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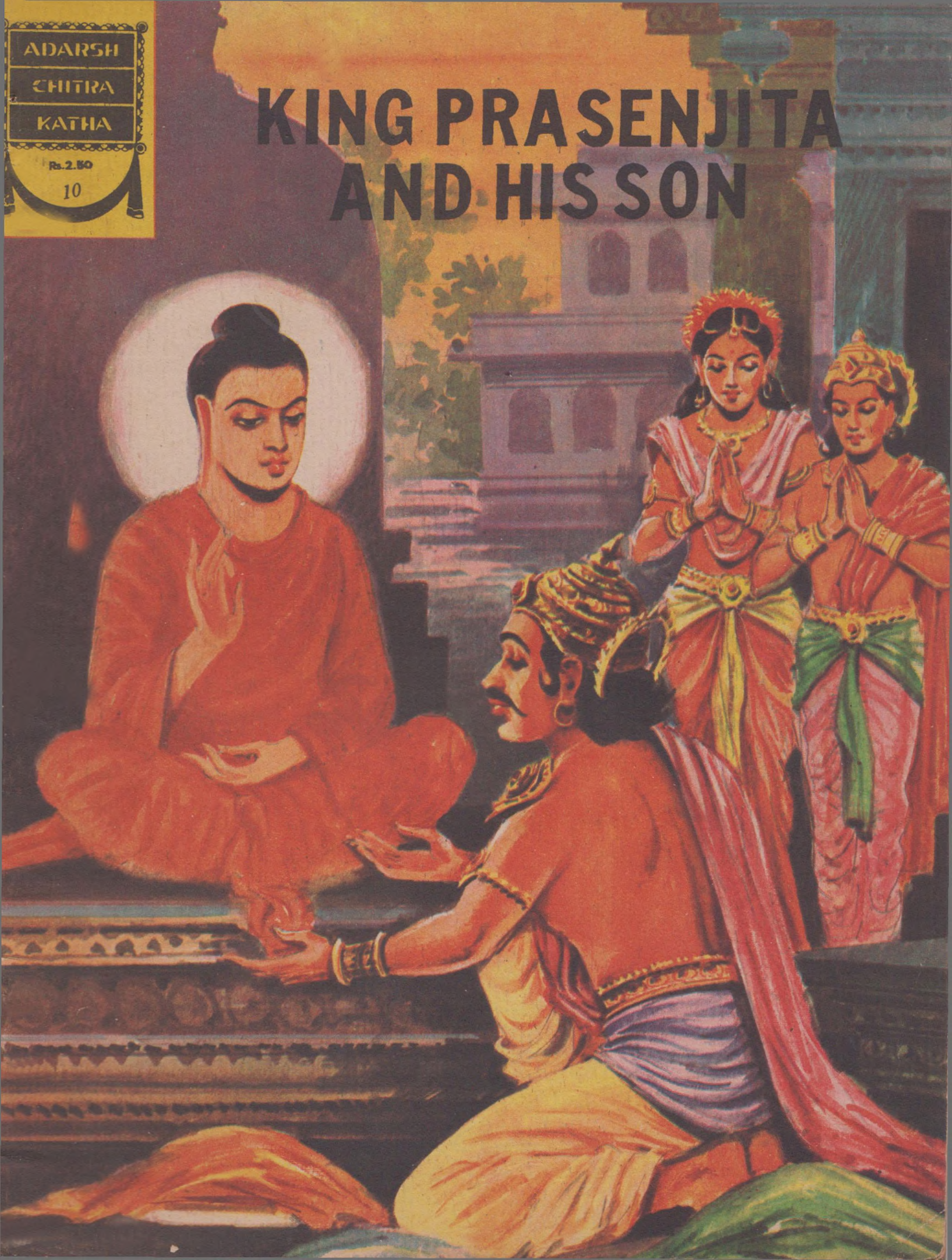
CHITRA

KATHA

Rs. 2.50

10

KING PRASENJITA AND HIS SON



After the Epic period ancient Indian history gropes about in darkness, till we come to the Sixth century B. C. This period brought into light the supreme civilization and culture of India. This century gave birth to two great persons—Gautama Buddha and Vardhaman Mahavir—who enlightened the entire world. This century also revealed mighty kings and their paramount realms. One of such kings was Prasenjita who ruled the vast territory of Koshal Country.

The life of King Prasenjita occurs as a patchwork in many Buddhist and Jain manuscripts. The present book collects these scattered data and forms into a book as a whole. The following manuscripts have been referred to for the said purpose :—

ANGUTTARA NIKAYA
SAMYUTTA NIKAYA
BHADDASALA JATAKA
DHAMMAPADA ATTHAKATHA.

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Our Next Title :

THE SONS OF BHARADWAJA AND RAIBHYA

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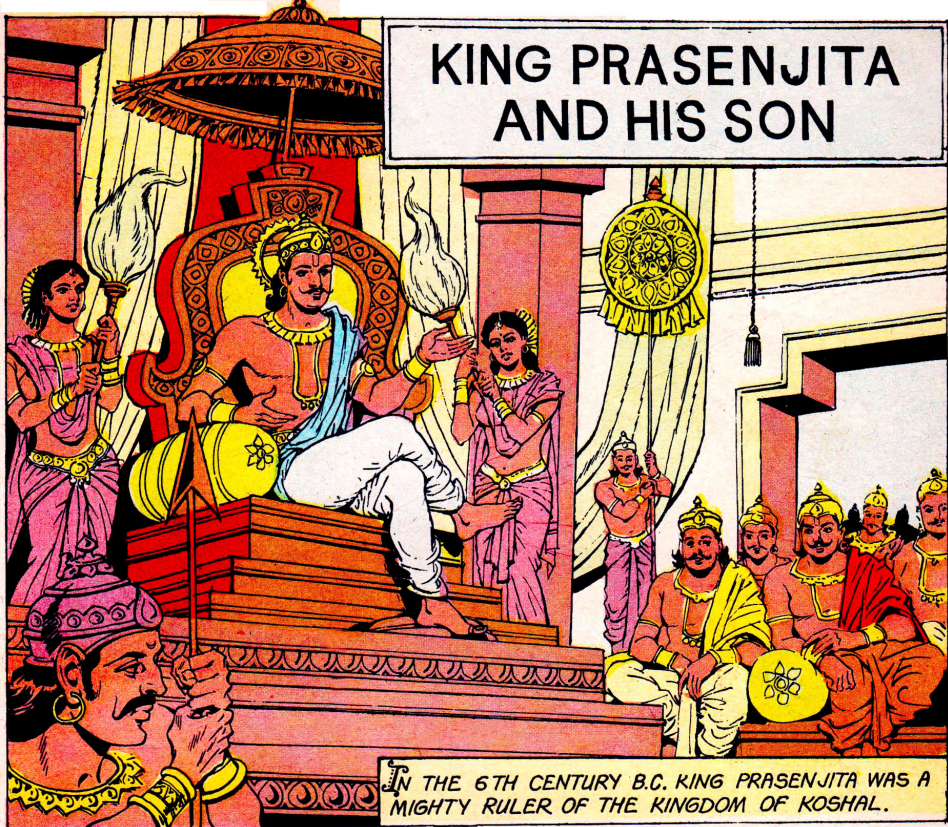
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KING PRASENJITA AND HIS SON



IN THE 6TH CENTURY B.C. KING PRASENJITA WAS A MIGHTY RULER OF THE KINGDOM OF KOSHAL.

ONE DAY—

MANTRI, ANY NEWS OF QUEEN MALLIKA?

NOT YET, BUT SHE MIGHT DELIVER TILL NIGHT.

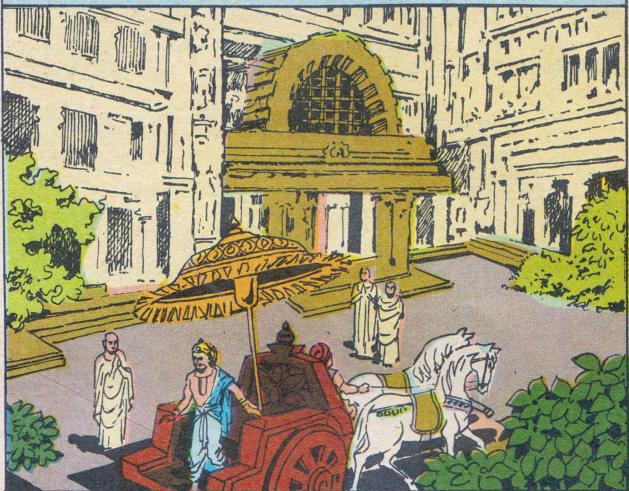
ALL RIGHT, TILL THEN I'LL GO TO THE VIHARA*.

TO LISTEN TO THE SERMON OF LORD BUDDHA?

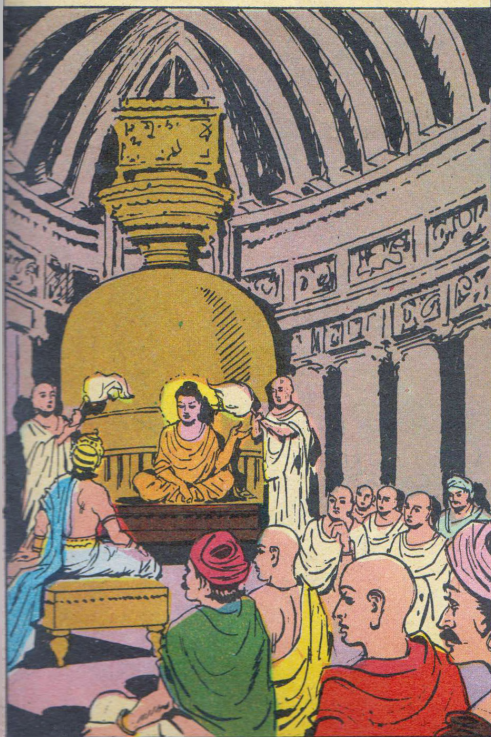
YES, HE IS THE
ONLY PERSON
WHO GIVES
PEACE OF MIND
TO ME.



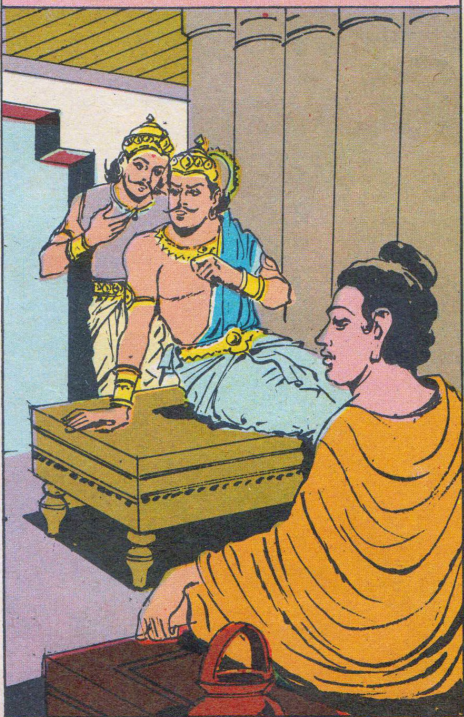
SO THE KING WENT TO THE VIHARA...



...AND SAT IN THE CHAITYA HALL.*



THE SERMON WAS STARTED. SUDDENLY A
MAN CAME AND WHISPERED TO THE KING.



* CHAITYA = PRAYER HALL

ON HEARING THE
NEWS THE KING
WAS GRIEF-
STRICKEN.

MAHARAJ,
WHY DO
YOU LOOK
SAD ?


QUEEN
MALLIKA HAS
DELIVERED
A DAUGHTER.

GOOD NEWS !
I HOPE
MALLIKA IS
ALL RIGHT.


YES, SHE
IS BUT...

WHY SHOULD
YOU BE SORRY
FOR THE BIRTH
OF A DAUGHTER ?

LORD, SHE
CAN'T BE OF
ANY USE
TO ME.




DON'T SAY THAT. WOMAN IS THE GREATEST POWER ON THIS EARTH.



IS SHE NOT THE MOTHER OF BUDDHA?

I KNOW, LORD.



YOU ALL MUST RESPECT WOMAN.

I AM SORRY, LORD. HENCE-FORTH I WILL DO SO.

ONE DAY—

AMATYA*, I WISH
TO HAVE MATRI-
MONIAL RELATIONS
WITH THE
SHAKYAS.**

BUT THE
SHAKYAS ARE
YOUR VASSALS!

THAT'S NOT
THE POINT.

SORRY,
I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND
YOU.

I WISH TO HAVE
CONNECTIONS
WITH LORD
BUDDHA'S
FAMILY.

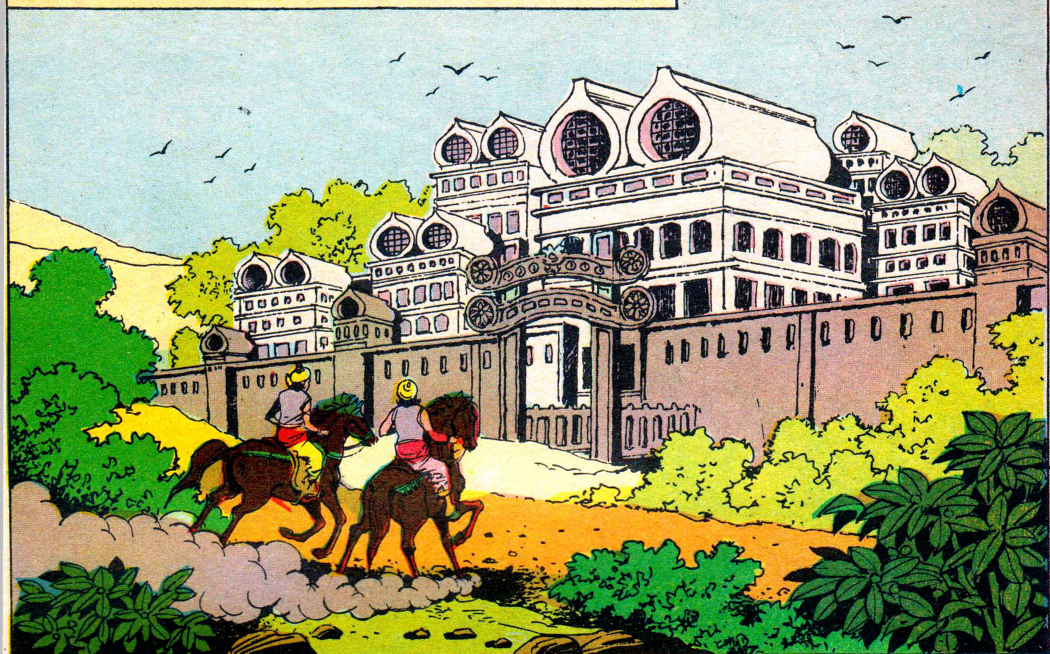
OH! I SEE.

*AMATYA - CHIEF MINISTER

**SHAKYA - A CLAN IN WHICH BUDDHA WAS BORN



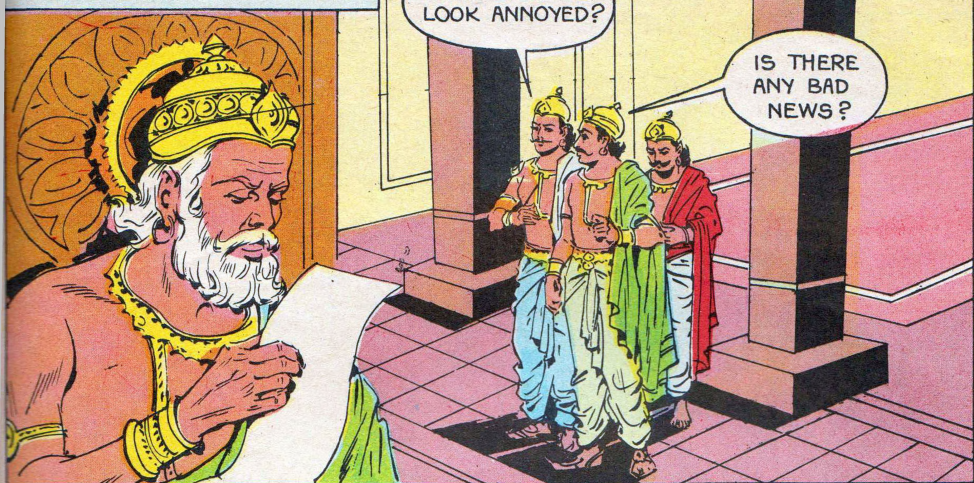
SOON PRASENJITA'S MEN WENT TO KAPILAVASTU...



...WHERE IMMEDIATELY THEY CAME FACE TO FACE WITH THE SHAKYA'S ASSEMBLY.



AFTER READING THE LETTER—



NEXT DAY, AT THE
ASSEMBLY HALL —

THE KING OF KOSHAL
HAS EXPRESSED
HIS DESIRE TO
MARRY A MAIDEN
OF THE SHAKYA
CLAN.

HOW DARE HE
ASK THE HAND
OF A SHAKYA
GIRL?

WE
WON'T
YIELD!



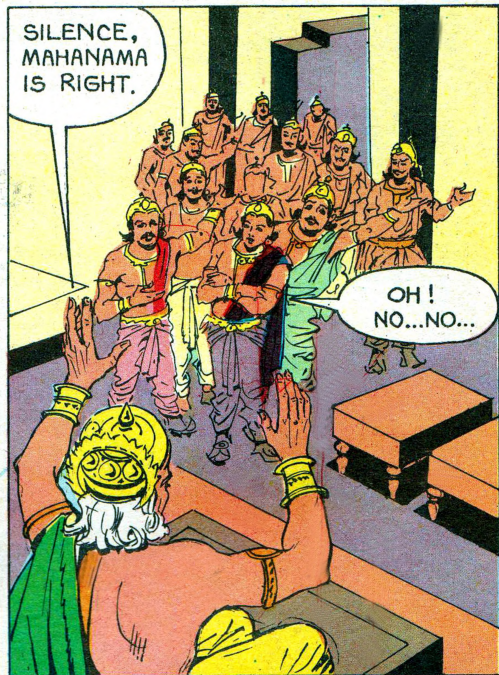
SHAKYA IS
A SUPERIOR
ARYAN RACE.


THE SHAKYAS
WILL RATHER
PREFER
DEATH.



MAHANAMA, WHY
ARE YOU QUIET?

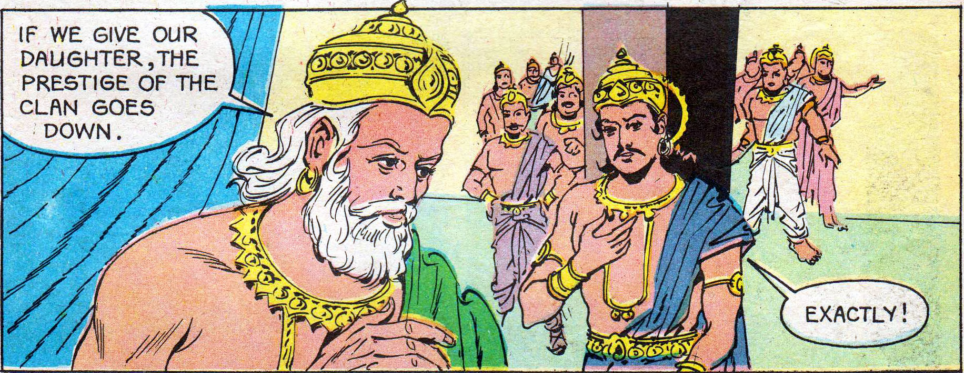
BECAUSE I AM
AWARE THAT THE
SHAKYAS ARE
VASSALS OF
PRASENJITA.






PLEASE LISTEN.
WE ARE IN
A DILEMMA.

WHAT SORT
OF DILEMMA?



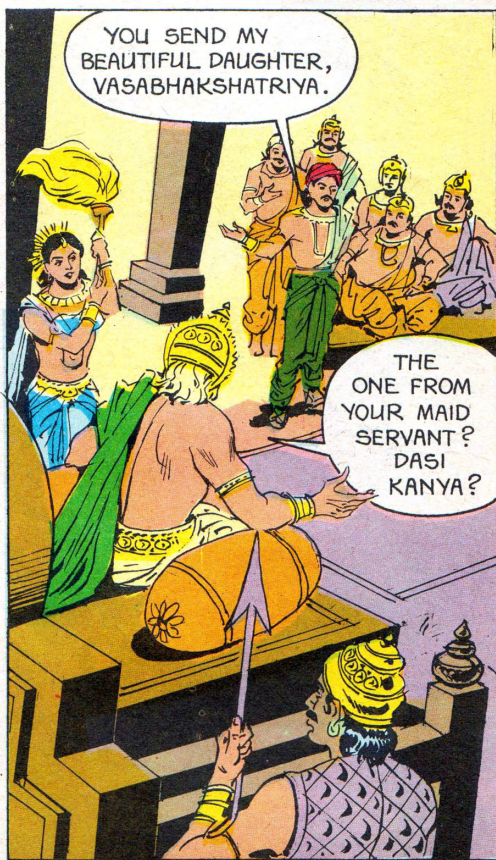
IF WE GIVE OUR
DAUGHTER, THE
PRESTIGE OF THE
CLAN GOES
DOWN.

EXACTLY!



BUT IF WE DON'T,
WE WILL PERISH.

OH, I SEE!



YES, THE SAME ONE
BUT WE MUST
KEEP THE
SECRET.

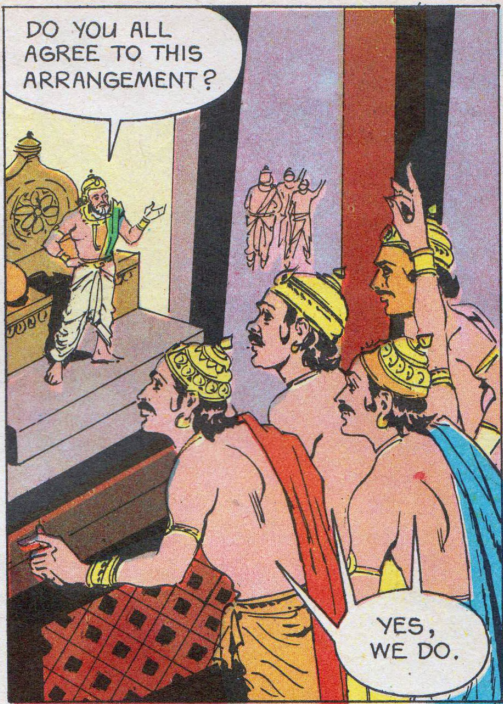
VERY
WELL.

THAT'S
A GOOD
IDEA!

BUT THERE IS
ONE DANGER.

WHAT
IS IT?

IF THE
SECRET IS
DISCLOSED
WE WILL
PERISH.



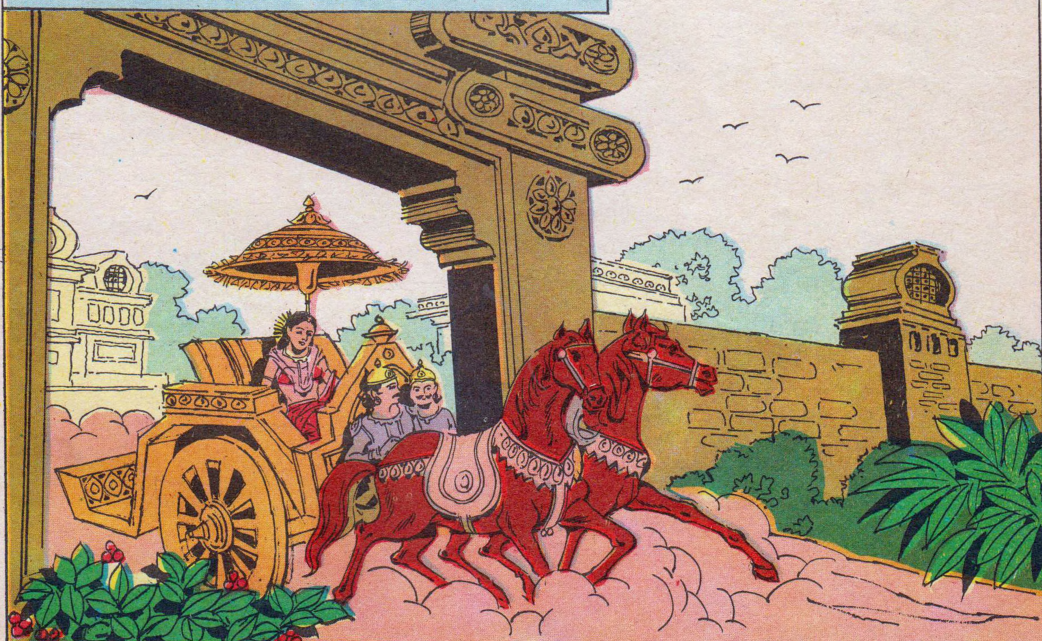
ALL RIGHT, THEN
TOMORROW
SHE WILL LEAVE.

TOMORROW?
SO SOON?

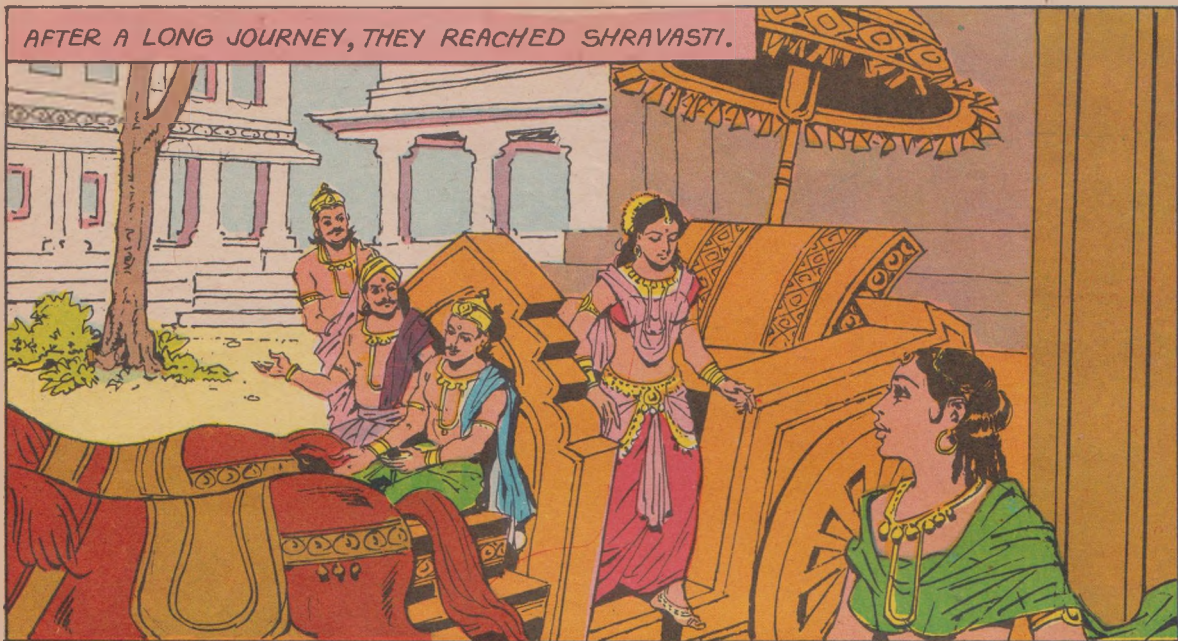
YES, IT'S BETTER
IF THEY LEAVE
EARLIER FROM
OUR LAND.

YOU ARE
RIGHT.

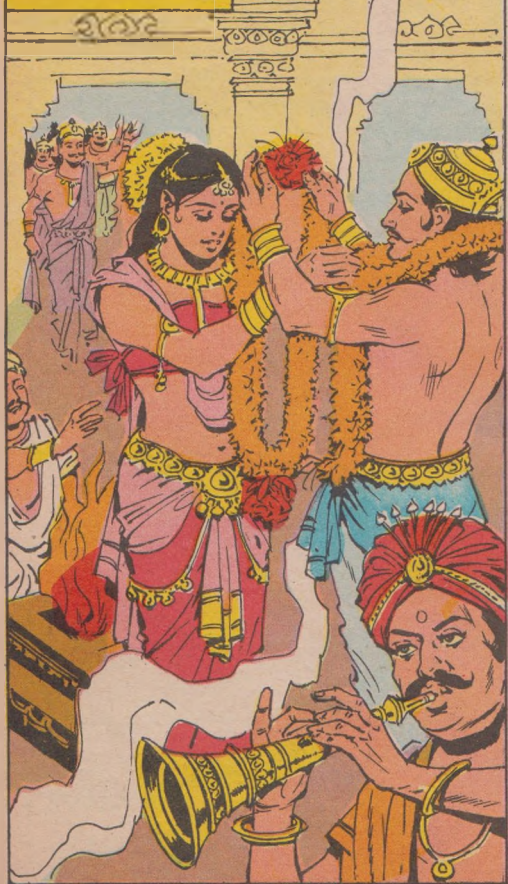
NEXT DAY, IN THE MORNING, PRASENJITA'S MEN DROVE A CHARIOT FROM
THE CITY OF KAPILAVASTU TOWARDS SRAVASTI.



AFTER A LONG JOURNEY, THEY REACHED SHRAVASTI.



THE KING SOON GOT MARRIED TO
DASI KANYA...



...WHO, IN COURSE OF TIME, GAVE BIRTH TO A
SON WHO WAS NAMED VIDUDARBHA.



AFTER EIGHT YEARS—

MAHARAJ,
OUR SON IS
EIGHT YEARS
OLD NOW.

I KNOW HE IS
AN INTELLIGENT
BOY AND I HAVE
DECIDED TO GIVE
YOU A SURPRISE.

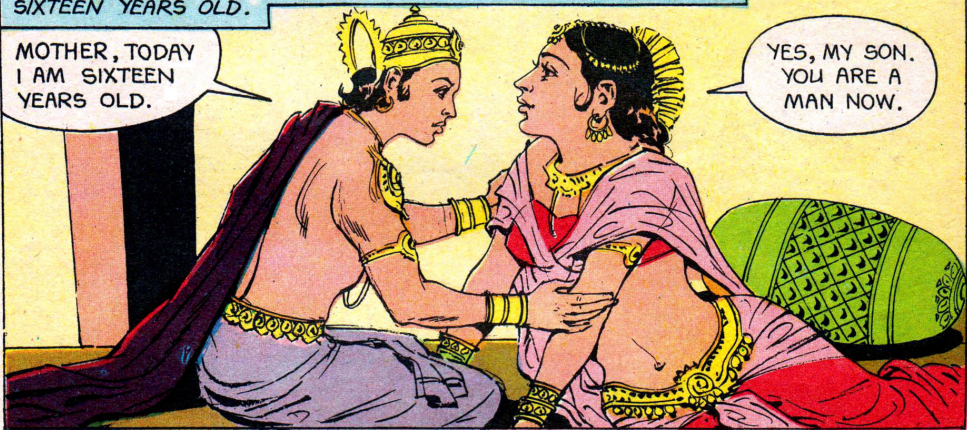
YOU WILL BE MY
CHIEF CONSORT
AND HE WILL BE
THE YUVARAJA.*

MAHARAJ,
YOU HAVE
HONoured US.

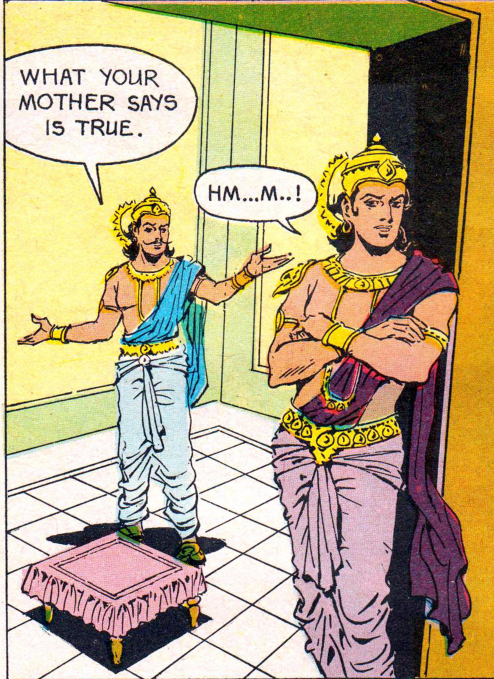




THE PRINCE COULD NOT RESIST THE OBSESSION, TILL HE WAS SIXTEEN YEARS OLD.







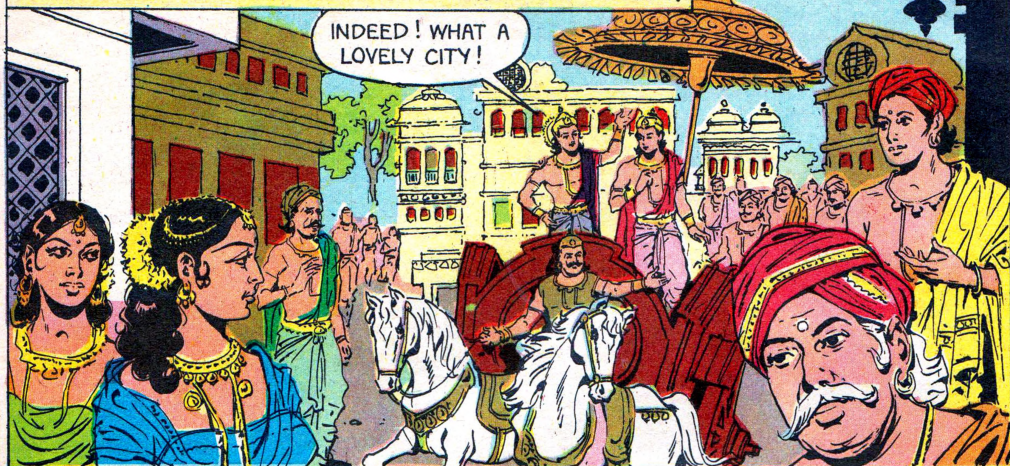
SO A LETTER WAS DESPATCHED TO KAPILAVASTU...



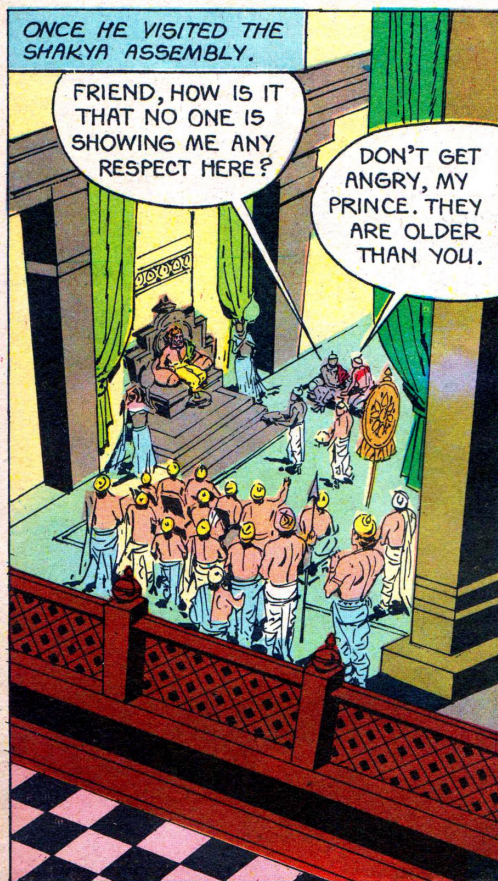
...AND SOON AFTERWARDS THE PRINCE REACHED THERE.




THEN HE WAS TAKEN IN PROCESSION THROUGHOUT THE CITY.




ONCE HE VISITED THE SHAKYA ASSEMBLY.





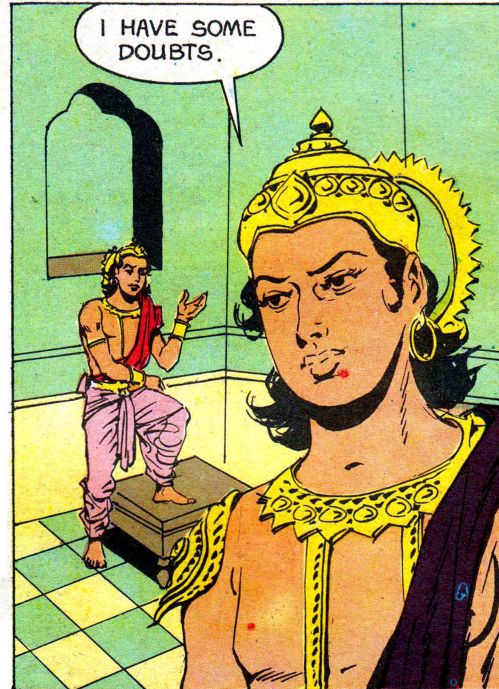
THEY KEEP A CERTAIN DISTANCE, AS IF I DO NOT BELONG HERE.

IS IT? I HAVE NOT NOTICED IT.




YOU ARE ENAMOURD BY THEIR MANNERISM.

MAY BE ! BUT THEY ARE CULTURED PEOPLE.



I HAVE SOME DOUBTS.



I AM GOING TO PLAY A TRICK ON THEM.

WHAT IS IT ?

GO AND TELL
MAHANAMA THAT
TODAY I'LL HAVE
LUNCH WITH
HIM.

ALL RIGHT.

THE MESSAGE HAD UPSET THE
WHOLE FAMILY OF MAHANAMA.

HOW CAN
YOU TAKE
FOOD WITH
DASIPUTRA?

DON'T WORRY.
YOU KEEP THE
MEAL READY.

DO YOU
REALLY
MEAN IT?

I'LL ONLY
PRETEND TO
EAT WITH
HIM.

OH! YOU HAVE
RELIEVED ME!

AT THE DINNING HALL —

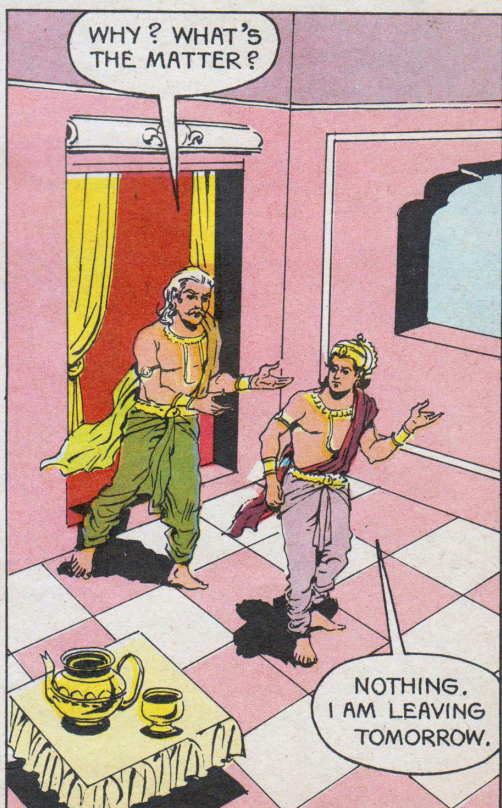
IT'S INSULTING!
HE IS ONLY ACTING
BUT ACTUALLY
NOT EATING.



HAVE YOU
FINISHED?
SO SOON!

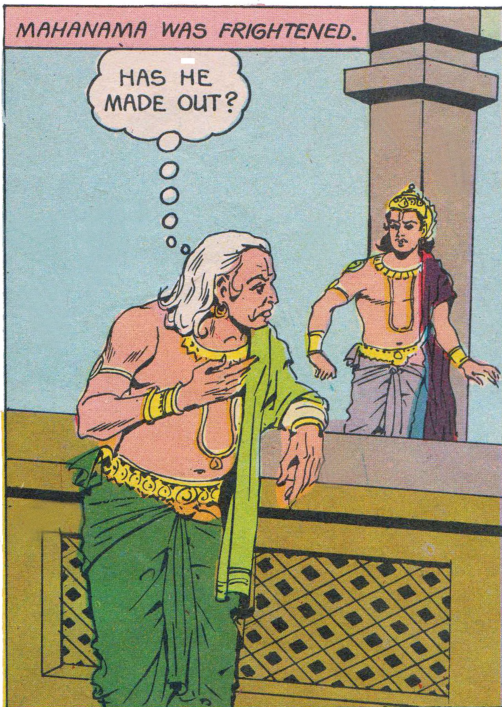


WHY? WHAT'S
THE MATTER?



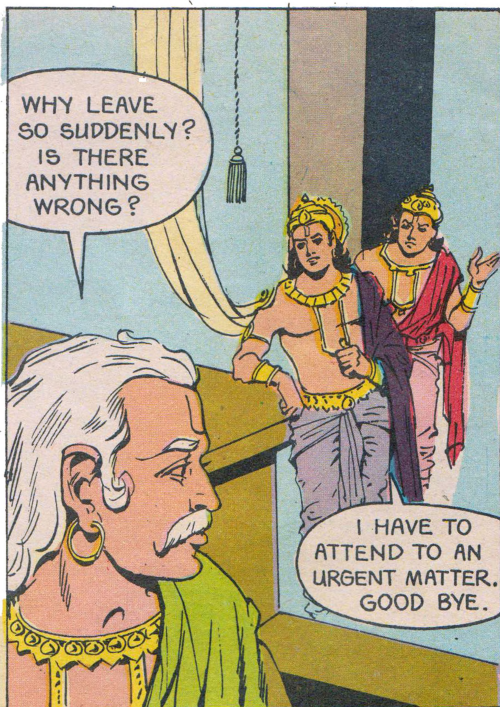
MAHANAMA WAS FRIGHTENED.

HAS HE
MADE OUT?



WHY LEAVE
SO SUDDENLY?
IS THERE
ANYTHING
WRONG?

I HAVE TO
ATTEND TO AN
URGENT MATTER.
GOOD BYE.



WHEN THE PRINCE CAME BACK TO HIS
CHAMBER—

FRIEND,
WE SHALL
LEAVE
TOMORROW.

WHY? WHAT'S
THE HURRY?



I SAY, PACK UP.
NO ARGUMENTS!



THEY LEFT KAPILAVASTU.

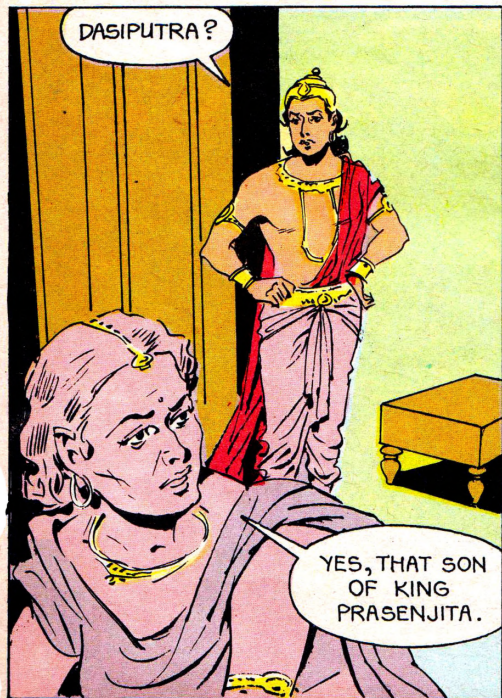


ON THE WAY—

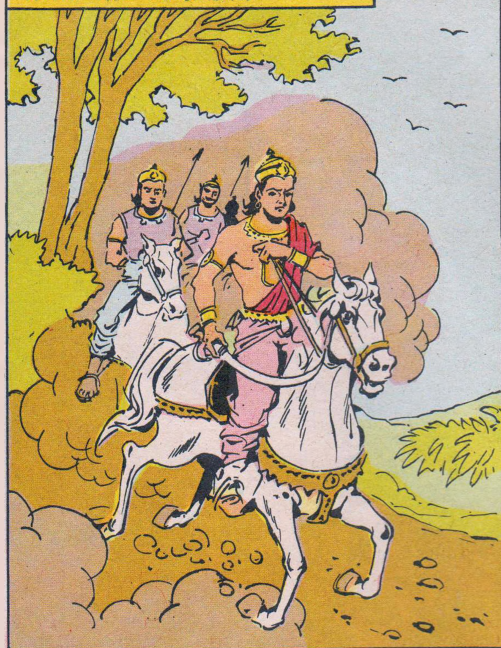


THE FRIEND SOON ENTERED THE ROOM.

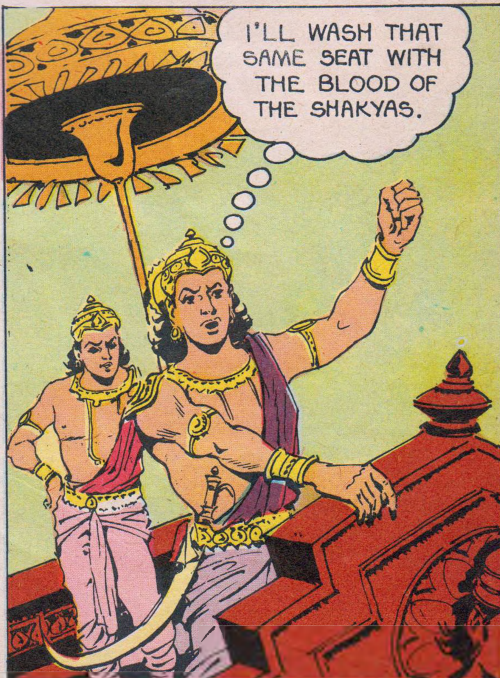
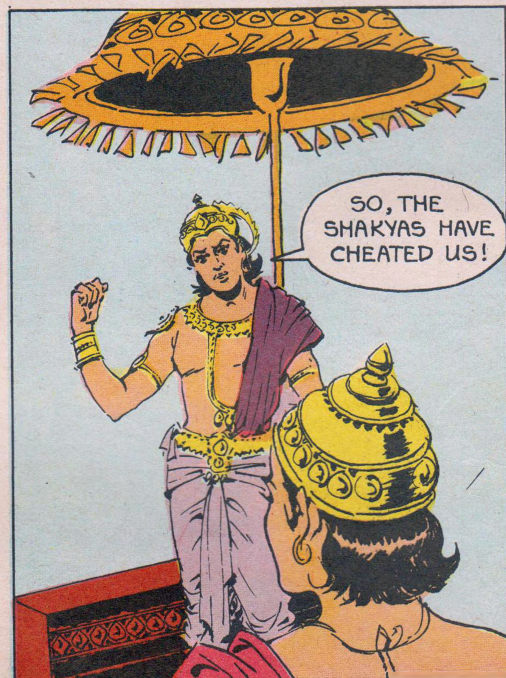




THE FRIEND TROTTED BACK
WITH THE SWORD...



...AND CONVEYED THE NEWS TO THE
PRINCE.



THE PRINCE WENT TO SHRAVASTI AND DISCLOSED THE NEWS TO KING PRASENJITA.

WHAT? THE SHAKYAS HAVE DECEIVED ME?

YES, FATHER, THEY HAVE RUINED US.

KING PRASENJITA WAS VERY MUCH DISTURBED.

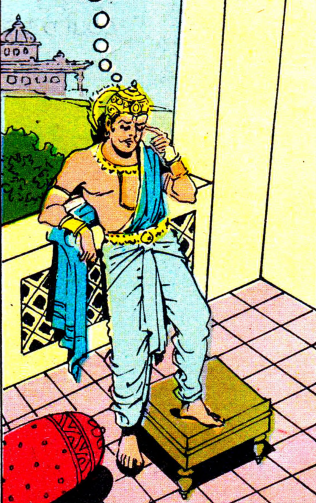
CHILD, YOU ARE RIGHT. I HAVE TO DEPRIVE YOU AND YOUR MOTHER FROM THE ROYAL STATUS.

BUT, FATHER, HOW CAN I BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?

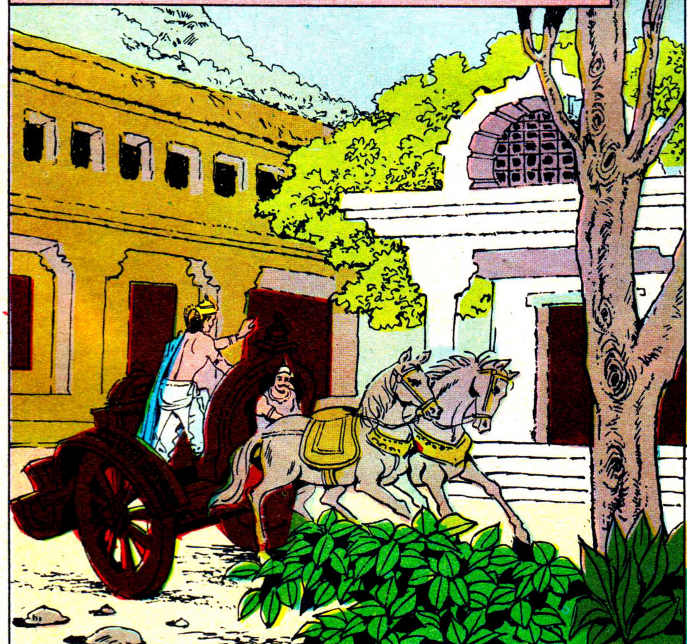
IT'S A CONVENTION MY SON — ROYAL CONVENTION!

I DON'T VALUE YOUR ROYAL CONVENTIONS AND YOUR SHAKYAS!

I'LL GO TO THE VIHARA AND NARRATE EVERYTHING TO THE LORD.



THE KING IMMEDIATELY WENT TO THE VIHARA...



...AND SOUGHT AN AUDIENCE WITH LORD BUDDHA.

...LORD, YOUR RELATIVES HAVE THUS CHEATED ME.



THE SHAKYAS HAVE BEEN VERY FOOLISH. THEY SHOULD NOT HAVE DONE THIS.

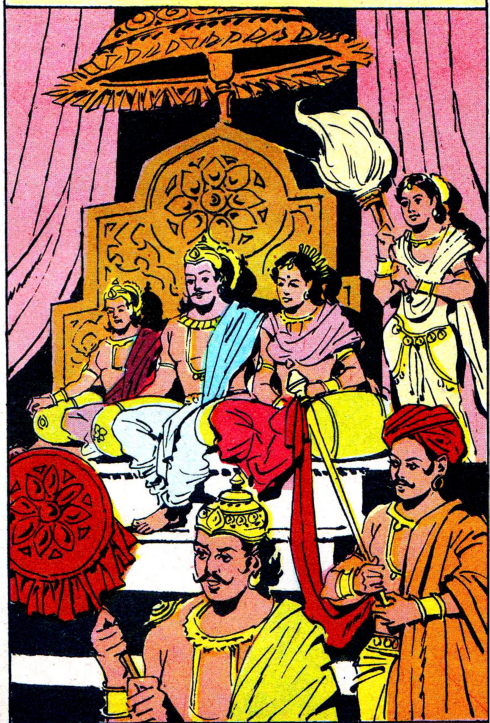
I HAVE TO REMOVE THE QUEEN AND THE PRINCE FROM THE ROYAL STATUS.

THAT WILL NOT GIVE YOU PEACE OF MIND. THEY HAVE EVERY RIGHT ON THE ROYAL STATUS.





KING PRASENJITA GOT SOLACE FROM THE WORDS OF THE BUDDHA AND REVIVED THE POSITION OF THE QUEEN AND THE PRINCE.

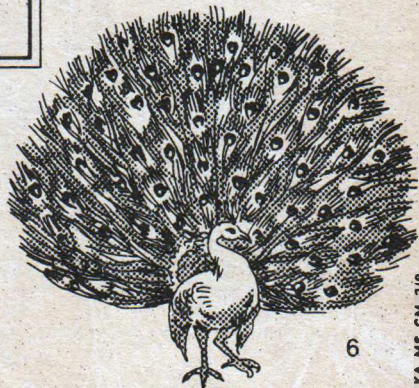
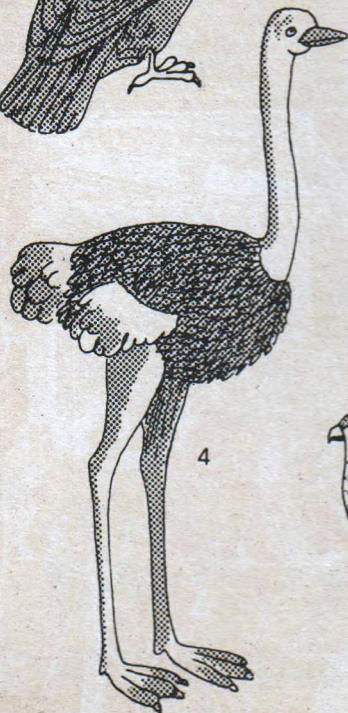
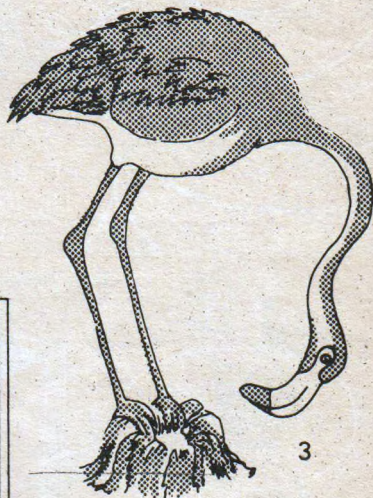


Around the world with BOB!



Match birds with the places!

Guess where will you find these birds in large numbers?



बच्चों की मुस्कान-
राष्ट्र की शान
Happy Child-
Nation's Pride

विश्व बाल वर्ष 1979
International
Year of the Child.



ULKA-MS-CN-2/8

Open a Minor's Savings Account.

Saving is a good habit.



Bank of Baroda

(A Government of India Undertaking)

Answers: 1. Eagle, America. 2. Penguin, Antarctica. 3. Flamingo, America. 4. Ostrich, Africa. 5. Falcon, India. 6. Peacock, India.

TRING TRRRRING RING!

Bachat Kumar rides to school on a new red bike.



Bachat Kumar is going to school. Look at him! Round and round he goes, Tring trrrring ring!



'Oh what a beautiful, beautiful bike!' says Bhola with a tear in his eye.



And the bully Babbar Sher roars with envy.

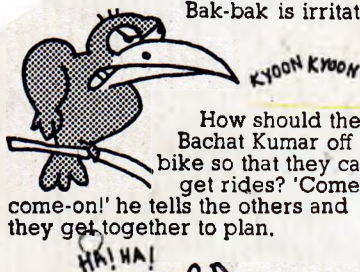


Go to class you show-off!
And leave your silly bike behind.



'No-no-no!' squeals Bachat Kumar
'This is my new red bike
No one but me will ride
It's bought with my own money
I've been saving in my tummy!'

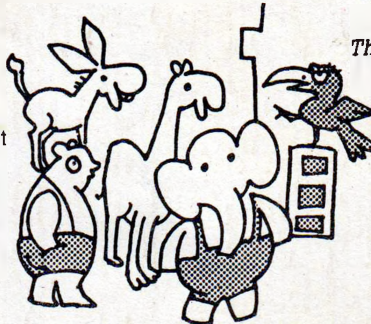
Bak-bak is irritated.



How should they get Bachat Kumar off that bike so that they can all get rides? 'Come-on, come-on!' he tells the others and they get together to plan.

KYON KYON

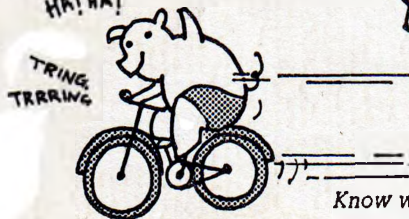
HA! HA!



This is what they decide:

Lambooji will chase Bachat Kumar. As soon as Bachat Kumar gets to the corner, Bak bak will give a warning whistle.

Then Petu will block the way. And Tattu Singh will give a kick! Off he'll go—and the bike will be all theirs.



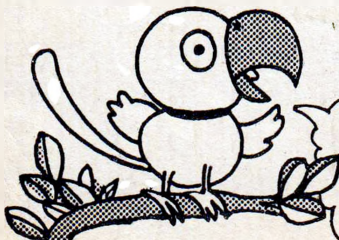
ZOOM

Know what happened?

When Lambooji started chasing Bachat Kumar, he took off on his new red bike. Faster than anybody could think. Faster than a wink.

Mithu-kaka had been watching all this happen from his tree. He opened one eye and spoke:

Come along children.
Save your money and have more fun.



Save with State Bank.
And watch your savings grow!

State Bank
Let's come closer