

KAILASH COLONY, NEW DELHI-110048

ACADEMIC SESSION 2021-2022 CLASS IV- ENGLISH

# **TOPIC: L. THE REFUGEES**



# **THE AUTHOR**



# SHYAMALA KUMARADAS

## SILENT READING FOLLOWED BY LOUD READING

1 1

## The Refugees

### STARTER 2

Suppose a stranger comes to your house at night and asks for some food and shelter. What will you do? How will you decide whether you should help the person? Discuss this in groups of three or four and present your views to the rest of the class.



Now read this play. Characters in the play JADHAV RANA AANCHAL RANA OLD MAN JADHAV RANA'S ADVISORS SCENE 1

In a room in the house of Jadhav Rana, a local chieftain of Sanjan in Gujarat.

The year is 936 CE.

Jadhav Rana and a number of other men are present. Two servants stand behind him, fanning him. Jadhav Rana is on his throne, surrounded by his advisors<sup>1</sup>. They are in the middle of a discussion.

Suddenly there is an interruption<sup>2</sup>. A messenger rushes in, bows before Jadhav Rana and stands with bowed head, waiting for permission to speak.

JADHAV RANA *(impatiently)* Don't you see that we are in the middle of a very important discussion? Did anybody give you permission to interrupt us so rudely? Well, man, speak. Tell me quickly why you have come rushing in.

MESSENGER (very frightened) Forgive me, my lord. I came only because it is urgent. Aanchal Rana himself asked me to come straight to you and to bring you this message. It is a matter of great urgency<sup>3</sup>.

JADHAV RANA Well, give me the message then. The messenger hands over a scroll to one of the servants. The servant offers it to Jadhav Rana. Jadhav Rana signals to one of his advisors to take the scroll and read it.

<sup>1</sup>advisors: people who are learned in a certain field and can give advice | <sup>2</sup>interruption: something that makes a person stop what he/she is doing or saying | <sup>3</sup>urgency: something that is very important and needs to be attended to immediately Highness, Jadhav Rana, ruler of Sanjan. From his humble servant Aanchal Rana. Your Highness, we have spotted a ship carrying a group of people from a foreign country near the shores of your land. I have prevented<sup>4</sup> them from coming to the shore without permission from you. They will not be allowed to set foot upon your soil without your permission. Please tell me what to do with them. There are old people and women

among them, and they look peaceable<sup>5</sup>. Awaiting your orders, your humble servant,



Aanchal Rana. JADHav Rana A ship carrying many people.

- From a foreign land. What do you think we should do?
- ADVISOR 1 They may be dangerous. I think Aanchal Rana should be asked to chase them away from our shores.
- ADVISOR 2 On the other hand, Sire, Aanchal Rana himself says that they look peaceable and that there are old men and women among them. Why don't you ask them to send their representatives<sup>6</sup> to meet you here? Aanchal Rana could escort<sup>7</sup> them and see to it that they are not carrying arms<sup>8</sup>.
- JADHAV RANA Yes, I think that sounds sensible. Let us find out what they want before we send them away. Write a reply quickly, and send it to Aanchal Rana through this fellow. Tell him that only four of their people should be allowed to come, and they should not be armed<sup>9</sup>.

Advisor 2 Yes, my lord. (*to the messenger*) Come with me, I will give you the reply. <sup>6</sup>prevented: (here) stopped | <sup>5</sup>peaceable: wish to live in peace with others | <sup>6</sup>representatives: persons chosen to speak for somebody else or for a group | <sup>7</sup>escort: go with somebody | <sup>8</sup>arms: weapons | <sup>9</sup>armed: carrying a gun or other weapons **FEW QUESTIONS TO** UNDERSTAND THE LESSON Q.1 IS THIS STORY FICTIONAL (IMAGINARY) OR BASED ON A HISTORICAL FACT? Q.2 IS THIS STORY PRESENTED IN THE FORM OF A DRAMA OR A NARRATIVE ? HOW CAN YOU TELL? Q.3 WHO ARE THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF THIS PLAY? Q.4 WHO WAS JADHAV RANA? Q.5 WHAT WAS WRITTEN ON THE SCROLL SENT BY **AANCHAL RANA?** Q.6 WHO HAD COME TO THE SHORES OF SANJAN? Q.7 HOW HAD THE PEOPLE COME THERE? Q.8 WHAT DID ADVISOR 2 SAY TO JADHAV RANA?

#### SCENE 2

Same scene as before, with Jadhav Rana and his advisors and servants. Suddenly, there is a stir, and a group of people come in, led by Aanchal Rana. Among the strangers is an old man, bearded and wearing the robe of a priest, holding a swinging bowl with the sacred fire burning in it. The four strangers in the group are dressed differently from the local people.

AANCHAL RANA (bowing before Jadhav Rana) Your Highness, respectful greetings.

JADHAV RANA Thank you, Aanchal. Welcome to my house. And who are these strangers that you have brought with you? Where do they come from? Do they speak our language?

- AANCHAL RANA (leading the old man forward and presenting him to the chieftain) This old man does. Speak, stranger, and tell our Rana Sahib who you are and what you want from him.
- OLD MAN We come in peace, Sire, strangers from the distant land of Persia. We had to leave our land and come away because we were no longer safe there. Our lives were in danger because we practise a religion that is different from that of our new rulers. Help us, most gracious ruler. All we ask is refuge<sup>10</sup>, and a chance to live in peace.
- JADHAV RANA All religions are but different ways to God. You are welcome to practise your religion here, most gracious stranger. You and your people can live in safety in our country.
- OLD MAN (bowing low and saluting the chieftain with trembling hands) Thank you, Your Gracious Highness. I thank you on behalf of<sup>11</sup> my poor people, who have been searching for refuge for many years, and have now found it in this most beautiful of countries.



<sup>10</sup>refuge: protection from danger or trouble <sup>11</sup>on behalf of: as a representative of **FEW QUESTIONS TO** UNDERSTAND THE LESSON Q.1 WAS THE OLD MAN ABLE TO SPEAK THEIR LANGUAGE ? Q.2 WHERE HAD THE OLD MAN COME FROM? Q.3 WHAT DID THE OLD MAN WANT FOR HIS PEOPLE? Q.4 WHY DID THE PERSIANS LEAVE THEIR OWN LAND? Q.5 WHAT IS THE NEW NAME OF PERSIA? Q.6 FOR HOW LONG THE STRANGERS WERE LOOKING FOR **REFUGE?** Q.7 WHAT DID JADHAV RANA TELL THE OLD MAN ABOUT THE DIFFERENT RELIGIONS? Q.8 DID JADHAV RANA GIVE REFUGE TO THE STRANGERS ?

<sup>AOHAV</sup> RANA But tell me first, what do you need from me, apart from<sup>12</sup> permission to live in my land and practise your religion here?

OLD MAN We want freedom, Your Highness, freedom to bring up our children according to the customs and traditions<sup>13</sup> of our country and religion.

JADHAV RANA I grant you the right to that. What else do you need?

OLD MAN A small piece of land to till<sup>14</sup>, Your Highness, so that we may work and earn our bread and not be a burden<sup>15</sup> upon the people of your country.



JADHAV RANA Granted. But in return, oh stranger, what will you be able to do for the country that has adopted<sup>16</sup> you?

OLD MAN Before I tell you that, Your Highness, may I ask for something?

JADHAV RANA Certainly.

OLD MAN May I have a small bowl of milk and some sugar?

Jadhav Rana claps his hands and signals. In a few minutes, a servant comes with a bowl of milk which he hands to the old man, together with some sugar on a plate.

The old man hands over the sacred fire to one of the other strangers, then adds the sugar to the bowl of milk and stirs it well. He holds

it up in his trembling hands.

OLD MAN Does any man here see the sugar that is in this bowl of milk?

ALL BYSTANDERS (in a sort of chorus) No. No. No.

<sup>12</sup>apart from: in addition to <sup>13</sup>traditions: ways of doing things that have continued from the past to the present (for example the tradition of wearing new clothes on festive days) <sup>14</sup>till: to prepare and use land for growing crops <sup>15</sup>burden: any responsibility that causes a lot of worry <sup>16</sup>adopted: (here) taken into the country and treated as their own **FEW QUESTIONS TO UNDERSTAND THE LESSON** Q.1 WHAT ELSE DID THE OLD MAN ASK FOR APART FROM **REFUGE**? Q.2 WHY DID THE OLD MAN WANT A PIECE OF LAND TO TILL? Q.3 WHICH COUNTRY HAD ADOPTED THE PERSIANS? Q.4 WHO SAID ' MAY I HAVE A SMALL BOWL OF MILK AND SOME SUGAR'? Q.5 IF WE MIX SUGAR IN MILK, CAN WE SEE THE SUGAR? Q.6 WHAT IS THE TASTE OF MILK WITH SUGAR IN IT?

OLD MAN We shall try to be like the sugar in this bowl, Sire, invisible<sup>17</sup>, but present all the same, to sweeten the milk of human kindness that you have shown us. We will blend<sup>18</sup> with your people, just like the sugar which blended with the milk, adding sweetness to it.

JADHAV RANA Well spoken, old man. We are pleased to welcome you and your fellow countrymen to our country. You will always be welcome here, and no one will trouble you because you follow a different religion. Live in peace among us as our neighbours and friends.

OLD MAN (bending over, with the other three men who came with him, to touch their foreheads to the soil) We salute this gracious<sup>19</sup> and hospitable<sup>20</sup> country and the people who live in it, and we promise to become one of them henceforth<sup>21</sup>.

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<sup>17</sup>*invisible*: something that cannot be seen <sup>18</sup>*blend*: mix <sup>19</sup>*gracious*: kind, polite and helpful <sup>20</sup>*hospitable*: friendly and kind to visitors <sup>21</sup>*henceforth*: from this time

and that is how the Parsis came to India and became one of its many peoples.

## SHYAMALA KUMARADAS

# FEW WELL KNOWN PARSIS



RATAN TATA



ADI GODREJ



SMRITI IRANI



ADAR POONAWALA

## WRITE THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR NOTEBOOK IN YOUR BEST HANDWRITING:

L.THE REFUGEES

TRANSCRIPTION

- OLD MAN We come in peace, Sire, strangers from the distant land of Persia. We had to leave our land and come away because we were no longer safe there. Our lives were in danger because we practise a religion that is different from that of our new rulers. Help us, most gracious ruler. All we ask is refuge<sup>10</sup>, and a chance to live in peace.
- JADHAV RANA All religions are but different ways to God. You are welcome to practise your religion here, most gracious stranger. You and your people can live in safety in our country.

OLD MAN (bowing low and saluting the chieftain with trembling hands) Thank you, Your Gracious Highness. I thank you on behalf of<sup>11</sup> my poor people, who have been searching for refuge for many years, and have now found it in this most beautiful of countries.

LEARN THESE WORDS & NOTE THEM IN YOUR NOTEBOOK

# **NEW WORDS FROM THE LESSON**

ADVISORS PEOPLE WHO ARE LEARNED IN A CERTAIN FIELD AND CAN GIVE
ADVICE
URGENCY SOMETHING THAT IS VERY IMPORTANT AND NEEDS TO BE ATTENDED TO IMMEDIATELY
PREVENTED STOPPED
PEACEABLE WISH TO LIVE IN PEACE WITH OTHERS
REPRESENTATIVES PERSONS CHOSEN TO SPEAK FOR OTHERS
ESCORT GO WITH SOMEBODY

WORDS	MEANINGS
ARMS	WEAPONS
REFUGE	PROTECTION FROM DANGER
TRADITIONS	CUSTOMS
TILL	TO PREPARE AND USE LAND FOR GROWING CROPS
GRACIOUS	POLITE AND HELPFUL
HOSPITABLE	FRIENDLY AND KIND TO VISITORS

TEXTBOOK QUESTION To be done neatly in the notebook after discussion in the class.

- 1. The messenger came with an important message. The matter was urgent because
  - a. the country was about to be attacked by a group of foreigners.
  - b. a group of foreigners were seeking permission to enter the country.
  - c. a group of foreigners were waiting outside the palace to see Jadhav Rana.

(Tick the correct answer.)

- 2. Aanchal Rana did not allow the foreigners to land without Jadhav Rana's permission. *True* or *false*?
- 3. Why do you think the second advisor suggested that Jadhav Rana should talk to the foreigners' representatives?
- 4. How many of these statements are true about the group of foreigners?
  - a. They came to Gujarat to attack Jadhav Rana's country.
  - b. They were on a world tour.
  - c. They came because it was unsafe to live in their own country.
  - d. They had a new ruler who belonged to a different religion.
  - e. They had visited many other places to ask for shelter before coming to Jadhav Rana's land.

(Tick the correct answer)

- 5. In addition to permission to live in the land, what else did the foreigners want from Jadhav Rana?
- 6. What kind of a person was Jadhav Rana?
- 7. What kind of people were the Parsis?

- 8. Do you think we should treat all foreigners like Jadhav Rana treated the Persians?
- 9. What are some of the ways in which we can be hospitable to people who visit us at our homes?
- 10. Jadhav Rana knew that the strangers were from a different country and a different religion. Yet, he decided to welcome them to his kingdom. Which of these qualities did Jadhav Rana possess?
  - a. broad-mindedness
  - b. kindness
  - c. tolerance towards other religions
  - d. sympathy
  - e. helpfulness
  - f. a. to e.

## **WORKBOOK EXERCISES**

## THE REFUGEES

### Q1. Match the following words with their meanings:

a) interrupt polite
b) prevented mix
c) arms (here) break the flow of speech
d) blend stopped
e) gracious weapons

### Q2. Give the opposites of the following:

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a) hospitable	:
b) invisible	:
c) burden	:
d) stop	



### Q3. Arrange the following letters to make meaningful words:

a) eftaniihc

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ь)	roundedsur
<b>c</b> )	mbeluh
<b>d</b> )	erginof
e)	uoicargs
Ð	giilerons

#### Q4. Answer the following questions in 20-30 words:

a) Why did the people of Persia leave their own land?

b) What did Aanchal Rana fear?

c) What did the old man ask from Jadhav Rana?

d) Describe the character of Jadhav Rana.

	a)	Jadhav Rana was a				
	<b>b</b> )	Aanchal Rana informed that				
	<b>c)</b>	The strangers came from				
	<b>d</b> )	The matter was urgent because				
	e)	The people told Jadhav Rana that				
	f)	did not allow the strangers to land without				
	g)	The people of Persia came because				
26.	Frame meaningful sentences with the following words:					
	a)	stranger				
	<b>b</b> )	custom -				
	<b>c</b> )	humble				
	d)	armed -				
	e)	blend				
27.	Wr	ite the synonyms of the following words:				
	a)	escort -				
	<b>b</b> )	refuge -				
	<b>c)</b>	tradition -				
	<b>d</b> )	blended -				

#### Q8. Write the antonyms of:

a)	danger	-	
<b>b</b> )	adopted	-	
c)	respectful	-	
d)	patiently	-	
e)	foreign	-	

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#### **Q9.** Correct the following statements:

- a) Aanchal Rana was a foreigner.
- b) Jadhav Rana behaved rudely with the foreigners.
- c) The old man demanded arms and food from Jadhav Rana.
- d) Aanchal Rana asked for refuge from Jadhav Rana.
- e) The strangers belonged to Russia.

#### Q10. Reference to context:

#### □ Who said to whom?

- a) "They may be dangerous. I think Aanchal Rana should be asked to chase them away from shores."
- b) "All religions are but different ways to God. You are welcome to practice your religion here, most gracious stranger."

c) "We want freedom your Highness. Freedom to bring up our children according to the customs and traditions of our country and religion."

"May I have a small bowl of milk, and some sugar?"

d)

e) "We salute this gracious and hospitable country and the people who live in it, and promise to become one of them henceforth."

