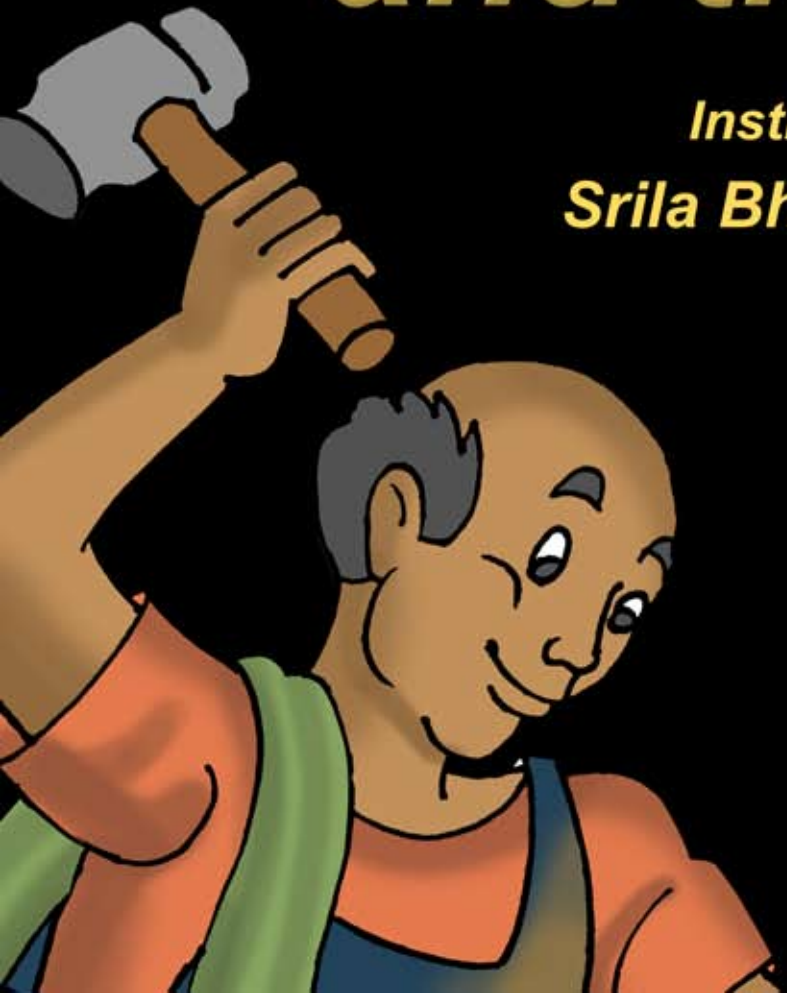


The Blacksmith and the Potter

*Instructive Stories from teachings of
Srla Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur*



In the village
Bilaspur, there
lived a blacksmith
named Vamacaran.

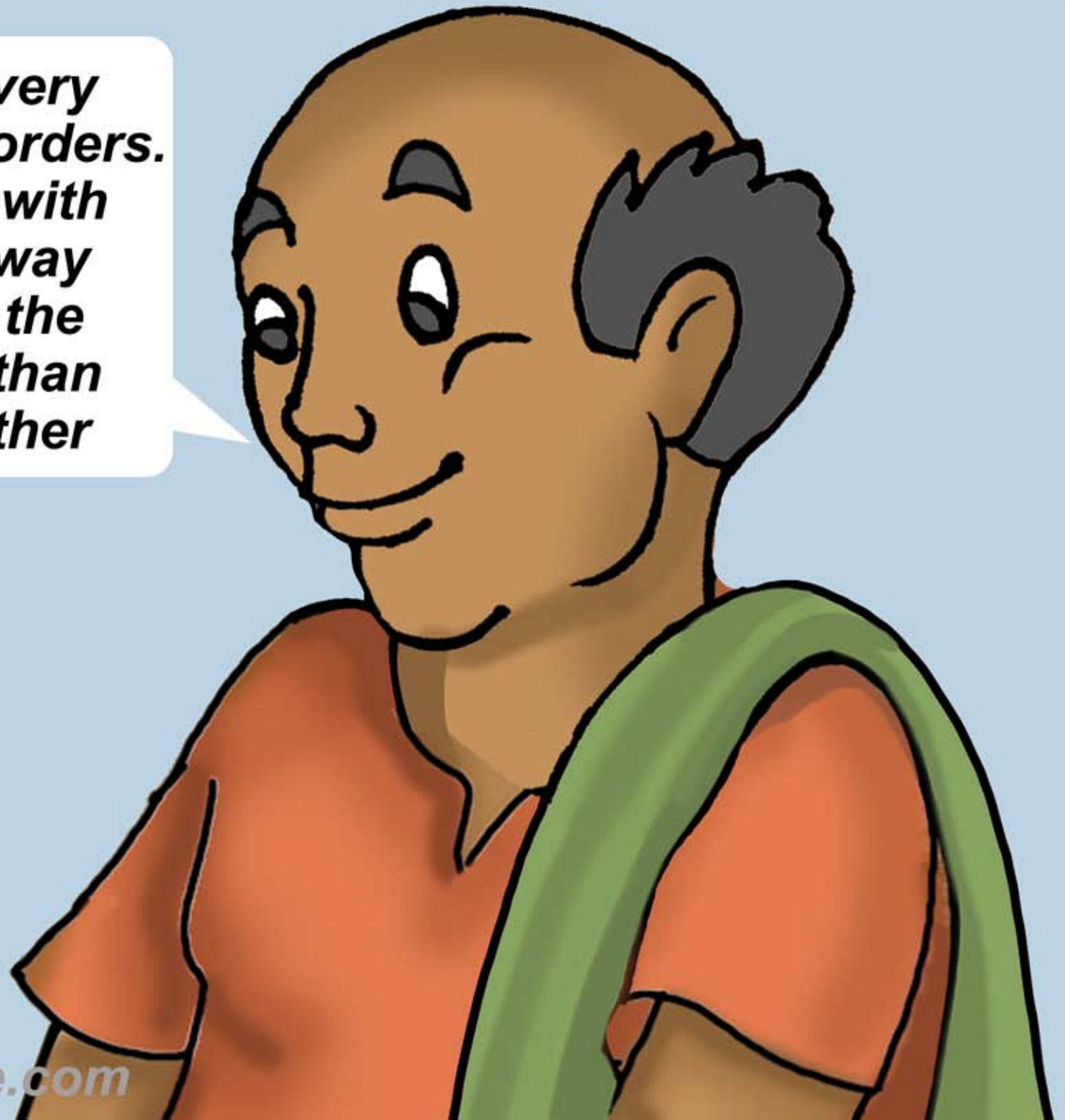


**Once he went to visit his
potter friend in village
Haripur**

**Oh my friend
Vamacaran! So
nice to see you.**



You seem to be very busy with lot of orders. Let me help you with your work. This way we can finish all the work faster and than spend time together



Surely my friend! Whichever way you think you can help me get relieved of this orders



**The blacksmith observed
the potter working with
hammer.**





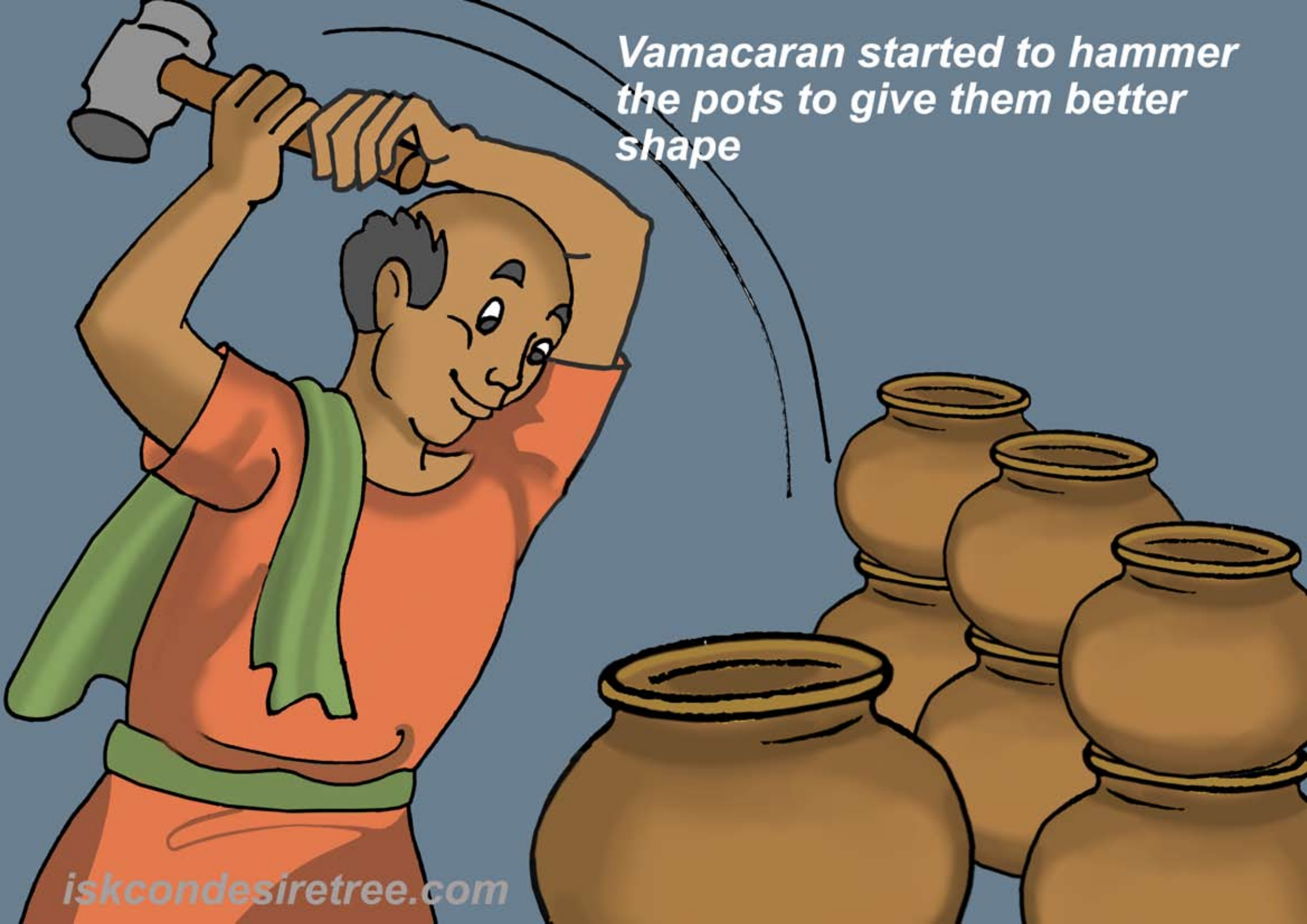
***Let me help my friend
finish the order faster.***

He thought.....

I can give better shape to these pots and make my friend happy. I am an expert blacksmith. Let me hammer them like I do it everyday and give them nice shape



Vamacaran started to hammer the pots to give them better shape



*While trying to help his friend,
Vamacaran broke all the pots*



PURPORT

The manner in which the blacksmith hammers iron to give shapes to it is not meant for a potter to model clay. The method and technique of both of them are entirely different. A materialistic worker usually develops a conception that the devotional service offered by a devotee for the satisfaction of the Lord is apparently and externally akin to sense - gratification material activities and as such they all belong to the same category. In fact, there is a real difference between the process and the manner in both such activities. So - called dispassionate material activities carry no intrinsic value unless they are favourable for the satisfactory devotional service to the Lord. An impersonalist worshipper of five elements, bereft of devotional service, surrender will only create more harm than good than any pure devotee who is sincerely practising the delicate process of satisfying the Supreme Lord.