



CLASS – 10

ENGLISH

First Flight

**CH-8 : The Sermon at
Benares**

Part – 1

Gautam Buddha

ARPITA SHARMA

OVERVIEW

1. Gautama Buddha's Life

2. His Preaching to Kisa Gotami

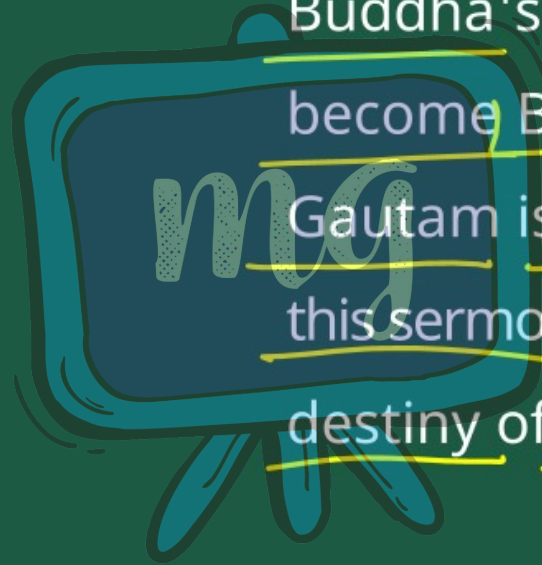


BEFORE YOU READ

This chapter is extracted from
'Values and Voices: A college Reader
(1975) by Betty Renshaw.

Sermon is a religious lecture. In this
chapter we will learn about a
sermon given by Gautam Buddha
founder of Buddhism, at Benares.

A brief introduction of Gautama
Buddha's life and his journey to
become Buddha from Siddhartha
Gautam is also given in the text. In
this sermon he talks about the ultimate
destiny of humankind. Death.



GAUTAMA Buddha (563 B.C. – 483

B.C.) began life as a prince named

Siddhartha Gautama, in northern

India. At twelve, he was sent away

for schooling in the Hindu sacred

scriptures and four years later he

returned home to marry a princess.)

✓ Sacred : पवित्र

✓ Scriptures : धर्मग्रन्थ

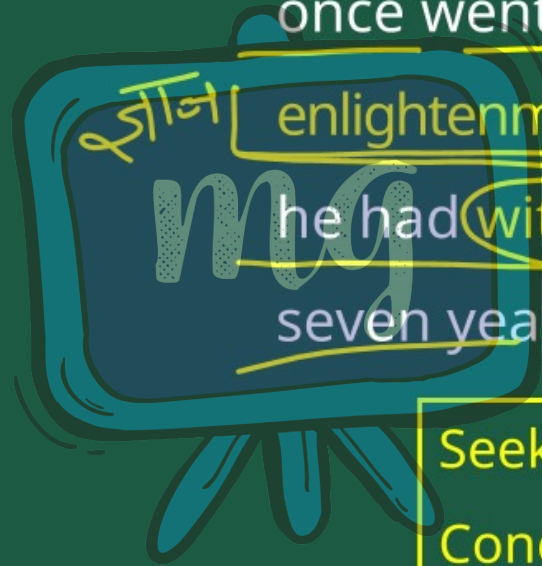
They had a son and lived for ten years
as befitted royalty. At about the age
of twenty-five, the Prince, heretofore
shielded from the sufferings of the world,

✓ Befitted	:	उपयुक्त/अनुकूल
✓ Royalty	:	राजसी सत्ता
✓ About the age	:	अब तक
✓ Heretofore	:	अब से पहले
✓ Shielded	:	रक्षित

while out hunting chanced upon a
sick man, then an aged man, then
a funeral procession, and finally a
monk begging for alms.

- ✓ Chanced upon : संयोग से
- ✓ Funeral : अंतिम संस्कार
- ✓ Procession : शोभायात्रा
- ✓ Alms : भिक्षा

These sights so moved him that he at
once went out into the world to seek
enlightenment concerning the sorrows
he had witnessed. He wandered for
seven years and finally sat down



Seek	:	तलाश करना
Concerning	:	सम्बन्धी
Enlightenment	:	ज्ञानोदय
Witnessed	:	देखा



under a peepal tree, where he vowed
to stay until enlightenment came.

Enlightened after seven days, he
renamed the tree the Bodhi Tree
(Tree of Wisdom) and began to teach
and to share his new understandings.

Vowed : वचन लेना

At that point he became known as the Buddha
(the Awakened or the Enlightened). The Buddha
preached his first sermon at the city of Benares,
most holy of the dipping places on the River
Ganges; that sermon has been preserved and
is given here. It reflects the Buddha's wisdom
about one inscrutable kind of suffering.



Preached	:	प्रचार	Death ←
Sermon	:	धर्मोपदेश	
Dipping Places	:	स्नान	
Inscrutable	:	रहस्यमय (कुछ जो समझा ना जाए)	

Kisa Gotami had an only son, and he died. In her grief she carried the dead child to all her neighbours, asking them for medicine, and the people said, "She has lost her senses. The boy is dead." At length, Kisa Gotami met a man who replied to her request, "I cannot give thee medicine for thy child, but I know a physician who can."

Grief : दुःख

Physician : चिकित्सक



And the girl said, "Pray tell me, sir; who is it?" And the man replied, "Go to Sakyamuni, the Buddha."

Kisa Gotami repaired to the Buddha and cried, "Lord and Master, give me the medicine that will cure my boy."

Repaired : जाना

Cure : ठीक करना

The Buddha answered, "I want a handful of mustardseed." And when the girl in her joy, promised to procure it, the Buddha added, "The mustardseed must be taken from a house where no one has lost a child, husband, parent or friend."


Poor Kisa Gotami now went from house

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|---------------|---|--------------|
| ✓ Mustardseed | : | सरसों के बीज |
| ✓ Procure | : | प्राप्त करना |

to house, and the people pitied her
and said, "Here is mustardseed; take
it!" But when she asked, "Did a son
or daughter, a father or mother, die
in your family?" they answered her,
"Alas! the living are few, but the dead
are many. Do not remind us of our
deepest grief." And there was no
house but some beloved one had
died in it.

Pitied : दया करना

Kisa Gotami became weary and hopeless, and sat down at the wayside watching the lights of the city, as they flickered up and were extinguished again. At last the darkness of the

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|----------------|---|----------------|
| ✓ Weary | : | थका हुआ |
| ✓ Wayside | : | सड़क के किनारे |
| ✓ Flickered up | : | टिमटिमाना |
| ✓ Extinguished | : | बुझ जाना |

night reigned everywhere. And she considered the fate of men, that their lives flicker up and are extinguished again. And she thought to herself, "How selfish am I in my grief! Death is common to all; yet in this valley of desolation there is a path that leads

Reigned : शासन होना

Fate : भाग्य

Desolation : दुःख

him to immortality who has surrendered, all, selfishness."

The Buddha said, "The life of mortals in this world is troubled and brief and combined with pain."

Immortality	:	अमरता
Surrendered	:	समर्पित करना
Mortals	:	मनुष्य
Brief	:	संक्षिप्त
Combined	:	मिश्रित

For there is not any means by which those that have been born can avoid dying; after reaching old age there is death; of such a nature are living beings.

As ripe fruits are early in danger of falling, so mortals when born are always in danger of death. As all earthen vessels made by the potter

Earthen Vessels : मिट्टी के बर्तन

Potter : कुम्हार

end in being broken, so is the life of mortals. Both young and adult, both those who are fools and those who are wise, all fall into the power of death; all are subject to death.

"Of those who, overcome by death, depart from life, a father cannot save his son, nor kinsmen their relations. Mark! while relatives are

Kinsmen : रिश्तेदार/निकट सम्बन्धी

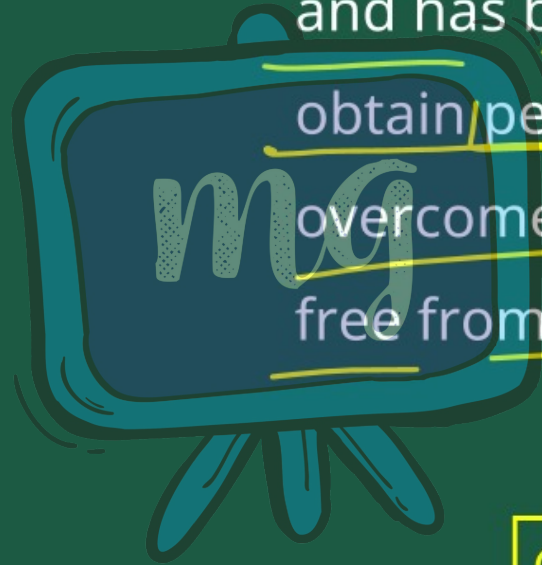
looking on and lamenting deeply, one by one mortals are carried off, like an ox that is led to the slaughter. So the world is afflicted with death and decay, therefore the wise do not grieve, knowing the terms of the world.

Lamenting	:	विलाप
Slaughter	:	पशुवध
Afflicted	:	पीड़ित
Decay	:	नष्ट हो जाना
Grieve	:	दुःखी होना

“Not from weeping nor from grieving will anyone obtain peace of mind; on the contrary, his pain will be the greater and his body will suffer. He will make himself sick and pale, yet the dead are not saved by his lamentation.

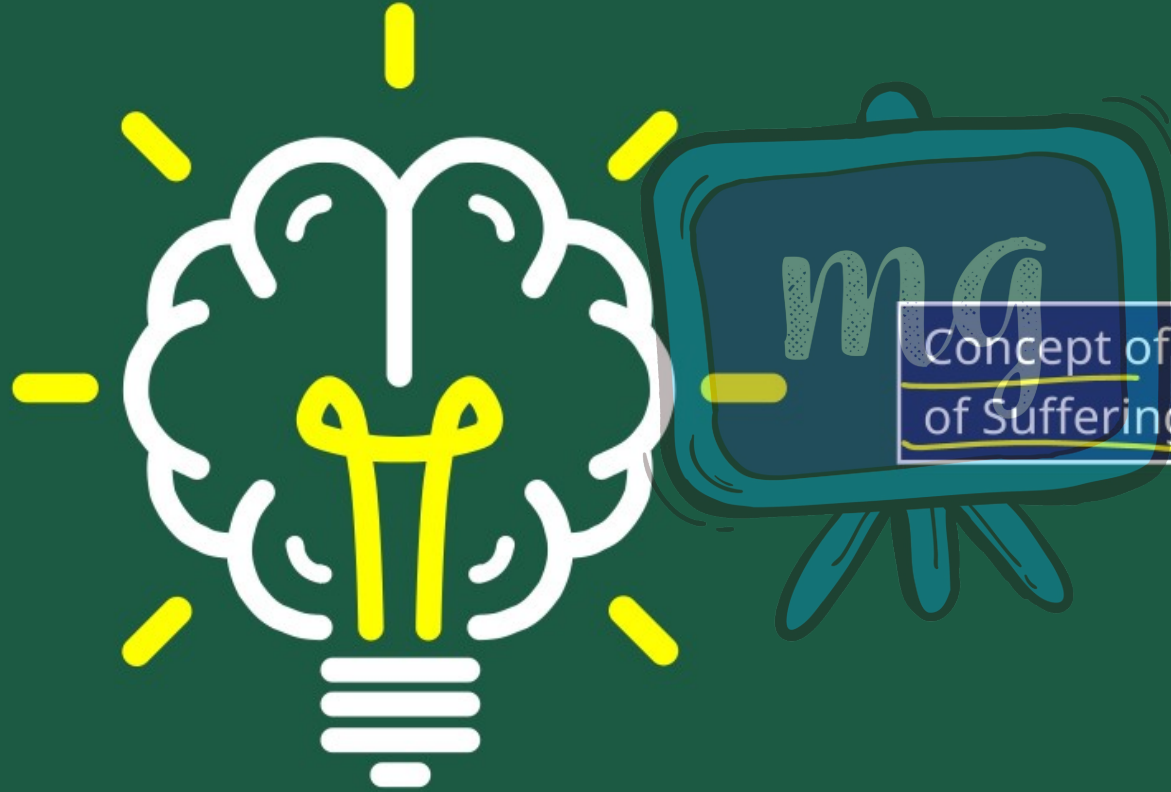
He who seeks peace should draw out the arrow of lamentation, and complaint, and grief.

He who has drawn out the arrow
and has become **composed** will
obtain peace of mind; he who has
overcome all sorrow will become
free from sorrow, and be blessed.”



Composed : शांत

LEARNING OUTCOME



Concept of Enlightenment and Universality
of Suffering कष्ट

ASSESSMENT

1

What was Gautama Buddha's early name?

A

Sidhha

B

Sadhu

C

Siddhartha

D

Sidhanth

ASSESSMENT



2

What moved Buddha to seek out enlightenment?

A

A sick man

B

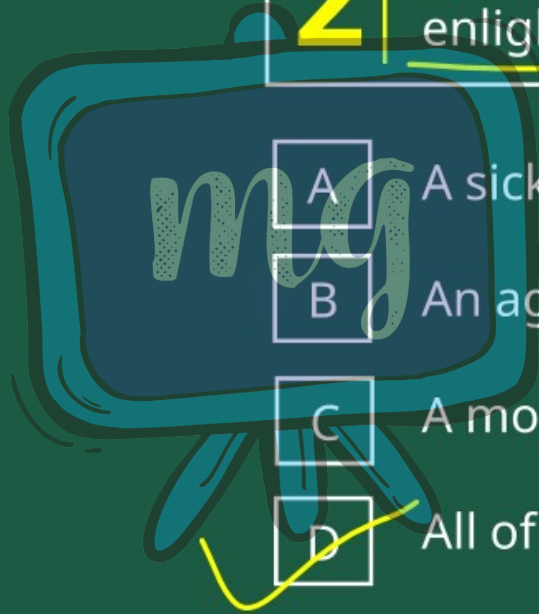
An aged man

C

A monk begging

D

All of the above



ASSESSMENT

★★

3

What did he name the tree where he got his enlightenment?

A

Bodhi tree (Tree of Wisdom)

B

Buddha tree

C

Gautama tree

D

Siddhartha tree

ASSESSMENT



4

"The wise do not ___, knowing the terms of the world"

A

laugh

B

smile

C

grieve

D

All of the above