



LESSON NO. 1

SANDREMBI AND CHAISRA

NOTES:

STORY SUMMARY:

Long time ago, there lived two step sisters called Sandrembi and Chaisra. Chaisra was the lone child of her mother and Sandrembi had a younger brother. After the death of their father, they were brought up by their mothers. Chaisra's mother had ill feelings for Sandrembi and always thought of harming Sandrembi. One day, the two mothers went for fishing. The wicked step mother killed Sandrembi's mother by pouring all the snakes that she had caught into her mouth.

Sandrembi was very worried and upset. Her mother came in her dream and told her that she had been murdered by her step mother. Her mother had turned into a turtle and as told by her mother, Sandrembi brought the turtle home and put the turtle in a pitcher in the hope of getting her mother. The turtle was discovered and Sandrembi had to obey her step mother. She boiled the turtle in a pot. Again, her mother came in her dream and told her to wrap the bones and keep them in a basket for seven days so that she might try to change herself to her human form. Sandrembi opened the basket on the sixth day out of curiosity but a swallow flew out of the basket.

As time passed by, Sandrembi was married to a king and became the queen. The following year, she gave birth to a son. Meanwhile, the stepmother and Chaisra became very angry and hatched a plot to kill Sandrembi. They invited her for a meal. Sandrembi was killed by pouring boiling water and her soul turned into a dove. Chaisra put on Sandrembi's clothes and went to the palace. The dove flew into the garden of the palace. The gardener noticed something unusual as the dove sang in human language. He immediately informed the king and he kept the dove in a small cage. While the king was away for hunting, Chaisra killed the dove. When he came back the king was angry and he ordered her to throw it away. A beautiful mango tree started growing on the spot. The tree bore only one fruit. The gardener plucked it and took it home.

The gardener looked for a knife to cut the mango. He could not find a knife. The following day, with knife in hand, he looked for the mango. He couldn't find the mango. On the eighth day, the mango turned into a beautiful woman. She was none other than Sandrembi. The king ordered Sandrembi and Chaisra for a duel. Sandrembi killed Chaisra on the spot. Thus, the king and the queen lived happily thereafter.

WORD MEANINGS:

Lone:	<i>single</i>
Nurtured:	<i>fostered</i>
Tungon:	<i>a traditional container used to collect fishes caught during fishing</i>
Hatched:	<i>devised a plan</i>
Wicked:	<i>evil</i>
Wrap:	<i>envelop in slash folder or soft encircling material</i>
Crept:	<i>crawled, moved stealthily or slowly</i>
Escort:	<i>accompany another for protection</i>
Instantly:	<i>immediately</i>

