

4. Who is the real culprit according to the king? Why does he escape punishment?

According to the king, the real culprit was the rich merchant. The king believed that the merchant had inherited his father's sins and crimes. Therefore, he decides to punish the merchant.

The merchant escaped punishment because he was too thin to fit to the new stake made for him.

5. What are the guru's words of wisdom? When does the disciple remember them?

The guru's words of wisdom were that it was the city of fools and nothing can be predicted about the behaviour of foolish people.

The disciple remembers this when he was going to be executed.

B. How does the guru manage to save his disciple's life?

The guru with his smartness tries to confuse the king by telling him that whoever is executed first will become the king in the next birth. The foolish king believes him and later on offers himself to be executed first so that he may remain king in the next birth. For this, he also rescues the guru and the disciple. In this way, the guru was successful in saving his disciple's life.