

## Rahula Podi Hamuduruwo (Little Bhante Rahula)



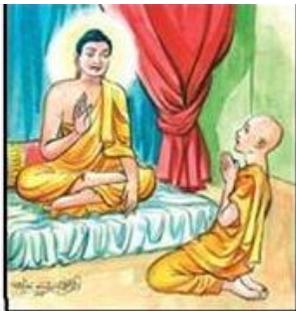
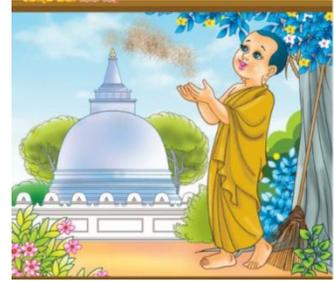
Rahula was the only son of Prince Siddhartha and Princess Yashodhara. He was named “Rahula” by his grandfather, King Suddhodana. Because the first word Prince Sidhartha said on hearing about the birth of his son was RAHU. The meaning of RAHU is an obstacle. Prince Siddhartha thought new born son will be an obstacle for him to leave the palace to search the path to end the suffering of this world. But with a heavy heart, Prince Siddharatha left his beloved wife and son to search the path to end the suffering.

Little Prince Rahula saw his father, Lord Buddha, when he was at the age of seven. Princes Yashodara pointed out Buddha to Rahula from the balcony of the palace and said, “Son, that is your father – go ask for your inheritance”.



As instructed, little prince approached his father and asked for his inheritance. Then, he said to his father “Lord, even your shadow is pleasing to me.” Rahula then followed the Buddha back to the Nigrodharama temple, where he was residing. Buddha thought, the best gift for his son is Dhamma, because the treasures and wealth cause suffering.

Then, Rahula became a Bhante and his teachers were Bhante Sariyuth and Bhante Mugalan. Little Bhante Rahula was very obedient and polite monk. He was very eager to accept advices and instructions. Each morning he would rise and taking handful of sand, throw it up in the air saying “today may I receive from my teachers as much advice and instruction as these grains of sand”. And, he followed those advices and instructions to become very obedient monk.



One day, Buddha taught Rahula the importance of telling truth. Buddha said to Rahula “telling truth is the most important precept of all the precepts”. Because if a person can tell lies without any shame, that means that person can break all other precepts. So, telling truth is very important. Therefore, we should not tell lies and we should follow qualities of Bhante Rahula to become good Buddhist-kids.