

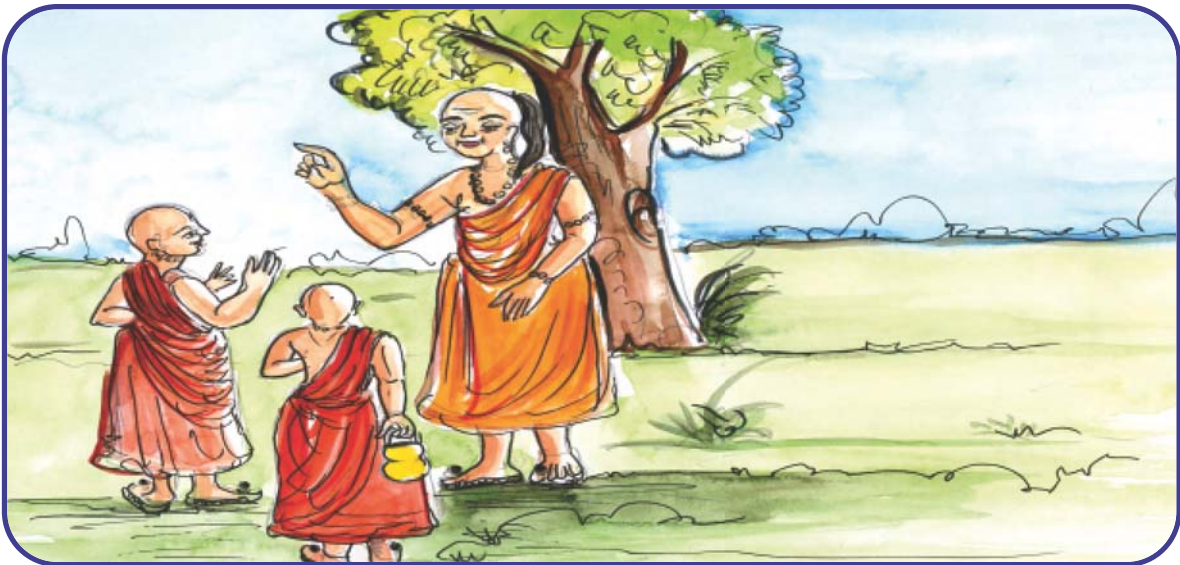
- Can you tell the names of some important figures of our state/ /city/village?
- What makes them famous?

Let's know about Chanakya the Great.

“Bhuddham Sharnam Gachhami”

‘Please come in.’

The bodh bhikshu came in. He looked around. There was hardly anything in the room, only a few things of daily use, some pots, pans and beddings.



The bhikshu was surprised. He thought, 'Is this the wealth of Prime Minister Chankaya? He has nothing. He is the Prime Minister of the great king Chandra Gupta but lives like a sadhu.'

He woke up as if from sleep when Chanakya said. “Food is ready, Sir.”

The bhikshu entered another room with Chanakya. There he saw two women preparing food but there were no servants. One of the ladies was old. She was Chanakya's mother. The other, who was making chapatis, was his wife.

Chanakya's mother served them. The food was very 'simple-chapatis, dal and one vegetable curry.

The bhikshu was ashtonished. Is this the feast for a Prime Minister? They were in silence but thousands of questions came into the mind of the bhikshu.

After the meals, he asked Chanakya. "Have you got any children?"

"Yes sir, I have a son," replied Chanakya. "He is studying in an ashram."

The bhikshu said, "You are the Prime Minister of the great Maurya Empire. Emperor Chandra Gupta does what you say. Nothing can happen without your advice. Why do you live in such a way?"

Chanakya replied, "It is my duty to look after the Empire and the people, but I have no right to use what belongs to the people. I have built this small house and make copies of books to earn my livelihood. I spend twelve hours with the public. I listen to their difficulties and try to help them. I want that nobody should be unhappy in the Maurya Empire. Our people should be disciplined and there should be complete freedom of thought and worship."

The bhikshu was silent for a long time. Then he said, "As long as there is a man like you, there can be no sufferings in the Empire. But I have heard that some people in the village were looted by robbers and the guards were not able to do anything."

Chanakya thought for sometime, and then said, "O good bikshu! I will try to do something very soon. Please do not worry; I shall go to that village today with the Emperor."

The bhikshu left. But Chanakya was worried. The villagers were in trouble. How could such a thing happen?

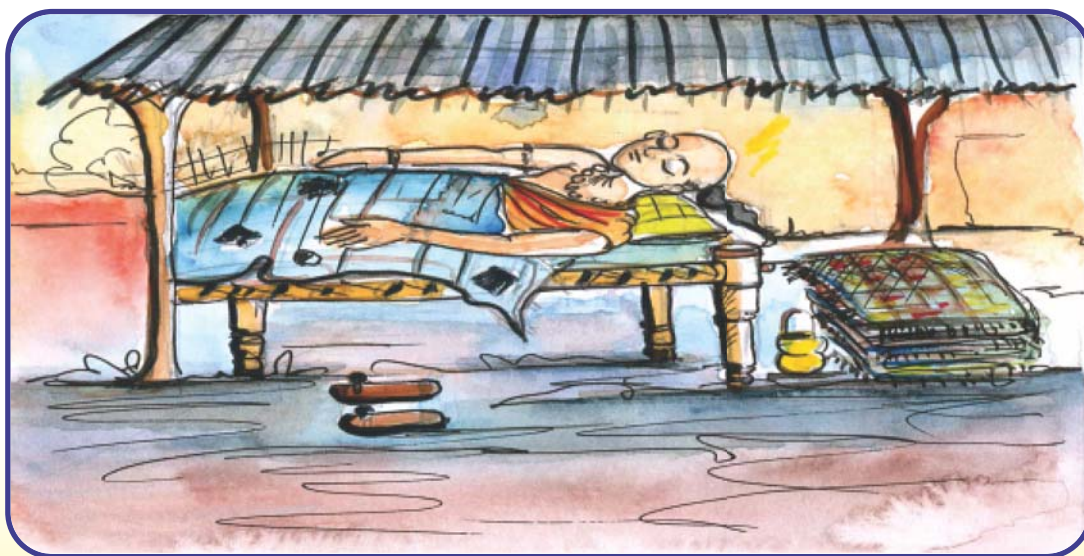
He went to the Emperor and told him everything. They started for the village and reached there very soon. The villagers told the Emperor and Chanakya that the robbers had taken away everything. They had taken their blankets and beddings too. It was difficult for the villagers to sleep in the cold nights.

Chanakya promised to send them blankets the next day. He also told them that the robbers would be caught soon.

The Emperor and Chanakya returned to Patliputra-the capital city. He ordered that blankets must be collected and brought to his house. Very late at night, the blankets were brought to his house and put in a corner of the room.

The robbers came to know what Chanakya was doing. They decided to take away as many blankets from his house as they could. It was a moon-lit night, so they were afraid. But two robbers were chosen to steal the blankets.

It was a cold night but the door of the house was open. In the moonlight everything inside could be seen clearly. The robbers entered the room quietly. The blankets were in a corner. Before taking the blankets, the robbers looked on all sides again. They saw in another corner a bed of straw. Chanakya was sleeping on it. He had covered himself with an old blanket, which had holes in it.



The robbers were astonished. There were so many new blankets in the room and yet the Prime Minister slept covered with an old blanket on a straw-bed.

If he wanted he could have used a new blanket but he did not.

They were ashamed. No one would have known if Chanakya had used the blankets at night but he did not even touch the public property. And they had come to take away the blankets. Both the robbers came out. They told the whole story to the other robbers waiting outside. They also felt ashamed. The robbers then brought all the stolen goods and put them outside Chanakya's house.

Early in the morning, Chanakya got up and came out. He saw the stolen goods lying outside and understood everything. He sent these things back to the village.

After this there were no robberies in the Maurya Empire .



GLOSSARY:

- empire** : a group of countries that all are controlled by one government
- livelihood** : a means of earning money in order to live, living
- sufferings** : mental Pain; feelings of pain or unhappiness
- capital** : the most important town or city from where a government operates

astonished : surprised

wealth : a large amount of money, property etc. that a person or country owns

freedom : the state of being able to do what you want, without anything stopping you

robbery : the crime of stealing money or goods from a bank, shop/store, person, etc., especially using violence or threats

Activity - I

A. Tick the correct alternative:

I. The bhikshu was astonished when he:

- a) saw the wealth of Prime Minister, Chanakya
- b) came to know, that food was ready
- c) saw chanakya's mother preparing food
- d) saw no servants in chanakya's room

II. "I make copies of books to earn my livelihood. Here 'livelihood' means:

- a) a piece of cloth put over somebody's face and head so that they cannot be recognized.
- b) a way of ruling
- c) complete silence
- d) earning in order to live.

B. Find out whether the following statements are True or False .

- I. There was nothing in Chanakya's room
- II. Chanakya had a large family.....
- III. Chanakya was a very powerful person.....
- IV. Chanakya believed in the freedom of thoughts.....
- V. Everyone was free to follow his religion in the days of Chandra Gupta.....

C. Answer the following questions in one sentence each.

- I. Why was the bhikshu surprised?

- II. What food was served to the bhikshu?
- III. What did Chanakya do to earn his living?
- IV. What kind of life did Chanakya want for people?

D. Answer the following questions in about 20 to 30 words each.

- I. Why did Chanakya lead such a simple life?
- II. Why were the robbers ashamed?

Activity - II

A. Match the words in column 'A' with their meanings in column 'B'.

A	B
wake up	silently
look after	feelings of pain, unhappiness
sufferings	feeling shame or embarrassment
ashamed	take care of somebody /something
quietly	to stop sleeping somebody /something

B. Match the words in column 'A' with their opposites in column 'B'.

A	B
known	slavery
disciplined	hot
cold	sad/unhappy
quietly	indisciplined
spend	unknown
happy	noisily
freedom	earn

'Now think of some words and write from your memory which begin with negative prefix either 'in-' or 'un-'

Example :- noted _____ unnoted

Activity - III

'as long as' or 'so long as' is often used to state conditions. It implies/means on conditions.

You pay the fees. You can stay in the hostel.

As long as you pay fees, you can stay in the hostel.

A. Now join the following Sentences using “as/so long as”

- I. This selfish world helps you. You are earning.
- II. We cooperate others. Others cooperate us.
- III. We are safe. We obey the rules of road.
- IV. We keep practising. We'll win the match
- V. Children obey parents. They progress very well in their life.
- VI. Ram will be successful. He studies regularly.
- VII. We will serve our country, Bharat. We are alive and healthy.
- VIII. Nobody harms you. You are honest.

B. Conditional Clauses:

Look at the following sentence carefully from the text.

“No one would have known if Chanakya had used blankets at night.”

The above written sentence is the type of conditional sentence which is known as unfulfilled condition. Some other examples are:

- If he had gone to Delhi, he would have seen the Red Fort.
- If you had worked hard, you would have passed.

Such types of sentences are known as **Conditional clauses**. They are probable, improbable, or wishes which could not be fulfilled because certain condition/conditions could not take place.

Now complete the sentences with your own imagination.

- I. If Prashant had come in time,

- II. If Raj had run fast,
- III. If Ashish had worked hard,
- IV. If Jayshree had played well,
- V. If Abhilasha had driven carefully,
- VI. If Abhishek had gone to Chittor,
- VII. If you had invited me,

C. Arrange the following sentences in a meaningful order.

- I. If the police/fast,/had ran/they/the thief/would have caught
- II. had studied/If Geeta/seriously,/she/the class/would have topped
- III. a letter,/If Kamla/had written/her mother/it/would have got
- IV. If Harvinder/politely,/had asked/heartily/Nidhi/would have helped
- V. If it/timely,/had not rained/would have dried/the crops

Activity - IV

Listen to the following words carefully:

- I. I will tell you a tale of the animal which has a tail.
- II. He may desert you in the desert of Rajasthan.
- III. When my grandfather had had his meal he went out for a mile walk.
- IV. Weigh everything before you say, this is the way to be happy and gay.
- V. I live here but I leave for Ajmer tomorrow.

Activity - V

India is a country of great national and regional heroes/heroines. Rajasthan is no exception to it. Keeping this in view, write a brief life sketch of any national or regional hero/heroine from the history of Rajasthan.