



"The Culinary Test of Love"

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Abstract:

In this story importance of skill. The story revolves around Shakti kumar, Seth's son, who, in search of a good wife, arrives at the banks of the river kaveri. Impressed by a girl's beauty, he tests her ability to make a full meal from one grain. She successfully prepares a variety of dishes, showcasing her resourcefulness. Shakti Kumar proposes, and they marry, with the bride's skill winning him over. The narrative emphasizes the bride's competence and the traditional rituals leading to their union in Shakti kumar's town.

Key words: virtuous girl, love test

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A Seth's son named Shakti Kumar lived in Kachinagar. When he entered the twenty-second year of his life, he became worried – 'there is no happiness for a wifeless man and a wife with unworthy qualities. How should I get a good wife for that?'

Then he thought very hard and traveled to different countries to get a wife with a paddy tied on the hem of his garment once he came to the banks of river kaveri. Here he saw a girl with a light ornaments face at the well. Overwhelmed by her beauty he thought – "this appeals to my heart. So by testing her – proposing marriage with her consent I will marry; he went went



to her and said humbly – ‘ you have the skill to impress me by making a full meal of one whole grain?’

Then he started the work as instructed by seth’s son, taking only one prastha grain saying om om. Then the wise maiden first heated the paddy in the sun and then spread it on a flat and clean ground. This separated the chaff and rice grains.

After getting the rice grains she made a statement to the maidservent to distribute the grains to Soni to clean the ornaments. Bring firewood with the money you get from it, said the maid.

The maid brought firewood. She then washed the rice grains repeatedly with water and placed it in heated water. In no time the rice grains were cooked. After cooling the fuel with water, she also distributed the coal to the needy head and used the money to buy vegetables, milk, curd and oil. With the money she got and oil. With the money she got and with it she cooked different dishe

After preparing the meal, the bride made a statement for the maid to bathe the first. then then she first gave water, breakfast, rice with ghee for food and dishes to the guest who was purified by bathing.

In between she also increased the guest’s interest in the food by describing the different items of food. She also arranged the paan till the guest finished the meal. Thus, Shakti Kumar who was attracted to the bride who prepared different dishes with just one prastha grain with her wealth, proposed marriage after the bride accepted the proposal, married him according to the ritual and took him to his town.

The term ‘gunvati kanya’ in Sanskrit translates to a virtuous or noble girl. The moral might be something like, “the virtue of noble girl shines brightly and inspires other to be good and righteous.