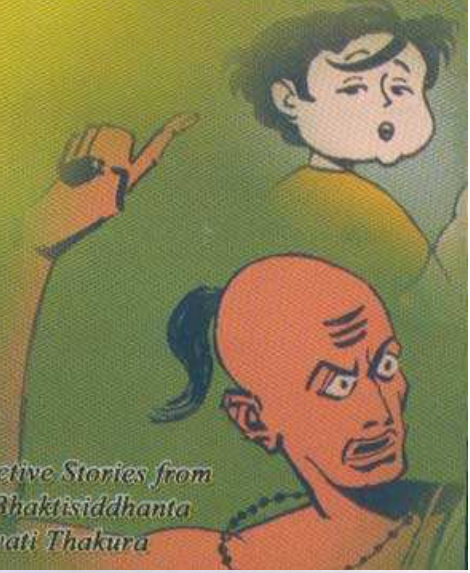


Abhay Charan Comics

# UPAKHYANE UPADESA 14

*Instructive Stories from  
Sri Bhaktisiddhanta  
Sarasvati Thakura*



## Boxing with the Sky



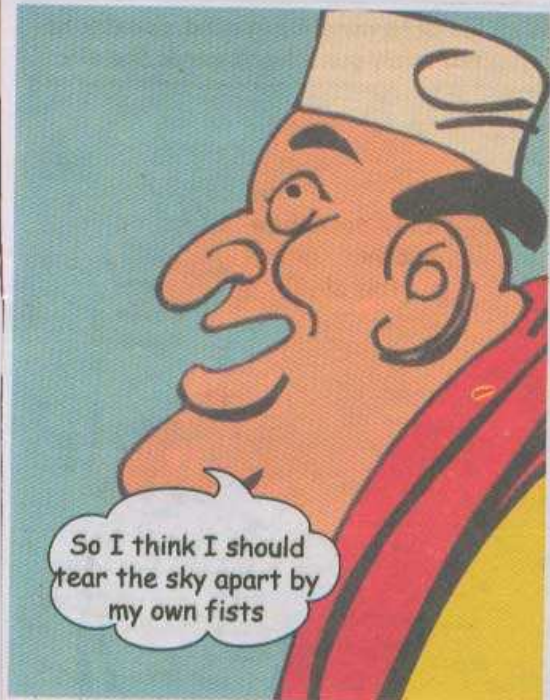
A highly proud person used to consider everything on this earth to be very insignificant to his own estimate.



I think the sky is very proud and apparently feel the strongest of all. Natural calamities like storm, shower, thunderbolts etc., come directly from the sky. The clouds roar from the sky and this reflects that the sky is very much boastful of its own position, and as such, the sky must be given a good lesson



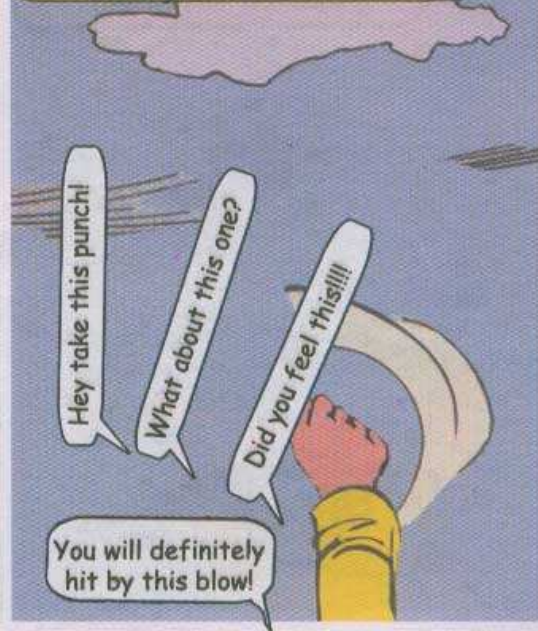
So I think I should tear the sky apart by my own fists



With his determination in mind, one day he started vainly punching towards the sky



The sky remained as unperturbed and as graceful as before



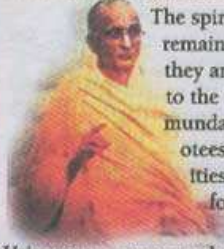


Trying very hard he became so exhausted that he fell to that ground and hurt himself.



PURPORT

By Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura



The spiritual master and the Vaisnavas remain unperturbed and graceful while they are engrossed in devotional service to the Supreme Lord Sri Hari, while the mundane fools consider such real devotees responsible for all sorts of calamities and derangements in the world for the boastful attitude. Because of this false apprehension about the Vaisnavas, many such people exhibit their unfounded misdemeanours towards honest devotees most unreasonable, but their false attempt of punching goes all in vain. The Vaisnavas, as the ever - benevolent great sky, remain calm and quiet, while the atheists themselves undergo continued material agonies.

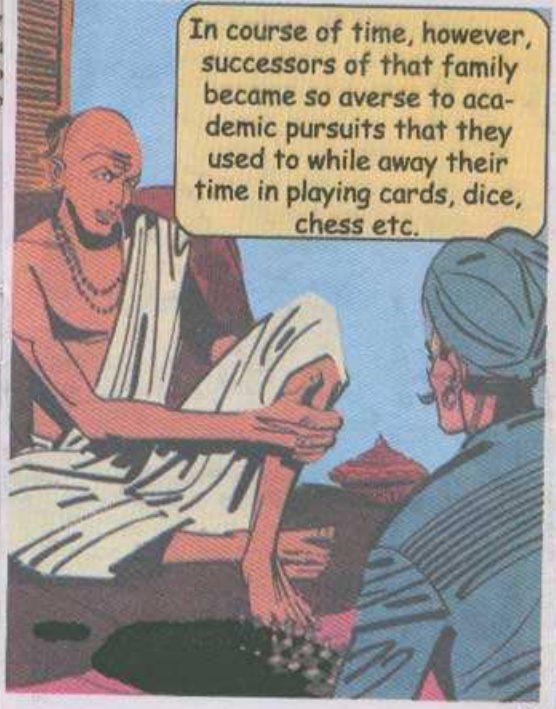


**"Kastvam", "Khastvam"**



Once there lived a brahmana- pundit in a village. Who was very proud of his family tradition of scholastic distinction.

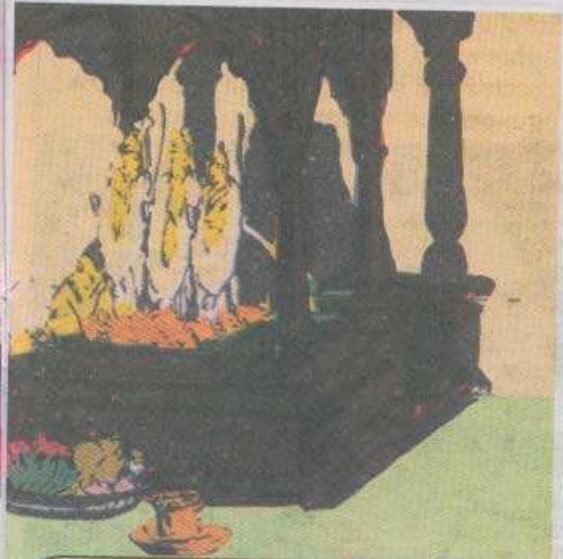
In course of time, however, successors of that family became so averse to academic pursuits that they used to while away their time in playing cards, dice, chess etc.







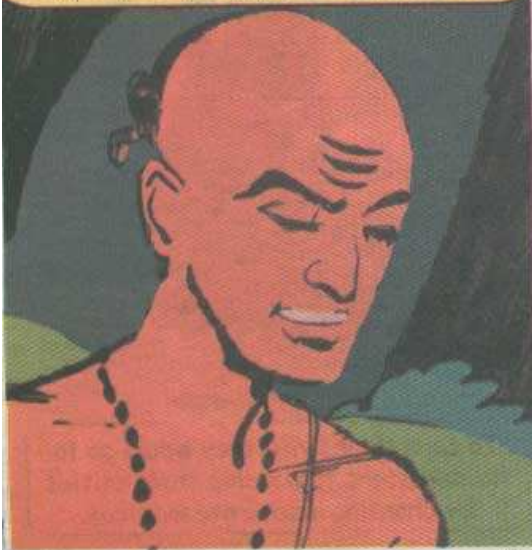
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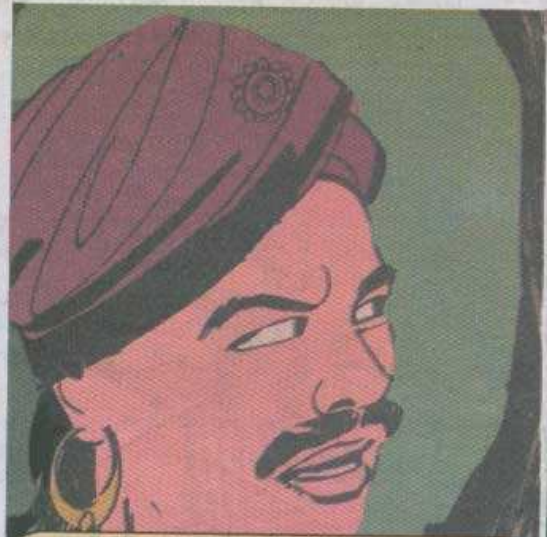
To earn their living they would go to householders to worship their deities by chanting inaccurate mantras.

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Scholarly persons like us are very rare in this world, because our bloodstream carried the heritage of culture and the expertise of many ancient pundits.



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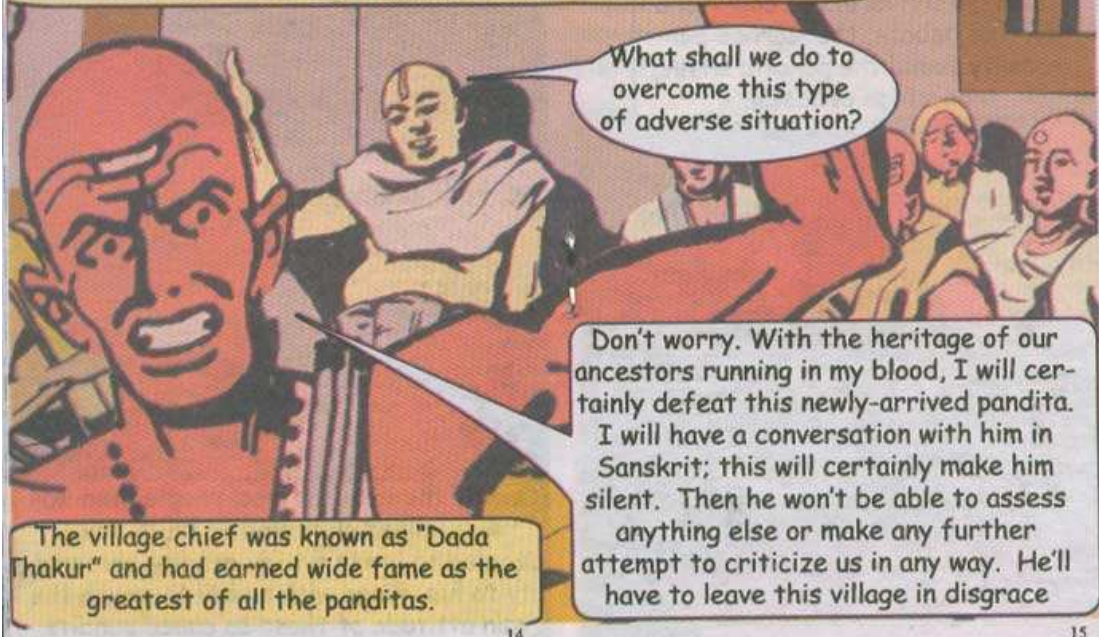


One of the virtuous local people, who was determined champion of truth, once decided to invite a truly erudite personality to his village with a view to smash the vain attitude of those so called pundits.

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As the learned pundit entered the village, all those false pundits felt extremely nervous and rushed immediately to their village chief.



What shall we do to overcome this type of adverse situation?

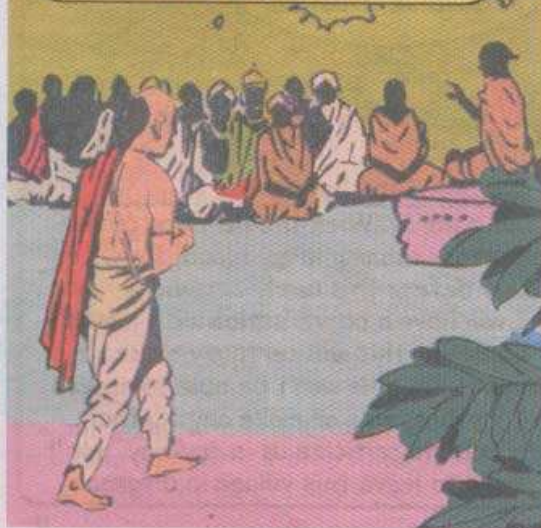
Don't worry. With the heritage of our ancestors running in my blood, I will certainly defeat this newly-arrived pandita. I will have a conversation with him in Sanskrit; this will certainly make him silent. Then he won't be able to assess anything else or make any further attempt to criticize us in any way. He'll have to leave this village in disgrace

The village chief was known as "Dada Thakur" and had earned wide fame as the greatest of all the panditas.

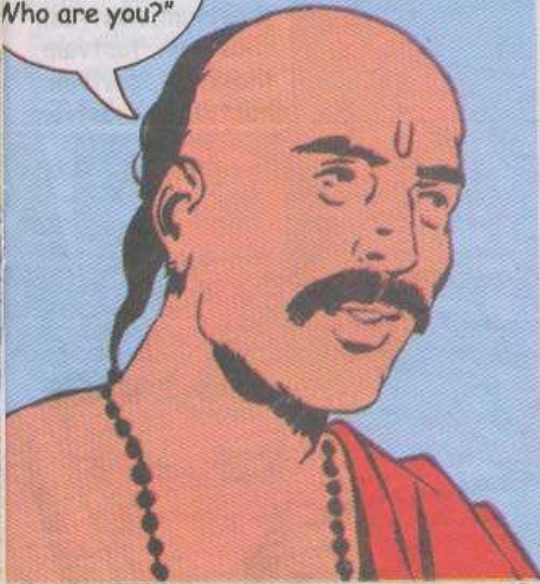
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Upon his arrival in the courtyard for the debate, the learned personality found the pandita sitting on a high pedestal.



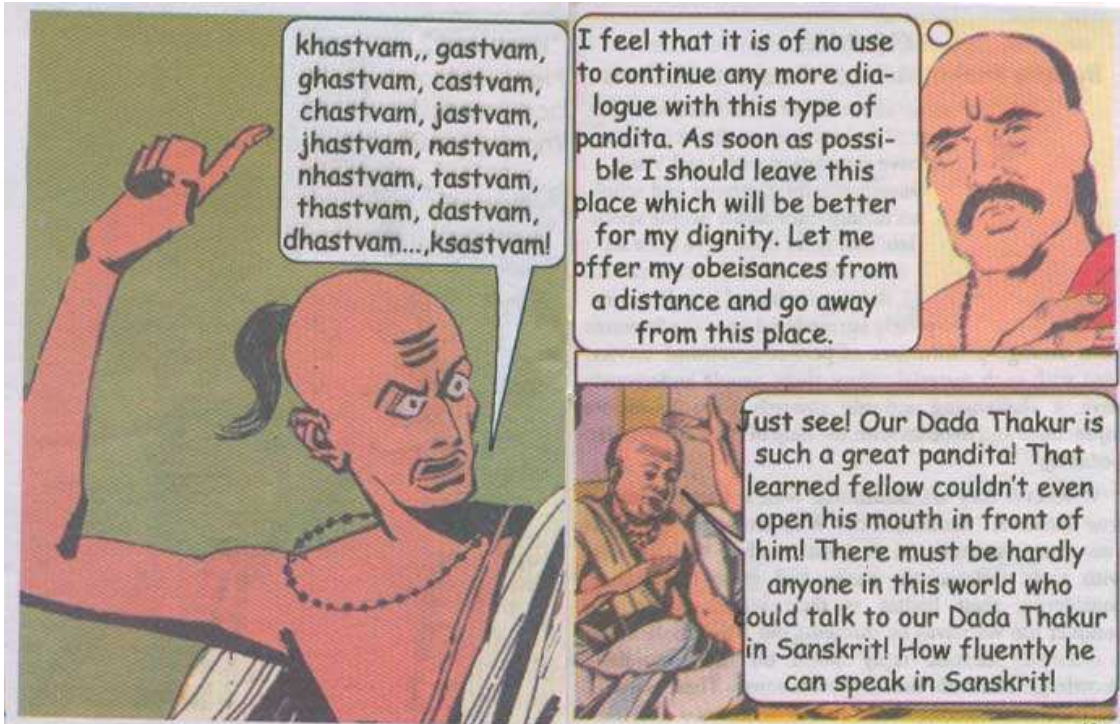
"Kastvam?"  
"Please introduce yourself.  
Who are you?"



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**PURPORT**

By Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura



Boasting about their traditional family heritage of brahminical erudition and successive association with Lord Visnu, Vaisnavas, saintly persons and scholars of eminence, some people speculate that there must have been an acute dearth of real Vaisnavas of the regular line of heredity, completely surrendered unto the Supreme

Lord through performance of perfect devotional service. Mad with such material vanity, these people audaciously have a challenging attitude towards pure Vaisnavite injunctions and maxims with the help of their abecedarian pedantry.

Whenever they are confronted with a question from a true Vaisnava, "Kastvam?" or "Who are you?", "What is your true constitutional position?" - then such persons with their materialistic vanity and gross intelligence, considering their bodies as their selves, pretend to conquer the Vaisnavas by throwing out a materialistically-oriented pedantic reply based on their mundane knowledge and unfounded speculations. These sorts of pedantic deliberations sound simply delirious.

In response to the question, "Kastvam?" - "Who are you?", a real scholar should say, "gopibhartuh padakamayor dasadasanudasa" or "I am the servant of the servant of the servants at the lotus feet of the Lord Sri Krsna, Lord of the Gopis."

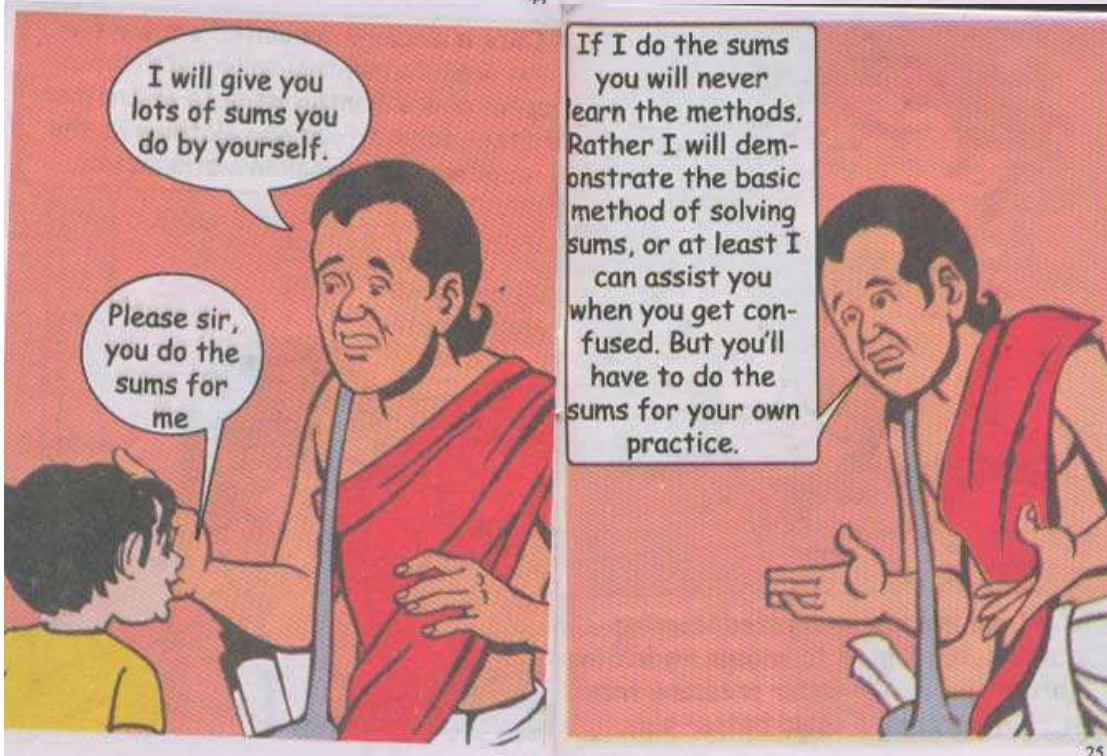


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## Doing Sums for the Teacher

Once a landlord appointed a tutor for his son on a monthly salary of fifteen rupees plus a monthly stipend of another fifteen for his food and clothing as the pupil was very weak in mathematics.



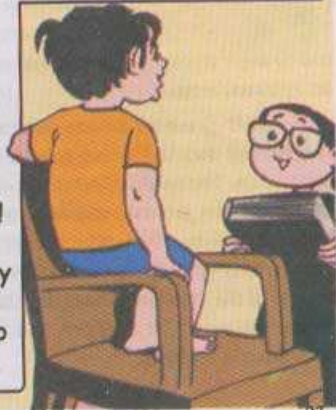




I am least interested in learning maths, but I have to engage myself in practicing maths under pressure from my parents, I could better play.

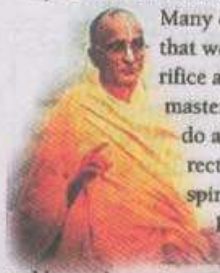
One day he was loudly talking to his sidekicks so that his tutor could easily overhear him

For me my father has engaged a worthless tutor on a monthly salary of fifteen rupees plus an additional fifteen rupees for his food and his clothing - in all thirty rupees a month! And look, I am still doing so many sums for him everyday. Really I can't tolerate this any more; this strain upon me while spending so much money and still taking the trouble of doing all the sums for him! Why should one pay him any salary when in fact I myself have to do all the sums?



#### PURPORT

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Many of us maintain a similar concept that we renounce our family life, we sacrifice a lot in the service of our spiritual master, some of us collect donations and do a lot of multifarious direct and indirect service for the satisfaction of our spiritual master, but what do we gain? Here we forget that we do such sums for our own benefit alone and by such services, we are ourselves uplifted, not the spiritual master.

The spiritual master knows the sums very well and it is only for our own well-being that he is getting the sums done by us. The spiritual master is engaging us in different services for our own satisfaction and welfare in the path of devotion. Those who are averse to their own benefit, only consider such services to be meant for the welfare of the spiritual master, for the temple complex, for the Vaisnavas, for the Lord, and thus foolishly take little interest in them.

