

## Grade VI

### Lesson 3. The Shepherd's Treasure

#### Summary of the Chapter

#### **The king Met the Wise Shepherd who Lived in a village in Iran**

The shepherd lived in Iran and was very poor. He had never been to a school and was uneducated. But he was very wise. He helped people in their sorrows and troubles. People used to take his advice. He became famous for his wisdom and friendly nature. The king, dressed as a shepherd, came to meet him in his cave. The shepherd welcomed the traveller and took him inside the cave. The shepherd offered him water and shared his food with him. The traveller stayed in the cave during the night and was impressed by the shepherd's wisdom. The king returned to his palace the next morning.

#### **The Shepherd was Mad the Governor of a District Making Others Jealous of Him**

The king was impressed by the shepherd's goodness and made him the governor of a small district. The shepherd occupied a high set in the country, but remained humble and gentle. People loved and respected him for this wisdom. The news about his goodness spread throughout the country. The complained to the king that the shepherd was very dishonest and kept for himself some money he collected as tax from the people. They said that his iron box contained the treasure that he had secretly collected. The governors made fun of the shepherd.

#### **The Shepherd was Called to the Palace**

The king could not ignore the governors and their stories. He realized that the shepherd did carry an iron box with him all the time. The new governor was called to the palace. The shepherd came, riding on his camel with his iron box. The king was angry and asked the shepherd the reason for carrying the iron box. This new governor asked his servants to bring in the box. Everyone was waiting for the box to be opened. The box was opened and no gold or silver or jewels could be found in the box. There was an old blanket in the box. The shepherd told the king that his blanket was his only treasure.

## The Shepherd was Made the Governor of a Much Bigger District

The king asked the shepherd the reason behind carrying an old blanket. The shepherd said that the blanket was his oldest friend and will protect him any time. He said the king could take away his new cloaks any time then the blanket will protect him from cold. The jealous governors were ashamed of their complaint. The king was pleased to hear the shepherd's reply and made him the governor of much bigger district.

### NCERT Corner

#### 1. The shepherd hadn't been to school because

- (i) he was very poor
- (ii) there were very few schools in those days
- (iii) he wasn't interested in studies
- (ii) There were very few schools in those days.

#### 2. Who visited the shepherd one day and why?

The king of Iran visited the shepherd one day because he became very famous for his wisdom and friendly nature. The king wanted to meet him. He wanted to judge the shepherd.

#### 3. Why did the other governors grow jealous of the shepherd?

The shepherd was appointed as the governor of a small district. People loved and honoured him for his wisdom. His fame and wise governance spread throughout the county which made other governors grew jealous of him.

#### 4. Why was the new governor called to the palace?

The jealous governors made complaint against the shepherd to the king. They told the king that the new governor was dishonest and kept some money for himself in his iron box. The king called the new governor to the palace to check his iron box

#### 5. What was everyone delighted to see the iron chest on the camel's back?

Everyone thought that the iron box contained some valuables so they were delighted to see it. If the report about his dishonesty proved to be true, the king would have dismissed the shepherd. Everyone was anxious to see the contents of the box

#### 6. (i) What did the iron chest contain?

The iron chest contained only an old blanket.

**(ii) Why did the shepherd always carry it?**

The shepherd always carried his blanket in the box because it was his oldest friend. It would protect him if the king took away his post and power.

**(iii) Is it an example of the shepherd's humility or wisdom or both?**

Yes, it is an example of the shepherd's humility as well as his wisdom.

**7. How did the king reward the new governor?**

The king was pleased with the new governor's humility and wisdom. He rewarded him by making him the governor of a much bigger district.

**Chapter Practice**

**Very Short Answer Type questions**

**1. Why did the king appoint the shepherd as the new governor of a district?**

The king appointed the shepherd as the governor because of his wisdom. He wanted people like the shepherd to work for him.

**2. How did the shepherd become famous in the country?**

People used to take advice from him. He became famous for his wisdom, goodness, sympathy and friendly nature.

**3. Why did the king become angry?**

The king became angry after hearing the endless stories about the shepherd's dishonesty and his iron box.

**4. What did the shepherd mention about his blanket?**

The shepherd mentioned that his blanket was his oldest friend and it will protect him any time from cold.

**5. What was the condition of the new governor before meeting the king?**

The new governor was a poor shepherd before meeting the king. He did have even a small cottage and lived in a cave.

### Short Answer Type questions

#### 1. How did the Shepherd impress the king in his cave?

The Shepherd welcomed the king who was dressed as an ordinary shepherd. He took the traveler inside the cave, offered him water and food. The king rested for the night in the cave and was impressed by his hospitality.

#### 2. What did the other governors tell the king about the new governor?

The other governor told the king that the new governor was dishonest and kept for himself some money which he collected as tax from the people. They said that his iron box contained the treasure that he had secretly collected.

### Long Answer Type questions

#### Why did the king reward the shepherd twice in the story?

The king rewarded the shepherd twice. Firstly, he was impressed by the shepherd's goodness and wisdom when he visited his cave and made him the governor of a small district. Secondly, the king doubted the shepherd's honesty after hearing false stories about him. He asked the shepherd the reason behind carrying an iron box and an old blanket. The shepherd said that the box contained the blanket which was his oldest friend. The blanket will protect him any time. The king was pleased to hear the shepherd's reply and made him the governor of a much bigger district.

### Value Based Questions

**Do you think honesty and wisdom are great virtues and rewarded at the end? Give reasons to support your answer.**

Yes, honesty and wisdom are great virtues and rewarded sooner or later. The shepherd was an honest and wise man. He shared his food with an unknown traveler and allowed him to sleep in the cave. He was made the governor of small district. He rose to power, but remained as humble as ever. He was kind and treated everyone equally. The other governor made conspiracy against him to defame him. They said he was dishonest and corrupt. But he remained humble to everyone and told them the truth. The king was pleased with the shepherd's wisdom and made him the governor of a much bigger district. So, he was rewarded for his virtues.