

Finley Warrior. 27/3/2020

LO: To rewrite the story of Holika and Prahlad.

Once there was a king who was greedy and cruel. He told his people he was a god so they had to worship him. He had a son called Prahlad who was kind and grateful.

Prahlad was walking in the park and saw a lady praying with her hands clasped together “why are you praying to Lord Vishnu?”, Prahlad asked.

The lady answered “I’m praying to Lord Vishnu because my kittens fell in a well.” To Prahlad’s surprise he saw a kitten clawing out of the well. Prahlad thought “My father isn't a god after all, from this day forward I will worship Lord Vishnu.”

When the king learnt this he was very angry. “My son disobeys me, he must be punished.” Bellowed the king “Throw him off the tallest cliff in the land.” So Prahlad was thrown off a cliff. As he was falling, he prayed to Lord Vishnu so his fall didn’t hurt him.

The king was furious “how did my son survive a fall like that?” He said angrily. “Very well throw him in a snake’s

nest.” As he was in the nest he prayed to Lord Vishnu and once again Prahlad was saved!

By the time Prahlad was out of the nest his father had got his next punishment. He was going to throw him in a herd of taunted elephants. Prahlad prayed to Lord Vishnu and was saved. Again!

“What am I to do?” He asked. “How am I to get rid of him?”

Holika, the king’s sister, wanted to see Prahlad dead as well.

“Leave it to me” She said to him. “I have an idea, I will walk into a fire and dare him to follow me.”

“But you will be burnt alive”. Said the king.

“Not I” Said Holika “I have magic powers that will protect me.”

“Then that is indeed a good plan.” Said the king.

In the morning, Holika ordered her servants to build a huge bonfire. As the flaming stick lit the fire, Holika dared Prahlad to follow her into the fire. Holika went into the flames and her powers saved her from being hurt.

Prahlad prayed to Lord Vishnu and followed her into the fire. Holika's powers were taken from her and given to Prahlad instead.

All of a sudden the flames got Holika and all that was left of her was some glowing embers, Prahlad was saved from getting hurt.

And now, at Holi time, fires are lit and people remember this story.