was short in height, climbed up the pillar and kept one leg on Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's shoulder in order to get a glimpse of God's idol. His disciple, Govind scolded the woman. Chaitanya Mahaprabhu explained to him that instead of scolding her, he should bow honourfully to her because her devotion was complete which had made her oblivious to her mistake whereas Govind's devotion was not, so his attention had not remained steady towards God but had been drawn towards the woman.

MORAL : Let us judge ourselves and not others.

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46. Protection Of Honour

Kishore G. Mushruwalla was an essayist and follower of the principles of Mahatma Gandhi. One day, a few girls put their dilemma before him that they were unable to take action against some eve-teasers because it would amount to violence. Kishoreji said that they should beat the boys to teach them a lesson and an action taken for self-protection did not amount to violence in his view. He told the girls to get Gandhiji's view on this. Gandhiji supported Kishoreji's view saying that action taken by a girl to protect her chastity will not amount to violence.



MORAL : A girl must protect her honour and chastity at any cost.

47. The Saviour Of The Poor

Both these incidents occurred in pre-independent India.

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Once, an English man alighted at the railway station of Lahore. He heard some din created by a small crowd which had gathered there. Feeling curious, he drew near and saw the station master's hand lifted in readiness to beat an old ragged woman who was sitting close to a bonfire to protect herself from the bitter cold. The British station master was calling her an untouchable and wanted her to go away. The newcomer scolded him for his stone-heartedness. He wrapped his own shawl around the woman. He had come to Lahore to take up the post of a college Principal but he was so moved by the poverty and misery in India that he teamed up with Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi to do social service. He was 'Deenbandhu' (brother of the poor) Charles Andrews.



In another incident, Mahatma Gandhi saw a cowherd of his own hermitage shivering with cold. Gandhiji sewed a blanket with his own hands and

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gave it to him. The cowherd was grateful that he had got a good night's sleep as the blanket had kept him warm. Gandhiji, his wife Kasturba and the dwellers of the hermitage made 250 blankets for the poor that winter.

MORAL : Feel the woes of the poor and help them in anyway you can.

48. Self-Respect

During British rule over India, an Indian teenager had gone to visit his uncle who was employed in a government office in Lahore. The teenager strolled about the office and reached the Chief Engineer's cabin. He was impressed by its expensive furnishing. He sat in the plush revolving chair. The British engineer was greatly angered by the sight of an Indian sitting in his chair. He caught hold of the boy's ears and pulled him out of the chair. He also insulted him. The self-respecting boy controlled his anger and left the room with quiet determination. Fifteen years later, the British engineer received an order to hand over his

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responsibilities to his replacement. The new engineer was the same teenage boy who had fulfilled his resolution to sit in that chair with respect. He was Lala Gangaram who was also conferred with knighthood by the British Government for his contribution in the engineering field.

Another incident displays similar self-respecting attitude by an Indian. Mr.Carr once visited the Sanskrit college in Calcutta (now Kolkata). When he entered Principal Ishwarchandra Vidysagar's office, Ishwarchandra did not get up to welcome him, in fact he sat with his shoe-clad feet on the desk, immersed in reading. Mr. Carr wrote a letter of complaint to the Governor who in turn demanded an explanation from Ishwarchandra. Ishwarchandra replied that he had only replicated the behaviour which Mr.Carr had displayed when he had visited him. He had thought that this must be British courtesy!



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MORAL :- Nothing is more valuable than your self-respect.

49. No Worries About Death

Lokmanya Tilak spent his entire life in service of his countrymen without any expectations. He established the New English School in Pune where he took on teaching as well as administrative responsibilities. He took a remuneration of just thirty rupees per month. His friend advised him to take more remuneration as in such a meagre sum, he would not be able to save even for his funeral rites. Lokmanya refused to worry about the future. The people he had served would anyway carry out his funeral rites either out of respect or to dispose his decaying body.



MORAL : Do your best in the present, the future will take care of itself.

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50. One Eye Is Enough

Ranjit Singh was the Prince of Jamnagar which like the other princely states of India had accepted the supremacy of the British Government. The princely states had to provide military service to the British when called upon.

During World War I, Ranjit Singh was leading a troop in Mesopotamia against the Germans. He lost one eye in the cross fire. In reply to the consolation letter of his British commander he courageously said, "Two eyes are a luxury, one is a necessity."



He proved his statement on the cricket field where he scored boundaries and sixes, despite his single eye.

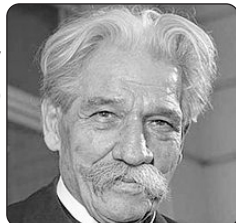
MORAL : Never lose courage or hope.

51. Think Of The Poor

Guru Nanak believed that poverty was mankind's biggest enemy as it was the root cause of

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all differences and discrimination. He had empathy for the poor. He preferred to stay in a poor man's house and whenever a rich man invited him for a feast, he would turn down the invitation, saying that when his poor brethren were eating a frugal meal, how he could enjoy a feast!



Albert Schweitzer's life also illustrates his empathy for the poor. He belonged to a rich family but right from childhood he had adopted a very simple life, limiting his wants to bare necessities. Once, he refused to replace his wornout coat with a new one because his poor classmate could not afford to buy a new coat. He spent his life in serving the poor people of Africa.

MORAL : Empathy towards fellow humans is the virtue of the great.

52. Keys To Success

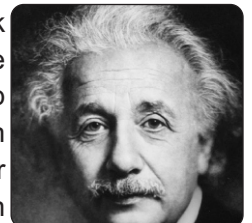
We can learn the keys to success from

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successful people.

Albert Einstein was well organised. He would make a list of things to do the next day before going to bed. He was also disciplined and hardworking. He completed the list of work without fail.

The American President Franklin Roosevelt valued time and he was fond of reading. He had set apart two hours' time in the afternoon to meet people. He would keep a book open in his hand and grab the opportunity to read it in the gap of one or two minutes between two visitors or when the visitor would become lost for words. In this manner, he completed reading hundreds of books.



MORAL : Time is costlier than money.

53. Jean-Paul Sartre

Jean-Paul Sartre, the greatest French writer of this era, was selected for the Nobel Prize in Literature. He would not only win prize money worth

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millions but also became world famous, as a result of which millions of copies of his books would sell worldwide, earning him more money.

Surprisingly, he wrote a letter and declined to accept the Prize, citing the reason that the appreciation of his fans was enough, he did not need money nor the tag of 'Nobel Prize Winner' with his name. He displayed a saint-like detachment from worldly desires.

MORAL :- Be passionate about your work and aim to do it to the best of your ability without any desire for fame or wealth.

54. Throw Away The Plant Extract

The sun of British Power in India was at its zenith. Capitalism prevailed. The British policy was to sell maximum quantity of British goods at maximum profit in India. To establish their monopoly in Indian markets, they did not allow Indians to develop their business or set up new factories. Administrative and economic policies which were formulated would also favour the British. However,

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there were certain patriotic Indians who risked to start their own factories to support the movement of banning British goods and using indigenous goods.

One of them was a Bengali scientist named Praful Chandra Roy who set up a pharmaceutical factory. After the factory was set up, he faced many obstacles. He had a capital of only eight hundred rupees. He had to compete with British pharmaceutical companies which had capital worth lakhs of rupees. Despite all the difficulties, he worked assiduously day and night. He made use of herbs and minerals found in India to make medicines which were cheaper and more effective than British medicines. But, he would never allow adulteration to keep the cost low. The following incident highlights that very fact.



Once, an extract of a medicinal plant got spoilt because there was a delay in using it. It was a costly extract. Roybabu ordered that the spoilt extract

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should be discarded and fresh extract should be used. An employee said that the extract could be used because it was only slightly spoilt, so no one would notice and the company could be saved from a big loss. Roybabu replied, "The work of medicines is to restore the body's state of health. If the medicines are of sub-standard quality, **then it would mean toying with the health of its users.** We cannot toy with the health of our countrymen. Throw away that extract." The name of Roybabu's pharmaceutical company was Bengal Chemicals which developed and withstood the competition in the market only because of his work ethics.

MORAL : Maintain your ethics at any cost.

55. Duty Of A King

The great Jain monk **Hemchandracharya** was the Guru of **King Siddharaj** Jaisingh and **King Kumarpal**. He preached Jainism. He had always received great respect and a hearty welcome from the people of Gujarat.

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Once, he was in a village of Saurashtra. The villagers were coming and making various offerings to Acharyashree. A poor farmer offered a hand-spun garment with great devotion. Although the garment was thick and coarse, Acharyashree removed the silk garment offered by King Kumarpal and wore the farmer's garment.

When Acharyashree reached Patan, King Kumarpal saw the coarse garment. He fell at Acharyashree's feet and remarked, "Maharaj ! You are making me feel ashamed. You are insulting me!"

Hemchandracharya laughed softly and asked, "King, what has made you feel so?"

The King said, "Is there lack of silk garments in the home of the King of Gujarat ? Have I become a beggar that you are wearing such a thick and coarse garment ?"

Hemchandracharya retorted, "King ! If you have felt insulted by this garment, then you have not been afflicted by just one, but lakhs of insults."

King Kumarpal failed to understand how.

"Like me, majority of your subjects wear such

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garments. When you are able to remove their misery, you will be free from your insult. I will remain clad in this garment till then.”

MORAL : It is the prime duty of every monarch or national leader to strive to make their people happy. It is the divine duty of every religious saint to keep the leaders aware of their duty.

56. Not By Punishment

Zakir Hussain was the Dean of the Jamia Malia University. He wanted to enrich the life of the students by inculcating good values. He also wanted them to be conscious of self hygiene and personal appearance. He noticed that most students did not bother to clean and polish their shoes. He believed that punishment was not an effective method of mending a person's wrong habits. One early morning, he sat in the compound of the University with a brush and a box of shoe polish. He offered to polish the shoes of the students. The students felt ashamed and promised to pay attention to personal cleanliness.

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MORAL :- When you try to change another person with love and understanding rather than punishment, you can make a lasting impression and succeed in bringing about the desired change.

57. Napoleon's Devotion To Motherhood

An English soldier named John Robbins was taken as a prisoner of war by the French army led by Napoleon Bonaparte. He was restless in prison because his mother was fatally ill and he wanted to be by her side so that she could die peacefully. He tried to flee but was caught. The punishment for his offence was death. When he was brought before Napoleon, he told the reason for his offence. Napoleon was reminded of his own loving mother. He allowed Robbins to go to his mother and also asked him to tell his mother that Napoleon bowed respectfully to her and **he was not merely a commander-in-chief but also a son devoted to his mother.**

MORAL : Our heads bow with respect to this great leader's devotion to motherhood.

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58. Protect Your Morals

Dr. Sureshbhai Zhaveri was leaving his native place, Palanpur to come to Mumbai for his medical education. His mother instructed him, “My son, do not shame your parents. Abstain from addictions and food which is restricted by our religion.”

However, Sureshbhai's thoughts gradually became corrupt under the influence of his college mates. Once the thoughts become corrupt, it does not take long to culminate into bad behaviour.

Once at a friend's party, Sureshbhai got ready to eat a non-vegetarian dish. Just as he was about to put the first morsel in his mouth, his mother's face appeared on his inner eye. She seemed to be telling him, “If you eat that, then you will cease to be my son. Do not show me your face.” Sureshbhai's hand trembled and the plate fell out of his hand. He started feeling nauseous. He resolved to strictly follow the morals imbibed into him by his mother.

MORAL : Never discard the teachings of your parents and religion. They are invaluable and enrich your life.

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59. The Power Of Prestige

Premchand Raichand, a prestigious Indian businessman of pre-Independence era, had such goodwill that even the Bank and the British Government asked him to be their guarantor for which they paid him a handsome commission.

The new Governor of Mumbai did not understand the importance of Premchand Sheth's backing and cancelled his commission. Premchand Sheth spread word in the business circle that the Bank had lost its financial standing. The businessmen flocked to the Bank to withdraw their deposits. The Bank did not have enough funds to clear the cheques.

The new Governor could set up a meeting with Premchand Sheth only after several requests. He accepted his mistake and renewed Premchand Sheth's commission, that too at a higher rate.

MORAL : The Indian businessmen of yesteryears had earned prestige and goodwill by the virtue of their intelligence, skill, fairness, ethics and adherence to religious principles.

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60. A Unique Old Woman

England was bombarded several times during the Second World War. In a war situation, it often happens that the supplies of basic necessities are obstructed which leads to black marketing of these things. An old woman named Margaret lived in a county called Sussex. She had sent both her sons to fight for their country and both had become martyrs. The old woman felt proud that both her sons had died in service of their country.

Margaret was a dealer of kerosene. A rumour had spread that kerosene would no longer be available, so either stock it up or your kitchen stove will no longer burn.

There was a mad rush to buy kerosene. The people were ready to pay double its actual price. This was a good opportunity for Margaret to earn but this patriotic lady thought that if a few people will start hoarding kerosene, then an artificial scarcity will be created in the market. She explained to her customers the adverse effects of hoarding and also told them that she would not sell at an increased

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price. At night she went from street to street to abate the fear that the rumour had spread.

When the war ended, Prime Minister **Winston Churchill** felicitated the ninety year old woman. He praised her patriotic spirit and said that the country was safe in the hands of such citizens.

MORAL : Never be so greedy and selfish as to make personal gains at the cost of your country.

61. The Curse Of The Poor

In his book 'A Moment In Time', Aapasaaheb Pant has narrated an incident of his life which occurred in the pre-Independence era.

In 1848, the British had established their supremacy over Satara. It was agreed to give Satara on lease for twenty years to the British. The British drew the agreement in English. However, Pantji lay a condition that he would not sign unless he checked its Marathi translation.

The British bribed the translator. In the English version, it was written that the British were being given Satara forever, whereas the corrupt translator

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wrote twenty years in its Marathi translation. When Pantji came to know of this treachery, he let out a sigh of pain. The translator could not bear children and the ones he adopted got murdered. It was as if he was being punished for his treachery.

MORAL : Tulsidasji's '*doha*' also conveys that one who cheats or oppresses the poor and the helpless will surely be cursed. The hide of innocent dumb animals, who are cruelly killed, has the strength to burn down iron to ashes.

62. A Concerned Citizen

In 1984, Dr.Rajendra Singh resigned from his government job to be involved in social welfare work.

In Alwar and neighbouring regions, an acute scarcity of water was being faced because the levels of underground water had lowered immensely due to unplanned and uncontrolled digging of borewells by farmers and the government. The Government banned mining in Aravallis and 470 mines in Sariska area were

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closed down since the mines were causing water-loss. He raised awareness among people to build artificial lakes, check dams and underground tanks to overcome this problem. This helped raise ground water levels in the region. Another organisation 'Sarita Loksabha' was established to teach planned and judicious usage of river water.

He was given the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 2001 for his pioneering work in community-based efforts in water harvesting and water management. In 2005 he got Jamnalal Bajaj award for Application of Science and Technology for Rural Development. In 2008 "*The Guardian*" named him amongst 50 people who could save the planet. In 2015 he won Stockholm Water Prize an award known as "the Nobel Prize for water". He is also known as the "waterman of India". His work of building over 8600 *johads* (check dams)etc. has brought water back to over 1000 villages and revived 5 rivers in Rajasthan.

MORAL : Whether it is for a life or for a country of your dreams, you have to work hard to build it.

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63. Let Us Spread Goodness

In the United States of America, truck drivers use a walkie talkie called C.B.R. (Citizen Bank Radio) to inform each other regarding roads covered by snow or congested by traffic due to accident.

One day, the voice of a small boy called Teddy was heard by all the drivers on the C.B.R. He told them that his father used to drive a truck with eighteen wheels and would often take him on a drive in it. Unfortunately, his father had died in an accident and so his mother had to work for a living. He requested if one of them could take him on a drive just like his father used to.

After a while, trucks were lined up in the driveway of Teddy's house. He was taken on a drive one by one by all the drivers. In the evening, Teddy's mother thanked all the drivers on the C. B.R.

MORAL : Late Shree Abdul Kalaam had said that such positive incidents should be reported on the front page of newspapers instead of negative incidents of violence and terror. This will help to

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spread goodness.

64. Duty Well Done

This incident occurred when Jawaharlal Nehru was the Mayor of Allahabad. The Revenue Officer, Abul Fazl, told Nehru that he had prepared a list of people who had not paid their water tax dues and there were also prominent people amongst the defaulters. Nehru instructed him to do his duty fearlessly. The water supply of the defaulters, including Nehru's father Motilalji, was cut off. When Motilalji complained to his son, Jawaharlalji told him that if one fails in one's duty to pay the taxes on time, then one must bear the punishment.

MORAL : Become aware of duties. Discharging your duty well is of utmost importance. It solves many problems.

65. Protect Every Life

This incident occurred when the great Jain ascetic was at Viramgam in Gujarat. It was the pre-Independence era. Shri Poojya was terribly shaken

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that no one had the courage to raise their head against the Britisher Ewizard and stop him from bird hunting on the bank of Munsar because the British were in power at that time in India. Shri Poojya decided to take up the cause.

Shri Poojya fired a shot in the air just as Ewizard was about to take aim and all the birds flew away at the sound. Ewizard was furious. Shri Poojya instructed the watchman to take away the net. Ewizard questioned Shri Poojya if he had the license for using a gun. Shri Poojya knew that Ewizard had no authority to ask him regarding the license. Ewizard and his companions tried to snatch the gun and Shri Poojya got injured in the scuffle. The matter was taken to the police. The Jain congregation complained against Ewizard but the police officer was afraid to lodge a complaint against the Englishman. Ewizard knew that he had committed two offences of illegal hunting and physical violence so to save himself he put a false charge of attempted murder on Shri Poojya. A case was filed and an arrest order was issued against

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Shri Poojya.

Now the matter did not remain confined to Viramgam. The Jain congregation of Mumbai hired a famous lawyer named Mr. Brance to defend Shri Poojya. When Ewizard and his friend Anderson were cross-examined, it became evident that the charge upon Shri Poojya was a false one. Shri Poojya was acquitted but the British judge gave his verdict so cleverly that Ewizard and his companions did not receive any punishment for wrongly accusing Shri Poojya. The local newspapers reported that the charge of murder against a Jain ascetic was laughable because non-violence is the main principle of Jainism and Jain ascetics are careful not to harm even a microorganism.

MORAL : Every life is precious. Those who sacrifice their lives to protect other living beings deserve great respect and admiration.



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: Supported By :

- 1) Bhamasha Jagdusha, Ishan, Siddha, Mansvi, Aditi Bharuch, Ahd-
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- 15) Shantilal Manilal Vohera-Nadiyad
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- 38) Sangeeta Nilesh Kothari, Hemangi, Prushti, Sneha,

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Nagpur.

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- 51) PrashantAutomobiles, Mancherial - A.P.
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- 53) Prakash Golechha - Pragya Bhilai
- 54) Pragnaben Prakash Shah Parivar - Juna Disha Mumbai.
- 55) Vineeta Jain - Ahd.
- 56) Alauki, Shalin, Aradita on occasion of 10 fast of Alauki-Mum.
- 57) Ashok Kochar, Rajnand Gao, Chhatishgadhi.

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A PROFOUND SCHOLAR

An incident which forces us to think really, what should be done to make our soul free from the birth and rebirth. Each and every person who tries to find out, "who am I and when my soul will really be free?"

Once a group of learned people visited different European countries, where they were in Rome. They intended to visit Vatican church. They heard that the Pope can be seen. Fortunately the same day there was a religious seminar, so delegates of Christianity from different parts of the world were to attend the seminar. Delegates with different visitors were passing the corridor watching different antique articles. To find out delegates from the visitors a heightened Negro saint was watching and asking different person (are you Christian? coming to attend the seminar?).

A Jain visitor was walking with a Yugoslavian delegate. The delegate was asked and the Jain visitor became excited. The saint asked him too. The Jain visitor said strongly, "no". I'm Jain. The pope was 50 to 60 feet away; he heard these words and came hurriedly to the visitor, asked him (to the Jain) "Sir would you mind to spend ten minutes with me?" The visitor replied affirmatively. They sat together without wasting a minute, the pope started asking regarding eatables and non-eatables. The visitor said "Sir, take a big potato and make some thousand small pieces of the same and sow them at thousand different places. You will have after considerable time a thousand plants of potatoes, if you had eaten that potatoes you would have killed thousand souls.

Then he intended to know that Jain sadhu and sadhavi mahatmas walk on foot to each and every corner of the country. They never use any kind of vehicles. The pope didn't agree with this. He gave an example of a lonely ill sadhu maharaj who was alone and fell down near the center of the road. Round about there was a church. So Christian priest came there and made the mahatma to sit. The priest came to know that the sadhu mahatma wanted to go to an upashraya. The priest contacted the trustees of the Upashraya. Some people came in car and took the mahatma with them by car, because the mahatma was totally unable to walk. The entire incident was recorded and was sent to the pope. The pope told the Jain visitor, if you want to see, I have a recorded incident and these shows that Jain mahatma use vehicles. The Jain visitor strongly denied this, and he told the pope, if somehow or the other you were lost in Amazon's forest and you couldn't find a single person there for two three days, and you are totally unable to walk.

If you are Thirsty, hungry and having physical illness, what would you do? If a dirty Negro happened to come, will you not request him for help? The pope didn't answer and only smiled. Then the pope offered the Jain visitor to be Christian and stay with him luxuriously. The Jain visitor asked the pope "sir, can I be Christ? The pope excited and said 'No'. Again the Jain asked him, can you be Christ". The pope said "how can I be Christ?" so the Jain visitor told him "sir, then be Jain, if you follow the shown path by the Lord 'MAHAVEER' You can be 'TEERTHANKAR' like Him.

After the unusual talk they parted. (This is the story of an ideal person named Natubhai R. Shah from Baroda- Nizampura India. ph no 9427475361 who has proposed the English learning course in Michigan USA after a research of six years from 1967 to 1972 and is now being sold by that university to more than 4 countries nearly in crores of rupees. This Natubhai taught to more than thousands of Monks and Nuns including His holiness P.P RATNASUNDAR SOORESWARJI recently, free of cost. The person who visited Vatican in 2011 A.D with his learned friends, he was nobody else but profound scholar Natubhai him self.)

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