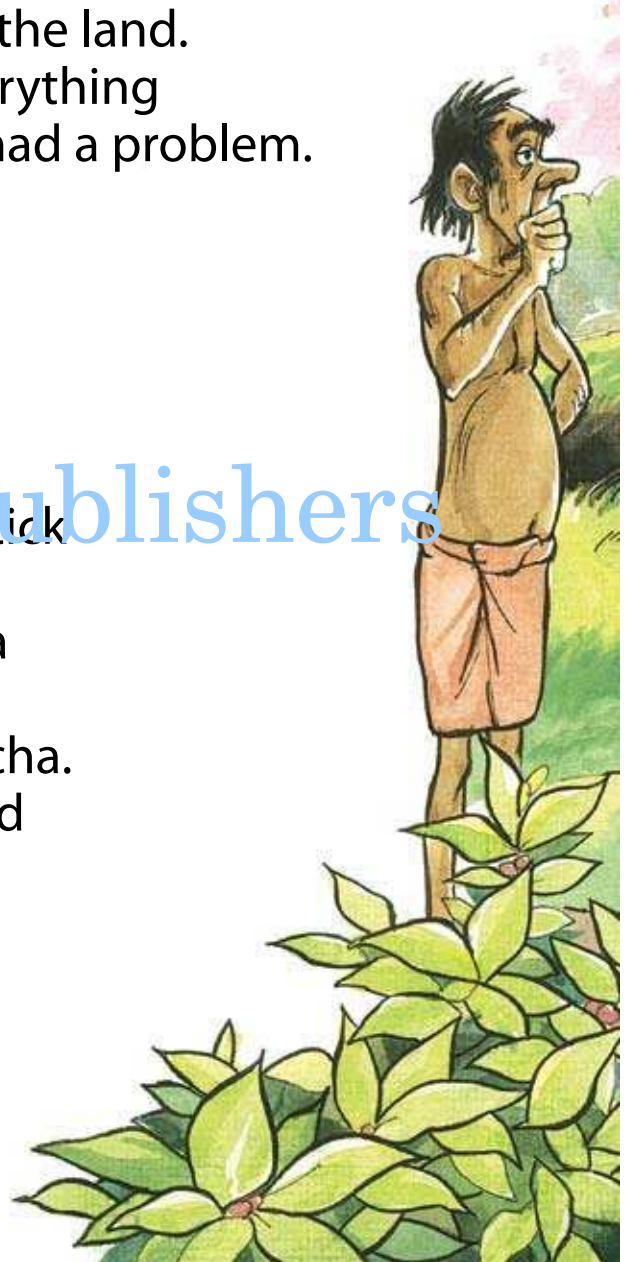
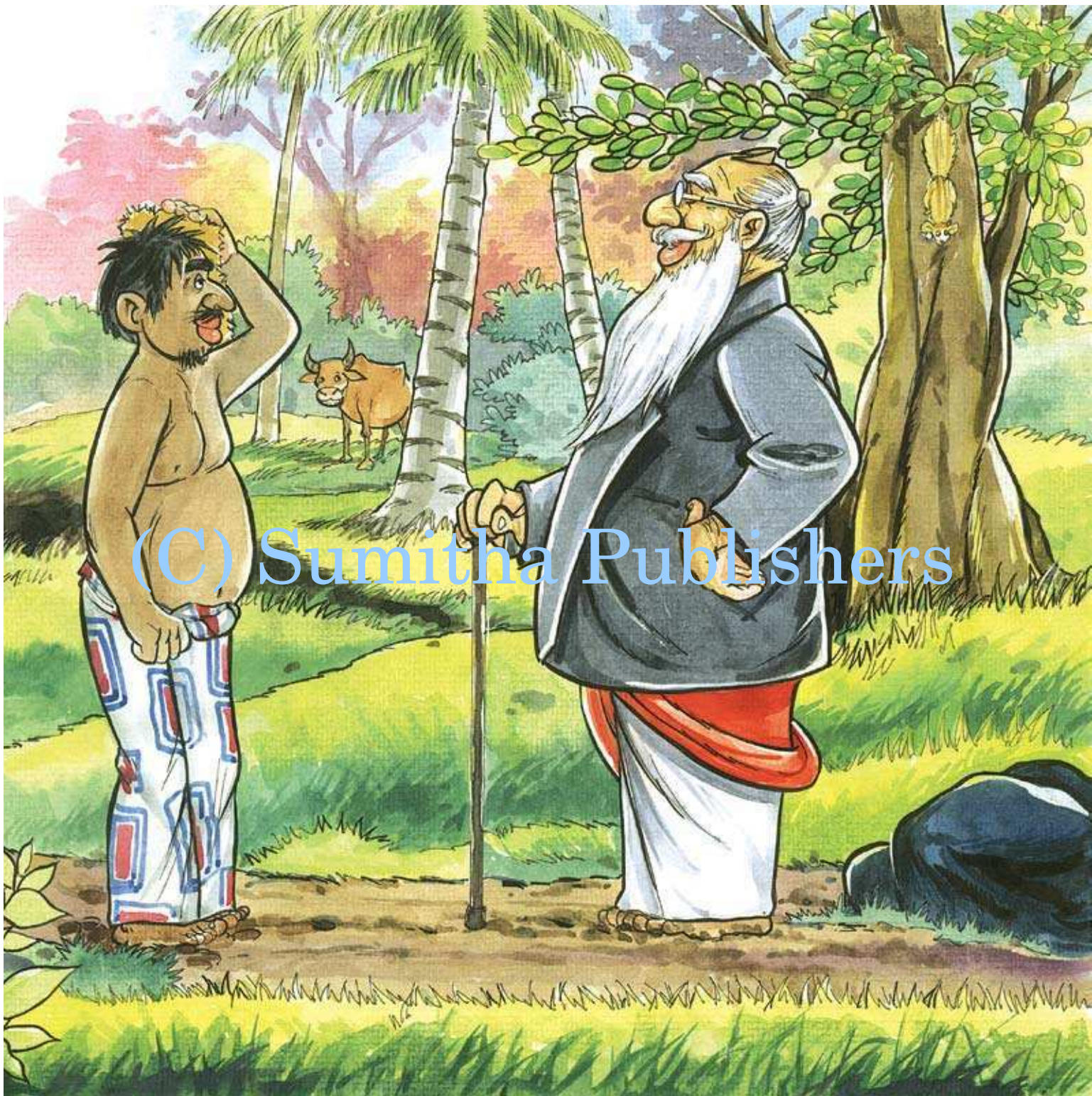


Maha Dænamutta,
the One Who Knew Everything,
was the greatest wise old man of the land.
People thought that he knew everything
and went to him whenever they had a problem.

He had five funny pupils.
They had five funny names.
One of them had a face like
a split-half of a coconut
and he was called Pol Bæ Muna.
Another had a body as thin as a stick
and he was called Kotu Kitayya.
Another had a body as skinny as a
sewing-needle
and he was called Indi Katu Pæncha.
Another had a belly as round and red
as a ripe areca-nut
and he was called Rabbada Ayya.
The fifth also had a belly
as long as an areca-nut
and he was called Puvak Badilla.

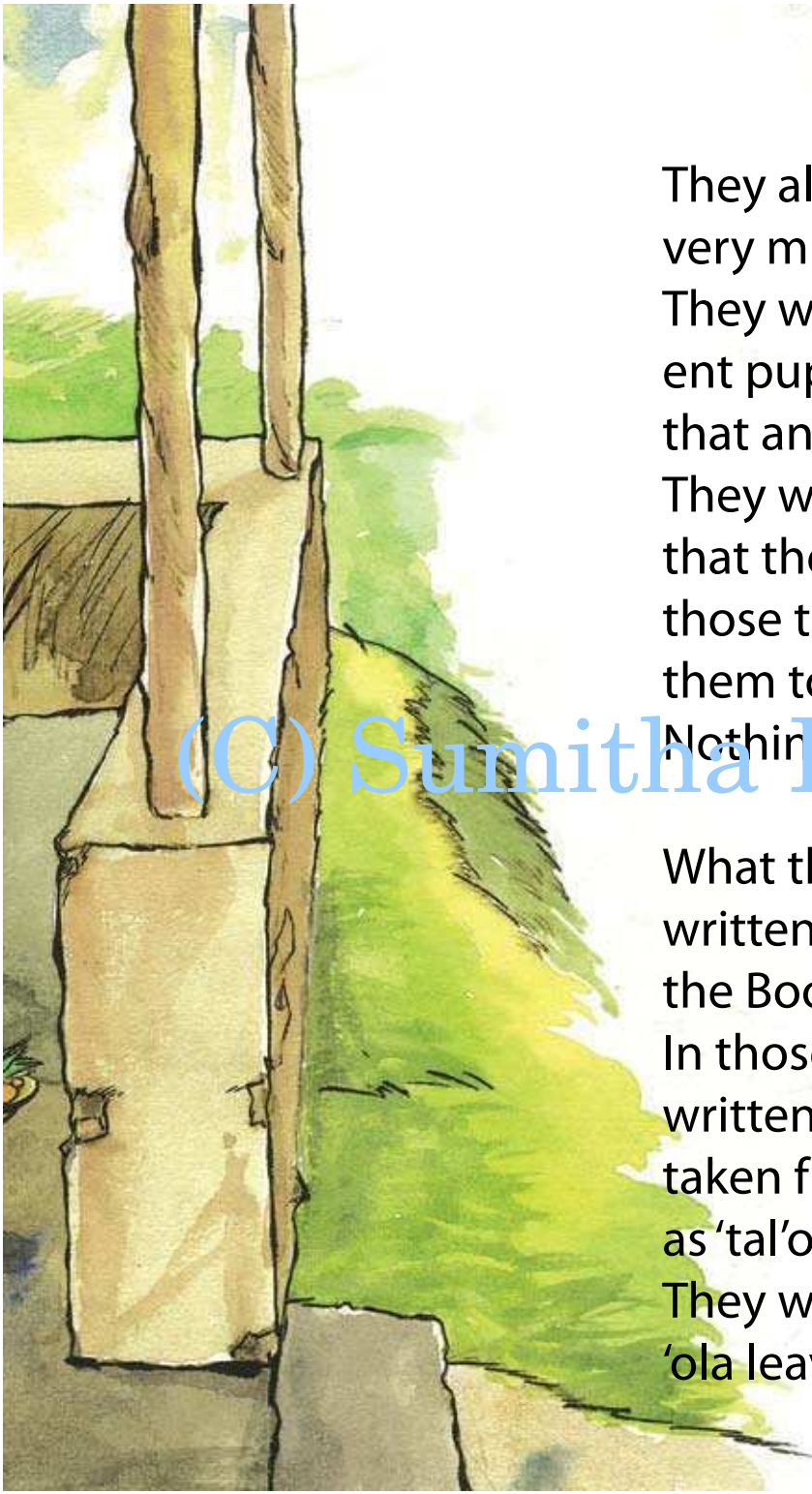




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They all loved their teacher
very much.

They were the most loyal and obedi-
ent pupils

that any teacher could find.

They were so obedient

that they did only

those things that the teacher asked
them to do.

Nothing more! Nothing less!

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What they had to do was
written in a book-

the Book of Instructions.

In those days, books were

written in dried leaves

taken from palm trees known
as 'tal' or talipot palms.

They were also called

'ola leaves'