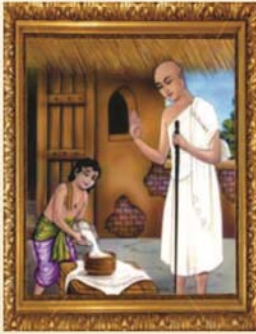


Shalibhadra - Glory of Jainism



Once upon a time, there lived a very poor mother with her son in a small village. On one festival day, all the kids were eating KHIR (sweet rice pudding and milk). This shepherd boy surprised by knowing a sweet called KHIR in existence. He ran to home and demanded the same dish to his mother. The very caring mother did not want to deny so she borrowed some milk, sugar and rice to make the KHIR. The boy was very joyous after having the KHIR in front of him.

As the boy was about to start eating, he heard the words, "Dharma Labh" (meaning, you be blessed of spirituality, usually spoken by a Jain Saints). Without any hesitation, the hungry boy

invited the monk in and donated the KHIR into the monk's pot. He was pleased even though nothing was left for him. His good intention brought him the best karmas.,

In his next life, he was born as SHALIBHADRA, a born multimillionaire. His life was like being in heaven. Even the heavenly angels were jealous of his lavish lifestyle. Due to his karma of previous life, he receives 99 pots full of Gold and Jewellery

from heaven. He had 32 beautiful wives. Bhadra Shethani, His mother never let him out of his palace in a fear that he might become a monk like his father.

One day, some merchants from Nepal came to sell some very expensive saris. They went to king Shrenik's court where the king told them that he could not afford to use his citizens' money for such expensive saris. They were going back with disappointment however, some citizens asked the merchants



to meet Bhadra Sethani who can buy these expensive saris. Bhadra Sethani welcomed those merchants. The merchants had only sixteen saris while Shalibhadra had 32 wives. So Bhadra Shethani bought all sixteen saris and torn the saris in to double to satisfy all Daughters in Laws.

The King Shrenik came to know the whole episode and decided to meet Shalibhadra at his palace. Bhadra Sethani welcomed him and called Shalibhadra to come down to meet our lord King Shrenik. Shalibhadra shocked to know that there is a lord and a king over him. He decided to

achieve supreme liberation so he became monk. He gave away all the comfort of wealth, left his palace to embrace severe conditions of becoming a monk. He ultimately attained the final liberation, The Moksh.



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