

THE WISDOM OF THE MANTHRI (SECRETARY)

A long time ago it had a King, his secretary (manthri) was an old wise man whose hands used to tremble a lot. The king always sought his advise. The secretary used to say, *Jo kuch hota to achiya ke liye hota hai* (whatever happens is for the best in the long run).

One day a man was passing by selling swords. The King came out barefooted and said to the sword seller.

"Idhar awo (come here!), I want to buy a sord."
At the same time the King called the *manthri* and asked him.

"Lookhya *manthri*, this is a good sword?" The *manthri* took the sword but his hand was so weak and the sword got away and fell on the King's toe and cut it off.

The *manthri* cried, "Whatever happens is for the best."

Immediately the King got so vexed and imprisoned the *manthri* and he employed another *manthri*.

Some time passed after the toe got better. The King took two escorts and decided to go hunting. The King's horse was very fast and took a lead far away, so the King end up in another Kingdom. The escorts could not keep up and stayed back.

In the other Kingdom the King was taken prisoner. The guard thought that he come to make strife so they threw him in jail. The King was frightened because they took away his sword.

manthri - secretary



WHATEVER HAPPENS IS FOR THE BEST.

The next morning they put him on trial in the *Kacheri* (Court-house).

"*Mai raja hoon*" (I am a King), he said.

"Well, we don't want no other king, we go have to give you as sacrifice to Kali Mataa," replied the other King.

The guards took the first King away and started making preparations for the sacrifice.

The next morning they took out the King from the jail and bathe him for the sacrifice. When they finish bathe him, the guard noticed that one of the King's toe was missing. The guard rushed to the King and said.

"This sacrifice is not proper, one of the prisoner toe missing, we must have a whole sacrifice for Kali Mataa."

So the first King was brought to the court again and he related his story. The King was given horses and freed. He went back to his Kingdom.

Everybody was happy to see the King again, they thought he was dead. The King headed straight to the prison to look for the *manthri*. The King took the *manthri* out and said.

"Because of you I am still alive today, if my toe was not cut off, I would have been dead."

kacheri - court-house

Kali Maata - Mother Kali

The manthri replied, "*Jo kuch hota to achiya ke liye hota hai*" (Whatever happens is for the best). The *manthri* was rewarded and was employed as secretary once again.

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