

Story 17: A Story to be told



Story shared by: *Sahar*

Representing: *Palestine*

The Story:

Once upon a time, there was a man who had two wives. One of his two wives was also his cousin. Both of these women could not become pregnant. So, the man went to the village doctor and told him, "My two wives cannot get pregnant."

The doctor replied, "Alright, why are you worried? Take this apple and give it to your wives to eat. Give half to one and the other half to the other." The man agreed, took the apple, and left it on the windowsill. While the apple was on the windowsill, a goat came and took a bite out of it.

When the man returned to get the apple, he found it half-eaten. So, he divided the apple: he gave the good piece to the first wife and the bitten piece to his wife-cousin. After nine months, both women became pregnant and gave birth to children.

The first wife gave birth to two children. His wife-cousin gave birth to one child who was very short and couldn't speak properly. When the children grew up, their father took them hunting. The first woman's children rode horses, but the cousin's son couldn't ride because he was too short, so he walked beside them.

The children on the horses were unable to hunt deer, but the cousin's son, who was short but very observant, managed to hunt 4-5 deer. When they returned home, the first woman said, "How is it that this child, who is only half a meter tall, managed to hunt 5 or 6 deer, while mine, who are tall and strong, couldn't?"



Her husband replied, "I don't know what to tell you, that's just how things are." However, she didn't believe him and said, "I'm sure you hunted the deer and gave them to him." The husband said, "Alright, to be sure, I'll send him to hunt on his own."

So, the son went to hunt the most fearsome of all animals. He remembered that his father had told him that if he managed to hunt this animal, he would become a hero. When he climbed the mountain, he took a lot of sweets with him because he knew that the animal loved sweets.

He went to the animal and said, "I have all these sweets for you. Come and see what I have." He started giving the sweets to the animal, and the animal ate them. "If you jump into the crate, you'll have all these sweets." The animal jumped into the crate, the boy closed the door, and took it with him.

When he returned home, he showed the animal to his mother and his father's first wife. The second wife said, "Look at that, a half-meter-tall man can actually do something after all." From that day on, people said that just because someone is different doesn't mean they are not useful.

Story Moral: *The moral of the story is that being different doesn't mean being incapable or less valuable. Even those who may seem weaker or less fortunate can possess unique strengths and abilities. It teaches us not to underestimate anyone based on their appearance or perceived limitations, as they may be able to achieve great things in their own way.*