The Camel and the Fox



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At the edge of a forest, there was a large village. Flowing through the middle of that village was a big river. During both the summer and the rainy season, the river would be full of water. On the slope of a nearby hill, a camel was peacefully grazing on leaves and drinking water.

At that time, a clever and cunning fox came there.

“Oh! Greetings, dear Camel! What a rare sight! I hardly ever get to see you,” said the fox sweetly as it came closer.

The camel replied calmly,

“Greetings. I live here and pass my time peacefully. I am seeing you here for the first time.”

“Don’t you get tired of eating the same dry grass and coarse leaves every day?” asked the fox.

“Yes,” said the camel.

“Earlier, fruits dropped by bats from mango trees were available. Now even those are gone. Even grass is becoming scarce.”

The fox smiled slyly and said,

“Why worry about all that? If you wish, you can eat sweet sugarcane to your heart’s content.”

“Where is sugarcane now?” asked the camel in surprise.

Pointing toward a vast sugarcane field on the other side of the river, the fox said,

“But can you go there?” asked the camel.
“There is a lot of water in the river. The current is strong, and I don’t know how to swim,” said the fox.
“And if we go to the sugarcane field, the guards will beat us badly. This is risky. I won’t come,” the camel said hesitantly.
But the fox did not give up.
“When it becomes dark and quiet, we’ll go from this side without making any noise,” said the fox, convincing the camel.
At last, the camel agreed unwillingly.
The camel entered the river, and the fox sat on its hump. Swimming with great effort, the camel crossed the river.
As soon as they reached the other side, the fox jumped down and ran into the sugarcane field, eating sugarcane happily until it was fully satisfied.
When the camel slowly came forward to eat a piece of sugarcane, the fox suddenly said,
“It’s a time for me to shout now!”
“Oh my friend!” pleaded the camel,
“Your stomach is already full after eating two stalks of sugarcane. I haven’t even eaten a single piece yet. If you shout now, people will gather and beat us. Please wait a little.”
But the fox did not listen.
“This is sunset time—I must shout!” it said and screamed,
“Ukk! Ukk! Ukk! Ukk-oo-waa!”
Hearing the noise, the guards rushed in with sticks. The fox quickly ran away, but the camel was caught and beaten badly.
Barely able to breathe, the camel ran back to the riverbank. There, the fox was waiting, showing its teeth.

Your paragraph text

The camel entered the river again, and the fox climbed onto its back. When they reached the middle of the river, the camel said,
“It’s the time to sink in the water now!”
The fox was terrified.
“What are you saying, my friend? If you sink, I will drown and die too! Please take me to the shore first, I beg you!”
But the camel replied calmly,
“That won’t happen. It is said that during the daytime, one must bathe by sinking three-quarters of the body for three moments,”
and saying so, the camel sank into the water.
The fox struggled up and down in the water, swallowed water, and drowned and died.

Moral of the Story
Intelligence should not be used selfishly. It should be used for one’s own good and for the welfare of others.
We should not use our intelligence to harm others.
Intelligence should be used wisely and not selfishly.
Cleverness without kindness leads to destruction.

Source: Panchatantra