

**NAMO BUDDHAYA!!!**

# Children's Dhamma Program

*Noble Dhamma for Little Hearts*

## Story of Bhikkhu Chakkhupala

Dear Children,

Today we are going to learn the story of Venerable Chakkhupala. During the time of our Supreme Buddha, a middle-aged devotee, named Chakkhupala, became a monk and was energetically leading a thoughtful life. As a result of his determined effort he reached Arahantship, but unfortunately went blind.



One day, venerable Chakkhupala came to pay homage to the Buddha at the Jetavana monastery. At night, while pacing up and down in meditation, venerable Chakkhupala accidentally stepped on some insects and unintentionally killed them. In the morning, some visiting monks noticed the dead insects. They complained to the Buddha that venerable Chakkhupala had committed the offense of killing. The Buddha asked them whether they had seen venerable Chakkhupala killing the insects.

When they answered no, the Buddha said, "Just as you had not seen him kill, he had not seen those living insects. Besides, as he had already reached Arahantship he did not have any intention of killing and so was entirely innocent."

The monks then wished to know the cause of his blindness. So, the Buddha told the following story:

Venerable "Chakkhupala was a doctor in one of his past lives. Once, he had deliberately made a woman patient blind. That woman had promised him to become his servant,

together with her children, if her eyes were completely cured. Fearing that she and her children would have to become servants, she lied to the doctor.

She told him that her eyes were getting worse when, in fact, they were perfectly cured. The doctor knew she was deceiving him, so in revenge, he gave her another ointment, which made her blind.

As a result of this evil deed, the doctor lost his eyesight many times in his future lives. As a result of his past bad action, he went blind even when he reached Arahantship."

The Lord Buddha taught this stanza that related to this story:

**Manopubbangama dhamma - manosettha manomaya  
Manasa ce padutthena - bhasati va karoti va  
Tato nam dukkhamanveti - cakkamva vahato padam**

The mind leads all actions in this life. The mind is their chief. Mind makes them. If one speaks or acts with an impure mind, suffering follows one, like a wagon wheel that follows the foot of the ox.

Dear children, The Buddhas and Arahants do not accumulate new Karma. But, like every other being, they are not free from the eventual results of both good and bad past actions.

Please remember this story. The mind leads all situations resulting from thought and actions are made from within the mind. Taking this into consideration, think with a pure mind, don't think or do any evil deeds, and do only good. This will give us a happy life and a heavenly rebirth!

**Lone Star Buddhist Meditation Center**