

Read this passage and answer the questions that follows.

The King and The Old Man

King Hazrat Multana from Peshawar is comfortably sitting on his throne when messenger Bholaknath comes in and informs the king about a guest who has come to visit him.

Messenger: My lord, an old gentleman begs to see you. He has come from another country.

King Multana: Ask him what he wants. I am resting.

Messenger: I told him you weren't available at this hour. I also told him that I would convey his message to you. But he wishes to speak to you directly and says the matter is urgent.

{Messenger Bholaknath goes and calls the old man inside the chamber. The old man is wearing a long gown such of a priest}

Old Man: (Bow's down in respect) Sir, I have come from the land of Persia.

King Multana: I am pleased to meet you old man. How may I be of service to you?

Old Man: Sir, the new rulers of our country do not want us to live in Persia any longer. If we do not find a place to stay, my fellow men and I will come on the roads.

King Multana: Why do they not want you to live in Persia?

Old Man: Because they follow a different religion.

King Multana: So, what do you seek of me?

Old Man: Sir, my people and I seek your permission to live in your country.

King Multana: That is difficult dear old man.

{King Hazrat Multana tells Bholaknath to get a bowl full of milk. Bholaknath obeys his command}

Old Man: What is this Sir?

King Multana: Dear old man, our country is happy and prosperous like this bowl of milk. It is full. So we may have problems if others mix with us.

{The old man takes out a small pot of honey from his pocket and mixes the honey in the milk.}

Old Man: O mighty King, we will mix with your people like the honey in the milk. We will also bring sweetness in all your lives.

King Multana: What wise words you have spoken. I grant you and your people permission to live in my country.

Old Man: Long live the King!



This story has been written exclusively for www.grade1to6.com by Ms Diya Verma, a college student and a budding writer from New Delhi.

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Answer the following questions:

1. **Where was King Hazrat Multana from?**

2. **How does the old man give respect to the king?**

3. **Why do the new rulers don't want certain people to live in Persia?**

4. **What theory did the old man give to the king to persuade him to permit them to live in his country?**

5. **Who gets a bowl full of milk?**

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