



VIDURA COLLEGE – COLOMBO  
GRADE 5  
Buddhism

Second term

**Compassion (කරුණාව)**

Lesson – 8

- Compassion is one of the four Brahma Viharanas – Metta, Muditha, Karuna, Upekka.
  - **Metta** is loving-kindness.
  - **Karuna** is compassion.
  - **Muditha** is sympathetic joy.
  - **Upekka** is equanimity.

**The story of Rajjumala (රජ්ජුමාලා)**

- Once there lived a maid who worked for a wicked house mistress
- She worked like a slave, her mistress was very harsh on her.
- One day she was thinking of herself about her plight. (□□□□□□□ □□□□□)
- The mistress enraged (got angry) beat her severely holding her by the long and beautiful bunch of hair.
- Rajjumala was stricken (□□□□□□ □□□ □□□) and she thought that the mistress was jealous of her long hair so she cut it.
- The mistress was angry and got a rope and tied it around her neck so she came to be known as Rajjumala (රජ්ජුමාලා) Rajju – means rope
- One day Rajjumala was thinking to herself what an unfortunate girl she was and was thinking of committing suicide.
- But at the same time, she was thinking that it was not the correct thing to do.
- With a perplexed (confused) mind she took a pot and left the house to collect some water. She entered the jungle instead and went right in.

- And she met the Buddha and he advised her to refrain (□□□□□□) from committing suicide and delivered the need to shower compassion even on her enemy.
- Rajjumala was very happy, She realized the value of life and attained the first stage of Enlightenment Sothapana(Sovan)
- Seeing her returned her Master asked questions from her and Rajjumala replied with what has happened
- The Brahmin was pleased with the words of Rajjumala and later he invited the Buddha for a Dana the Buddha preached Dhamma
- The couple learnt their mistake and thereafter treated Rajjumala well.

This story teaches us several lessons that should be in our life.

- 1 Forgiving for misdeeds ( චරද ) is an honourable way of life
- 2 To accept your misdeeds and resolve not to repeat them.
- 3 To value the great compassion (මහා කරුණා) of the Buddha.
- 4 To the value of human birth and never to think of committing suicide.
- 5 To treat your aides (□□□□□□□□) at home empathetically.(

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#### Exercise 16 -1

Mark True (T) of Fales (F) for the following statements

1. Compassion is one of the four Brahma Viharanas. ( )
2. Metta is known as compassion. ( )
3. The meaning of the world Upekkha is loving kindness. ( )
4. Rajjumala is a story which shows the importance of being kind to everyone.( )
5. Rajjumala did not try to suicide ( )

#### Exercise 16 - 2

Write the answers.

- 1 Give the means of the four Brahma Viharanas in English
- 2 Relate briefly the story of Rajjumala?
- 3 What was her thought after listening to the Buddha?

4 What are the lessons you have learnt through this lesson?