

## Unit 1 Chapter 4

### Horegallu

(Anecdote)

#### Read And Respond



Question 1.

What is a 'horegallu'? What is its purpose?

Answer:

A horegallu is a stone bench. It helps tired persons to sit down and rest for sometime so that they can regain their energy.

Question 2.

What are the special memories the author associates with 'horegallu'?

Answer:

The special memories the author associates with 'horegallu' are about her grandfather sitting on the horegallu talking with villagers who work in the nearby fields. Her grandfather was a retired school teacher and he would sit on the horegallu under the banyan tree in the village. The tired villagers would come and sit on the stone bench and talk to her grandfather. When she felt tired after playing she would also sit near her grandfather listening to the conversations he was having with the villagers resting there.

Question 3.

How does the grandfather refresh the travellers?

Answer:

The grandfather refreshed the travellers just by listening to them. The villagers would talk of their troubles to him and he would listen. This seemed to refresh them.

Question 4.

Is 'horegallu' essential in a journey? Why?

Answer:

'Horegallu' is essential in a journey. Any journey involves some distance. Life itself is supposed to be a journey. Every now and then we need to sit down, and refresh ourselves. There is nobody in this world that does not have problems of some sort. A sympathetic listener will help the person with troubles to relieve himself of his burden at least temporarily.

Question 5.

'Horegallu' gives everyone the opportunity to regain their strength. What does the author try to indicate here?

Answer:

It is true that horegallu gives everyone the opportunity to regain their strength. Life is a journey and we all need horegallus every now and then to regain our energy. The author is trying to tell us that we too must be like the horegallu. We may not be in a position to help everybody' to solve his problems, but at least we can give people a sympathetic hearing and it will help them.

Question 6.

Bring out the symbolic significance of the word 'burden'.

Answer:

'Burden' symbolically means our troubles and tribulations. There is nobody in the world that has no problems at all. Each problem is a burden. When we share our problem, our burden, with others, it will definitely relieve us.

Question 7.

Comment on the expression, 'infectious cheerfulness'.

Answer:

Infectious means 'contagious', something that spread fast. Like certain diseases, emotions are also infectious in the sense that they spread fast. When you attend a funeral, everyone wears a sad look. But when you attend a wedding, you have a happy look. A smiling person brings smile to your face. A cheerful person makes you also cheerful and this it is infectious.

Question 8.

What does Ratna do during lunch hours?

Answer:

During lunch hours, Ratna would sit with some person in one of the rooms and they would be chatting.

Question 9.

What is Ratna's simplistic outlook?

Answer:

Her simplistic outlook is God has given her two ears to listen to others. She is not a trained counsellor or an intellectual and she can't solve people's problems. They have to do it themselves. She simply listens to the people with sympathy and without any judgment. She believes that when a person in stress finds an outlet for his worries, it relieves him a lot.

Question 10.

The author wishes there were many more of 'horegallus' in the world. Comment.

Answer:

A horegallu is a stone bench on which tired people can rest and regain their energy. Such stones are usually under shady trees. Tired travellers unburden themselves, sit, and talk to some sympathetic listener. Life is a journey and we all are travellers. Each one of us carries burdens of various sorts. If there is some patient and sympathetic listener, we can unburden ourselves and feel relieved. The horegallu will not solve your problem but it gives you a temporary relief. The author expects each of us to be a horegallu.

### Think And Write

Question 1.

Do you think that the grandfather and Ratna were doing some tremendous social service? Explain.

Answer:

I do think that the grandfather and Ratna were doing tremendous social service. They used to sit down and calmly listen to the problems people have. They listened to people with sympathy and no judgment. By opening their mind, people feel relieved. The grandfather and Ratna might not have

solved people's problems. But they were simply horegallus giving the people temporary relief from their inner burdens.

Question 2.

Can we relate grandfather and Ratna to a horegallu? Why?

Answer:

We can definitely relate grandfather and Ratna to a horegallu because they helped people in unburdening themselves. A horegallu under a shady tree, sometimes with cool drinking water nearby, lets the people carrying burdens sit for a while and relax, getting back their energy. By talking to the grandfather and Ratna, people also felt relieved, Burdens are lightened when they are shared. In this sense they both are horegallus.

### Activity I (Narration)

Question 1.

Ratna in 'Horegallu' says, "God has given me two ears to listen to others. I hear them out with sympathy and without any judgment. When a person in trouble or under a lot of strain finds an outlet for his worries, it relieves half of his burden. "

a) Do you think mere listening can solve a problem? Identify the qualities of a good listener.

Answer

Mere listening can't solve a problem. The qualities of a god listener include: attention, interest, sympathy, making agreements, giving suggestions and being non- judgmental.

b) Imagine Nomita gets a chance to talk to Ratna. How would she present her worries?

Begin as follows: I am Nomita. Yesterday I had a quarrel with my husband.

Answer

Nomita: I am Nomita. Yesterday I had a quarrel with my husband.

Ratna: What happened, Nomita?

Nomita: He received a letter written to me by my mother. He read and left it in his pocket. After 3 days when I checked his pockets before giving the dirty clothes to the washer-man I found it there, crumpled and torn. When I asked him why he opened my letter and even refused give it to me later, he rudely told me he would do what he wants.

Ratna: He said that!

Nomita: He did. He further asked me what I could do. I was enraged. I saw a matchbox lying near, lit a match and put it to my sari which caught fire.

Ratna: Goodness! How could you do that?

Nomita: I was mad with anger. I wanted to tell him that I can also do things.

Ratna: And then?

Nomita: Ajit was shocked and he came running and put out the fire. I could see remorse in his face. I am sure he will not challenge me again in the future.

Ratna: But Nomita, you had gone too far in setting fire to yourself.

Nomita: Well, men sometimes need shock treatments to bring them to their senses!

### Activity II: (Language practice)



## Question 2.

Read the passage on page 29 and pick out the adjectives and categorize them based on the nature of their description.

Adjectives: large, flat, vertical, stone, fellow, cool, earthen, their, similar, simple, sure

Categories:

Adjectives of Quality: flat, two, vertical, stone, fellow, cool, earthen, simple, sure

Adjective of Quantity: large

Adjective of number: two

Adjective of Comparison: similar

Possessive adjective – their

Now rewrite the passage substituting the adjectives without any change in meaning:

Answer:

It was a big, level stone placed horizontally over a couple of upright ones, thus making a hard bench on which anyone could sit and rest a while, chat with a co-traveler and exchange news of the road. Cold water would be kept in clay pots near the bench and people could quench their thirst before starting their journeys again. I am certain the same, easy arrangements can be found in the villages all over the country.

## Activity III (Comparison)

### Question 3.

In this unit, you have got acquainted with several women characters, both real and fictitious. The following excerpts present their ideas on empowerment.

“I always compare women to match boxes.” Ashapurna Debi

“I’m the heat that warms the earth, which else were colder than a stone.” Katherine Tynan

“I don’t think there is a greater sin than betraying someone’s confidence.” Ratna

“For what reason should you open my letters? I told you a thousand times not to.” Nomita to Ajit

“I wish there were some horegallus on the world.” Sudha Murty

“It’s time to create a world where women can meet their potential... and the world will reap the benefits.” Christine Lagarde

Now attempt a comparison of these women with regard to their ideas on being empowered.

Answer:

There are six women in the above quotations giving their own views on empowerment. Ashapurna Debi thinks that women have a lot of power but they don’t utilise it properly. She feels women are like matchboxes which people keep in their kitchen, pantry, bedrooms, or even in their pockets. Katherine Tynan is sympathetic and kind. She is the epitome of a good mother, who gives her children unconditional love. SW thinks that only women have the power to give such love and warmth to the family members. Ratna is also sympathetic and she listens to the problems of others.

She never tells the secrets of those who trust her and tell her of their problems. Nomita wants to be independent, but her husband does not allow her to be so. She is severe and resentful of her husband’s behaviour but she can hardly change him. Sudha Murty wants people to be horegallus so that they can share the burden of others. Christine Lagarde wants women to work for meeting their potential. She feels women are denied opportunities in education, jobs and also leadership positions. She is very domineering and she wants women to assert themselves against all kinds of discrimination against them.

## Activity IV (Comprehension)

→ Read the advertisement

Reading shapes you.

Kind attention passionate book nerds...

Books which take you to another world help you escape daily problems. Books are beyond imagination. A good book is always a reliable companion. Children in their care are always happy. But today we are getting distracted by the digital world. The best way to get focused again is to disconnect and read an excellent book.

Here, you have the wonderland of sparkling letters.

A bookstore that has a spacious and air-conditioned reading hall is at your service.

Our new bookstore

PEACOCK PLUMES

Come, drink to the lees...



Question 4.

1. What is the theme of the advertisement?

Answer:

The theme is the importance of reading.

2. According to the advertisement, what is the threat faced by readers today?

Answer:

According to the advertisement, the threat faced by readers today is the digital world which takes people away from reading books.

3. What are the advantages of reading:

Answer:

Reading has many advantages: It helps you to reach another world and thus you can escape from your problems. Books are beyond imagination. A book is always a reliable companion. In sorrow and joy, in disease and health books make good companions. Children who read books will be happy.

4. With books, you enjoy more than with a computer. OR

5. Pick out from the advertisement the words, phrases and clauses used for the purpose of description.

Take you to another world, escape daily problems, beyond imagination, reliable companion, happy, distracted by the digital world, wonderland of sparkling letters, spacious and air-conditioned reading hall.

Study the tips about clause, adjective clause, phrase and adjective phrase given on p. 31

## Activity V: (Language practice)

Question 5

What makes our speech ornamental, vivid and picturesque?

Have a look at the conventional similes given below:

As black as coal

As good as gold

As loud a thunder

As slow as a snail

a. Are these similes attractive? Why?

Answer:

They are attractive because the pictures we get in those similes are vivid. We easily understand them. Similes are powerful ways of describing things.

b. Can you coin similar similes using appropriate adjectives?

Answer:

Here are some adjectives: as black as hell, as blind as a bat, as bold as brass, as brave as a lion, as busy as a bee, as cheap as dirt, as clean as a whistle, as clear as day, as clumsy as an elephant, as cold as marble, as cold as steel/stone, as cool as a cucumber, as cunning as a fox, as dark as death

c. Given on p. 32 is the brochure of a female film festival. Go through it and fill in the blank spaces appropriately:

Answers:

Hello and Welcome: as fresh as daisies; as gay as a peacock

Films at a Glance: as pure as a lily MITR, My Friend: as sharp as an arrow; as empty as a drum

English Vinglish: as sweet as a candy Makalkku: as heavy as lead; as soothing as a lullaby

## Activity VI (Review)

Question 6.

Prepare a review of the films which influenced you the most.

(Hints: theme, screenplay, cast and credit, music, cinematography, etc.)

Answer:

### Bhargavinilayam

An enthusiastic and talented novelist (Madhu) comes to stay in a desolate mansion named Bhargavi Nilayam. The novelist and his servant Cheriya Pareekkanni (Adoor Bhasi) experience the presence of a strange entity here. They come to know from the local people that it is a haunted house. The story is that it is haunted by the ghost of the daughter of the previous owner. The novelist and his servant encounter strange happenings here – the gramophone plays on its own, objects move around. The novelist finds some old letters written to Bhargavi (Vijaya Nirmala) by her lover Sasikumar (Prem Nazir). It is believed that the ghost of Bhargavi now haunts this house.

The letters give some indication about their love affair and their tragic deaths. The novelist decides to probe the matter. He starts writing the story of Bhargavi. The information gathered from the local people and the hints in the letters help him in his writing. The story develops. Bhargavi falls in love with her neighbour Sasikumar who is a talented poet and singer. Bhargavi's father's nephew, Nanukuttan (P. J. Antony) is also in love with Bhargavi. But Bhargavi hates Nanukuttan who is a bad man. Nanukuttan tries all nasty tricks to separate the lovers. He kills Sasikumar. Bhargavi becomes



furious when she comes to know of her lover's murder. In a scuffle Nanukuttan pushes Bhargavi into a well, killing her. Nanukuttan spreads the news that Bhargavi had committed suicide.

The novelist reads out the story to the ghost who by now has become quite compassionate with him. Nanukuttan overhears the story. He fears that once the story is published the truth behind the death of Bhargavi and Sasikumar will be out. He attacks the novelist and a fight ensues. During the fight both Nanukuttan and the novelist reach the well in which Bhargavi was drowned. While trying to push the novelist into the well, Nanukuttan loses his balance. He falls into the well and is killed, while the novelist escapes. The novelist then prays for the peace of Bhargavi's soul and the movie ends with the laugh of Bhargavi.

Bhargavinilayam means 'The House of Bhargavi'. It is a 1964 Malayalam horror-romance film written by Vaikom Muhammed Basheer and directed by A. Vincent. The film stars Prem Nazir, Madhu and Viji Nirmala in the lead roles. Its story, screenplay and dialogues are written by Vaikom Muhammad Basheer. It was the directorial debut of noted cinematographer A. Vincent. The film is especially noted for its music by M. S. Baburaj. It was the first horror film in Malayalam and was one of the biggest hit films of all time.

### Activity VII (Let's edit)

Question 7.

Given below is the opening paragraph of a review prepared by a student of Class XII. There are a few errors in it. Identify them and refine the paragraph.

Answer:

### Gone With The Wind

One of the classic films that define American cinema, *Gone with the Wind*, is a rare example of a collaboration involving hundreds of talents and the film turned out great. For millions of people, *Gone with the Wind*, has helped to define the myth and reality of the country's most tragic period in history – the Civil War and Reconstruction. The popularity of Margaret Mitchell's bestselling novel allowed the filmmaker to be confident of its success. Of course, proper attention to costumes and sets was paid. The film's visual effects – especially the burning of Atlanta – are indeed effective and memorable.

*Gone with the Wind* deserves the label epic. It presents enough detail to be a facsimile of reality.

### Activity VIII (Project)

Question 8.

Prepare a class magazine including stories, poems, anecdotes, reviews of prose and poems, etc.

OR

Organize a Film Festival on women. Include films with strong women characters and films by women film makers.

Prepare a report on the Film Festival for your school magazine.

Answer:



## Our School Film Festival

The School's Arts Club organized a Film Festival on women. We chose three films with strong women characters and films by women directors. The three films were: Daughters of the Dust, Down in the Delta, and City of Angels. The Festival lasted 3 days, 15-17 January 2015. The Festival was concluded with a ceremony presided over by Revathy, an actor and film maker from South India.

The first film shown was Daughters of Dust, released in 1991. It is the story of a family living in America whose ancestors were brought as slaves from Nigeria. The matriarch of the film summarises the issues presented in the story by saying, "We are two people in one body." There is the African in them and then there is the Western. It talks of the generational split. The Direction and Screenplay is by Julie March. Music is by John Barnes. Barbara Jones, Alva Rogers, Cora Lee Day, Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor and Bahni Peasant play important roles. It is a good film that vividly portrays both Africa and American life.

The second film shown was Down in the Delta, released in 1998. In this film a family matriarch sends her two grandchildren and her drug-addicted daughter, Loretta, to small Mississippi town to save them from the dangers of the big city Chicago. There Loretta gets work in a chicken joint. There she and her children prosper. The film is directed by Maya Angelou. The main actors are Alfre Woodard, Wesley Snipes and Will Sinclair. It is a good film that tells us that even drug addicts can be reformed and brought back to good life.

The 3rd film shown was City of Angels, released in 1998. This is the story of Seth, an angel who wanders the Los Angeles area invisible to humans. As persons are about to die, he becomes visible to them and becomes their travelling companion during their trip to the other world. Soon angel falls in love with Maggie, a beautiful heart surgeon. She becomes interested in Seth, but his condition as an angel becomes a barrier than a gift. A choice must be made between celestial duty and earthly love. Although this is an impossible story, it is told in a nice way and thus it becomes an interesting film. The director is Brad Silberling, Music is by Gabriel Yared and the Screenplay is by Dana Stevens. Nicolas Cage, Meg Ryan, Andre Braugher, Dennis Franz and Colm Feore are in the lead roles.

The Film Festival concluded by a closing ceremony presided over by the famous actor and director Revathy. She said that Indian women are not coming forward to make films because they think film direction is mainly meant for men. In Kerala we have so many famous film directors but they all are men. Not even a single female director with any name. This has to change. There are famous women directors like Meera Nair. She hoped that the new generation in girls will venture into film direction that they can tell the story the way they want. After a Vote of Thanks by the Secretary the Ceremony came to a close.

Liz Job

Secretary, Arts Club

### **Horegallu - Possible Questions and Answers**

Question 1.

Ratna was Sudha Murty's colleague in the early phase of her career. Now Sudha Murty is a



successful business woman. Imagine that Sudha Murty invites Ratna to her office and felicitates her for her selfless services to mankind. How would Sudha Murty introduce her and appreciate her work? Draft her speech.

Answer:

Dear Friends,

I have great pleasure in introducing Ratna to you. She and I were colleagues a few years ago. I have learned a lot from Ratna and probably that is why I am now able to run this big business. It is from Ratna I learned what a “horegallu” really means. A horegallu is a stone bench. It helps tired persons to sit down and rest for some time so that they can regain their energy. Ratna was a horegallu in the sense she helped tired and miserable people to regain their energy, patiently listening to their problems.

Every day during lunch hour, she would sit with some person in one of the rooms, chatting with him/her.

I often wondered what they talked about. One day I asked her and Ratna told me that they shared their troubles with her. I then asked Ratna how she could help in solving their problems. Did she have an answer for them? She told me she only listened to them. I was young then and I wondered how merely by listening to somebody’s problem, it gets solved. She then told me she was not a trained counsellor or an intellectual. Nobody can solve your problem. You have to solve it yourself.

Ratna explained things to me further. God has given her two ears to listen. She hears people with sympathy and no judgment. When somebody talks about his worries, it relieves him a lot. Ratna never revealed to others what people told her. This way Ratna helped people to be relieved and to go on with their journey of life. This way she was serving people in her own way.

I thank Ratna for what she did to all and to me.

Let us take a leaf from Ratna and become horegallus in our own way.



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Question 2.

“I hear them out with sympathy and without any judgement”, says Ratna in Horegallu.

As part of the World Mental Health Day, the Souhrida Club co-ordinator of your school asks you to prepare a chart on the topic ‘Listen to Others – Broaden your Mind’. Write a paragraph in about 80 words.

Answer:

Listen to Others – Broaden Your Mind ” God has given us two ears but only one mouth. We have two ears so that we can listen more than we speak. There is a difference between listening and hearing. Listening is a voluntary activity but hearing is something that happens automatically. It is like the difference between looking and seeing. By listening to the people’s problem we help them to get some relief. A person feels happy and relieved when he tells his problems to a sympathetic listener. So we should learn to listen sympathetically to people without making judgments. By listening to others we broaden our minds as we learn new things. By listening we can also be ‘horegallus’ to others. Some people say that only if we listen to others, God will listen to us!

Question 3.

Given above is a pie diagram that tells about the psychological assistance received by students of

various age groups in the present-day world. It shows the percentage of students who seek assistance from various groups. Analyse the pie diagram and prepare a write-up.

(Hints: increasing number of counselling centres- students depending more on counsellors and friends – parents do not support)

Answer:

#### Growing Significance Of Counsellors To Students

Teenage and adolescent students are the ones that need counselling most. Adolescence is considered to be a period of stress and strain and therefore adolescent students need counselling most. The modern students are baffled at the different ideas that are propagated by the various groups in the society. Some of these ideas are quite conflicting. The influx of mobile phones and the wide use of the internet have given the students a lot of choices, both for doing good and also for evil.

There are religious fundamentalist groups and terrorist groups that want to get the youths into their clutches. Students do not know what is right and what is wrong, whom to believe and whom not to believe. They are bombarded with information and they don't know what to choose and what to reject. Hence comes the necessity to have counselling and counsellors. The pie diagram shows that 35% of the students approach counsellors with their problems. Friends come next in importance with 30%. The role of teachers is only 20% whereas the least in the group is parents with a mere 15%.

Students do not often go to their parents and teachers for counselling because of their sense of shame and fear. They want to appear good boys and girls before their parents and teachers. But the fact is their mind is not at ease because of the problems they face. So, for solutions they approach counsellors and to a lesser extent their friends. When children go to their parents with doubts about sex and sexuality, the usual answer is: "Don't ask me these things!" or "Don't you have shame to ask me such things?"

#### Question 4

Imagine that a film festival was conducted in your school. The following points were jotted down by a journalist for drafting a report. Prepare the likely report by him.

- Inauguration by Parvathi Menon
- Parvathi: "Films reflect the society".
- Felicitation speech by Pramod Kumar, Staff Secretary
- Pramod: "Films should inspire and motivate students."
- Films: 'A Beautiful Mind', 'Dhoni: The Untold Story', 'Ottaal'

Answer:

Film Festival at Don Bosco HSS Thrissur

Thrissur: A one-day film festival was conducted on Friday, 5 June 2017 at the Don Bosco HSS Thrissur.

The Inaugural function began at 9.00 a.m. The welcome speech was done by the Secretary, Arts Club of the School. The Inauguration was by the popular actress Paravathi Menon. Parvathi said that films reflect the society. The film producers, directors, actors and all others connected with the film are members of the society and therefore naturally what they do and say in the film reflect the ideas of the society. Films have a big role to play in shaping the society.

The felicitation speech was done by Mr. Pramod Kumar, the Staff Secretary. He said that such film festivals increase the awareness of the students to the problems in the society. Films are not merely for entertainment but also for education. Seeing things on the screen will have a greater impact on the minds of the students. All good films will have something positive to teach. Films should inspire and motivate students to reach greater heights – to have high dreams and to work hard to realize them. Three films were shown after the inaugural function. The first film shown was “A Beautiful Mind”.

It is a 2001 American biographical drama Film based on the life of John Nash, a Nobel Laureate in Economics. The film was directed by Ron Howard. Then the film “M.S.Dhoni: The Untold Story” was screened. It is a 2016 Indian biographical sports film written and directed by Neeraj Pandey. It is based on the life of Indian cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni. It stars Sushant Singh Rajput as Dhoni. It chronicles the life of Dhoni from a young age and the series of life events that finally culminates in his stardom in the realm of cricket. The 3rd film was Ottal. It is a 2015 Malayalam film directed by Jayaraj. It is an adaptation of the short story “Vanka” by the Russian author Anton Chekhov. It tells the story of a young boy and his relationship with his grandfather, his only living relative in the world.

Of the three films, all were impressed by the film on MS Dhoni. The film festival ended at 6.00 p.m.

Question 5.

Imagine that Sudha Murty sends an e-mail to Ratna, thanking her for changing her outlook towards life. Draft the e-mail for Sudha Murty.

Answer:

Ratna@gmail.com

Dearest Ratna,

I want to thank you for all the valuable suggestions and advice you gave me. As a young girl, I did not know much about the importance of listening to others. When I saw you listening to people every day after lunch, I used to wonder why you were wasting your time listening to the trouble of others. Do you remember me asking you that question?

And then you told me “We are given two ears to listen.” It was a great answer. You further told me that even by listening to the problems of people you are helping them because they feel relieved by telling what they feel in their mind to some sympathetic listener.

Now I am running a big business and I have seen how helpful your suggestions had been. I too now practise what you taught me – to listen to people without prejudice or judgment. I have found it a good thing, both for me as well as the person to whom I listen.

Thank you, Ratna. Thank you very much.

Please do keep in touch!

Sudha Murty



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Question 6.

Fill in the blanks with appropriate similes or adjectives from the brackets.

With technology at our fingertips, it is now as ..... (a) ..... (easy, complex, tough) as abc to scan across the world and explore the unexplored. The boundaries that are as thick as ..... (b) ..... (brick, iron, glass) crumble down to help us experience a unified existence. Now, man is as busy as a ..... (c)

..... (snail, bee, sloth), joyously defeating the conventions and customs of yesteryears. His vision is as ..... (d) ..... (clear, vague, dim) as crystal and his attitude is as stubborn as that of a mule.

Answer:

a) easy, b) brick, c) bee, d) clear

Question 7.

Modern world offers us so many material comforts and we can easily satisfy all our desires. But Sudha Murthy says, 'If ever now I happen to pass a horegallu in the village, I remember them and wish there were many more of them in this world'. What makes her say so? Give reasons. Answer in a paragraph.

Answer:

When Sudha Murthy passes a horegallu in the village she remembers especially two people. One is her grandfather and the other is her colleague Ratna. A horegallu is a stone bench. It helps tired persons to sit down and rest for sometime so that they can regain their energy. Sudha's grandfather was a retired school teacher. He would spend hours sitting under the banyan tree, on the horegallu there, talking to those resting there. Most of them told him their troubles and pains. He could hardly have done anything to solve their problems. But by patiently listening to them he was relieving them to a great extent. He was a horegallu on which the tired people unburdened their burdens.

Sudha met Ratna when she went to work in Mumbai. Ratna was her colleague. She was a middle aged senior clerk and she always smiled. Every day during lunch hour she would sit with some person in a room and chat with him/her. Sudha often wondered what they talked about. One day she asked Ratna what they discussed. Ratna told her that the persons with whom she talked shared their troubles with her. Sudha then asked Ratna how by listening to one person, she could solve his problems. Ratna said God has given us two years to listen. Even if we can't solve problems for people, we can help them by listening to them. A troubled person feels relieved when he tells a sympathetic listener about his troubles. Sudha knew Ratna was right. So she wishes there were more horegallus like her grandfather and Ratna. It would make the world a better place to live in.

Question 8.

Imagine that your teacher asks you to narrate a situation in which a person acted as a horegallu or Ratna in your life and helped you to relieve you off your sorrows. How would you narrate that experience?

Answer:

I had a sister whom I loved very much. She too loved me deeply. One day as she was going to school in the school bus, the bus collided with a truck and my sister was seriously injured. She was rushed to the hospital. She had a serious head injury and a surgery was done. We all prayed for her but the doctors could do nothing to save her. She died a couple of days later. I could not accept her death and my mind was always thinking about her. I was quite depressed and I lost interest even in my studies.

Then a distant relative of mine came to my house. He asked me why I always looked so morose and melancholic. I told him the reason for my sorrow. He asked me to tell him the incident in detail. I told him everything in complete details. He did not ask me any question but he listened to my story very sympathetically. At last he told me, "Son, you are not the only one who has suffered losses in this world. I had three children. They all died in an accident when the car in which they were travelling hit the railing of a bridge and fell into the river."

I felt my sorrow was much less compared to his.

Question 9.

Childhood is a storehouse of memories and varied experiences. Sudha Murthy recollects her childhood experiences in the anecdote 'Horegallu'. Write an anecdote on the basis of your own childhood experience.

Answer:

I have many memories of my childhood but one incident stands out. It was a Sunday and I was in the church. A wedding was taking place that day. The bride, obviously from a rich family, was covered with different types of gold ornaments. She had many chains, necklaces, bangles, bracelets and rings. The reception was in the parish hall nearby. After the wedding, in the church, the people began to rush to the parish hall for the reception and the sumptuous meal awaiting them.

The bridegroom, a handsome youth, was holding the hand of his bride and together they were walking towards the hall. Suddenly a poor woman, carrying a pale, sickly child appeared before them. The bride suddenly stopped and looked at the woman. The people around were trying to drive away the woman but the bride told them not to do that. She gave a sign to the poor woman to come closer. Then suddenly she removed one of her golden chains and gave it to the poor woman. To the wonderstruck bridegroom the smiling bride said, "Dear, I can manage with one chain less. Let the poor woman and her child have an enjoyable day today. I'm sure we'll be more happy."

I will never forget the smile on the face of the poor woman.

Question 10.

Sudha Murthy is a social activist and a teacher by profession. Imagine that she happens to address a noisy class in one of her sessions. She starts narrating the story of Ratna. How will she narrate it? Prepare the narration for her.

Answer:

Dear students,

As you talk so eagerly and make so much of noise, I am reminded of my young days. Before I became a teacher, I worked for sometime in a business office in Mumbai. In the office there were many workers. One of them was Ratna, a middle-aged senior clerk. She has been working there for 25 years. She had a smiling face. It was a pleasure talking to her.

I used to see her talking with someone everyday during lunchtime. I often wondered what they were talking about. One day I asked Ratna what they discussed. Ratna told me that the persons with whom she talked shared their troubles with her. I then asked Ratna how by listening to one person, she could solve his problems. Ratna said God has given us two years to listen. Even if we can't solve problems for people, we can help them by listening to them. A troubled person feels relieved when he tells a sympathetic listener about his troubles. I know Ratna was right.

So children, stop talking and start listening. Only by listening, you will know more things. By knowing more things you will be empowered and you can become what you want to become.

Question 11.

Most of our historical monuments and structures like Horegallu are damaged by tourists and locals with drawings and other graffiti. With the consent of your teacher you decide to give awareness to

students on the necessity of preserving them, in the school assembly. What would you say? Draft an awareness speech to be made in the school assembly.

Answer:

My dear students,

Today I am going to talk to you about the necessity to preserve historical monuments and structures like Horegullus. We hear a lot about building new things and making statues of great men and women. But we hardly hear of the importance of preserving our historical monuments and other ancient structures. Tourists and locals have the habit of writing things on such monuments. Sometimes they even break away small pieces to carry as mementoes of their visits to such monuments. This is very bad as they disfigure them and spoil them.

Monuments cultivate pride of our past and heritage making us unique in the world. Paris is known for the Eiffel tower, London for the Big Ben, China for the Great Wall, Egypt for the Pyramids and India for its Taj Mahal. If people go on disfiguring them, they lose their value. Historical monuments are great attractors of tourists. Everyone likes to experience the "spirit" of the place, which is most often represented through the monuments. Tourists can provide locals with jobs and extra income.

Historical monuments and structures like Horegullus are environmental friendly. They add charm to our place without in any way harming the environment. So let us take a firm decision not to litter any monument or historical structure with graffiti or such unwanted things. Let us preserve them for posterity.

Thank you all!



[www.rrvgirls.com](http://www.rrvgirls.com)

Question 12.

Imagine that while going on a tour to a famous historical place some of your classmates try to write their names and comments on the walls. You decide to dissuade them from that activity. What advice would you give them? Write three sentences using the expressions. 'You had better...', 'Why don't you ...', 'If I were you'

Answer:

You had better write what you want to write in the visitors' diary.

Why don't you think this place as a national treasure and by writing your names and other things you are spoiling the beauty of this place?

If I were you, I would not write or draw on these walls.

Question 13.

After studying the anecdote 'Horegallu' you realize that your parents and grandparents are a treasure house of knowledge. You start a bloggers' group named 'Unacknowledged Legacy' to appreciate their contributions and to popularize their knowledge. What would be your blog entry to mark the beginning of the group?

Answer:

Unacknowledged Legacy

6 June 2017

We all know the old adage "Old is Gold". How many of us are really prepared to acknowledge that our parents and grandparents were a treasure house of knowledge and wisdom? Knowledge and wisdom

come from experience. Many things are learned from experience and not merely from books. Our parents and grandparents have been imparting us their wisdom not only through their words but also their deeds. We are starting this Bloggers' Group titled Unacknowledged Legacy to pay tribute to our older generations. Today we are what we are just because of our parents and grandparents.

They are the one who brought us up, taught us to dream high and work hard to achieve our dreams. Often, as young and inexperienced people, we may have resented their interference in our lives. We may have then thought that they are autocrats who want to keep us under their tight control. If they hadn't exercised their authority and restrained us, many of us would have been abject failures. Thanks to their wisdom, we are today somebody and we should e ver remain grateful to them.

This blog invites members to contribute their stories of how they were assisted by their parents and grandparents to reach their present position. Make your contributions short and sweet. Brevity, they say, is the soul of wit.

Lilly Jacob

Question 14.

You got inspired by the anecdote of 'Horegallu' and decide to visit an old age home. You are enthusiastic to know more about the old customs and traditions of our forefathers .You seek information regarding that from the inmates of the old age home. How would you seek information from them? Write three sentences using the expressions I would like to know..., Do you mind telling me about..., Can I ask you .....

Answer:

I would like to know how you happened to come to this Old Age Home.

Do you mind telling me about your family members and what they do.

Can I ask you to describe to me how marriages took place in your young days?

### Horegallu About The Author



– *Sudha Murty*



Sudha Murty was born in 1950. She is an M.Tech in Computer Science and teaches Computer Science. She writes a lot both in English and Kannada. 'Horegallu' is taken from The Old Man and His God: Discovering the Spirit of India.



## Horegallu Summary in English

Page 26: Hot summer days remind me of my childhood in a small village. There was a large banyan tree right in the middle of the village. During holidays I spent many hours playing under it. The tree was like a big umbrella. It gave much needed shade and comfort. Travellers spent some time sitting under it, taking some rest, before they continued their journey. To make them comfortable there was a 'horegallu' under the tree. 'Horegallu' means 'a stone that can bear weight'.

It was a large flat stone placed horizontally over two vertical stones. It was a stone bench. People could sit on it, chat with a fellow traveller and exchange news of the road. Cool water was kept in earthen pots and travellers could drink the water. I am sure such simple arrangements are found all over the country.

The horegallu in our village brings special memories for me because it is connected with my grandfather. He was a retired school teacher. He would spend hours sitting under the banyan tree, talking to those resting there. When I got tired of playing I would sit next to him listening to their conversations and observing the people.

Page 27: Most of the villagers were taking a break from their work in the nearby fields. They had to walk long distances each day. They had to carry heavy burdens on their heads. Tired by the heat, they would drink the cold water, wash their faces and chat with my grandfather. They often talked about their lives and worries.

One man would say, "Masterji, this summer has been so hot. I have never seen such a dry weather." Another would say, "Masterji, it is getting difficult for me to carry heavy loads on my head. Thank God for this horegallu. I want my son to help me but he simply wants to go to the city." My grandfather listened to their talk and they felt refreshed. They would soon go away with their burdens. The horegallu was an important feature in their lives and I wondered why they blessed it so often.

It was just a stone bench. Then my grandfather told me that a horegallu is essential in any journey. We all carry burdens in our different ways. Once in a while we need to stop, put down that burden and rest. Only then we will be refreshed to carry the load again. The horegallu helps the people to regain their strength.

Later in life I happened to see something that reminded me of that horegallu. I was working in Mumbai. One of my colleagues was Ratna. She was a senior clerk, middle-aged and always smiling. She had been working in the company for nearly 25 years, after her graduation. She continued working with a cheerful face.

Every day during lunch hour, she would sit with some person in one of the rooms, chatting with him/her. I often wondered what they talked about. One day I asked what they discussed during the lunch hour. Ratna told me that they shared their troubles with her.

Page 28: I asked her how she could help in solving their problems. Did she have an answer for them? She told me she only listened to them. I was young and I wondered how merely by listening to somebody's problem, it gets solved. She then told me that she was not a trained counsellor or an

intellectual. Nobody can solve your problem. You have to solve it yourself. I then wondered what the point was of listening to somebody's problem if no help can be given.

Ratna answered me patiently. She told me that God had given her two ears to listen to others. She hears people with sympathy and no judgment. When somebody talks about his worries, it relieves him a lot. I then wanted to know if she ever told other the secrets she heard. Ratna told me that not even in her dreams she would do that. Revealing somebody's secret is the worst kind of betrayal. People told her of their worries because they were certain that she would never tell others about them. They relieve themselves by talking about their burdens and they continue with their life's journey.

Ratna's words reminded me of my grandfather sitting on the bench stone listening to people. Neither my grandfather nor Ratna were rich. But in their small ways they were doing great social service. No one thought of acknowledging their work or giving them any rewards. But they continue doing their service and it gives them joy. Whenever I pass by a horegallu anywhere, I think of my grandfather and Ratna. I wish there were more such 'bench stones' in this world.



## Horegallu Summary in Malayalam

പേജ് 26 : വേനൽക്കാലത്തെ ചൂടുള്ള ദിവസങ്ങൾ ഗ്രാമത്തിൽ ചിലവഴിച്ച എന്റെ കുട്ടിക്കാലത്തെ ഓർമ്മപ്പെടുത്താറുണ്ട്. ഞങ്ങളുടെ ഗ്രാമത്തിന്റെ ഒത്ത നടുക്ക് ഒരു വലിയ പേരാൽമരമുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഒരു കൂടയുടെ രൂപത്തിലായിരുന്നു അത്. നല്ല നിഴലും തണുപ്പും അതു നൽകിയിരുന്നു. യാത്രക്കാർ അതിനടിയിൽ ഇരുന്നു കുറച്ചുനേരം വിശ്രമിച്ച്, അവരുടെ യാത്ര തുടരുകയായിരുന്നു. അവർക്കു ഇരുന്നു വിശ്രമിക്കാനായി ആ മരച്ചുവട്ടിൽ ഒരു "ഹൊരോഗലു" ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഹൊരോഗലു എന്നാൽ ഭാരം വഹിക്കാവുന്ന ഒരു കൽബഞ്ച് എന്നാണർത്ഥം, രണ്ടു കൂത്തിനിർത്തിയ കല്ലുകളുടെ മുകളിൽ ഒരു നീളമുള്ള കല്ലുവച്ചാണ് ഈ കൽബഞ്ച് ഉണ്ടാക്കിയിരുന്നത്. ആൾക്കാർക്ക് അതിന്മേൽ ഇരുന്ന് വിശ്രമിക്കുകയും, വർത്തമാനം പറയുകയും,

റോഡിലെ വിശേഷങ്ങൾ പങ്കുവെക്കുകയും ചെയ്യാൻ പറ്റുമായിരുന്നു. - ഒരു മൺ പാതത്തിൽ തണുത്ത വെള്ളം ലഭ്യമായിരുന്നു. യാത്രക്കാർക്ക് വെള്ളം കുടിച്ച്, ആവരുടെ ദാഹം ശമിപ്പിക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചിരുന്നു. അത്തരം സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ പല ഭാഗത്തും ഉണ്ടെന്നാണ് എന്റെ വിശ്വാസം.

എന്റെ ഗ്രാമത്തിലെ കൽബഞ്ച് എന്നെ ഒരുപാടു കാര്യങ്ങൾ ഓർമ്മ - പ്പെടുത്താറുണ്ട്, കാരണം അത് എന്റെ മുത്തച്ഛനുമായി വളരെ ബന്ധ - പ്പെട്ട ഒന്നായിരുന്നു, അദ്ദേഹം വിരമിച്ച ഒരു സ്കൂൾ അധ്യാപകനായിരുന്നു. അദ്ദേഹം ഈ പേരാൽമരത്തിന്റെ ചുവട്ടിൽ കൽബഞ്ചിൽ - മണിക്കൂറുകളോളം ഇരിക്കുകയും യാത്രക്കാരുമായി സംഭാഷണത്തിൽ - ഏർപ്പെടുകയും ചെയ്യുമായിരുന്നു. കളിച്ചു ക്ഷീണിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഞാനും - ആ കൽബഞ്ചിൽ മുത്തച്ഛന്റെ കൂടെ ഇരിക്കുമായിരുന്നു. യാത്രക്കാരെ - നിരീക്ഷിക്കാനും അവരുടെ സംഭാഷണങ്ങൾ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കാനും എനിക്കു - സാധിച്ചിരുന്നു.

പേജ് 27 : പാടത്തു പണിയെടുക്കുന്ന മിക്ക ഗ്രാമീണരും അൽപം - വിശ്രമത്തിലാണിപ്പോൾ. അവർക്ക് എന്നും വളരെ ദൂരം നടന്നെത്തേണ്ട. അവർ തലയിൽ വലിയ ചുമടുകളുമായിട്ടാണ് നടക്കുന്നത്. ചൂട് അവരെ തളർത്തുമ്പോൾ അവർ മരച്ചുവട്ടിൽ വന്ന് വെള്ളം കുടിക്കുകയും, മുഖം കഴുകുകയും, അൽപനേരം എന്റെ മുത്തച്ഛനുമായി സംഭാഷണത്തിൽ ഏർപ്പെടുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. അവർ അവരുടെ ജീവിതത്തെപ്പറ്റിയും അവരുടെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റിയുമാണ് സംസാരിക്കാറ്.

ഒരാൾ പറയുന്നത് ഇങ്ങിനെ യായിരിക്കും. "മാസ്റ്റർജി ഈ വേനൽക്കാലത്ത് ഭയങ്കര ചൂടാണ്, ഇത്രയും വരണ്ട കാലാവസ്ഥ ഞാൻ ജീവിതത്തിൽ ഒരിക്കൽപോലും കണ്ടിട്ടില്ല. വേറൊരുത്തൻ പറയുന്നത് ഇതായിരിക്കും. "മാസ്റ്റർജി, എനിക്ക് ചുമടടുത്തു നടക്കാൻ പ്രയാസം കൂടിക്കൂടിവരികയാണ്. ഈ കൽബഞ്ചിന് വളരെ നന്ദി. എന്റെ മകൻ - ജോലിയിൽ എന്നെ സഹായിക്കണം എന്നെനിക്കുണ്ട്. പക്ഷെ അവൻ നഗരത്തിൽ പോകാനാണ് താൽപര്യം." എന്റെ മുത്തച്ഛൻ അവർ പറയുന്നതെല്ലാം ക്ഷമയോടെ കേൾക്കും. അവർക്ക് അപ്പോൾ എന്തോ സമാധാനം കിട്ടിയതുപോലെ തോന്നും, അവർ വർത്തമാനം കഴിഞ്ഞ് അവരുടെ ചുമടുകൾ എടുത്തുകൊണ്ട് അവരുടെ യാത്ര തുടരും. ആ കൽബഞ്ച് അവരുടെ ജീവിതത്തിൽ ഒരു പ്രധാന ഭാഗമായിരുന്നു. ഞാൻ ഒരുപാടു ചിന്തിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്തുകൊണ്ടാണ് അവർ ആ കൽബഞ്ചിനോട് ഇത്രമാത്രം നന്ദി പ്രദർശിപ്പിക്കുന്നതെന്ന്, അത് കല്ലിന്റെ ഒരു ബഞ്ചുമാത്രമല്ല! അപ്പോൾ എന്റെ



മുത്തച്ഛൻ എന്നോടു പറഞ്ഞു. ഒരു യാത്രയിൽ ഒരു കൽബഞ്ച് വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമുള്ള ഒന്നാണെന്ന്, നമ്മുടേതായ വിധത്തിൽ നമ്മളെല്ലാം തന്നെ വിവിധ ഭാര ങ്ങൾ വഹിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇടക്ക് നമുക്ക് ഒന്നു നിൽക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യം വരും, ചുമടിറക്കി അൽപനേരം വിശ്രമിക്കാൻ അപ്പോൾ മാത്രമേ യാത്ര തുടരാനുള്ള ശക്തി നമുക്കു ലഭിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. കൽബഞ്ചുകൾ യാത്രക്കാരെ അവരുടെ ശക്തി തിരിച്ചുകിട്ടാൻ സഹായിക്കുന്നു.

ജീവിതത്തിന്റെ വേറൊരു ഘട്ടത്തിൽ എന്റെ ഗ്രാമത്തിലെ കൽബ് ബ്ചിനെ ഓർമ്മിപ്പിക്കുന്ന വേറൊരു സംഭവം ഉണ്ടായി, ഞാൻ അന്ന് മുംബ യിൽ ജോലി ചെയ്യുകയായിരുന്നു. എന്റെ കൂടെ ജോലി ചെയ്തിരുന്ന ഒരാളാണ് രത്ന, അവർ ഒരു സീനിയർ ക്ലർക്കായിരുന്നു. അവർ മധ്യ വയസ്കയായിരുന്നു, അവരുടെ ചുണ്ടിൽ എപ്പോഴും ഒരു മന്ദസ്മിതം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. കഴിഞ്ഞ 25 കൊല്ലമായിട്ട് ഗ്രാജുവേഷൻ കഴിഞ്ഞതു മുതൽ അവർ ഈ കമ്പനിയിൽ ജോലി ചെയ്യുകയാണ്. അവർ എപ്പോഴും സന്തോഷവതിയായിട്ടാണ് ജോലികൾ ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നത്.

എല്ലാദിവസവും ഉച്ചയൂണിന്റെ സമയത്ത് ഒരു മുറിയിൽ അവർ - ആരോടെങ്കിലും സംസാരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതുകാണാമായിരുന്നു. - എന്താണ് അവർ എന്നും സംസാരിക്കുന്നതെന്ന് ഞാൻ അത്ഭുതപ്പെടുമായിരുന്നു, ഒരു ദിവസം ഞാൻ അവരോടു ചോദിച്ചു. എന്താണ് - അവർ എന്നും സംസാരിക്കുന്നതെന്ന്, ര് പറഞ്ഞു. അവർ അവി - രുടെ വിഷമങ്ങൾ അവരുമായി പങ്കുവെക്കുകയാണെന്ന്,

പേജ് 28 : ഞാൻ അവരോടു ചോദിച്ചു അവർക്ക് മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ എങ്ങിനെയാണ് സഹായിക്കാൻ പറ്റുക എന്ന്, അവർക്കെല്ലാം കൊടുക്കാൻ അവരുടെ കയ്യിൽ ഉത്തരമുണ്ടോ? അവർ അപ്പോൾ പറഞ്ഞു. അവരുടെ സങ്കടങ്ങളും പ്രശ്നങ്ങളും കേൾക്കുക മാത്രമാണ് അവർ ചെയ്യുന്നത്. ഞാൻ അന്നു ചെറുപ്പമായിരുന്നു അതുകാരണമായിരിക്കും എനിക്കു തോന്നി ആൾക്കാരുടെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി കേട്ടാൽ മാത്രം അവർക്കെങ്ങിനെ പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാ കാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്ന്, അവർ പരിശീലനം ലഭിച്ച ഒരു കൗൺസലർ അല്ലെന്നും ഒരു വലിയ ബുദ്ധിജീവിയല്ലെന്നും അവർ പറഞ്ഞു. ആർക്കും നിങ്ങളുടെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ പറ്റില്ല. നിങ്ങൾതന്നെ അവ പരിഹരിക്കണം. അപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ വിചാരിച്ചു. പിന്നെയെന്തിനാണ് ആൾക്കാരുടെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾക്ക് അവർ ചെവി കൊടുക്കുന്നത് ? ഞാൻ അവരോട് ചോദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു.

വളരെ ക്ഷമയോടെ തന്നെ രത്ന എന്നിങ്ങനെയൊരു നൽകി. ദൈവം അവർക്ക് രണ്ടു ചെവി കൊടുത്തിരിക്കുന്നത് മറ്റുള്ളവരെ ശ്രവിക്കാ നാണെന്ന് അവർ പറഞ്ഞു. അവർ സഹാനുഭൂതി യോടു കൂടി മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ കേൾക്കുന്നു. അവർ അവരെ വിധിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഒരാൾ തന്റെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ മറ്റുള്ളവരുമായി പങ്കിടുമ്പോൾ അയാൾക്ക് ആശ്വാസം ലഭിക്കുന്നു. അവർ എപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും മറ്റുള്ളവരിൽ നിന്നും കേൾക്കുന്ന രഹസ്യങ്ങൾ പുറത്തുവിടാറുണ്ടോ എന്ന് ഞാൻ ചോദിച്ചു അപ്പോൾ മത് പറഞ്ഞു. തന്റെ സ്വപ്നത്തിൽ പോലും അങ്ങിനെയൊരു കാര്യം ചെയ്യാൻ അവർ മുതിരില്ല എന്ന്. ചതിക്കുന്ന തിന്റെ ഏറ്റവും ചിത്തയായ പ്രവർത്തിയാണ് മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ രഹസ്യങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു നടക്കുക എന്നത്, ആൾക്കാർ അവരോടു അവരുടെ പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ പറയുന്നത് അവർ അവ മറ്റുള്ളവരോട് പറയില്ല എന്ന

വിശ്വാസ ത്താലാണ്. തങ്ങളുടെ ഭാരങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി ഒരാളോടു ഉടുതുറക്കുമ്പോൾ പറയുന്നയാളിന് നല്ല ആശ്വാസം കിട്ടും. അങ്ങിനെ അവർ ജീവിതയാത്രയിൽ മുന്നേറുന്നു.

രത്നയുടെ വാക്കുകൾ എന്നെ എന്റെ മുത്തച്ഛനെ ഓർമ്മപ്പെടുത്തി. മുത്തച്ഛൻ കൽബഞ്ചിലിരുന്നാണ് ആൾക്കാരുടെ വർത്തമാനം കേൾക്കുന്നത്, എന്റെ മുത്തച്ഛനും രത്നയും ധനികരായിരുന്നില്ല. പക്ഷേ അവരുടെതായ രീതികളിൽ അവർ സാമൂഹ്യസേവനം ചെയ്യുകയായിരുന്നു. അവരുടെ സേവനത്ത ആരും തിരിച്ചറിയുകയോ അവർക്കെന്തെങ്കിലും പാരിതോഷികങ്ങളോ ബഹുമതികളോ ആരും നൽകുകയോ ചെയ്തില്ല. പക്ഷേ അവർ അവരുടെ സേവനം തുടരുന്നു. അത് അവർക്ക് സന്തോഷം പ്രദാനം ചെയ്യുന്നു. ഞാൻ ഒരു കൽബഞ്ചിന്റെ അടുത്തു കൂടി പോകുമ്പോൾ ഞാൻ എന്റെ മുത്തച്ഛനെപ്പറ്റിയും രത്നയെപ്പറ്റിയും ഓർക്കും ഇനിയും അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള "കൽബഞ്ചുകൾ" ലോകത്തിൽ ഉണ്ടാവട്ടെയെന്നാണ് എന്റെ പ്രാർഥന,

**Horegallu Glossary**



## Page 26

Vigour – strength, ശക്തി

Revitalizes – give energy again, ഉന്മേഷവാനാകുക

Banyan tree – a huge shady tree, പേരാൽമരം

Massive – huge, വലിയ

Succour – help, സഹായം

Quench – satisfy, ശമിപ്പിക്കുക

Inextricably – difficult to separate, വേർപെടുത്താൻ പറ്റാത്ത

Linked – connected, യോജിപ്പിച്ചു

## Page 27

Ease – comfort, സുഖം

Essential – necessary, ആവശ്യമായത്

Mundane – worldly, ലോകത്തെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള

## Page 28

Incredulous – unbelieving, വിശ്വസിക്കാത്ത

Strain – stress, സമ്മർദ്ദം

Betrayal – deceit, cheating, ചതി

Relieve – free, സ്വതന്ത്രമാകുക

Uncannily – mysteriously, രഹസ്യമായി

Access – entry, പ്രവേശനം

Tremendous – big, വലിയ

