

ENGLISH

CHAPTER 3: THE SHEPHERD'S TREASURE



THE SHEPHERD'S TREASURE

~Summary~

-by Khushwant Singh

This story 'The Shepherd's Treasure' is a famous **Iranian** folk tale woven around an Iranian **shepherd**. The story brings out the meaning that high **values** or **virtues** will lead you to a high position. In this story, the shepherd had risen to a higher **position** through his **wisdom** and **humility**.

The shepherd though **uneducated** and poor, remained wise. He solved the **problems** of people who came to him. The **solutions** given by him gave them full confidence and courage. He treated everyone with equality. Soon, the shepherd's intelligence and helping nature gained him **popularity**. Also, it reached the king of the country.

The king wanted to check his intelligence personally. He **appointed** him as a **governor** of a small district after **testing** his intelligence. The new governor worked hard using his potential and intelligence. He treated everyone equally. His humility and intelligence reached all over the country.

People **praised** him and acknowledged him for being so kind and wise. This made the governors of other provinces grew **envious** of him. So, they narrated some **false** stories, accusing him of saving **money** from the tax and hiding it in the iron chest that he carried along every time.

When the shepherd proved him to be an honest person by unveiling the iron chest, everyone was shocked. The king was please with his intelligence for the **second** time and rewarded him for the second time. This time, the shepherd was appointed as a governor of a **bigger** district. Hence, the story ends with a moral that good virtues will always be recognised and **rewarded**.

~Conclusion~

By proving his honesty, the shepherd became the governor of a bigger district. This tale of the shepherd teaches us the value of wisdom and humility. It reminds us that we ought to remain humble even when we reach the peaks of success.

NCERT SOLUTIONS

Questions (Page No. 10)

Question 1. The shepherd hadn't been to school because:

- a. He was very poor.
- b. There were very few schools in those days.
- c. He wasn't interested in studies.

Choose the right answer.

Answer:

- b. There were very few schools in those days.

Question 2. Who visited the shepherd one day, and why?

Answer: The king of the country visited the shepherd one day because he was famous for his wisdom and friendly nature. The king heard about him and thought of meeting him to know the truth.

Question 3. Why did the other governors grow jealous of the shepherd?

Answer: The other governors grow jealous of the shepherd because he rose to power and his fame as a fair and wise governor soon spread throughout the country.

Question 4. Why was the new governor called to the palace?

Answer: The new governor called to the palace because he used to carry an iron chest with him all the time and the king wanted to know the secret of that chest.

Question 5. Why was everyone delighted to see the iron chest on the camel's back?

Answer: Everyone was delighted to see the iron chest on the camel's back because the other governors were sure that he collected all his treasure in his iron chest and when it would be opened in front of the king, his dishonesty will be revealed.

Question 6.

- a. What did the iron chest contain?
- b. Why did the shepherd always carry it?
- c. Is it an example of the shepherd's humility or wisdom or both?

Answer:

- a. The iron chest contained an old blanket.
- b. The shepherd always carried it because it was his oldest friend and will still protect him any time even when king took away his new cloaks.
- c. It is an example of both shepherd's humility and wisdom.

Question 7. How did the king reward the new governor?

Answer: The king rewarded him by making him the governor of a much bigger district.