

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

Nalagiri Elephant

Dear children today we are going to learn a story which tells us how our Supreme Buddha tames a panicked elephant.

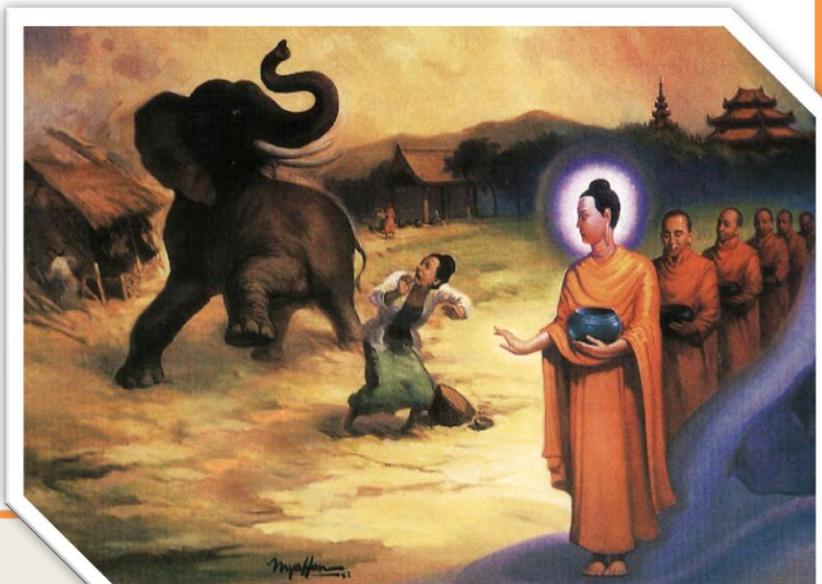
Have you heard about Devadattha?

Devadattha was the enemy of our supreme Buddha not only in that life but also in the long 'samsara'. He became a disciple of the Buddha. He was a clever person. He could concentrate the mind very soon. Further, he developed the ability to perform magical acts. Because of that ability he could win the heart of prince Ajasath.

One day Devadattha thought that he could kill the Buddha easily by making the most dangerous elephant of the royal herd of elephants drunken, making angry by stabbing with hooks and then directed towards the Buddha.

So he chose the most dangerous elephant, Nalagiri from the Royal herd of elephants. Then he got the mahouts to feed large amounts of toddy to Nalagiri until it became dangerously drunk. After that the elephant was stabbed with hooks to make it very angry and violent.

Finally, the angry, violent, drunken elephant was directed to the street where



the Buddha was walking. When the elephant ran, it felt as if the earth was shaking. People became terrified when it trumpeted.

The Buddha was coming from the other side of the street for 'pindapatha' [alms]. The town was struck with horror, all men, women, big and small screamed together in one voice. Nalagiri was dashing violently towards the Buddha. The Supreme Buddha looked at Nalagiri with compassion and said, "Nalagiri stop, have the faith and love towards the Supreme Buddha. That may help you to be born in heaven."

Astonishingly, the elephant became sober, and lost its drunkenness. It stood still for a while, looking at the ever compassionate Buddha. Then it knelt down in front of Supreme Buddha. The Buddha kept His hand on the front of the elephant's trunk with such kindness, and advised never to drink toddy and not to get angry hereafter, behave like a decent and obedient child.

The elephant stood up and trumpeted. Then it walked backwards, turned and slowly went to the elephant stall at the royal palace. From that day onwards, Nalagiri was found to be the most obedient elephant in the royal herd of elephants.

Dear children, The 'Nalagiri Dhamanay' is one good example to understand our Supreme Buddha's amazing abilities. He developed this ability by practicing Mettha, Karuna, Mudhitha and Upekkha towards all beings through His Samsara.

Therefore children, you also practice loving kindness everyday. That will make you happy and you will be protected from evil things.

