

Andher Nagri, Chaupat Raja

[Like](#)

21 people like this.

Does any one remember the old poem ***“Andher Nagri Chaupat Raja, Takke Ser Bhaaji, Takke Ser Khaja”***

The net tells me that the first line roughly translates as “Dark is the nation and insane the king”.

The second would translate as, “One Paisa for a ser of spinach and One Paisa for a ser of dates”

The tale told in the poem is of a young graduate from a gurukul who goes forth to this andher nagri to make his career. His Guru advises him not to, but he doesnt listen. The guru says ***“Andher Nagri, Chaupat Raja, Takke Ser Bhaaji, Takke Ser Khaja”*** and tells him that citizens of such a land will lack any kind of balance or power to think because such irrational and unjust policies pervade all aspects including commerce, law and ethics. The student thinks he can make huge profit in such a place, and so goes to this andher nagri.

Well, he has a ball and feasts everyday on cheap dates and grows chubby.

Meanwhile four brothers scale the walls of a rich man’s house, to steal. The wall falls down on them, killing them. Their mother wants vengeance. She argues that her sons were only following their profession. She wants the home-owner hanged. The home owner is called, who in turn blames the brick layer. The bricklayer of course blames the cement. The cement mixer is summoned.

Get the drift? It gets increasingly strange now ...

The cement guy says that may be a mistake happened but he was distracted because he was greeting a passing sadhu. So the judge calls the sadhu, who, being a religious man had nothing to say to defend himself. The sadhu was sentenced to death.

Now the noose is made as per the nationally prescribed norms. The noose is put around the sadhu’s neck, but slips off since he is scrawny due to his constant fasting.

The judge gets impatient and decides that the hanging must happen, and since he can’t change the specs of the noose, he has to find a neck that fits it.

The chubby student who was hanging around the courtroom watching this drama gets hauled and the

noose fits his neck.

His hanging is fixed for the next noon. Desperately he sends an SOS to his Guru who reaches there just in time to stop the hanging. The Guru creates a ruckus and insists that he must be hanged and not the student. The judge is surprised and curious. He asks the Guru why he wants to die?

The Guru tries to avoid answering. When threatened with dire consequences, he confesses that on this day of the new moon, anyone who is hanged would attain moksha.

The judge insists that by virtue of being the judge, he deserves the moksha and orders his own hanging. The Guru and his disciple flee the land.

I got this tweet on my timeline and remembered the old tale

First time in life, necessities, comfort and luxuries are all sold at the same price per unit..Onions Rs 65/- Petrol Rs 65/- Beer Rs 65/-

Share this:

Tweet

0

0



submit

Like

21

2

Like this:

Be the first to like this.

This entry was posted in Nation and tagged Current Events on January 19, 2011 [<http://phoenixritu.com/andher-nagri-chaupat-raj/>] by Ritu Lalit.

31 thoughts on “Andher Nagri, Chaupat Raja”



Prats

January 19, 2011 at 3:40 am

So very true...Its very much case of a Andher Nagri Chaupat Raja



Phoenixritu

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:23 am

Sad isn't it?



dipali

January 19, 2011 at 3:48 am

Brilliant!!!!

Sad times we live in:(



Phoenixritu

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:23 am

Its scary, a revolution waiting to happen! I wonder if the poor will rise in open revolt!



Shail

January 19, 2011 at 4:01 am

I remember this tale from ages back. How apt, Andher Nagri, Chaupat Raja!



Phoenixritu

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:24 am

Wish it weren't true Shail



Kislay Chandra

January 19, 2011 at 4:01 am

😄 So true 😄 But I don't like the beer you get for 65 .



Phoenixritu

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:24 am

The point is that you get it – at the same price as a kg of onion



Ruchira

January 19, 2011 at 4:02 am

Its really Andher Nagari Chaupat raja for us isnt it ! I wonder when we are going to get our mokhsa !



Phoenixritu

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:25 am

Ummm I dont want moksha, I want more buying power for our money

**Monika**

January 19, 2011 at 4:08 am

ha ha ha so very true but the last line was a total twist never expected that the onion tale will find a way here 😊

**Phoenixritu**

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:25 am

😊 But its so apt

**Careless Chronicles**

January 19, 2011 at 4:12 am

I love the way you write. How beautiful to connect this tweet and this tale. Awesome!

**Phoenixritu**

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:26 am

Thank you so much

**Bikram**

January 19, 2011 at 5:44 am

oh ho easy solution..

lets all walk to the PUB (save petrol)

and instead of ordereing peanut massala with onions .. ask only for peanuts .. (save onions)

and now lets order THREEE BEEERSSSSSSSSSS 😊

cheersssssssssssssssssss

Chako chako 😊 problem solved and when we get talli then its all Balli balli ... 😊

**Phoenixritu**

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:26 am

ROFL Bikky, you make it sound so simple

**moi**

January 19, 2011 at 7:35 am

well said !!

**Phoenixritu**

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:27 am

Thank you

**Matangi Mawley**

January 19, 2011 at 11:57 am

Ha Ha! 😊

yes... very true!

I remember reading this story- loooooooooooooong back in Tinkle! 😊 this is good 'refresh'... so apt!

**Phoenixritu**

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:27 am

Yeah! I wish it wasn't apt ... but strange times we live in



Tweak Your PC – Make Your Computer Run Fast

January 19, 2011 at 12:33 pm

A red-faced judge convened court after a long lunch.

The first case involved a man charged with drunk driving who claimed it simply wasn't true. "I m as sober as you are, your honor," the man claimed.

The judge replied, "Clerk, please enter a guilty plea. The defendant is sentenced to 30 days."



Kudos...



Phoenixritu

Post author

January 20, 2011 at 12:28 am

Yeah – that is another wonderful tale. Thank you



momofrs

January 20, 2011 at 6:06 am

Thanks for refreshing this story Ritu. Had read it ages ago, but didn't remember the entire premise. And yes, it is so symbolic of the times today 😊

BTW, that last comment from your friend is SO TRUE!!!



Pallavi

January 22, 2011 at 5:35 am

Just so apt!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Phoenixritu

Post author

January 23, 2011 at 8:27 am

Yes Pallavi



surabhi

February 2, 2011 at 1:03 pm

How true and so beautifully discribed..Thanks for sharing the tale ,I had some faded memories now I'm all fresh.



Phoenixritu

Post author

February 22, 2011 at 12:51 am

The tale is so apt for our times and our country



Shrikant

April 8, 2011 at 8:50 am

pretty interesting to read the old tale again.. though not sure but there are different versions of this.

yes, the aphorism still is valid in India maybe 200-300 years after it was coined...

this prompts different questions though at various levels

- will India ever change?

-is change for the better in it's destiny

- India has always been at the cross roads of chaos right from the times when the mythological charac-

ters existed till the early 19th century; so the DNA of the people here is coded with chaos and irregularity.. has anyone done a deeper level analysis as to why this happens in this subcontinent? anyways.. these are pertinent questions for every present there is a past which defines the present and one needs to understand the past to see how the present can be changed.

**Phoenixritu**

Post author

April 8, 2011 at 10:21 am

It is not the DNA of our subcontinent, the same thing happens everywhere. Perhaps it is the DNA of civilized society that is corrupted.

**barkha**

September 2, 2012 at 2:04 pm

jordaar, maza aa gaya yaar.

**Ritu Lalit**

Post author

September 3, 2012 at 4:45 am

Thank you @Barkha

Comments

0 Comments



Login to Facebook to Post a Comment