SIMPLE STORIES FOR CHILDREN

BOOK II

THE GREATEST

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SIMPLE STORIES FOR CHILDREN

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BOOK II

WHO IS THE GREATEST?

M. UNAVIEVI ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....By
ERNAKULAM.

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WHO IS THE GREATEST?

I

Long, long ago many great men lived in India.

They were great rishis.

They were very wise and good men.

Date.....
ERNAKULAM.

They loved God.

They were always praying to Him.

Very often they did yagas to please him.

Once many rishis met on the bank of the river Saraswathi.

There they did a great yaga.

When the yaga was over, they sat talking.

They talked about the three gods, Siva, Brahma and Vishnu.

AIDS TO STUDY

lived – വസിച്ചിരുന്ന	met – കൂടി
prayed – പ്രാർത്ഥിച്ച	Siva – ശിവൻ
yagas – യാഗങ്ങൾ	Brahma – ബ്രഹ്മാവ്
bank – തീരം	Vishnu – വിഷ്ണു

QUESTIONS

(1) How did the rishis live long ago ?
(2) Where did they meet once ?
(3) What did they talk about ?

II

"Which is the greatest God ?" they asked.

Some said, "Siva is the greatest God."

"Vishnu is the greatest God," said some others.

"No," said some others, "the greatest god is Brahma."

The rishis did not think alike.

"We must know the answer for certain," said a very old rishi. "Let one of us go to the gods. He must try to make the gods angry. The god who is never angry is the greatest god."

"That is a very good plan," said the other rishis. "Let us send Bhrugu to the gods."

Bhrugu was the son of the god Brahma.

He was a great rishi.

AIDS TO STUDY

greatest – ഏറ്റവും ശ്രേഷ്ഠൻ
alike – ഒരുപോലെ
must know – അറിയണം
for certain – നിശ്ചിതമായി
Bhrugu – ഭൃഗു

QUESTIONS

(1) What did the rishis want to know?
(2) Did they all think alike?
(3) Why did they want to send a rishi to the three gods?
(4) Who was Bhrugu?

III

"I shall go to the gods," said Bhrugu. "I shall try to make them angry."

"Thank you," said the other rishis. "We shall sit here. Please come back soon."

"I shall go first to Sathyaloka," said he.

"There I shall try to make my father angry."

(Lord Brahma lived in Sathyaloka.)

"Then I shall go to Kailas and test Siva."

(Lord Siva lived in Kailas.)

"After that I shall go to Palazhi, and see Lord Vishnu."

AIDS TO STUDY

Sthyaloka – സത്യലോകം
test – പരീക്ഷിക്കുക (test, tested)
Kailas – കൈലാസം
Palazhi – പാൽക്കടൽ, പാലാഴി

QUESTIONS

(1) Where did Brahma live?
(2) Who lived in Kailas?
(3) Where was Vishnu's home?

IV

So Brugu set off for Sathya-loka.

Like a bright star he passed across the sky.

The sun and the stars bowed to him.

Soon the rishi came to Sathya-loka.

There he went to the palace of flowers. That was Brahma's palace.

At that time he was sitting on a throne of flowers. Rishis and gods stood on both sides of the throne.

They sang sweet songs about the god.

There Bhrugu came.

"Bhrugu, my son!" said Brahma. "He will bow to me and show his great love for me."

PUNNAVIRVI ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM.



LORD BRAHMA

AIDS TO STUDY

Set off – യാത്ര തിരിച്ചു
bowed – തലകുനിച്ചുവന്ദിച്ചു
stars– നക്ഷത്രങ്ങൾ
throne – സിംഹാസനം
on both sides – രണ്ടുവശത്തും

QUESTIONS

1. Who bowed to the rishi on his way ?
2. What was Brahma doing at that time ?
3. What did he think when he saw Bhrugn?

V

But Brahma was wrong.
Bhrugu did not bow to his father.
He did not show his love for him.
He took no notice of his father.
The other gods and rishis saw this.

"Look," said they, "Bhrugu is not bowing to his father. What will happen now ?"

"He is not bowing to me," said Brahma to himself. "He takes no notice of me."

Brahma became very angry.

"Bhrugu, don't stand before me like that," cried he. "Go away from here. Don't come to Sathya-loka again."

Bhrugu turned round and went away.

Then Brahma's anger passed. He became calm again.

"O I got angry with Bhrugu. I did wrong," said he. He was very sorry.

AIDS TO STUDY

take notice of – ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുക
happen – സംഭവിക്കുക
again – വീണ്ടും
calm – ശാന്തൻ

QUESTIONS

1. Did Bhrugu bow to his father ?
2. What did the other gods and rishis say?
3. What did Brahma do?

VI

Next Bhrugu went towards Kailas.

Soon he reached Kailas.

He went straight to the temple of Siva.

The god was sitting on a throne of gold.

He wore garlands of skulls and bones.

Snakes played round his neck.

The half-moon shone in his hair.



He held a trident in one hand.

Rishis stood on both sides of the throne.

They sang sweet songs praising the god.

His servants danced before him.

His wife sat by his side.

They watched the dance.

Bhrugu came there.

The rishis bowed low.

Siva and Parvathi rose from their seats.

"Welcome, O great rishi," said they.

"We are happy to see you."

But Bhrugu stood quiet.

Then siva walked towards him.

He was ready to embrace the rishi.

AIDS TO STUDY

reached — എത്തി (reach, reached)
garlands — മാലകൾ
skull — തലയോട്
bones — എല്ലുകൾ
neck — കഴുത്ത്
trident — ശൂലം
praising — കീർത്തിക്കുന്നത്
embrace — ആലിംഗനം ചെയ്യുക

QUESTIONS

1. Where did Bhrugu see Siva ?
2. What was he doing there ?
3. How did Siva welcome Bhrugu ?

VII

"No," cried Bhrugu. "Don't touch me. You are not a good god. You wear garlands of skulls and bones. You spend most of your time in burial grounds. I hate you."

He spoke as if in anger. He spoke loudly.

"Listen to what he says," said Siva's servants. "Our god will kill the rishi now."

Siva heard Bhrugu's words.

His eyes became red.

Siva had three eyes.

Fire came out of all the three eyes.

He raised his trident to kill the rishi. The snakes raised their heads and hissed.

ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....

Parvathi saw this.

"O my lord," cried she, "Please put down your trident. Don't kill the rishi."

She begged him again and again not to kill the rishi.

Then Siva's anger passed.

He became calm.

He felt ashamed.

Bhrugu smiled on him. Then he turned round and went away.

AIDS TO STUDY

Fire– അഗ്നി
raised– പൊക്കി (raise, raised)
hissed–ഫൂൽക്കാരം ചെയ്തു (hissed)

begged – യാചിച്ചു
felt ashamed – ലജ്ജിച്ചു
smiled – മന്ദഹസിച്ചു

QUESTIONS

1. What did Bhrugu tell Siva ?
2. What did Siva do ?
3. Did Siva kill the rishi ?
4. Why did not Siva kill him ?

VIII

Then Bhrugu turned towards Palazhi.

Soon he was in Palazhi.

He saw Vishnu.

He was sleeping.

Bhrugu stood by the side of Vishnu.

He looked at the face of the god.

It was very beautiful.

Bhrugu was very happy to see it.

" I must now test Vishnu," said he to himself.

He thought about it for some time.

Then he lifted his left foot.

With great force he kicked Vishnu on the chest with his left foot.

Vishnu opened his eyes.

He saw the rishi. At once he rose and stood up.

" O great rishi, I did not see you," said he, "please pardon me".

Then Vishnu did many things to please the rishi.

"Vishnu is the greatest of the three gods," said Bhrugu to himself. "He is never angry."

Then the rishi fell at the feet of Vishnu.

Vishnu blessed him. After that Brughu went back to his friends.

He told them all about the three gods.

"Vishnu is the greatest of the three gods," said they.

AIDS TO STUDY

lifted – പൊക്കി
pardon me – എനിക്കു് മാപ്പുതന്നാലും
force – ശക്തി
kicked – ഇടിച്ചു
to please – സന്തോഷിപ്പിക്കാൻ
chest – നെഞ്ചു്
blessed – അനുഗ്രഹിച്ചു

QUESTIONS

1. What was Vishnu doing when Bhrugu came to Palazhi ?
2. What did Bhrugu do?
3. Was Vishnu angry ?

ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....
ERNAKULAM

This book is very good.
" " " " bad.

SIVA AND VRIKA

I

Once there was an asura chief.
His name was Vrika.
He was the son of Sakuni.
One day Vrika met Narada.
Narada was a great rishi.

"I have a great wish," said Vrika. "Who will grant me my wish? I must have it without much trouble."

"Pray to Siva," said Narada. "You can please him easily. Then he will grant your wish. You cannot please Brahma or Vishnu easily."

"Thank you," said Vrika. "I will pray to Siva."

AIDS TO STUDY

chief — പ്രധാനി
Vrika — വൃകൻ (വൃകാസുരൻ)
Sakuni — ശകുനി Narada — നാരദൻ
wish — ആഗ്രഹം grant — കൊടുക്കുക
without much trouble — അധികം പ്രയാസം കൂടാതെ
easily — എളുപ്പത്തിൽ
please — പ്രീതിപ്പിക്കുക

QUESTIONS

1. Who was Vrika ?
2. Whom did he meet one day ?
3. What did he tell Narada ?
4. Wha did Narada tell him ?

II

So Vrika went to a temple. It was in a place called Kedara. There he made a big fire.
He sat beside the fire.
Then he took a sharp knife.

He cut a piece of flesh from his body.

He threw it into the fire.
He offered it to Siva.
Then he shut his eyes.

"O Siva, come to me," said he, "and bless me."

Six days passed. Every day he threw a piece of his flesh into the fire. Now, there were six wounds on his body. Yet Siva did not come to him.

AIDS TO STUDY

temple – ക്ഷേത്രം fire – അഗ്നി
beside – അരികത്ത്
sharp – മൂർച്ചയുള്ള
flesh – മാംസം
threw – എറിഞ്ഞു (throw, threw)
offered – അർപ്പിച്ചു wounds – മുറിവുകൾ
yet – എന്നിട്ടും

QUESTIONS

1. Where did Vrika go ?
2. What did he do there ?
3. How did he try to please Siva ?
4. Did Siva come to him ?

III

The seventh day came. Yet Siva did not come. So Vrika became angry.

"Siva must come to me," said he, "or I will kill myself."

He stood up. There was a river close by. He went to the river. He bathed in it.

The fire was still burning.

He came back and stood beside the fire.

Then he took a sharp sword.

"I will cut off my head with this sword," said he. "It will fall into the fire. I hope it will please Siva."

Vrika raised his sword.

Just at that moment Siva came. "Don't cut off your head," said the god. He caught Vrika by the hand.

At once all the wounds on his body healed. His body became bright.

"I am Siva," said the god. "I am pleased with you. Tell me what you want."

Date.....

AIDS TO STUDY

Sword — വാൾ raised — പൊക്കി
at that moment — ആ നിമിഷത്തിൽ
caught - പിടിച്ചു, wounds — മുറിവുകൾ
healed — ഭേദമായി
bright — പ്രകാശമുള്ളത്

QUESTIONS

1. What did Vrika do on the seventh day?
2. Did he cut off his head ?
3. Who came to him ?
4. What did he do?

IV

Vrika was a devotee of Siva. So Siva loved him.

"You are my devotee," said he again. "Tell me your wish. I will give you anything you like."

Vrika was a bad asura. So he did not ask for anything good.

"Give me the death-touch," said he. "If I touch anyone on the head he must die at once."

Siva did not like it.

He thought for a moment. He had to keep his word. So he granted the asura's wish.

"Let it be so," said he. "Touch anyone on the head. He shall die at once."

AIDS TO STUDY

devotee – ഭക്തൻ touch- തൊടുക

for a moment – ഒരുനിമിഷത്തേയ്ക്ക്

must keep his word – വാക്കുപാലിക്കണം

QUESTIONS

1. Was Vrika a good asura ?
2. What did Vrika ask for ?
3. Did Siva like it ?
4. Did Siva grant the wish ?

V

" I can kill anyone now," said Vrika to himself. "I have the death-touch. Now no one can take it away from me. Even Siva cannot take it back."

Siva's wife was Parvathi. She was very beautiful.

"I must kill Siva," thought Vrika, "then I can take Parvathi as my wife."

So Vrika raised his hand.

"I will touch Siva on the head," said he. Siva saw it.

"He is raising his hand," said Siva. "O! He is coming to touch me on the head."

Siva was afraid. So he began to run.

Vrika ran after him.

"Stop," cried he. "Let me touch you on the head."

AIDS TO STUDY

even Siva — ശിവനപോലും
raised — പൊക്കി
afraid — ഭയപ്പെട്ട

QUESTIONS

1. Who was Parvathi?
2. Why did Vrika want to kill Siva?
3. What did Siva do?

VI

Siva ran and ran. Vrika ran after him.

The devas saw Siva running. But they could not help him.

"Siva must run on," said they. "Or Vrika will touch him on his head. Then he will die."

The deavs were very sad.

"What shall we do?" cried they.

Siva passed by the sun. The sun could not help him.

The stars too could not help him.

He went to the ends of the worlds.

But no one could help him.

AIDS TO STUDY

help — സഹായിക്കുക devas — ദേവന്മാർ
passed by — കടന്നുപോയി
stars — നക്ഷത്രങ്ങൾ end — അറ്റം

QUESTIONS

1. Why were the devas sad ?
2. Could anyone help Siva ?

VII

At last Siva came to Vaikunta.

Lord Vishnu lived there.

He saw Siva.

He knew Siva's trouble.

"I must help this god," said he.

In a moment Vishnu became a Brahmachari.

Then he walked towards Vrika.

Vrika was running after Siva.

Vishnu went up to Vrika.

"O you are very tired," said the Brahmachari, "rest here for a while."

Vrika stopped. He listened to Vishnu.

His words were very pleasant.

" Where are you going ? What do you want ? Tell me. I will help you," said he.

So Vrika told him the story.

"I want to kill Siva," said he, "and take Parvathi."

AIDS TO STUDY

Vaikunta — വൈകുണ്ഠം
trouble - ദുഃഖം
Brahmachari — ബ്രഹ്മചാരി
tired - ക്ഷീണിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന
rest — വിശ്രമിക്കുക
pleasant — ഇമ്പമുള്ളതു്

QUESTIONS

1. At last where did Siva come to ?
2. What did Vishnu do ?
3. What did he tell Vrika ?
4. What did Vrika tell him ?

VIII

"Siva told you a lie," said the Brahmachari. "His words will never come true."

The Brahmachari spoke to him for some time.

He spoke very pleasantly.

"You must test Siva's words," said he. "How can I do that?" asked Vrika.

"Touch your head with your hand," said the Brahmachari.

Vrika was a foolish asura. He could not think for himself.

So he touched his own head. At once there was a loud noise. It was like thunder.

Vrika's head split in two. He fell dead.

The devas and the rishis were very happy. They rained flowers on Vishnu.

Then Siva thanked Vishnu.

"O Siva," said "Vishnu, "I did not kill Vrika. He died because of his sins."

PUNAVIRVI ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date.....

AIDS TO STUDY

lie — കള്ളം foolish – മഠയനായ
come true — സത്യമായി വരുക
think – ആലോചിക്കുക
thunder – ഇടി
split– പൊട്ടി test– പരീക്ഷിക്കുക
rained flowers – പുഷ്പവൃഷ്ടിചെയ്തു

QUESTIONS

1. What did Vishnu ask Vrika to do ?
2. Did Vrika do that ?
3. What happened to him ?

This is very good story.

KERALA STATE ISLAMIC MISSION
Date.....
ERNAKULAM



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