



# *The Marriage Party*

*Instructive stories based on narration of*

*His Divine Grace*

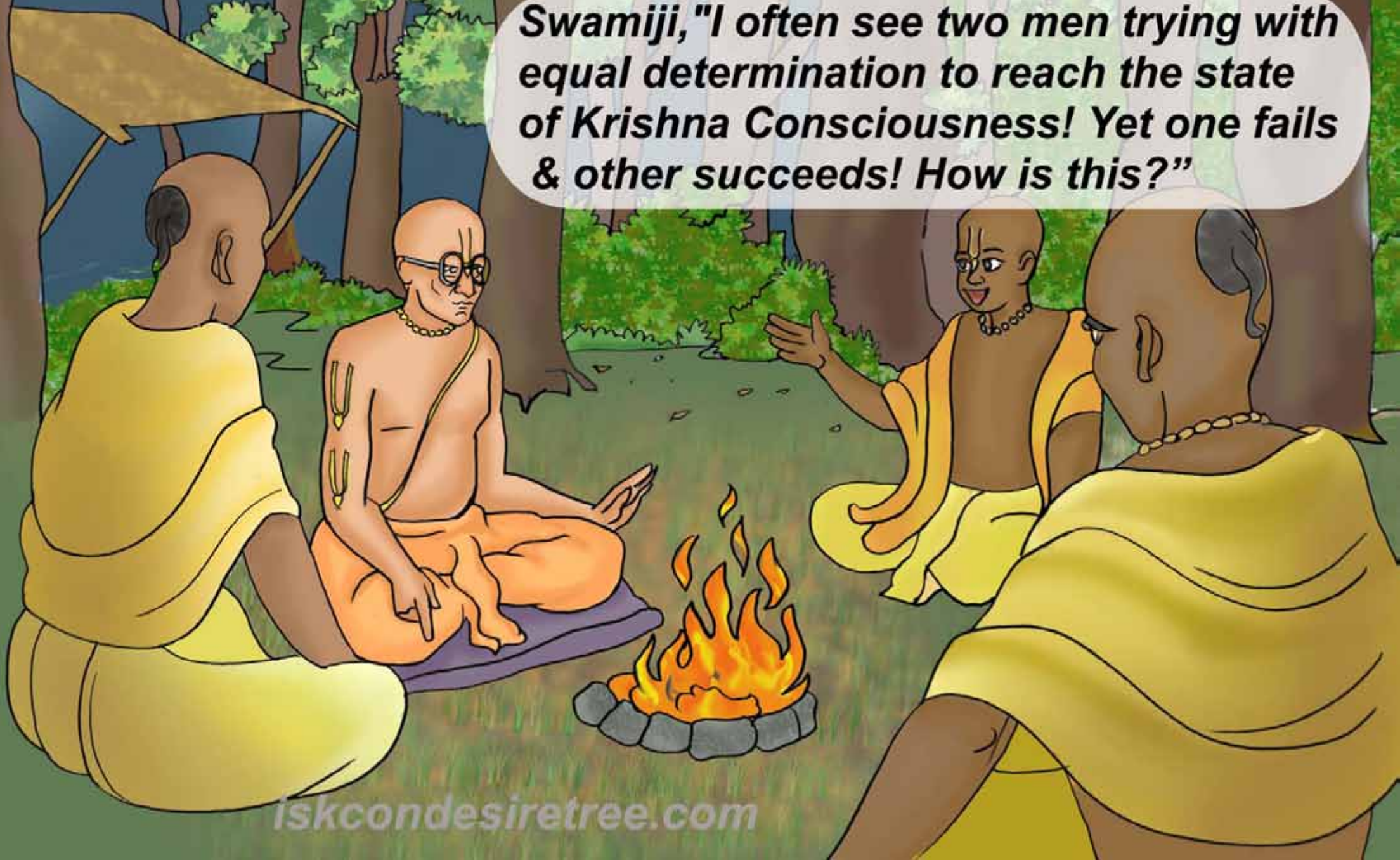
*A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada*

*Founder Acharya of International Society for Krishna Consciousness*

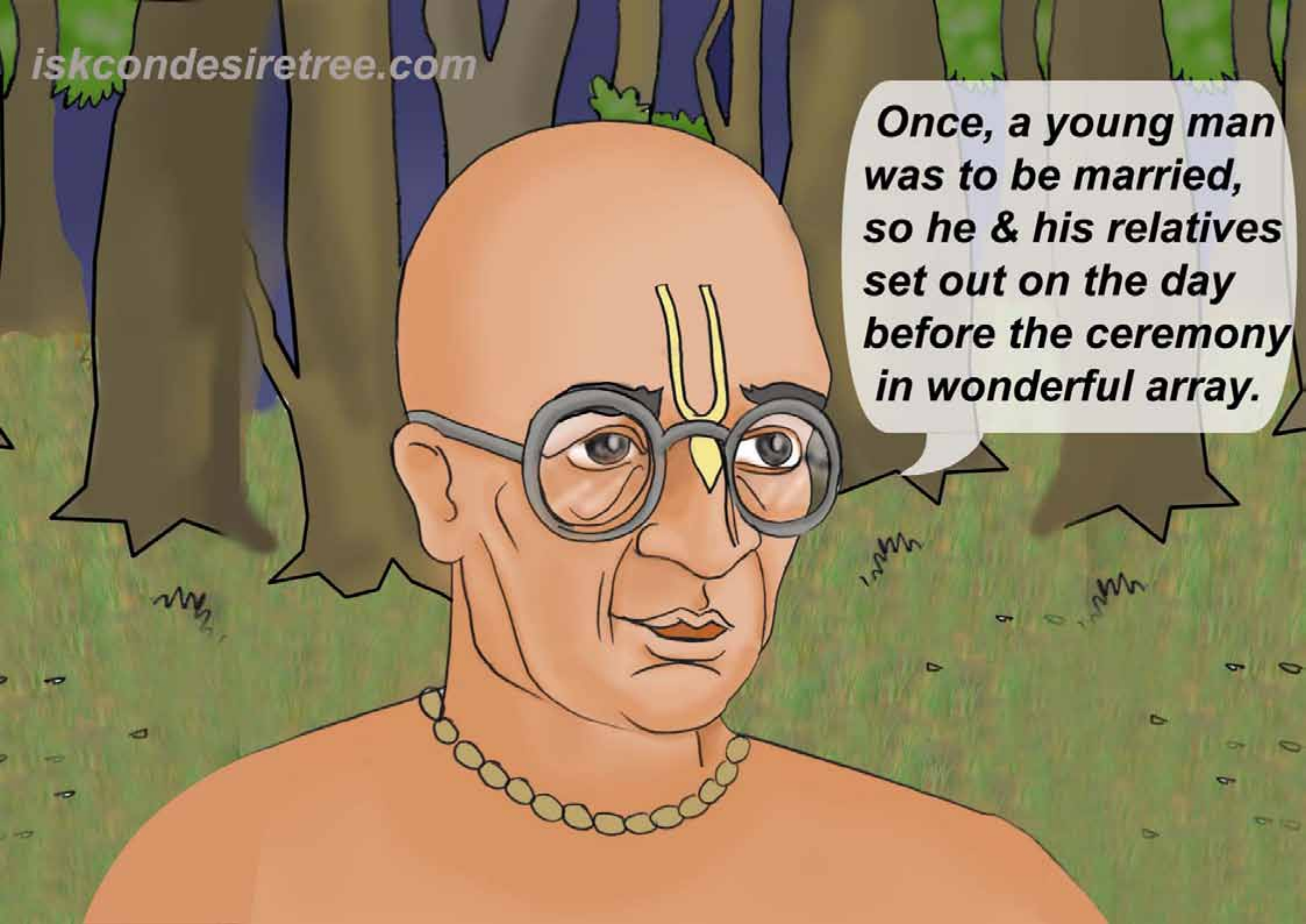
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**One Summer evening, the great saint, Srila Bhakti siddhanta Saraswati sits with a few disciples besides an open fire.**

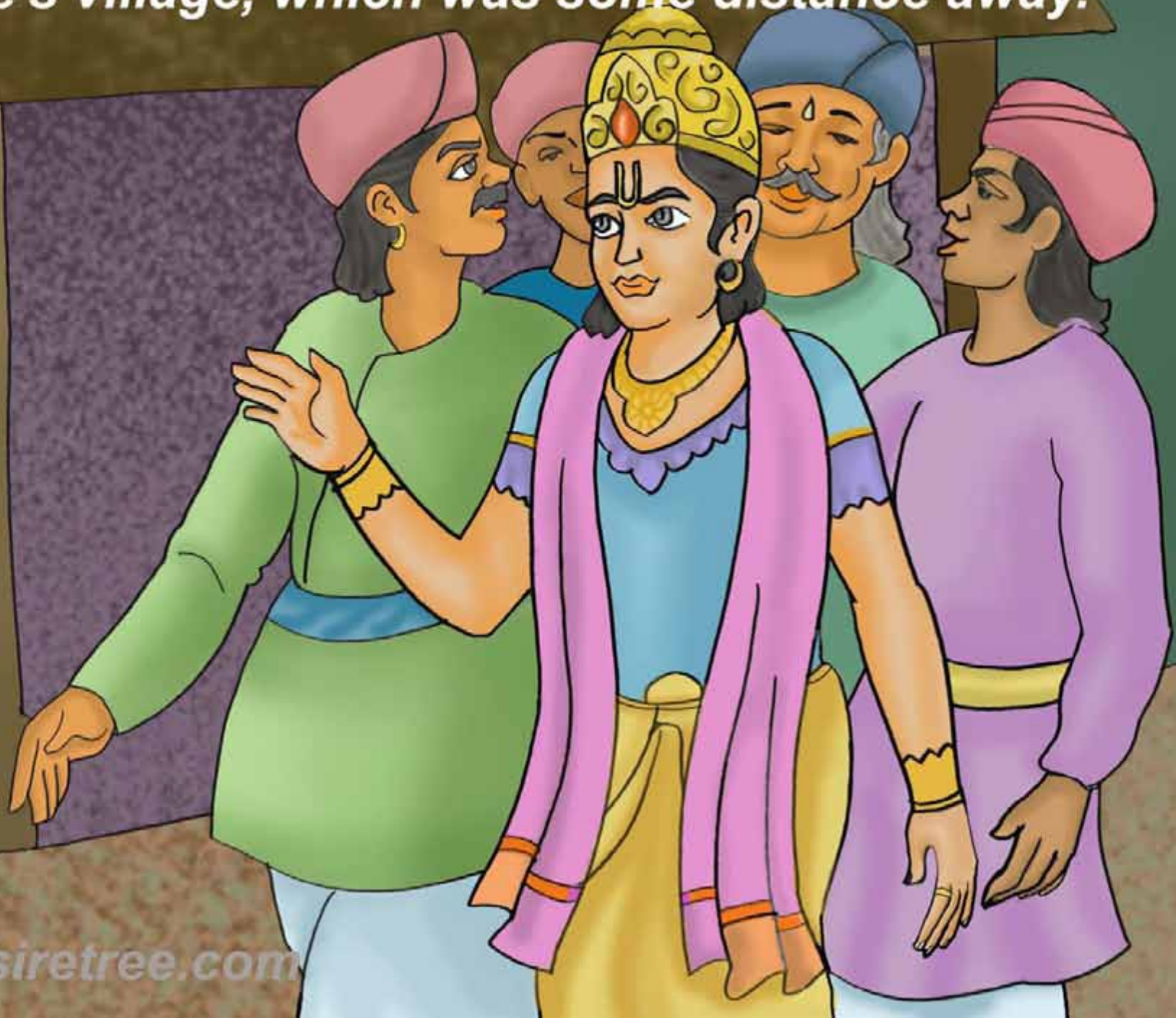
**Swamiji, "I often see two men trying with equal determination to reach the state of Krishna Consciousness! Yet one fails & other succeeds! How is this?"**



**Once, a young man was to be married, so he & his relatives set out on the day before the ceremony in wonderful array.**



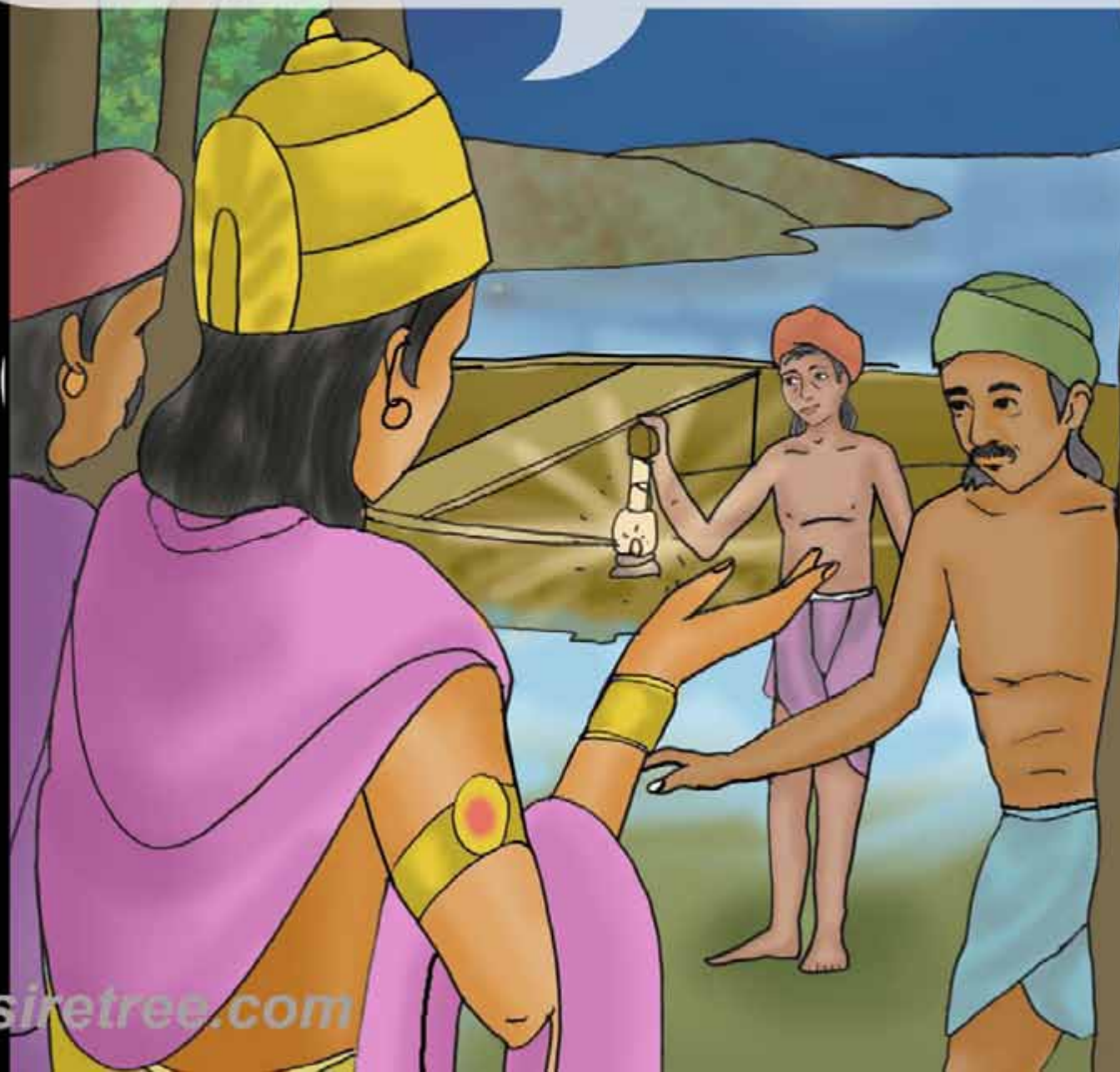
*They proceeded with lavish gaiety towards the bride's village, which was some distance away.*



*Upon approaching the river at nightfall...*



**Hey! Boatman! Take us to the village of gudara & you will earn your week's wages in one night!**



***Well! Climb aboard we'll  
take you to your destination!***

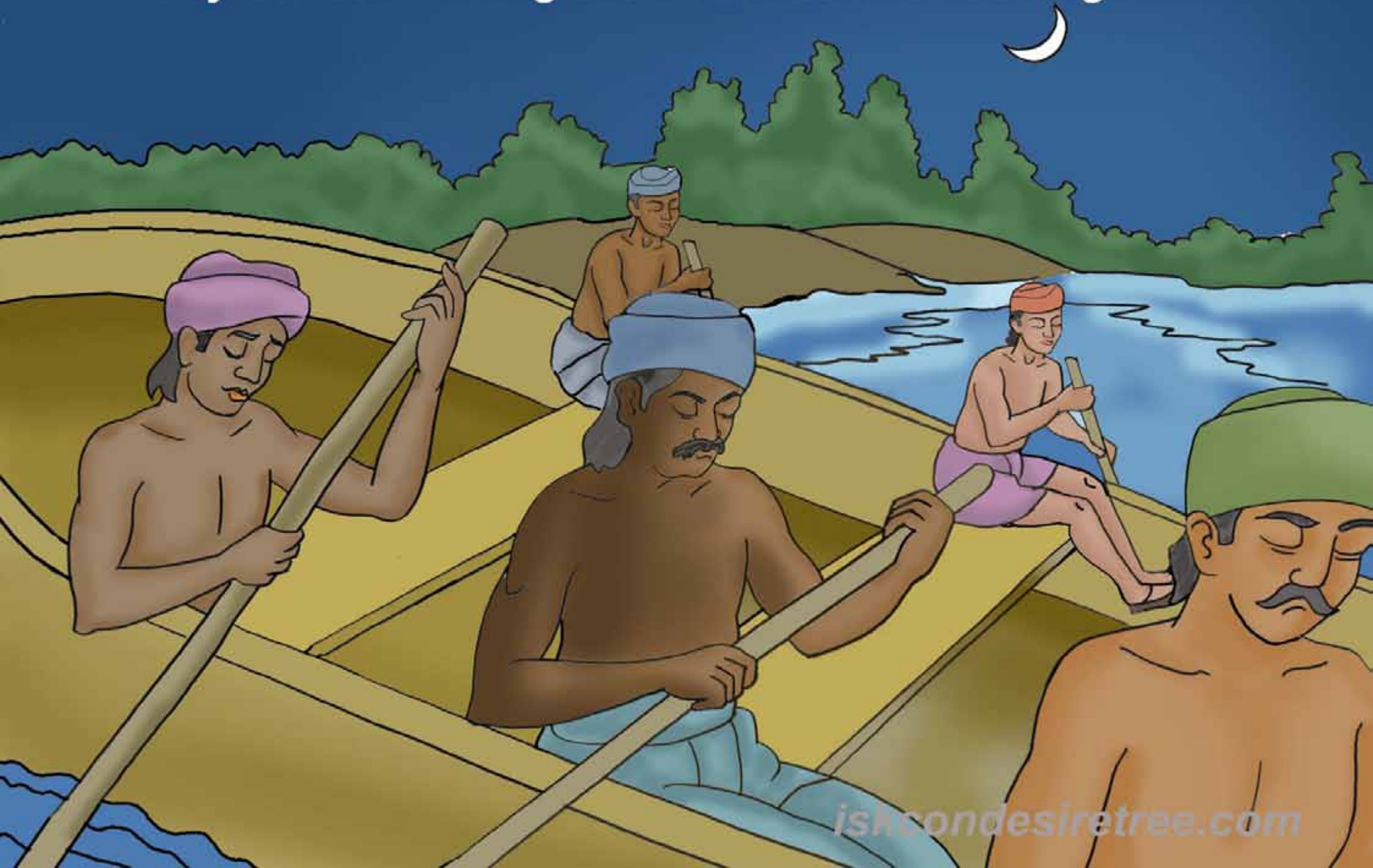


*The marriage party got settled in the boat*





*They started rowing the boat and also dozing.*



**Let's take some rest till we reach  
the other side of the river**



***And so the marriage party yielded itself to sleep,  
while the boatman laboured at their oars.***



*"But then, when the morning broke upon them..."*



**Look! we haven't moved so much as a yard from our starting point last night!**





**Are you trying to amuse yourselves  
at my expense? What do you mean?**

**I'm more baffled and  
angry than you.**

**Don't forget that while you slept,  
we've been working hard..all night long!**

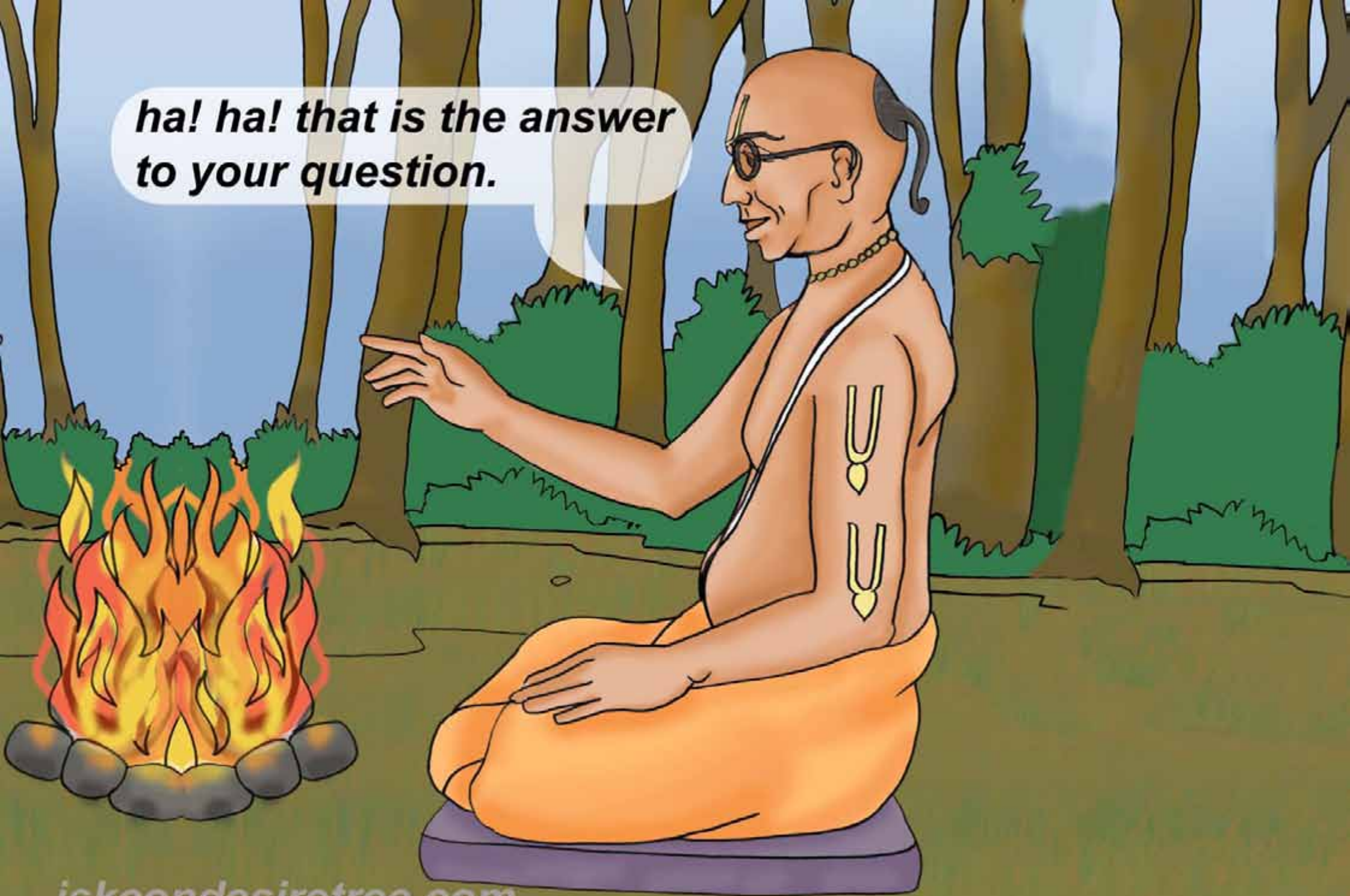


**Hey! Look there! The Anchor!  
It's been sunk deep  
in the riverbed all the time.**





**ha! ha! that is the answer  
to your question.**



**Those who are anchored in the material world..  
anchored by their desire for sense gratification...  
they can never comprehend Krishna Consciousness.**



***They may work very hard..they may have all the facilities..even give the appearance of moving forward... but they make no real progress.***



**MORAL:**

***Real spiritual progress starts  
only after we remove the anchor of  
material attachments.***