## **ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT**

NAME: JUJJURI SUDEEPA DATE OF ASSIGNMENT: FEB 12,2025

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## GENTLY FALLS THE BAKULA

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Shrimati quickly walked out of the school with her Sclassmates Vandana Patil and Sharada Emmikeri. She was in no mood to talk. An extremely sensitive person by nature, she had overheard all the comments that the boys had made and she was embarrassed. She and Shrikant had had made and she was embarrassed. She and Shrikant had been classmates from the first standard and they had been been classmates from the first standard and their forefathers, between the two families, from the times of their forefathers, between the two families, from the times of their sand their They had once owned lands adjoining each other's and their enmity intruded into their homes even today.

Shrimati did not like the kind of loose talk the boys had indulged in and she wanted to talk about her discomfiture to someone. Since she had no sisters or brothers, she could only talk to her friends. But that day, brothers were too excited about her winning the even her friends were too excited about her winning the prize, and were in no mood to listen to anything.

'Shrimati, I am so glad that Shrikant was put down 'Shrimati, I am so glad that Shrikant was put down today. And with him his friends. That Mallesh Shetty, he talks such rubbish, making fun of us girls all the time. As talks such rubbish, making fun of himself! All said and for Ravi Patil, he thinks no end of himself! All said and done, the fact is our schoolmates have no manners. They don't know how to behave. You served them right.'

'Shrimati, I read a woman's brain weighs less than a man's. Is it true?' Sharada was a little worried.

'Shari,' Shrimati said affectionately, 'you should know that intelligence is independent of weight!'

'I was confused, Shrimati. I am not as bright as you are, see!' After a pause she continued, 'But you know that

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Shrikant's mother Gangakka and his maternal uncle Sheenappa, they think that he is the brightest star in the sky. Sheenappa keeps coming to our shop and talks nonstop about his nephew. I had taken a vow with god Hanuman of Bhandiwad village that if you beat Shrikant in the final exam, I will distribute special pedas to everyone in school. These Deshpandes are too much. Even though they do not have any lands left, their arrogance has not diminished.'

Vandana Patil pinched Sharada's hand to stop her but Sharada was not so bright as to understand that this kind of comment would hurt Shrimati. After all she too was the

daughter of a landless Deshpande!

Bhandiwad is a small village near Hubli and the local deity, Hanuman, is very famous for bestowing great boons upon his devotees. There is a strong belief that if someone requested a favour and fasted on Saturdays, their requests would be fulfilled. In return, they just had to offer some sweets to him to thank him for the boon. Since the pedas of Dharwad were very famous, so much so that people of North Karnataka said that if you hadn't eaten the peda your life was wasted, Sharada had promised to offer them, nothing less.

The other well-known temple in that region was the Railway Eshwar temple in Hubli, a busier, more populous, commercial town than Dharwad. The small Eshwar temple was adjacent to the railway station, so the presiding deity

came to be known as 'Railway Eshwar'.

People believed that if one prayed to him offering the bilwapathra with all devotion, their wishes would certainly be granted. However, Eshwar, that is Shiva, expected nothing in return because he is one god who loves his devotees unconditionally.