

3. Shravan Kumar



Shravan Kumar was an obedient (આજ્ઞાલિત) son, who lived with his elderly (વૃદ્ધ) parents. His parents were blind. One day, his parents expressed (અક્ત કરી) their desire (ઈચ્છા) to go on a pilgrimage (પાત્ર). So, Shravan made a 'Kavad' with two large sturdy (મજબૂત) baskets and tied each basket on either side of a long bamboo stick. He made his parents sit in the 'Kavad' and carried them on his shoulders. He started travelling to pilgrimage on his foot.

During their journey, one day while they were resting in a forest, his parents felt very thirsty and asked Shravan to get some water to drink. Shravan left his parents resting there and went to the river 'Sarayu' to bring water for them. Reaching there, Shravan dipped (ડૂબાડ્યું) the vessel (વાસણ) to collect water and that produced a sound. At the same time, Dasharath the king was in the forest for hunting. He was misled by the sound and thought of a deer drinking water. He aimed (ત્રાક્યું) his arrow from where the sound was coming and released towards it. The arrow pierced (વિંધ્યું) straight into the chest of Shravan Kumar who was collecting water. He fell on the ground with a painful sound. So, the king went there. Even in his last breath, Shravan asked king Dashrath to – quench the thirst of his parents and only then tell them about the tragedy (કરુણાતિકા).

PRACTICE

Read the sentences and write 'True' or 'False':

1. Shravan's parents were blind. _____
2. Shravan went in search of water for his parents. _____
3. King Dasharath was accidently killed by Shravan. _____
4. Shravan was not a good son. _____
5. Shravan carried his parents on his shoulder to pilgrimage. _____

Answer the following questions:

1. How did Shravan Kumar carry his parents to pilgrim places ?

2. What did Shravan Kumar tell King Dashrath to do ?

Arrange the words in alphabetical order and write their meaning :

tragedy, basket, arrow, breath

