



“Nanaji, what is patriotism?” asked Ajit.

“It means going to jail like Gandhiji and Chacha Nehru or dying for your country like Bhagat Singh,” explained his sister Naina.

“Yes, Naina you are right. But it also means a lot more. To be a patriot one need not die or go to jail. One can show one’s love for one’s country in many small ways,” Nanaji said.

“How?”

“By loving its culture and its people. Do you remember Ajit, on 26th after the Republic Day Parade, a tune was being played?”

“Yes, Nanaji, as soon as the tune started you stood and continued standing till the end.”

“Do you know what the tune was?”

“I know, Nanaji” Naina said. “It was our National Anthem - ‘Jana gana mana’ ...”

“Good. But do you know why I got up and stood to attention?”

“No, Nanaji. Why?”

“As a mark of respect to the National Anthem. And unfortunately I was the only one to do so. Your father continued to read the paper and your mother went on with her conversation on the phone. Earlier, in the cinema halls at the end of the movie the National Anthem was played. But it was found that the people used to leave the hall midway, laughing, shouting and creating a racket. The government then decided to stop the playing of the National Anthem. The reason why I gave you this example is to explain to you that a person’s patriotism can be reflected in simple day to day things like his respect for his language, his nation’s anthem or flag and above all the love for his fellow countrymen.”

“Nanaji, I still don’t understand. I thought patriotism was all about dying for one’s country or making a big sacrifice.”

“Yes, Beta you are right. It is about big things but also little ones too. And remember it is not the battlefield alone which produces patriots. In the battlefield of life too you will find many martyrs. Okay, let me tell you a story which will help you understand better.”



“Yahoo! Nanaji, tell me a story about dragons and dinosaurs,” shouted Ajit.

“No, Ajit I’ll tell you a story about real people and their real problems. But not today. This Sunday I’ll take you for a picnic to a small village around 100 kilometres from here. We’ll spend the day there and return by night.”

~\*~

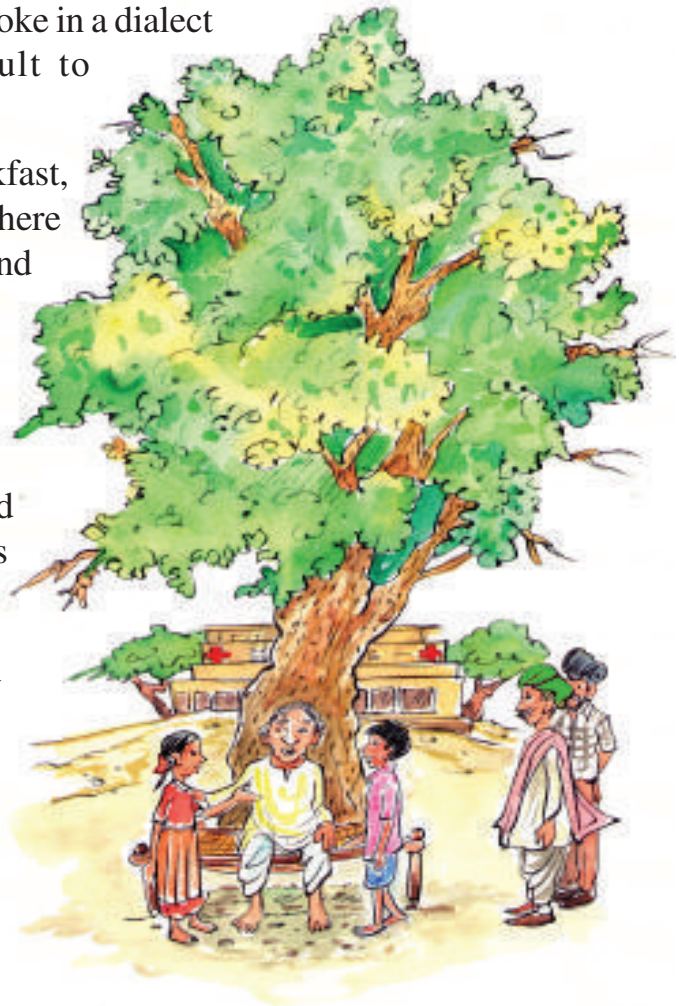
On Sunday Nanaji, Naina and Ajit started very early for their ‘picnic’. They took the first train to the village ‘Himapet’.

Two and half hours later, they found themselves at a tiny, dusty railway station. They got down and stepped outside. A large well built man wearing a white dhoti and kurta and sporting a huge turban greeted them with folded hands.

He led them to a bullock cart and much to Ajit’s delight lifted and placed him on the cart. The cart trundled on for almost an hour till they finally reached the village. They alighted in front of a large brick house. An elderly man and a woman came out greeting Nanaji and fussing over the kids. They spoke in a dialect which Naina and Ajit found difficult to understand.

An hour later, after they had their breakfast, Nanaji took them to a huge peepal tree where there was a platform. They sat down and Nanaji started his story.

Around ten years ago there was a young man whose name was Akash. He was studying to be a doctor. After he completed his MBBS he worked hard and won a scholarship to USA. He got his masters degree and decided to come back. Along with him ten of his friends had also gone for higher studies to America. They all stayed back but Akash returned. Akash’s father was not very happy with his son’s decision. He was very proud that his son had got a foreign degree. He wanted his son to make America his home, earn a lot of money and finally



invite his parents and sister also to settle down in America. But Akash was adamant. “My country has spent thousands of rupees in educating me. I have to repay this debt. The only way I can do it is by serving the people here. And moreover India and its villages need good doctors far more than rich countries like America.”

“What happened Nanaji? Did Akash come back to India?”

“Yes child, he did. In the beginning he worked in a Government Hospital in the city. A year later an epidemic broke out in the nearby villages. When Akash learnt about that he just packed his bags and left. He didn’t even inform his parents.”

“Why?” asked Ajit.

“Because they would have stopped him, silly. In science I have studied that during epidemics, sometimes the doctors who are treating the patients also die,” Naina said.

“Yes, Naina is right. Anyway, a week later, Akash’s father got a postcard from him saying that he was busy treating the patients and that the situation was very grim. But Akash did not mention where exactly he was, fearing that his father would land up and try to drag him back. Two weeks later, his father received a phone call saying that Akash had been admitted in the City Hospital in a serious condition.

His parents rushed to see him. He was in a very bad state. He could barely speak.

“Why are you torturing yourself, as well as us, son?” His father asked him while his mother started sobbing.

“I can’t help it father. I can’t bear to see people suffer.”

“Your friends are enjoying life in America, earning pots of money and living in comfort and look at you here - fighting for your life. I can’t understand what you are getting by doing all this. If you don’t care about yourself at least spare a thought for your poor mother. Just see her condition. She has gone half mad worrying about you.”

“Father, I don’t think I’ll ever be able to convince you about my actions. All I can say is that I have the satisfaction that I have been able to save so many lives. Forgive me if I have tortured you. But...but please try to understand that I could not help it. I can’t watch people dying all around me and not do anything.”

~\*~

After battling for a month Akash died in his mother’s arms.

The entire village was there at his cremation and there was not even one eye which was dry.

The villagers decided to pay homage to Akash. They launched a drive to collect donations for building a small hospital in the village. They approached the local MLA who agreed



to organize a hefty donation thinking that the hospital would be named after him. However, the villagers were adamant. They took the money, built the hospital and called Akash's parents for the opening ceremony. Akash's father inaugurated the hospital.

"Come, I want to show you something," Nanaji said and taking their hands in his, he led them to a building, a few hundred metres behind the peepal tree."

They stopped in front of a blue board.

"Naina, please read what is written."

"Akash Memorial Hospital - in memory of Dr.Akash Rai, who saved this village from death."

Naina looked at her grandfather. His eyes were wet with tears.

"Nanaji, Akash Rai, but your surname is also Rai.....was he your.."

"Yes, my child, he was my son, your mother's elder brother. As a professor of Philosophy I always thought I knew everything about everything. But my son taught me the true essence of the term 'service' and the real meaning of the word 'patriotism'."



### About the author

**Ramendra Kumar** is an Indian writer for children. He has written more than 20 books so far. His books have been translated in seven foreign and eight Indian languages.

### Meanings in context

unfortunately	:	sadly
reflected	:	expressed
martyr	:	one who dies for a particular cause
racket	:	noise
trundled	:	moved slowly
fussing over	:	paying too much attention to some body
epidemic	:	sudden spread of an infectious disease affecting a large number of people
grim	:	unpleasant
torturing	:	act of causing a great physical or mental pain

spare	:	to stop (somebody) from having unpleasant experience
convince	:	to succeed in making (somebody) believe
satisfaction	:	the feeling of pleasure on achieving something
hefty	:	a large amount (of money)
adamant	:	not willing to change one's mind
inaugurated	:	start something in a formal manner
essence	:	basics or important quality

## Comprehension

### I. Answer the following questions.

1. What is patriotism?
2. Why is the National Anthem not played in the cinema halls these days?
3. Why did Nanaji take Ajit and Naina to Himapet?
4. Why did Akash decide to settle down in India? What does it show about his character?
5. How did the villagers express their gratitude to the service provided by Akash?
6. What difference do you notice between Akash and his friends?
7. If you were in Akash's position what would you have done?

## Vocabulary

### Work in groups

#### I. Quiz: Guess the words and spell them

##### 1. Rules:

- i. You will be given three chances. If you get the answer
  - a. after the first clue you get 3 marks.
  - b. after the second clue you get 2 marks.
  - c. After the third clue you get 1 mark.
- ii. If you spell the word correctly, you get 1 mark. Thus if you guess the word and spell it correctly in the first attempt you will get 4 marks
- iii. If the first group isn't able to tell the word or spelling, it goes to the next group (2<sup>nd</sup> group) and they get 2 marks. If the third group gives the correct answer, they get 1 mark.
- iv. If the group is not able to give the answer, the chance rolls on to the next group but the clues won't be repeated for them.





An example is given. Take more words from the lesson and conduct the quiz with your classmates.

## 2. Clues:

- i. The first clue will tell about the number of letters in the word and its meaning.
- ii. After a short while you will get the second clue which would be a rhyming word.
- iii. The third clue will tell about the letter /letters to be added/ replaced/ deleted from the rhyming word

Eg. Spare

- a. First clue: 5 letter word and means 'to save from trouble'
- b. Second clue: rhymes with rare
- c. Third clue: replace 'r' with sp

## II. There are some words that are misspelled in the sentences below. Circle the words and correct their spelling.

1. In the party the children were laughing shouting dancing and creating a rekat.
2. People visit the garden on weak days.
3. The villagers decided to pay homage to Akash.
4. Don't pull the tale of the puppy! shouted the old men .
5. The traffic signal showed the red light.

## III. Compound words

Look at the following words from the text.

breakfast

battlefield

grandfather

Each of these words is a compound word. They are formed as below:

break + fast = breakfast

battle + field = battlefield

grand + father = grandfather

Now complete the following compound words.

1. Identity \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_master
3. pen \_\_\_\_\_
4. letter \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_light
6. book \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_pen
8. black \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_lamp
10. chain \_\_\_\_\_

## Grammar

Read the following pairs of sentences and notice what is common in them.

1. Yes, Naina you are right. **But** it also means a lot more.
2. “Good. **But** do you know why I got up and stood to attention?”
3. “Forgive me if I have tortured you. **But**...but please try to understand that I could not help it.”
4. “No, Ajit I’ll tell you a story about real people and their real problems. **But** not today.”
5. The senior students have a library period **while** the juniors go for games.



As you may have noticed that all the second sentences begin with ‘**but**’. We use ‘**but**’ to introduce contrasts with the idea expressed in the first sentence.

Sentences with **while** do not take **but**

**while/even though/nevertheless/**

But	The car may be the most common form of transport <b>but</b> it causes the most pollution.
Although	<b>Although</b> the car may be the most common form of transport, it causes the most pollution.
Nevertheless	The car may be the most common form of transport, <b>nevertheless</b> it causes the most pollution.
even though	<b>Even though</b> the car may be the most common form of transport, it causes the most pollution.



1. Read the dialogues and choose the most appropriate options to complete the dialogues.

i. Doctor: Take this medicine for a week and you'll start to feel better.

Patient: .....I've used it before and it did not help at all.

Doctor: Are you sure? It's the best in the market.

Patient: Yes I am. Can you please suggest some other medicine?.

a. Although

b. In spite of

c. But

ii. Sarah : I can't wait for you. You are coming, right?

Ramdeen: Yes. .... I have to work late; I'll be there later.

a. Though

b. In spite of

c. But

2. Fill in the blanks with correct alternative:

i. .... the public's anger, the government passed the new law.

a. Nevertheless

b. In spite of

c. Even though

ii. You did very well in your test, ..... I recommend you to practice reading some more for the next one.

a. while

b. in spite of

c. nevertheless

iii. They decided to go ahead with the public, ..... the bad weather.

a. while

b. in spite of

c. even though



## Listening

I. Listen to the story about Medicine Baba and put a tick (✓) in the box under his picture and the features/qualities that describe him.



### Qualities / Features

doctor   
handicapped   
young   
social worker

hardworking   
lazy   
inactive   
sincere

## Speaking

Work in pairs and role play the following conversation between Smita and Soha.

Smita – (Dialing the number) 8769540321

Soha – (receives the call) Hello!

Smita – Is it 8769540321? Soha – Yes! May I know who I am speaking to?

Smita – Yes, Good Morning! Soha, this is Smita calling from 'GO GREEN GO CLEAN', a organization working for health and sanitation. Actually, we are organizing a Swachh Bharat Abhiyan in your locality from 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015 to 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015. We would like to have your support during that period.



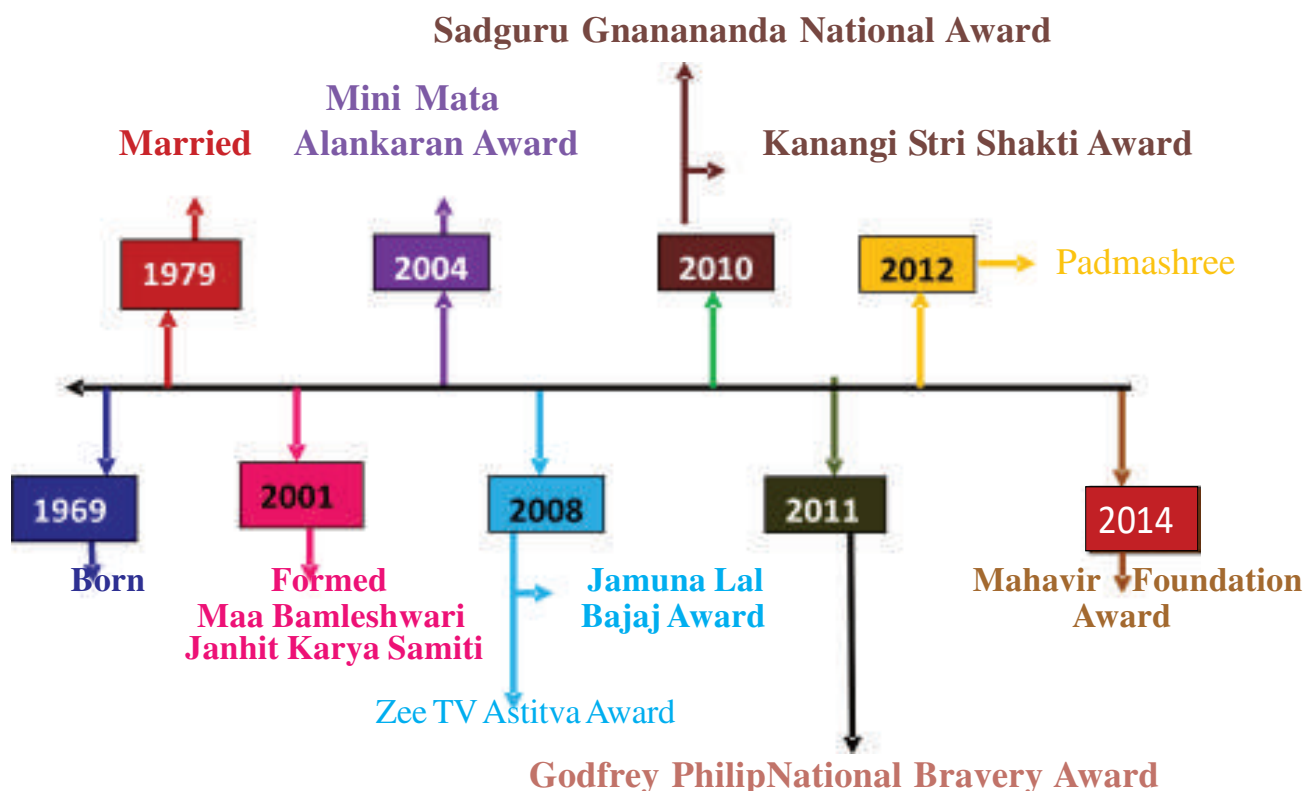
Soha- Oh ! Great ! I would be pleased to work with you.

Smita- Thank you very much Soha! So... meet you on 15<sup>th</sup>.

Soha- Welcome Smita! Sure I'll be there.

## Study Skills

Go through the time line given below and complete the information about Phoolbasan Bai Yadav.



### Phoolbasan Bai Yadav

Phoolbasan Bai Yadav was born on 5 December .....at Sukuldaihan, in the Rajnandgaon district of Chhattisgarh. She got married in childhood when she was just .....years old and had education only up to the seventh standard.

Yadav's social career started when she began taking part in the activities of the self help groups in the district. She faced many problems from family and society during these days. In ----- she combined the activities under one umbrella by forming the non governmental organization (NGO), -----



..... The organization has since grown to cover 12000 women self help groups with a reported total strength of over 200,000 members. The participating groups engage in activities such as health programs, education, sanitation and social reforms.

.....  
 .....  
 .....

### Project Work

Think of any one person in your area who may have inspired you and complete his/her profile.

<b>Name</b>	
Born	(Date)
	(Place)
Education	
Occupation/Hobby	
Job	
Lives	
Qualities	
Incidents that inspired you	

