

Chatta Manawaka Story

1. During Lord Buddha's time there was a kid named "Chatta Manawaka" who was intelligent and very good at learning. He completed all his studies quite earlier than others.
2. Those days they paid the fees for their teacher after completing their studies.
3. Chatta too made his fees ready for paying his teacher and left for his teachers place on foot through a foot trail in the jungle.
4. The all seeing, immeasurably kind our lord Buddha saw through his devine eyes, that Chatta was going through the Jungle and also he will soon run into a great trouble that nobody can avoid.
5. Out of compassion for him, our lord Buddha appeared in front of him.
6. As soon as Chatta saw the Lord Buddha he quickly recognized him. He was so happy to see him there.
7. Lord Buddha talked to Chatta and spoke with him.
8. Before this meeting Chatta has never taken refuge in the Triple Gem. Our Lord Buddha explained Chatta the importance of going for refuge in the Triple Gem.
9. Chatta was very clever and intelligent. He quickly understood the benefit of going for refuge in the Triple Gem so He soon took refuge in the Triple Gem.
10. After that, Lord Buddha told him the five precepts explaining one by one.
 - A) Panatipata veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami
I will not kill or destroy living beings.
 - B) Adinnadana veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami
I will not take that which is not given.
 - C) Kamesu micchacara veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami
I will refrain from sexual misconduct.
 - D) Musavada veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami
I will not lie or make false speech.

E) Suramerayamajja pamadatthana veramani sikkhapadam samadiyami
I will not take intoxicating drinks and drugs that lead to carelessness.

11. After hearing all this, Chatta was very happy and he worshipped the Lord Buddha from his whole heart and mind. He also, took refuge in the Tripple Gems from his whole heart and mind. He promised that he will keep to the five precepts all his life.

12. After that, our Lord Buddha taught him three more magnificent Gatha's (verses) like this,

(A) Yo vandatam pavaro manujesu
Sakyamuni bhagava katakichcho
Para gato bala viriya samangi
Tam suga-tam saranttamupemi

"Who is the Greatest Speaker with humen?
The Sage of Sakya, the Holy one, whose task is done,
Gone beyond, having all the powers and courage,
O' the well gone one, for whom I go for Refuge.

(B) Raga viraga maneja masokan
Dhamma masamkhata mappatikulam
Madura mi mam pagunam suvibhattam
Dhamma mimam saranatthamupemi

"Free from lust, free from craving, free from sorrow,
Free from disgust, Unconditioned is this Dhamma,
Well explained, perfectly attainable,
For this Dhamma Sweet and noble, happily I go for Refuge!"

(C) Yattha ca dinna mahapphala mahu
Catusu sucisu purisa yugesu
Attha ca puggala dhamma dasate
Sangha mimam saranatthamupemi

"Whatever given bears great fruit, it is said,
to the four pure Pairs of Persons;
and these Eight people who have realized the Truth;
To this very Sangha I go for Refuge!"

13. After listening to these 3 Gatha's (verses) he memorized them very well. He then continued to start walking towards his teacher's place like before.

14. When he was walking like that he was caught by a group of violent and roudy thieves.

15. They started troubling him and then hit Chatta with clubs to get the money from him.

16. Chatta was hit in the head and because of that he died right there.

17. Although he was hit badly by the thieves Chatta was still thinking about the Lord Buddha and his sayings. About the greatness of the Dharma and Sangha and of the five precepts. So, he didn't have any anger towards the thieves.

18. Even he was hit to death by these thieves he died peacefully in his mind thinking about all the goodness of the Lord Buddha, the Dharma, the Sangha and the Five Precepts.

19. Therefore, as soon as he left his body he was born in a Heaven called "Thawathimsa" as a beautiful and handsome deity prince (or a god). He got a glorious heavenly mansion and all the luxury with beautiful servants around him.

20. Chatta got all this goodness because of the very short time he took refuge in the Triple Gem and keeping to the five precepts.

21. Chatta, Soon came back to see the Lord Buddha out of gratitude and told him

"Oh my Lord the well gone one, the perfect one, I took refuge in the Triple Gem only for a very short time and I kept the five precepts only for a short time but, I have got all this luxury and goodness in the "Thawathimsa" heaven because of that". So, no need to talk about what someone will get if he do the same thing for even a longer time.