



## VAALI'S CURSE

He is more powerful than I am."

So, Dhundhubi went and challenged Vaali to a fight. Vaali was as strong and powerful as Dhundhubi. Vaali also had a magic necklace which his father Indra had given him. The **MAGIC** necklace took away all his enemy's strength, and gave it to him, so Vaali became even stronger.

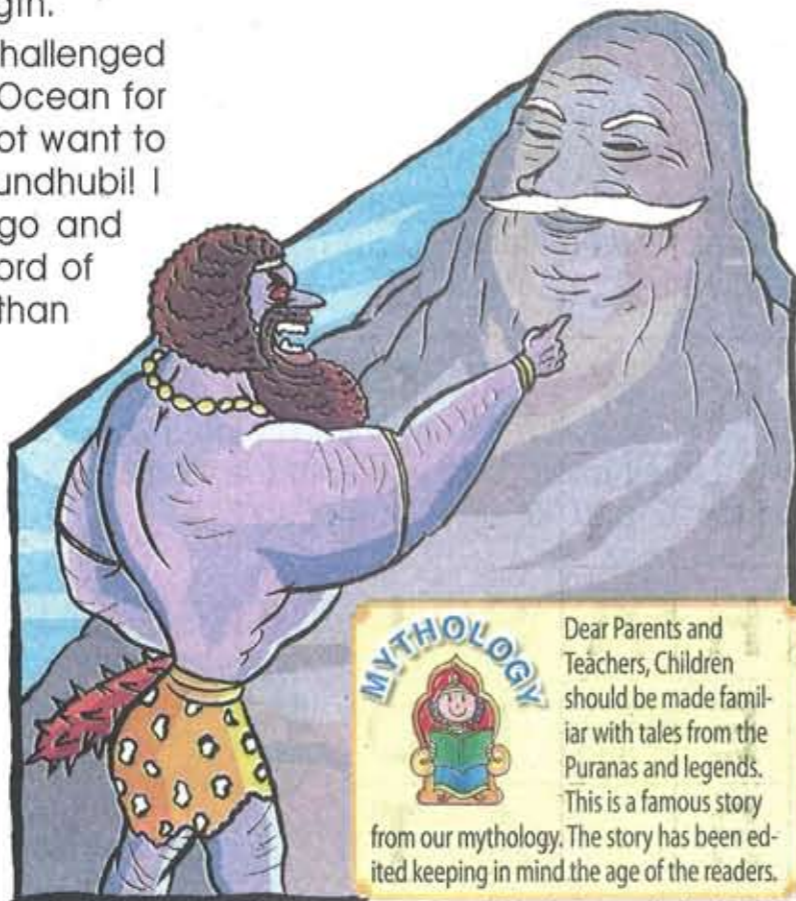
Dhundhubi took the form of a

Once upon a time, there lived a fierce **DEMON** named Dhundhubi.

He got boons from Lord Brahma, and became extremely strong. He was very proud of his strength.

One day he went and challenged Samudra, the Lord of the Ocean for a fight. But Samudra did not want to fight. So he said, "Oh Dhundhubi! I cannot fight you. Please go and challenge Himavan, the Lord of Mountains. He is stronger than I am!"

So, Dhundhubi went and challenged Himavan. But Himavan said "Dhundhubi, I am the father-in-law of Lord Shiva, and many great sages live on my mountains. I cannot disturb their peace by fighting. So, please go and challenge **VAALI**, the son of Lord Indra, and the king of Kishkinda forest.



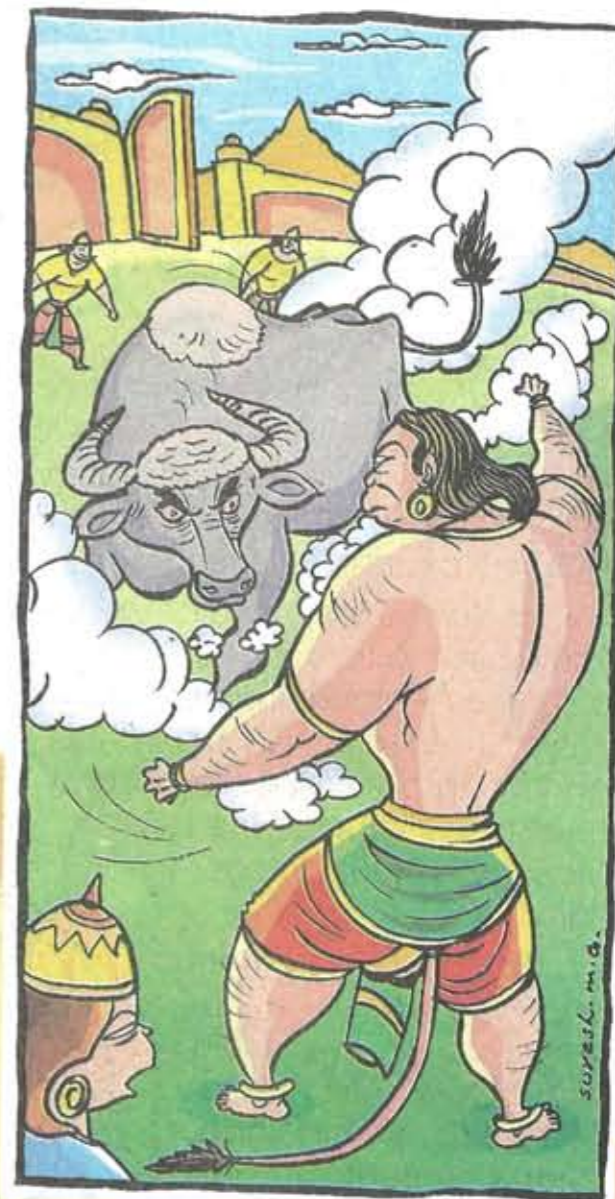
Dear Parents and Teachers, Children should be made familiar with tales from the Puranas and legends. This is a famous story from our mythology. The story has been edited keeping in mind the age of the readers.

strong buffalo, and started fighting. But the necklace took away Dhundhubi's strength, and gave it to Vaali. So, Vaali defeated the demon easily. And in his anger, he twirled the demon in the air, and threw him onto Rishyamooka Mountain. Now, sage Matanga was praying on that mountain and Dhundhubi fell on the sage. The sage got angry and cursed Vaali that he would die immediately if he ever set foot on the mountain.

Afterwards, when Vaali was angry with his brother Sugriva, Sugriva hid in Rishyamooka Mountain to protect himself. Vaali could not step on the mountain because of the curse. Later, Lord Rama came to Rishyamooka Mountain and became Sugriva's friend. Sugriva asked Lord Rama to protect him from his brother Vaali who was very strong.

Lord Rama smiled, and to show his strength, he kicked Dhundhubi's skeleton far away with one **TOE**. Then, to show his speed, he shot seven palm trees with one arrow. Then he went and killed Vaali to save Sugriva.

• DR. ROHINI CHINTHA



D	E	M	O	N
R	V	I	F	A
M	A	G	I	C
H	A	S	I	N
E	L	T	O	E
R	I	A	T	E

### FIND THE WORDS

Some words printed in big red letters in the story are there in these boxes. Find them all!