


# *Doing Sums for the Teacher*



*Instructive Stories from teachings of  
Srla Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur*

Once a landlord appointed a tutor for his son on a monthly salary of fifteen rupees plus a monthly stipend of another fifteen for his food and clothing as the pupil was very weak in mathematics.

*My son is very weak in maths, so I appoint you as tutor*

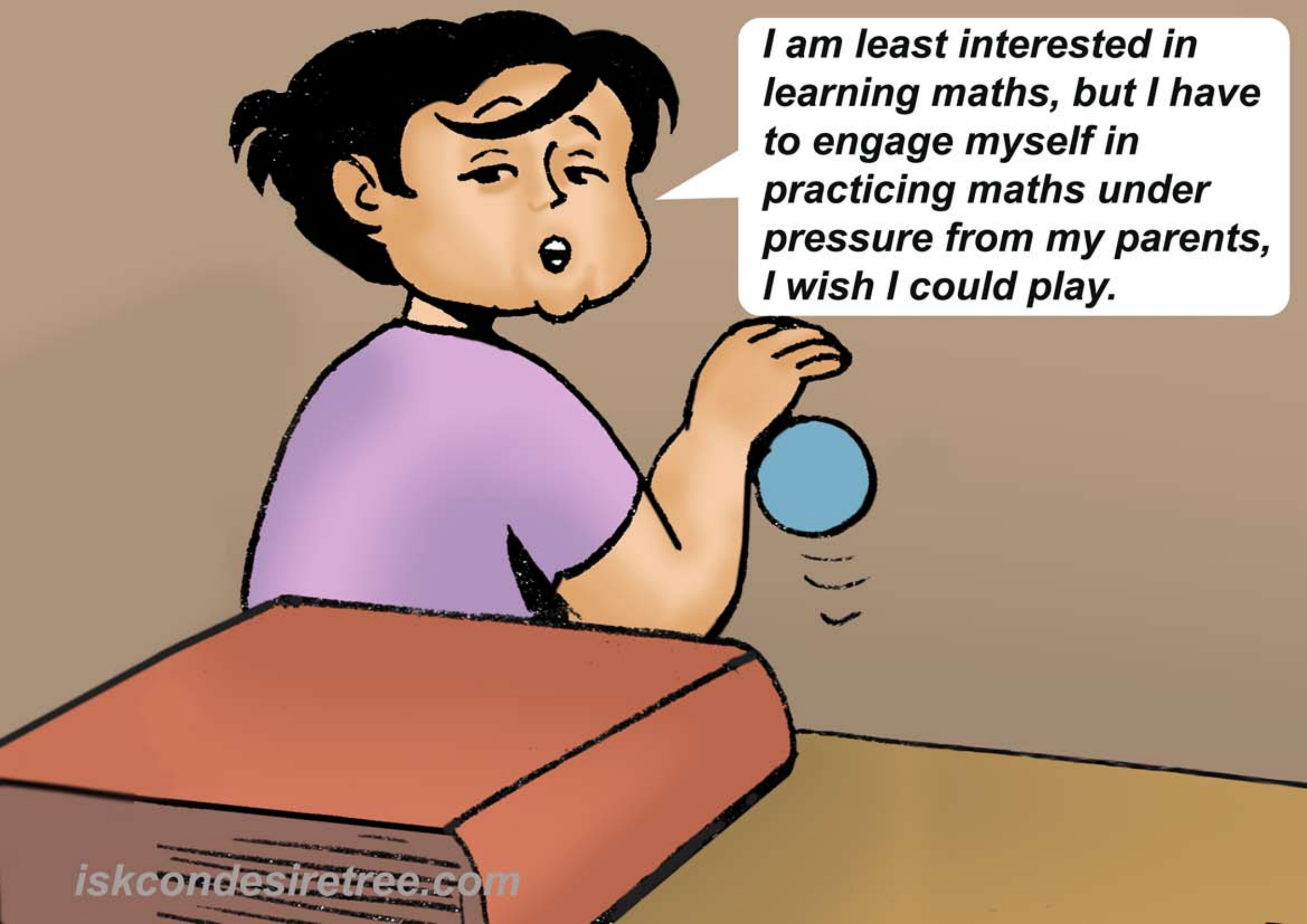


**I will give you  
lots of sums  
you do by  
yourself.**

***Please sir, you  
do the sums  
for me***

***If I do the sums you will never learn the methods. Rather I will demonstrate the basic method of solving sums or at least I can assist you when you get confused. But you'll have to do the sums for your own practice.***





*I am least interested in learning maths, but I have to engage myself in practicing maths under pressure from my parents, I wish I could play.*

He told his friends...

*For me my father has engaged a worthless tutor on a monthly salary of fifteen rupees plus an additional fifteen rupees for his food and his clothing – in all thirty rupees a month! And look, I am still doing so many sums for him everyday.*





***Really I can't tolerate this any more.  
This strains me. Why should one pay  
him any salary when in fact I  
myself have to do all the sums?***



## **Purport :**

**Many of us maintain a similar concept that we renounce our family life, we sacrifice a lot in the service of our spiritual master, some of us collect donations and do a lot of multifarious direct and indirect service for the satisfaction of our spiritual master, but what do we gain?**

**Here we forget that we do such sums for our own benefit alone and by such services, we are ourselves are uplifted, not the spiritual master.**

**The spiritual master knows the sums very well and it is only for our own well-being that he is getting the sums done by us.**

**The spiritual master is engaging us in different services for our own satisfaction and welfare in the path of devotion.**

**Those who are averse to their own benefit, only consider such services to be meant for the welfare of the spiritual master, for the temple complex, for the Vaishnavas, for the Lord, and thus foolishly take little interest in them.**