

Sama Jathakaya



In the ancient India there was a kingdom called Baneras. Near the kingdom in a forest lived a family; a father, a mother and their son named Sama. They lived their days meditating as they were ascetics. Sama was such a good child and took care of his parents very well. Both parents were blind and Sama fetched fruits for his parents to eat, cooked food for them and fetched water from the nearby river. He washed their clothes and bathed them. Sama was also very kind to the animals in the woods. Therefore animals were not afraid of Sama. Because of his gentle nature Sama was able befriended with wild animals.

One day when Sama was fetching water for his parents, the great king Piliyakka of Banares kingdom was in the forest hunting deer. The king saw Sama playing with deer and thought that Sama was a divine creature. With the hope to capture Sama he shot a poisoned arrow at Sama and then came to realize that Sama was indeed a human. The king was very sorry for his cruel action. As Sama become unconscious he could only talk about his blind parents. Sama asked the king to take care of his blind parents. Sad king left to find Sama's parents. Blind parents were very sad to hear what happened to their beloved son. The king led them to the place where Sama laid unconsciously. Sorrow stricken parents grieved and commented how they have been living an ascetic life and how they devoted their lives to meditation. They declared that Sama led a life so gentle and spread his loving kindness even towards wild animals. They declared their love towards their child and mentioned how Sama took care of them since they became blind. Then a miracle happened. Their son Sama stirred into consciousness and they regained their eye sight. The king was most surprised and realised living a life of purity, taking care of one's parents and spreading gentle loving kindness towards all kinds of living beings helped Sama and his parents come out of the great misery.