

## Everything is just right

Hi everyone, this is Nancy. Today is Sep. 25th, 2021. How are you doing? In Buddhism, we often say that live each day according to conditions. All the people we meet are here to help us in different ways, and all the things we experience are to grow us from different aspects. Today, I would like to share a story in Buddhism with you. If you are going through obstacles in life, either small or big, hope this story may shine some light on you.

Once, there was a king who liked hunting. One day, when he just arrived at the forest, he shot a leopard with an arrow. The leopard fell to the ground. The king dismounted to examine the leopard. However, right at that time, the leopard used its last strength, pounced on the king, and bit off the king's little finger.

After the king returned to the palace, he called in the prime minister to have a drink with him to relieve his sorrows. The prime minister, however, smiled and said, "My lord, don't be sad. Everything is just the right arrangement."

The king was very angry when he heard that, and he said, "If I put you into jail, will this be the best arrangement?"

The prime minister smiled and said, "If so, I also believe that this is the best arrangement."

The king was furious and sent someone to take the prime minister into the prison.

A month later, the king recovered and went outside of the palace himself. He came to a remote mountain forest. In no time, a group of indigenous people rushed down from the mountain. They tied the king up and brought him back to the tribe.

The reason they did that was that every month when the moon was full, the primitive tribe on the mountain would look for people whom they would sacrifice to the full moon goddess. They did that by burning the people, which meant that they were going to burn the king.

Just as the king was desperate, the priest was suddenly shocked. He found that the king's little finger was missing. He was not a perfect sacrifice. The tribe considered that an imperfect victim would make the goddess angry, so they set the king free.

The king was overjoyed. After he returned to the palace, he released the prime minister and put on a banquet. The king toasted the prime minister and said, "What you said is not bad. Everything is truly the best arrangement. If I were not bitten by the leopard, I would not be able to sit here with you." Then the king thought of something and asked the prime minister, "You spent more than a month in jail for no reason. What do you say about that?"

The prime minister took a sip of wine slowly and said, "My lord, if I were not in prison, then I would be accompanying you on your private tour. Then I would be burned by the tribe to worship the full moon goddess because, my lord, you were not suitable."

The king couldn't help laughing, and said, "Sure enough, everything is the best arrangement!"

Amitabha! This is today's Dharma share! When you are in a disturbing situation, it's good to be able to quiet down the mind. Everything is illusion. Our mind is our world. Concentrate on what you should be doing. Don't be disturbed by the outside chaos. Thank you everyone for being here. Have a joyful and blessed day.