

King Shibi's Generosity

Narrator: King Shibi was a very generous king, who always gave whatever was asked of him. One day a blind man approached the king.

King Shibi: "What can I give you, sir?"

Blind Man: "I would like your eyes to replace my blind eyes"

King Shibi: "Of course you can have my eyes!"

Narrator: The King immediately plucked out his eyes and gave them to the blind man.

Blind Man: "Thank you King Shibi. I am really the god Shakra in disguise, and I came to test your generosity. You have done well, so I am going to magically restore your eyes!"

Narrator: Shakra gave the King his sight back before he disappeared back to the heavenly realm.

Another day, a dove flew into the king's palace and landed on his lap.

Dove: "Please help me King Shibi, I am being chased by a falcon!"

King Shibi: "Of course little bird, I will keep you safe."

Narrator: Then the falcon appeared and demanded the dove for his meal.

Falcon: "I have been chasing this bird and need him for my dinner! Hand him over!"

King Shibi: "I cannot give you this dove, because I have offered him my protection."

Falcon: "How can you say you will help this dove, but not help me? I am starving, and if I don't eat something I will die. Why is the dove more important than me?"

King Shibi: "I can give you something else to eat?"

Falcon: "No! I only eat freshly killed meat!"

King Shibi: "In that case, I will offer you some of my own leg, to make up for the dove! Bring me some measuring scales so we can weigh out a piece of leg that is the same weight as the dove!"

Narrator: The falcon agreed, so they weighed the dove, and then to the horror of those who were there, the King started to cut off bits of his leg, and placed them in the scales. However, no matter how much of his flesh he added to the scales, he couldn't get enough to match the weight of the dove.

King Shibi: "I cannot match the weight of the dove with my flesh, therefore I offer you my whole body!"

Narrator: At that moment the dove and the falcon revealed their true identities as gods in disguise.

Dove: Thank you King Shibi, we came to test your generosity. You have done very well! We will tell many people about your generosity!