

Arjun Mali and Seth Sudarshan



Long ago, right outside the city of Rajgruha, there was a lovely garden. Flowers bloomed everywhere, and inside there was a lovely temple. Many people used to visit it and walk around in the garden. A gardener called Arjun used to look after it, and everyone praised his work.



One day, a few young men came to the garden and saw Arjun's attractive wife and got tempted by her. Their desire went wild, and they kidnapped her. Arjun tried to save her, but they overpowered him and tied him up.



Then right in front of his eyes, they started sexually assaulting her. Arjun got so upset that he started questioning his service to the god of the temple.

"Why do I pray to you if you are not helping me when I need you?",

asked Arjun.



Meanwhile, one yaksha, a low-level angel, who lived on the tree near the temple, heard everything and got mad at the men. So, he entered the body of Arjun.



Suddenly, Arjun became a strong man, tore the rope, attacked those men, and killed them. He was so disgusted at what he saw he even killed his wife. His outrage did not stop, and he wanted to take revenge on all mankind.



Arjun stopped working in the garden, and he started killing the people who came to visit. He became so mean that the city had to shut its gate, so people would not go in that direction.



One day, Lord Mahavir came near the city of Rajgruha. Everybody wanted to pay homage to him, but they were scared to leave the city.



In that city lived a very holy man called Seth Sudarshan, who decided to pay his respects to Mahavira even if he had to cross the angry and cruel Arjun. When he went to the city's gates, he found that it was impossible to get anyone to open them. They were very scared of Arjun. Sudarshan was not scared and wanted to continue his mission. So without fear, he opened the gates and went out. As soon as Arjun saw him, he charged at him. Fearlessly, Seth Sudarshan stood there and started reciting the Navkar Mantra.



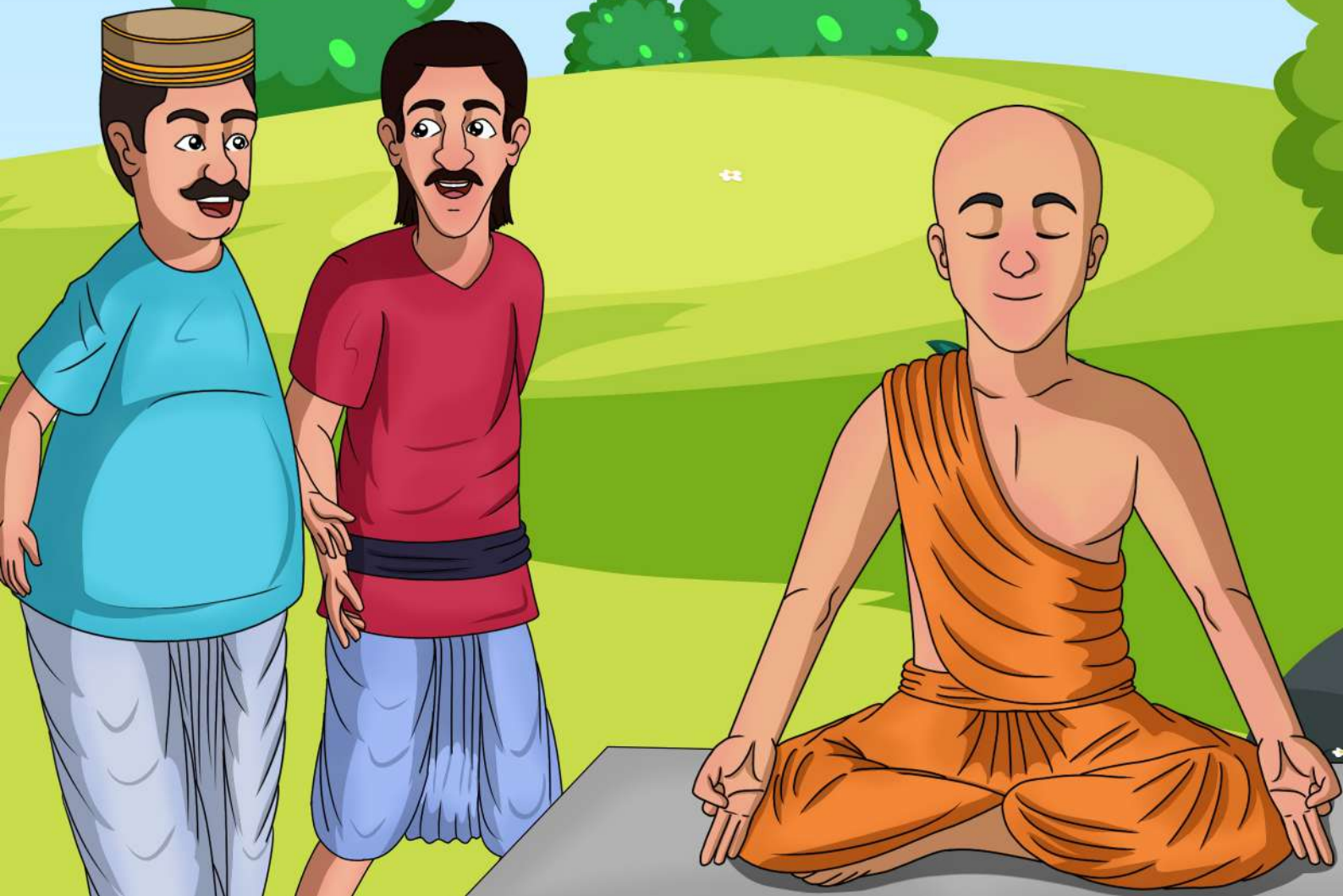
Arjun's arms froze, and he could not hit him. He was baffled by what was happening to him and felt that the man was an innocent person. Seeing the calm man and listening to his prayers, Arjun's anger left. As the yaksha left his body, Arjun collapsed.



When he got little strength, he bowed to Sudarshan and asked for forgiveness. Sudarshan saw that Arjun was a changed man.

"Come with me."

he gently said and took him along to meet Lord Mahavir.



Listening to the sermons of Lord Mahavir, Arjun decided to become a Sadhu. He took diksha under Mahavira and wanted to repent for his deeds. He asked Mahavira for permission to go to the town and stand in meditation in front of the city gates. Mahavira knew his destiny, so he granted permission.



He went to the city gates and stood in front to meditate. When the people found out about this, they went to him. Some threw stones at him, and others beat him with sticks, and so on. Muni Arjun kept calm and suffered all this abuse without any revengeful feeling. Meanwhile, he started repenting,

"Hey soul, this is happening because you did really bad actions before. So, it is you who is at blame. Calmly bear down, burn your karmas, and do not build any new ones."

In this repentance, he attained Kevalgnan, omniscience, and got liberated.



We must learn to give up the anger, as it overshadows the true nature of our soul

