

THE KAREN READER

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By

PO LIN TAY

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Lesson 1

A person who obeyed his father's words

Once upon a time, there was a man. His wife died and he was left with a son and his mother. He named his son Saw Di. They lived in a plot of land that belonged to a King. While the father was alive, the king let them live in that plot of land. However, by the time the father was dead, the king forced the grandmother and the grandson out of the plot of land. While the father was dying, he called his son and said, "Listen to me, my son. When I die, stay with your grandmother. Whatever your grandmother tells you to do, obey her words. There is nothing I can give you." After saying these words to his son, he died. After the death of the man, the king took back the land, and the grandmother and grandson went out to live in the forest.

The Orphan, Saw Di, did not ignore his father's words. He lived with his grandmother, looked after her and fed her. When it was time to work in the field, he cleared a land, grew the crop in the forest and lived with his grandmother in a hut. One day, his grandmother told him, "My grandson, I would like to eat wild chicken meat. Go cut the branches of trees around the field and you will probably catch a chicken. He did not postpone the time. He went to the forest and saw a ground which had been scratched by chickens. He set a trap in that place and came back to his hut. The next morning, he went and looked at the trap and saw that a chicken was caught. He looked at the chicken and doubted because it looked like chickens that was bred at home. However, he thought it might be a chicken that looked like a home chicken. He brought it back home. When his grandmother ate the chicken, she was happy and told her grandson to go and catch more. He went as his grandmother told him and caught many chickens every day. Actually, the chickens were not wild chickens but the chickens of the king's daughter. The king had only one daughter. She was beautiful with eyebrow like a seagull's wing eyebrows, soft fair skin. Many men came and asked for her love but his father did not agree with any of them because they were poor. That was the reason that the king kept his daughter in the forest. The daughter, on

the other hand, was not happy to stay alone in the forest. So she asked her father to bring her many chickens to breed and be happy with them. The king ordered his servants to send his daughter meals every day. The Orphan did not know that the king's daughter was living in the forest. So, he always set a trap, went and had a look, and set traps more and more.

One day, he went and had a look at his trap and the chicken was not dead yet. He was about to catch it while the chicken crowed. The king's daughter came running thinking that a boar came to eat her chicken. When she came to catch it she saw the Orphan holding her chicken. So, she said "I have lost many chickens everyday and I thought a boar came to eat them. Actually, you have stolen them all." The Orphan fell down on his knees and said, "I did not know that it was yours. I thought they were wild chickens. But if they are yours, please forgive me. I would not do it in future." The woman told him "It is not a problem. Because you did not know that I would not blame you." The Orphan asked him why she came to live in the forest alone. The woman told him that she was the daughter of a king. Once the Orphan knew that the woman was the daughter of the king, he was frightened. The king's daughter, on the other hand, told him, "Don't worry. I have many chickens. Come and live with me." The Orphan followed her to her house, and they talked with each other for a while. When the Orphan was about to go back home the woman told him "Go back home after having a meal". After eating, the Orphan prepared to go home but the woman told him to stay with her because she dared not stay alone. The woman talked about many things by and by, and finally they became man and wife. They slept together for a night and he came back home. When his grandmother saw him, she said, "I thought you did not come back home because the tiger had eaten you. Where did you go and sleep?" Then, he told his grandmother the truth saying that he went and slept together with the king's daughter.

When his grandmother knew that her grandson had a wife, she was happy so much. The grandmother told him, "Now, you have a wife and I have nothing to worry for you. I am old and I am going to die." The grandmother then gave him a hat and said, "If you face a hard situation that could not be escaped, open this turban." After saying these words, the grandmother became sick and died. He buried his grandmother and later went back to his wife.

When the king came to his daughter he saw that her place was occupied by another person and he asked her, "Have you met any man?" The daughter answered, "A man came to me, and I liked him, so I accepted him as my husband." The father was out of range and said "Today you will have to die under my sword." Then the daughter fell on her knees and begged for the forgiveness and said, "Father, please do not kill me. I will go and call my husband before you. He is not an ordinary man. He is full of dignity and should be the son of a king." However, her father did not listen to her. He was so angry that he killed his daughter at once. After a while, he took pity on his daughter but he could not do anything. He told his people to bring back his daughter home and arrange her funeral. He told his people that he will do the funeral service for seven days and seven nights.

When the Orphan heard about his wife's funeral in the king's palace, he would like to go but he dared not. What is more he did not have the appropriate attires to wear in the king's palace. He then remembered his grandmother's words which said, "If you face the hardship, and are in the situation that could not be escaped, open this turban." The turban had three layers. When he opened the first layer, uncountable male and female servants, soldiers came out. Then he opened the second layer and different kinds of ornaments, woman longyi, and valuables came out. He opened the third layer of turban and the horses, cows, carts came out. Then, he prepared his servants with ornaments, set the carts and bulls, and went to his wife's funeral. He went to the

king's palace with musical instruments playing all the way. When the king saw them he said, "Where are these people from? We haven't seen him before. This might be a king from far away country. Go quickly and prepare a good place for him." That man looked different from the other kings as he had lots of silver and gold flowers. The silver and gold flowers smelled so sweet that the king was astonished. When the funeral was over, the Orphan left the place with his servants. The king looked at him behind and said, "If my daughter were still alive, I will give her to marry him. But I have daughter no more. I want him to be my son-in-law but I could do nothing." After that the king's daughter's body was cremated.

The Orphan went back home and put off his clothes and the ornaments, and put them back into the turban and wore his usual old clothes. Then, he went to the palace where his wife's body was cremating. When people asked him, "Where are you going?" he answered, "I came to look at you burning the body of the king's daughter." When people went back after burning the body, the Orphan did not go away. He waited at his wife's grave, wept and slept there. An old man with gray hair and no teeth came. He asked, "What are you doing here?" he answered, "I am waiting at my wife's grave." Then the old man told him that "If you would like to get back your wife's life, you should not go back home. You will have to look after your wife's grave well. A beanstalk will come out from the ground. You will have to patiently wait until the beanstalk blossom. When the fruit is dry and the seed crush open, your wife will be alive again". He believed the old man and looked after his wife's grave again. He waited patiently just as the old man had told him. When the time arrived, the seed of the beanstalk fell down and his wife was a live again.

When his wife became a human being, he brought her back to home, and asked his servant to build houses around where he lived. The place became a big city. Gold and silver flowers were growing and many

different kinds of birds and fowls came to live there. Different kinds of people also came and lived in the city too. The couples become a king and a queen of the city. Later, the servant went and invited the woman's parents to come. They came and saw the daughter who once was dead set the golden and silver mat for them to sit down. When the king looked at her carefully, he realized that it was his daughter and he was astonished and asked his daughter about how she was alive again. His daughter talked to him about what had happened and the king was so sad for his mistake.

The Orphan was in deep distress when he was waiting for the beanstalk to appear. So, a poet composed a poem for him like this...

Lesson 2

A poem about Saw Di, the Orphan, Who Obeyed His Grandmother

The orphan obeyed his grandmother
His grandmother the orphan obeyed
The further he went, the more pleasant it was
He arrived at the rich city
He got a drum (klo) from Thailand
He kept it in his big hall
The drum sounded so sweetly
Children and enemy followed to search it.
The orphan obeyed the old people
He blew his father's elephant horn
He reached at Mount Kee Ku
Cut the bamboo and made a xylophone
It sounded sweetly across seven mountains
The birds followed to find it
Dear little children,
Little children, dear
If you are close to each other
Go and take care of each other
Go along with the orphan's grandmother
Water dried up at the challenge to the sea
Went to explore the mountain in Chiangmai
The white elephant drove its tusk the rock through the rock till
it curved inward
It went up and ate medicines of revival
A hardworking woman's basket was full
A man who went to work in far away land brought back many
kinds of goods

Lesson 3

A person who did not obey his father's words

In the hall of the man, drums were hung and beaten
Upon looking at the field of the woman, the barn was full of rice
Woman and man if they have the same heart
If wish for merchandise from the far away countries,
They will come in varieties; come also with long-lasting heavenly
treasure
The Orphan obeyed the elder
Wherever he went, he could enjoy its flower and so could quench
its fire.
Dear, little children
All children dear
If you go to other place, bring your betel box, with flint and the
match
In case of fire, to fight it back
News came from the lower land
The lower land from where news came
Eldest noted famine and wars
Oh, dear all children
Watch out and doze not
If you are willing to work hard
Despite famine, destructions and wars
No need to worry about sickness and death.

Once upon a time, there was a rich man's son named Saw Sa Ther. His father loved him so much. When he was grown up, his father told him, "Son, for you to become a person who is able to eat and live well, I will arrange for your marriage with a daughter of a rich man from the western country." His father went and asked a rich man's daughter for his son. The time arrived for the marriage celebration for the son. However, the son did not love the lady and denied to get married. He did not obey his father. His father could not teach him and he followed his desire and left the house. When he left the house, he saw a poor lady and her mother. The young man looked at the lady and she looked good to him and lived with her. His father stopped him and said, "Son, if you get married with a servant woman, she will empty your money bag." His son answered him, "Father, you have five thousand and I do not believe that I could spend it more than two thousand." His father could not convince him more and let him do what he wanted and get married with that poor lady. After that he built a big house not so far away from his parents. His wife was not good at looking after the house. She did not sweep the ground under and around their house. So, a fire started by burning the dirt around the house and the house was burnt down. After the house was burnt down, he built another house bigger than the first. The day after the house was built while he was in the house, he saw fire burning quite far away. He was worried that the fire would reach their house soon. He tried to prevent the fire from reaching his house. He told his wife and mother-in-law to go buy many water pots to prevent the fire. They brought back water pots, put the water into the pots but the pots were not well made. They all broke into pieces. He went out to buy tin buckets and brought back home, but none of them were good. All the handles fell out. He was so tired and told his wife to set a meal for him but before he could eat it, the fire burnt down his house.

Next morning, he went to his father's house and said, "Father, the fire was burnt down my house. What should I do?" His father answered him, "You did not listen to me. Now, you are facing the trouble. It is just the beginning of the trouble. While it is still small, give pay the lady to get divorced with her." He did not like the idea and said, "I cannot leave my wife." The rich man had only one son. His son was so stubborn that he punched and kicked him. However, he could not deny his son who came and asked for money. He gave all the rest of his money, 3000, in his pocket to his son. Then, the son took the money and built his house with brick. After building his house, he bought a ship and bought a lot of clothes for selling them. He brought necessary things into the boat and asked his mother-in-law to go and sell the goods. When she was in the sea, a storm started to blow and the ship sank when it hit a rock. Two out of three ships sunk. His mother-in-law sold the rest of the goods, but received only the capital money and did not get any profit.

When his mother-in-law came back home, he went out to buy more clothes three times more than the first and bought one new ship. This time the man went together with his wife. When they were in the sea, a storm blew and it was so strong that the ship was broken into pieces. The couple died, holding on to a slice of wood and drifted in the sea. When the storm was finished, other ships saw their dead bodies and brought them back to the city. They informed the whole city to know the relatives of these dead bodies. The rich man, who was the father of the young man, went and had a look at the bodies and knew that it was his son. He went to his son's mother-in-law's house, and saw her sitting alone. He asked her, "Where did my son go?" She answered, "He set out for business." Then the rich man said, "A man and a woman died in the sea. Go and have a look who they were." Then, the old woman went and looked at them and knew that it was her daughter. She died with a broken heart.

Lesson 4

A Poem about A Person Who Did Not Obey His Parent's And Faced Trouble

1. A boar wallows in its sty
Wallowing and if it goes out
Awaiting lion outside the sty
2. A boar does not leave its sty
But when it does leave its sty
It adds flavor to the lion's feast
3. You do not search for a new place
For in searching a new place
Your old place will be full of vines and thorns
4. You do not search for other place
For in searching other place
You will be charged with blame
Its thorns will prick and hurt you
5. You do not chase the river
If you chase the river
You will encounter the destruction of crops and bamboos by the rats
And the earth will not yield paddy.
6. If the earth does not yield paddy
The orphan will starve and die
He will be deprived of clothing
He will be reminded of his old place when time goes by.
7. The chirp of the insect Thu Lei reminds you of
The big drum drifting to the river
Leaving alone the xylophone made of hard bamboo
Taking away our accounts

Lesson 5

It is impossible to please everyone

An old man would like to sell a horse. One day, it was a market day in the town. He would probably sell his horse and receive ten Kyats to buy clothes for his son. He called his son to follow him, and let the horse go in front of him.

When they were on the way, the man said, “Is the man foolish? He walked in the hot sunshine on dusty road but did not ride on anything. What is a donkey for but to ride upon?” When he heard that he put his son on the donkey and he followed behind them.

They went on their way and arrived at another place. Another person saw them and said, “That child is so selfish and foolish. He lets his father walk while he rides. Should it be like that? This is just like the proverbs, “The ear is longer than the horn” and “the bamboo shoot is longer than the bamboo tree”. Nowadays, children do not respect their parents. When I was young, I did not do like this.” When the old man heard that he ordered his son to get off and go on foot.

Next, they arrived at a village. A person sat on a stage with a woman and a man beside him. They saw them and said to the other, “Have a look, have you ever seen a thing like this before? A lazy old man riding on a donkey and let his poor little son trudge along. Can he say he loves his son? His son is so tired almost dying.” The woman said, “Won’t you have pity on your son? If his mother sees this, she will get very angry.” The old man heard this, felt ashamed and stopped the donkey at once, and took his son up behind him on the Donkey. Now, the son and the father were riding the horse.

Before they continued the journey, they met a passer-by who asked, “Is that your donkey?” The old man answered, “It is not the other people’s donkey. It’s mine. I bought his mother for fifteen Kyats and she gave birth to this donkey for me.” Then the passer-by told him,

“Ah. If you are riding the donkey like this, nobody will know that it is yours. If you and your son carry the donkey, it is better than riding it.” The old man answered, “If the other people think like that, it is fine.” Then, he and his son got off the donkey, tied its feet and carried it on their shoulders.

There was a bridge outside that village. When they were passing the bridge, the horse started to kick out because he smelled oil from a cart behind them. The donkey always drank oil and when he get the smell that he would like to drink it so much. The driver of the cart drove the cart quickly and snatched the tail of the cow to go fast. So, they went past the donkey. The donkey was moving and kicking so much, and finally fell over the bridge as the road was so narrow. It drained into the water. The old man almost fell down on his face into the water and his son almost fell down too.

The old man and his son went back home groaning. Because they would like to please everybody, they could not please themselves. They made other people satisfied but they felt unhappy then. They had to wait for a long time again to buy clothes for themselves.

Lesson 6

Preventing the illnesses

The elders said, "Prevention is better than cure." As God has given us knowledge and wisdom, there are diseases which we can prevent and there are things to avoid. The well-known diseases that usually caused are malaria, diarrhea, tuberculosis, cough, and hepatitis.

Malaria – Many people more than half the population died of Malaria in the Hindu Country. The other people died of other illnesses. We will have to be careful not to become sick by these diseases.

At first people thought that Malaria occurred due to the bad air and the inconsistent temperature. They believed that those who lived near the bad smell places with no fresh air, and drunk the dead leaves liquid suffered from Malaria. However, when the professional doctors did research about this illness, they found out that the original of this illness is caused by a kind of mosquito. After biting people, their poison became virus in the blood. We should kill this kind of mosquito that initiates the malaria as much as we can. We could put the oil into the place where water gather or a kind of plant that kill the mosquito where they were bred. To prevent from being bitten by the mosquitoes we should sleep in the mosquito net.

The places where malaria begins are the places where water is stagnant. Many mosquitoes live in such places. When we suffer from malaria, we should drink warm water and keep ourselves warm.

Those who work hard, walk under the hot sun, come back home and take off the clothes at once, cool themselves in the cold air more than necessary, take a bath and keep themselves cold with wet clothes are liable to become the malaria. When the malaria was serious, people should not go out in the morning. They should eat well and regain their energy. They should wear warm clothes.

Kwini is the best medicine for the any kind of malaria. It is sold and delivered with small packets for the poor people in the post office.

Many people who suffered from malaria do not eat well. That is not good. It could strengthen the power of the disease. Those who suffer from malaria should eat boiled rice, drink milk and after that they should eat as usual.

When we are getting better, we should not take a bath too much. We should not keep ourselves cold in the wind much. It could become worse. We should be careful all the time and keep ourselves warm. Diarrhea- When we suffer from diarrhea, we should be careful with our food much. Over Ripen fruits and raw vegetables and any foods that are not digested well by the stomach should not be eaten. In the evening, do not eat fully and the drinking water should be boiled because diarrhea virus usually live in the stream.

When diarrhea developed, the virus takes the place. If somebody sleeps in his place and pass by his place the disease will spread.

We should wear warm clothes and tie our tummy well with a ... cloth to protect the virus. We should not stay cold in the wind and frost at night. Kwini could heal the disease.

Cleanliness is the best way to prevent this disease. Clean the house, clean the dirty places, the bushes, sweep the garbage around the house and burn them, clean the drain and clean the toilet every day.

We should look after our body well to be healthy. We should avoid the things that could make us weak such as dieting, not sleeping and working too hard.

Plague – When plague strikes in a place we think that it is the judgment of God to the citizens. This disease can spread easily and really serious than the other diseases.

In Hindu medical record, a hundred years ago, the plague struck a Hindu Country. Half of the population died in some towns. This disease is thought to be originated from the Kaw Si. In 1896 Bombay was hit by plague which killed many people's lives. The citizens were frightened and ran away from the town and carried with germs them to the other places.

Lesson 7

Doctor James and having chickenpox vaccine

In 1665 the plague hit London and a lot of people died and the bodies of about hundred people were buried in one pit. Those who could escape from the town ran out of the town and the houses were shut out. In the past bushes were rarely seen in that town but at time the bushes covered the houses up to the road.

When this disease strike, if the patient is sent quickly to the hospital, the disease would not stir up. Instead people hide the patient at home that the disease spread more and more especially for those who live in small houses with too much people.

The clean place as well as the place which gets fresh air is the place that can prevent the plague. Doctor Haffkine discovered a vaccine which prevents this kind of disease. The vaccine should be injected under our skin and it is the best way to get better from this disease. After taking the vaccine we will have fever for three days. Before this disease spread, this vaccine should be taken beforehand. The doctor said that plague occurred because of the rats and their germs. Let's keep cats and set traps to kill the rats in our house.

Chickenpox is a disease which nobody could escape. It was the most frightening and contagious illness. In the past, when this disease hit a town, a lot of people died. Some lost their eyesight and one fourth of the skin was destroyed in some people. In Europe every year five hundred thousand people died. Many children died because of this disease that in Hindu country there was a saying, "If a child of a mother has not yet had the chickenpox we could not say it as her child". Similarly, in Burma, "If a young lady has not yet had the chickenpox we could not tell her that she is beautiful."

In England, those who bred the cows learnt that when they had the chickenpox, it could spread to the person who milked the cows. Those who had the vaccine did not suffer much when they had the real chickenpox. When Doctor James was young and was still studying medicine, he heard a woman saying that her father and mother took the pus from the cows that had the chickenpox did not have the disease again.

After he heard about that he told the doctor that taught him about that. His teacher told him, "Don't postpone and try to test with patience." Just as his teacher told him James try to find out about whether what he had heard was true or not. He found out that if people took the cow chickenpox they became better one after another. Finally everyone in the world could get better. He found out about this vaccine in 1798. We called it cow chickenpox and many people call it Nwar (cow) chickenpox because it was taken from the cow's pus.

Doctor James wrote about this vaccine and it was translated into other languages. This vaccine was taken all over the world for three years.

In 1809, England Parliament agreed and gave Doctor James a prize equal to one hundred thousand Kyats.

Lesson 8

Half the price

England government started the program of taking cow chickenpox vaccine in Hindu Country. In the towns everybody understood and took the vaccine. However, in the villages, people had not yet taken the vaccine. In Southern East Madrid government educational centre, among 100 students, 42 could not see clearly because of the chickenpox. In Ramadana, the custom of taking chickenpox vaccine was not so long. In the two learning places in town, among 30 students, 22 had poor eyesight and 4 of them lost one of their eyes.

Sometimes, when vaccine taken from the cowpus is not good, people blamed the vaccine for its effectiveness and could not heal the disease always. Cow chickenpox should be taken with at least three injections. After taking that, for a few days do not touch the scar, if it is not yet seven days, do not try to heal it. If the vaccine is taken when young, this will prevent a person from the disease forever.

This kind of disease will spread more with its virus. When this disease hits a place, it does not go away quickly. The disease can spread everywhere. That is why if a person cannot look after this kind of patients well, do not let them look after him. And those who take the vaccine should not go among people until its skin is fallen off. And the patient's clothes should not be put together with the other people's clothes. Boil the patient's clothes to get rid of the virus.

A rich man wrote letters to his relatives and friends for his daughter's wedding and prepared different kinds of foods, meats, and vegetables. But he was worried because he could not get any fish meat because there was a storm in the sea. He said, "Some people do not eat red meat so if there is no fish curry, not everyone would be satisfied. Tomorrow my daughter will get married so we will have to find fish until we get it.

The next morning, a fisherman got a big fish almost one pound and said that he would go to the rich man. When he was in the front of the gate, the watchman saw him and said, "Hey, you! Wait a moment, who are you?"

Fisherman: I am a fisherman.

Watchman: Why do you come?

Fisherman: I caught a fish and come here to sell it to your master.

Watchman: You can't go. Today nobody wants a fish.

Fisherman: Look here. This fish is full of fat. If your master sees it he will like it so much.

Watchman: Oh, I tell you, you cannot go.

Fisherman: Please, sir, I would like to show it to the master.

Watchman: No, I tell you not to go. Go away now!

Fisherman: Please let me go. I will have to sell this fish really. If I do not sell it, my family members have nothing to eat. There is not a handful of rice left at home.

Watchman: Well. I am a kind person. Now I will let you go.

Fisherman: Oh, thank you so much. God bless you for your kindness.

Watchman: Wait a moment, I will tell you. Since I let you go inside, you will have to pay me half the price of the fish.

Fisherman: Well, I will give you a penny when I come out.

Watchman: No, I want half of the price when you come out.

Fisherman: Well, I will give you ten pennies.

Watchman: You good for nothing, do you think I am telling you for no use. Go away quickly, do not talk much.

Fisherman: Well, if you say so I will give you. Let me in. When I get the price, I will give you half.

Then, the fisherman went to the rich man carrying his fish. When people saw him, they were very happy and the door man brought him to the rich man in the hall. The door man saluted the rich man.

The rich man: Who is he?

Door man: Master, he is a fisherman bringing a big fish to sell.

The rich man: Please tell him to bring it here.

Fisherman: He brought the fish before the rich man, gave respect and put it down in front of him.

The rich man: (look at his friend) look here, this man brought the fish on the right time.

Fisherman: Yes sir, this fish is full of fat.

The rich man: well, you have brought it on the right time. We want a fish but we cannot get it anywhere. How much do you want? I will not bargain with you. I will give you at once. Now, it is my daughter's wedding and I will give you a good price. I will give you as a reward. In your life you will never get a price like this. How much do you sell this fish for? Tell me.

Fisherman: I do not want any money. I would not take any gold or silver either. I only want a hundred strikes on my back not less or not more and that will be the price for my fish.

The rich man: (to his friend) This man might be foolish. What do you say?

Fisherman: I would like to sell this fish.

The rich man: Well, how much do you want for this fish? Please do not be afraid. I will give you a good price.

Fisherman: I want only a hundred strikes on my back.

The rich man: (amazed when he heard that) Are you foolish? You have brought the fish on the right time and why do I have to strike you on the back?

Fisherman: I would not take money. I would not sell you the fish unless I get one hundred strikes on my back.

The rich man: This is too bad. I do not understand. But I cannot help buying this fish. Well, servants, this man asked for the price of the fish. We will have to give him as he has told us. (To the fisherman) Well, man, I do not understand about this but I will have to take the fish. Give me the fish and I will give you the price just as you have asked for. (Turn to the doorman) Doorman,

Doorman: Yes, master.

The rich man: Go and take the cane and strike this man a hundred times on his back. But do it gently so hurtful.

Doorman: Yes, master. (Go and take a cane and take off the fisherman's clothes and strike him.) One, two, three, four, ... until it reached fifty times.

Fisherman: stop, stop. There is a friend of mine who deserves half the price of my fish.

The rich man: How come? Is there any foolish man like you? Where is your friend?

Fisherman: He is just outside.

The rich man: Who?

Fisherman: Sir, it is your watchman. When I came to sell the fish, he did not let me come in. He asked for me half of the price of the fish until I agree to pay for it.

The rich man: He is a liar. Go and call the watchman now (waiting for the watchman to come in.)

The rich man: (to the watchman) Do you make the fisherman agree to pay you half the price of the fish?

The watchman: (feeling embarrassed) Yes, master.

The rich man: Well, you will get it now. Doorman, take off his clothes and cane him strongly for fifty times on the back. Then fire him. The doorman took off the clothes, turban, belt of the watchman and asked him to lie down and hit him harshly and counted 1,2,3,4,5,... until it reached 50. And he said, "I tell you to go out from here."

The rich man: Fisherman, please come to me, I will give you the price for the fish. I will give you a prize. Take a string of a golden watch and give it to you wife. If you get any fish please come and sell here.

Fisherman: Bow down, saluted and went back home.

Lesson 9

A barber of Baghdad

In the days when Haroon was the King of Baghdad, there lived in the city a barber called Saw Sakal. He was famous as a clever barber. He was so good at it that even when he did not look at the head he could give a good shave. He never hurt anybody and his cut was neat and good. Everybody knew him from the poorest to the richest in Baghdad and there were nobody who did not go and have a hair cut with him. Later his work was so good that he became quite rich and was very proud and insolent. Thus, he would not give a hair cut unless the person was rich and well known.

In Baghdad, there were very few trees and the barber needed a lot of wood. So, a wood cutter thought that he would go and sell his firewood to the barber. He had to go and cut the firewood in very faraway places. The poor wood cutter had a donkey. He loaded the logs on his donkey's back and brought them to the barber.

The barber told him that he would buy all the firewood and before buying he asked, "How much are all the woods on the donkey's back?" When they agreed with the price, the wood cutter unloaded the logs and asked for his money. The barber said, "I won't give you yet. There is one thing that I need to take. You have not given me all the wood yet. I must have the wooden pack-saddle as well." The wood seller was so surprised and said, "How come? Nobody buys firewood from me like this. You are the only person like that and it is unusual." They argued with each other and they could not settle the problem. Finally, the barber seized the pack-saddle and threw the wood-seller out of the street.

The wood cutter was very sad. He went to their leader and talked about that but he did not listen to the case. He then went to the higher judge in the headquarters to judge their case but the judge said that the barber was right and did not listen to the case. Again, he went to the

Min Gyi and Min Gyi asked him the case and judged that he did not see any law to make him win the case and did not listen to the case anymore. The wood cutter did not feel disappointed. Finally, he went to a writer and asked him to write a petition to the king about what had happened. He sent it to the king and the king read it and some days later he was summoned to appear before the king. When he came to the king, he fell down on his knees before him waited for the king's judgment. And the king said, "Man, you have justice on your side but the barber has words on his. You tied your neck by yourself with your words. Words are important and agreements are based on words, so I must rule that the barber may keep the pack-saddle." However, the king called the wood seller aside and whispered something into his ear. Nobody heard that but the wood cutter seemed to be satisfied. The wood seller bowed to the king and left the palace leading his donkey, which he asked somebody to look after for a while, and went back home.

Some days later the woodcutter came to the barber's shop and as if nothing had ever happened between them. He asked the barber to give him and his companion who came together with him a haircut and a shave to know how clever the barber was. After naming the price and agreeing on a figure for cutting and shaving, the barber gave a haircut and a shave to the woodcutter. After that the barber asked Ali, "Where is your companion"? Ali answered, "He is standing outside and will bring in now." Then he went outside and led in his donkey behind him and said, "This is my companion. You will have to give it a cut and a shave." The barber was very angry. "Do I have to shave it? Is it not enough that I should degrade myself by shaving you but now you wish to insult me by asking me to shave your donkey," he roared, "Anyway, fellow, Go out of here, otherwise I will hurt you." After saying this, he drove them out.

The woodcutter went to the king and told him what had happened. The king told him, "Well." Then the king ordered his governor to go and call the barber, Sakal, together with his knife to give a haircut.

Twenty minutes later, the barber stood before the king. The king asked him, "Why did you refuse to shave this man's companion? Was not that the agreement that was made?" Sakal stood before the king and said, "It is true, your Highness, that such was our agreement, but who ever heard of making friend with a donkey? Who can believe that they are real true friends?" The king answered him, "If you say so, who ever heard of a pack-saddle being included in a load of wood? Now, it is the woodcutter's turn. Now bring forth the donkey." Then, the barber had to shave the donkey from the head to the toes and he had to use a lot of soap. And he had to do that in front of the king and people. When they were watching him shaving the donkey, they laughed at him, reproached him and criticized him in many ways.

And the woodcutter was sent out with a lot of prices. When people heard about this case, the king of Baghdad became famous for his wisdom and righteousness that people respected and honoured him.

Lesson 10

Being responsible for the animals

Animals are living things in this world. In general, human beings are also animals. However, when we say animals we do not keep them the same level as human beings. We keep them on the same level with the non living things and the flocks.

Consider about how the animals are giving us benefits. If there are no ox, buffalos and horses, we will have to carry the loads, pull the carts or otherwise we cannot reach anywhere. Then, we would not be different from people from the dark world.

Animals give us a lot of benefits but we cannot pay them money like human being for their workload. But there is one way. After asking them to work for us, we have to feed them well, give them good rest, give them good place to sleep to regain their strength for working in the future without getting easily tired.

The load that they have to carry should not be too heavy for them. Do not make the cart hurt their skin. Do not ask them too much. Do not beat them too much. Let us love and take good care of the animals because they will not stay with us for a long time.

Things do not happen as it should be. Sometimes we see the buffalo's face quiver because they are canned harshly and had to carry overload cart. Sometimes, the harness was so tight that it cuts their skin. That is why the horses are ill for running around in the hot sun every day. When they come back they are set out and they have to find their own food, sometimes they are full but sometimes they are not full. Because of the horse's work, people get money and use them for it. In return, nothing was prepared for the horse. That is why all the villages and towns should have the committee which would prevent the animals which are tortured.

Dogs are a kind of animals living together with human beings at home. They are also the friends of human beings. When we pat them,

they wiggle their tails with happiness. They follow us every where even to the jungle. When they see something that they think would hurt us, they bite it. Old people say, "No matter how poor we are, we should breed cats and dogs. Otherwise we are not human beings." There is a saying, "Welcome dogs and welcome guests" until now. So, people who accept dogs and guests are people who are respected.

We should have a kind heart to the animals. They have to endure the illness just as human being. We should have pity of them for their inability to speak. If we are not kind to the animals, we would also be bad for our friends. We will do bad things as well.

We should know that animals are like the human beings and they are created by God as well. They are the work of God. Though we do not take pity on them, God does and gives out everything for us to look after and take care of them. We are God's servant. Besides, those who take pity on others will be pity."

If we have pity on the animals, we can advise others to take care of the animals in one way or the other. Children do not realize that animals feel and hurt just like the human beings. When they are playing they will catch the butterflies, tie them on their waist and watch them flying with a string. When some children see the lizards and birds on the tree, they throw a stone at them to kill them. They should be taught to have pity on the animals. And they should be asked how they would feel if they were stoned.

We should not torture animals. We should make them happy to stay with us peacefully. A horse is a kind of animal which likes to be patted. Cats also purred when they are being patted.

Lesson 11

Poem Teaching Sons and Daughters

1. Mother calls us from our graves
From our graves, father calls us.
Father does not like us to be asleep
Mother does not like us to be naked
2. (They) tell us to play the violin made of hard bamboo and be happy.
They tell us to blow the horn made of hard wood
They made us to go to the river (Rivers in Toungo Township that eventually flow into Mekong River)
To see the mountains (Ler Thu and Ler Po Day mountains)
3. Wake up young and strong children
Let us go to the Waterfall (Yaw-Mu-Lay waterfall in Pa-Pun District)
There you will see reviving medicine
Let us gather, pool our wealth and get it back
4. The reviving medicines at the bottom of Yaw Mu Lay Waterfall.
This much we have gathered and pooled.
If we could buy that it would be ours.
We need not be afraid of sickness and death.

Lesson 12

A person who got married with a woman from the other race

Once upon a time the elders said that there was a man who had a son named Saw Hay. He told his son, "I will go and find you a wife from far away country." Then he stood up, went to another country. He saw a very beautiful lady and she looked good to him. He did not inquire about her characters. By looking at her appearance, he agreed to let his son marry the lady. The lady was from a poor family and earned her life very poorly, working day to day. People called her Naw Hser Paw. On the other hand, his son was well off.

The friends of the woman were happy because she got a rich husband. She had to live richly but she did not enjoy it. Her husband asked his servant to prepare delicious food for her but she was not used to that and she did not like eating them. She ate together with the servant. Her husband did not let his wife carry heavy things but she did not enjoy that. She was not satisfied because she was rich. She just wanted to be poor and she hated her husband's wealth. Thus, she planned to make her husband poor. One day she went to a fortune teller and said, "What should I do to become poor?" The fortune teller answered, "If you want to become poor, when your husband is sleeping, cross his pillow every morning for three days."

Naw Hser Paw went back home and did just as the fortune teller said. She did that for three days. Later her husband's animals died and lost all his wealth. The couple became poor and had nothing to eat. Her husband, Saw Hay, met his rich friend and asked him to lend him one thousand Kyats. Saw Hay took one thousand Kyats and his friend told him, "Go and look after your wife." Saw Hay went back home and saw his wife got married with another man but the man told him, "Friend, I did not know that this woman is your wife. Take her back as your wife."

Lesson 13

A Poem of Tracing the Original

Then, the man took his wife back. Later the fortune teller saw him and said, "Man, why are you so foolish? The reason you become poor is because of your wife. You are a man with dignity. If you continue to stay together with her, you will become poor again as before. When Saw Hay heard what the fortune teller told him, he left his wife at once. That is why our ancestors said,

1. Do not get married with people from other races.
 2. Do not adopt other's children
 3. Children, do not cross the pillows
 4. Look carefully before getting married
- You will get your father's clothes
If you do not look for your wife carefully,
You will become naked.

(1) If we trace by the birth of men's calves
We all are siblings
If by birth of men's calves, we trace
Siblings all we are.

(2) Sgaw and Pwo has the same original
Separated at the time of famine and calamity
The same original Sgaw and Pwo has
In time of famine and calamity they were separated

(3) In the past they ate from a big circular tray
(all) placing their hands on the pig sacrificed to the spirit
A big circular tray they ate from the past
(all) touching the side of the pig sacrificed to the spirit

(4) In the past they were one big family (like the eggs of the hen)
Yet dividing the line by yourself
One big family in the past
By yourself you divided the line

(5) Knife sharpen by whetstone
Trace not the original of Sgaw or Pwo
Sharpen the knife by whetstone
Figure out not the original of Sgaw or Pwo

Lesson 14

A peacock

Once upon a time, a peacock was a king of all the birds in the air. When he was flying in the sky, he did not wait and see his servant behind. His servant could not catch up with him and left behind group by group and later they scattered throughout. Because he did not look at his servant well, all his servants were scattered.

The peacock went to a king of all birds and got married with his youngest daughter and they loved each other so much. Later his wife hatched their egg in the nest. While she was hatching she lost her feathers like a baby and she covered the hole with mud and showed only her beak. The male peacock had to fly around and look for food for his wife and children every day. One day, when he was looking for food, he was caught in a trap. He tried hard to escape for the whole night and could not go back home. In the morning, he tried his best and escaped from the trap and went back home to feed his wife and children as usual. His wife on the other hand did not eat it. She said that her husband had another wife and did not come back on the time he should. She was angry with her husband and starved herself to death. Her husband explained to her that he was caught in the trap and suffered a lot but she did not believe his words.

Since then, his wife did not eat anything and starved herself to death and before she died she prayed that if she died she would like to become a king's daughter and she would never talk to men at all before her father. After praying, she died. Later just as she prayed, she was conceived in a king's wife and was born soon. She was beautiful, gentle and gorgeous.

Her husband, on the other hand, was left behind with great sadness and distress. Later, he died also. Before he died he prayed that wherever he went he would like to meet with his wife again. After praying for that, he died. As he prayed, he was born in a town where his wife

was born. His parents were not rich much. When he became a young man, his parents died. He was left alone and poor. He had to go and work as a servant in the house of rich people.

The king's daughter had grown up and became famous for her beauty. All the young men went to suit her but she did not talk to them. They had to come back with shame. She did not talk or care for the king's son or any man. As she had made a vow, she fulfilled it. Her parents, on the other hand, knew that it was time for their daughter to get married but could not do anything. The ancestors had two sayings that they should avoid. The first saying is that the orphan whose parents died at their very young age could give them bad omen. The second saying is that a woman who does not get married and who has no children should not be among them. That is why the king was worried for his daughter.

Then, the king summoned all the young men in the kingdom and asked them to go and cut the field. After cutting they asked them to burn with fire. After burning, he asked them to scatter the rice grain all around and then the rain came. When the rice was ripen, the king sent out an order which said, "Young men, go and cover my field with a roof. If you could finish it, I will give you my daughter. Some young men went and cut the thatch and built the roof. The king said they could not cover my field. Some collected the plant and leaves to cover the roof but the king said they could not cover his field well. Then the king asked, 'if there any young man in my kingdom?' people told him that there was an orphan. The king asked his servant to go and call him and when he arrived the king told him to go and cover the field's roof. He told him that he will give him his daughter. He agreed and cut the field clearly and until there was no more and he went back to the king. The king asked him, "Have you finished building the roof for the field. And the orphan answered him that he had finished. When the king went and had a look he said, "There is only one person who can cover the field.

He told his daughter, “Daughter, it is your fortune that you have to love this orphan.”

The king’s daughter, on the other hand, although did not speak with his mouth, her mind is not as her mouth. Among the men who came and suited her, there were a few that she loved them. However she did not speak out. When his father told her to love the orphan she did not like it. In her heart she would like to love only rich people and those who have parents. She did not look at the orphan nor talk with him. She stayed silent. The king gave the orphan to go and talk with his daughter. The orphan went and talked with her but she turned her back to him.

Then, the king asked the orphan to thatch the grains. When the grain stock was separated, he put it into a tray and did not move it around. He blew them away with his mouth little by little. It was time to eat but there was no grain to cook. The young woman looked at him and it really irritated her. So, she told him, “We have to shake until all the stocks were blew away. If you blow like that the grain stocks will never move away.” The king’s daughter talked to him for the first time and he kept that in mind. After shaking the rice, the king asked him to cook it. The orphan, on the other hand, placed a pot on two stoned stove but it was not stable. He held it with one of his hands. When the pot was hot, his hand was hot. So, he let it go and let his hand cooled down. He held it with the other hand on and on. The pot was almost fallen. When the lady looked at that and she was irritated and said he was so foolish and did not understand anything. She told him to place three stands and only after that made the fire under the pot. He did as the lady told him and after a while the rice was cooked. The lady talked to him for two times now and he kept that in his mind. When the rice was cooked he had to scoop the rice. He kept the ladle on his back. He searched for it but he could not find it. He looked around, looked under the ground, went down and had a look, came up and had a look until the lady told him,” the ladle is on your back. Have you forgotten?” Then, he

said, “Ah! Here it is. I forgot that.” When he scooped the rice, they ate together. The king told his daughter, “Daughter, there were many handsome men from rich family came to suit you but you did not talk to them. But you talked to this man for three times. It is really your fortune to marry this man. And he is also a clever man.

The next morning, the king let his daughter marry the orphan. When the night came, the man was sent to the woman’s room and they talked to each other about their life and got to know that they were man and wife in the past. And because they did not do the right thing and swore themselves to each they had to meet each other again. Now, they loved each other and lived in unity. The parents gave them all their wealth and they lived peacefully.

Lesson 15

About Chopper and forge (blacksmithing)

Q1

You experienced the golden age

You experienced God

You know what the leaves say

You know what the bamboo leaves say

The forge and Chopper

Which and which one was made first

The chopper and the forge

Which and which one was completed first

A. The forge and the chopper came side by side

The earth is a bit older

The forge and the chopper became together

A bit older is the earth

Q. The earth is older than them

Who created and who constructed?

If the earth appeared first

Who did and who worked

A2. The forge and the chopper

The forge become, the iron melted to liquid

The chopper and the forge

The forge became, the iron liquid dropped

Q. The forge became, the iron melted to liquid

Who created and who constructed?

The forge became, the iron liquid dropped

Who did and who worked

A. The earth is older than them

It was made and created by God

If the earth became first

It was God who made and created

Everything on earth

God created all

Everything on the ground

God's creation surrounded

Lesson 16

Health

Health is the greatest gift from God. If we are not in good health, even if we have the wealth, the education and the power, there is no benefit for us. No matter how much wealth, education and power we have, if we are not healthy, we will not be happy. But those who are poor, uneducated and have no power are healthy, they will always be happy.

Everybody wishes to be happy. That is why let us find out about preparing ourselves to make ourselves healthy.

Things that make us healthy are as follows: eating good foods, drinking good and fresh water, doing exercises and cleanliness.

1. We should eat clean food, edible food and cook them well. Over ripe fruits, disgusting and rotten meat are not fresh. They can give us diseases. That is why we should be careful when we go to the market and should buy good food and learn to cook food deliciously.

2. Clean water is necessary for our health. It should be kept well. Sweep the dirt and rubbish from the well to get rid of fallen leaves. During the summer when there is less water, we should put medicine into the well to make it clean. If the water is dusty it will smell bad. We should boil water before drinking.

3. Fresh air is needed. We have to be careful with the air coming into our rooms especially the bed room. During both rainy season and hot season windows should be open to let the air come in so that we could breathe fresh air.

We should not stay in the room much. We should go out and breathe in fresh air into our lungs. It is good for our lungs after sleeping for the whole night.

4. For having physical strength, we should take time to do exercises to sweat. We should play football, baseball, cricket, running,

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We should pour some oil inside a pit time after time and the oil will move here and there and the eggs of mosquito will not stay there. At night we should sleep in the mosquito net not to be bitten by the mosquito.

Thus, we should chew the food slowly for digestion. And we should be careful that we should eat at least two hours before we sleep.

We are to be careful with these advices. If we follow these things, we will be more healthy and happier and it is better than those who do not follow these advices.

Lesson 17

The Endless Story

Once upon a time, there was a king who liked to listen to the stories. Whenever he listened to the stories and he never got tired of it. The more he heard the stories, the more he loved to listen to them. Finally nobody could tell him any stories.

At last, he sent words into every city and town offering to give his fairest daughter as a wife to a man who could tell him an endless story. If any man told a story and finished, his head would be cut off.

Now, men who believed that they could tell the best and the longest tale came to the king. Some men told a story for a week and finally it ended. Some told a story for a month, some two months and some six months and finally the stories ended. As they had agreed they could not escape from the punishment. So, they lost their heads.

There was a poor man. He said that he could tell a tale that never ended and if the king would like to listen, he would tell him that story. Everybody told him that if his story ended, he would be beheaded and several people who believed they could tell the story were already beheaded. He was not afraid and he would like to become a king stubbornly. Nobody could stop him.

Now, he was brought to the king. He made agreement with the king, set the rule, signed his name and set the time to come and tell him a story.

The next morning, as it was scheduled, he went to the king and began to tell a story.

Once upon a time there was a cruel king who was stingy and proud of his wealth. He built a granary as big as a mountain and forced the citizens to give the grain as a tax and to bring it to the granary. When the granary was full he closed the granary tightly and ordered his soldiers to wait there to prevent the granary from being stolen and taken.

One day, a swarm of locusts came over and ate everything they saw. Whenever they went, they ate everything. They ate the trees until

nothing left. They ate the grain until nothing left. Every plant in the country was gone. Everybody was afraid of the famine. Now a swarm of locusts could not find anything to eat. When they were near the granary, they got the smell of the grain and did not go anywhere. They surrounded the granary and tried to go inside and found a hole that was just large enough for one locust to pass through at a time. So a locust went in and carried away a grain of corn. Then another locust went in and carried away a grain of corn;

The man kept on saying this every day until a week and the king asked him, "What happened to your locusts? Continue to tell me what happen next." However, the story teller replied, "O King! If I haven't finished telling about the beginning, I could not go on." And he continued to tell that the locusts were going in and carrying away corn.

For six months he kept on telling about that every day until the king said, "Haven't you finished with the locusts going in and carrying away corn? When do you think you will finish it?" The story teller told the king, "O, King! Who can tell that? When I am telling this story, the locusts went into the granary and cleared only a small amount near the hole. But please listen to it patiently. Finally it will end by itself and do not be doubtful.

It was almost a year. The king sat down and heard the same thing every day about the locusts went in and carried away a grain of corn and another locust went in. The king listened to it until he could no longer listen to held up, "Stop, stop, stop your story. Take my daughter, take my kingdom and take everything you want but do not let me hear about the locusts."

As the king's order, the story teller got to marry the king's daughter and became a king's son-in-law. His tale was never ended. Whoever would like to listen to the end of the story was told that if the locusts had't cleared the granary, then he could not continue his story.

Lesson 18 **Ten characteristics**

1. Do not tell lies. Tell the truth. People who say the truth are brave. People who lie are the coward.
2. Be polite. When you ask for something you should say, "Please" and when you receive something you should say, "Thank you."
3. Respect everybody. Being respectful is the culture of the elders. The rich people also have a culture of respecting each other. In everything we do and say we should have respect.
4. Give a respect or a bow to your teachers and those who are older than you when you meet them. This is the way that shows you respect them.
5. Be silent when the other people are talking. If other people are standing, you should sit down. It is the symbol of giving respect.
6. When somebody is reading or writing stand beside them and look at it over their shoulder. Do not go near them. It is a way of showing disrespect.
7. Do not cross other. If it is necessary, say, "Please let me go."
8. Do not forget to clean your hair, take a bath, change dress and keep yourself clean. Untidiness is hated by many people. Do not stay dirty and dress in the worn out clothes. If you do not have new and good clothes, wash your clothes clean. Otherwise, it means that you do not value things that you own. Do not wear dirty clothes. Wash cleanly.
9. Treat others just as you want them to treat you. It is a golden rule for your life.
10. Do things as you are responsible and do not do it for a pay. Be afraid of being scolded. Do the right thing.

Lesson19 **Saw Eh Mwe**

Saw Eh Mwe was poor but very loving. One day he went to jungle and met a sick person with nobody to look after him. So, he looked after him as much as he could. He went on his journey and arrived at the next place and met a dead body of a man, whose friend had abandoned him on the field and did not bury his body. Thus, he buried the dead body. He continued his journey and met a bear got stuck in the hollow of a tree. So, he cut down the branch and helped the bear to escape. He went on and saw a tiger that fell into a pit and could not come up. So, he took him out of the pit. He continued his journey and saw a seal that was trapped so, he set him free and he came back home.

One night, an old man came to him and said, "Grandson, I am very hungry. Please cook a chicken for me." Saw Eh Mwe had only a chicken. With love, he cooked him the only chicken curry. After eating, the old man told him, "Grandson, I would like to sleep very much. I am cold so please put on the blanket well on me." He did just as the old man had told him. The old man slept until the next morning but did not wake up anymore. Saw Eh Mwe woke him up but he did not get up. When he lifted the blanket, he saw that it was no longer the old man but gold and silver.

Then, he kept the gold and silver well and built his house well. Now he became rich. He fed all the guests who came to his house, and never complained. He accepted them with love.

One day, a group of robbers came to their village and robbed and took away things from every house. When they arrived at saw Eh Mwe's house, they told each other not to destroy his house. They called and told him, "Friend, how are you?" He answered, "I am fine. And do you want anything." The thieves answered, "We have eaten enough from you" And they left his house. The thieves did not harm him.

At that time, a king had a daughter. She was now a young lady and her father would like to find her a husband. He ordered all the men to come to him to test their knowledge. All the young men who thought that they were clever went to the king. However, Saw Eh Mwe did not go. When all the men arrived the king said, "I would like to give a big party for my daughter's marriage. If there is anyone among you could find honey three thousand viss, I will let him marry my daughter." The young men told each other, "How could we find three thousand viss of honey?" They

tried their best but could not do that and came back. Then, the king asked, "Is there any young man left in my kingdom?" One man answered, "Saw Eh Mwe is still left." He loved others. He dared not come because once he was a poor man." The king said, "Go and call him for me." His man went and told him, "The king sends us to bring you." He then stood up and went to the king. He arrived and the king told him, "You will have to go and bring back three thousand viss of honey within three days. If you can do that I will let you marry my daughter."

Saw Eh Mwe went to the jungle. He shouted, "Dear bears, I would like to see you." Three thousand bears appeared. They asked him, "Friend, what do you want us to do to help you back?" Saw Eh Mwe said, "Would you please find me three thousand viss of honey? The bear climbed up the big trees, and the rocks. A bear got a pound of honey each. Within one day Saw Eh Mwe got three thousand viss of honey and brought back to the king. When the king saw the honey he realized that the man had a strange power. After that the king asked him to go and take three thousand deer within three days. Saw Eh Mwe stood up and went to the forest and shouted, "Dear Tigers, I would like to see you." Three thousand tigers appeared from the forest. They said, "Dear friend, how can I help you?" He replied, "I would like to get three thousand deer". The tiger at once went into the forest and brought back one deer each. And Saw Eh Mwe brought them back to the king within one day. After that, the king asked him to go and bring back three thousand big fishes. He stood up and went to the stream and shouted, "Dear Seals, I would like to see you." Many seals appeared and asked him what he wanted. Saw Eh Mwe told them, "Could you please catch three thousand big fishes?" The seals dived into the water and after a while they came back with a big fish each until there were three thousand big fishes. Saw Eh Mwe went to the king.

Then, the king realized that Saw Eh Mwe was good and powerful. The King let him marry his daughter and gave him his place.

Lesson 20

Bird of Ill-omen

In the Bible, tar-nar is known as an evil spirit that can live inside the people or the animals and made them evil. People understand that tar-nar has a body and sometimes enters the bodies of humans and birds. People understand and believe that tar-nar not only possesses the human bodies but it even kills and eats them. It eats raw. When we say tar-nar feast on someone, it means the demon catches the spirit and eats it, even the corpse. When he dies it eat also the dead body. Birds such as night eagles, owls, and some nocturnal birds are thought of as birds of ill-omen. People believe that if birds of ill-omen (hto-tu-war) come and screech beside the house, the village or on a tree, there may be sickness or death in the village.

Evil rocks or stones (ler-nar po-nar) are also said to kill and eat evil. This kind of belief is seen not only among the eastern people but also among the western people. In a dark silent lonely night, a loud screech made by a big owl or a night bird, "who...who" frightens lonely people in the forest or in the house. Night birds such as owls and hto-tu-war have deep eye sockets. When we see them open their eyes widely and look at something in the night with their big eyes, it gives us goose pimples. These birds eat corpses and preys and will therefore eat flesh at night upon seeing it. Even if it is a dead body, the night bird would catch at it and eat it like a grasshopper, cricket, frog and fish. That is why people regard them as night birds.

Various kinds of owls, and night eagles like hto-tu-war eat rats and insects at night. Therefore, when there was time when rats carried the germs of plagues (by eating these rats), the owls, the night eagles, hto-tu-war and hto-ku-sweh were no longer seen as evil birds but preventers of the disease. Killing and destroying night birds is not needed. On the other hand, they should be taken care of. There are no evil birds, evil people, evil rocks, o evil stones.

Lesson 21

Learning How to Sew

Every Jew has to learn to do at least a handiwork since they are young. It is good to study and learn how to write as education. However,

doing a handicraft is good because it is costless and takes only an effort. An apostle Paul was an educated person who learned the laws from his Rabbi Gamaliel in Tarsus. When Paul was questioned for preaching the gospel of Christ, he called out his teacher's name that he managed to appeal until his enemies could not respond. Moreover, he was a man who fed himself as well as the other people with his ability to do a handiwork. He was a tent maker. When he was preaching in Corinthian, he made and sold tents with the couple named Aquila and Priscilla. He was a leader who stood on his feet to earn a living.

Nowadays, the government passes the regulation for learning handiwork, woodcutting, building chairs, tables or other furniture for male students and making clothes and sewing for female students. It is suitable for the young people to learn and understand. British value these works so much. The nannies who could sew receive great salary and besides they are not even allowed to leave their jobs. If they go and work in the factories their salary are not low. Everybody learn from school but they could not earn their lives with this education alone. On the other hand, they will have to work with their own hand and with their physical strength. The study would help them to think and plan. It is true that women should know how to sew. If men know how to sew, it is not useless either. Men also should know how to sew for themselves.

Nowadays, we do not see such ability among male students. It is good if we can buy our clothes. However, we should understand that, instead of going to the tailor and spending extra money, we can mend our own clothes that are worn out and that have loose buttons. The male students should keep a bag, which inside has a needle, a spool of thread and button and scissors. Then, the hard door will open.

Lesson 22

Flying fish

There are many things that God created but human can never see with their eyes. Those who live far away from the sea do not know

or see what is in the sea and seaside. Similarly, there are people who live in the low lands and have never been to the highland and mountains. The Holy Bible mentioned about "fire snake". It means snake with fire. It has deadly poison. In our country, we can see a kind of snake that has red color like a ripe fruit in their neck and head. We are not sure that it is a snake mentioned in the Bible or not. The red necked snake's poison can kill people just like the fire snake did. However, we have never seen it before.

The flying squirrels are the four legged animals which fly with their wings. The flesh of bats' feet stick to each other and their hands look like cloth. When they spread their hand and leg to fly, the flesh in their hand and feet are spread in the air and squirrels do not move their wings. On the other hand, they stay on a high tree and jump down to the branch of another tree which is about one hundred feet away.

We could not see fish fly in the streams, lakes, and ponds in fresh water areas. However, the sailors who travel to the sea like Bay of Bangka near the Equator can see many flying fish at night when the moon is shining. Flying fish are like bats and their flesh and skin are spread across. When they are flying their wings are like seagull. When a big fish like shark touch them, they fly up. They fly up for 200 feet or 250 feet. If they see their enemies Shark on the way down after flying up, they fly up again and reach up high to the air and turn aside like bats to fall down to the water. They do not fly like birds and bats. It is like the squirrels jumped up and spread their wings. Flying fish do not have scale. They only have skin like sea fish and dolphin. Some sailors fry this kind of fish with oil just as frying meat and eggs. Fishermen in the sea always see them. Many people eat this kind of fish more than the sailors do. When Karen famous doctor Thra Dar Bu was alive he said flying fish is good for medicine just as the viper's gall, bear gall, boar gall, and the monkey meat. This is beyond the knowledge of the normal people. If somebody would like to see the flying fish they could get it from the Burmese Dawei fishmongers who come after the rainy season.

Sayings

Don't abandon the old sayings of the elders because they had received knowledge from their fathers as well. Then, you will receive the understanding and can pass it on well.

Burying knowledge and wealth have no benefits.

A person who buries his foolishness is better than a person who buries his understanding.

Lesson 23

Drinking Stream Water

Stream water is perfect. The source of the stream is from the mountain or the field. The water from the source of the stream is very fresh. However, when the stream reaches the main stream it mixes with

muddy water, iron and dirty things so the clean water gets dirty. Some people living near the stream drink its water. They do not think about how the water can make them ill. Clean water from the mountain becomes dirty when they reach the fields in the villages. Then the water is not good for people to drink. Such kind of water can give all kind of illnesses.

Hindu believes that the Ganges River is holy. They think that if they take a bath in it or drink that water, they will be holy and get the salvation. The dead bodies with diseases are thrown into the Ganges River which makes the river dirtier. During the outbreak of plague last year, many people died. The newspaper announced that it is prohibited to throw the dead bodies into the Ganges River. Since it is the culture and custom of the Hindu people, it is also hard for them to avoid that too.

In our country, during the reign of Myanmar king, throwing the dead bodies into the river was also a custom. Now, the government prohibits it. However, in the Northern and the Southern parts of Myanmar, people still follow their custom secretly. The bodies of the dead livestock are also thrown into the stream in the same way. In Hindu country, the act of throwing the dead bodies into the river not only makes the water dirty but also spread the deadly diseases.

People living near the river bank should take care of drinking water. It is not prohibited to drink it. However, the water should be put in a large pot for two to three days and then let it settle. The stream water is fresh but the water from the well is quite bland. However, if the well is dug well enough, after one or two years, the well will get the rain water and give out good water. Every family should drink good water for health. Karen people do not take care of this. Instead they imitate the Burmese, Indians and Thais. Digging a well or storing the rain water is the best way.

Lesson 24

Pu Ka Der

Pu Ka Der was a great Karen village head who lived in a place beside a prison. He could see the spirits and was greatly respected in his country and if he met people with spirits inside, he could recognize

them. He had two daughters. His wife found their elder daughter a husband. Their younger daughter was still unmarried. So he told his wife, "I will find a husband for my daughter." Pu Ka Der did not like his daughter to get married with men from different races. Besides, he could see the spirits.

Once, he met a person on the road. He did not see any spirit inside him so he invited him to follow him home. At home, thinking that the man was good Pu Ka Der let him marry with his daughter. Later the daughter told her mother, "Mother, this man is sleeping at night with no head." His mother did not believe that. At night she peeped through and saw that he had no head just as her daughter told her. She told her husband. He also went and peeped through. He found that his head was flying out to search for food. Pu Ka Der said "Wife, I thought I have found the best son-in-law but I made a mistake. Now, we have lost our daughter and we will have to send her off soon."

Pu Ka Der looked at his-son-in-law carefully and saw that he had a stomach and realized that he was a wizard. He asked his son-in-law, "When I first looked at you I did not see your stomach. Now you have a stomach. How did you hide it?" His son-in-law answered, "When you looked at me, I stepped on my stomach with my feet, so you did not see it." Pu Ka Der was so sad but could do nothing. Before sending his daughter off, he gave her a dog and a chicken. The dog was big and had no hair. The chicken did not have rump. He also gave them rice seeds; long hair rice seed, sweet smelling rice seed, early ripen rice seed, and longish pumpkin. And he sent them to the other part of Thailand where many roads met. He made a symbol at the border. And he planted two white costus on the road from the South and on the road from the North. He named the country where he left his daughter, Nar Ka Yaw.

And he told his daughter that, "Daughter, now you have got married with this man and your friend would not want to deal with you much. If you want to have a lot of friends, you will have to talk nicely

with sweet voices, treat the guests friendly and make them satisfied. Watch the two white costus till they get close to each other and become one tree. Then, we will know that every race will be the same. Demon possessed people or normal people will be the same.

Pu Ka Der gave these things because his daughter got married with a demon possessed man. He gave these things to make other people see his example. He told his descendants not to get married with people from other races and to differentiate the good and the bad. Pu Ka Der's words are still alive today. We know the tree through its fruits. And we should abandon our bad blood and we should abandon our bad children. Pu Ka Der made a poem to his children as follows:

1. Long ago, in a land surrounded by a lake (Baw Hei lake in Taungoo mountain)
Old adults who got married,
Instructed their youngest child.
Thoolei (White costus) planted in the Border lands, got so close together
Children travelled here and there
Woke up with knowledge and experiences
Lads and maidens met each other without knowing their true identity
And children tended to learn some bad things
2. Eating marrow, we talked about marrow
Eating gourd and we talked about gourd.
Instruction given by our mother,
That yielded in our father's field
If pursued great or small; The seeds would never be short of
And we would never be poor.
3. Elders who lived long ago
Long ago elders who lived
Hpu S' Tha Maw (a powerful grandpa) got married

Looking up the sun moving in the sky (in a wrong way)
Looking down the river flowing by (flowing wrong)
Planted the white costus on the way
Divided the land into two
Being disapproved of the mingling of good and bad.
4. Mother did discipline me,
Father indeed disciplined me
Yet I would not listened to them,
I played with flower (girl) if I met
Not heeding my mother's words,
I travelled to Mount Thaw Thi (in Thailand, Chiangmai)
And I could never come back.

Lesson 25 **A Righteous King**

Once upon a time there was a couple who loved each other so much. They lived together peacefully. One day her husband said, "Naw, I will go and do some business and I don't know how long it will take. Be careful when you are at home." His wife answered him, "Saw, just

go and don't worry for me." The husband prepared enough food, shelter and every necessary thing for her and went on a journey. When his wife was alone at home a man came and asked her to be his wife. She said, "What are you talking about? Don't say such thing. I am married to a man." The man did not get upset but he persuaded her in many ways. Finally she followed him and became husband and wife. However, they made a plan to hide their situation.

One night they went to the cemetery, dug out a dead body and took it back to their house. By midnight when everybody was sleeping, they set fire to the house and ran into the forest together. When the parents saw the house was on fire they came to put out the fire with their friends. By the time they got to the house the whole house was burned down. In the dust, they searched and found a burnt body of a person which they could not identify. However, they said, "Our daughter was dead in the fire." Then they took the dead body to keep at home and mourned for a few days. Finally, they went and cremated the body. Everybody knew that their daughter was burned down to death in the fire after her husband left the house. Later the woman's real husband came home and was told that his wife was dead in the fire. However, he did not believe that. So, he set up to search for his wife. He finally found his wife was living together with another husband outside the town.

Then, he went to the king, submitted his case that a man took his wife and lived with her in the forest. The king called the couple to come to him and they did. The king told the man, "Why do you steal this man's wife?" He answered, "I do not steal his wife. She is my real wife." There were many arguments and the man had witnesses all over the town. The whole town gave witnesses that the man's wife was dead in the fire. Nevertheless, the man was not distressed and said, "This is my real wife." Even the woman's parents said that their daughter died in the fire. They kept her body at home for a few days and cremated it which cost them this or that much. The woman was just similar to their daughter. The man told them not

to give false evidence because she was not only similar to his wife but also his real wife. Then, the king said, "I will not judge your case right now. I will think and make judgment on the next trial." The king made an appointment with them and let them go.

Then, the king built a box and put his trusted secretary to hide inside. He also gave him a pencil and a piece of paper. He told him to write down every single word he heard and to be silent in the box. Then, the king asked the couple to carry the box and go round the town. When they were tired and put the box down they looked at each other and said, "What we did was not right and what we planned was not good. It is not good to make our parents unhappy. We have committed two sins. We have committed adultery and lied to our parents. Therefore, we are facing this trouble and had to suffer." The secretary heard the words and wrote down. They had to carry the box under the hot sun just as prisoners because of the King's command. They were very tired but had to carry it around the town. When they got back and put down the box, the king ordered the woman to carry the box again with her first husband.

The couple carried the box around the town and was very tired. They put the box down and sat down to take a rest and the husband said, "Wife, why did you do this to me? How can you do this to me? Please tell me the truth. If you do not tell me the truth you will have to suffer more than this." Then the wife told him the truth. She said, "The man persuaded me to follow him till I listened to his words." The secretary overheard these words and wrote them down. When they were no longer tired, they carried the box and came back to the king.

They waited for the king to judge their case. The king opened the box and his secretary came out. The king asked, "What did you write?" The secretary gave the paper to the king.

The king looked at the paper and knew that the first man that carried the box was a liar. He planned evil things and therefore committed a great sin. The king gave him a death sentence. The king was famous

for his wisdom that people were afraid of him and had a great respect on him.

Lesson 26 **A famous Artist**

In Springfield, America, there lived a wise man named Saw White. Among his many children, a son he loved most was called Benjamin. A pastor once saw the child and told his father, "You know, your son will become a great person one day."

One day, before his mother went to the market she told him, "Benjamin, I will go to the market. Do not go anywhere, sit down beside

your brother and cradle him when he cries.” After that she went out. Benjamin did as his mother told him and sat beside his brother to cradle him. While his brother was sleeping he said, “Little brother is sleeping now. I will draw his portrait.”

The idea of drawing a portrait was a new idea because there was no picture either in their house or in other houses. It seemed like he was inventing the arts of drawing. He only had a piece of paper and a red and black pen. His sister peeped at him and said, “Benjamin is drawing the picture of our little brother. Whoever sees the picture that Benjamin drew will think that he is genius.”

Later, a Red Indian came and visited their house and saw birds, animals, flowers that Benjamin had drawn with ink. He asked Benjamin to use red and blue ink to draw their clothes and weapons. Benjamin took a piece of paper and drew a portrait of a Red Indian tribe. It looked so similar to them and they were very happy.

When the little boy was nine years old, a rich man gave him crayons. From then, the boy tried to draw every day. Although he was young, he became the greatest artist in America within a few years.

When Benjamin was twenty years old, he went to Italy to learn more about drawing. After studying for three years in Italy, he came back to England. King George III knew his talent and asked him to draw his portrait. He received a lot of money for this work.

Later, he became a teacher in a great learning center called Royal Academy. As he died, he fulfilled the words of an American pastor, who once said that Benjamin would become a great person one day.

Lesson 27 **Poem, Warning people**

1. Thu thu lay, children
Baw baw Lay, children
Big drum that came from Thailand
Save your money and purchase it

(Thu-Thu-Lay, baw-baw-lay = children playing, stretching their legs and rubbing them down and up with their hands)

2. Everything comes to be known
People come to know everything
Crocodile could not hide hatching its egg well
Its back full of eggs

3. People from the lower land said
The lower land people said
Rats would come and destroy the crops
Dear some friends,

Let your children be prepared to be willing to work hard

4. When a group of smooth bamboo trees wither and die
It is said that famine would strike
When the python travels, ferocious beasts follow,
If all friends are united,

Wherever we go, we are to take care of each other
Elders said to go to Delta in time of famine
If we hold fast to the elders’ sayings
And work together till the end,
We could name the rich people (the big barn).

Lesson 28 **Naw Mu Thu and her sister**

Once upon a time, Naw Mu Thu and his sister went to cut grass in the field. When they were tired and taking rest, they saw a ripe cucumber. They talked about the cucumber that would taste very good. If they saw a young man they would ask him to cut the field and they

would give him the cucumber. After saying that they turned to the other said and saw a young man came. He asked them what they were talking about. The siblings answered that the cucumber was so good. If they saw a young man they will ask him to cut the field and they would give him the cucumber.

The young man said, "Then I will cut the field. But I did not want you to give me the cucumber. I want one of you instead." Naw Mu Thu thought the young man was a real man so she agreed. But he was not a real man. It was a lion disguised as a human being. Naw Mu Thu accepted the young man to cut the field.

The young man said, "If you want me to cut the field you two will have to close your eyes." Then the two ladies closed their eyes. Then he became a lion and he licked them with its tongue and it sounded 'shu shu'. Naw Mu Thu, with love and trust, closed her eyes and did not look up. But her sister was not like that. She opened her eyes a little. She Open and shut her eyes. So, she saw that it was not a human being. It was a lion and she told it to her sister. Her sister did not listen to her so, she ran away, called her sister and said,

"sister, sister, - open shut, open shut it will eat sister

The lion will eat you, dear sister

Her sister did not listen to her so, she ran back to her house. Naw Mu Thu on the other hand left until the evening and the lion became a human being again and brought her to it home.

Next morning seven lions called each other and went into a forest. Grandma lion was left behind and talked with Naw Mu Thu and she said, "Granddaughter, please find flees for me." She looked at it and saw the snakes and scorpions on her head. She killed them all. The grandma lion told her, "You searched and killed them for me and now my head is not itching. Because of my affection on you I really took pity on you. My grandson will come back and eat you today. Before they come back, you will have to call a big eagle to come and bring you to the teak tree to escape from them. If you escape give the eagle a chicken for return. Then Naw Mu Thu stood

up and called a big eagle. It heard her and flied down and took Naw Mu Thu to a Teak tree.

When the lions came back and did not see Naw Mu Thu, they asked their grandmother and she told them that an eagle had taken her away. They searched for her and saw her on a teak tree and they tried to bite the tree. Naw Mu Thu knew that the tree would fall down. So, to prevent the lion from eating her, she called a woodworm to scratch the wood. Wood dust fell down until the lions could not bare so, they went back home. Several days later, seven young men came to Naw Mu Thu's house and sat down in the hall. The family member knew that they were not human beings. They knew that they were lions and they hid Naw Mu Thu in the room. The seven men took out their violin and hung down their tail in the hole of the floor and people saw them. The lions did not know that people saw their tails and kept on playing the violin. They knew that Naw Mu Thu was in the room and their music sounded like this:

Naw Mu Thu was accompanied by her mother in the room

In the room, Naw Mu Thu's mother accompany her

People answered them,

She was not in the room

An animal hung its tail down

Wiggling, wiggling its tail

And those who lived under the house held the lions' tails and those in the house cut their heads. When lions were killed people counted the lions' heads and found out that one of the heads was missing. They entered the room and saw that a lion's head had bitten Naw Mu Thu's neck to dead. Nobody could put the lion's head down so they have to cremate them together. Naw Mu Thu's parents told people who cremated the body that "If the fire become large, throw water at the lion's head and it will fall down." But nobody could take it off. So they burnt all of them with fire and oil. And a poet talked about that like this,

Naw Mu Thu in the past

Followed the big country
Fell in love with the lion
Did not look after her field
The water flooded and the field overgrown with thorns and
thistles
Rats ate up and pigs made nest.
The field was abandoned (because of the inability to work).

Lesson 29

It is my Fortune

Once upon a time there lived a king who had seven daughters. One day he called them all to him. He asked the eldest daughter, “My daughter, why can you have such a peaceful and luxurious life? His daughter answered him, “Dear Father, I have to live peacefully because of you. His father laughed out and said, “My daughter, you know your

parent’s gratitude. You may live with your father in happiness.” Then he called his second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth daughter and everybody answered the same. Finally, he asked the youngest daughter, “My youngest daughter, why can you have such a peaceful life?” His daughter answered, “Father it is because of my fortune that I could live peacefully.” When his father heard that he was very angry so he drove her out from the palace.

His daughter did not say a word. She went out from the palace with an only dress. She went into the forest and saw an orphan who was wearing a robe that could not even cover his whole body. He was cutting wood. She asked him, “Brother, what are you doing?” He answered her, “I am a very poor orphan. I work daily to earn my living. I will go and sell these woods tomorrow.” The king’s daughter asked him, “Then I will help you and live with you. I will cook for you.” The orphan answered, “You could not live with me. My hut is not well built. You have your parents so you could not live with us.” The king’s daughter said,” Brother, poorness do not run in the blood. If we live together in unity we will not be poor forever. I am a king’s daughter. Now my father drove me out of palace and I have to leave my home. I will live with you whether it is good or bad. Please let me.” Then the orphan could not escape and brought her to his grandmother. When the grandmother saw the king’s daughter she scolded him and said, “Grandson, you brought back home a king’s daughter. You will get into trouble. You could not feed her well. You work day to day and now you brought back your friend. You do not even have enough clothes and food.” The king’s daughter said, “grandmother, do not worry that much. Being rich or poor depends on our fortune. We will not have to be poor all through our lives. You are old now. Let me live with you and cook for you.

Now the orphan had a wife. His wife helped him cut the wood everyday and they lived together. One day when they were cutting the wood their dog saw a lizard and it chased after it. It ran into a hole and the dog barked at it. The orphan’s wife asked him to dig up the hole.

The husband was not lazy and did as his wife told him. He dug the ground and saw the valuable stones. When the wife saw them, she knew that they were valuable. So she told her husband to bring it back home. The next morning the wife took ten valuable stones and went to the city. She went to the house of the rich people, sold them and got a lot of money. Now, the orphan was not as poor as usual. He built a big house and had more than enough to eat with many servants.

When they became rich, the king's daughter lent money to the poor people in the country and said, "I will lend you money but I will not take any interest. You will have to give it back only when the king is dead." The poor people in the town were no longer poor now. People who borrowed 100 Kyats set out to do business and got 200 or 300 Kyats as a profit.

Meanwhile, the king would like to go round his country so he informed the whole country. When he was on his way he noticed people prayed for him to live a long life. The king was amazed when he heard that everybody prayed for the same thing. The king asked his servant and he answered, "The daughter that you drove out from the palace is now very rich. She lends money to people and does not take any interest. She tells them to repay her only when the king is dead. So, the people want the king to live long."

When the king heard about it he felt satisfied and called his daughter. Now he believed that it was his daughter's fortune.

Lesson 30

Four Commandments

Once upon a time there was a king who had only one son. When his son was old enough to study, the king asked him to go and learn at a school. Without hesitation the son went to study. He went to a hermit and asked if he could study under him. The hermit accepted him and taught him. There were several princes in the school. For three years, the king's son tried very hard but he could not remember anything. The

other princes learned all the knowledge from the hermit and finally they passed the exam.

When it was time for going home, the hermit called the king's son silently into his room and said, "My student, now you are going home. I have taught you for three years. You studied very hard, but you did not get anything I have taught you. It makes me sad. But I will give you four teachings. When you get back home, don't tell anybody about it. Listen to me and keep it in your heart. The teachings are:

1. want not to die but cannot
2. want to not die as well
3. want to get but cannot
4. want to get everything as well

After saying this, the king's son took his belongings and went back home. At home, his parents were happy. They invited all the citizens and the rich and important people to come and honor their son. They set a date to welcome and honor him. However, the king's son knew himself and his weakness. The educated people in the country will come, talk and ask him questions on that day. He knew that he might not be able to answer anything. So, he was feeling bad about what he should be doing. He did not go out because he was embarrassed. He stayed in his room alone and closed the door neither sleeping nor moving but thinking.

When the day finally arrived, the son was agitated and could not sit down. He remembered his teacher's teachings and opened the window above his bed. He thought for a while and said, "It will be better if I die. I am alive but there is no good for it." Then, he jumped down to die. However, on the previous night the king's servant had placed a big haystack to feed the cows and buffalos of the guests under the palace which was just below the window of the king's son. He jumped down but did not hurt himself nor die. And he remembered his teacher's words "want to die but cannot". Then he thought for a while and said, "There is nothing good to stay here. I will go away and die." He stood up and went away on the same night. He went on and on until it was dawn but he did not take rest. He went on and on for the whole day until the sun set. He saw a big water dillenia tree so, he climbed up to sleep. He tried to sleep but could not. At dawn when he was almost asleep a boar came under the tree. It spitted out a stone from its mouth and ate the fallen water dillenia fruits from the tree. Finally the boar put the stone back into his mouth and went into the

sea. The king's son looked at it when the boar crossed the sea directly to an island that appeared faintly.

The king's son noticed that although the boar crossed the sea, his chest was not wet. He thought, "The rock would probably have some magic that could help the boar to cross the sea. I will wait and see for a night." In the morning, he picked up all the water dillenia fruits that fell under the tree. He placed them one by one far from the tree. In the evening he climbed up the tree and slept there. It was almost dawn when the boar reached beneath the tree. He spitted out the rock and set out to find the fruits. The boar looked for the fruits until it was far away from the tree. The king's son climbed down quickly before the boar came back. He picked up the rock and took it back to the tree. When the boar came back, it did not see the rock. He searched for the rock around the tree for seven times. It was almost morning so the boar went into the jungle.

When the boar went away, the king's son went to the sea but his body did not sink. So, he went to the island that appeared slightly. Once he was on the island he saw a big giant sleeping. There was a pot of jewels and a wand beside him. So, he picked them up and came back home.

When he came back home, people were very happy to see him. Now, his father was old and he let his son take his place and let him rule the country. Finally, he became powerful and rich.

Lesson 31 **An Orphan Story**

An orphan who lost his parent since childhood was brought up by his grandmother. When he grew up he looked after his grandmother well. The orphan loved his friends and all the animals. One day, when his grandmother was drying the rice on the field, she looked up the sun which made her eyes darken. The air blew and she fell down to the ground and died. Before she died, she told him to go and ask for the

compensation from the sun. The orphan buried his grandmother. After the funeral, he set out a journey to the sun. On his way, he met a hog. The hog asked him, "Orphan, where are you going?" He answered, "I am going to ask for the compensation for my grandmother from the sun." The hog asked, "Well, can I come along?" The orphan answered, "Well, you can." The orphan continued his journey and met a tiger. The tiger asked, "Orphan, where are you going?" The orphan answered, "I will go and ask for the compensation for my grandmother from the sun." The tiger said, "Then, I will go together with you. Can I?" The orphan answered, "You may follow." The orphan went on the journey and met something as heavy as a rock, as light as cotton, as sharp as a chopper, as piercing as a lancer, as hot as fire, as cool as water, as salty as salt, as spicy as chilly. He asked them to follow him and they went together. Later they met a person named Saw Mar Doe and he also followed them.

When they got to the place where they could call out the sun, they prepared themselves. When the orphan went to talk to the sun, they would have to do their parts dutifully. After that the orphan called out the sun and said, "Sun, the wind blew down my grandmother to dead and she asked me to come and ask for the compensation from you 30 drums and 300 gongs. Will you think about that?" The Sun listened to him and after a while he sent out his servant, a big rooster. When the rooster came down the sun was covered. It scratched the mountain and the pieces of rocks fell down. When the rooster was close, the orphan called out the hog to be ready. The hog waited patiently till it came near and bit it at once. The orphan called out something as sharp as a chopper and as piercing as a lancer, as hot as fire and as salty as salt, as spicy as chilly. They chopped, pierced, burnt and seasoned the rooster. Finally, they ate the meat together and went out to call the Sun.

Then the orphan called the sun for three times to come out. The Sun again sent his servant, a boar, which size was unthinkable. The boar ate everything he saw. It was very strong and looked fierce. The orphan had told his friends to be ready. The boar was digging on its way and the ground became streams and rivers. It stepped on the ground and the ground became pools and lakes. The earth trembled and the thunder stroke with the harsh wind blowing. When it came nearer, the tiger jumped on and caught it. At the same time something as sharp as a chopper, as piercing as a lancer cut the boar into pieces. Something as

hot as fire burned him and something as salty as salt and as spicy as chilly seasoned it. Then they cooked the curry and ate together. After that they called the sun to come out again.

This time, the great Sun said, "I will ask the seven suns and the seven moons to come out. If you could stand this, I will give you what you have asked." Then, seven suns and seven moons shone down to the earth. The earth cracked open lines after lines. The trees and plants fell down to dead. The seas and everything became dry. The heat burnt everything on earth and the earth was red in colour. However, the sun's ray could not pass through something as heavy as rock. So the orphan stayed under the shade and could stand the heat. If he could not stand the heat, he cooled himself down with something as cold as water and if he was thirsty he drank the water. After seven days, the suns and the moons went back to their places. The orphan called out to the sun as usual and the sun told him, "If you come out and dance, I will give you what you have asked me."

Then the orphan asked something as light as cotton to go out and dance in the air. It slapped the face of the sun again and again. So the sun said, "Oh, a brave orphan, I will give you what you have asked me. I will give you 30 drums and 300 gongs." After that the orphan divided the reward with his friend. However, Saw Mar Doe did not take his share. He went back to his house at once.

Seven suns appeared
Seven moons appeared
If the orphan did not kill
The human beings would die

Saw Mar Doe went back home and said, "The orphan is not the only person who can do that. I also can do that." Then he asked his grandmother to dry rice under the hot sun. He pushed her down and she died at once. He went to the sun to ask for the compensation. When he was on his way he met a hog. It asked him to follow him but he did not accept it. He kept on going. Other animals asked him to follow but he let nobody to follow. He said that he could and would go by himself. When he arrived at a place, he called out the sun. The sun asked his great rooster to go down. The rooster scratched the ground and he was so much afraid that he lost his conscious. The rooster plucked and ate

him up. When the rooster went back to and told the sun that that he saw nothing but a grasshopper which he ate it up.

Lesson 32 **Sir Isaac Newton**

Famous people with great knowledge that everybody has to praise are usually patient. Isaac Newton was a famous person who was very patient.

When he was young, he could not sit stay and whatever he had to do, he would do it with might and mane. He had equipment like saw, hammer, axe, drill, and chisel for him and built a windmill machine by hand to watch for fun. It was astonishing. Beside his house there was a big machine which he went every day to carefully observe how it

functioned in detail. Then he came back home to build a similar machine. Sometimes he took the machine to the top of the ladder and watched it as it went round when the wind blew. Sometimes he caught a rat, and placed some food on the machine. He watched what happened when the rat jumped on the machine while it was going round.

Once, he went and asked his friend a box and built a four-foot wooden clock that was similar to the clock today. It had hour and minute hands. He let it go slowly by the running water. He kept the clock in his room and every morning he replaced the new water to let the water keep going. The clock was correct. Whenever his family would like to know the time, they looked at it. In Isaac Newton's room, there were different kind of pictures hanging down on the wall such as birds and animals, human beings, houses and mathematics schemes.

When Isaac Newton became a young man he went and studied in Cambridge College. When he was studying there, he tried to find out about wind, water, tide, and heavenly bodies. He left Cambridge in England because of a great plague. One day he was sitting in a garden under an apple tree and an apple fell down to the ground. It at once made him think of the reason the apple fell down to the ground. Whether the fruit had a power inside or the ground had a pulling power. Isaac Newton tried to find out about this power for several months and years. He found out that everything had the exact strength inside and was heavy. So, he called it gravity. This is the nature of the gravity of the earth.

Gravity is all around us. Everything, big or small, has a gravitational pull. Dusts, earth, and heavenly bodies *have a gravitational pull*. The larger the mass, the greater the force will be. The closer the bodies, the greater the force will be. The farther the bodies, the weaker the force will be. Whether *the body* is very rigid or moving, the pulling force is the same. In general, the gravity is directed toward the center of a body, and the distance is measured from the center. Everything in the world has gravity and that is why they can stay on the earth. Otherwise, they will float away.

If we consider carefully about the earth, we will know that the powerful strength is everywhere. Generally if we let go of whatever we pick up, a rock or a log, they will fall down to the ground. If we do not balance our legs when we stand up, we will fall down to the ground quickly. If a house or a tree or a building are leaning, they will fall down.

If the birds in the air do not flap their wings, they will be pulled down to the ground. When we jump up, we can not stay in the air for long. We will be pulled down. We can go up only a little high. If we look at the rivers, they always flow to the South. If we do not move something, they will be on the ground ever. If we pick them up, there will be a force that stops us. We can also notice that the bodies gather in their group. Everything seems to try to attract to gather in their respective each group. Water will gather inside the river and if they gather in the clouds up in the sky they will fall down as a rain. The body of the earth stays round and the trees, the rocks, the grasses and everything seem to attract each other to gather. If we think about that, all these things are pulled by a power.

However, this idea of pulling was not known to or thought of by the people in the past. In 1666, Isaac Newton discovered the tendency of an *object* to *remain* still. If we have to *climb* a high *mountain*, the strength with us will be the same as we are on the ground. However, it will be weaker. He also thought that the reason would be related to the moon. If that is so, the moon will have to be in its place just as the things on the earth. He thought about it carefully and decided to test. He tried to find out about the power in detail. And he called it 'gravity' as we have said above.

Newton discovered a new knowledge. This gravity is the most valuable discovery. If we consider carefully, Isaac Newton is a gift to us that we should never forget.

Isaac Newton was the first person to let us know that the sun has seven colors and these colours have become white. He was a good hearted person and people rarely saw him angry. He had a dog named Diamond. One day when he went outside, the dog jumped up to his table and the lamp fell down. Within a while the fire started and burnt down a pile of papers which he had written down his notes for years and years. When he came back and saw what had happened he did not hurt his dog. He said, "Ah, Diamond, Diamond, you did not know how much you have destroyed."

Isaac Newton was educated but still eager to learn. Yet he was not proud of his knowledge. He was a man of patient, humble and pitiful. He took pity of the poor and the weak. Although he had a lot of knowledge than other, before he died he said the knowledge that he had was nothing. It was like going to the beach and picking up the shells. However, many of them were left uncountable.

Lesson 33 The Power of Trying

Once upon a time, in Ireland, there lived a man whose father died since he was a child. He was brought up by his mother poorly. He grew up day by day knowing his mother's gratitude. The little boy was seven years old. He was a genius and he never sat still without doing anything. He helped his mother with everything; milking, planting and washing. When he finished all his work, he wrote on the ground or on the sand with a stick. His writing was not meaningless. He wrote the alphabets that his teacher, a lame-legged Morris, taught him the other day.

One day, a headmaster named Dru came and visited Saw Yo Har's mother. While they were talking, he saw the boy writing the alphabet on the ground. He told Yo Har's mother that her son was a boy who would like to study. The mother said, "Thra Dru, I know that my son wants to study but I

am sad that I can not let him go to school. His effort in writing on the ground that his teacher, a lame man, taught him was looked down by his friend. They did not respect him. I saw people doing that to my son and it made me sad." Thra Dru said, "Yo Har's mother, let them laugh at it. They will probably have a mother and a father who are wealthy. But do not get worried. Your son will become a famous person. So, I want to suggest you like this. Please let your son go and study in my school. I will not charge any fees. I will provide him with clothes as well". Yo Har's mother said, "Thra Dru, I thank you for that but my son needs to help me with milking, planting and washing. I cannot do it alone. I might not be able to give the house rent." Thra Dru said, "Yo Har's mother, do not worry. Let Yo Har get up a little bit earlier than usual. When it is time to go to school, let him go. If he still has work to do, he can do it when he gets back home after school. I know that he will become a great person." Then, Yo Har's mother thanked Thra Dru and agreed to send Yo Har to School.

While Thra Dru and Yo Har's mother were talking in a room, Yo Har and his lame teacher were also talking. Thra Dru peeped at them and saw that the lame man read out a word and Yo Har wrote it down on the sand. Morris checked the word whether it was right or wrong. Morris let Yo Har know the meaning of each word as much as he could.

Thra Dru peeped at them. Morris said, "Yo Har, soon you will have to go to a great school. You will meet a teacher better than your lame friend." Yo Har replied, "Do not expect me to go to school. I might not." Morris continued, "Yo Har, when you become a great person please promise me one thing." Yo Har was not listening but looking down. Morris did not get the reply so he continued, "Come on, Yo Har, You haven't said 'yes' to me. Don't think that I am making a joke on you." Yo Har replied, "I do not think that you are making a joke but please do not say that I will become a rich person. I am a poor person." Morris said, "Yo Har, Please let me tell you one thing. What I want to say is like this. I know that you were born to be rich. So, please agree with me. When you become rich and famous, please remember that once you and your parents were poor. They were kind-hearted and depended on each other. When you see the lame, the disabled and the weak like me, please treat them well. Above all, avoid drinking strong liquors. These things can lead the educated and great people to the graveyard before it is time for them.

The lame man teacher was right. Soon, Saw Yo Har went to Thru Dru's school. He passed the high school and was sent to a college. Within a few years, he amazed the whole Ireland with his great knowledge. He was known until today as an Ireland historian.

Saw Yo Har became the best model for the young people. In righteous do not be shy. Always try hard. Other people will laugh at you but later the one who laughs will have to cry and the one who cries will have to laugh.

Lesson 34 **Under the ground**

Some children probably would have a hard time to believe what I have to say now. Because some old people said: earthquake occurs because Mue Hsee shakes the ground to know whether people are still on the ground or not. However, if we look at the poem of our ancestors, there are seven layers of the earth and seven layers of the sky, and in the center of the ground, there is fire.

The educated people nowadays who find out about the earth that we live on said the last layer inside the earth was not as hard as the upper layer. The hard ground is only thirty miles thick. Under it fire and sulphur are burning. How can we know that? Sometimes we see that fire explodes upward to the surface of the earth from the crack of the ground and it destroys many things? Sometimes the ground shakes hard, opens up, and swallows the cities, towns, villages and the people. Besides

we can see the lava flows out as a fountain and we know that there is fire under the ground.

Now, the more you dig the ground deeper, the hotter it will be. Therefore, sometimes the fire and the sulphur fine a cracked line and they come out of it and become a volcano. When the earth shakes and opens up we call it earthquake. Earthquake occurs in many places and destroys and kills many people.

In 1783, there was an earthquake in Italy which destroyed the places around six miles. Within that distance, the houses were destroyed and ten thousand people died.

Some mountains appeared from the ground because of the fire under them pushed them up. In some places, the ground explodes with rocks and melts and flows down and it is called lava. These lava flows from the mountain to the lower places and destroys everything as a hot water.

Mount Victoria is a fire mountain. In AD 79, it exploded terribly and swallowed Paw Bi city and Haclu city. Lava flew from the mountain to the lower places and covered two cities and everybody was dead. These two cities were under the ground for 1600 years and were rediscovered for only one hundred years ago. Everything was seen just as the situation when the disaster struck. The bones of a person running outside the house were seen among the rubbish. A person was holding valuables in hand. Another person was holding an axe in hand to open the door to go out. Three children were bathed by their mother. And many others were discovered.

Recently, an earthquake hit Japan and destroyed many things and ten thousand people died. The ground opened up, the fire flew out, the sea water came and flooded the town beside the river bank. Besides, islands sank into the sea and a new island appeared. Everything that happens has the same source. The professionals explained as follows.

If we take a ball and push it from one side, the other side will curl up because of the force. Similarly some places in the sea are so deep that it is like pushing and the fire and lava come up pushing the ground above. When they find a place they come up and it becomes a volcano which shakes the ground. So, countries like Japan have a lot of mountains and there were a lot of movement underneath. In the last

earthquake in Hokioh and Yokohama, after the ground shook the environment was filled with darkness and smoke.

For flood, it was considered like this. A surface of the sea bed and another surface curl up. This makes the water in the sea moves. It flooded one side of Japan.

Some people have searched for the reasons. In countries which are near to the deep sea like Chili in Southern America and some states, the earth shakes off and on. However, the deepest spot in the sea is beside Japan and it is about five miles. That is why this country suffers more than the other countries and will suffer more in the future.

Lesson 35

The heavier, the more detail

Karens are mostly farmers and our mothers nurse us only when we are young. By the time we can walk the people who take care of us and tell us stories are our grandmothers. We usually have to sleep with them. It seems like we and our grandmother love each other more than our parents.

A grandmother and a granddaughter were lying in the bed one evening. The granddaughter, Naw Hsar, asked her grandmother to tell her a tale. Her grandmother asked her, “Granddaughter, how is your study?” The granddaughter answered, “Grandma, I am not good at learning. I cannot read well either. I try very hard but it is useless. Besides, Naw Hser Paw said I am the most stupid person she has ever seen.” Grandmother asked her, “How did you response when she told you like

that?” The Granddaughter said, “I told her that I am an idiot. I try to memorize the lesson but I cannot remember.”

The grandmother said, “Well, I know that you study at home every evening. Do not feel upset. You are very slow at memorizing but once you have memorized it you will never forget. Some people are quick at memorizing but they forget it quickly too. Bring your book here. I will teach you little by little every evening for you to learn better at school.” Then, Naw Hsar brought her book and her grandmother let her read the lesson passage by passage. If she could not read correctly her grandmother patiently showed her how to read.

Her grandmother taught her weeks after weeks and months after months until the exam finally arrived. Naw Hsar had to stand up and read. She was trembling with fast heartbeat. However, she tried to calm down herself. She read slowly and carefully. Her voice was clear and she made no mistakes. When it was Naw Hser Paw’s turn, she read quickly and carelessly. She did not care her voice but she went on and on. When she made a lot of mistakes, she was told to stop reading before she could finish it up.

Naw Hser Paw called Naw Hsar an idiot and it served her right back. Naw Hsar was slow at learning but she did it correctly, carefully and respectfully. So she did not make any mistakes in reading.

So, dear children, respect every work that you do and take my words. Because you are slow at memorizing your lesson, do not be upset. You might have heard a story about the hare and the tortoise. The tortoise runs slowly with patience until it wins the race, doesn’t it?

There are many kind of running races. It might be fast or slow. The war would be strong or weak. God has given us several works for each of you according to your talents. Prepare and do it to be better as you have the talent that God has given you to fit with what have been prepared for you.

Be satisfied. For those who try hard with patience, sometimes there might be great development but do not be upset. God knows everything.

Lesson 36

A disobedient child

Once there was a man who had only one son called Saw Der Ler. The man was very poor and had to work from day to day. His son was good for nothing. He was so lazy that he did not listen to his parents and his parents could not ask him to do anything. His father asked him to tend to the buffalos but he went and played with his friends instead. So, he did not notice where the buffalos went to search for food. By the evening he did not see any of them. His father always had to search for the buffalos at night. Although his father gave him punishment, he did not change himself.

When he had grown up enough to work on the farm, his father asked him to go and work on the farm. He worked lazily and when his father was not looking, he led the buffalos to the open space and made them starve for all day long. He could not work on the farm. His parents taught him ways of

living peacefully but he was not interested. His father was sad because he could not teach him and later he let him do what he wanted. Later his father was sad so much that he died.

Saw Der Ler had nobody to teach him now. He was not afraid of anybody and he devoted himself fully to the laziness. Once when he was playing on the road with his friend, he saw a group of people who would go to the town to sell clothes. So he followed them. When he was in the town, the people took pity on him and gave him a place to go and live. It was a house of a governor and he had to help with the house work and had to follow him sometimes. The governor was kind hearted and later let Saw Der Ler go to school to learn. When the school was closed the governor called Saw Der Ler to follow him by carrying some medicine to sell for getting money to buy his books and clothes when the school reopened.

Saw Der Ler studied for two or three years and when he could read and write a little bit he left the school. He could do nothing except selling the medicine. However, he was not contented with this work. If he could make the medicine by himself then he would get more money. So, he went to a teacher who made the medicine and learned from him.

When Saw Der Ler knew more about the medicine, he made the medicine by himself and he went around selling it. He got a lot of money year after year until he was well known and his medicine was sold very well. More and more people even the rich people and the lawyers knew him.

Later, Saw Der Ler was lazy to go around and sell his medicine. He was not satisfied with his job anymore. He learned about the arts of speech and speaking skill to win over the other people for nothing. He also learned about the laws a bit to win over others. Now, he tried to have heated argument with others and if he won he asked for the compensation. He tried to bring out a reason to argue and argue with other people and if the other people could not beat him he asked for the compensation. He said that he had high dignity and he would not speak it for vain. He was so proud and thought of himself highly as everybody was afraid of him because he had finished the law school. He found the retired police and tried to win over them and asked for the compensation. As a result, he received a lot of money and could buy horses and

elephants. He did not even think of his relatives and the rich people. He argued with them and asked for the compensation. His uncle looked at him and he was upset.

If there is unity

It will increase the friends

If somebody try to find to argue and fight

He will get the hatred

After he died, as his children were not good at speech and talking skills, they could not lie to others as their father. So, his children were treated badly, and their father's possession was taken back by force. In addition to that, the children were taken as slaves and sold as if animals. Thus, the elders composed a poem which said,

Want money but receive a trap

Later it makes children wept

Want money which receive with sweat

Later it makes children to be well-fed.

Lesson 37

King of Music, young Mozart

Karens are well known for their love of music and the ability to sing and play the musical instruments. Thus, I would like to talk to you about a King of music. One of you would probably become like him one day.

Baby Mozart was born in Germany and his father was a music conductor in a church. One day when he warmed himself beside the fire, his father taught his sister a music lesson. The son said, "Father, you teach only Anna. I also would like to learn as well." His father, on the other hand, said, "Wolfgang, you are still very young. Please wait for a while until you grow up." The little boy did not listen to his father. When his father went out to the room after giving a music lesson to his daughter, Mozart quickly sat down on the bench, step on and played the piano heartily without any mistakes. When his father heard the music, he rushed into the room thinking that Wolfgang was playing with the piano. He was worried that Wolfgang would damage the piano. Instead,

he saw Wolfgang playing a piece of music as perfect as his sister had just played. Since then whenever his father gave his sister a music lesson, he put Wolfgang on his lap. He looked at his sister's hand movement, the places that it came out, the notes and memorized them all. Because he was very young, his father did not care much about him but whenever his sister finished playing the piano, he stayed behind and played the piano without looking at the music notes. He played the song just as perfect as his sister without any mistakes.

Without noticing, one or two years had passed until one day a friend of their father visited their family. He went into the guest room and saw Wolfgang was busy scratching on a piece of paper with a fountain pen. The men entered talking to each other but Wolfgang did not look up. His father asked him, "Wolfgang, what are you doing?" He answered his father, "I am composing a song, father." The men thought that it was a joke and they laughed out loud. And the father told him, "Let me have a look." He said, "Wait until I finish. It is not finished yet." But his father took the piece of paper and showed it to his friend. The friend laughed a lot. But when he looked at it carefully he noticed that it was the real music notes written in it. He said, "Look here, your son has written the notes within five note lines." They looked at it more carefully and told the child, "You have composed this but nobody can play that." Wolfgang told his father, "If this song is not practiced beforehand, it can not be played correctly. Look here. Listen and I will play." He run towards the piano and played. The five-year-old child had composed a very difficult piece of music that even the professional pianist could not play without having practiced. Later the child became famous all around the world.

Not only his father taught him to play the piano but also he bought him a violin to play. Wolfgang had never heard people playing the violin before, so he thought that his son could not play it. Once, somebody took a piece of music with six parts to test him. Wolfgang brought his violin and told his father that he would like to stand up in the second row. However, his father had never known that his son could play the violin so he asked him to go out. Schener called him back, "Come on, and wipe away your tears. Come beside me and play it. Then he picked up his violin and started to play it amazingly. Schener listened to him. He reduced the volume and listened to what Wolfgang was playing. He played quietly until he heard Wolfgang playing and it was right. So he let him play alone until the end. His father had never seen his son playing the violin so he was amazed with gladness. He told his son, "Wolfgang, you are a king of music who will teach a lot of people."

When Wolfgang was 8 and his sister was 12, they went to Munich where they were sent up on to the stage to play the piano before the French King. The king was satisfied because the children performed very beautifully and it was a complete amazement for everyone. Later they went to Vienna, French and London. In Vienna, the siblings are summoned to the king's palace and they played the music and it really pleased the queen until she picked Wolfgang on her lap and kissed him. When they were in Vienna, Wolfgang composed six pieces of music to honor the queen. They went to several places up to French and Holland. Wherever they went Wolfgang had to play the piano in many local churches.

One evening, it was raining a lot and they went into a church. The brothers were having meal and thought that nobody was in the church. The music came out of the church all of a sudden and the sound was sometimes sweet, sometimes piercing, sometimes resonant, sometimes like a person's soft voice, sometimes strong like many people singing chorus, sometimes strident like the thunder and wind. It also sounded softly and only a voice could be heard similar to the silence after the heavy rain. The brothers were frightened much but they peeked inside the church to know what happened. When they lightened the lamp they saw that guests came to play the piano. Wolfgang was satisfied because he saw that the brothers were frightened as well as amazed to hear his sweet and beautiful songs. They were amazed and could not believe that a child could play that much. Among the brothers, Father Andrew was said to be the best pianist. But that child was cleverer than him. At first the brothers thought that it was a ghost or a fairy or a miracle from heaven. When they knew that the child was a real human, they gave the little Mozart a place to sleep for the whole night and to go on his journey the next morning well.

When young Mozart was 12 years old he composed a beautiful song for dedication at an orphan Church in Vienna. He composed a special song for the Orphan house and when people sang, played and blew the instrument, he conducted the band. When he was 13 years old, he followed his father to Rome. The Church used to play a song named The Miserere in the Holy Week. The other people were not given the right to write down that music down and nobody was permitted to see it. It was kept in a box and locked well.

Wolfgang listened to that song and immediately enchanted by it. He sang that song and took a fountain pen and wrote the entire piece out of his memory. Then, Italians realized his talent and honoured him until the priest heard about that and awarded him with knight of the

Golden Spur. What was more he was chosen as a committee member of Philharmonic Academy and he was praised endlessly by the whole country as a music prodigy.

When he was 15 years old he was commissioned to compose opera and many others genres. We will stop talking about a king of music here. He did not live for long. He had lived only for 35 years and left a lot of his precious music behind. The last piece of music that he composed was a death song that a person asked him to compose. Mozart should have finished composing the song within a month but he did not finish it when the time was due when the person came back to ask. The person asked him when he would finish and Mozart answered him, "It will finish the next month."

He continued to write down this song again but he felt weaker day after day. He told his children that the song he composed would be for him. He became sadder and sadder each day. He thought that the unknown person that came to ask him was not from the earth but from the heaven that came to tell he would soon depart from the earth. He composed the song little by little during his illness until he died. By the time, the man came to ask for the song, Mozart was already dead. The song he composed for the other person was now used for him.
Finish