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MOTHER INDIA SUPPLEMENTARY READER

**For Form III
or
(Eighth Standard)**

By
MRS. LUCY ARULRAJ,
(formerly of the Children Garden School, Mylapore, Madras)

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PREFACE

This Supplementary Reader has been prepared for use in Form III (or Standard VIII).

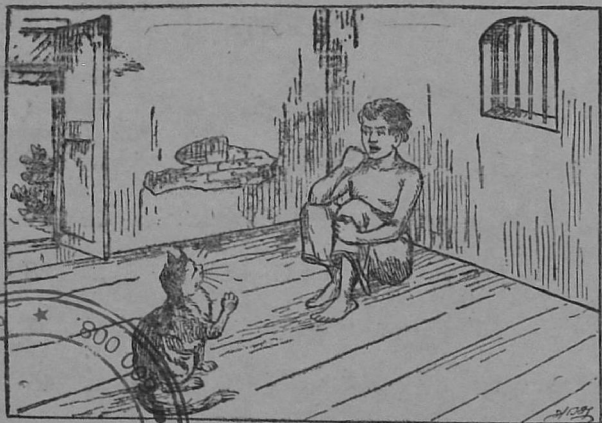
The book has been based for the most part on the vocabulary and sentence patterns already covered by the children. A few words falling outside the essential word list furnished by the Department have been used and these have been given at the end of the book. The themes have been chosen from some of the most popular stories and these have been suitably adapted and given an Indian back-ground. The story, "Guruji and his followers" lends itself to dramatisation and may well be tried by the teachers. Comprehension questions have also been appended at the end of each story.

AUTHOR.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
1. Raja of Rajapalayam ...	1
2. Jaya and Padma ...	10
3. Guruji And His Followers ...	19
4. Jayapal And The Giant ...	28
5. The Faithful Pets ...	37
6. The Clever King ...	45

1. Raja of Rajapalayam



Once upon a time an old man lived in a village. He had two sons. On his death he left his sons a house and a cat. The elder son took the house. The younger son Raja got the cat Pussy.

"What can I do with Pussy?" said Raja to himself. "Pussy will feed himself by catching mice but how does that help me?"

The cat overheard Raja's words. "Dear master, do not be sorry for getting me," said Pussy. "I shall make you rich and happy. Only get me an old bag."

"Pussy is a good friend of the family," said Raja to himself. "I do not have a bag. I shall get him a new bag." He bought a new bag and gave it to his cat. The bag was green in colour and Pussy liked it very much.

The cat put the bag over his shoulder and walked on. He came to a field. He put some leaves into the bag and laid it on the ground. Then

he hid himself and waited. Soon a rabbit came that way. It smelt the leaves and ran straight into the bag. At once Pussy drew the strings and caught the rabbit. Then he put the bag over his shoulder and went to the king's palace. "Sir, Raja of Rajapalayam has sent you a present," he said to the king.

The king accepted the present and said, "Give my thanks to the king of Rajapalayam." 'The King of Rajapalayam' was really pussy's master Raja.

Every day Pussy took some present to the king and said, "Sir, Raja of Rajapalayam has sent you a present," and the king sent his thanks to the 'King of Rajapalayam.' Every

one in the king's court talked of the rich presents from the King of Rajapalayam. Even the king said, "The king of Rajapalayam is very rich. He sends me presents every day."

One day Pussy decided to take his master to the king. "Today the king will be coming to the river," said Pussy to himself. "I shall take my master to the river and make him bathe at that time." So, that day he took Raja to the river and asked him to bathe. Soon the king's carriage came that way. Pussy cried out, "Help, help, Raja of Rajapalayam is drowning."

The king looked out of the carriage window and saw Pussy. "That is Pussy," he said to himself. "The

King of Rajapalayam is in trouble. I shall send my men and take him out of the water." At once he ordered his men to run to the help of Raja. Soon they pulled Raja out of the water. His clothes were wet. The king got him a new set of clothes from the palace. Raja put them on. He now looked like a real king. The king liked him very much. He took him to the palace and gave him a rich feast.

From that day Raja often went to the palace and stayed as the king's guest. Some times they went out together in the king's carriage. Pussy always went ahead. One day the king drove towards the hills. Raja was with him. There was a big castle on a hill. A wicked giant lived in that castle. He killed people and took away their gold.

Pussy went ahead as usual. He walked over to the castle and knocked at the door. The giant had not seen a cat before. He welcomed Pussy and soon they fell into a long talk. The giant told him of his strength and powers. "I can change myself into a lion," he said.

"I will like to see you change into a lion," said Pussy. The giant felt proud to show his powers and he changed into a big lion at once. Pussy felt greatly afraid and he ran to a corner. So the lion changed into his real form and said laughing, "Why did you run away from me? I will not harm you."

"It was very wonderful," said the cat. "You changed yourself into a big lion. Can you change yourself into a little mouse?"

"Oh yes," said the giant and he changed himself into a little mouse. At once the cat jumped upon the mouse and ate it up.

The giant had locked up many men and women in the castle. Pussy freed them and said, "Raja of Rajapalayam has killed the giant. You are free now."

"We are thankful to the king of Rajapalayam," they said. "We shall join his service."

Pussy asked them to get ready a grand feast for the king. They did so with great joy. Soon the king came to the castle with Raja. "Welcome to the king of Rajapalayam," they said.

Gold and silver were heaped up everywhere in the castle. Many men and women were working there. They were dressed in rich clothes. "Is this your castle? Are these your servants?" the king asked Raja. Raja did not understand anything at all.

"This is the castle of Raja of Rajapalayam," said Pussy. "All the gold and silver are his. These are his servants."

"We are the servants of the king of Rajapalayam," the men and women said. "We are proud to work under him." They placed before the king and Raja a rich feast and the king greatly enjoyed it. He returned to the palace with Raja. He gave his daughter in marriage to him. On his death Raja became king and he

ruled over the country well for many years. Pussy was always by his side, but he never ran after mice afterwards.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What did the elder son get ?
2. What was the name of the cat ?
3. What did Raja get for Pussy ?
4. What present did Pussy take to the king ?
5. Who was really the 'king of Rajapalayam' ?
6. Who pulled Raja out of the water ?
7. Who lived in the castle ?
8. Did the giant change into a lion ?
9. How did Pussy kill the giant ?
10. Whom did Raja marry ?

2. Jaya and Padma



Once upon a time there was a merchant. His wife died a few years after marriage. She left him a daughter named Jaya. He married again. His second wife also got him a daughter. Her name was Padma,

Jaya was a good girl. She was hard working. She was also very beautiful. Padma and her mother on the other hand, were very wicked. They were also ugly. They hated Jaya.

They ill-treated Jaya very much. They did no work but they made Jaya do all the work in the kitchen. It was very hard work for her but she did her work well. Still Padma and her mother often said, "You are lazy. You must work harder." Jaya felt sad. Often she cried in bed and fell asleep.

One day the king invited all the people in the town for a dinner in his palace. He invited the merchant and his family also. Jaya's step-mother did not like to take her to the king's

dinner. "The king has invited us for a dinner," she said to Jaya. "We are going to the palace. There is work for you in the house. Stay at home and do the work. You have also no good clothes to wear to come with us." She then took her daughter and went off to the palace.

Jaya was then a young woman. She too wanted to go to the king's palace. "Every one has gone to the king's palace. I am left alone in the house," she said to herself and cried. A goddess took pity on her. She came to her and asked, "Jaya, why are you crying?"

"The king is giving a dinner to all the people in the town. My people also have gone to the palace. I too want to go. But I have no good clothes

to wear and my step-mother did not take me," said Jaya.

"Do not cry, Jaya," said the goddess. "I shall help you." She touched Jaya and at once her clothes became new. She also gave Jaya a pair of golden sandals. They were very beautiful. Jaya put them on. She now looked like a princess. The goddess then made a beautiful carriage for her. Two white horses drew the carriage.

"You can now go to the king's dinner," said the goddess. "Stay there till half past eleven. You must return home by midnight. At midnight all these things will disappear."

"Thank you very much," said Jaya. "I shall return home before

midnight." She got into the carriage and soon she came to the palace,

Many people saw her going in. "She is very beautiful," some said.

"She wears a nice dress," others said.

"She wears golden sandals," some others said. "She looks like a princess."

Every one praised her beauty, her dress and her sandals. The king also saw her and he said to himself, "The young lady is very beautiful. I shall marry her to my son."

Hundreds of people came to the dinner. After dinner there was music. Jaya liked music very much and she sat on hearing the music. She

forgot all about the time. It was then nearing midnight. Suddenly she remembered the words of the goddess. She began to run from the palace. One of her sandals fell off. It was nearing midnight and she could not stop to pick it up. So she took the other one in her hand and ran out of the palace.

At that time the clock struck twelve. There was no carriage and there were no horses. Her dress became old and dirty again but the golden sandal remained in her hand. She ran all the way and at last she came to her house. She was very tired. She hid the sandal in the kitchen and went to sleep. Padma and her mother returned some time later and they found her fast asleep.

Next day the king found the golden sandal in the palace. "Last night a beautiful girl was wearing this golden sandal. I shall find her and marry her to my son," he said to himself. He then called his men and said, "Go to each house and find out the girl who has the other sandal. Bring her to the palace."

The king's men went to every house in the town and showed the people the golden sandal. "A beautiful girl wore a pair of golden sandals last night at the king's dinner. She dropped one of them in the palace. It is this one. She must have the other one with her. Is that girl in this house?" they asked. No girl had it.

At last they came to the merchant's house. They asked Padma. She did

not have the other sandal. "Is there any other girl in the house?" they asked.

"Oh yes," said Padma, "there is one but she did not attend the king's dinner last night."

"Please send for her. We shall ask her," they said. Jaya came. They showed her the golden sandal and asked, "Do you have the other one?"

"Yes, I have," Jaya said. She went back to the kitchen and brought it. The king's men found that the two sandals were alike. At that time the goddess appeared and touched her. At once Jaya's clothes became new again and she looked like a princess.

"Dear lady," the men said, "we are the king's men. Please come with us. We shall take you to the king."

The men took her to the king. He was very pleased with her. He married her to his son and she lived happily ever after in the palace.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Of the two girls, who was ugly and who was beautiful?
2. Of the two, who was good and who was wicked?
3. Did Jaya have good clothes to wear?
4. What did Jaya tell the goddess?
5. How did Jaya's dress become new?
6. What did the goddess give Jaya?
7. Why did not Jaya pick up her sandal?
8. What happened at midnight?
9. Did the king's men find out Jaya?
10. Whom did she marry?

3. Guruji And His Followers



Long, long ago, there was a *mutt*. The *mutt* had a head. People called him Guruji. He had four followers. All of them were fools.

One day Guruji's clothes became torn. "I shall go to the town and buy

a needle to stitch them," he said to his followers. He went to the town. His followers also went with him. Guruji bought a needle from a shop. "Who will take this needle to the *mutt*?" asked Guruji.

"I shall carry it," said the first follower.

"No, no, he shall not. I shall carry Guruji's needle," said the second. In this way each one wanted to carry the needle.

"I shall buy a long pole and put the needle in it. Then all the four can carry the pole. Put the pole on your shoulders and bring the needle safely to the *mutt*," said Guruji.

So Guruji bought a long pole and put the needle in it. His followers put

the pole on their shoulders and carried it. "We shall now go back to the *mutt*," Guruji said to his followers. He walked in front and his followers came behind. Soon darkness fell. They walked on and on.

On the way there was a river. They had to cross it to go to the *mutt*. Guruji was afraid to cross the river in the darkness. "This is a wicked river," he said to his followers.

"It will carry us off if we cross it while it is awake," said the first follower.

"We shall cross it when it sleeps," said the second.

"I shall find out, if the river is awake or asleep," said the third. He took a lighted stick in his hand and

walked forward. He dipped the lighted stick in the water. It made a hissing noise and the light went out. The man became afraid and he ran back to Guruji.

"Sir, the river is awake," he said.
"It hisses like a snake."

"We shall not cross the river now," said Guruji. "We shall wait till the river sleeps."

After some time a man crossed the river from the other side. The water was not deep. Guruji and his men saw him crossing the river.

"I think the river is asleep now," said Guruji.

"I shall find out if the river is asleep," said the fourth follower. He

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had the stick in his hand. It was no longer burning. He went near the river and dipped it into the water. There was no noise then. He ran back to Guruji and said, "Sir, the river is asleep. We shall cross the river quickly.

Guruji and his followers came to the river. They walked in the water step by step without making noise. At last they crossed the river and came to the other side. They felt happy.

"Are we all here or is any one missing?" asked Guruji.

"I shall count and find out. We are five, aren't we?" said the first follower and began counting. "One, Two, Three, Four!" He counted the

four men before him but he did not count himself.

"One of us is missing," he said and began to cry. "The river has carried him away. What a wicked river!"

Guruji himself now began to count. "One, Two, Three, Four," he counted the men before him but he did not count himself. "We have lost one of our men," he said and cried.

Every one counted in turn and each forgot to count himself. They felt very sad and began to cry. At that time a traveller came along that way. He found the five men in tears. He took pity on them and asked, "What is the matter? Why are you crying?"

"We were five," the men said.
"We crossed the river at midnight.
The river has carried away one of us.
We are only four now."

"These men are fools," the
traveller said to himself. "I shall play
a joke on them."

"I shall get back your fifth man,"
he said. "Stand in a line. Turn round
and show me your backs. I shall then
touch your backs with my stick. Then
each one should number."

The five men stood in a line and
turned round. Guruji stood first. The
traveller gave him a heavy blow on
his back with his stick. It almost
broke Guruji's back and he cried out,
"One." The traveller gave the next
blow to the first follower. The man

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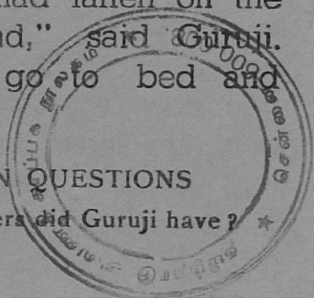
cried in pain, "Two." In this way each fool got a heavy blow on his back and the last man said, "Five."

Guruji and his followers thought that the missing man had come back to them. They did not mind the pain on their backs. They thanked the traveller for getting them their lost man and returned to the *mutt* in the early hours of the morning.

"Take the needle out of the pole and bring it to me," Guruji said to his followers. They put the pole down and looked for the needle. It was not there. It had fallen on the way. "Never mind," said Guruji. "We shall now go to bed and sleep."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. How many followers did Guruji have? ★



2. Why did Guruji go to the town ?
3. How did the followers carry the needle ?
4. Why did the first follower think that the river was awake ?
5. Why did the fourth follower think that the river was asleep ?
6. Why did they think that the river had carried away one of them ?
7. What did they tell the traveller ?
8. How many men were there before the traveller ?
9. Did the traveller really bring back the fifth man ?
10. Did the followers take the needle to the *mutt* ?

4. Jayapal and the Giant



Once upon a time a little boy lived in Tamil Nad. His name was Jayapal. He lived with his mother. Her name was Thayar. They lived in a small house. They were very poor. They had a cow. The cow gave them milk and helped them to make a living.

After some months the cow went dry. Thayar felt sad. "Jayapal, we are on bad days," she said to her son one day. "Last year a wicked giant killed your father and took away all his wealth. This year the cow has gone dry. How can we make a living?"

"Mother, we shall sell the cow," said Jayapal. "She will get us some money."

Thayar agreed to sell the cow." Next day Jayapal took the cow to the market and offered her for sale. At first no one came to buy the cow, "The cow has gone dry. She will not give milk now," they said and went away!

At last a villager came to Jayapal and said, "I shall buy the cow. What is her price?"

"I shall sell her for fifty rupees, said Jayapal.

"I have no money with me," said the man, "but I have this seed. Will you take it and give me your cow? This is not an ordinary seed. You will not be sorry for getting it."

Jayapal looked at the seed. He liked it very much. He took it from the villager and gave him the cow. He returned home with the seed.

"Have you sold the cow?" asked his mother.

"Yes, mother, I have," said Jayapal.

"How much did you get for the cow?" she asked again.

"I gave the cow to a villager and he gave me this seed," said Jayapal and he showed her the seed.

Thayar became very angry. "You are a fool. We have no money and you sold the cow for a seed!" she said. She took the seed from his hand and threw it out of the window. Jayapal felt very sad and he went to bed without taking food.

The seed grew during the night. Jayapal got up from bed in the morning and looked out of the window. He saw a plant going up into the clouds. He felt very happy. He jumped out of bed and climbed up the plant.

Thayar saw her son climbing the plant. "Jayapal, do not go up the

plant. You will fall down and break your neck," she cried. But Jayapal did not listen to her words. He was already high up and he went on climbing. At last he came to the top of the plant. There he saw a big house. It was the house of a giant. He did not know it.

Jayapal was now tired and hungry. "I shall ask the lady of the house to give me some food," he said to himself. He walked up to the house and knocked at the door. The giant was away but his wife was in. She opened the door. "Who are you? Why did you come here?" she asked.

"I am a poor boy," Jayapal said. "I am very hungry. Please give me some food."

She took pity on him. "Come in, little boy," she said. "I shall give you some food."

She took Jayapal into the house. "My husband will come here soon," she said. "He is a giant. He kills little boys and eats them up. Take your food quickly and go away before he comes."

"Thank you for your kindness, dear lady," said Jayapal. She served him food and Jayapal began to eat.

At that time they heard the footsteps of the giant. The woman took Jayapal to a cupboard and put him there. "Little boy, my husband has come. He will kill you and eat you up, if he finds you. Be here until he goes to sleep."

The giant came in. "I smell a boy," he said. "Is there one in the house? Have you got him for my food?"

"There is no boy in the house," his wife said. "Your food is ready! Please have your food."

"I went to the world below," he told his wife. "I killed some men and got their gold. Here are the bags of gold." He showed her the bags hanging from his shoulders.

Jayapal felt afraid to remain in the house. He came out of the cupboard and ran out of the house. The giant saw him running out of the house! "There is a boy. He will make a good meal. I shall catch him and eat him up," he said and ran after the boy.

Jayapal ran on and on. The giant followed him. Soon the boy came to the plant and got down the plant. The giant too began coming down. Jayapal came down quickly and nearing his house he cried, "Mother, bring my knife. Be quick. A giant is coming down the plant and we must cut it before he touches the ground."

Thayar ran to the plant with the knife. Jayapal took the knife from her and cut the plant. The giant was still high upon the plant and he fell down and was killed at once.

"The giant killed your father last year and took away all his gold," Thayar said.

"I am glad I have killed him," Jayapal said. "He has bags of gold

hanging from his shoulders. We shall take them," he said. He found two bags of gold on his body. Jayapal took them and gave them to his mother. She felt very happy. They lived in the house happily for many years thereafter.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- 1: Who killed Jayapal's father?
- 2: What price did he ask for the cow?
- 3: What did he get for the cow?
- 4: Did he climb the plant?
- 5: What did he see at the top of the plant?
- 6: Did the giant's wife give him food?
- 7: Where did she hide him?
- 8: Why did he run out of the giant's house?
- 9: Did the giant catch Jayapal?
- 10: How did Jayapal kill the giant?

5. The Faithful Pets



Once upon a time there was an old man. He lived in a small house outside the village. He had no relations. He had no friends. He lived all alone. But he had two pets. They were a dog and a cat. He loved his pets and they loved him.

The old man was very poor. On many days there was no rice in the house and he went without food. The animals also starved. When he had some food, he always shared it with them.

One day he had a little rice. He was cooking it over the fire. At that time a stranger came in. "Old man," he said, "I am hungry. Please give me some food."

"I have a little rice," the old man said. "It is not enough even for my pets."

"I am very hungry," said the stranger. "I have not had any food for three days. Please give me some food. I shall be thankful to you."

"We too have not had any food for two days," said the old man. "My

pets are starving. However take a little rice from the pot and leave the rest for us. I shall feed the pets and go without food myself."

The stranger took the pot from the fire. The rice was well-cooked. He ate up all the rice in the pot and emptied it. The old man felt sad. "You have eaten all the rice and emptied the pot. My pets will go without food again," he said.

"Fill the pot with water and put it over the fire again," said the stranger.

"What is the use of boiling water?" asked the old man. "There is no rice in the house."

"Please fill the pot with water and put it over the fire," said the stranger once again.

The old man filled the pot with water and put it over the fire. Soon the water began to boil. The stranger took a ring from his finger and put it into the pot. At once the pot was filled with rice. The old man felt surprised and happy. At that time the stranger also disappeared.

The old man now took the pot from the fire and fed the pets. Still the pot was full. He took some rice for himself and had a good meal. Still the pot was full. However much he took from the pot, it was always full.

The old man began to sell the rice. It was white and sweet-smelling. Many people bought and ate the rice. The old man soon became rich.

One day he was selling rice till late in the night. He felt tired and

went to bed. When he woke up in the morning, he went into the kitchen and looked into the pot. The pot was not full. He took some rice. The pot did not fill itself. Soon it become empty.

"I have given away the magic ring along with the rice to some one. I will become poor again," he said to himself and wept for a long time.

He had now no food. He sold his things one by one and bought food. In a few weeks he had nothing to sell. He and his pets began to starve once more.

"Our master has given away the magic ring along with the rice to some one." The dog said to the cat. "So the pot does not fill itself. So we get no food. Our master also starves. We shall go out and look for the ring."

The cat agreed and the two went out of the house. They went into the village. The dog looked for the ring in the fields and in the roads. The cat went into the houses and looked for it in every room.

In one of the houses the cat found a big wooden box. Sweet smell came out of the box. It was the smell of the magic ring. It ran to the dog and said, "The ring is in a big wooden box in that house. The box is very heavy and it is locked. How can we get it?"

"Catch a rat," said the dog. "Do not kill it. Ask the rat to bite through the wood and make a hole in the box. Tell the rat, 'If you do so, I shall not kill you.' Then get the ring from the box and come back to me."

The cat went into the house once more. It caught a rat and took it to the box. "Bite through the wood and make a hole in the box," said the cat. "Then I shall not kill you."

The rat bit through the wood in no time. "Now go into the box. You will find a ring inside. Bring it to me," said the cat. The rat went in and found the magic ring. It brought the ring and gave it to the cat. The cat took it in its mouth and ran to the dog in great joy.

The dog was waiting for the cat outside the house. It saw the ring in the cat's mouth. It felt very happy. They now ran back to their master and placed the ring before him.

The old man could not believe his eyes. It was the magic ring. He put it

in the pot once more, filled the pot with water and put the pot over the fire. The pot was full of rice once more. Now they had food in plenty and soon the old man became rich once more. He lived with his pets happily for many more years thereafter.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Where did the old man live ?
2. Who came to his house one day ?
3. Did the old man give food to the stranger ?
4. What did the stranger put into the pot ?
5. Was it a magic ring ? How do you know it ?
6. Why did not the pot fill itself one day ?
7. Where did the dog and the cat go to look for the magic ring ?
8. Where did the cat find the ring ?
9. How did the cat get the ring ?
10. Did the old man get back the ring ?

6. The Clever King



Once upon a time an old woman lived in a small town. Her name was Lakshmi. She wanted to go on a pilgrimage to Rameswaram. Rameswaram was many miles from her town. There were rivers and forests on the way. There were also

no trains then. It was very dangerous to go on a pilgrimage in those days.

"I must go on a pilgrimage to Rameswaram before I die," Lakshmi said to herself. "I have some gold with me. I shall take it to the landlord in the next house and leave it with him. He will keep it for me till I return."

She put all her gold in a bag and stitched it. Then she took it to the landlord and said, "Sir, I am going on a pilgrimage to Rameswaram. I have some gold coins with me. I have put them in this bag. Please keep the bag with you. I shall take it back on my return."

Narayan was the landlord's name. "Old lady," he said, "These are bad days. There are thieves in the town. So, I cannot keep the gold with me."

The woman begged him again to keep the bag for her and at last he said, "Dig a hole in a corner of the room. Put the bag in the hole yourself and cover it! When you come back, you can dig it up and take it home."

Lakshmi agreed. She dug a hole in a corner of the room. She put the bag of gold in the hole and covered it. She thanked the landlord and went on her pilgrimage.

Many months passed. The old woman did not come back. "Perhaps she is dead. I shall take the gold," Narayan thought. He dug up the hole and took out the bag. He cut open the bag at one end and took away all the gold coins. In their place he put copper coins.

"I must stitch the bag nicely," he said to himself. "I shall take it to Chinnaji, the tailor. He is very clever and he will stitch it up nicely." He took the bag to Chinnaji and Chinnaji stitched it up nicely. He did it so well that no one could see the stitches.

After some more months, Lakshmi came back from her pilgrimage. She went to Narayan and asked for her bag. "You put the bag in the hole, didn't you?" he asked. "Dig it up yourself and take it."

Lakshmi dug up the hole and took out the bag. The bag was full. She thanked Narayan and went home with the bag. She opened the bag in her house and lo! it was full of copper coins. She felt very sad.

Lakshmi went to Narayan once again and said, "Sir, I put gold coins in my bag and now I find only copper coins in it. Kindly give me my gold coins."

"I know nothing about your gold. Go away," said Narayan.

"Give me at least half the gold," Lakshmi begged. "You may keep the other half for yourself."

Narayan only said, "Get out of my house." Lakshmi went to the king and told him her sad story. The king sent for Narayan and asked him about the gold.

"Oh king," said Narayan. "This woman brought a bag with her and asked me to keep it for her. I asked her to dig a hole in my room and keep the bag there. She did so. The bag

was well stitched. When she returned from her pilgrimage she herself dug up the hole and took back her bag. The stitches were all right. How could I have taken the gold from her bag?"

The king thought for some time. He examined the bag closely. Then he said to Narayan, "All right, you may go now." Narayan returned to his house.

The king turned to his minister and asked, "Is there a clever tailor in the town?"

The minister said, "Yes sir, there is one. His name is Chinnaji."

"Go and get him at once," the king ordered. Chinnaji came. The king showed him the bag and asked, "Have you seen this bag before?"

"Yes sir, I have," said Chinnaji. "Narayan brought it to me some months ago and asked me to stitch it up nicely. I did so. You can not see my stitches. I have done them so well."

"What did the bag contain?" the king asked him.

"It was full of copper coins," said Chinnaji.

The king now knew that Narayan had stolen the gold coins. He sent for him again. Narayan came and he saw Chinnaji with the king. "The king has found out the truth," he said to himself. He shook with fear.

"I know the truth," the king said. "You took the gold coins from the bag and put copper coins in their place. Then you took the bag to

Chinnaji and he stitched the bag cleverly." The king then ordered him to return the gold coins to the old woman at once. He also sent him to jail for three months.

The old woman got her gold and she felt happy. She thanked the king and went home with the bag of gold.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Where did Lakshmi go on a pilgrimage?
2. In whose house did she keep her gold?
3. Who dug up the hole and took the gold?
4. What did Lakshmi find in the bag?
5. Did Narayan agree to give back the gold to Lakshmi?
6. To whom did Lakshmi go and tell her sad story?
7. What did Narayan tell the king?
8. What did Chinnaji tell the king?
9. Did the old woman get back her gold?
10. What did the king do with Narayan?

LIST OF ADDITIONAL WORDS
USED IN THE BOOK

ahead

boil

buy (bought)

carriage

cock

copper

count

cross

dip

giant

hiss

imprison

joke

lion

magic

master

minister

mouse

needle

palace

pet

pilgrimage

power

princess

rabbit

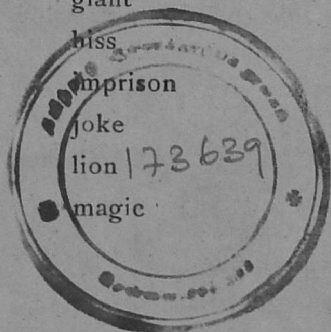
sandal

shoulder

step-mother

stitch

string



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