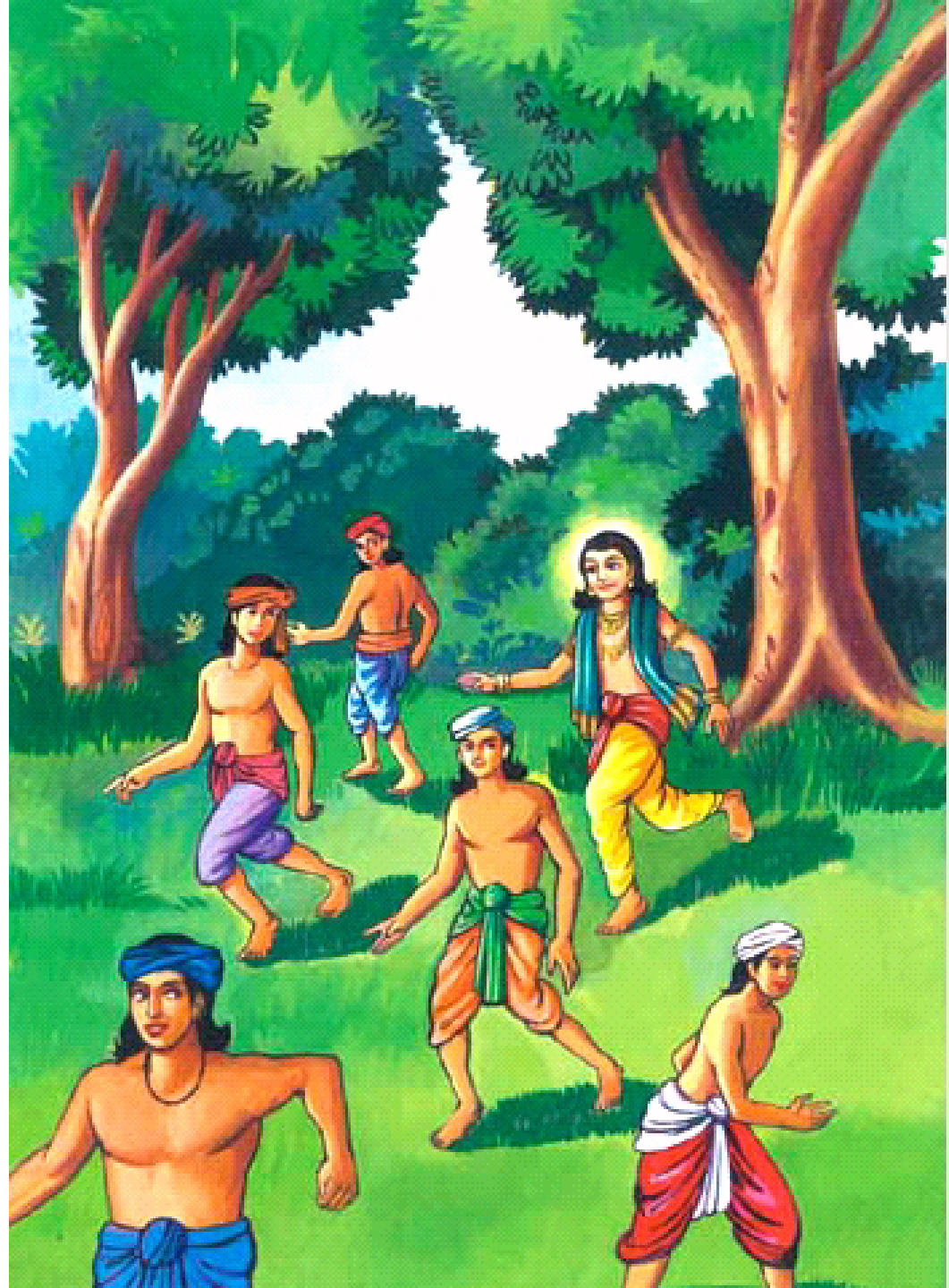


The monster called
Vardhman "Mahāvira"

- One afternoon, prince Vardhamāna was playing a catch and ride game with his friends.





- This was a simple game.
- The boy who won would ride on the back of the loser.

- Suddenly a new boy joined the game.





- This child was easy to catch, and so he lost every time. Almost every child got to ride on his back.

- Prince Vardhamāna also caught the new child.
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- Then he rode on his back.





- He rode for sometime, and then something odd began to happen.
- While Vardhamāna was on his back, the child started to grow bigger

- Vardhamāna's friends thought this was funny and watched him with curiosity.
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- Then the child's face began to turn wicked.
- Seeing these children got scared and started to run away in fear.





- Vardhamāna was calm and brave.
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- The monster kept growing very tall, but Vardhamāna just hit the monster in the head with his fist.
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- The monster tried to throw Vardhamāna off his back to avoid the pain from his blows. But it was impossible. He could not

- Finally the monster gave up and said he was sorry and asked for his forgiveness.
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- Vardhamāna forgave the monster.





- The monster called him "Mahāvira", which means strong one.
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- Since then, prince Vardhamāna was called Mahāvira.