

The Greatest Teacher 7

Act Out

One day a tourist from Germany came to the Galagama temple to meet the Chief Monk. He was a university student. He was Mr. Rolland. He had been collecting information on Buddhism for a research.

Mr. Rolland : Good morning, Venerable Sir.

Chief Monk : Good morning to you! May I know who you are?

Mr. Rolland : I'm Rolland from Germany, Venerable Sir.

Chief Monk : You look tired. Would you like to have a cup of tea?

Mr. Rolland : Yes, thank you, Venerable Sir.

Chief Monk : Mr. Rolland, what brings you here? Can I help you?

Mr. Rolland : Venerable Sir, I am a university student from Germany. For my Masters degree I am doing a research on Theravada Buddhism. Therefore I've been collecting information on this topic and I also like to study Buddhist philosophy.

Activity 01 - Reading

Complete the following sentences choosing the correct words from the box.

give, selected, help, collecting, return, like, get, brings, have

1. Would you like to _____ a cup of tea ?
2. Then Mr.Rolland, what _____ you here ?
3. For my Masters degree I have _____ Theravada Buddhism.
4. Therefore I have been _____ information.
5. I 'll _____ you some books.
6. When should I _____ these books ?
7. They will help you to _____ what you want.

Flamboyant Truth

Buddhism has awoken considerable interest in the western countries. There are many scholars who enjoy the reality of Dhamma. They believe that the doctrine of the Buddha may help man to clear his mind. In this context, many psychologists believe that meditation is the most suitable way to calm the mind. Having understood the purity of Theravada Buddhism, today many scholars as well as millionaires have become Buddhist monks.

By reading a booklet written on "The debate of Panadura" (*Panadurawadaya*) which was held in 1873 at Panadura, Sir Henry Steel Olcott became a Buddhist. He also rendered a great service to Buddhasasana in Sri Lanka. "The Buddhist Catechism" is a well-known book written by Henry Steel Olcott. The prominent modern scientist Sir. Arthur C. Clarke has predicted in his treatise "The Deep Sea" that Buddhism will be the only religion that remains in the world by 2050. Therefore certainly we can be proud of our small island where Theravada Buddhism remains safely.



Activity 02 - Speaking and Reading

Answer the following questions orally and then write your answers in your exercise book.

- 1 . Who enjoys the reality of Dhamma ?
- 2 . How does the Dhamma help man ?
3. Who did a great service to Buddhasasana?
4. Who is Sir Arthur C.Clarke?
5. What is the name of the book he wrote?

Activity 03 - Reading

Fill in the blanks with the words given below.

1. There are many _____ who enjoy the reality of Dhamma.
2. Many _____ believe that meditation is the most suitable way to calm the mind.
3. Having understood the _____ of Theravada Buddhism, many scholars and _____ have become Buddhist monks.
4. Therefore certainly we can be _____ our small _____ .

purity	proud of	scholars	millionaires	island	psychologists	purity
			proud of	scholars		

Activity 04

Match the groups of words in A and B to make meaningful sentences.

A

1. Buddhism will be the
2. The doctrine of the Buddha
3. Many psychologists

B

- * may help man to clear his mind.
- * believe that meditation is the most suitable way to calm the mind.
- * only religion that remains in the world by 2050

The Bullet Proof Coat

One day a man came to meet Walawwe Hamu. His name was Martin. He was known to Hamu. Carrying a parcel under his arm, he came to the courtyard of the Walawwa. Then he respectfully called to Walawwe Hamu.

Man :- Hamu.... Hamu....

Hamu :- Oh , Martin! I haven't seen you for a long time. How are you?

Man :- I am fine, thank you Hamu. Today I came to meet you for a very urgent matter. There is something I want to talk to you about.

Hamu :- Urgent matter! What is it Martin?

Man :- Hamu, I have a valuable bullet proof coat. I inherited it from my ancestors. As we are poor people, such a valuable thing is useless to us. So I thought I'd give it to you and get something in return.

Hamu :- Very good, very good, because I have been looking for such a thing for my protection.

You are a good man. I'll pay you well. Now we'll check it.
Martin you put on the coat, I'll bring the gun.

(Hamu goes inside, after a short while he comes out with a gun.)

Hamu :- Where is the man? (looks here and there)
(He sees the man running through the coconut grove.)
Ah! He is running Hey !
Hey! Stop stop!

Activity 05

A. Answer the questions orally, then write them in your book.

1. What was the name of the man who came to Walawwa?
2. Where was the parcel?
3. What did he bring ?
4. Did Hamu chase away the man ?
5. What did Hamu ask the man to do?
6. Did Hamu bring the gun?
7. Was the man in the compound when Hamu came out?

Activity 06

Write the meaning against each word / phrase selecting words from the box.

nice , wear , speak , person , defence , arrived , compound , precious , forefathers, bundle

1. man
2. came
3. courtyard
4. parcel
5. talk
6. valuable

7. good
8. ancestors
9. put on
10. protection

Activity 07

Make sentences using the following table.

One day a man	tell	to meet Walawwe Hamu
He was	give	the coat
He respectfully	came	to Walawwe Hamu
There is something to	put on	you
I brought it to	known	to Walawwe Hamu
Martin, you	called	you and get something in return

The Farsighted Leader

A fleet of bullock carts loaded with merchandise was slowly crossing a desert. Day was about to break. The rays of the morning sun were slightly visible at the far end of the eastern sky. The merchants as well as the bulls were exhausted alike after a whole night's walk. But unfortunately an unexpected incident happened. They had come back to the very same place where they had spent the previous day. As the front charioteer had fallen asleep, the bulls had no one to guide them. So, they returned to the same place after wandering in circles. The problem they faced now was lack of water. They did not have even a small pail of water.

Having understood the gravity of the problem, the leader of the merchants began to think of a way to overcome it. Despite the tiredness and the bad weather, he began to walk here and there in the desert. He looked around. Suddenly his eyes fell on a bush of panic grass. He knew that where there was bush of panic grass there was bound to be water in the surrounding area. After digging around the place, he found a slate of granite. He heard the sound of flowing water under the slate. He took a sledge hammer and broke the slate. As soon as he broke the slate, water sprang out of the hole. In this manner, as a far-sighted leader, he was able to save the lives of his men and the bulls.

Extracted from *Apannaka Jathakaya*



Activity 08

Answer the following questions.

1. Where was the fleet of bullock carts?
2. Where were the rays of morning sun?
3. What happened to the front charioteer?
4. Did they have enough water?
5. What did the leader of the merchants see?
6. What did he see after digging the hole ?

Learning Point

Complex Sentences

Complex sentences are made of two clauses.

1. Main clause
2. Subordinate clause

e.g. ;

Monks accepted the alms



main clause

which were offered by the devotees.



subordinate clause

Activity 09

Separate the subordinate clause and the main clause of the following.

1. They had come back to the very same place where they had spent the previous day.
2. As the front charioteer had fallen asleep, the bulls returned to the same place after wandering in circles.
3. When he understood the gravity of the problem, the leader of the merchant began to think of a way to overcome it.
4. As soon as he broke the slate, water sprang out of the hole.
5. Although he was tired, he began to walk here and there in the desert.
6. After he dug around the place, he found a slate of granite.

Activity 10 - Grammar

Write the story in your own words. You may use the following sequencing words.

(first , then ,after that, next, finally, second)

Activity 11 - Vocabulary

Refer to a dictionary and find the meaning of the following words.

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. un loaded | 6. good |
| 2. western | 7. shortsighted |
| 3. fast | 8. evening |
| 4. near | 9. fortunately |
| 5. invisible | 10. before |