

A wise old owl

There was an old owl that lived in an oak. Everyday he saw incidents happening around him. Yesterday he saw a boy helping an old man to carry a heavy basket. Today he saw a girl shouting at her mother. The more he saw the less he spoke.

As he spoke less, he heard more. He heard people talking and telling stories. He heard a woman saying that an elephant jumped over a fence. He also heard a man saying that he had never made a mistake.

The old owl had seen and heard about what happened to people. Some became better and some became worse. But the old owl had become wiser each and every day.

Moral of the story :

You should be observant, talk less but listen more. This will make you a wise person.

Baa baa black sheep

There lived a black sheep in a nearby village. Every spring, he shaved his black wool and sold it to the villagers. The villagers made sweaters and socks from his black wool.

One day, the black sheep noticed that he had some more wool left. He thought, 'It would be such a waste if nobody wants to buy the wool.'

That afternoon, an old man came over to his wooden shed to see him. He wanted one bag full of the black sheep's wool. Then an old woman came over. She also wanted a bag full of wool. A short while later, a little boy arrived. He also wanted one bag full of wool.

Therefore, the black sheep prepared three bags full of wool for them. He was happy that all of his wool was sold off.

Moral of the story :

We should be generous and helpful with what we have. We should be patient and not give up.

Beg your pardon Mrs Hardin

One afternoon, a little boy had lost his kitten. He looked under his bed. He looked all over his house. But still there was no puppy. Finally, he looked for his puppy in the garden. After a few hours, he still could not find the puppy.

The little boy was tired and was about to give up. Then he saw his neighbour, Mrs Hardin.

"I beg your pardon, Mrs Hardin. Is my puppy in your garden?" asked the little boy.

"Oh yes, she is. She is chewing on a mutton bone," replied Mrs Hardin.

The little boy climbed the fence and saw his puppy chewing on a mutton bone. He was so happy that his puppy was not lost but had only gone to his good neighbor's house to eat.

Moral of the story :

Do not give up searching for something you have lost too soon.

Bell the cat

There was a grocery shop in a town. Plenty of mice lived in that grocery shop. Food was in plenty for them. They ate everything and spoiled all the bags. They also wasted the bread, biscuits and fruits of the shop.

The grocer got really worried. So, he thought "I should buy a cat and let it stay at the grocery. Only then I can save my things."

He bought a nice, big fat cat and let him stay there. The cat had a nice time hunting the mice and killing them. The mice could not move freely now. They were afraid that anytime the cat would eat them up.

The mice wanted to do something. They held a meeting and all of them tweeted "We must get rid of the cat. Can someone give a suggestion"?

All the mice sat and brooded. A smart looking mouse stood up and said, "The cat moves softly. That is the problem. If we can tie a bell around her neck, then things will be fine. We can know the movements of the cat".

"Yes, that is answer," stated all the mice. An old mouse slowly stood up and asked, "Who would tie the bell?" After some moments there was no one there to answer this question.

Moral: Empty solutions are of no worth.

Haste makes waste

A woman had a pet mongoose. It was very faithful. One day she went to the market, leaving her baby in the care of the mongoose.

At that time a big cobra entered the house. The mongoose killed it after a long and fierce fight.

When the woman came back she saw the mongoose lying at the entrance. She noticed its blood-covered mouth.

In her haste the woman thought that the mongoose had killed her baby. In a moment of sudden fury, the woman threw the water pot on the mongoose and killed it.

Alas! When she entered the house she was filled with remorse. Her baby was playing cheerfully.

Nearby a big cobra lay dead. The woman shed tears of grief fondling the carcass of the mongoose.

Moral: do not act in haste.

Hunting with the lion

It was a dry summer. The animals in the forest were beginning to find it difficult to get food.

A bear, a wolf and a jackal thought it would be better to join hands with a lion and do the hunting. They approached lion and he too agreed. The four of them went off hunting.

The hunting party came across a buffalo. The fox and wolf chased the buffalo. The bear intercepted the buffalo. The lion killed him.

The fox made shares out of the buffalo. When they were about to take their shares the lion roared and said, "Well friends, the first share is mine for my leadership. The second share is mine for, it is I who killed. The third share is also mine for I need it for my cubs. Anyone who needs a share can take the fourth. But before that you will have to win me."

All the three left the place without a single word.

Moral: if you are might, you are right.

Selfish friendship

Once a cat was caught in a hunter's net. A mouse used to live in a nearby hole. The mouse seeing the cat in the net started playing around the cat.

Soon a mongoose came there. He wanted to kill the mouse. As he lifted his head, he saw an owl sitting on a tree trying to catch him. The mongoose went very near the cat's net to save himself. The mouse thought "When the hunter takes away the cat, the mongoose will not spare me and the owl is there to enjoy both of us."

The Mouse went to the cat and said,

"I can cut the net if you promise to save my life from the mongoose and the owl." The cat agreed. The mouse started cutting the net slowly and freed the cat only when the hunter was just near the cat. The cat took to heels and so ran the mongoose too. The owl was very much disappointed to see even the mouse running away to safety.

A few days later, the cat being hungry, went to the hole of the mouse and requested him to come out for a game. The mouse replied,

"I sought friendship and saved you to save my life." Now you can go home.

Moral: don't nurture friendship with selfish people.

Sheba and the monkey

Sheba, the queen of jungle, was very fond of babies. Once, she announced, "I order all animals to come to my palace with their babies. The animal who has the most beautiful baby will be awarded a prize".

All animals came to Sheba's palace with their babies.

Sheba started inspecting the babies one by one. She came to a monkey and said "What an ugly baby! You will not get the prize".

The baby monkey started to cry. The monkey said, "What a foolish queen she is! Who wants her prize! You are my jewel, my dear child. You are more precious than anything under the sky".

Moral: mother's love has no equals.

The camel and the jackal

A camel and a jackal were friends. One day the jackal took his friend to a big sugar-cane farm. It was on the opposite side of a river. After a sumptuous meal the jackal began to howl loudly. The frightened camel pleaded with the jackal not to do so. The jackal said, "Friend, I have this habit after every meal. I cannot help it." Soon the farmers arrived and gave a sound thrashing to the camel. When the camel crossed the river the jackal joined him on his back. In the midstream the camel took a deliberate dip in the water. When the jackal cried out in terror, the camel said casually: "I have the habit of rolling in the water after every meal." The poor jackal was drowned.

Moral: every action has an opposite reaction.

The cat and the fox

A cat and a fox were once discussing about hounds.

The cat said, "I hate hounds. They are very nasty animals. They hunt and kill us".

The fox said, "I hate hounds more than you". .

The cat asked, "How do you save yourself from hounds?"

The fox replied, "There are many tricks to get away from hounds".

The cat asked "Can you say what your tricks are?"

"They are very simple", said the fox. He added, "I can hide behind thick bushes. I can run along thorny hedges. I can hide in burrows. There are many more such tricks".

Now it was the turn of the fox to ask the cat about her tricks.

The fox asked, "How many tricks do you know?"

The cat replied, "I know just one trick".

The Fox sneered, "Oh! How sad! You know only one trick? What is your trick?"

The cat was about to answer. But, she found a flock of hounds fast approach. She said, "I am going to do it now. Because the hounds are coming".

Saying these words, the cat ran up a nearby tree safe from the hounds. The fox tried all his tricks but the hounds out beat him. "My one trick is better than all his tricks", said the cat to herself.

Moral: it is better to be a master of one art than to be a jack of many arts.

The crooked tree

It was a dense forest. All trees were straight and tall.

Their trunks were broad and shapely. But, there was one tree which was having a crooked and shapeless trunk.

The crooked trunk tree was sad. He thought "How ugly I am! All others are straight and shapely. I alone have crooked trunk."

One day a wood-cutter came there. He looked around and said "I will cut all trees here, except that crooked tree. That is of no use to me".

He cut away all other trees.

Now, the crooked tree was happy for its crookedness.

Moral: be happy with what you are.

The disobedient son

Once there was a rich farmer in a village. He had a lot of land, cattle, money and many servants. He had two sons. He led a happy life with them. After few years, the younger of the two sons became unhappy.

He asked his father for his share of property. His father advised him not demand like that. His mother also advised her son to do so. But he would not listen to his father's words. He got his share and sold them. He had a huge amount with him. Once he got much money, he got bad company of friends.

With this amount, he travelled to a distant country where he did all he wished. He had another bad company of friends there as well. Because of this, he fell into evil ways.

All the money was gone. He became poor. AT that time, no one helped him out of bad company. Soon, he fell into debt. Then he understood his mistake and returned to his country and to his parents.

He afterwards obeyed his parents and led a happy life.

Moral: we should obey our parents.

The donkey's brain

In the forest lived a lion. He had a jackal as his partner. They both always went together for hunting. The lion used to kill the animals and the jackal got his share for helping the lion then and there.

One day, the lion fell-sick. He could not go out. But he was very hungry. He called the jackal and said, "Dear friend, I am hungry. But, I am too sick to hunt. You have to help me get some food".

The jackal went off in search of prey. He found a donkey at last. He said to the donkey, "Hello, Donkey Sir! The king of the forest wants to make you his minister". The foolish donkey was too happy to think of the plot. He followed the jackal. The lion killed the donkey. But, before eating, he felt so thirsty. He said to the jackal, "Take care of the donkey. I will return in no time".

As soon as the lion left, the jackal started eating the brain of the donkey. When the lion returned he found the donkey's brain missing.

He asked the jackal. "Where is the donkey's brain?"

The jackal answered timidly, "If he had a brain would he have come here?"

Moral: a small thought saves a lot.

The farmer and his lazy sons

In Madhanpur lived a very hardworking farmer named Gopal. He has three sons Ram, Laxman and Hanuman. All three were strong and healthy. But they were all lazy.

Gopal was sad thinking about his sons and the future of his farmland.

One day, Gopal got a flash of an idea. He called all his sons and said, "Ram! Laxman! and Hanuman! I have hidden a treasure in our farmland. You search and share the treasure among you."

The three sons were overjoyed. They went to the fields and started searching. Ram started from one end. Laxman searched from the other end. And Hanuman did so from the centre. They dug each and every inch of the field. But they could not find anything.

Gopal said to his sons, "Dear boys! Now you have tilled and conditioned the field, why not we sow a crop!" Off went the sons to sow the crops.

Days passed. Soon, the crops grew lushly green. The sons were delighted. The father said, "Sons, this is the real treasure I wanted you to share".

Moral: fruits of hard work are always sweet.

The farmer and the sparrows

Maniappa was a farmer. He worked from dawn to dusk in his field.

Amidst the crops in the field, a sparrow had built a nest. She roosted in the nest. She got two children. The little sparrows lived with their mother happily.

Days passed by. And the harvesting season fast approached. The corns were ripe. And everywhere people started their harvests.

The little sparrows said to their mother, "Mummy! We will have to flyaway".

The mother sparrow replied, "Not so soon babies! The farmer is not ready.

One day, they heard the farmer saying "I must call my neighbours and make them do the harvest."

The little sparrows said, "Mummy, tonight we shall fly away."

The mother said, "Not so soon babies. The farmer won't make it." The words of the mother came true. The neighbours did not turn up the next day.

The farmer was heard saying, "I will call my relatives and make them do the harvest".

This time also the little ones wanted to flyaway. But the mother asked them to relax. Once again, the words of the mother came true.

Now, they heard the farmer saying "Tomorrow I will do the harvest myself". On hearing these words, the mother said, "Come my children. It is time for us to leave this field".

Moral: self-help is always respected.

The poor man's wealth

Ramchand and Premchand were neighbours. Ramchand was a poor farmer. Premchand was a landlord.

Ramchand used to be very relaxed and happy. He never bothered to close the doors and windows of his house at night. He had deep sound sleeps. Although he had no money he was peaceful.

Premchand used to be very tense always. He was very keen to close the doors and windows of his house at night. He could not sleep well. He was always bothered that someone might break open his safes and steal away his money. He envied the peaceful Ramchand.

One day, Premchand call Ramchand and gave him a boxful of cash saying, "Look my dear friend. I am blessed with plenty of wealth. I find you in poverty. So, take this cash and live in prosperity."

Ramchand was overwhelmingly happy. He was joyful throughout the day. Night came. Ramchand went to bed as usual. But, to-day, he could not sleep. He went and closed the doors and windows. He still could not sleep. He began to keep on looking at the box of cash. The whole night he was disturbed.

As soon as day broke, Ramchand took the box of cash to Premchand. He gave away the box to Premchand saying, "Dear Friend, I am poor. But, your money took away peace from me. Please bear with me and take back your money."

Moral: money can not get everything.

The salt vendor and his donkey

There was a salt vendor in a village. He used to buy salt from a nearby town. He had a donkey to carry this salt load. There were many streams to be crossed to reach the town.

One day, the vendor was returning after his purchase.

The donkey was loaded with salt bags. While they were crossing a stream, accidentally the donkey slipped and fell into the stream. A lot of salt got dissolved in the water. When the donkey got up the load became very light.

From that day, whenever the vendor returned from town after salt purchase, the donkey began to tumble half-way across one stream or the other. The vendor became suspicious.

Once the vendor purchased bales of cotton and loaded his donkey with bales of cotton. The donkey felt the load to be unusually light. He thought "Today, I am going to tumble and this load is going to become much lighter".

On their way home, as usual, the donkey tumbled and fell into a stream. But alas! When the donkey tried to get up, the load pulled the donkey down. The cotton had absorbed water and become heavier.

The vendor gave hard beatings to make the donkey get up and walk. From then on, the donkey never tumbled while crossing streams.

Moral: avoiding work leads to more work.

The wind and the sun

It was an autumn day. The wind and the sun had an argument.

The wind boasted "I am stronger than you."

The sun mildly said "No. you are not".

Just then, they saw a traveller wrapped in a blanket was passing by. The wind said, "Whoever separates the blanket from traveller is the stronger. Do you agree?"

The sun replied, "OK. First you try."

The wind started blowing. The traveller wrapped his blanket around him. He blew harder. The traveller held his blanket firmer. He blew still harder. The traveller held his blanket still tighter. The harder the wind blew the tighter and firmer did the traveller hold his blanket. The wind failed.

It was the Sun's turn. The sun smiled gently at the traveller. The traveller loosened his grip on the blanket. The sun smiled warmly. The traveller felt the warmth and soon took off the blanket.

The sun was declared stronger.

Moral: gentle smile can achieve what brutal force can't.