समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

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CLASS - IX

ENGLISH
BEEHIVE

CHAPTER - 4

The Bond of Love

Part - 3

NIPA DAS

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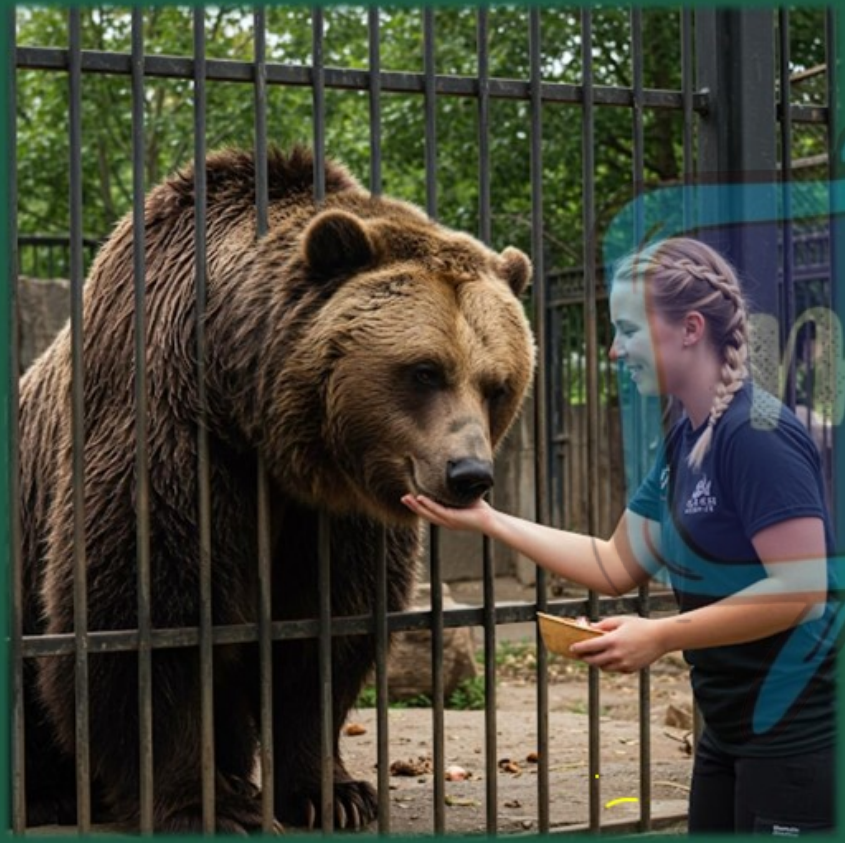
Friends had conjectured that the bear would not recognise her. I had thought so too. But while she was yet some yards from his cage Baba saw her and recognised her. He howled with happiness. She ran up to him, petted him through the bars, and he stood on his head in delight.

Conjectured : অনুমান কৰিলে



For the next three hours she would not leave that cage. She gave him tea, lemonade, cakes, ice-cream and what not. Then 'closing time' came and we had to leave. My wife cried bitterly; Baba cried bitterly; even the hardened curator and the keepers felt depressed.

As for me, I had reconciled myself to what I knew was going to happen next. "Oh please, sir," she asked the curator, "may I have my Baba back"? Hesitantly, he answered, "Madam, he belongs to the zoo and is Government property now.

Reconciled : পৰিস্থিতি গ্ৰহণ কৰা

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I cannot give away Government property. But if my boss, the superintendentat Bangalore agrees, certainly you may have him back."

There followed the return journey to Bangalore and a visit to the superintendent's bungalow.

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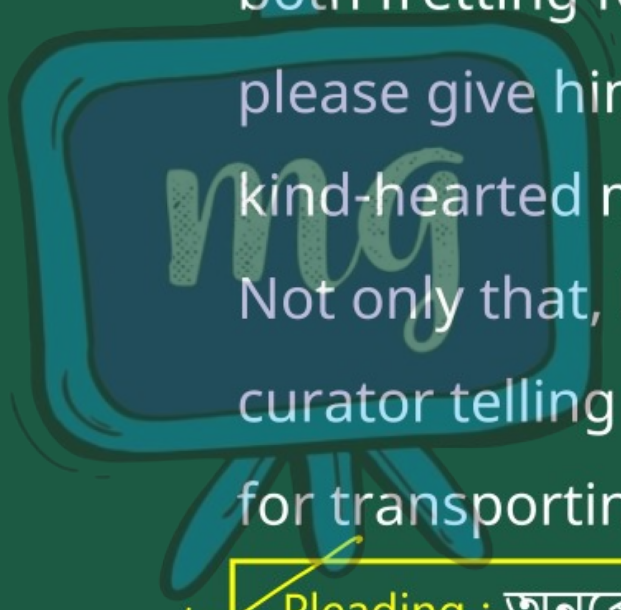
A tearful pleading: "Baba and I are both fretting for each other. Will you please give him back to me?" He was a kind-hearted man and consented. Not only that, but he wrote to the curator telling him to lend us a cage for transporting the bear to Bangalore.



Pleading : অনুৰোধ কৰা
Consented : সন্মতি দিলে

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Back we went to Mysore again, armed with the superintendent's letter. Baba was driven into a small cage and hoisted on top of the car; the cage was tied securely, and a slow and careful return journey to Bangalore was accomplished.

Hoisted : ওপৰত উঠাই দিয়া

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Once home, a squad of coolies were engaged for special work in our compound. An island was made for Baba. It was twenty feet long and fifteen feet wide, and was surrounded by a dry pit, or moat, six feet wide and seven feet deep.

Squad : দল

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A wooden box that once housed fowls was brought and put on the island for Baba to sleep in at night. Straw was placed inside to keep him warm, and his 'baby', the gnarled stump, along with his 'gun', the piece of bamboo, both of which had been sentimentally preserved since he had been sent away to the zoo, were put back for him to play with.

Fowls : চৰাই Gnarled : খহটা আৰু বেকা

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In a few days the coolies hoisted the cage on to the island and Baba was released. He was delighted; standing on his hindlegs, he pointed his 'gun' and cradled his 'baby'. My wife spent hours sitting on a chair there while he sat on her lap.

Hindlegs : জীৱ জন্তুৰ পিছফালে থকা ভৰি

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He was fifteen months old and pretty heavy too!

The way my wife reaches the island and leaves it is interesting. I have tied a rope to the overhanging branch of a mango tree with a loop at its end.

Overhanging : ওপৰেদি ওলমি থকা ডালবোৰ



Putting one foot in the loop, she kicks off with the other, to bridge the six-foot gap that constitutes the width of the surrounding pit. The return journey is made the same way. But who can say now that a sloth bear has no sense of affection, no memory and no individual characteristics?

ASSESSMENT



1 What did the author's wife request the curator ?

A To give her back he Baba

B To put Baba in a bigger cage

C To take care of Baba properly

D To give Baba rich food

ASSESSMENT



2 What provision was made at Bangalore to keep the animal -

A An Island with all the needs for the animal

B A cage

C A forest

D A zoo