

Let's Read About Our Past - 7
King Dhātusēna

by
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After the death of King Mahāsēna,
King Siri Mēgha Vanna,
King Buddhadāsa, King Upatissa and
King Mahānāma ruled ancient Sri Lanka.

During King Mahānāma's rule,
six Pāndyan leaders from South India overthrew
the Sinhalese king and invaded Rajarata.

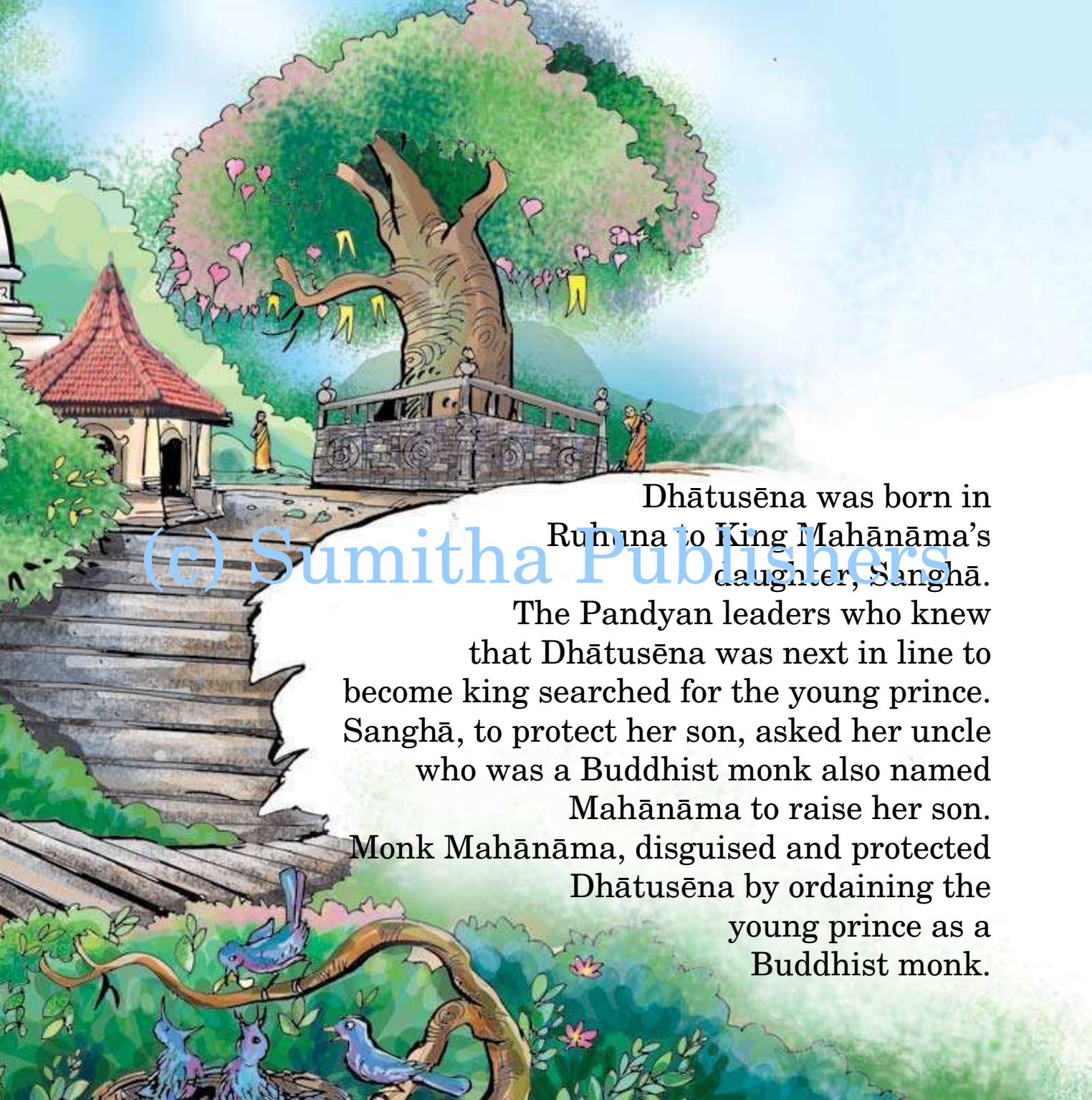
As a result,
the Sinhalese leaders fled to Ruhuna
and they ruled from Ruhuna for
over twenty years.

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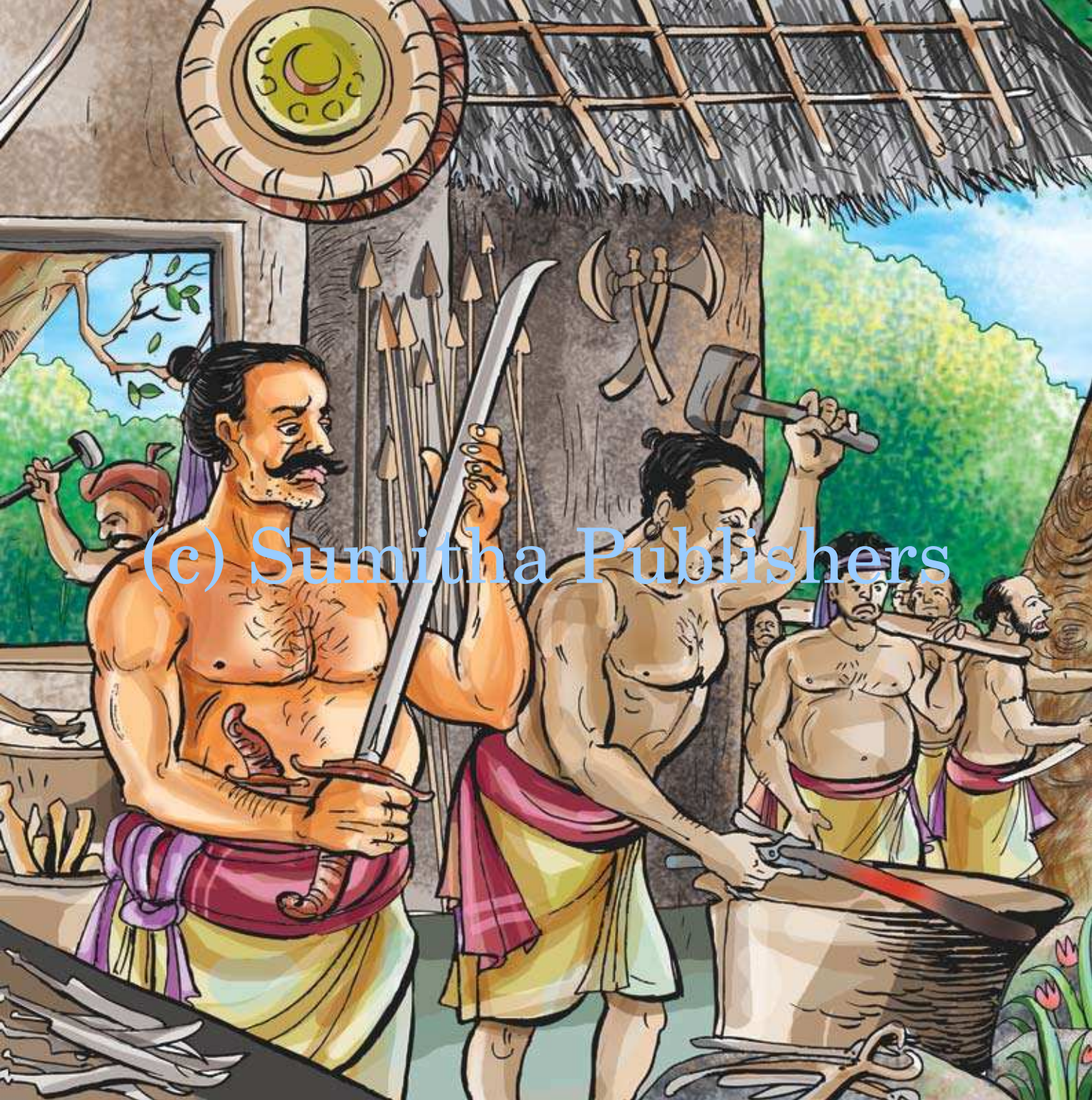
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Dhātusēna was born in
Ruhuna to King Mahānāma's
daughter, Sanghā.

The Pandyan leaders who knew
that Dhātusēna was next in line to
become king searched for the young prince.
Sanghā, to protect her son, asked her uncle
who was a Buddhist monk also named
Mahānāma to raise her son.
Monk Mahānāma, disguised and protected
Dhātusēna by ordaining the
young prince as a
Buddhist monk.



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As the prince became a young adult, he was eager to win back his kingdom. Therefore, he gave up his robes and started to build an army.

Then, after much planning, he marched with his army to Anurādhapura, fought with the Pāndyan army and defeated the last Pāndyan king named Tiritara.

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