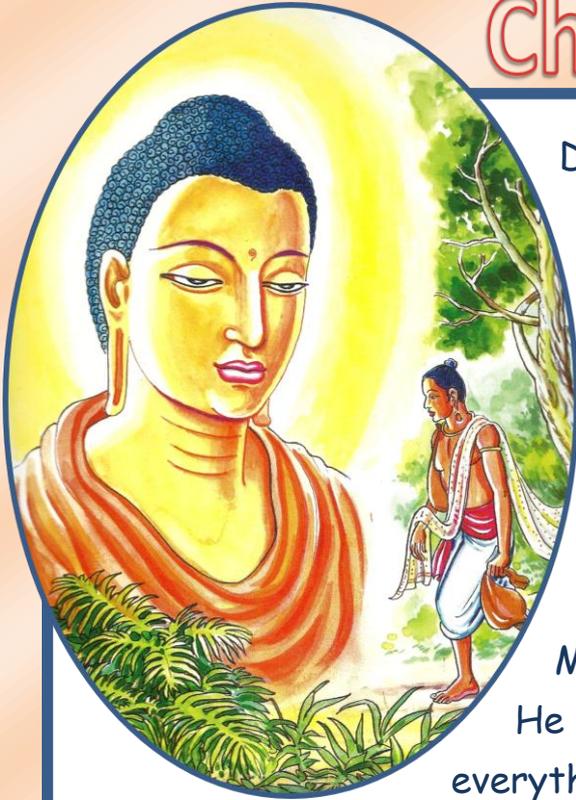


NAMO BUDDHAYA!!!
HOMAGE TO THE WORTHY ONE,
THE ENLIGHTENED ONE!!!

Chaththa Manawaka



Dear children today we are going to learn a story which is very important to you all. This story is very beautiful. And also when you learn the story you would understand the worthiness of the 'Three Refuges' and the virtue or sila which means doing good.

There was a child called Chattha Manawaka in the Supreme Buddha's time. He was a very clever boy. He learnt everything quickly that he was supposed to learn and skilled in everything. According to the custom at that time, the fees were given to the teacher after the whole education was done. One day Chattha Manawaka left home heading to the teacher's house carrying his fees, along a foot path which was fallen through a jungle. These roads were very isolated. There wasn't much crowd on these roads.

The Supreme Buddha saw in His divine eye that this boy was coming through the jungle and he had to face a tragic accident. Therefore our deeply kindhearted Supreme Buddha walked towards Chattha Manawaka. Then Chattha Manawaka identified the Lord Buddha. He was very happy to see the Buddha. The Supreme Buddha talked to him. At that time Chattha Manawaka had not gone the 'Three Refuges'. He also did not know about the five precepts.

Dear children, therefore our very merciful Supreme Buddha taught him the worthiness of the ' Three Refuges'. As he was very intelligent he understood the worthiness of the 'Three Refuges' and followed it. After that The Supreme Buddha taught him the five precepts.

- '**Panathipatha weramani sikkapadang samadiyami**' - I refrain from killing animals. So the person behaves according to that precept -not killing animals.
- '**Addinnadana weramani sikkapadang samadiyami**' - I refrain from stealing things which belong to others. So the person behaves according to that precept -not stealing from others.
- '**Kamesu michchachara weramani sikkapadang samadiyami** - I refrain from misconducting myself. So the person behaves according to that precept without breaking it.
- '**Musawada weramani sikkapadang samadiyami**' - I refrain from lying. So the person behaves according to that precept - not lying.
- '**Surameraya majjapamadattana weramani sikkapadang samadiyami**'- I refrain from taking alcohol or drugs. So the person behaves according to that precept -not using alcohol or drugs.

So dear children, Chattha Manawaka was observed the five precepts by the Supreme Buddha. He was so happy and worshipped the Lord Buddha with a great respect. He promised The Supreme Buddha that he would protect the five precepts.

Dear children, Then The Supreme Buddha taught Chattha Manawaka these three beautiful verses .



**Yo wadathang pawaro manujesu - sakyamuni bhagawa
kathakichcho**

**paragatho balaweeriya samanggi - thang sugathng
saranathamupemi.**

Which means, I Whole heartedly take refuge in the Supreme Buddha who crossed over the samsara.

**Raga wiraga manejamasokang - dhammamasangkatha
mappatikoolang**

**maduramimang pagunang suwibhathtang - dhammamimang
saranathamupemi**

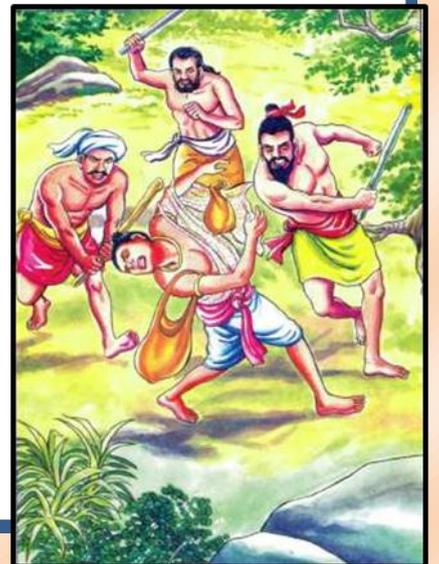
This means, I whole heartedly take refuge in the Supreme Dhamma which eliminates the burning fire of lust, fire of hate and fire of delusion.

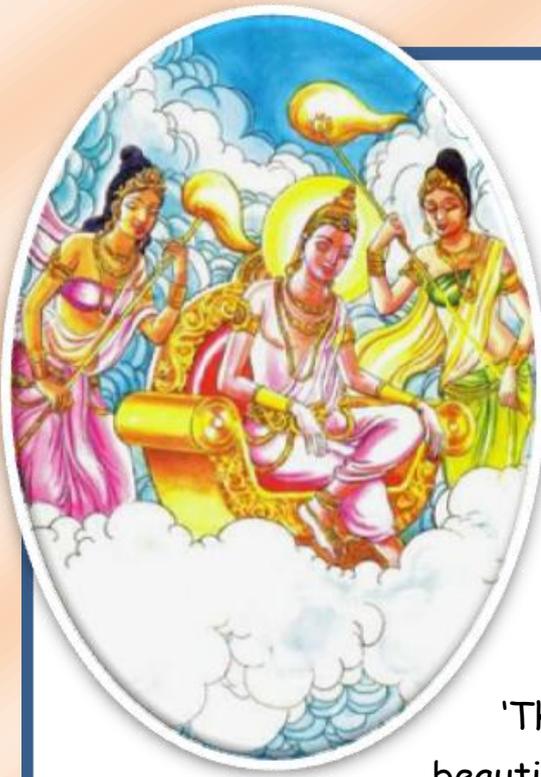
**yaththacha dinna mahappalamahu - chathusu suchisu
purisayugesu**

**attacha puggala dhammadasathe - sangghamimang
saranathamupemi**

This means, I whole heartedly take refuge in the Supreme Sangha, the eight persons who have realized the truth.

Dear children, these three verses describe the worthiness of the 'Three Refuges'. Chatta Manawaka learnt the three verses by heart and headed towards the teacher's house. But he couldn't go far, he was surrounded by a group of thieves. They attacked him very badly with poles and took all his money. Later Chatta Manawaka passed away due to the injuries he suffered in the hands of the thieves.





Dear children, At the time Chatta Manawaka was attacked , he was thinking about the Three Refuges and also the five precepts that he observed. Even though he was attacked by the thieves, he didn't have a hatred mind towards them.

My dear children, though Chatta Manawaka had a very unfortunate death, he was re-born in the Heaven called 'Thauthisa'. This 'divya kumara' got lots of beautiful palaces and many 'divya kumaras and kumaries' to treat and help him in everything.

Dear children, Chatta Manawaka gained such a happy life after his death as he took the Three Refuges and protected the five precepts that he observed a short while ago.

One day Chatta Manawaka 'divya kumara' visited the Supreme Buddha and told," The Thathagatha, I had only a very little time to observe sil to have such a happy life. Then the people who observe sil for their whole life, how privileged would they be?"

Dear children, now you can see the value of taking refuge in Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha and remembering the Chatta Manawaka gathas

Therefore my dear little ones, you also learn these gathas by heart and observe sil from a young age. It will always and definitely increase the value of your life and be for your long time good and happiness.

