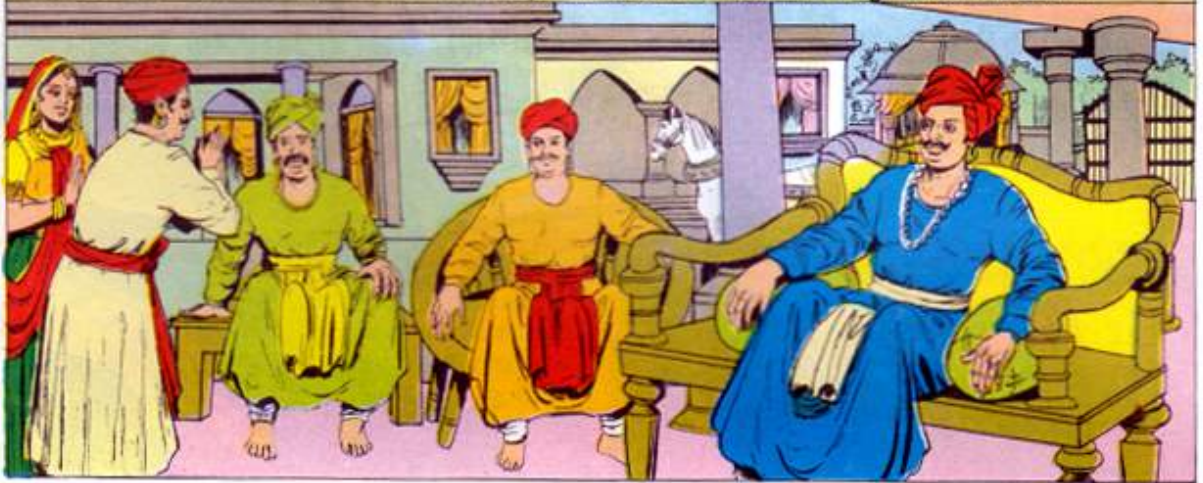


# DADAGURU SHRI JINA KUSHAL SURI

Near Jodhpur is a small town named Gadh Sivana. In ancient times it was called Samiyana. Hundreds of rich Oswal Jain families lived there in fort-like red stone mansions. Each mansion accommodated a large joint family with many servants. Adjacent to these were large yards for cattle, horses and chariots. Each mansion resembled a royal household. The families were rich and united. People from neighbouring areas visited and spent some time exchanging views. All complaints, disputes, and business negotiations were settled at these informal gatherings. The head of a family was called Shah ji. Minister Jesal Shah Chhajed and his wife Jayatshri also lived here in a magnificent mansion.

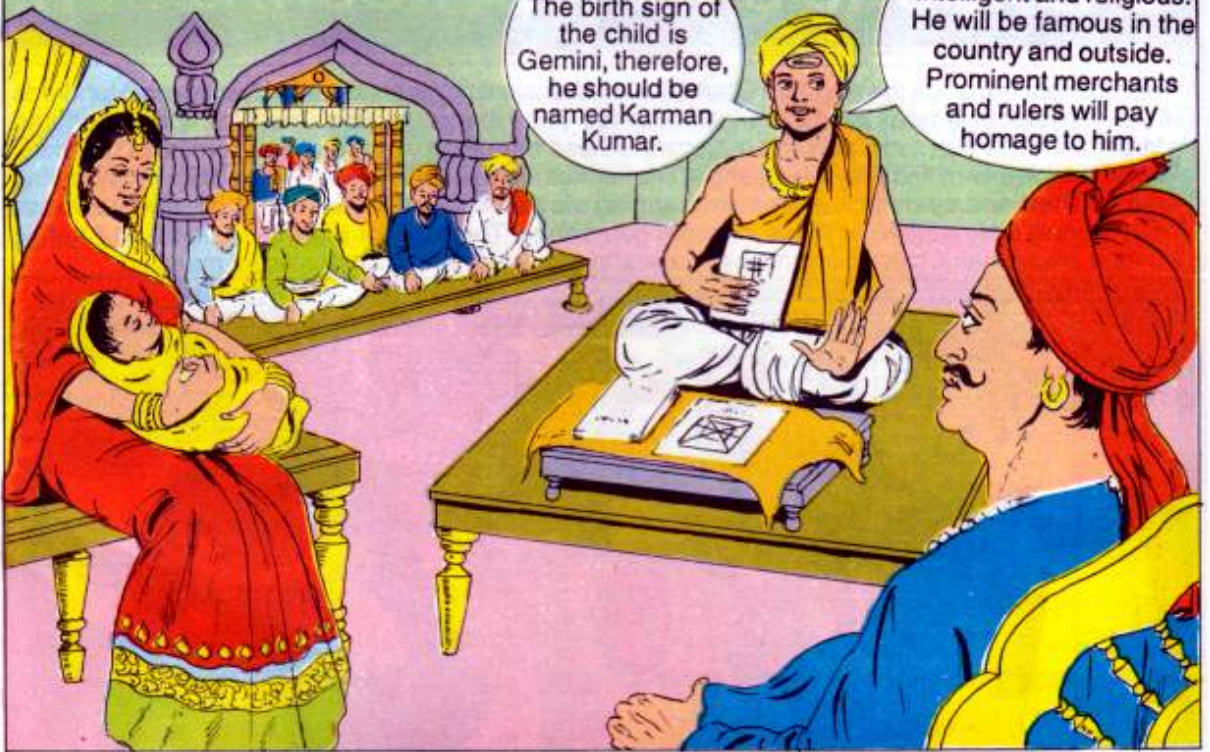


One morning Mantri Jesal ji was sitting in the courtyard on a large sofa. Some merchants and other people were also sitting with him. A maid from the mansion came running.





On the twelfth day the naming ceremony was held. The astrologer said—



Mother Jayatshri washes the baby and adorns him with beautiful dress and ornaments. She then puts a black spot on his cheek.



One day Jesal Shah said to Jayatshri—

The boy started growing like the moon.



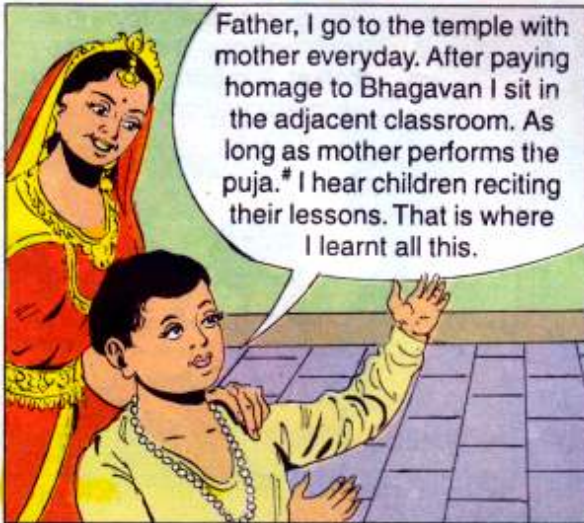


Karman stood up and recited—



Om nama Seedham.  
Seedho varano samamunaya...

Excellent! Son, how  
and where did you  
learn this ?



Father, I go to the temple with  
mother everyday. After paying  
homage to Bhagavan I sit in  
the adjacent classroom. As  
long as mother performs the  
puja. # I hear children reciting  
their lessons. That is where  
I learnt all this.

Jesal Shah affectionately put Karman in his lap.



My son will one  
day become the  
prime minister of  
the Navakoti, #  
Marawar state.



Swami, our astrolo-  
ger says that he  
will become king  
of kings.

One day Karman was sitting in the class room. The teacher asked—



Which is the  
peg of the  
sacred  
thread ?

The students failed to  
answer.

# ritual worship. # having nine forts.