

# *The challenge of the Hilsa Fish*



It was the season for the Hilsa fish, every where nothing but the Hilsa fish was sold.



The house holders could talk of nothing but the Hilsa fish only.



And in the palace too the courtiers could discuss nothing but the Hilsa fish.



The King got angry and spoke loudly...

Oh stop it!  
Are you a courtier  
or a fisherman?



Just at that time Gopal entered into the court with the same topic....

No one. Even Gopal can not stop from talking about Hilsa fish.



**Gopal asked for a challenge...**

**Challenge?**

**Since everyone is talking only about hilsa fish, bring one to the palace without anyone stopping you.**

**I accept the challenge, your majesty.**




After some days Gopal prepared himself.....

Why are you shaved like this and why are you smearing yourself with ash?

I'm dressing up to buy a Hilsa fish.



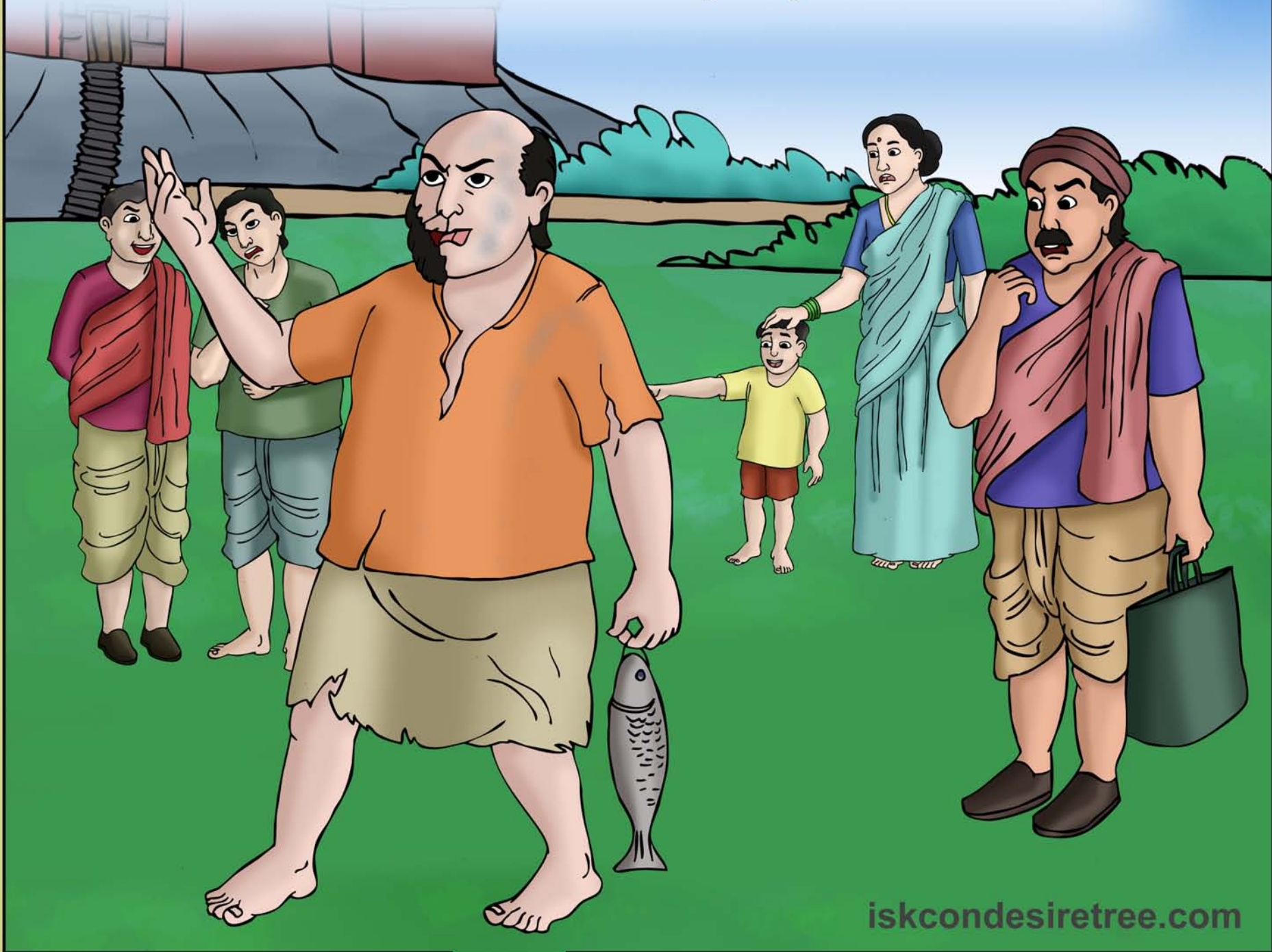




**Listen to me!  
You can't go out in those  
disgraceful rags! What are  
you up to?**

**How many times  
must I tell you. I am out to  
buy a huge hilsa fish.**

**Gopal brought the Hilsa fish and started walking towards the palace. Everyone was quiet surprised to see a crazy looking person with a hilsa fish. No one dared to ask him about anything.**



When Gopal reached the court, he was stopped by the soldiers...



What do you want?

I want to see the king?  
I have bought this hilsa fish  
for him.

Then Gopal suddenly began to dance and sing loudly...



Quickly a messenger comes....

**Maharaj!! Maharaj!!  
A crazy man who is half shaven,  
smeared with ash & wearing torn  
clothes is dancing outside the  
palace. He want's to  
see you.**

**Wow! Let us  
have some fun!  
Bring that man to me  
at once.**

**Gopal was brought before the king. He disclosed his identity. Everyone was surprised.**

**Gopal, why are you dressed up in this ridiculous fashion?**

**Your majesty, you seem to have forgotten something!**

Strangely enough  
no one seems to be interested  
in Hilsa fish today!



Only then the king remembered the challenge he had thrown to Gopal.

Yes Gopal  
you have won the  
challenge once  
again.





## ***MORAL:***

**There is a famous saying -**

**"Never judge a book by its cover."**

**Similarly, we must never judge a person by what or how he looks. He might look crazy, unintelligent or poor, but might actually be the most clever and intelligent man among many good looking people.**