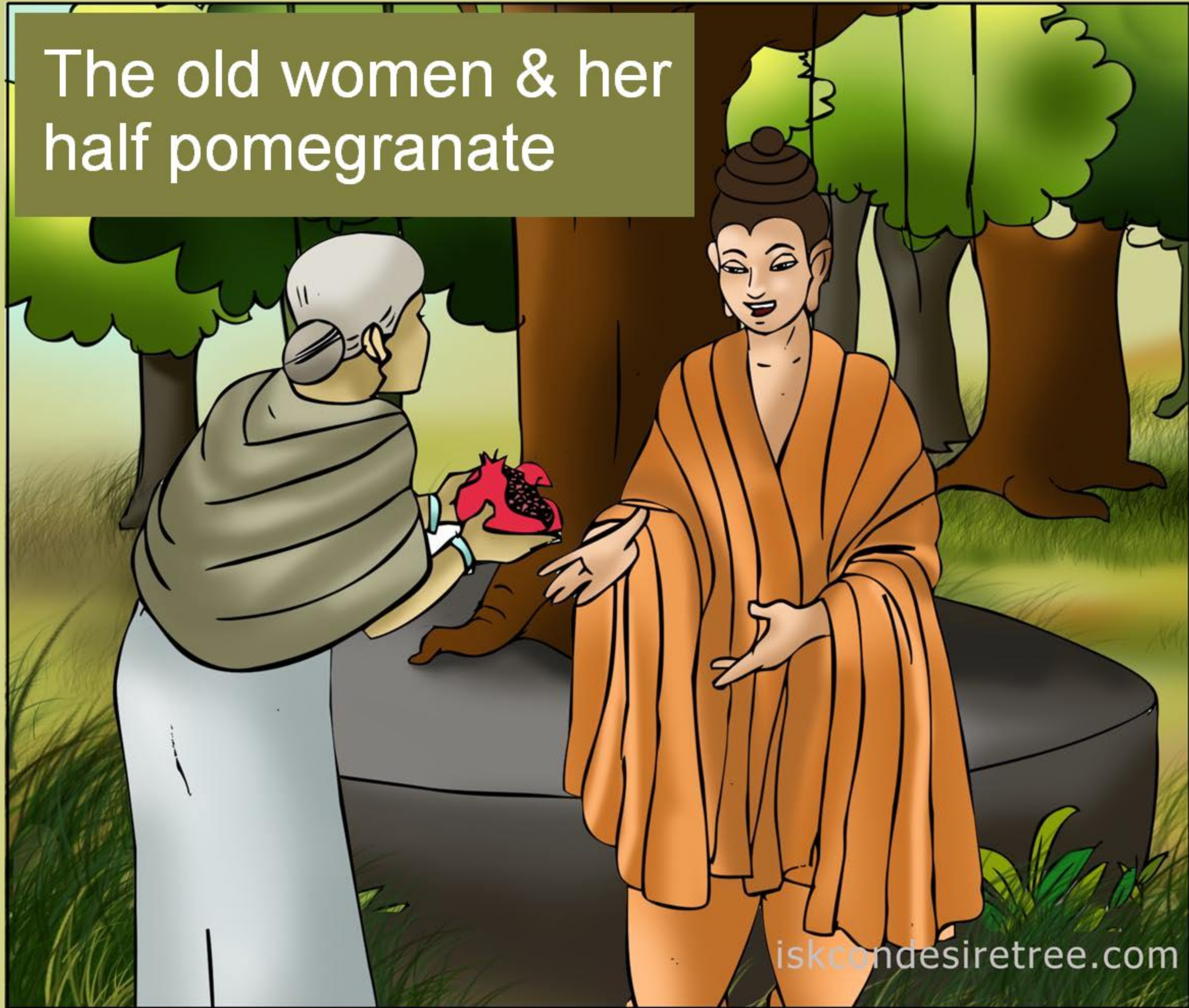


The old women & her half pomegranate



Once while in Rajagriha Buddha allotted a day for collections of charity. He sat under a tree and began receiving gifts..



King Bimbisara came and gave him
deeds of lands, houses, and valuable
properties.



Then came Prince Ajata Shatru
with rich and valuable gifts.



Then came wealthy merchants.




Buddha accepted all their gifts by
extending his right hand



Then came an old,
shriveled woman

Lord, I heard about your
appeal for charity only this
morning. I am a poor old woman
and have nothing. I was eating
this pomegranate, and had
eaten half when I heard the
news



A woman with grey hair, wearing a grey shawl over a light blue dress, stands on the left. She holds a red pomegranate with both hands. She is looking towards a man on the right, whose back and shoulder are visible. He is wearing a brown shawl. The background is a simple, light-colored landscape with a green horizon line. A speech bubble is positioned above the woman, containing text.


I had nothing else to give but this half-pomegranate. So I brought it along. Please, Lord, accept this.

She looked at him appealingly. Buddha at once came down himself and accepted the gift with both hands, in deep gratitude.




Bimbisara, Ajata Shatru, and all who were there were immensely surprised.





O Blessed one, why did you receive her gift with both hands, coming down yourself, when you took our gifts merely by extending your right hand?



Because, king , she gave all that she had. The rest of you merely gave a fraction of what you have.

MORAL :

**God looks at what we keep
behind and not what we offer.
He is pleased when one gives
Him to best of his capacity.**