

SAVITRI

-C.L.L. Jayaprada

Srinivasa Bala Bharati - 124
(*Children Series*)

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Telugu Version

Dr. Samudrala Lakshmanayya

English Translation

C.L.L. Jayaprada



**Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams,
Tirupati**

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FOREWORD

If a beautiful garden is to be raised, one needs to take proper care of tender flower plants. In the same way in order to create a good society, great care needs to be taken of young children who are going to be future citizens of India. All their intellectual attainments will be futile if they fail to learn of their culture and its greatness. They need to be told of great men and women of this country so that they are inspired by their ideals. The essentials of our culture should be given to them in the form of simple and charming stories. They will cherish these ideals and be guided by them. They will promote good, and they will love the society they live in. They make their families proud and bring great prestige to their country when they grow up into good citizens.

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams have brought out these booklets in Telugu for children under Srinivasa Bala Bharathi Series. Although meant for children, they are useful to the elderly too. They have found place in the book shelves of every family. The stories of legendary men and women are narrated in a simple way. We hope that more and more children will read them and profit by them.

I congratulate Dr. R. Sri Hari, Editor-in-Chief, TTD for his efforts in bringing out the English translations of SRINIVASA BALA BHARATI SERIES so well. We have received co-operation of many learned men and women in our efforts to popularize this series. I am thankful to them.

In the Service of the Lord



Executive Officer,

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams,
Tirupati.

FOREWORD

To-day's children are to-morrow's citizens. They need at tender age apt acquaintance with the life-histories of celebrated persons so that they get opportunity to lead their lives in an exemplary way. They will come to know that great things such as Indian culture, basic tenants of life and moral teachings are abundantly available in the life-experiences of great men. It is observed that there is no scope to teach such subjects in school curriculum.

Observing such circumstances the Publication Division of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams has published about hundred booklets in Telugu about the lives of famous sages and great men written by various authors under the editorship of Dr. B. Raghunathacharyulu under "Balabharati Series". The response over these books is tremendous and it has given impetus to publish them in other languages also. To begin with some of the books are now brought out with English and Hindi rendering by T.T.D. For the benefit of boys and girls and the interested public.

These booklets primarily intended to the growing children and also generally intended to the elders to study and narrate the stories to their children, will go a long way to sublimate the aspirations of the children to greater heights.

R. SRI HARI

Editor-In-Chief

T.T.D.

Welcome To Srinivasa Balabharati Series

The series is the outcome of abundant grace of Lord Sri Venkateswara.

This will be an unfailing source of inspiration to the young.

It enshrines the best of Bharatiya tradition. May this noble endeavour be successful.

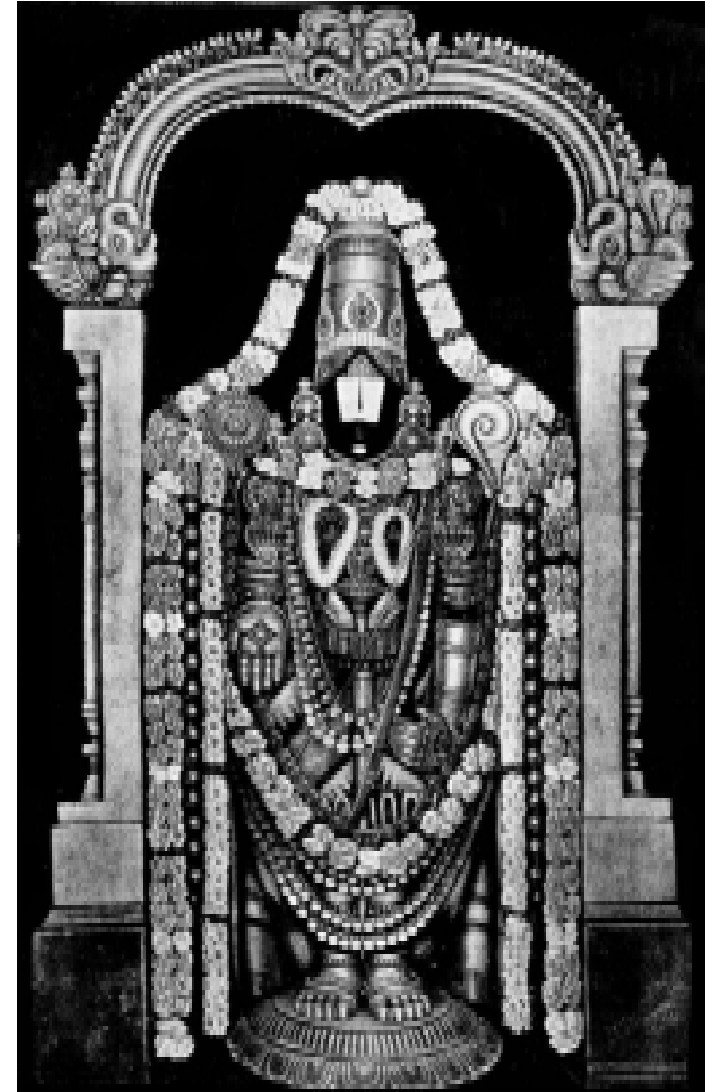
India has been known for its culture and civilization, its ethical and dharmic way of life from time immemorial. India has marched ahead with its commitment to dharma, its resistance to adharma, its espousal of life-affirming values and its humane attitude to life as a journey towards God realization. Those who embodied these values in their life have been a beacon of light to us. Their impact is deep on the life we lead. Young boys and girls will find them exemplary and feel proud of their invaluable heritage. They will love their motherland and dedicate themselves to its service.

It is therefore necessary that the young learn about these great men and women so that they will realize their indebtedness to them for their selfless contribution to the enrichment of life. This should indeed be a chief component of true education which ensures the perennial continuity of Indian culture and civilization. SRINIVASA BALABHARATI SERIES has come into existence to acquaint the young boys and girls with right perspective of Indian life and values through a series of booklets written exclusively for this purpose describing in brief the lives of great men and women.

We welcome you to share our joy in launching these booklets.

S.B. Raghunathacharya

Cheif Editor



SAVITRI

As Lord Krishna says in the *Bhagavadgita* everyone born has to die. When people die in ripe old age there is no reason to lament. When children, young men and women die suddenly, their loss leaves irrevocable sorrow behind.

Lament of Aswapati:

During the ancient times, Madradesa was a rich and prosperous country. King by name Aswapati used to rule the country. His wife, Malavi was a worthy wife in all respects to him. He took care of his people as he did his own children. Even people used to love him like their father.

Though Aswapati had immense wealth, he was not happy because he did not have children. He would lament in his own heart, "Who will rule this country after I pass away? In the absence of a good king, people of this country may not have protection and an anarchic country might fall into evil hands. My people may have to face hardships. How can I save them from such a lot?" Ruing thus, he decided he should beget children through some means or the other.

You shall get a daughter:

With a desire to get children Aswapati along with his wife Malavi prayed to goddess Savitri Devi. Their prayers continued for eighteen long years. Finally Devi appeared in front of them and offered to give a boon they wanted.

The king prostrated before the feet of the mother of universe and pleaded with her, "Devi! Give me a son!" However Devi said, "Raja! You shall beget a daughter". King told her that his wish was for a son.

Then Devi said, "Raja! I know that you prayed to me desiring a son. I spoke to Lord Brahma about your wish. But he only gave you a daughter. The daughter you will get is a great and noble one. Due to her good influence, you shall beget a son later", saying thus she disappeared.

Savitri is born:

After some time queen Malavi became pregnant and in an auspicious moment gave birth to a baby girl. Since she was born due to the boon of Goddess Savitri Devi, he named her 'Savitri'. The royal couple brought up the child with every care and love. Like a growing moon, Savitri grew lustrous day by day. She was incomparable to any other princess in learning, beauty and virtues.

Love for Sathyavanta:

Gradually, Savitri grew into a young woman. King Aswapati began searching for a suitable groom for his daughter.

The King of Salvadesa was Dyumatsena. His son Satyavanta was an extremely handsome man, comparable in looks to Manmatha, the God of Love

(cupid) himself. In virtues also there was none better than him. Learning about this worthy and handsome prince by word of mouth, Savitri fell in love with him.

Even then she did not express her preference to any one because of her shyness. Time passed along.

Choose whom you like:

One day the ceaseless traveler of the three worlds, Sage Narada came to Ashwapati. Meanwhile the most beautiful and gracious maid princess Savitri who was touring the garden with her friends came in and did obeisance to her father and the sage.

Seeing her Narada asked the King, "Oh Raja! Why didn't you get your young daughter married to a suitable bridegroom?" The king responded saying, "The Lord of Sages! I have been looking for a suitable prince". He turned to his daughter and "My Child! I have been searching for a boy but could not get a suitable one for you. You can find the groom you like and I shall happily get you married to him."

Savitri hung her hood shyly. But since it was the right time to express her wish, she overcame shyness and revealed that she had loved Satyavanta. "Father! I learnt that due to misfortune King Dyumatsena lost his eye sight, lost his Kingdom and was living in the forest with his wife and sons. Even then I only love his son with my whole heart."

Then Aswapati looked at Narada and requested him "Oh the king of Sages! There is nothing that is not known to you in the three worlds. Please tell us the details of Satyavanta's virtues, appearance and characteristics!"

Narada began describing the groom thus, "Oh King! The boy your daughter liked speaks truth always. That's the reason he became famous as Satyavanta. He is also called 'Chitraaswa'. He is a brilliant man, a wise one, extremely courageous and none can beat him either in looks or virtues!

He shall not live for more than a year:

Even then elders say look for the negative side before assessing anybody's good qualities. I shall also let you know about his flaws. Exactly one year from this day, he shall die. Thinking that it is not right not to tell you even when I know about this trouble, I am revealing it to you."

Then the king asked his daughter, "My child! Haven't you heard the sage's words? There are no divine secrets that he does not know. His words are powerful. Why do you wish for a husband who will die in a year? Listen to me and choose another bridegroom."

Savitri replied firmly, "Father! My mind is firmly fixed on Satyavanta. Unmarried young girls ought not

to change the objects of their love at will. Whatever might be the consequences, my decision will not change. I love Satyavanta with my heart and soul. Under any circumstances, I shall not select anyone else." The king was stunned by her words.

Sage Narada was surprised by Savitri's determination. He praised her virtue. Unable to react to his daughter's declaration when the King sat puzzled, Narada said, "Oh, King! Your daughter is a pure and worthy maid. It is not possible for anyone to change her decision which is pure and immaculate. Respect her decision and marry her off to Satyavanta. Due to the fruit of her good deeds, she will finally benefit."

The king accepted the sage's counsel and did obeisance to him. Narada blessed the father and the daughter and returned to the heavens.

Setting out for the Asram:

On an auspicious day, King Aswapati took Savitri with him and set out to meet king Dyumatsena. Relatives, ministers and priests accompanied the king. Taking all the things necessary for a wedding, they traveled through the jungles and reached the Ashram at which Dyumatsena lived.

The blind King Dyumatsena who lost his kingdom and lived in jungles was surprised to see king of Madradesa coming in search of him. Feeling extremely

delighted at Aswapati's arrival, he gave him a fitting welcome and enquired about his wellbeing. Finally he asked him warmly why he undertook such a difficult and long journey.

King Aswapati made Savitri touch Dyumatsena's feet and said, "The Lord of Kings! This young maid is my only daughter. There is nobody else to continue our dynasty. After a long wait, due to Goddesses Savitri's blessings she was born to us. I came here to give this worthy and virtuous maid to your son Satyavanta in marriage, please accept her as your daughter-in-law and bless me."

Replying to such humble words Dyumatsena said, "My lord! Your ideal is noble, of course. What else do we wish for better than an alliance with you?"

However, we have lost our Kingdom and are living in jungles. In this Ashram we are spending time in penance and meditation. Your daughter is brought up in comfort amidst luxuries. How can such a delicate maid live in the jungles with us? How will she put up with hardships in life here?"

To such questions king Aswapati replied thus, "Oh King! Vicissitudes in life are the wealth and poverty which swing like pots balanced on a pole carried on shoulder. The courageous never preen in wealth nor despair amidst disaster. My daughter is a brave one. She is not cowed down by tides of sorrow and

happiness. With hopes on a relation through marriage with your family, I came all the way. Please do not reject my plea!"

Getting the husband wished for:

Pleased with those words, Dyumatsena agreed to the wedding. All those who lived in the neighbouring Asrams attended the wedding of Savitri and Satyavanta which was performed amidst festivities in an auspicious time.

All the elders who visited blessed the young couple sincerely. King Aswapati gave his daughter and son-in-law heaps of new clothes, jewellery and invaluable gifts. After the ceremony, he left for his Kingdom along with his entourage.

Savitri felt supremely happy that she got the husband she desired. Prince Satyavanta felt happy that he could get a worthy and suitable wife. If the conjugal life is harmonious what else is desirable than a life of togetherness? All Asram residents were happy to watch and praise the happy couple like chirping and singing birds.

Savitri left her luxurious saris and jewels aside and wore handloom saris to suit the life in the jungle. Even the cotton saris showed off her natural beauty to the best effect. Her gentle conversation and devoted service made her in-laws very happy. She outdid the famed

good wives of ancient times in her service to her husband. Even the wives of the other sages thought she was a woman to be emulated for her virtues.

Approaching final day:

Though the times seemed to pass happily, Narada's words began pricking her internally. Like an ember covered by ashes, she would grieve internally but appear to be happy outwardly.

From the day Narada revealed the secret, she had been counting the days her husband would live. As the final day approached, her burden of sorrow increased. But she appeared to be calm outwardly.

Three days fasting and prayers:

But those last days have come. Prince Satyavanta was about to die in four days. Savitri prayed to God in great devotion. She undertook a rigorous fast for three days. On learning the news of her fasting her father-in-law and mother-in-law asked her affectionately, "Child! Why are you undertaking such an austere fast?"

She said politely "Don't worry about my fasting! I am doing these prayers and penance expecting some good. You shall know later why I am doing this." With those words, they were satisfied and kept quiet.

Three days passed. The terrible third day also dawned. That day Savitri woke before the sunbreak.

She visualized what was destined to happen. Containing the overpowering sorrow within, she finished her daily chores and took care of her in-law's needs. She touched the feet of elders and took their blessings.

The sun was high in the sky. "Three days have passed and finish your ritual offering," Dyumatsena told Savitri. She told him about her decision not to eat any food until the sun set.

Meanwhile Satyavanta set out to the forest to collect twigs, reeds for ritual fire and fruits. Savitri pleaded with her husband "I too shall come to the jungle with you. Please take me."

"You are weak because of fasting for three days. You can't come with me. You can't walk through the forest" said Satyavanta. She replied him thus, "My Lord! I do not have any problem due to fasting. If I walk along with you, I won't find it hard at all. I heard that there are many varieties of flowers, fruits, climbers, beasts and birds in the forest. I have been longing to watch all those wonders from many days. Today I am determined to come with you. Please fulfill my wish."

Satyavanta granted her request. Savitri sought blessings of her mother-in-law and father-in-law and asked their permission to go to the jungle with her husband. Unable to refuse her gentle request they granted it.

Journey to the forest:

The couple started for the jungle. Repressing the rising tide of sorrow in herself, Savitri followed in the footsteps of her husband with a smile. Walking slowly they reached the nearby woods.

Satyavanta showed the beautiful sights to his wife and "Savitri! How beautiful are the swans wandering on the ripples of the pond. See how pretty are those flowers on the tree and the tendrils and tender leaves of the climbers. Are the tress and climbers we grow ever so picturesque? Have you seen how that creeper wound itself around that tree? The buzzing bees, gathering honey from the flowers and the chirping parrots tasting fruits are a feast to the eyes here."

Savitri kept responding to him appropriately and walked keenly watching him.

Satyavanta plucked varieties of ripe fruits and filled the basket with them. Then he cut wood with his axe and looked tired. Gradually he turned weary. Unable to stand any more, he let the grip on the axe go which fell to the ground. Turning livid, gasping heavily he told his wife, "Savitri! I seem to be unwell. My head is whirling and my mind is losing control, I feel I am poked by a spear. I can't bear it anymore. Let me lie here a while."

Savitri at once sat and asked her husband to place his head in her lap and rest. While leaning his head on



her, he swooned. In the next instant his body seemed to have lost consciousness.

Lord Yama appears:

Savitri at once saw a divine being appearing in front of her. His complexion was dark like collyrium, and teeth sharp and jutting out. His eyes were like burning embers. One was afraid to look at him. He also had a noose in his hand.

That man quickly approached Satyavanta. Savitri placed his head on the ground and stood in fear. She did obeisance to the divine figure and politely asked him, "Sir! Who are you? With what purpose did you come here?"

Surprised that she could see him, he replied thus, "Mother! I am Yama Dharmaraja. In accordance with the passing of human Karma, it is I who take away their lives. I take them to my world and punish according to the sins they had committed on the earth. Usually it is not possible for humans to see me. But due to the power of your purity, you could see me.

The last instants of your husband have approached. He is the one who is pure and did many good deeds. So I came here to take his life instead of sending my guards."

In the next minute, Yama separated Satyavanta's body from his life force and tied it with his terrible noose and started journeying towards the south.

Savitri was overwhelmed by sorrow. There was no point in sitting and lamenting in such a crisis. Immediately she mustered courage and decided about her duty. She kept the body of her husband at a safe place. Though her feet were trembling in fear she began following Yama, the God of Death.

Sighting her Lord Yama told her softly "My child! Why are you walking this way? It is hard to walk on this track. Go back!"

Savitri responded thus! "The King of Righteousness! It is Dharma of a wife to follow her husband wherever he goes. I, who think my husband's path is mine, can't leave my husband and live. With your grace I can go anywhere.

They say that the most important thing in the world is Dharma or following one's duty. You are the good and great man who protects Dharma. The sight of such a great man shall not go waste. After sighting you I shall not return without getting your blessings."

First boon-regaining of her father-in-law's sight:

Lord Yama was very pleased with her words "My child! You are very intelligent. I am delighted by your words. You can ask me for any boon other than you husband's life. And I shall grant it."

Savitri requested him with folded hands, "My Lord! You are very kind. I do not know how to praise

you. Please grant sight to my blind father-in-law who lost his kingdom and is living in the forest."

Lord Yama granted her the boon and saying "Do not come with me now. You go back," he marched ahead. Savitri did not stop there but began following him.

Second boon-recovery of Kingdom to father-in-law:

While following she spoke to him thus, "Oh! Noble Soul! Great men do not cause harm to anyone. They protect everybody generously. They do not hesitate to give when people approach them for help nor do they abandon the needy in crisis. These are the principles elders like you follow. You are the Lord of Dharma. Is there any moral principle of which you do not know? You treat everybody equally. That's the reason the whole world prays to you. You are the one who frees creatures from their sins. Except your kindness who can save us?"

Yama responded to her thus, "Savitri! Your words please me like a cool drink for the thirsty man walking in the sun. I want to give you another boon. Ask for anything other than your husband's life."

She again asked, "My Lord! Please grant that king Dyumatsena regains his lost Kingdom from his enemies." King of Dharma granted her the second boon also.

Then Yama said, "Savitri! Stop here now. The further road is a difficult one. Your good fortune has paid off. I can see that your devotion to your husband and in-laws bore fruit. You cannot follow me anymore. This is not the fit path for humans to tread. Return home from here" warning her thus he quickened his steps.

Third boon-male offspring to her father:

Even then Savitri did not give up her decision. Those who are heroic do not leave any task undone! Again following Dharma Raja's footsteps, she went on softly talking to him.

"King of Dharma! Those virtuous do not leave moral deeds under any circumstances. They are not tempted by swaying passions. Those who protect Dharma are protected by Dharma. Those who sway from the path of Dharma will certainly come to harm.

The utmost duty of the wives is following husbands. How can I leave such a dharma? However many hardships one faces you know it is not right to leave one's duty."

Yama was again pleased by those words and "My child! You follow your bounden duty! That's why my affections are engaged by you. I want to give one more boon to you. Expect for your husband's life, you may ask for anything you like."

Again Savitri said with folded hands, "My Lord! Your generosity is boundless. Since you shower your generosity on me, I consider myself very fortunate. My father Aswapati does not have male children, please bless him with sons."

Lord Yama gave her the third boon also, "Savitri! You came a long way with me! You seem very tired. Further path is an arduous one. You cannot even step into the track filled with thorns and stones. Moreover in this region wild beasts, snakes, and scorpions are at large. I have fulfilled all your wishes! Why do you still follow me? Go back now," he said.

Then the good wife said to King of Dharma, "Your majesty! My mind is fixed only on my husband but nothing else. I always recite his name in devotion. Is there a better goal for a pure wife other than her husband? What better duty do I have than following my husband? When it is so, how can I feel weary?"

Not just that. It is impossible to have a glimpse of the worthy elders such as you. Due to the association with the righteous ones, One's sins too disappear. The earth is made good and pure by deeds of righteous persons like you. Due to the power of good men, the sun and the moon are revolving in their orbits regularly. The seas are contained by the shores. The mountains are stable without stirring. Without the blessings of the great souls, the world has neither comfort nor peace.

Perhaps due to good deeds in my previous birth, I could talk to you for long. Any beings, they say, get the friendship of the high and mighty by talking seven words. I spoke to you several words. And so our association had grown strong.

The noble men do not reject friends' requests. The Great Soul! Please accept my request and fulfill my wish."

The fourth boon- husband's life:

At her words Yama's heart overflowed with generosity. He said, at once, "Savitri! I am pleased with your prayer. I shall give you another boon. What do you want?"

Savitri's eye lighted up in joy. She touched Yama's feet and told him, "My Lord! While giving boons earlier you told me to ask for anything other than my husband's life. Now you have not laid that condition. Indeed the wheel of my fortune has turned. How shall I praise your generosity?"

A woman whose husband is dead is a non-entity. Nobody respects such a woman. She has no entry in auspicious functions. My husband is a famous man. All virtues are gathered in his person. Without him I cannot live. "Oh Generous Soul! Please grant my husband's life. There is nothing else under the sun I desire more than this."

Satyavanta comes alive:

Finally Lord Yama granted her request. He freed Satyavanta from his noose and said, "My child! I am releasing your husband according to your wish. He will live long in the world. He will become a father of a hundred sons. His fame shall spread in all directions. He shall perform many *Yagnas* and appease gods. His line of descent will live forever," saying so he disappeared.

Happily Savitri returned to the spot where her husband's body was kept. There she placed his head in her lap and sat. After a while, there was stirring in Satyavanta's body.

Somebody pulled me hard:

He looked up and said to her, "Savitri! I slept for a long time. Why didn't you wake me up? Some muscular fellow seemed to have gripped me and dragged me along. Did you see him? That was not a dream. It seemed to have occurred really. Somehow I was scared. Tell me what had really happened."

Then Savitri spoke thus! "I'll tell you tomorrow what all had happened. Now it turned dark. We should not stay here anymore. The ghouls started stirring already. The foxes are whining. Hoards of deer are returning home. Let us go to the Asram quickly. Already it is late. Your parents shall be anxiously waiting for

you. We have to reach home fast and put their fears to rest, otherwise they shall worry."

However much she urged him, Satyavanta could not rise to his feet. She realized that he could not overcome his weariness and said thus, "My Lord! Darkness is descending fast. Our Asram is far away from here. You have not yet overcome your tiredness. If we cannot set out now, we shall stay here tonight. We can start as soon as the day breaks. Tell me what we shall do."

Then Satyavanta said, "Savitri! My headache abated. Now my body is slowly recovering its strength. I shall walk slowly. How can we stay back in the jungle leaving the parents? I never kept myself from them for so long. I don't know what they might be thinking about our absence for so long. I worry how they are!"

Even at twilight my mother would not allow me step out of the house. How anxious she might be now! They are ripe old couple. Moreover, they are blind. They live with all their hopes set on us. In such a condition, now they might be lamenting that we had not returned home.

As soon as we came to the jungle, we should have gathered fruits and returned. Unnecessarily we delayed. Perhaps The God might have created all these troubles to test us! My father must have worried. He would be

asking every resident of the Asram about us. Savitri! Would they be alive now? If anything had happened to them, what is the point of our returning home now?" Satyavanta's eyes filled with tears. Though Savitri was overwhelmed by sorrow, she mustered courage and comforted him. She held him and slowly pulled him to his legs.

Return to the Asram:

Satyavanta dusted the soil off his clothes and began to walk. Thinking that it is impossible to carry the basket of fruit, she hung it on a tree there. She placed his left hand on her shoulder and holding him by her right hand slowly made him walk towards the Asram.

Meanwhile due to the boon granted by lord Yama, Dyumatsena regained his sight. He looked around the Asram. When he could not sight his beloved son, he felt concerned and found life meaningless. He began lamenting as if still blind and his wife joined him. He asked every sage in the quarters whether he had seen Satyavanta. He wailed mentioning his son's virtues one by one. Loosing hope, he cried loudly.

Hearing his lamentations those in the Asram thronged around him. They were surprised that he could see suddenly. With appropriate words, they consoled the old couple.

After a while Savitri and Satyavanta reached the spot. On sighting them, tears of joy poured out of the old couple's eyes. They hugged their son overjoyed. The sages felt happy watching their reunion.

Then Dyumatsena asked his son why he had been in the jungle for so long.

Satyavanta replied thus, "Father! from here, we directly went into the jungle. we plucked plenty of fruits there to our hearts content. While I was cutting wood, I got a severe head ache. I began aching all over my body as if somebody was piercing me with a spear. Unable to bear those pains, I lay down there. Meanwhile, a man came in my dream and dragged me away by tying me."

Yama's generosity:

Then Savitri told her father-in-law, "I heard Sage Narada saying that today your son would die. Thinking his words will certainly come true, I accompanied him and kept watching him. As soon as he lay down tired, Lord Yama appeared. He separated his soul from the body, tied it with his noose and set out for the hell.

I began walking with him and pleading with him in several ways to melt his heart. The generous god gave me four boons one by one pleased by my praise of him. Your son could come back to life by one of his boons. As another boon I asked for return of your

sight. I also asked for recovery of your lost Kingdom and grant of sons to my father. The God of Justice generously gave me all the boons I had asked for and blessed me."

The old couple felt extremely happy at her words and complemented her heartily, "My child! You have brought to the shore our family which drowned in a sea of sorrows. Yours deeds deserve to be emulated by the whole world."

All the sages gathered there learnt about the events and praised Savitri's perseverance. They praised her in several ways before returning to their houses.

Recovery of Dyumatsena's Kingdom:

After passing of a few days, Dyumatsena's former ministers, followers and people of the Kingdom came to him. "Raja! Your enemy died along with his family due to internal strife within his followers. People are eager to see you on the throne again. All over the Kingdom we hear slogans raised for your return. Due to the power of your meditation, you regained your sight. We are supremely happy to see you again. Please accept our request and return to your Kingdom to resume your crown."

King Dyumatsena was happy to hear their words. He took leave of the residents of the hermitage and ascended the royal elephant with his son. Along with

his wife, family and followers he set out to his Kingdom where he assumed his throne. With the permission of his citizens, he made Satyavanta the crown prince. He reigned for a long time righteously and gained fame.

In such a manner the good wife Savitri saved herself, her husband, her parents-in-law and parents by the power of her purity and became renowned in the world.

* * *