

Holi

The Legend of Prahlad and Holika



A long time ago, there was a demon king. He thought that he was more powerful than any god. He had taken over the whole world and he wanted everyone to worship him. They were not allowed to worship any other god.

The demon king had a son called Prahlad. Prahlad worshipped a god called Vishnu. Prahlad said that he would never worship his father.

One day, the demon king asked Prahlad a question.

"Am I the greatest or is God the greatest?"

"God is the greatest," said Prahlad. "You are only a king."



Prahlad's answer made the demon king very cross and he wanted to kill his son. The demon king made lots of different plans to hurt Prahlad. He threw him over a cliff, made an elephant stand on him and made snakes bite him. But every time that Prahlad was in danger, the good Vishnu stopped him from getting hurt.

The demon king was getting tired of waiting so he asked his sister Holika to kill Prahlad. Holika had a magic cloak. She could not get hurt by fire if she was wearing it. Knowing this, the demon king asked Holika to sit on a bonfire and hold Prahlad in her lap. Prahlad would be killed but Holika would not be hurt because she was wearing her magic cloak.



The gods were not happy when they heard about Holika's plan. As the fire was lit, Vishnu made something magical happen. The cloak flew from Holika's back and wrapped itself around Prahlad. The fire burned Holika but Prahlad was safe. The gods also decided to punish the demon king for his evil plan. They took him away and he was never seen again.



Prahlad was happy because his wicked father and aunt were gone forever. He became the king of his land and was always fair to his people. This story shows that good will always find a way to win and evil will always be beaten.



Questions

1. What was the demon king's son called? Tick one.

- Holika
- Vishnu
- Prahlad

2. What was the name of the demon king's sister? Tick one.

- Prahlad
- Holika
- Vishnu

3. Who did Prahlad think was the greatest? Tick one.

- The demon king
- God
- Holika

4. Who stopped Prahlad from getting hurt? Tick one.

- Vishnu
- Holika
- The demon king

5. What magical item did Holika have?

6. Name two ways that the demon king tried to hurt Prahlad.

1. _____
2. _____

7. How did good win over evil in this story?
