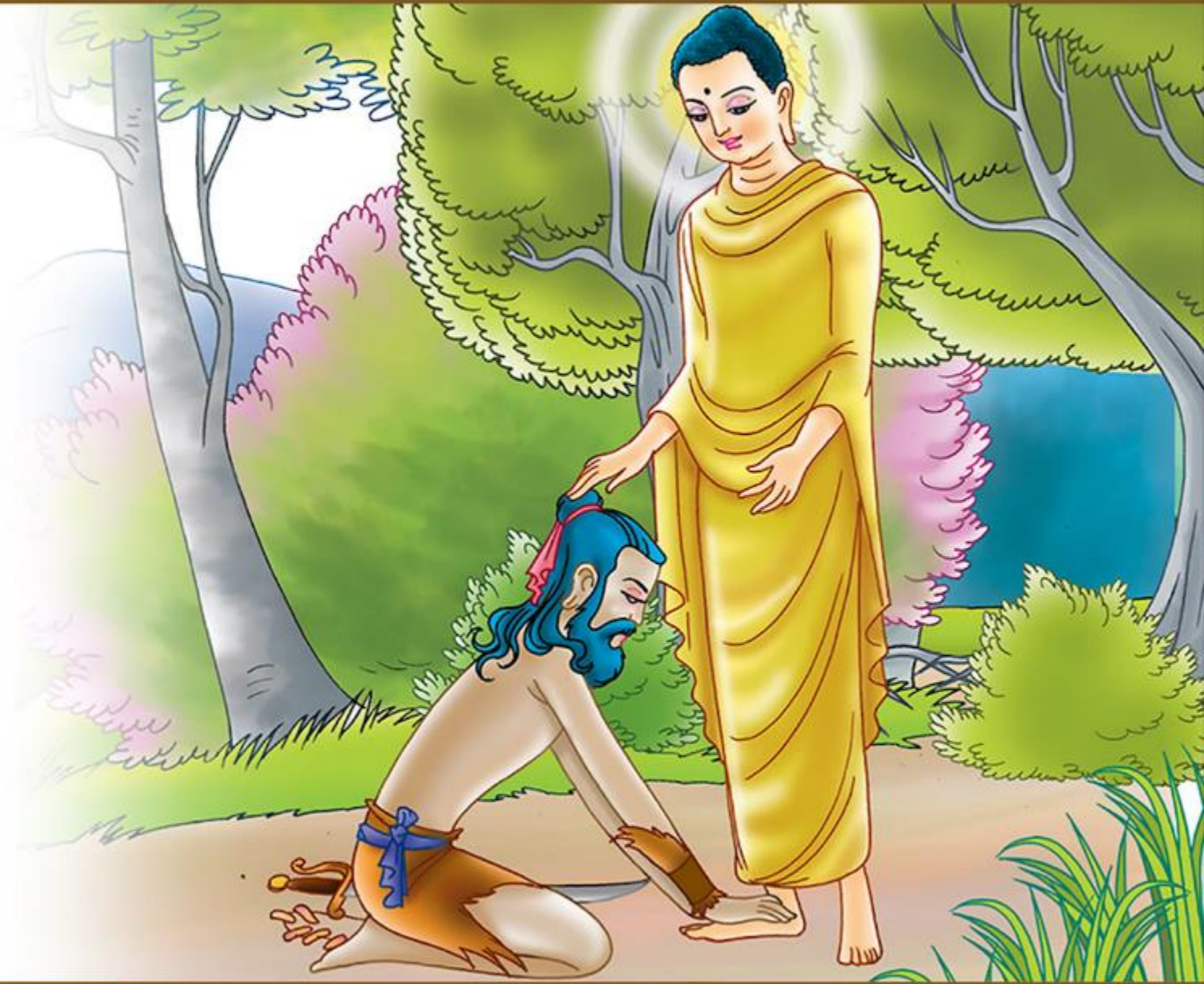


Arahant Angulimala



Shanthi Vihara Dhamma School

Dhamma School Lessons - KS1

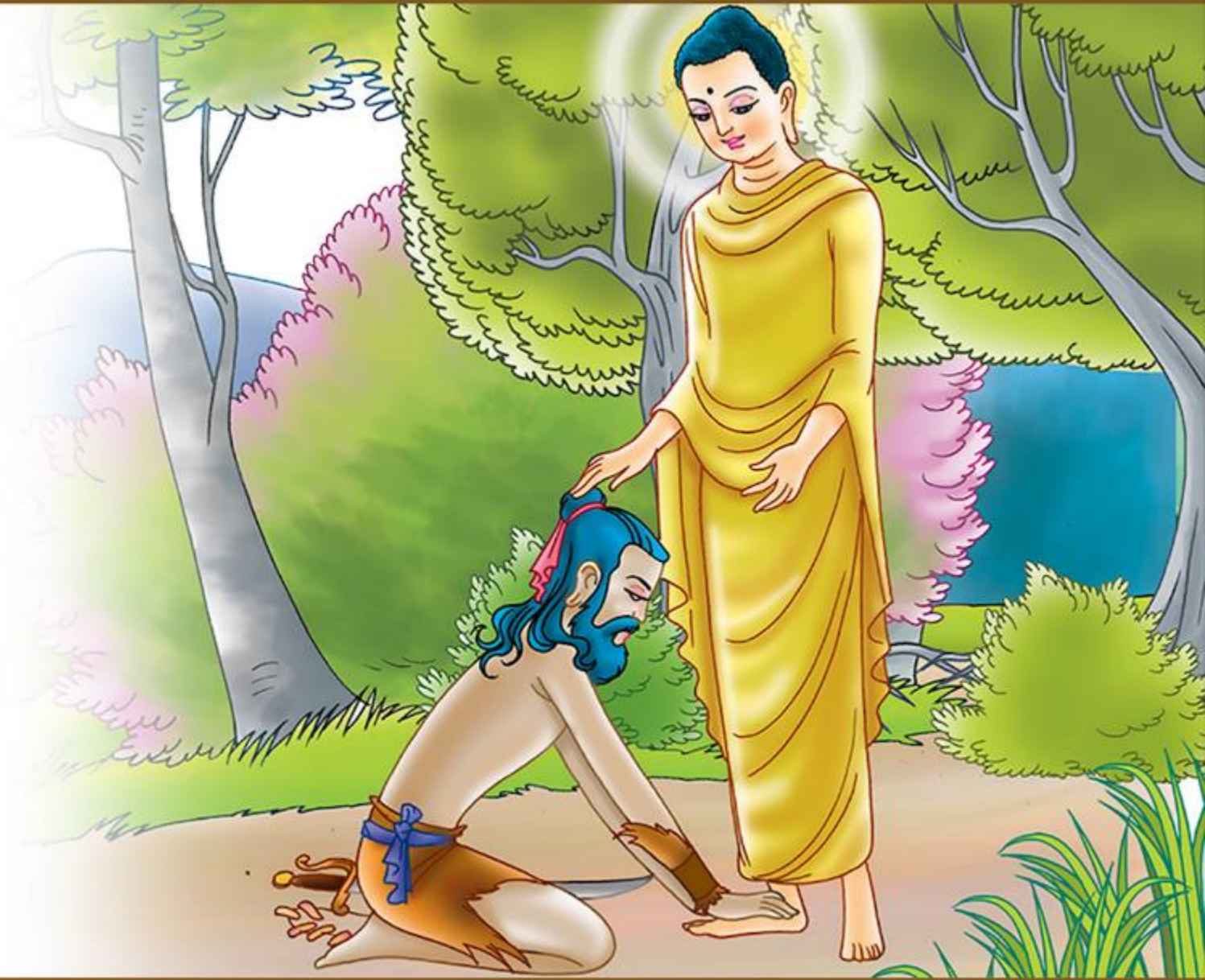


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Arahant

Angulimala



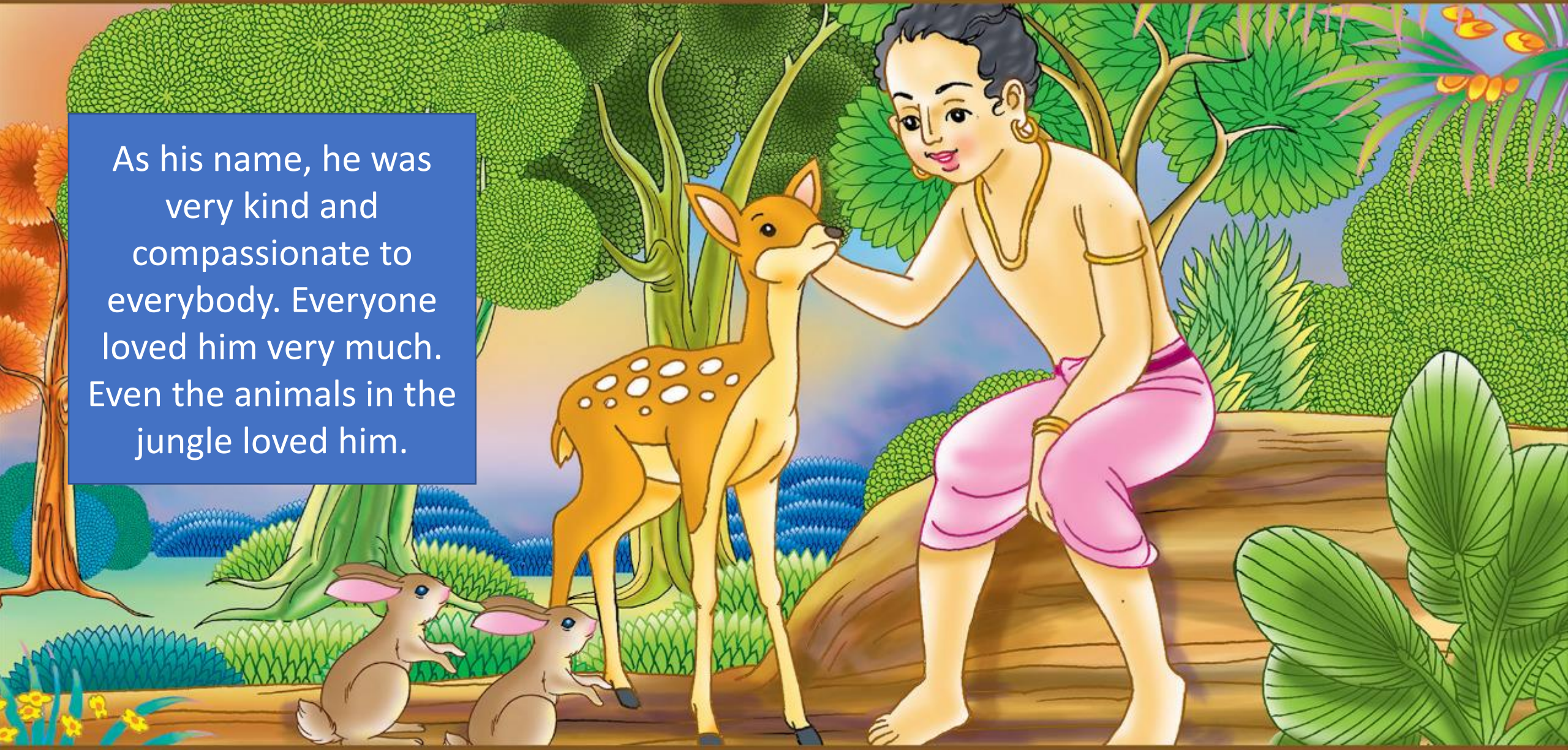
At the Buddha's time, at the court of King Pasenadi of Kosala, there was a learned Brahman called Bhaggava Gagga. One night his wife, Mantani, gave birth to a son. They became very happy.



They both put a beautiful name to the newborn son. The name was “Ahinsaka” which means “harmless” or “Innocent”.



As his name, he was very kind and compassionate to everybody. Everyone loved him very much. Even the animals in the jungle loved him.



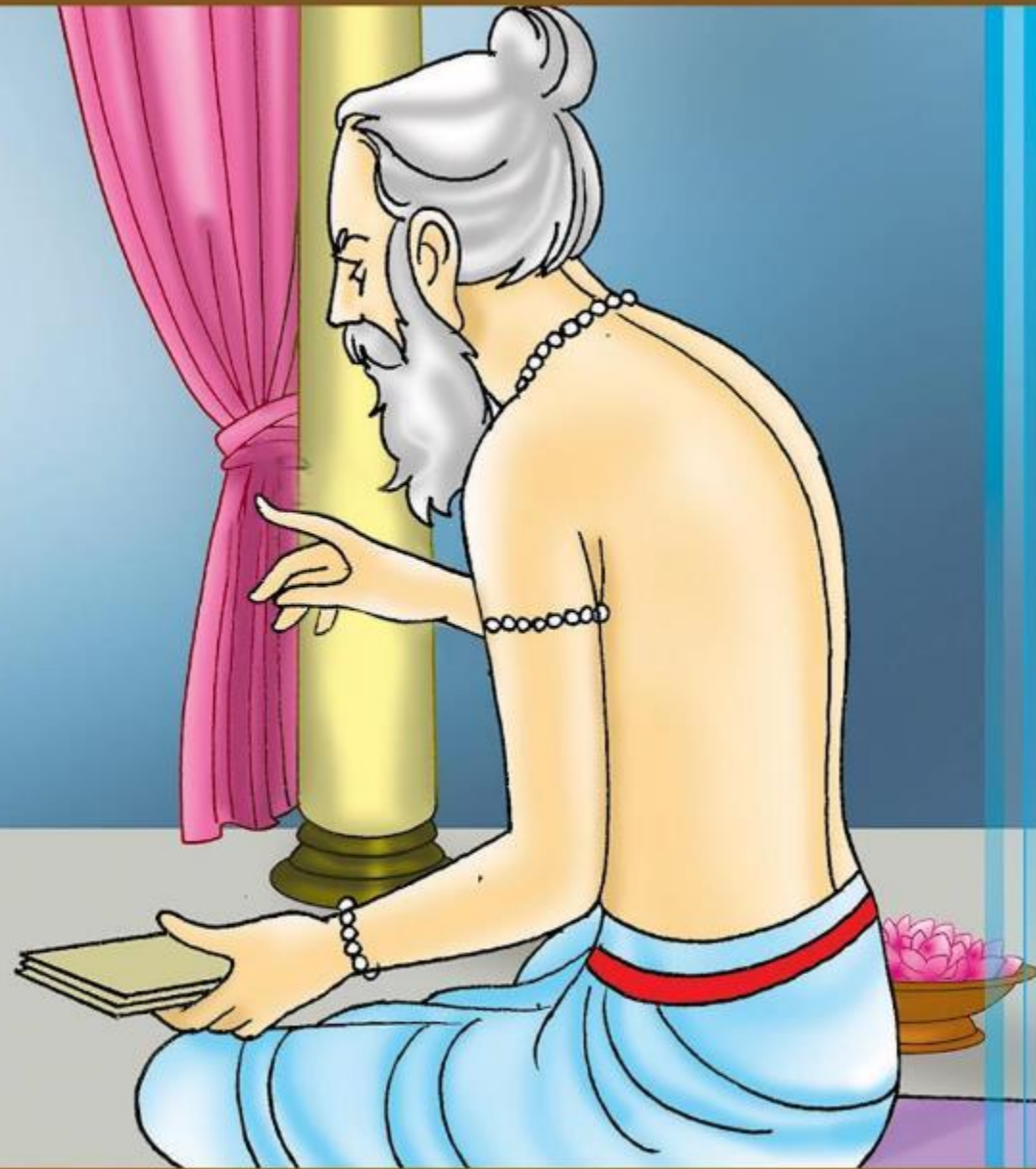
When he grew up, his parents decided to send him to Takshila university to study well.





Ahinsaka completed the studies so well that he became the most talented student in his university. The other students were jealous about his talents.

One day, his teacher misunderstood him and was very angry with him. The teacher asked Ahinsaka to bring a thousand first fingers from the human hand as school fee.



He was known as “Angulimala” after that day. He started to cut fingers of anyone he met in the jungle. One day he came across his mother in the jungle.

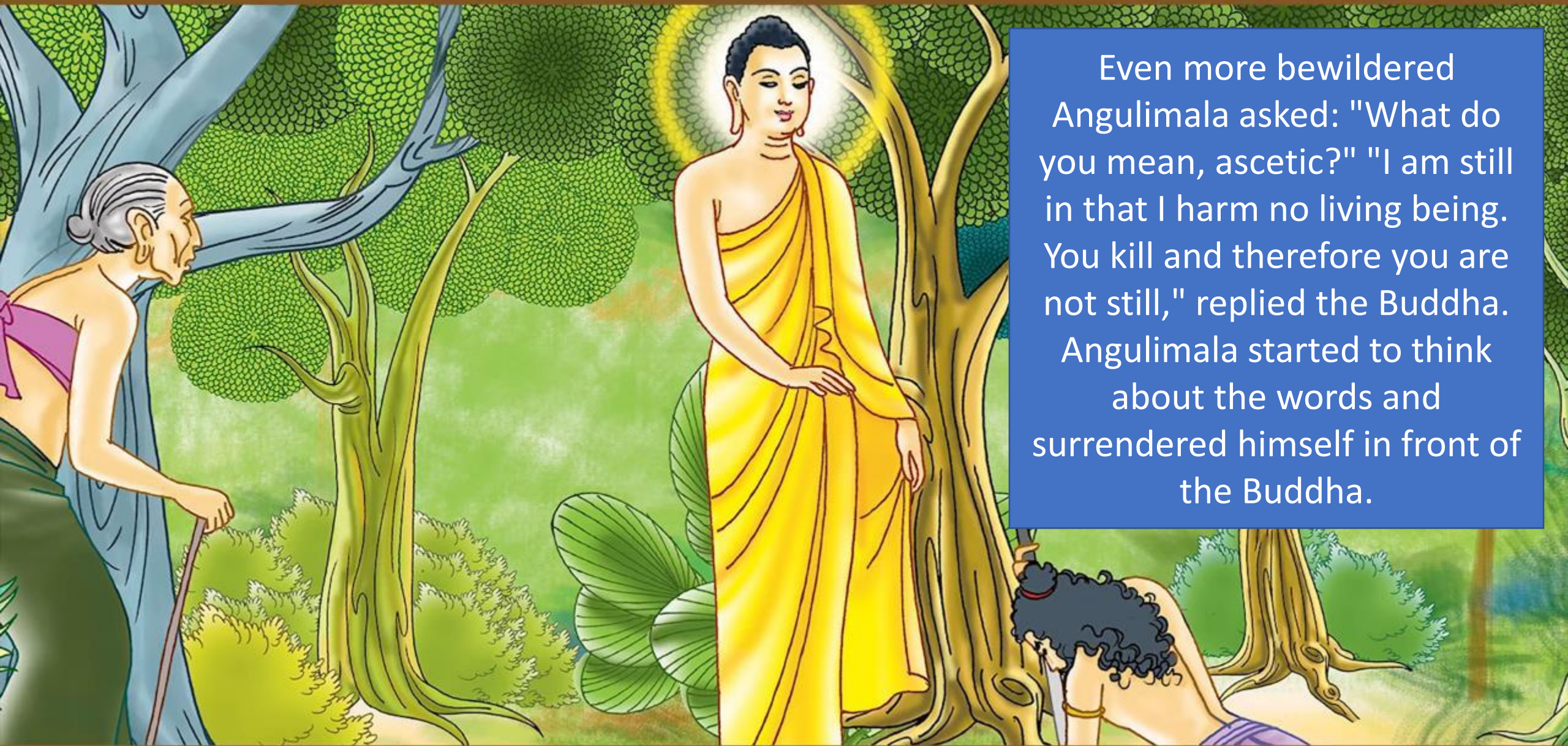


Lord Buddha saw the Angulimala who was about to harm his mother with divine eyes. The Buddha decided to visit Angulimama and stop him. The villagers tried to stop Lord Buddha and warned about Angulimala.



When the Buddha was gently walking in the jungle, Angulimala saw the Buddha and said "Stand still, ascetic!" The Buddha turned around and looked at him, and replied: "I am still. Why don't you be still also?"

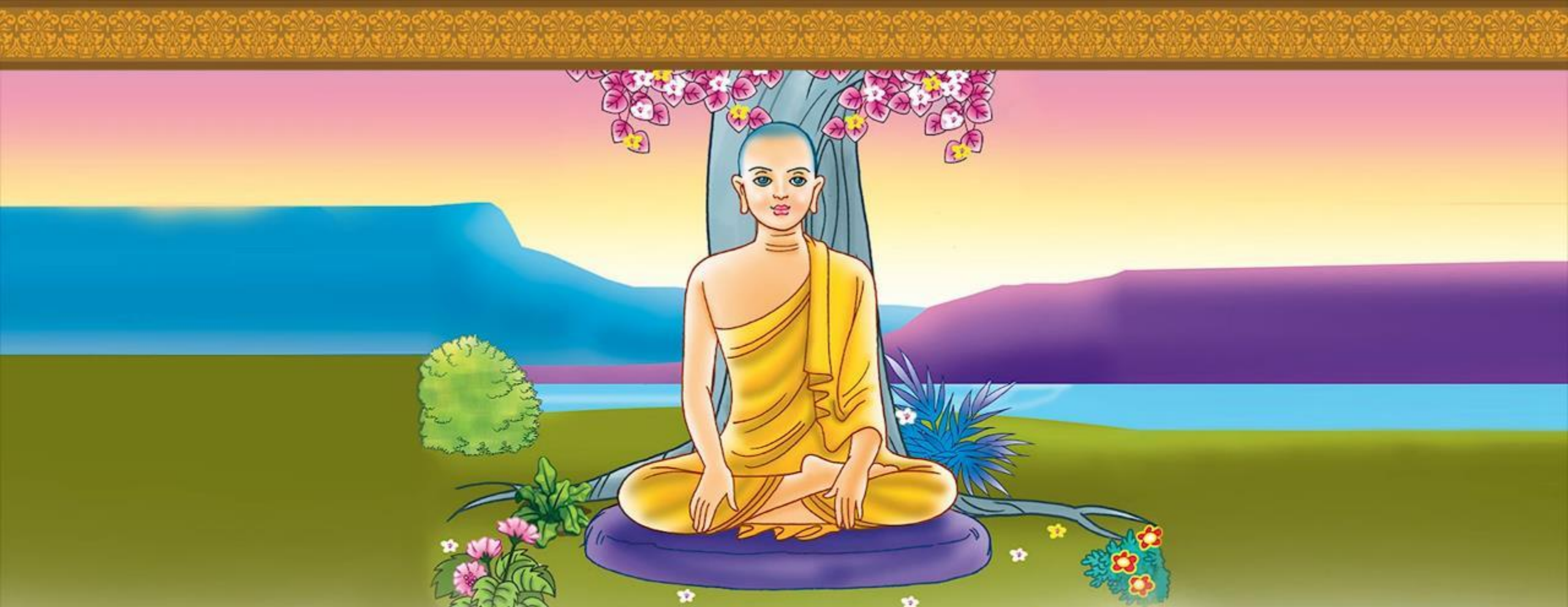




Even more bewildered Angulimala asked: "What do you mean, ascetic?" "I am still in that I harm no living being. You kill and therefore you are not still," replied the Buddha. Angulimala started to think about the words and surrendered himself in front of the Buddha.

Angulimala went with the Buddha and became a monk. Soon he attained the Arahantship. King Kosala and the army were very happy. They were devoted and worshiped Arahant Angulimala. Nobody is afraid of him anymore.





Lesson by the Buddha.

“He, who has been formerly doing bad deeds but becomes a good man later on, lights up the world as does the moon freed from clouds.”

Exercise:

- 1. Who was the mother of Ahinsaka?**
- 2. What does "Ahinsaka" mean?**
- 3. Why did Ahinsaka's friends envy him?**
- 4. How many fingers did Ahinsaka collect before seeing the Buddha?**
- 5. What was Ahinsaka's name after he started to kill people?**