FOLKTALES

ANDHER NAGARI

RETOLD BY SHWETHA E GEORGE
ILLUSTRATED BY MINESH KUMAR
Once upon a time in a state in Northern India, there was a wandering Guruji and his two disciples, Govardhandas and Narayandas.

Narayandas had blind faith in his Guruji and obeyed all his commands while Govardhandas was always doubtful. He was also fond of food and he was fat. One day, the trio reached a town they had never heard of before.

“Let me rest, my children,” said the Guruji to his disciples. “You take your begging bowls, go round the village and return by noon with food.”
Govardhandas was soon disappointed at what he saw in the town. “Everyone is giving me coins instead of food! Let me see what I can buy,” he thought.
“How can you sell your goods for such a low price?” he cried.
“In this town, everything is sold for a taka ser, that’s really cheap,” replied the butcher.
“What is the name of this strange town? And who is your ruler?” asked a bewildered Govardhandas.
“Our town is called Andher Nagari and our King’s name is Chaupat Raja,” they said proudly.