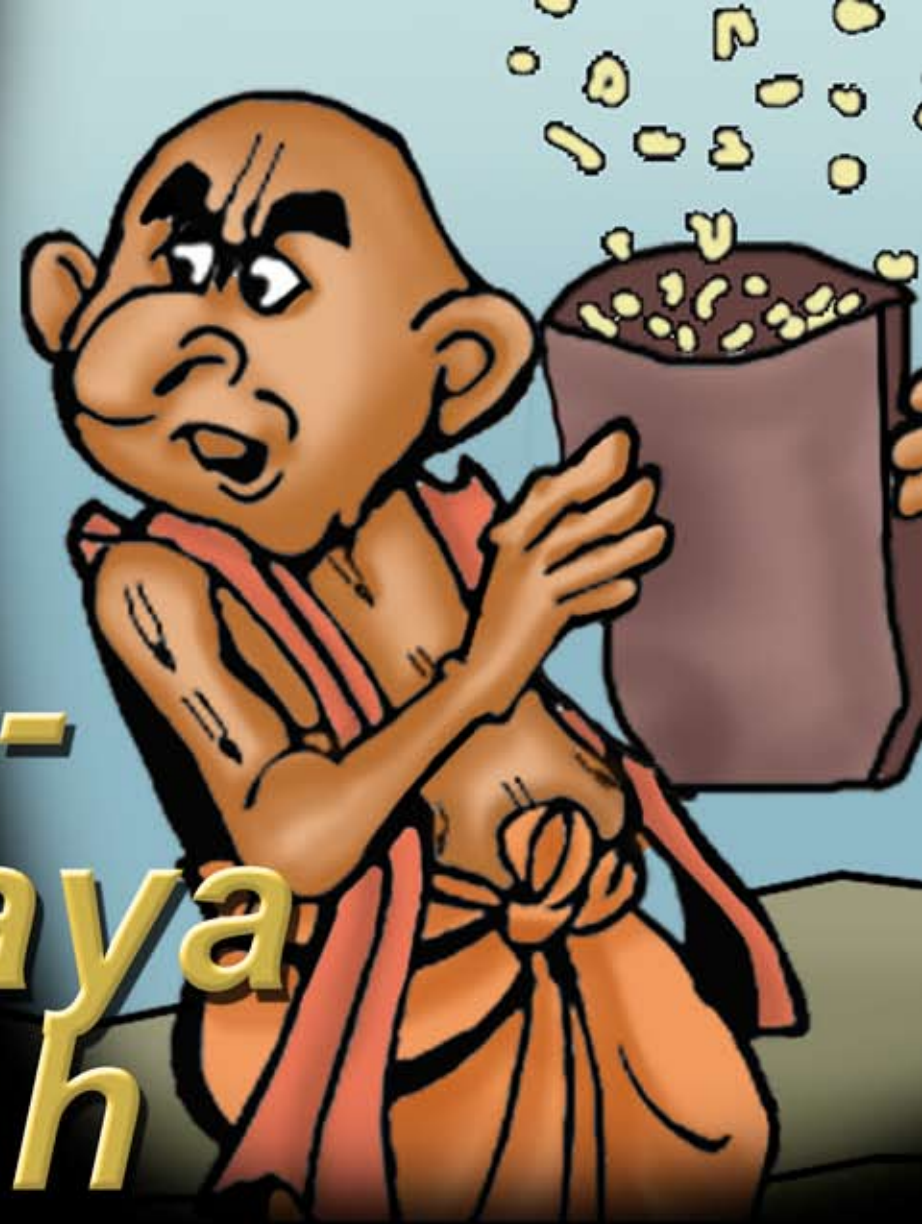
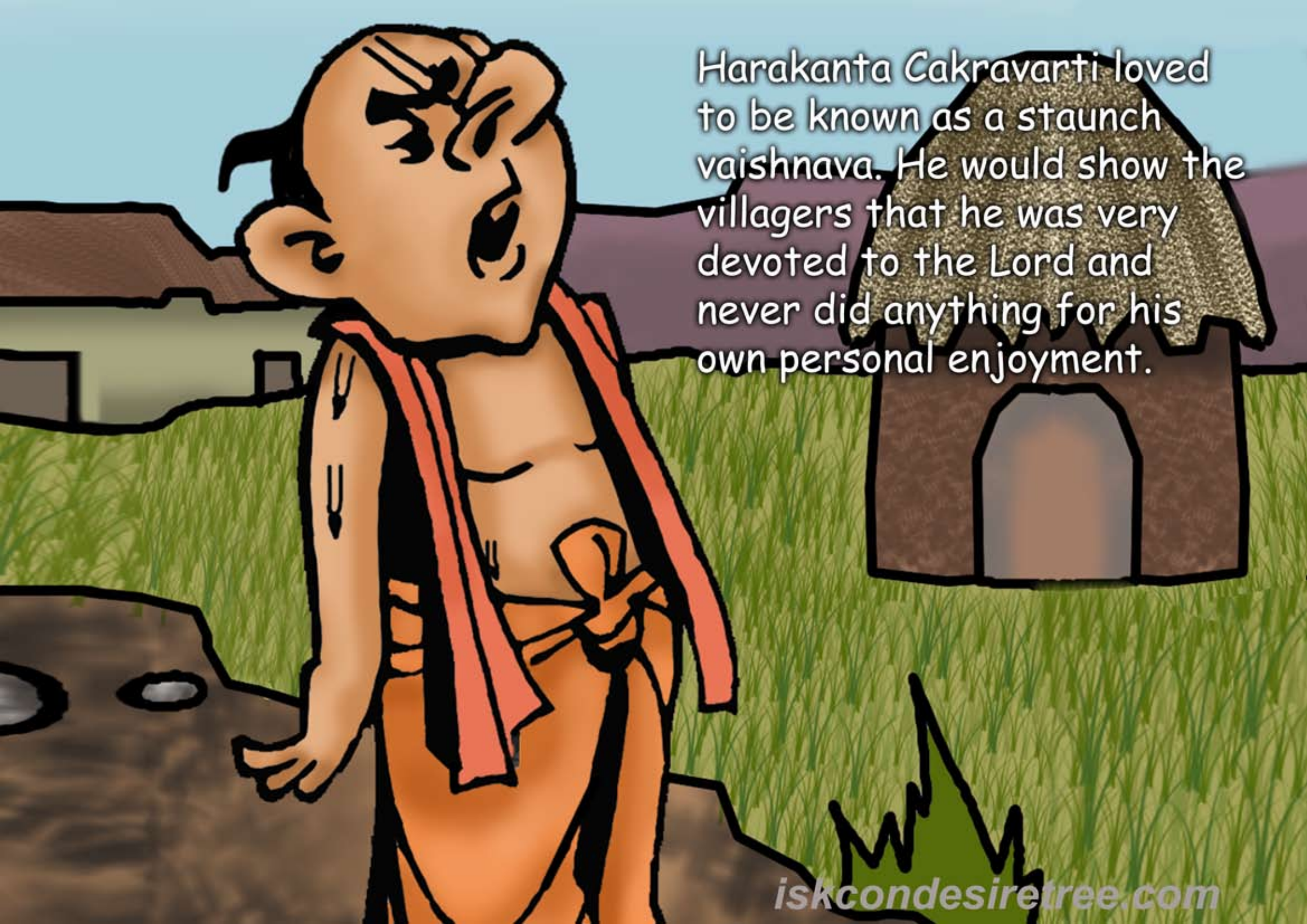


Flying Popcorn - Govindaya Namah



*Instructive Stories from teachings of
Srla Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur*

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A cartoon illustration of a man with a shaved head and a small tuft of hair, wearing orange robes and a red shawl. He has a determined, shouting expression. He is standing in a grassy field with a thatched-roof hut in the background. The scene is set in a village with other buildings visible in the distance.

Harakanta Cakravarti loved to be known as a staunch vaishnava. He would show the villagers that he was very devoted to the Lord and never did anything for his own personal enjoyment.



Prabhu! Today let us enjoy eating popcorn. Please get it from the market.

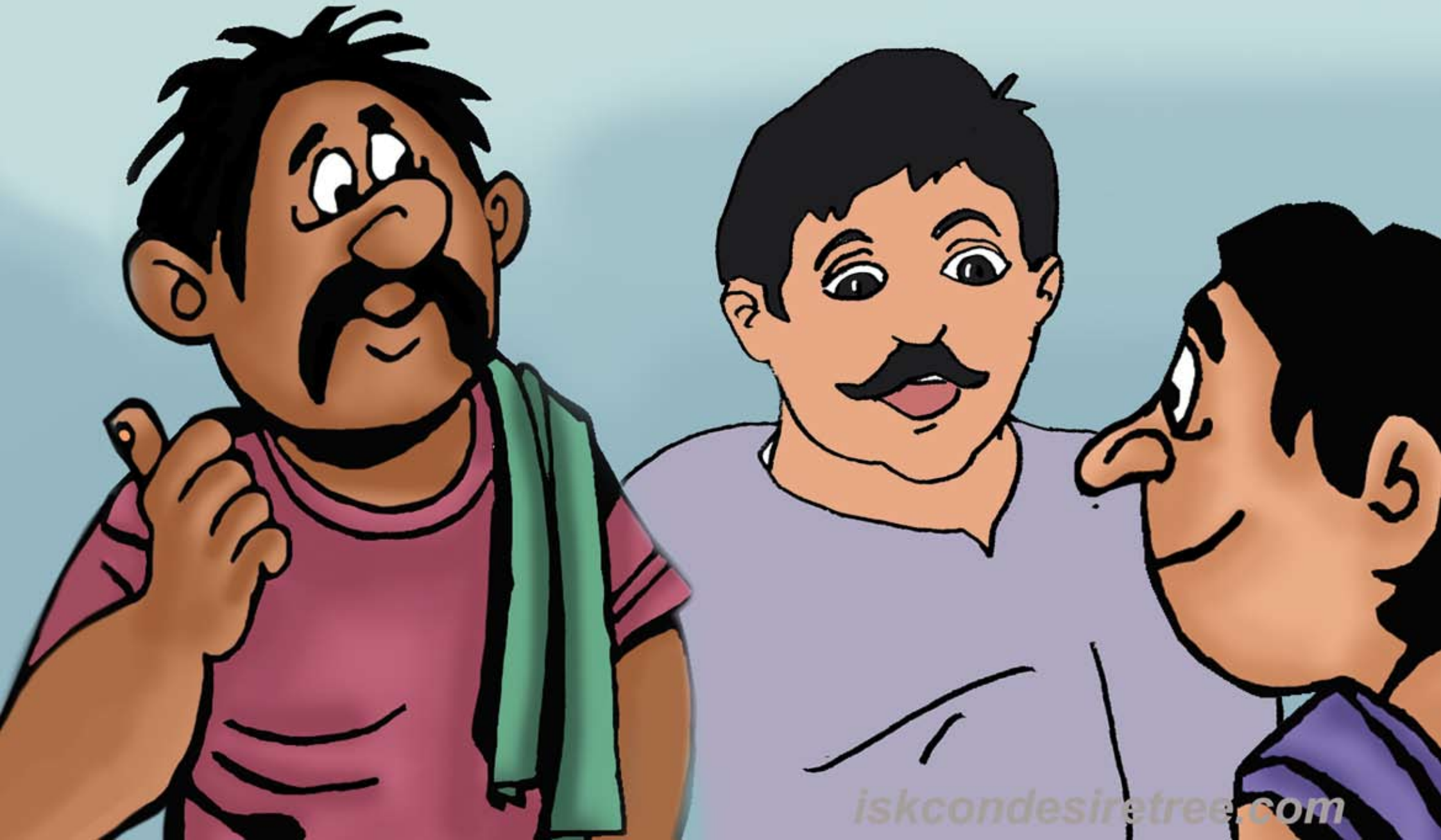
Chakravarti was returning from the market hiding the popcorn under his shawl so that the villagers would not notice that he was taking popcorn for his personal enjoyment.



By chance there was a strong storm and accidentally the shawl moved and the popcorn started blowing out of his paper-bag.



All the villagers were surprised to see Chakravati with popcorn.



Chakravarti was feeling awkward as the villagers saw him with popcorn. Since he did not want the villagers to know that he was taking popcorn for his personal enjoyment he started saying..

Govindaya
namah !

Govindaya
namah !

Govindaya
namah !

Thus the villagers started thinking that he was carrying the popcorn for offering it to the Lord.

How great is Cakravarti Thakur
He never enjoys anything
without offering it to the Lord
first.



In the meantime, Cakravarti's wife asked his son to find the whereabouts of his father

Go and see where father has gone, he is still not returned!

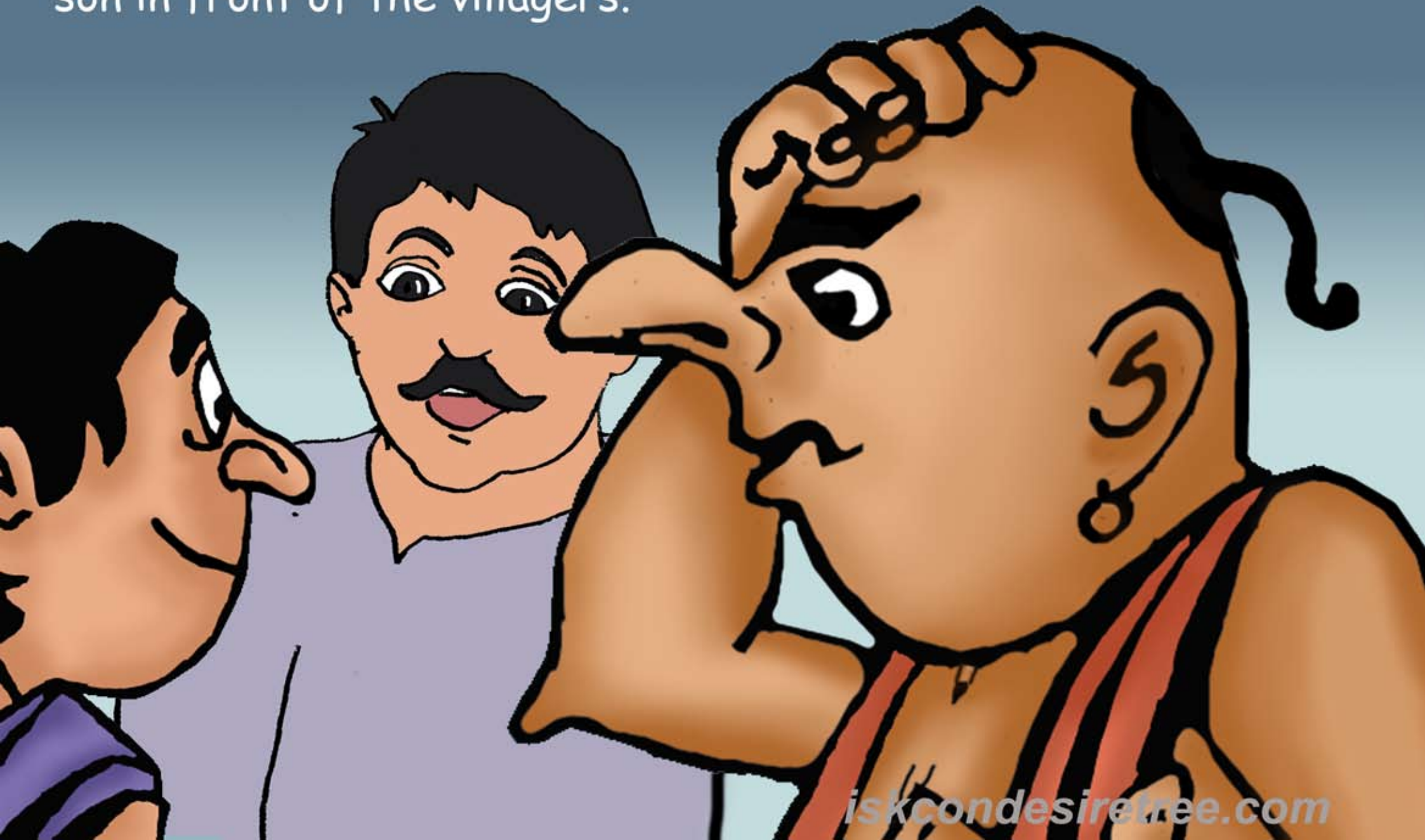


The boy found his father on the way with nearly empty paper bag.

Father! You always finish most of the popcorn alone. Please keep some for me and mother. You always do like that!



Thus Cakravarti was put to shame as the true fact was disclosed by his son in front of the villagers.



PURPORT :

Those who are anxious for their sense gratification but outwardly pretend to be pious for earning name and fame, are just pretending to be pious. In fact, the popcorn was bought for self-satisfaction, but when it could not be enjoyed properly, offering it to the Lord was not real devotional service.

When a materialistic person fails to protect his material gains in spite of all efforts, he may start saying, O Lord, You are the Lord of keeping as well as killing - that is not true surrender.