

Q4. Who is the real culprit according to the king? Why does he escape punishment?

Ans) According to the king, the real culprit was the merchant. Actually, the merchant's father was the real murderer but he was dead and someone had to be punished in his place.

He escaped the punishment because he was too thin ^{and his body was not suitable} to be properly executed on the stake.

Q5. What are the Guru's words of wisdom? When does the disciple remember them?

Ans) The Guru's words of wisdom were that it was the city of fools and their unpredictable behaviour could create danger anytime. He advised the disciple to leave the city because he would not know what they would do next. The disciple remembered this words when he was going to be executed without doing any mistakes in place of the merchant.

Q6. How does the guru manage to save his disciple's life?

Ans) The Guru arrived on time to save his disciple and tried to confuse the king by creating a drama. He told the king that it was not an ordinary stake and whoever went to the stake first would become the king in next life. The second to die would become

his ministers. Apparently it may sound like a case of pure lie to save your dear one's life. But if we go deeper consciously or unconsciously the sage is trying to save everybody's life in the kingdom. As the king was stupid, so he wanted to avail himself of the opportunity. The Guru and his disciple were released. Thus, the Guru managed to save his disciple's life. Ultimately he was also able to pull everybody out of the misery of living in the kingdom of fools.