

Rathnemi



Samudravijay was the King of Shauripur. He had a wife, Queen Shivadevi, with who he had four sons, Arishtanemi, Rathnemi, Satyanemi, and Dridhnemi.



Arishtanemi was engaged to Rajmati but decided not to marry her when he saw that animals and birds were to be killed for his marriage. He decided to become a monk.



Rathnemi made an offer that he would like to marry Rajmati, but she refused. She did not like the idea of marrying him because she had accepted his brother as her husband and did not want to marry anybody else. She decided to become a nun, so Rathnemi also became a monk, like his brother.



One day, Rajmati and the nuns were moving from one place to another through Mount Raivati.



Suddenly, there was a great storm, and it also began to rain heavily. The nuns got scattered in all directions in search of a shelter, and Rajmati was left alone. She saw one cave and entered to spread her clothes to dry and to wait until the rain stopped. It was very dark, she did not see anybody there, so she took her clothes off to dry them.



Muni Rathnemi was meditating in the same cave. A bolt of lightning struck, and he saw her without her clothes, and his desire to have Rajmati surfaced again.



When Rajimati noticed him, she started trembling in fear but managed to get a hold of herself. She covered her private parts with her arms and sat down. She did not want Rathnemi to think wrongly of her. Rathnemi came closer and told her,

"I am Rathnemi, dear sweet lady. Please, accept me as your lover. Let us enjoy pleasures. It is a rare chance to be born as a human being. You shall have no reason of complaint about me. After we have enjoyed the pleasures of life, we shall adopt the path of Jinas."



Rajimati realized that Rathnemi had lost his mind and his will as a Sadhu. She said,

"I have no desire for anyone, even if you were as handsome as the angels Purandra or Nal-Kuber. Shame on you. I am the daughter of Bhoja King, and you belong to the Andhakurishni clan. We were born in noble families and should practice self-control. How is it that you want to have bad karma for the sake of sensual pleasures? If you fall in love with every woman you see, you will be without any discipline. So you will also not be a true monk."



Rathnemi felt ashamed after hearing those words and realized his mistake. He asked for forgiveness from Sadhvi Rajemati, left, and followed his Dharam in true spirit. He considered Rajemati as his savior and observed many austerities.



Both Rathnemi and Rajmati got perfect knowledge and completely wiped out their karmas. They were saved from the cycle of birth and death and were liberated. Wise people reduce their desires and sensual pleasures.

