

Anjar, a small town in the area of Kutch, was once a notorious hide-out of dacoits. These dacoits were led by a ruthless leader, Jaisal, whose very name brought dread and fear to the hearts of all men. But even a hardened criminal like Jaisal could become a saint, was proved by Sati Toral, who was the very image of purity.

Sati Toral lived with her husband. Sansarya in the village of Dhrol. Her kindness and compassion melted the cruel stone-like heart of Jaisal and led him onto the path of spirituality, till he reached the very goal of Self-realisation.

Anjar has now become a famous pigner centre. The people of Anjar bow reverentially to the Samadhis of Jassal and Toral, and relate this beautiful story of faith and devoted to the pilgrims visiting the town.

Editor : D. Kumar

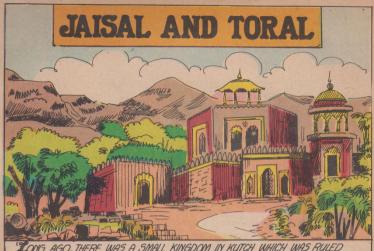
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A FOOL'S LUCK

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LONG AGO, THERE WAS A SMALL KINGDOM IN KUTCH WHICH WAS RULED BY A KIND AND JUST KING CALLED SANGAJI.



JAISAL WAS THE YOUNGER BROTHER OF SANGATI. BUT, UNLIKE HIS ELDER BROTHER, JAISAL WAS VERY CRUEL AND RUTHLESS.





LANDS.



















MADE HIS HOME IN THE DENSE FORESTS THERE.

HE ATTACKED AND LOOTED INNOCENT TRAVELLERS, MERCILESSLY KILLING THOSE WHO RESISTED HIM. SOON THE VERY NAME OF JAISAL BROUGHT TERROR IN EVERYONE'S HEART.



A YEAR LATER, SANGAJI AND HIS WIFE, RANI SONABAI, WERE BLESSED WITH A SON. IT WAS THEIR FIRST CHILD. ALL THOSE YEARS THEY HAD BEEN CHILDLESS, AND AT LAST THEIR PRAYERS WERE ANSWERED.





THE RANI'S BROTHER, VIBHAJI, CAME WITH LOTS OF TOYS AND PRESENTS FOR HIS LITTLE NEPHEW. BUT ON TAR, HE WAS AMBUSHED BY JAISAL AND HIS MEN.

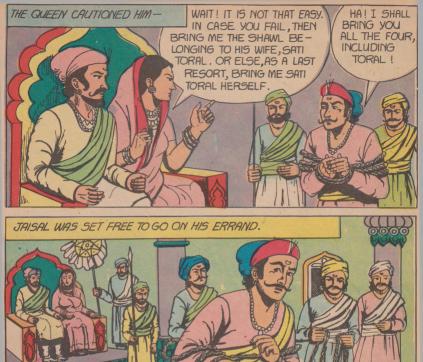


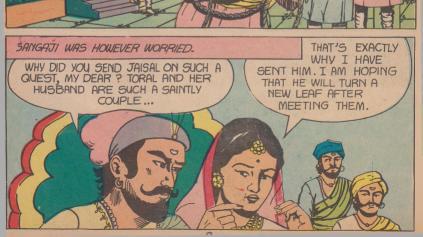












AUGION WITH

IT WAS NIGHT, WHEN JUSAL REACHED THE VILLAGE OF DAROK. MANY PEOPLE WERE SINGING BHAJANS INSIDE SANSATIYAJI'S HOUSE.



JAISAL CREPT STEALTHILY TOWARDS THE STABLES THAT STOOD AT THE BACK OF THE HOUSE.

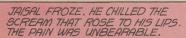


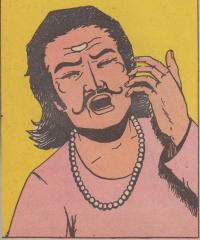
BUT THE MARE WAS A WILD ONE! IT NEIGHED LOUDLY AND TORE ITSELF FREE BY PULLING AT THE IRON S IKE TO WHICH IT WAS TIED. JAISAL WAS STUNNED.



WOICES WERE HEARD, RS TRUSAL HID QUICKLY UNDER A STACK OF HAY.



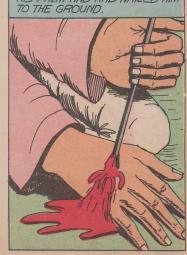




TWO MEN BROUSHT THE MARE BACK TO THE STABLE AND DROVE AN IRON SPIKE INTO THE GROUND, JUST WHERE JAISAL HID.



THE IRON SPIKE HAD PIERCED HIS PALM AND HAD NAILED HIM TO THE GROUND.



SOON THE BHAJAN'S WERE OVER AND PRASAD*WAS DISTRIBUTED TO ALL THOSE WHO WERE PRESENT. THEY WERE SURPRISED TO FIND THAT ONE PORTION OF THE PRASAD WAS REMAINING, BECAUSE IT WAS A WELL-KNOWN FACT THAT IN SATI TORAL'S HOLDE, THE PORTIONS OF PRASAD ALWAYS MIRACULOUSLY TALLIED WITH THE PEOPLE PRESENT THERE



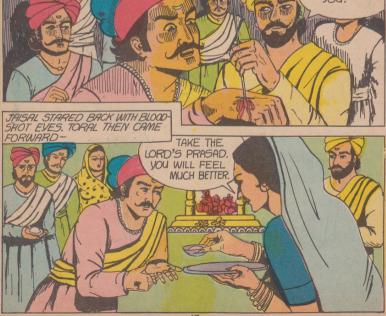


THE PEOPLE WENT OUT AND SEARCHED



SUDDENLY A CRY WAS HEARD







AS HIS RIGHT PALM WAS BLEEDING, JAISAL EXTENDED HIS LEFT

HAND.



AND AS SATI TORAL PLACED THE





AS JAISAL APPROACHED THE MARE, IT ROSE ON ITS HIND LEGS AND TRIED TO KNOCK HIM DOWN.



JAISAL TRIED MANY A TIME, BUT THE MARE WILDLY ATTACKED HIM.

SHE IS A WILD ONE, JAISAL.
I SHALL TAKE HER TO THE
QUEEN, MYSELF. YOU TAKE
MY SWORD WITH YOU.



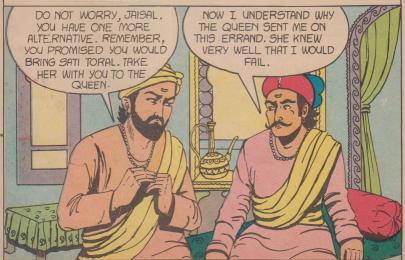




BUT IT TURNED, INTO A DREADFUL COBRA WHENEVER JAIGAL TRIED TO TAKE IT.



JAISAL STOOD DEFEATED. HE HAD THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE A VERY EASY TASK TO GET THE MARE, THE SWORD AND THE SHAWL. HIS EGO WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED!

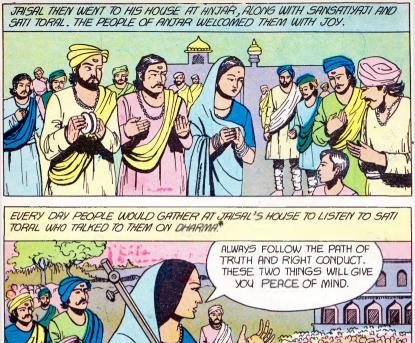


JAISAL WAS SHOCKED TO HEAR THIS. HE IMMEDIATELY FELL AT TORAL'S FEET.

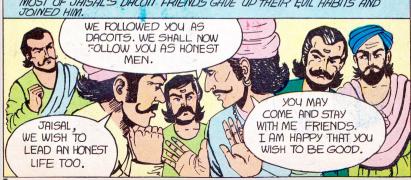


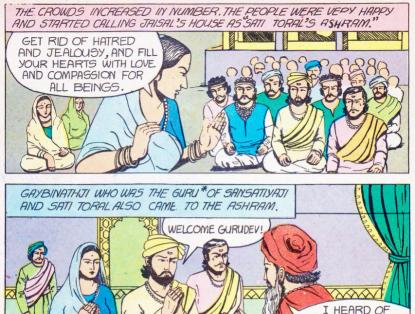


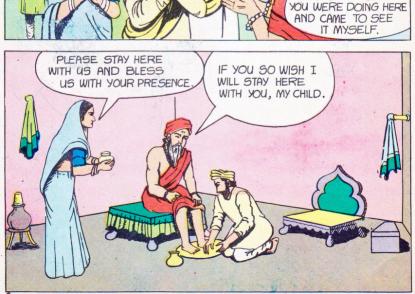












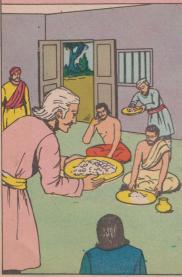
THE GOOD WORK

HE SPENT THE EARLY HOURS OF DAWN IN MEDITATION. THE HUNGRY THAT CAME TO HIS DOOR WERE ALWAYS FED DAILY.

AS FOR JAISAL, HE LED A STRICT LIFE OF SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE.

DURING THE DAY HE HELPED THE WEAK AND DISABLED.



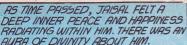


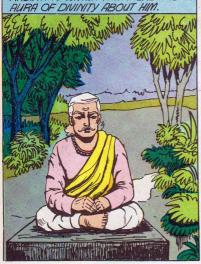


BHAJANS AND SPIRITUAL TALKS.



VEIGUI WITH . --







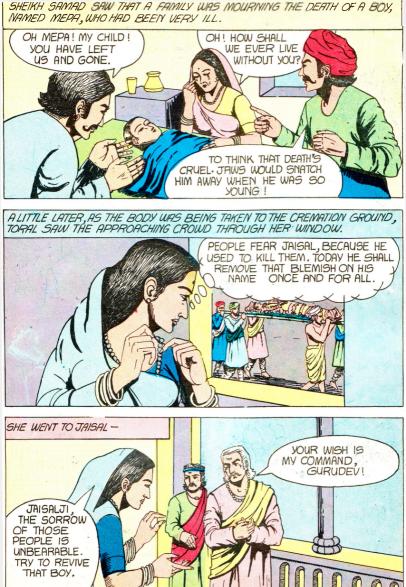
THE OPPORTUNITY SOON CAME. EARLY ONE MORNING AS JAISAL SAT MEDITATING—



HE WOKE UP HIS FRIEND, SHEIKH SAMAD-

SAMAD, SOME PEOPLE SEEM TO BE IN TROUBLE PLEASE GO AND SEE WHAT THE REASON IS





JAISAL STOPPED THE PROCESSION THAT WAS PASSING IN FRONT OF HIS HOUSE. TAKING THE ROSARY IN HIS HAND, HE WENT ROUND THE BODY SEVEN TIMES, CHANTING THE NAME OF GOD WITH EVERY BREATH.





BUT THE BOY LAY STILL JAISAL TURNED TO SHEIKH SAMAD-



*STATE OF SELF REALISATION, FREE FROM THE TURMOILS OF BODY, MIND AND SENSES

AS JAISAL WAS ABOUT TO STEP





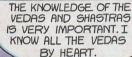
THE PEOPLE BECAMELRAZY WITH JOY TO SEE THIS WONDERFUL MIRACLE. TORAL TOO WAS VERY HAPPY. SHE CAME FORWARD AND BLESSED JAISHL. THE PEOPLE OF AINJAR WERE AT LAST CONVINCED OF JAISAL'S HOLINESS.



ONE DAY, DEVAYAT PUNDIT, A GREAT SCHOLAR CAME WITH HIS MANY DISCIPLES TO THE ASHRAM. HE WAS VERY PROUD OF HIS LEARNING AND THUS, HAVING HAD A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION WITH HIS GURY, HAD STRAYED AWAY FROM HIM.

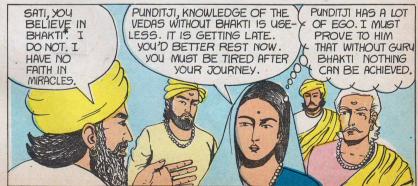


ALL THE GUESTS WERE WELCOMED AND FED. LATER AS THEY SAT TALKING, DEVAYAT PUNDIT BOASTED ABOUT HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE VEDAS!



AGREAD. BUT JUST BEING ABLE TO RECITE THEM IS OF NO USE, ONE SHOULD FOLLOW THE PRINCIPLES TAUGHT













AND THE WATER IN THE WELL ROSE HIGHER AND HIGHER, THE PUNDITTI STARED INCREDULOUSLY





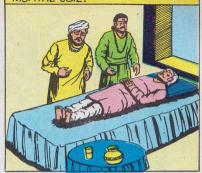




AS THE YEARS ROLLED BY, JAISAL BECAME VERY OLD AND WEAK.



AND ON AN AUSPICIOUS DAY IN THE MONTH OF 'ASHAD', HE LEFT HIS MORTAL COIL.



SATI TORAL, WHO HAD BEEN AWAY FROM ANJAR AT THAT TIME, RUSHED BACK WHEN SHE CAME TO KNOW ABOUT JAISAL'S DEATH.



A'SAMADHI'WAS BUILT FOR JAISAL. PEOPLE FROM FAR AND NEAR CAME TO PAY THEIR RESPECTS.



RAHOLJI, ANOTHER SAINT FROM MEWASA, ALSO CAME TO ANJAR TO SEE JAISAL. HE SAW TORAL OFFERING "DHOOP" AND "AARTI" TO JAISAL'S SAMADHI.



SO SAVING, SATI TORAL WENT UP TO THE SAMADHI AND STARTED SINGING SONGS, REMINDING JAISAL OF HIS PROMISE TO RAHOLJI.





IT BROKE INTO TWO AND JAISAL EMERGED UPTO HIS TRUNK ! HE BOWED TO RAHOLJI AND ALL WHO WERE PRESENT...



...AND THEN WENT BACK. THE SAMADHI BECAME AS WHOLE AS BEFORE, THERE WAS A STUNNED SILENCE AROUND. THERE WAS A STRANGE RADIANCE ON SATI TORAL'S FACE. EVERYBODY LOOKED AT HER.

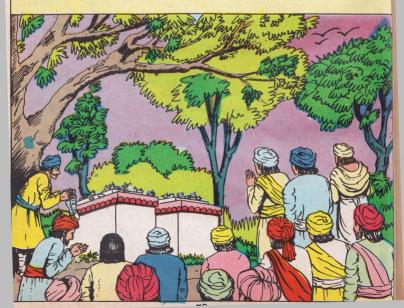




TORAL TOO LEFT HER MORTAL COIL.



TORAL'S SAMADHI WAS BUILT CLOSE TO JAISAL'S SAMADHI. EVEN TO THIS DAY, PEOPLE FROM FAR AND NEAR GO TO ANJAR TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE TWO SAMADHIS! "ANJAR," THE NOTORIOUS HIDEOUT OF DACOITS WAS THUS CHANGED INTO A PLACE OF PILGRIMAGE.



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