



The Thief in a Holy Place

*Instructive Stories from teachings of
His Divine Grace*

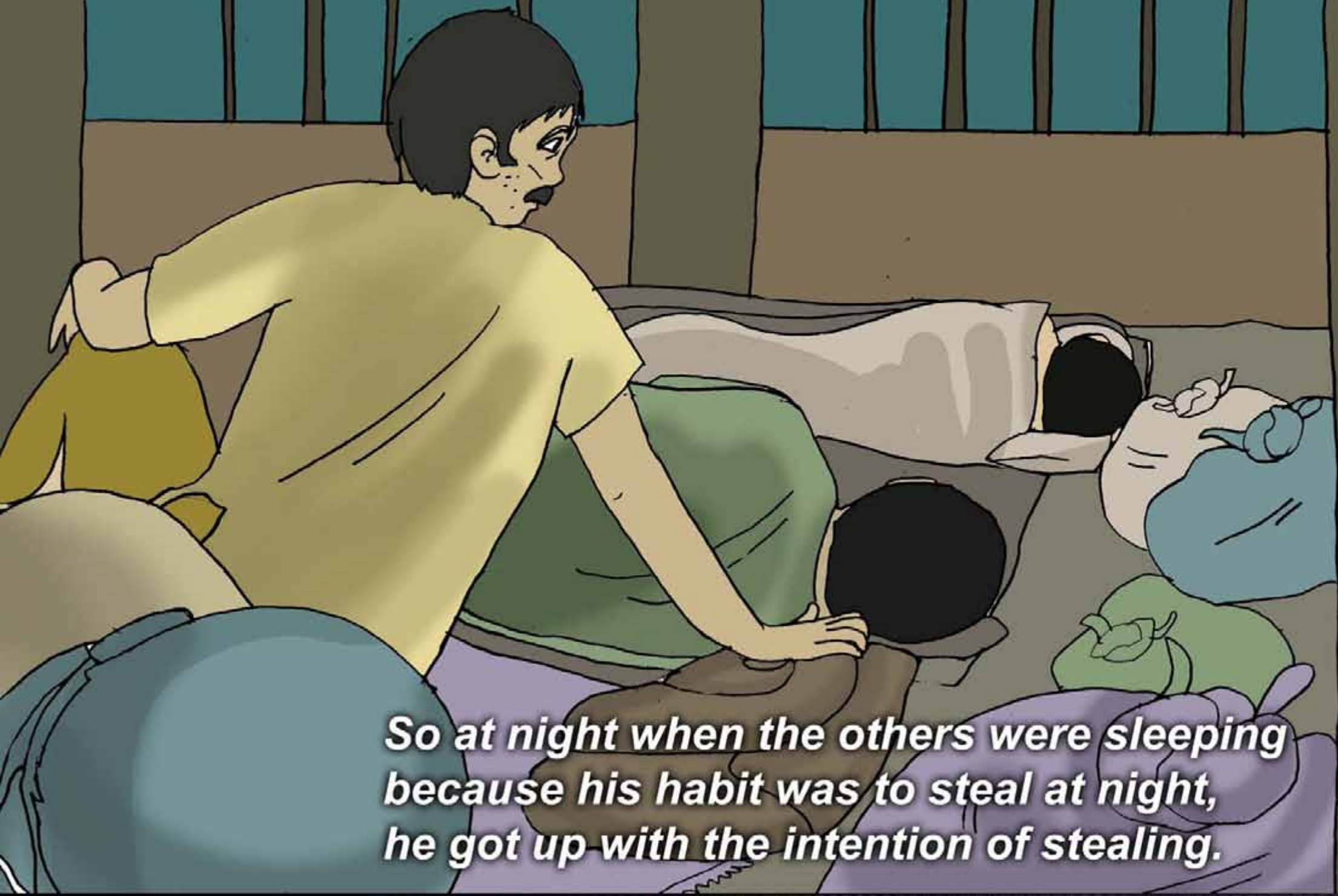
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There was a thief and he went on pilgrimage with some friends.





So at night when the others were sleeping because his habit was to steal at night, he got up with the intention of stealing.

Oh, I have come to this holy place of pilgrimage, but still I am continuing theft by habit. No, I shall not do it.





So then he took someone's bag and put it in another's place and for the whole night the poor fellow moved the bags of the pilgrims from here to there.

But due to his conscience because he was on a holy pilgrimage, he did not actually take anything.



***So in the morning when everyone got up,
they looked around***

***Where is my bag?
I don't see it.***

There was some row of bags

Oh, there is your bag.

**What is the matter?
How has it happened?**



Then the thief rose up and told all of the friends..

My dear gentlemen, I am a thief by occupation, and because I have that habit to steal at night, I couldn't stop myself. But I thought, I have come to this holy place, so I won't do it. Therefore I placed one person's bag in another man's place. Please excuse me.

MORAL :

This is habit. He doesn't want to but he has a habit of doing it. Prakrteh kriyamanani gunaih karmani sarvasah. This shows how habit is second nature.