

# THE MAGIC CAVE

not find its entrance. They searched and searched and after a while, they met an old lady. Hanuman greeted her, and requested her to show them the way out of the cave. She said, "This cave is magical. You can go out only by using devine powers". Then Hanuman asked "Who does this place belong to? Can you help us to go out? And why are you here?"

The old lady said "This cave belongs to a demon named Maya. He created the golden buildings and trees for his wife Hema and their two sons Mayavi and Dundubhi. They lived here happily. The sons left when grew up. The demon and his wife felt lonely, so they wanted to have a daughter.

"They prayed to Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati to bless them with a daughter. Lord **SHIVA** and God-



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.

S	I	T	A	J
H	A	I	F	U
I	W	N	Q	N
V	N	B	I	G
A	O	G	E	L
R	L	A	T	E

## FIND THE RIGHT WORDS

Some words printed in big red letters in the story are among the jumbled letters in these squares. Find them out!

dess Parvati created a beautiful baby for them. But Goddess Parvati wanted to test them and see if they really wanted a baby girl. So she turned the baby into a frog and put it in a well in this cave.

Maya and Hema prayed very hard for twelve years and the goddess was pleased. She made the frog into a baby again, and gave her to Maya and Hema. They named the baby Mandodari (born of a frog). Mandodari grew up to be a beautiful

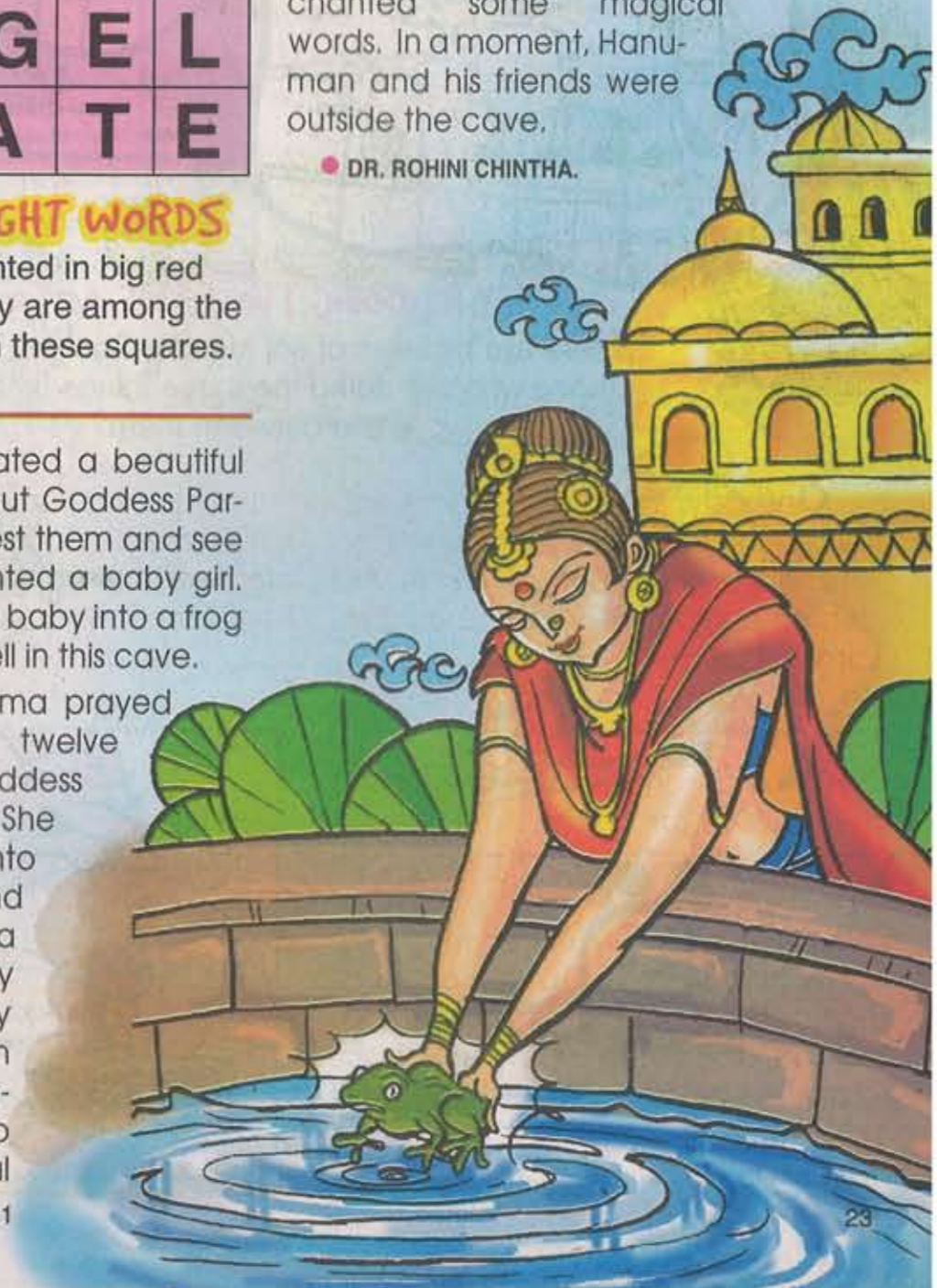
woman. The demon king Ravana married her, and took her to lanka.

"After this, Maya and Hema went to heaven. My name is Swayamprabha. I am Hema's friend, so she gave me this place," finished the old lady.

Then Hanuman said, "Please help us to go out. Lord Rama has lost his wife Sita, and we are looking for her."

The old lady closed her eyes and chanted some magical words. In a moment, Hanuman and his friends were outside the cave.

• DR. ROHINI CHINTHA.



One day, when Lord Rama was living in the Panchavati jungle with his wife Sita and brother Lakshman, the demon king Ravana kidnapped **SITA**. Lord Rama asked his friends Sugriva, Angada, and Hanuman to help him to search for Sita.

Hanuman and Angada searched the **JUNGLE** for a long time. Finally, they became tired and thirsty. They saw a cave and went inside. Inside the cave was very bright with silver lights, golden trees, **BIG** golden buildings and lots of fruits and water. Hanuman and Angada ate the fruits, drank plenty of water, and rested for a while. But, when they wanted to go out of the cave again, they could