

THIS STORY from the Puranas is about a powerful king named Chitraketu. The king had no son, which made him very sad. One day a sage by the name of Angira came to him. Angira noticed that something was troubling the king. He asked Chitraketu what the matter was. The king said sorrowfully: Holy one! The thought that I have no heir makes me unhappy. Pray tell me how I can beget a son." The sage replied: "O king, fate has fixed that you will have no son. You should leave yourself to your fate." When the king persisted in having his wish fulfilled, the sage advised him to perform a yagna. But the king's happiness, he warned, would be short-lived.

The yagna was performed and in proper time a son was born to 'the king and his eldest queen. Both were very happy. But the sudden death of the baby-prince ended their happiness.

How did the prince die and why? Who was he? What happened to the king after his son's death? All these questions have been answered in this story.

GAURAY GATHA

a series that educates and inspires

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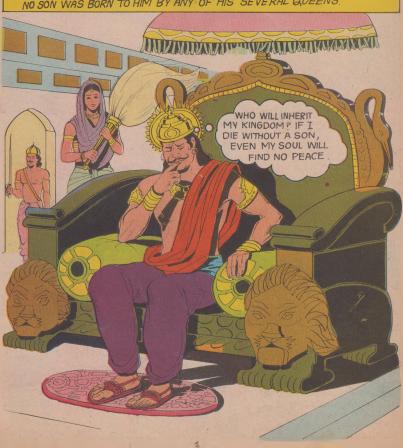
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King Chitraketu ence there lived in india a king by the

NAME OF

CHITRAKETU. HE WAS POWERFUL, JUST AND KIND. THE PEOPLE WERE VERY HAPPY DURING HIS REIGN. KING CHITRAKETU'S HEART WAS, HOWEVER, FULL OF SORROW BECAUSE NO SON WAS BORN TO HIM BY ANY OF HIS SEVERAL QUEENS



AS TIME PASSED, KING CHITRAKETU'S WORRY INCREASED. HE WAS IN A SAD PLIGHT.



YOU ARE A GREAT KING. YOU HAVE EVERYTHING. LET ME KNOW WHAT MAKES YOU SAD.



WHAT YOU SAY IS CORRECT, MAHARAJ. I POSSESS ALL POWER AND WEALTH, BUT WITHOUT A SON EVERYTHING IS MEANINGLESS. ONE DAY SAGE ANGIRA VISITED HIM. THE KING GAVE HIM A WARM WELCOME.

AM EXTREMELY
HAPPY TO SEE YOU.
I AM FORTUNATE IN
HAVING YOUR
PRESENCE
HERE.

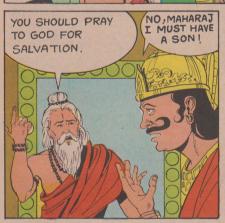
BUT, O KING, YOU
HAVE A SAD LOOK
ON YOUR
FACE!

THE SAGE STOOD THINKING. KING CHITRAKETU BEGGED HIM-

MAHARAJ, TELL ME HOW I CAN BEGET A SON .



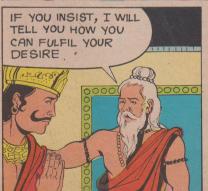






ONCE I AM

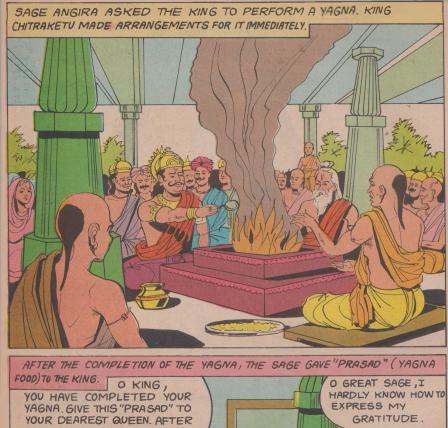
BLESSED WITH





BUT YOU WILL REMAIN

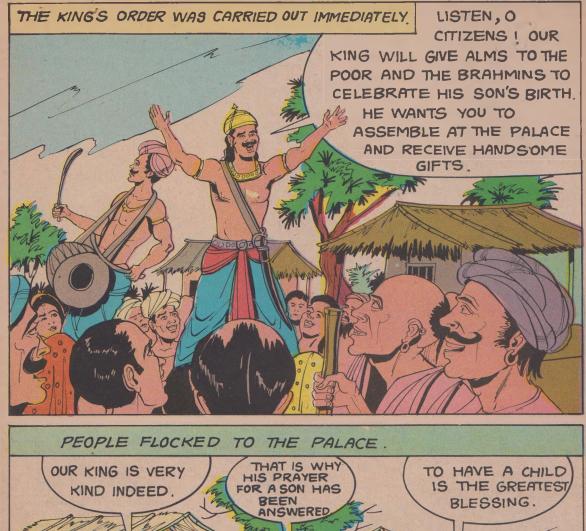
HAPPY ONLY FOR A SHORT

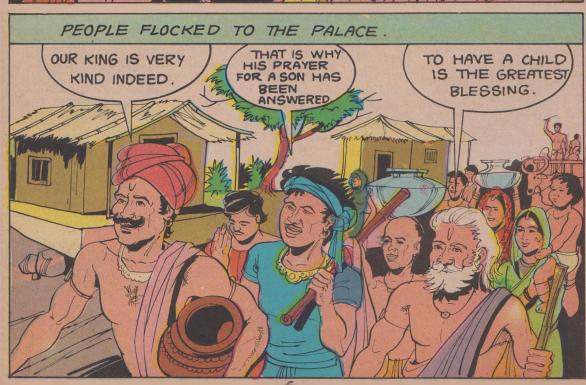


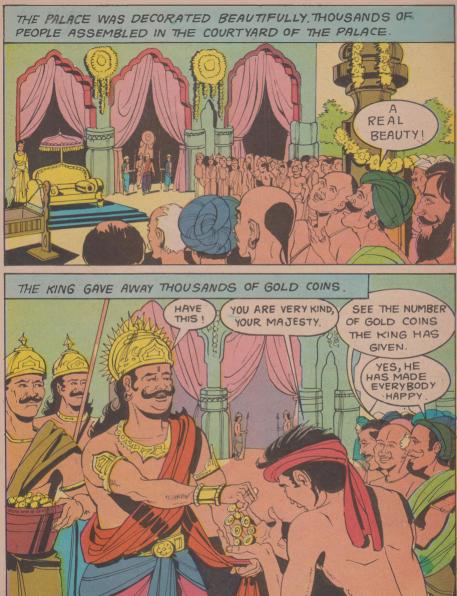














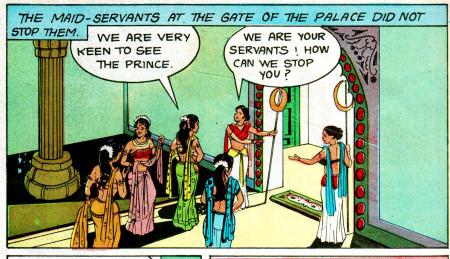






































QUEEN KRITDEWTI THOUGHT THE PRINCE HAD FALLEN ASLEEP.



NO SOONER DID SALMA PICK UP THE CHILD THAN HIS HEAD ROLLED DOWN ON ONE SIDE ;







ON HIS RETURN, KING CHITRAKETU FOUND HIS WIFE CLINGING TO THE CHILD AND WAILING. HE EXCLAIMED—

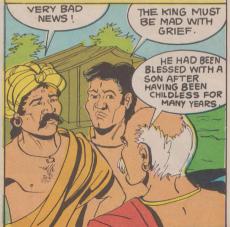




THE KING BROKE DOWN AND WEPT. HE WAS SUNK IN SORROW,



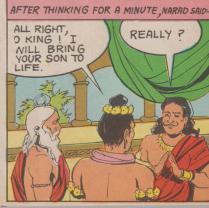
THE PEOPLE IN THE CITY WERE SHOCKED TO HEAR OF THE TRAGEDY

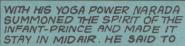






















KING CHITRAKETU'S WIVES, WHO





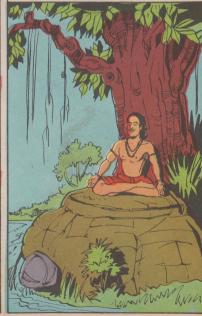




THE KING LEFT HIS KINGDOM FORTHWITH, AND SET OUT FOR THE FOREST.



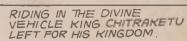
AND AT A FAR-OFF PLACE ON THE BANK OF A RIVER AND UNDER A TREE, HE STARTED RECITING THE 'MANTRA' TOLD BY SAGE NARADA.







VEHICLE TO THE KING, GOD VISHNU DISAPPEARED.

















KING CHITRAKETU IS BORN AS A DEMON

ONCE INDRA SAID TO VISHVARUPA ----

BY YOUR GRACE! PLEASE DO IT. I WANT TO NOTHING WILL PERFORM A OBSTRUCT YOUR YAGNA. YAGNA MY GOOD WISHES ARE WITH YOU.

AFTER SECURING PERMISSION FROM VISHVARUPA, INDRA BEGAN PREPARATIONS FOR THE YAGNA









VISHVARUPA WAS DOING

INDRA WAS SO ANGRY THAT HE CUT OFF ALL THE THREE HEADS OF VISHVARUPA





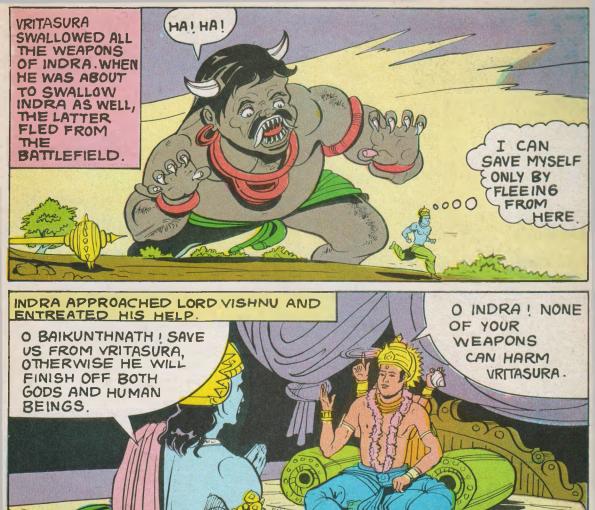


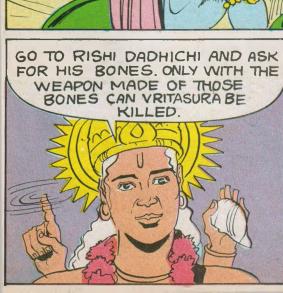




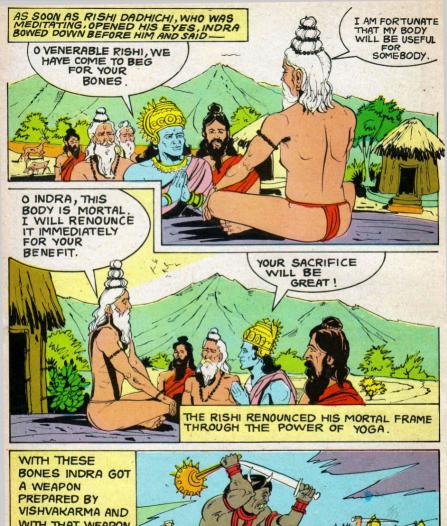












WITH THAT WEAPON AGAIN FOUGHT AGAINST VRITASURA.

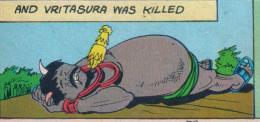












DEMON IN THIS LIFE BECAUSE HE WAS CURSED BY PARVATI. BUT HIS SOUL FOUND PEACE IN HEAVEN BECAUSE OF HIS GOOD DEEDS IN HIS PREVIOUS LIFE.

CHITRAKETU BECAME A

GAURAU GATHA

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