



Naked Penco

*Instructive Stories from the teachings of
Srla Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur*

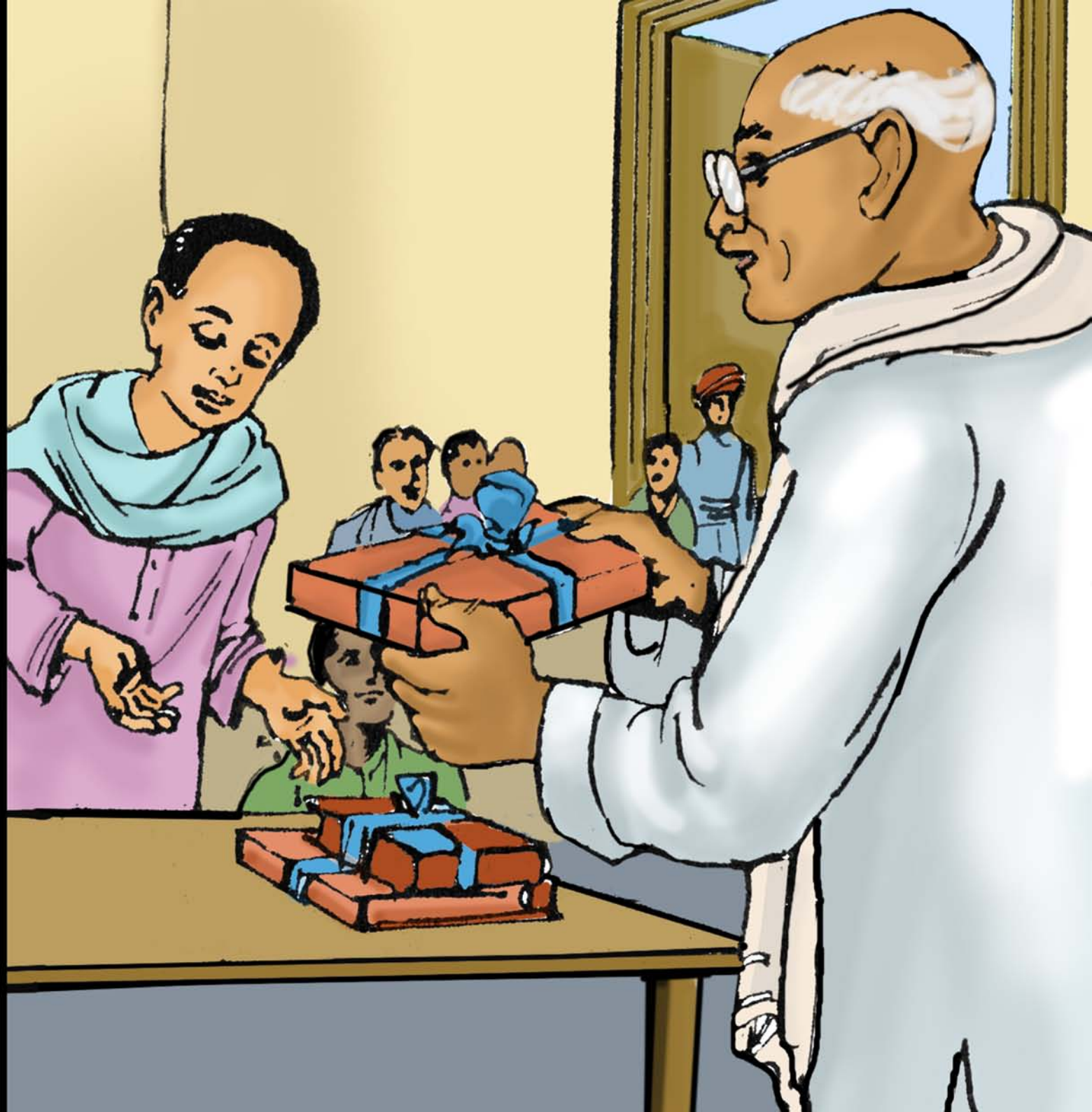
In a village there lived a boy named Panchanan. In tropical lands, small boys in their early age move around naked. Panchanan as a boy of five years used to go naked all the time. So the neighbours were fond of calling him “naked penco.”



**However,
Penco was
a very good
boy in his
studies and
general habits.**




Every year he used to get the topmost position in school and naturally he became very dear to most of his neighbours.



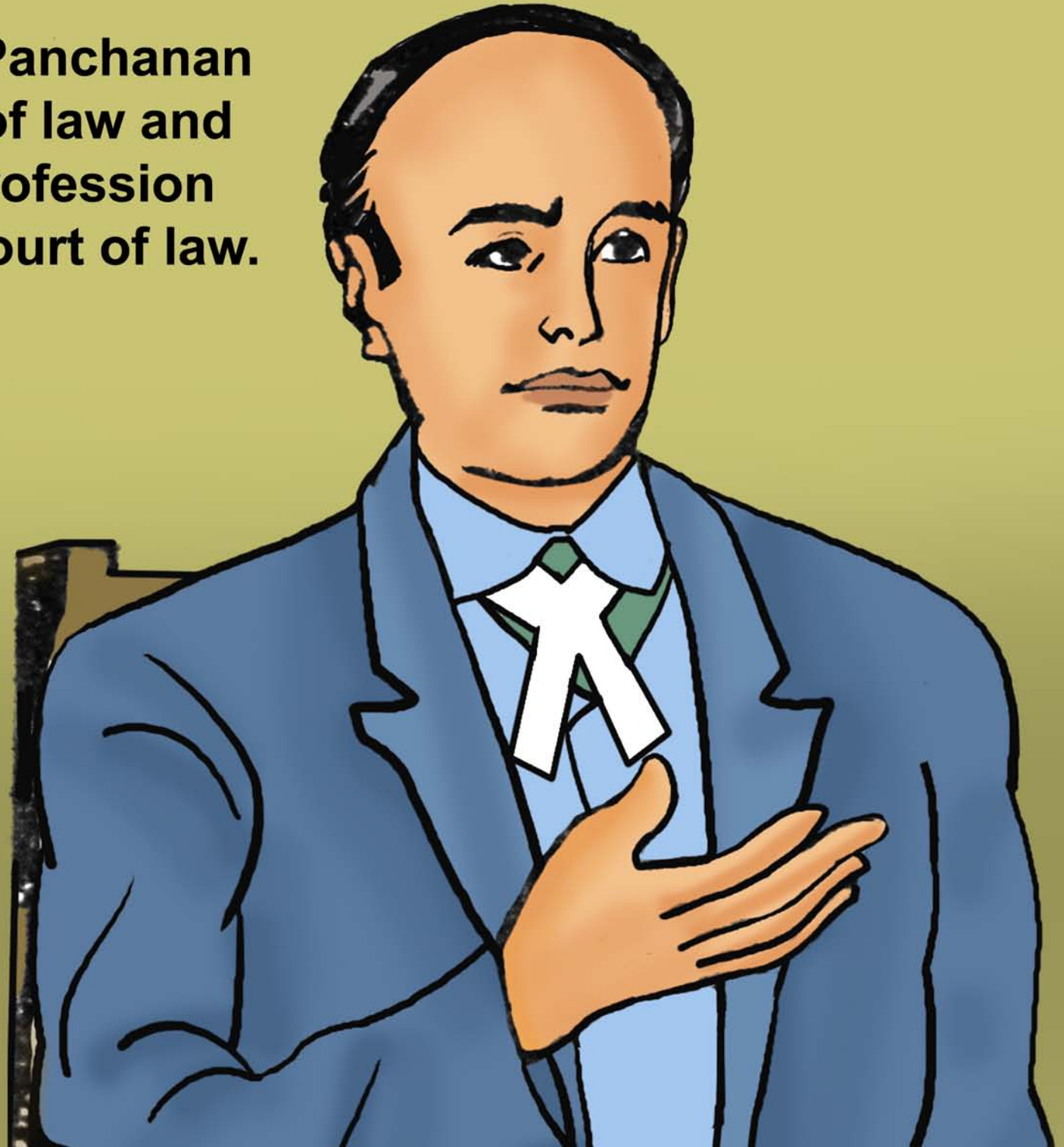
But some of the neighbours were not on good terms with Penco's father and they were not at all happy with the good behaviour of Penco. Every time they listened too any appreciation of Penco, they became very agitated and used to say,





**Oh, hang
your naked Penco,
don't mention his
studies!**

Within few years, Panchanan attained a degree of law and took to the legal profession as a pleader in a court of law.

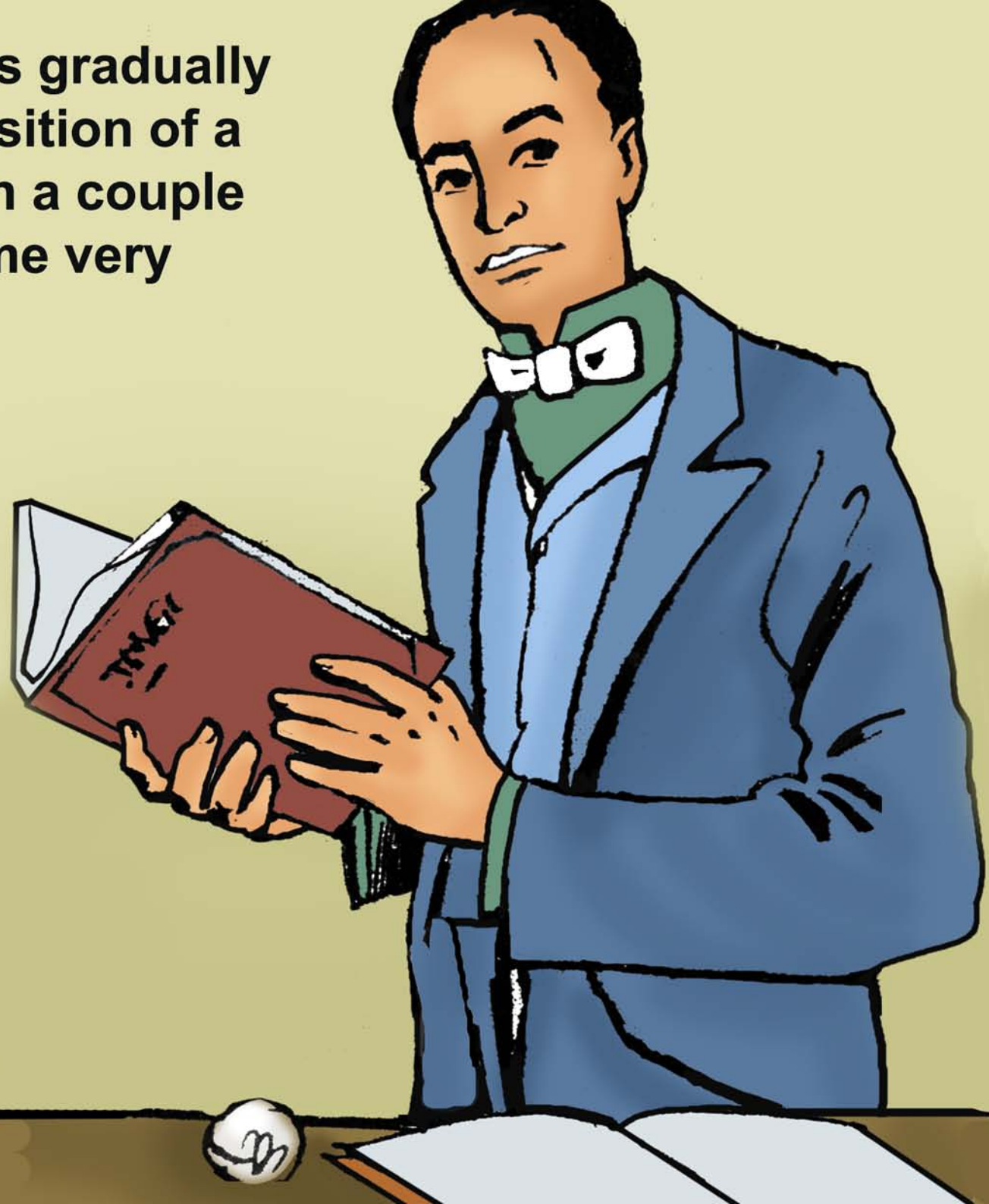


**When the inimical neighbours
of Pancanan's father came to
hear this news, they remarked,**

**Penco must have
passed the examination by
cheating.**

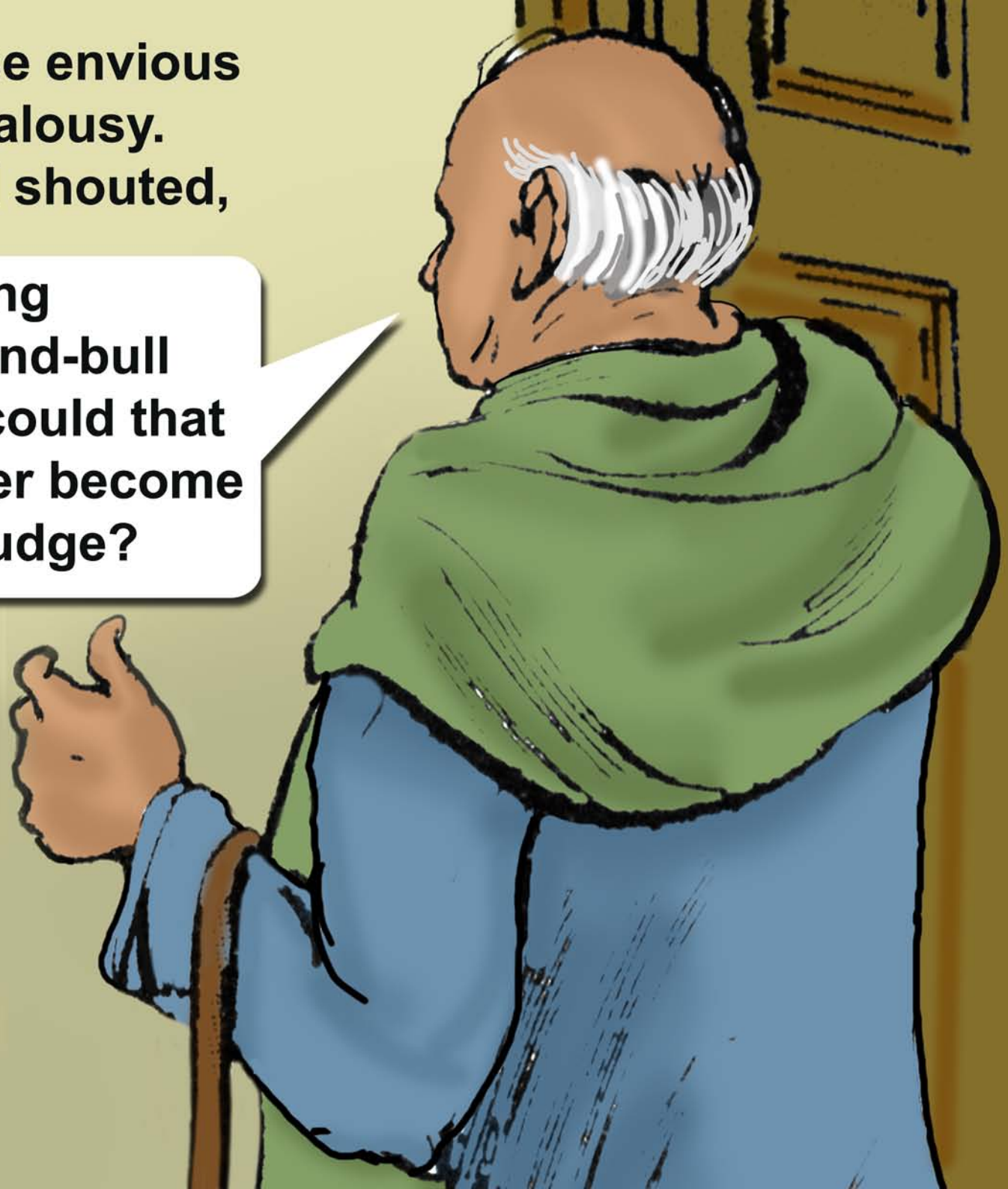


Pancanan Babu was gradually promoted to the position of a District judge within a couple of years, and became very renowned.

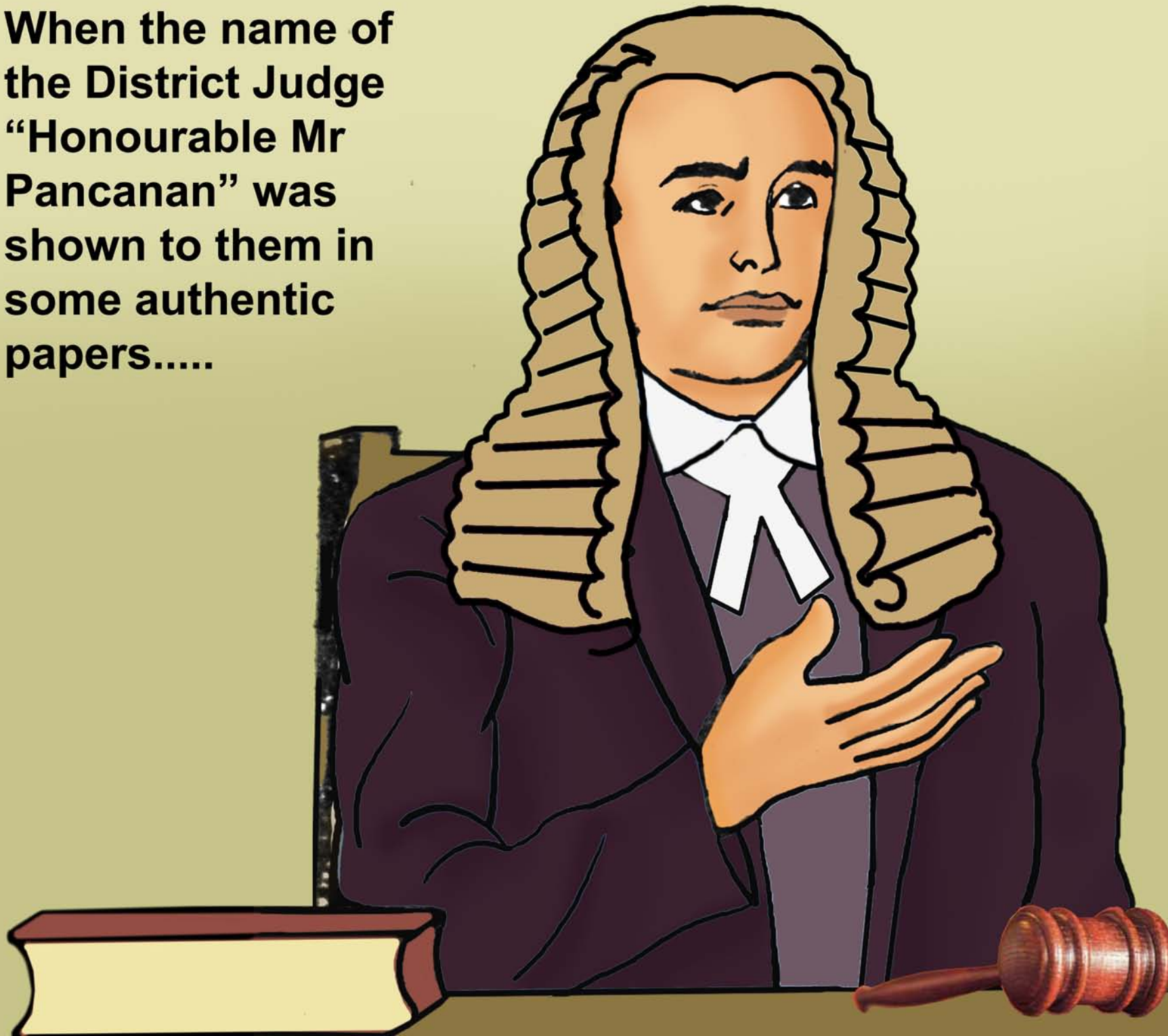


Then the heart of those envious people burned with jealousy. They pulled faces and shouted,

Oh, hang your cock-and-bull stories! How could that whippersnapper become a district judge?



**When the name of
the District Judge
“Honourable Mr
Pancanan” was
shown to them in
some authentic
papers.....**



...they cried vociferously,

**Naked Penco
must be working as
a judge without any
remuneration!**



PURPORT:

Any Vaisnava who has surrendered himself unto the lotus feet of the Supreme Lord or any person who has been duly initiated into the *Maha mantra* under a real spiritual master according to the *Pancaratrika* scriptures, should never be subjected to any sort of caste distinction. As depicted in the story just narrated, Pancanan Babu was wrongly considered to be a “naked Penco” even when he became a respectable court judge, and it was also an unfounded assumption that Pancanan could never become a court judge, only because his father was not in good terms with his neighbours. This is nothing but a reflection of one’s jealousy.

One who is a Vaisnava, even born of a low caste, should never be looked down upon as a lowly person. As one single rupee is in existence within an amount of crores and rupees, similarly the qualities of a brahmana all exist within a Vaisnava. As such, it is considered to be an offence to blacklist any Vaisnava as a non-brahmana for any reason whatsoever.

In fact an *uttama-adhikari* or a Vaisnava elevated to the highest stage of selfrealization, may very well be honoured as a *paramahamsa* or a truly wise sage. Those who consider themselves as servants only to such *paramahamsa* Vaisnavas, actually abide by the transcendental system of the eight divisions of *varna* and *asrama* as created by God.

They never pose themselves as Vaisnavas under a sense of vanity. Instead, they consider themselves as servants of the Vaisnavas under the *paramahamsa*.

Even if these persons came of a *sudra*, low caste or social *brahmana* family before they took shelter under the lotus feet of a Vaisnava, still it is unreasonable and offensive to introduce or call them *sudras*, low caste people or social *brahmanas*, recalling their positions in their previous *asramas*.

One who has received the initiation *mantra* according to *Pancartika* scriptures and thus attained his second birth under the auspices of the fatherly spiritual master, and motherly *Gayatri mantra*, is called a transcendental (not social) *brahmana*.

All these transcendental *brahmanas* (who have obtained their second birth in order to offer service to the Supreme Lord Sri Hari) accept sacred threads, chanting beads, *tilaka*, and the like, as per scriptural prescriptions.

Those who maintain that Vaisnavas even if initiated into their new life, must be considered belonging to their own *sudra* or such low caste as they were by birth, and that such Vaisnavas should not accept any sacred thread, nor chant *Gayatri* or *Pranava mantra* - are similar to such people who prefer to brand the district judge Pancanan Babu merely as a “naked Penco”, or that naked Penco would not draw any salary even when he becomes an honourable court judge. This must be known as an envious mentality.

Each and every girl moves naked in her very early age, but when the same girl attains her motherhood, then it will be most indecent and offensive to recall her childhood nudity and thus put her to shame.

Similarly, it is more offensive and extremely hard-hearted to make an impression about any Vaisnava in the light of his previous *asrama*, before taking shelter of initiation in the *Krsna-mantra*.