



# The Monk's New Shawl

By Arvind Gupta

One day a monk came to see the great Buddha. The monk wanted a new shawl. The Buddha asked him, "What happened to your old shawl?"

"It had become very old and thin. I am using it as a bedsheet," replied the monk. The Buddha asked again, "What happened to the old bedsheet?"

"The bedsheet was torn, so I cut it up and made a pillow cover out of it," replied the monk. The Buddha asked again, "What happened to the old pillow cover?"

"The pillow cover had a big hole in it so I made a doormat out of it," replied the monk. The Buddha was not satisfied. He asked again, "What happened to the old doormat?"

"The old doormat had broken down into threads. I made a cotton wick out of them for my lamp," replied the monk. The Buddha smiled on hearing this and gave the monk a new shawl.

THE END

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