

2. The Bodhisattva

Month: June

I. Answer the following questions with reference to the context (ERC)

1. The prince embarked on his journey and received valuable education from the renowned teacher. As a parting gift, the teacher bestowed upon him the five weapons.

2. What gift did the prince receive from his teacher?

3. The prince received the five weapons as a parting gift from his teacher.

List any two of the five weapons.

The sword and the spear.

Why did the prince need to receive the valuable education?

He needed to receive the valuable education to gain knowledge and wisdom for his journey.

If you persist in such wickedness, you shall only journey deeper into darkness.

(a) Who says these words and to whom?

Ans: The speaker of the line is the Bodhisattva and he says this to the Demon with the Matted Hair.

(b) What does the speaker do next?

Ans: After saying this, the Bodhisattva proceeds to enlighten the Demon about the disadvantages of wickedness and the benefits of virtues.

(c) What kind of wicked activities are being referred to by the speaker?

Ans: The speaker is referring to the wicked activities committed by the Demon in the past lives.

3 Look at this lion of a man! A truly noble and exceptional being! Despite being caught by a demon like me, he remains completely fearless

a) Who is the man referred to in the above lines?
A: The man referred to here is the Bodhisattva.

b) Name the fearless deed of the man.

A: One fearless deed of the Bodhisattva is when he fearlessly presses forward into the forest inhabited by the Demon despite being warned by others.

- c Give one instance from the story that shows that this man is noble.
- d: An instance from the story that shows the Bodhisattva's nobility is when he establishes the Demon in the practice of virtues and guides him to worship the deity revered in that forest, instead of seeking revenge or harm.

II Answer the following questions

1. Where did the king send the prince to receive education?
- Ans: To receive education, the king sent the prince to an esteemed teacher in the renowned city of Takkasila in the kingdom of Candahar.
2. How did the Demon react when he first met the Bodhisattva? Why did the Demon's opinion about the Bodhisattva change later on?
3. When the Demon first met the Bodhisattva, he intended to make him his next meal. However, later on, the Demon's opinion changed because he was amazed at the Bodhisattva's fearlessness and noble qualities despite being caught by him.

Q3 Why did the Demon free the Bodhisattva?

A: The Demon freed the Bodhisattva because he realized that even a small morsel of the Bodhisattva's flesh would be too difficult for him to digest, as the Bodhisattva possessed a powerful thunderbolt within him that would destroy the Demon if consumed.

Q4 What lesson did the Bodhisattva teach the Demon?

A: The Bodhisattva taught the Demon about the disadvantages of wickedness and the benefits of virtues. He instilled fear in the Demon and engaged him in discussions until the Demon renounced his wicked ways and embraced virtuous practices.

Q5 What kind of a king did the prince later become?

A: The prince later became a righteous king who governed with justice. He generously gave alms and performed virtuous deeds throughout his reign.

III Answer in Detail.

Q1: Describe the appearance of the Demon.

A: The Demon had a towering form like a palm tree, with a head resembling a pagoda.

and wide eyes like saucers. His body was covered in thick long hair and he had a hawk-like face. With yellow hands and feet, the Demon looked scary.

3. How much Land Does a Man Need?

— Count Lev Nikolayevich Tokstoy.

I. Answer the following questions with reference to the context (ERC)

1. We may live roughly, but at least we are free from anxiety. You live in better style than we do but though you often earn more than you need, you are very likely to lose all you have. You know the proverb, "Loss and gain are brothers twain".
 - a. Who does 'we' refer to in the above lines?
 - b. 'He' refers to Pahom, his wife and their children.
2. What does the proverb 'Loss and gain are brothers twain' mean?
 - a. It means that life is so uncertain. A person doesn't know what will happen the next day. If one is successful, it might not last long. One who has all the wealth might lose it the next moment.
3. There is an outsider listening to this conversation. Can you identify that person?
 - a. Pahom had is the outsider listening to the conversation.

2 So Pahom quarrelled with the judges and with his neighbours. Threats to burn his building began to be uttered. So, though Pahom had more land, his place in the Commune was much worse than before.

a. Why did Pahom have to go to the judges?

A: Pahom had to go to the judges to settle a boundary dispute regarding land ownership.

b. Why did Pahom quarrel with the judges?

A: Pahom quarrelled with the judges because he felt they favoured his neighbour in the boundary dispute.

c. What does he decide to do after the quarrel?

A: After the quarrel, Pahom decides to sell his land and move away from the Commune.

3 'There is more land there than you could cover if you walked a year, and it all belongs to the Bashkirs. They are

as simple as sheep, and land can be acquired almost for nothing.

1. Who is the speaker in the above lines?

1. The speaker is a peasant discussing the availability of land, owned by the Bashkirs with Pahom.

2. How much money was expected per day by the Bashkirs?

2. The expected amount of money per day by the Bashkirs was one thousand roubles.

3. The speaker says, 'They are as simple as sheep.' After reading the story, do you agree?

3. After reading the story, it becomes clear that the speaker's statement was meant sarcastically, as the Bashkirs outsmarted Pahom and caused his downfall.

4. Answer the following questions

1. List the differences in city life and rural life as discussed by the two sisters.

Q1. Differences in city life and rural life discussed by the two sisters include living conditions, anxiety levels, financial stability and the proverb 'Loss and gain are brothers twins'.

Q2. What is the theme of 'How much Land Does a Man Need?' by Leo Tolstoy?

A: The theme of 'How Much Land Does a Man Need?' by Leo Tolstoy is the destructive nature of human greed and the pursuit of material possessions.

Q3. What all does Pahom need to do to buy twenty acres of land?

A: Pahom sold a colt and one half of their bees; hired out one of their sons as a labourer and took his wages in advance; borrowed the rest from a brother-in-law and so scraped together half the purchase money.

Q4. What is the main fault that you see in Pahom?

Q: The main fault seen in Pahom is his insatiable greed and desire for more land.

Q: How did Pahom's greed lead to his downfall?
A: Pahom's greed leads to his downfall as he becomes consumed by the desire for land and ultimately loses his life in the pursuit of acquiring more.

Answer in Detail

Q: What are some of the risks Pahom takes throughout the story?

A: 1. Pahom sold a colt and one half of their bees; hired out one of their sons as a labourer.

2. He fought with the judges and there were threats that his house would be burnt down.

3. He shifted his family to a commune.

4. He risked and eventually lost his life while trying to grab more than required land.