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SWAMI RAMTIRTHA



“Swami Rama Tirtha was one of the greatest souls, not only of India, but of the whole world. I adore his ideals.”

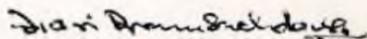
M. K. Gandhi

Swami Rama Tirtha was among the great-souled ones, not only of this land, but of the world. This great saint gave to us the philosophy of the Vedanta in a practical form and preached the simple doctrines of international brotherhood and universal love.

He led a clean and simple life which is particularly inspiring for students. The brilliance of his life and work have become an important part of our cultural heritage.

The teachings of Swami Rama Tirtha stand true, at all places, for all people, at all times. If these are widely spread, they will contribute greatly towards universal love, peace and happiness. By translating his ideas into practice, we can surely build a new nation.

Here we have made an earnest effort to present the life of Swami Rama Tirtha in a manner which will give a new direction to our lives and make them more purposeful. It will, we hope, produce love and respect for Indian culture, and enable us to achieve our goals in life.



Hari Rama Sachdeva

Hony. Secretary :

Swami Rama Tirtha Mission :

Muradnagar.

Our Next Title : *KATTAHARI JATAKA*

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SWAMI RAMA TIRTHA

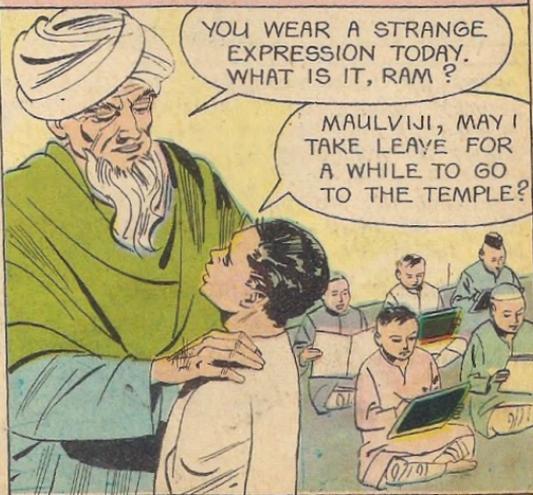
TIRTHRAM WAS BORN ON 22 ND OCTOBER, 1873 AT MURALIWALA VILLAGE IN THE GUJRANWALA DISTRICT OF PUNJAB. HIS FATHER, HIRANAND GOSWAMI WAS A POOR PRIEST, OFTEN CONDUCTING RELIGIOUS RITES AND CEREMONIES IN THE HOMES OF HINDU FAMILIES OF SWAT AND PESHAWAR. HIS MOTHER DIED WITHIN A YEAR OF HIS BIRTH AND THE CHILD WAS BROUGHT UP BY DHARMA KAUR, HIS AUNT.



AS A CHILD OF FIVE OR SO, TIRTHRAM BECAME VERY FOND OF THE SOUND OF CONCHSHELL.



WHEN HE JOINED SCHOOL, TIRTHRAM'S TEACHER, A MUSLIM, APPRECIATED HIS RECITATIONS FROM THE PERSIAN CLASSICS, THE GOOLISTAN AND THE BOSTON. ONE DAY —



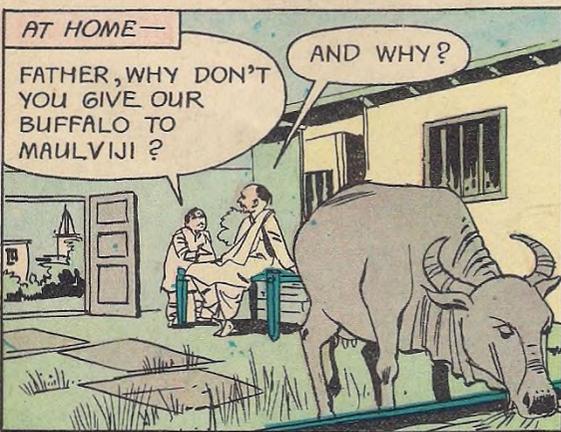
TIRTHRAM WOULD EVEN FOREGO HIS MEALS FOR PRAYERS AT THE TEMPLE.



AT HOME —

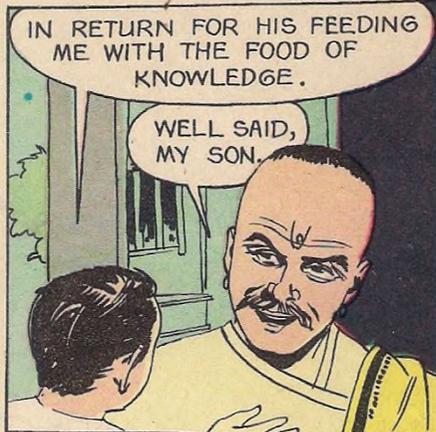
FATHER, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE OUR BUFFALO TO MAULVIJI ?

AND WHY ?



IN RETURN FOR HIS FEEDING ME WITH THE FOOD OF KNOWLEDGE.

WELL SAID, MY SON.



AFTER HIS PRIMARY SCHOOL, HIS FATHER GOT HIM ADMITTED TO THE MISSION SCHOOL, GUJRANWALA AND TOOK TIRTHRAM TO A FRIEND OF HIS, DHANNA BHAGAT, A COPPERSMITH BY TRADE AND A WRESTLER AND SAINT BY INCLINATION.

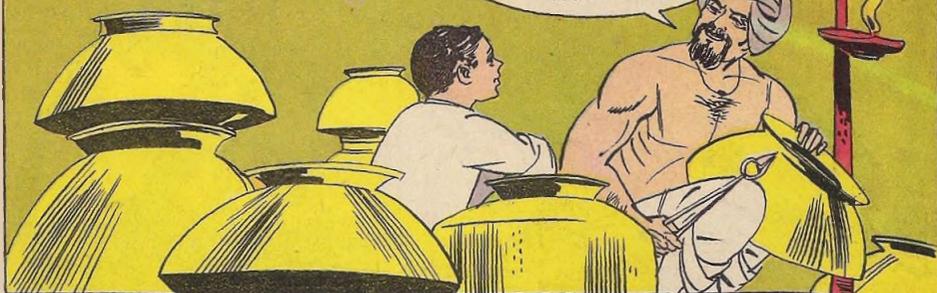
WELCOME MY FRIEND. ISN'T THIS YOUR BOY TIRTHRAM ?

YES. I BRING HIM TO YOU, FOR IF HE SHOULD NEED HELP OR GUIDANCE, HE CAN TURN TO A TRUSTED MAN.



TIRTHRAM NOT ONLY DEVELOPED AN INSTANT LIKING FOR DHANNA BHAGAT BUT HE TOOK HIM FOR HIS GURU.

IF IN THOUGHT AND ACTION YOU THINK OF NOTHING BUT OF GOD'S GLORY, YOU WILL BECOME ONE WITH HIM.



BY THE AGE OF TEN, TIRTHRAM WAS MARRIED TO THE DAUGHTER OF PANDIT RAM CHANDRA OF VIROKE.



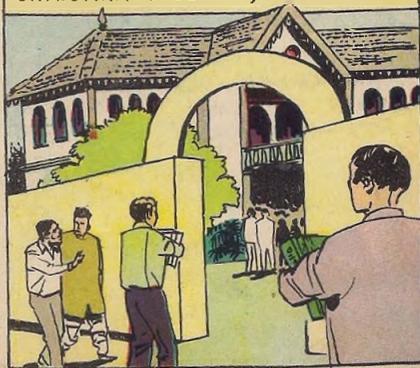
TIRTHRAM MATRICULATED AND WISHED TO CONTINUE HIGHER STUDIES AT LAHORE.

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE UP A JOB HERE?

NO, FATHER. I MUST STUDY MORE.



TIRTHRAM JOINED THE FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, LAHORE.



POVERTY MADE HIS STUDENT LIFE HARD AND TRYING. ONE NIGHT...



...THE HOODED COBRA REMINDED HIM OF THE EPISODE OF KRISHNA ATOP THE DEMON KALIA.*



ONE DAY, AT THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE —

SIR, TIRTHRAM LIVES IN A PLACE FULL OF SNAKES.

HE HARDLY EATS AND GETS WEAKER DAY BY DAY.



THE PRINCIPAL CALLED TIRTHRAM TO HIS ROOM.

GOOD MORNING, SIR.

GOOD MORNING. SOMEONE HAS SENT THIS PACKET FOR YOU.

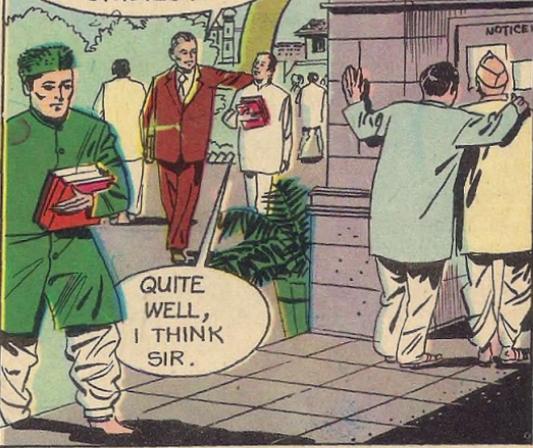


SHIFT TO THE COLLEGE HOSTEL AND STOP WORRYING ABOUT YOUR FEES.



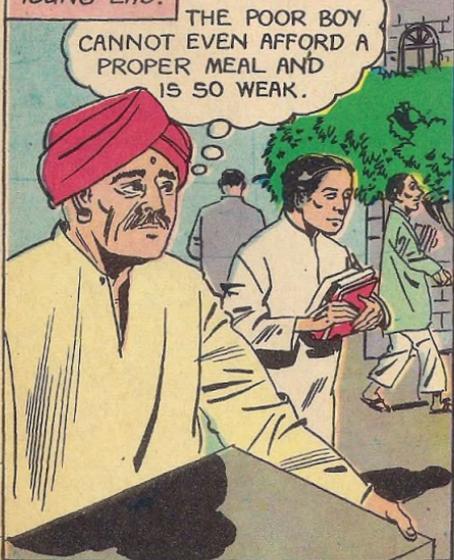
PROFESSOR GILBERTSON WOULD OFTEN PAY TIRTHRAM'S FEES. TIRTHRAM ACCEPTED THIS ON THE CONDITION THAT HE WOULD BE ALLOWED TO HELP IN THE COLLEGE WORK.

HOW ARE YOU GETTING ON WITH YOUR STUDIES ?



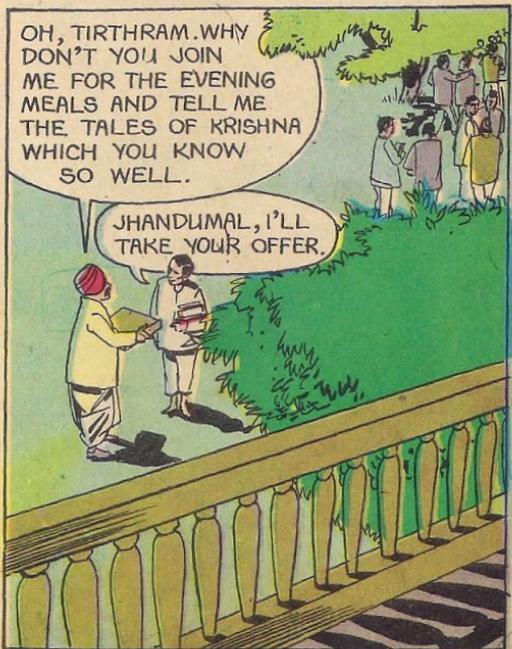
JHANDIMAL, THE COLLEGE CONFECTIONER, TOO, HAD A LIKING FOR THE YOUNG LAD.

THE POOR BOY CANNOT EVEN AFFORD A PROPER MEAL AND IS SO WEAK.



OH, TIRTHRAM. WHY DON'T YOU JOIN ME FOR THE EVENING MEALS AND TELL ME THE TALES OF KRISHNA WHICH YOU KNOW SO WELL.

JHANDIMAL, I'LL TAKE YOUR OFFER.



TIRTHRAM WAS SO ABSORBED IN HIS PASSION FOR KRISHNA THAT ONE DAY, WHILE WALKING ALONG THE BANKS OF THE RIVER RAVI, WHEN THE SKY WAS OVER-CAST WITH PURPLE CLOUDS —

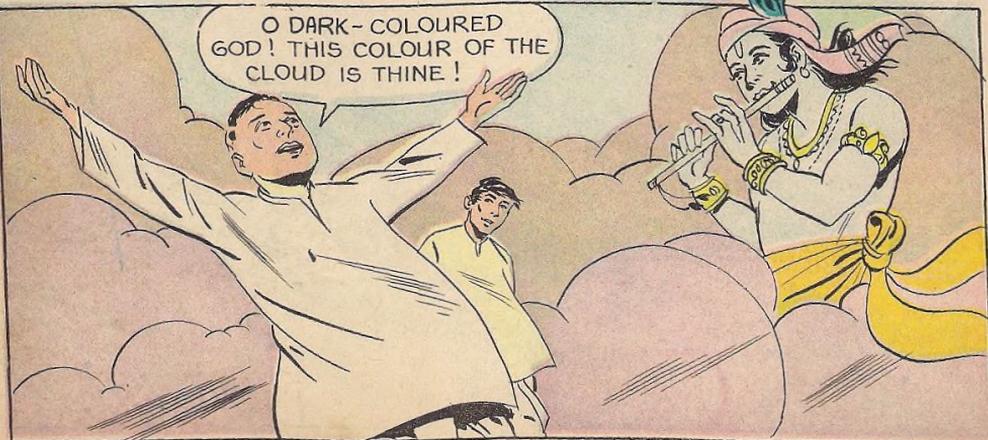


IT IS GOING TO RAIN. LOOK AT THE DARK CLOUDS!

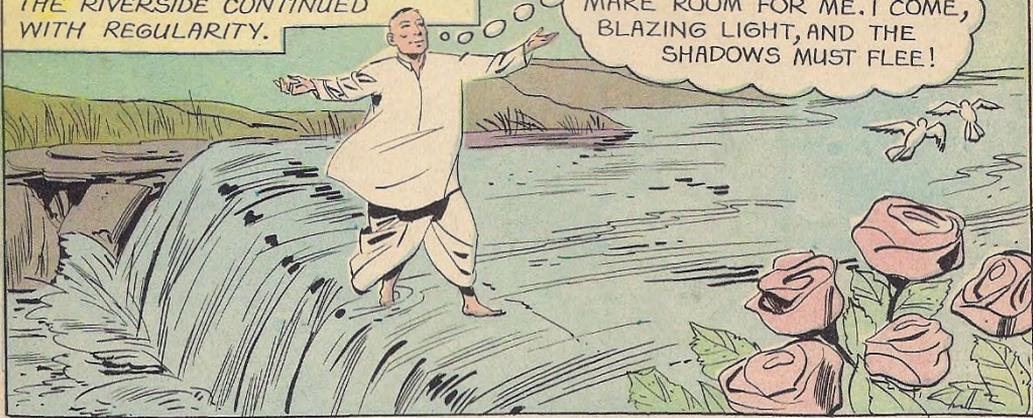
YES, MY KRISHNA, THE DARK ONE, IS THERE!



O DARK-COLOURED GOD! THIS COLOUR OF THE CLOUD IS THINE!



TIRTHRAM'S LONG WALKS ALONG THE RIVERSIDE CONTINUED WITH REGULARITY.



THE WORLD TURNS ASIDE TO MAKE ROOM FOR ME. I COME, BLAZING LIGHT, AND THE SHADOWS MUST FLEE!

ONE DAY HE HAPPENED TO MEET MR. BELL, THE PRINCIPAL OF THE GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, LAHORE.



GOOD MORNING SIR.

GOOD MORNING, TIRTHRAM.

THEY WALKED ALONG UNTIL THEY CAME TO A GYMNASIUM.



WHAT EXERCISES DO YOU TAKE?

I DO THE CHARPAI.*

TIRTHRAM DEMONSTRATED THE EXERCISE AND ASTONISHED ALL BY LIFTING THE COT BY ITS TWO LEGS, A HUNDRED TIMES.

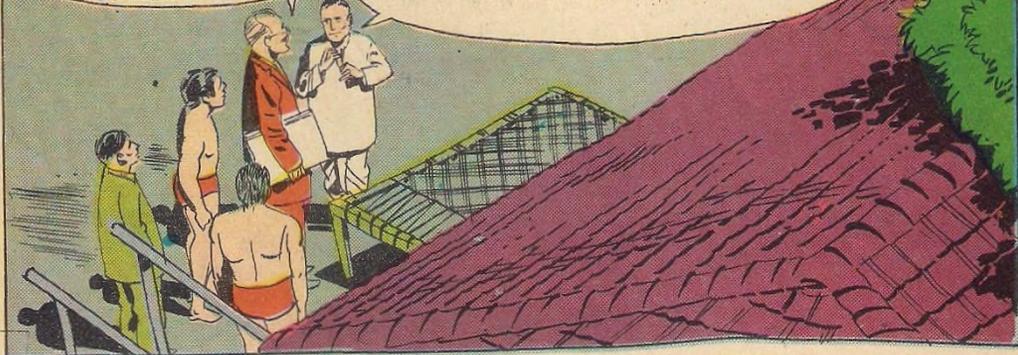


WHAT A FEAT!

*A COT

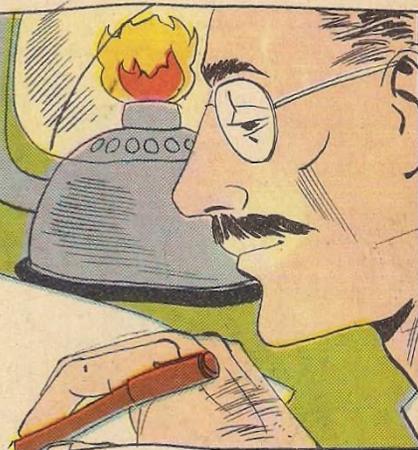
WELL DONE, MY BOY.
WHAT DO YOU INTEND
DOING AFTER YOU LEAVE
COLLEGE?

I WOULD LIKE TO SPEND MY LIFE IN
THE SERVICE OF GOD THROUGH 'SERVICE'
OF THE PEOPLE. I THINK I WILL BE ABLE
TO TEACH MATHEMATICS WELL.



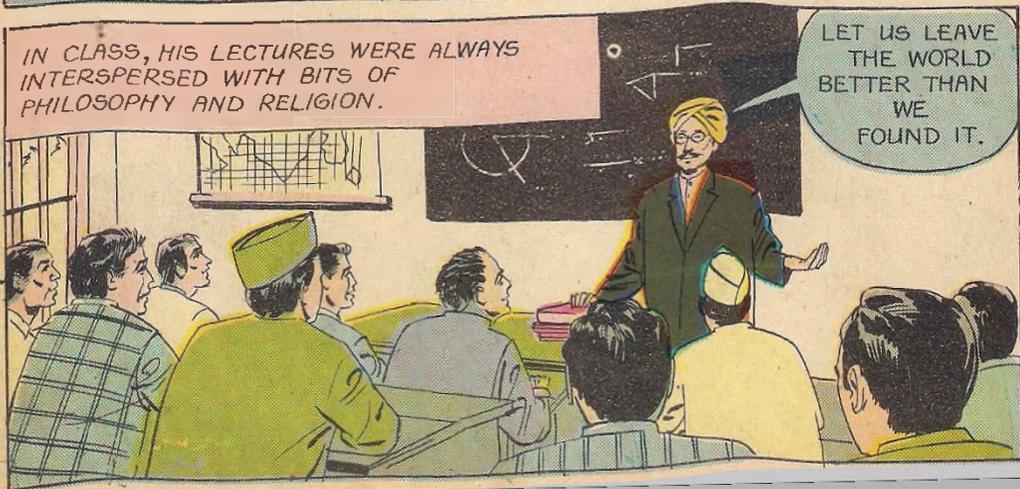
TIRTHRAM CORRESPONDED WITH DHANNA
BHAGAT REGULARLY. AFTER HIS MASTERS
DEGREE WHEN HE JOINED HIS OWN COLLEGE
AS A PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS ON A
MONTHLY SALARY OF RUPEES ONE
HUNDRED —

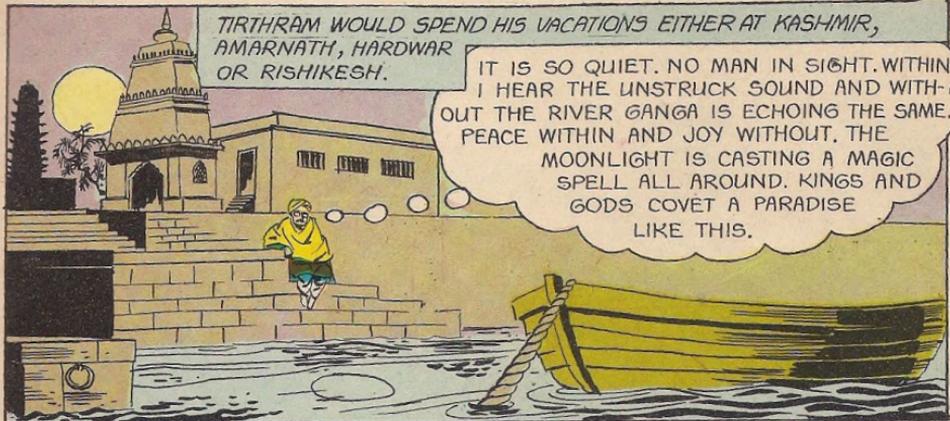
MAHARAJ JI,
I OFFER EVERYTHING AT
YOUR FEET. BY YOUR GRACE I
ENJOY BLISS.
EVERYONE HAS DIAMONDS
IN HIS BUNDLE, BUT KNOWS
NOT HOW TO OPEN IT, HENCE
FINDS HIMSELF A
BEGGAR.



IN CLASS, HIS LECTURES WERE ALWAYS
INTERSPERSED WITH BITS OF
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION.

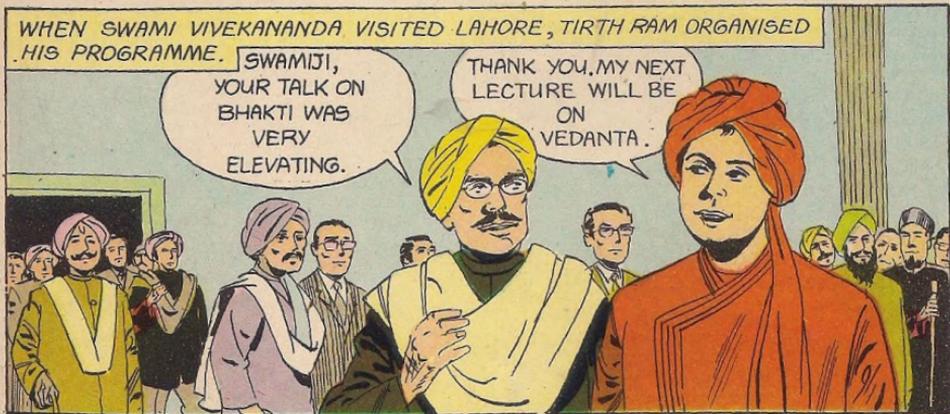
LET US LEAVE
THE WORLD
BETTER THAN
WE
FOUND IT.





TIRTHRAM WOULD SPEND HIS VACATIONS EITHER AT KASHMIR, AMARNATH, HARDWAR OR RISHIKESH.

IT IS SO QUIET. NO MAN IN SIGHT. WITHIN I HEAR THE UNSTRUCK SOUND AND WITHOUT THE RIVER GANGA IS ECHOING THE SAME. PEACE WITHIN AND JOY WITHOUT. THE MOONLIGHT IS CASTING A MAGIC SPELL ALL AROUND. KINGS AND GODS COVET A PARADISE LIKE THIS.



WHEN SWAMI VIVEKANANDA VISITED LAHORE, TIRTH RAM ORGANISED HIS PROGRAMME.

SWAMIJI, YOUR TALK ON BHAKTI WAS VERY ELEVATING.

THANK YOU, MY NEXT LECTURE WILL BE ON VEDANTA.



SWAMI VIVEKANANDA'S ELOQUENT EXPOSITION OF VEDANTA FIRED TIRTHRAM'S RELIGIOUS ZEAL.

VEDANTA IS LIFE. DUALITY IS THE CAUSE OF SUFFERING.

TIRTHRAM WAS HIMSELF INVITED TO LECTURE ON DEVOTIONAL THEMES BY THE SADHARANA DHARMA SABHAS.



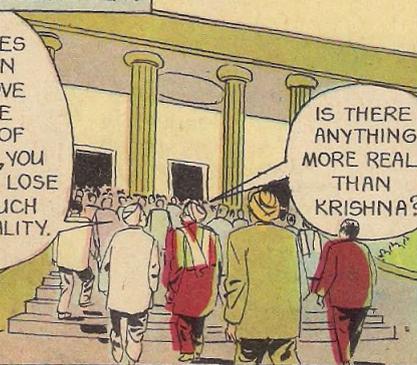
DURING ONE SUCH LECTURE, NARAYAN DAS, A STUDENT OF THE D.A.V. COLLEGE, LAHORE, CAME UNDER HIS SPELL.

I WAS ALWAYS DOUBTFUL ABOUT THE PHILOSOPHY PROPOUNDED IN THE BHAGAVADGITA. BUT YOUR RENDERING OF THE TALES OF KRISHNA MAKES ME REVIEW MY OUTLOOK



NARAYAN DAS FOLLOWED TIRTHRAM TO ALL HIS LECTURES.

SOMETIMES I FEEL, IN YOUR LOVE FOR THE PERSON OF KRISHNA, YOU SEEM TO LOSE YOUR TOUCH WITH REALITY.



IS THERE ANYTHING MORE REAL THAN KRISHNA?

AND HOW DOES ONE REALISE THAT?

BY CEASELESS REPETITION OF THE SACRED SYLLABLE OM!



HIS BURNING LOVE FOR KRISHNA,
AND HIS CONSTANT REPETITION
OF OM, THE SACRED SYLLABLE,
BROUGHT TIRTHRAM INTO A
TRANCE-LIKE PLANE OF
EXISTENCE.



OM,
OM OM!!

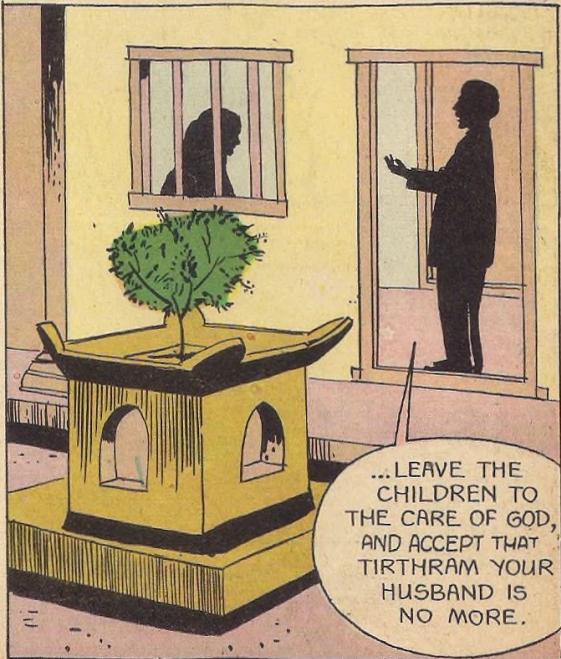
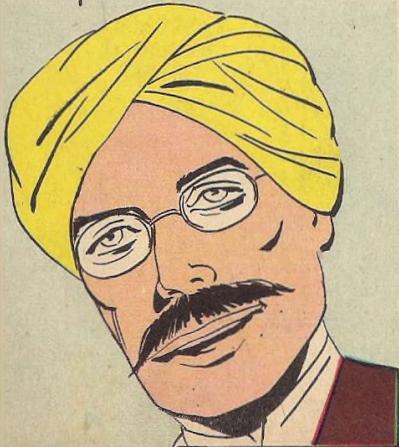
AT HOME, WITH HIS WIFE—

MY HEART NOW LONGS
FOR THE SOLITUDE OF
THE HIMALAYAS AND
THE RECESSES OF
THE JUNGLE.



I WILL
ACCOMPANY YOU.

CERTAINLY, BUT ON THREE
CONDITIONS. DONATE ALL
YOUR WORLDLY GOODS
TO CHARITABLE
INSTITUTIONS...



...LEAVE THE
CHILDREN TO
THE CARE OF GOD,
AND ACCEPT THAT
TIRTHRAM YOUR
HUSBAND IS
NO MORE.

AGREE TO ALL YOUR CONDITIONS.



IN JULY, 1900, TIRTHRAM LEFT LAHORE FOR THE HIMALAYAS WITH HIS WIFE, AND A SICK THREE YEAR OLD BABY. HIS SON MADAN MOHAN STOOD IN THE CROWD TO SEE HIM OFF.



I MUST JOIN MY PARENTS.

A LARGE NUMBER OF FRIENDS AND ADMIRERS GATHERED AT THE STATION. SANG IN FAREWELL AN URDU GHAZAL COMPOSED BY HIM.

ADIEU! MY MATHEMATICS, ADIEU!
ADIEU MY RAVI! ADIEU!
FAREWELL MY RELATIVES FAREWELL!
FAREWELL MY CHILDREN FAREWELL!
ADIEU O FRIENDS, ADIEU!

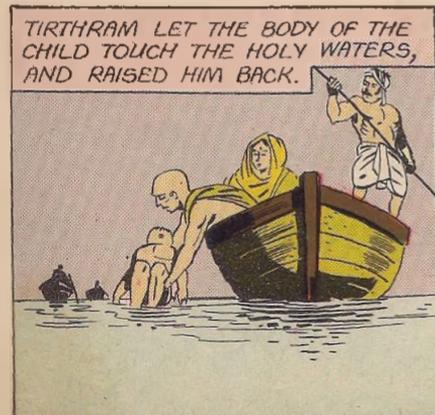
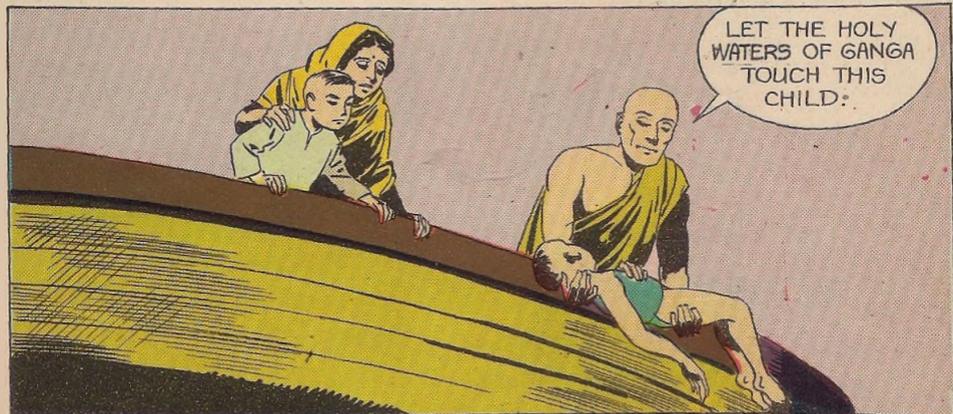


AS THE TRAIN LEFT—



LOOK! MADAN MOHAN IS HERE!

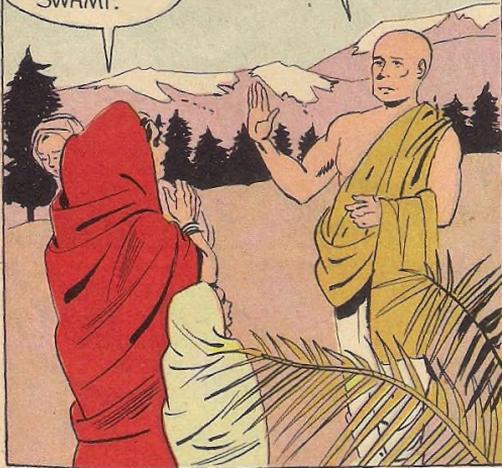
HOW DID YOU COME HERE?



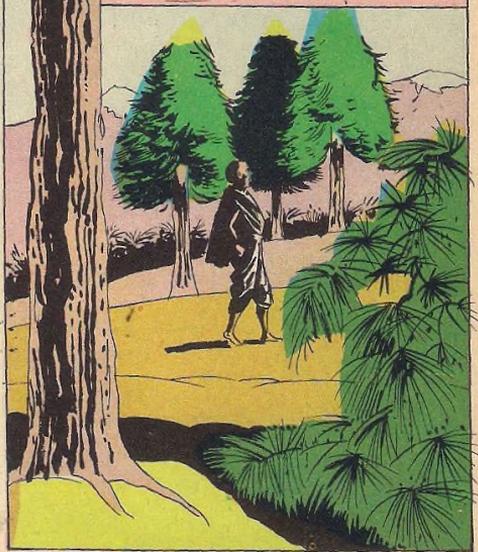
SOMETIME LATER, SINCE TIRTHRAM'S WIFE AND CHILDREN COULDN'T BEAR THE ARDUOUS LIFE IN THE WILDS, HE BADE THEM TURN BACK.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF SWAMI.

OM, OM!



TIRTHRAM LOVED THE MOUNTAINS AND THEIR SOLITUDE. HE LIVED IN THE THICK PINE FORESTS...



...AND OFTEN WALKED THROUGH THE PATHLESS RAVINES AT MIDNIGHT.

HE CLIMBED THE STEEP MOUNTAIN SLOPES EFFORTLESSLY.





ROLL ON YE SUNS
AND STARS ROLL ON,
YE MOTES IN DAZZLING
LIGHT OF LIGHTS, IN
ME, THE SUN OF
SUNS, ROLL ON.

TIRTHRAM SCALED THE GANGETIC GLACIERS
UNDETERRED BY HAIL, SNOW AND
RAGING STORMS.



O MOUNTAINS, BEWARE!
COME NOT IN MY WAY,
YOUR RIBS WILL BE SHATTERED
AND TATTERED TODAY!

TIRTHRAM'S FOLLOWER NARAYAN DAS HAD
ALSO ACCOMPANIED HIM, BUT HE SENT
HIM BACK. TIRTHRAM PROCEEDED TO VISIT
MOUNT SUMERU, ACCOMPANIED BY FIVE
MOUNTAINEERS.



IT WAS A PERILOUS PATH,
AT TIMES, OVER A DEEP ABYSS
ACROSS THE JAMUNA VALLEY...



...THROUGH THE THICK FORESTS...



THE FRAGRANCE OF THE WOODS IS ENCHANTING.

...UNTIL THEY REACHED THE SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAIN.



WE ARE TIRED, SIR.

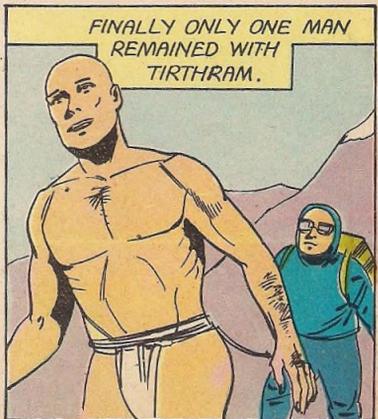
THEY RESTED A WHILE FOR MEALS.



THE PARTY PROCEEDED FURTHER, BUT NOW THE MEN WERE EXHAUSTED.



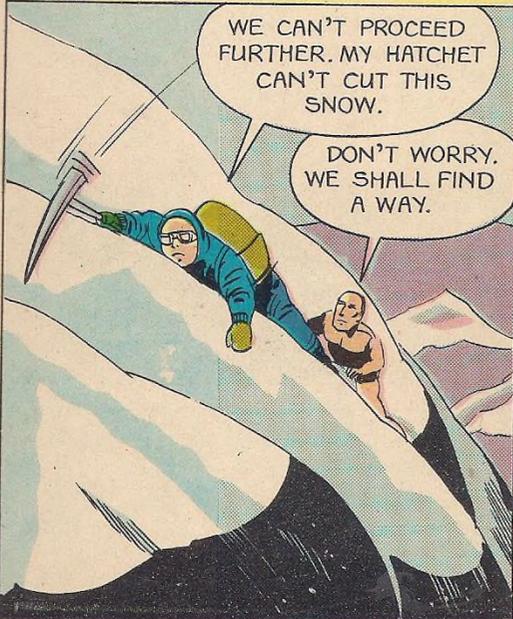
FINALLY ONLY ONE MAN REMAINED WITH TIRTHRAM.



THEY REACHED A SLOPE COVERED WITH HARD, BLUISH SNOW.

WE CAN'T PROCEED FURTHER. MY HATCHET CAN'T CUT THIS SNOW.

DON'T WORRY. WE SHALL FIND A WAY.



AT THAT MOMENT, A SNOW-STORM OVERTOOK THEM.



AFTER SOME TIME —



AHA! THIS IS A BLESSING. WE CAN NOW FIND OUR PATH ON THIS FALLEN SNOW!



THEY CLIMBED ATOP AND REACHED A FLAT EXPANSE OF DAZZLING SNOW.



IS IT NOT AN OCEAN OF RADIANT MILK, SPLENDID, SUBLIME, WONDERFUL?

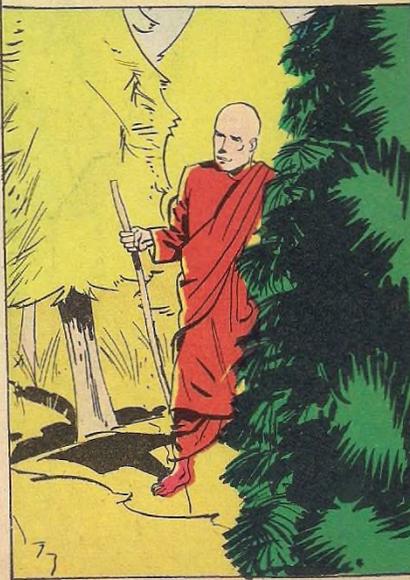
PERFECT SILENCE REIGNS HERE ! WHAT SHAKTI PREVAILS ! MOST BLESSED SERENE SOLITUDE !

THE RAYS OF THE SUN FILTERED THROUGH THE THIN CLOUDS AND TURNED THE SILVER SNOWS INTO BURNING GOLD.



THIS IS SUMERU— THE MOUNTAIN OF GOLD.

TIRTHRAM, ON HIS RETURN FROM THE HIMALAYAS, TURNED A MONK AND WORE SAFFRON ROBES.

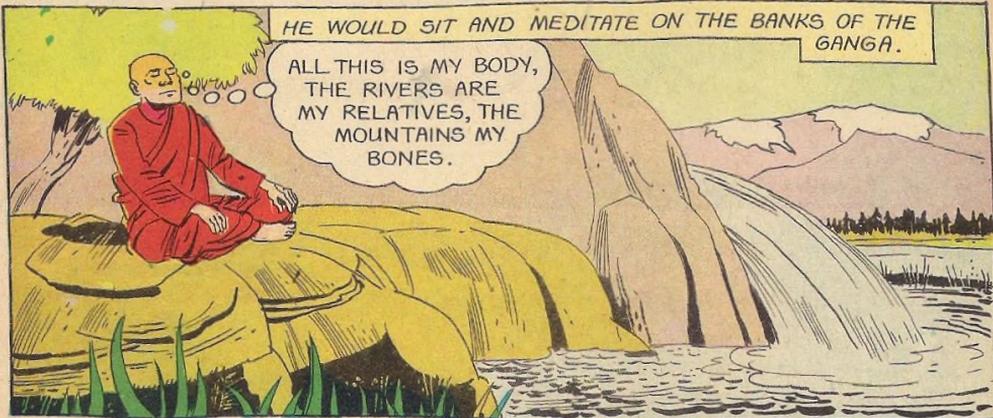


HE CAMPED IN THE REGION OF TEHRI GARHWAL, BREATHING, AS IT WERE, THE WILD UNRESTRAINED JOYS OF VEDANTIC CONSCIOUSNESS.



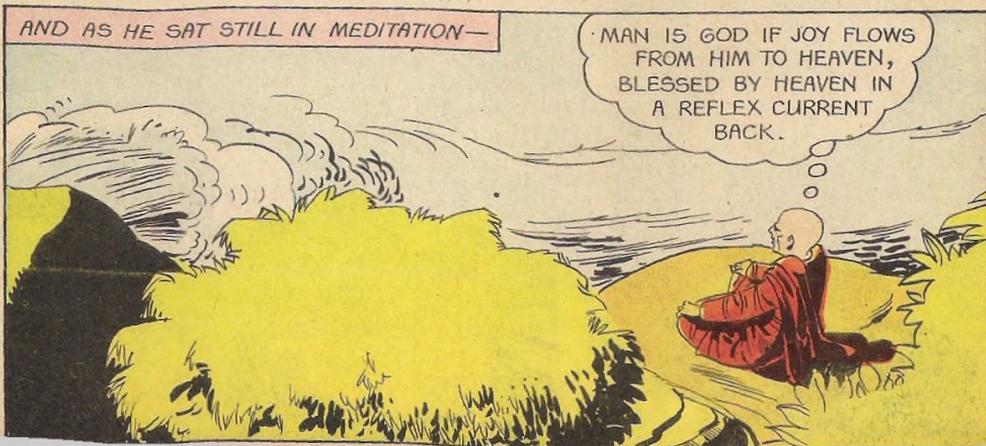
HE WOULD SIT AND MEDITATE ON THE BANKS OF THE GANGA.

ALL THIS IS MY BODY,
THE RIVERS ARE
MY RELATIVES, THE
MOUNTAINS MY
BONES.



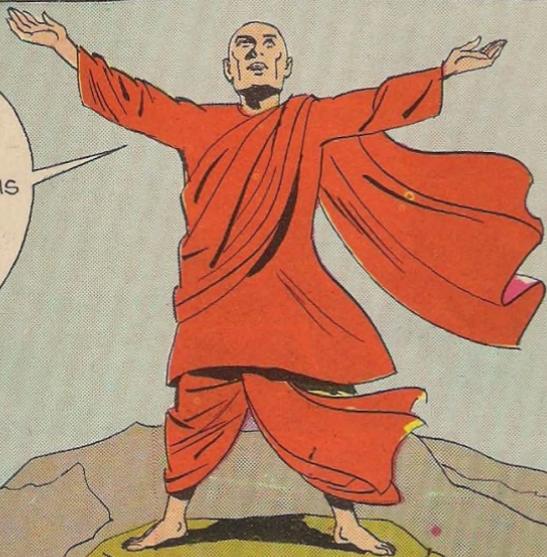
AND AS HE SAT STILL IN MEDITATION—

MAN IS GOD IF JOY FLOWS
FROM HIM TO HEAVEN,
BLESSED BY HEAVEN IN
A REFLEX CURRENT
BACK.



**TIRTHRAM FELT ONE WITH
THE UNIVERSE-**

I AM SHIVA. THE MALABAR AND
COROMANDEL ARE MY TWO LEGS,
THE DESERTS OF RAJPUTANA MY
BREAST, THE VINDHYACHALS ARE
MY LOINS, AND I SPREAD MY ARMS
TO THE WEST AND TO THE EAST.
THE HIMALAYAS ARE MY HEAD AND
FROM MY CURLS SPRINGS
THE PURE GANGA. I AM INDIA.
I AM MAN, I AM BIRD, BEAST,
I AM GOD !

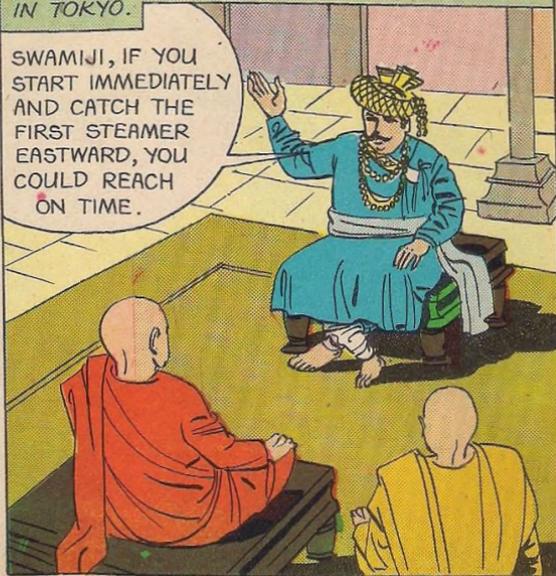


TIRTHRAM THUS CAME TO BE
KNOWN AS SWAMI RAMATIRTHA
BY HIS FRIENDS AND ADMIRERS.
HIS FRIEND NARAYAN DAS, TOO,
TOOK THE ORDER OF SANNYASA
AND WAS CALLED SWAMI
NARAYANA.



ONE DAY IN 1902, THE RAJA OF TEHRI-
GARHWAL PAID HIM A VISIT WITH THE NEWS
OF A PROPOSED PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS
IN TOKYO.

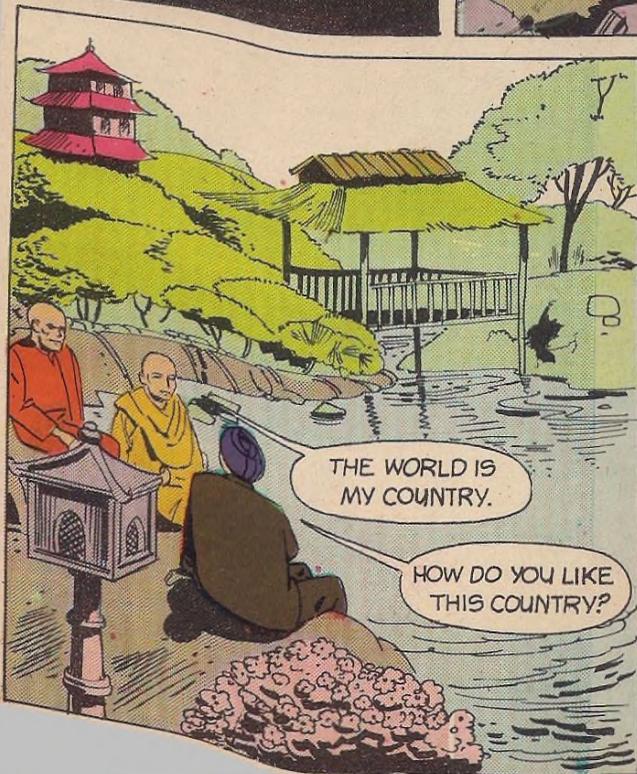
SWAMIJI, IF YOU
START IMMEDIATELY
AND CATCH THE
FIRST STEAMER
EASTWARD, YOU
COULD REACH
ON TIME.



IN A WEEK'S TIME, SWAMI RAMA AND SWAMI NARAYANA FOUND THEMSELVES ON BOARD A SHIP BOUND FOR JAPAN.



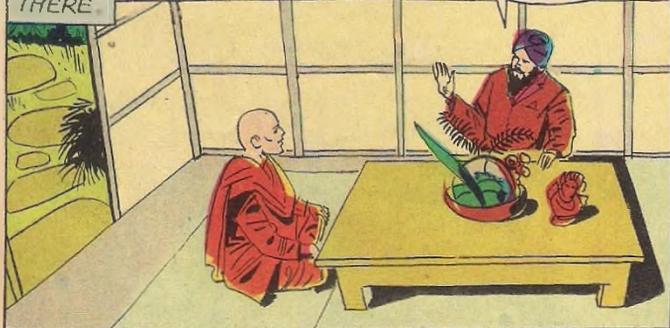
AT TOKYO, THEY ARRIVED AT THE INDO-JAPANESE CLUB, WHERE THE SECRETARY OF THE CLUB, PURAN SINGH RECEIVED THEM.



SWAMI RAMA SPENT MANY HAPPY MOMENTS IN THE COMPANY OF JAPANESE FRIENDS AND INDIANS WHO HAD SETTLED THERE.

SWAMIJI, I AM AFRAID THERE WON'T BE A PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS.

RAMA IN HIMSELF IS A WHOLE PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS. IF TOKYO IS NOT HAVING ONE, LET IT NOT; RAMA WILL HOLD ONE.



SWAMI RAMA AND ALL THE INDIAN STUDENTS, WENT TO SEE THE CIRCUS OF PROFESSOR CHHATRE OF POONA.



THERE SWAMI RAMA MET THE GREAT ORIENTALIST AND SANSKRIT PROFESSOR TAKAKUTSU, OF TOKYO'S IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

OM!
OM!



I HAVE MET MANY PANDITS AND PHILOSOPHERS AT PROFESSOR MAX MULLER'S HOUSE IN ENGLAND, BUT I HAVE NEVER SEEN A PERSONALITY LIKE SWAMI RAMA. IN HIM VEDANTA AND BUDDHISM MEET. HE IS TRUE RELIGION. HE IS A TRUE POET AND PHILOSOPHER.



SWAMI RAMA DELIVERED A LECTURE ON 'THE SECRET OF SUCCESS' AT THE TOKYO COLLEGE OF COMMERCE.

...THE RELIGION THAT RAMA BRINGS TO JAPAN IS VIRTUALLY THE SAME AS WAS BROUGHT CENTURIES AGO BY THE BUDDHA'S FOLLOWERS...



PURAN SINGH TOOK SWAMI RAMA TO THE HOUSE OF BARON NAIBO KANDO.

OM! OM!



THE HOST WENT INTO THE HOUSE AND RETURNED WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN.

SWAMIJI, EXCUSE ME! I COULD NOT HAVE THIS UNUSUAL JOY WITHOUT SHARING IT WITH MY WIFE AND CHILDREN.

SHARE ALL YOU HAVE WITH THE GREAT FAMILY OF HUMANITY!

WHY DID YOU RENOUNCE THE LIFE OF THE FAMILY MAN?

NO RENOUNCING, BROTHER. I MERELY GAVE UP THE LITTLE FAMILY FOR THE SAKE OF THE GREATER, TO SHARE MY JOY OF BEING WITH THE WHOLE WORLD.

SWAMI RAMA LEFT FOR AMERICA IN THE SHIP WHICH PROFESSOR CHHATRE HAD CHARTERED FOR HIS CIRCUS, AND HE DEPUTED SWAMI NARAYANA TO GO TO BURMA.

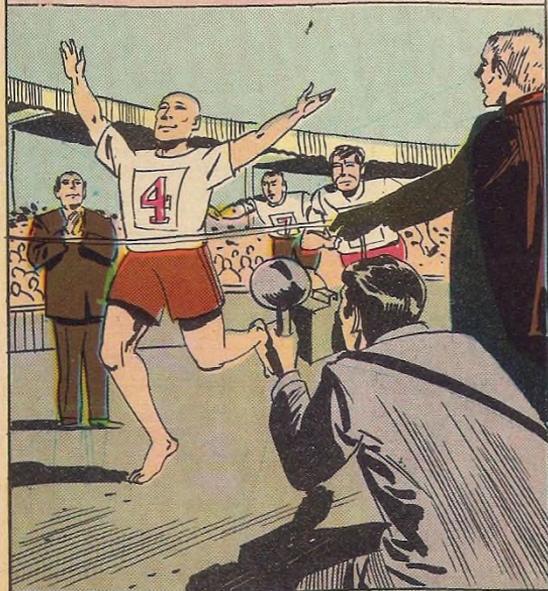
SWAMI RAMA TRAVELLED WIDELY IN THE STATES, DELIVERING LECTURES. AT SHASTA SPRINGS IN CALIFORNIA, HE STAYED AT DR. HILLER'S RANCH, FELLING WOOD FROM THE TREES FOR HIS HOST.



ONE DAY, IN COMPETITION WITH MANY AMERICAN MOUNTAINEERS, SWAMI RAMA CLIMBED THE SHASTA MOUNTAIN (14444 FT.) AND WAS THE FIRST TO REACH THE SUMMIT.



SWAMI RAMA EVEN RAN A MARATHON RACE OF THIRTY MILES FOR THE VERY FUN OF IT AND CAME FIRST!



HE WOULD REST IN A HAMMOCK PUT UP FOR HIMSELF ACROSS THE RAPIDS OF THE SHASTA RIVER.



HE HAD MANY VISITORS. ONE DAY—



I HAVE LOST MY CHILD.
HOW WILL I EVER BE
HAPPY AGAIN?

RAMA SELLS HAPPINESS.
WILL YOU PAY THE PRICE?



YES, SWAMIJI!
ANY PRICE.

IN THE KINGDOM OF HAPPINESS,
THERE IS A VERY DIFFERENT
COINAGE, SISTER.

WHATEVER IT IS
SWAMIJI.



WELL THEN, THIS IS THE PRICE
YOU MUST PAY. TAKE THAT
LITTLE NEGRO BOY AND
LOVE HIM AS YOUR
OWN CHILD.



AH! BUT
THAT IS SO
DIFFICULT.

THEN IT IS ALSO
DIFFICULT TO BE HAPPY.



SWAMI RAMA DELIVERED A GOOD NUMBER OF LECTURES IN THE STATES, AND EARNED WIDE ACCLAIM IN THE AMERICAN PRESS. APART FROM VEDANTA, HE PICKED UP THE CAUSE FOR INDIA'S FREEDOM, AND THE HELPLESSNESS OF ITS MASSES.

NATION AFTER NATION BECAME PROSPEROUS BY FEEDING ON INDIA. AMERICA WAS DISCOVERED BY COLUMBUS WHILE HE WAS IN SEARCH OF THE MOST ANCIENT INDIA... TO THE AMERICANS WHO ABOLISHED SLAVERY, TO SUCH BLESSED AMERICANS IS INDIA LOOKING FOR CO-OPERATION...

PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT PAID A CORDIAL VISIT TO SWAMI RAMA AT SHASTA SPRINGS ON MAY 20, 1903.

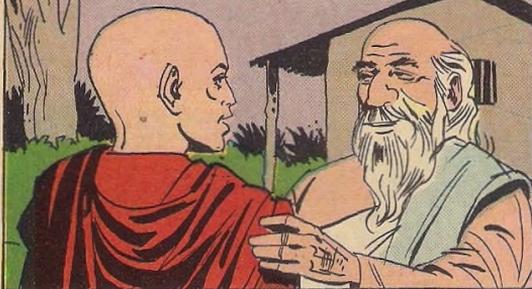
THIS IS THE COPY OF THE 'APPEAL TO THE AMERICANS ON BEHALF OF INDIA'.

I SHALL LOOK INTO IT, SWAMIJI.

SWAMIJI SET SAIL FROM AMERICA.

ADIEU, SWEET RAMA THY RADIANT SMILE IN HADES WOULD BEGUILÉ! WE KNOW TO THEE ALL GOOD MUST BE, FOR THOU ART IN GOD, AND GOD IN THEE.

ON HIS RETURN FROM AMERICA, SWAMI RAMA STAYED AT MATHURA, WITH AN OLD PARSI SWAMI, SHIV GUNA ACHARYA AT SHANTI ASHRAM ON THE BANKS OF THE JAMUNA.



PURAN SINGH, WHO HAD CUT HIS HAIR AND WAS IN INDIA, CAME TO SEE HIM FROM LAHORE. ONE DAY—



SWAMIJI, THOSE TWO MEN ARE COMING TO SEE YOU.

MY COUNTRYMEN! YOU HAVE COME TO FIND RAMA. THE BEST THING IN THE WORLD IS TO FIND RAMA. SEEK HIM, FIND HIM, AND THE WORLD IS AT YOUR FEET.



THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN INDIA HAD SUSPECTED SWAMI RAMA OF SUBVERSIVE PROPAGANDA, AND HAD DESPATCHED TWO MEN FROM THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT.

SWAMIJI!
FORGIVE US SEEING
YOUR FACE WE
ARE VANQUISHED,
WE ARE SINNERS!

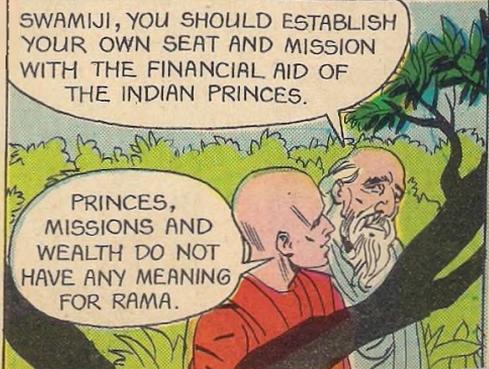
GO IN
PEACE, OM!



ONE DAY SWAMI SHIV GUNA ACHARYA TALKED TO SWAMI RAMA.

SWAMIJI, YOU SHOULD ESTABLISH YOUR OWN SEAT AND MISSION WITH THE FINANCIAL AID OF THE INDIAN PRINCES.

PRINCES,
MISSIONS AND
WEALTH DO NOT
HAVE ANY MEANING
FOR RAMA.



SWAMI RAMA LEFT SHANTI ASHRAM AND MOVED TO THE KISHANGARH STATE HOUSE ON THE BANKS OF PUSHKAR LAKE, WHICH WAS INFESTED WITH ALLIGATORS.



AFTER SOME TIME AT HARDWAR, SWAMI RAMA'S WIFE, HIS STEP-MOTHER AND A YOUNG SON OF SIX YEARS, ARRIVED FROM LAHORE.



SWAMIJI RECEIVED HIS FAMILY WITH HIS USUAL SMILE, AND GAVE THEM A MONK'S SINCERE BENEDICTION.



SWAMI RAMA LISTENED TO HIS YOUNG SON'S RECITATION.



THE FAMILY RETURNED.

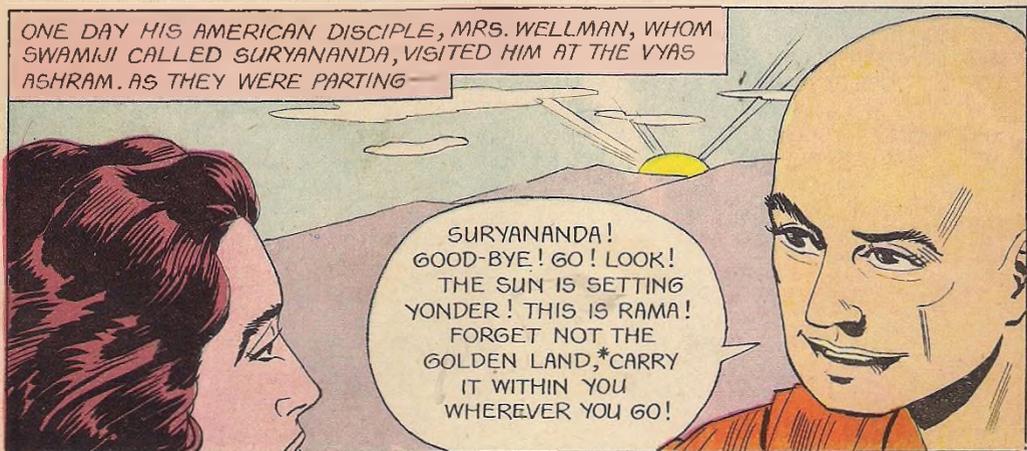


SWAMI RAMA ONCE AGAIN
WITHDREW TO THE SOLITUDES
OF THE HIMALAYAS.



OM! OM!
OM!

ONE DAY HIS AMERICAN DISCIPLE, MRS. WELLMAN, WHOM
SWAMIJI CALLED SURYANANDA, VISITED HIM AT THE VYAS
ASHRAM. AS THEY WERE PARTING



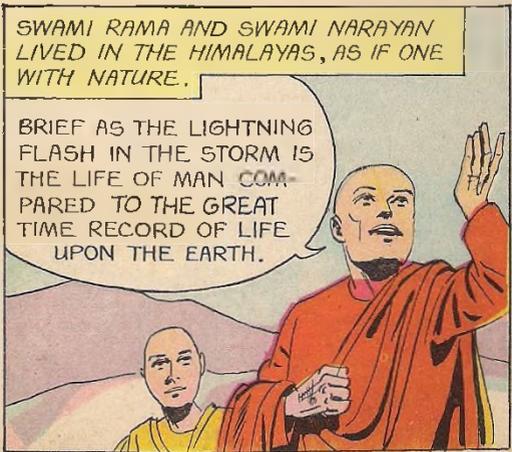
SURYANANDA!
GOOD-BYE! GO! LOOK!
THE SUN IS SETTING
YONDER! THIS IS RAMA!
FORGET NOT THE
GOLDEN LAND,* CARRY
IT WITHIN YOU
WHEREVER YOU GO!

INDIA HAS LOST HIM.
SWAMI RAMA WILL NO
MORE RETURN FROM
THE MOUNTAINS.
IT IS ALL OVER.



SWAMI RAMA AND SWAMI NARAYAN
LIVED IN THE HIMALAYAS, AS IF ONE
WITH NATURE.

BRIEF AS THE LIGHTNING
FLASH IN THE STORM IS
THE LIFE OF MAN COMP-
ARED TO THE GREAT
TIME RECORD OF LIFE
UPON THE EARTH.



* SUMERU MOUNTAIN KNOWN AS BUNDER PUNCH OR MONKEY TAIL.

SWAMI RAMA RETREATED INTO HIMSELF WHILE AT UTTARA KHAND IN THE HIMALAYAS. PURAN SINGH TOOK LEAVE OF HIS MASTER.

PURANJI, WHEREVER YOU GO, LIVE IN THE GOLDEN LAND, IN THE INNER LIGHT. CARRY ON THE WORK RAMA HAS BEGUN, FOR THE TIME HAS COME FOR RAMA TO TAKE THE VOW OF SILENCE.

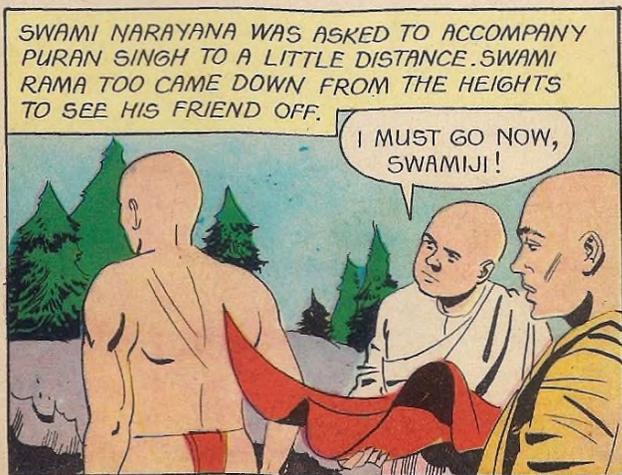
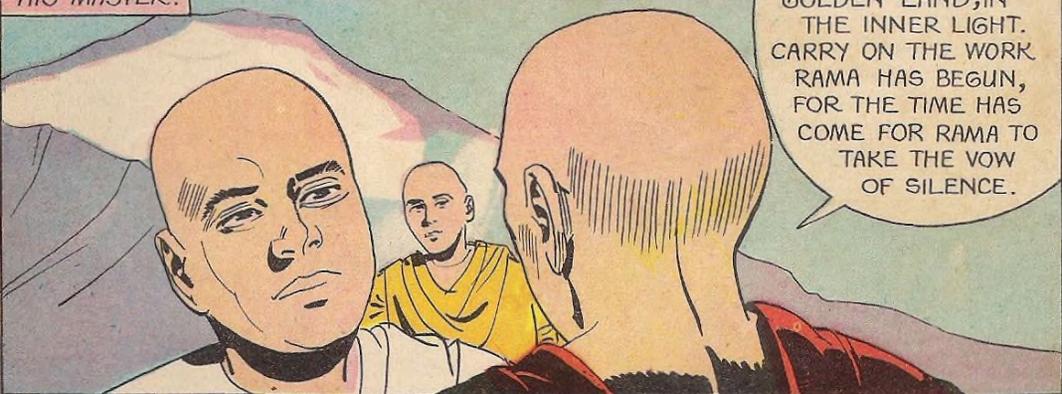
SWAMIJI ! WHEN I COME, I WILL TICKLE YOUR SIDES AND YOU WILL LAUGH AND SPEAK AND I WILL BREAK YOUR VOW OF SILENCE.

WHO CAN MAKE THE SILENT ONE SPEAK AGAIN ?

SWAMI NARAYANA WAS ASKED TO ACCOMPANY PURAN SINGH TO A LITTLE DISTANCE. SWAMI RAMA TOO CAME DOWN FROM THE HEIGHTS TO SEE HIS FRIEND OFF.

I MUST GO NOW, SWAMIJI !

SWAMI RAMA WENT ABRUPTLY BACK TO HIS RETREAT.



A MONTH PASSED AND SWAMI RAMA TREKKED DOWN TO MEET SWAMI NARAYANA.

SWAMI NARAYANA,
PLEASE BUILD
FOR YOURSELF A
HUT BY THE
GANGA.

IT WAS OCTOBER 17, 1906. SWAMI RAMA WENT
OUT WITH HIS COOK BHOLA DATT.

TODAY IS DIWALI,
SWAMIJI!

YES, THE
DAY OF MANY
LIGHTS! COME ALONG,
I WISH TO BATHE
IN THE GANGA.

THE SWIRLING WATERS OF THE
GANGA HELD SWAMI RAMA IN
GREAT FASCINATION.

MY LOVED ONE! UNFOLD THY HEART
TO ME, WAKE, AWAKE!
DOST SEE THE HIMALAYAN SNOWS
THAT GROW AND NEVER TIRE?
THEY CANNOT COOL MY BURNING LOVE
OR QUENCH MY SOUL'S DESIRE.
THEN WAKE, AWAKE!
DOST HEAR THE GANGA RIVER,
ITS SACRED WATERS ROLL?
BUT DEEPER FLOWS FOR EVER
THE PASSION OF MY SOUL.
THEN WAKE, AWAKE!

NOTE :- IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE BODY OF SWAMI RAMA TIRTHA WAS BORNE AWAY BY THE EVER-FLOWING CURRENTS OF THE RIVER, AND HE ATTAINED WHAT ALL HOLY MEN AND SAINTS ASPIRE FOR, THE FINAL AND SUPREME EXPERIENCE OF SAMADHI.

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