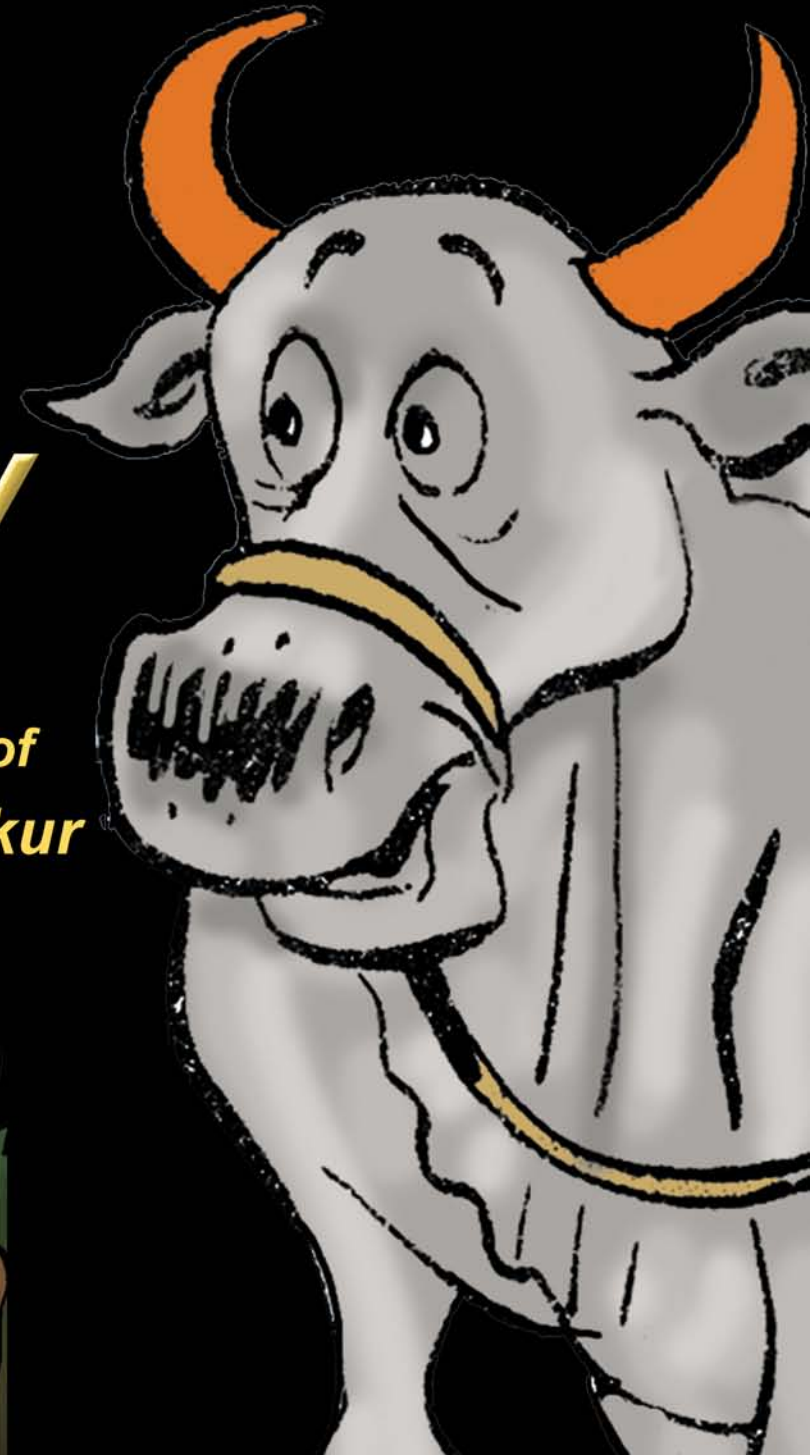


# *The Blind Man holding the Cow's Tail Fallacy*

*Instructive Stories from the teachings of  
Srla Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur*

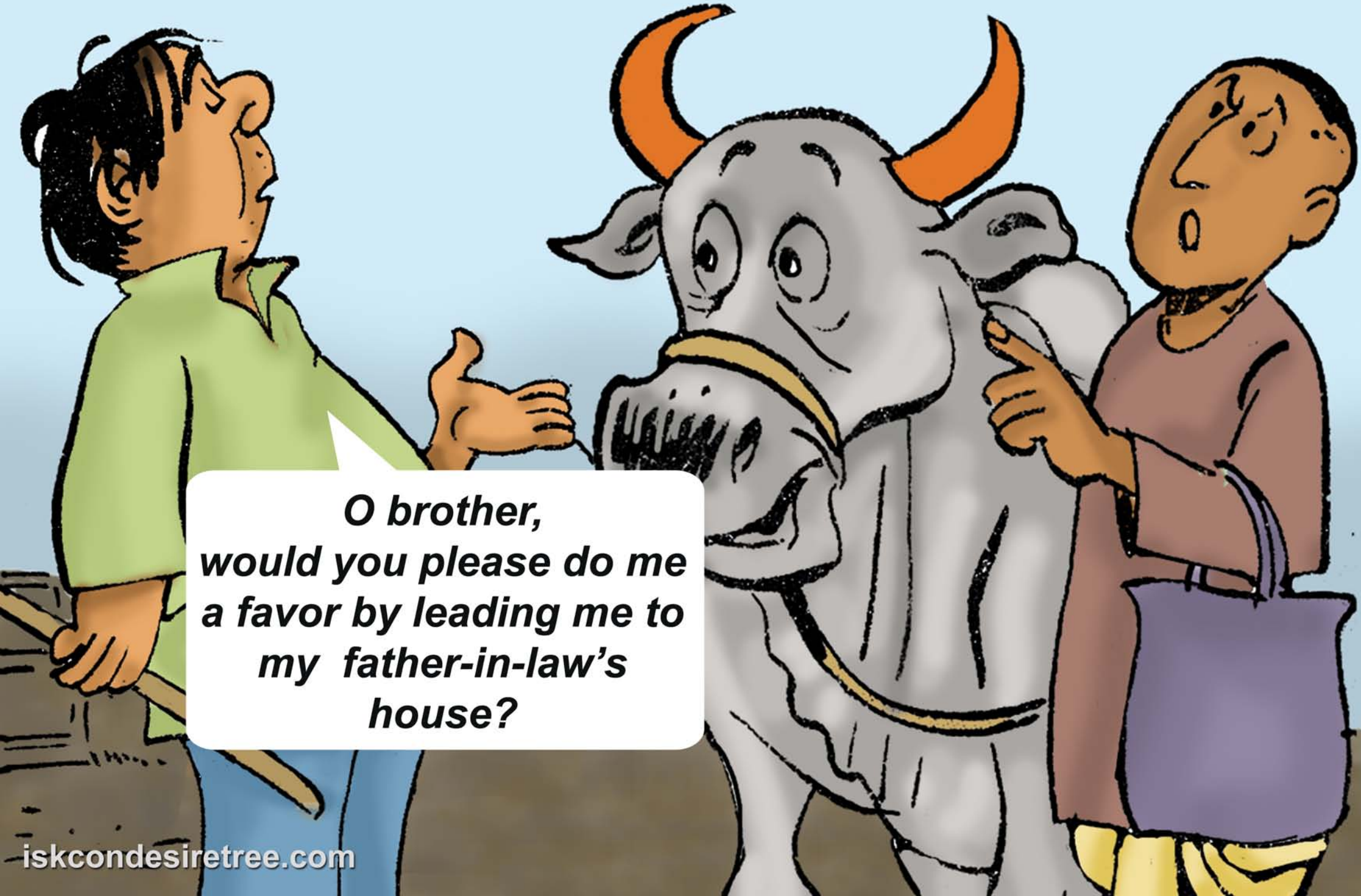


*Once upon a time a blind person was going to his father-in-law's house, tracking the way with the help of his walking stick.*



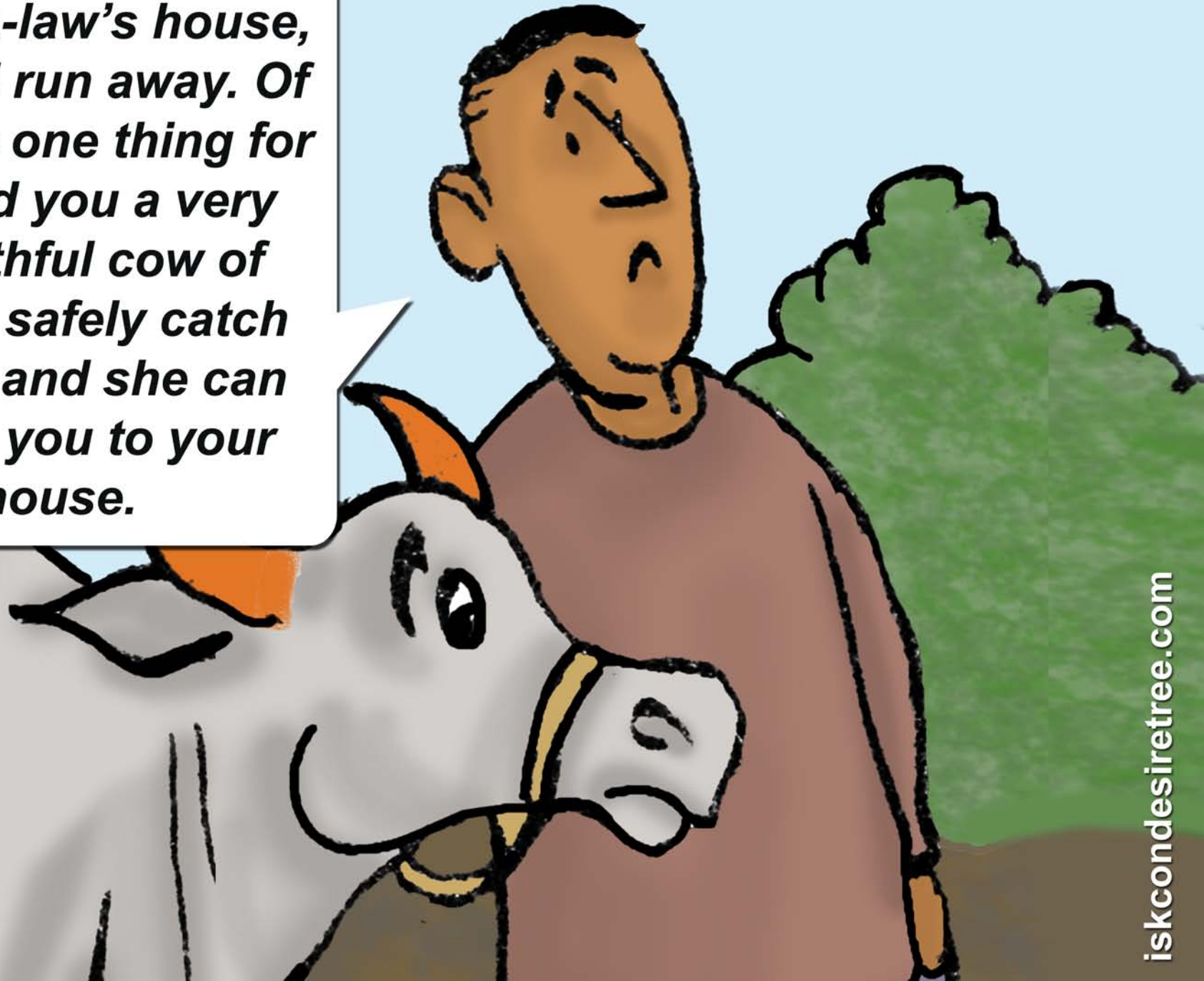


*Very soon while passing through a field he came across a villager*



*O brother,  
would you please do me  
a favor by leading me to  
my father-in-law's  
house?*

***I am busy in tending  
so many cows. If I take you  
to your father-in-law's house,  
all the cows will run away. Of  
course, I can do one thing for  
you - I can lend you a very  
docile and faithful cow of  
mine - you can safely catch  
hold of her tail and she can  
smoothly lead you to your  
in-laws house.***





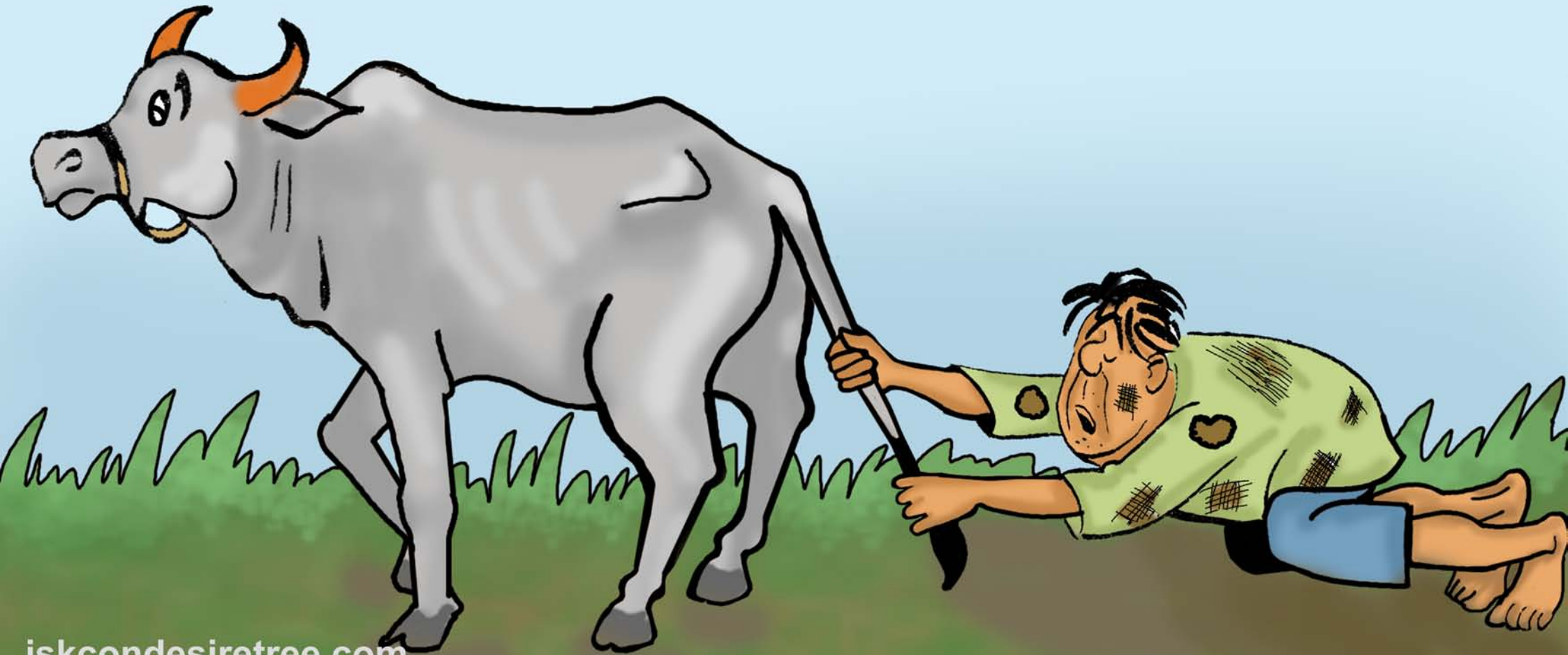


***I should hold the cow's tail as advised.***

***Thus advised by the cowherd, the blind traveller firmly caught hold of the cow's tail and the cow began walking while trailing him behind.***



***However, the cow got quite scared of the strong pulling of it's tail by a blind person, and hence she behaved so frantically that the blind person was virtually being pulled roughly along the road and through thorny bushes while suffering frequent hard kicks of the cow's hind legs.***



***The cow kicked the face several times and as a result However, the blind man still did not let go the tail of the cow.***



***As a result the blind man's body was severely injured and his garments were all torn apart.***



***Anyway, he arrived in the dead of night to his in-laws house, in a very wretched condition with cuts and bruises and torn clothes.***



***The servants of his in-laws house took him to be a cattle and punched and slapped him in order to get him to release the cow's tail from his hold. Thus the blind man suffered unlimitedly.***



***Purport :***

***Those who have ulterior motives take shelter of so-called guru's instead of a truly bona-fide spiritual master and ultimately suffer very badly like the blind man in his situation.***

***Any and every person cannot lead one to the Supreme abode of Godhead and no unauthorised to our true welfare. It is, therefore, obligatory that one should take shelter of a bona-fide Krsna conscious spiritual master without any hesitation.***