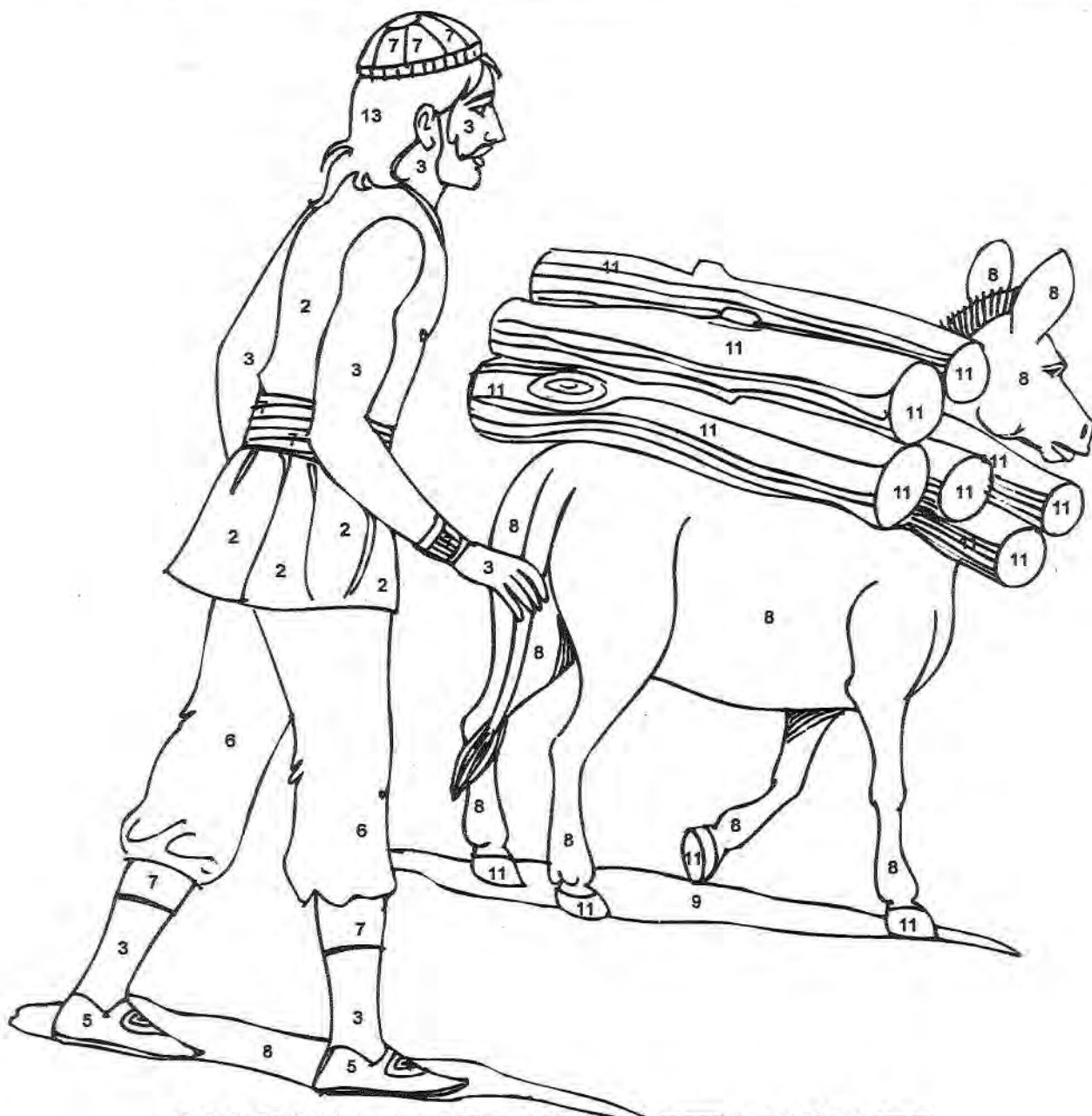


Mydhili Children's Series

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves

Story & Colouring book





ALI BABA AND THE FORTY THIEVES

There once lived in a town in Persia two brothers, one named Cassim, and the other Ali Baba.

After the death of their father, both of them divided the property among themselves and started leading independent lives.

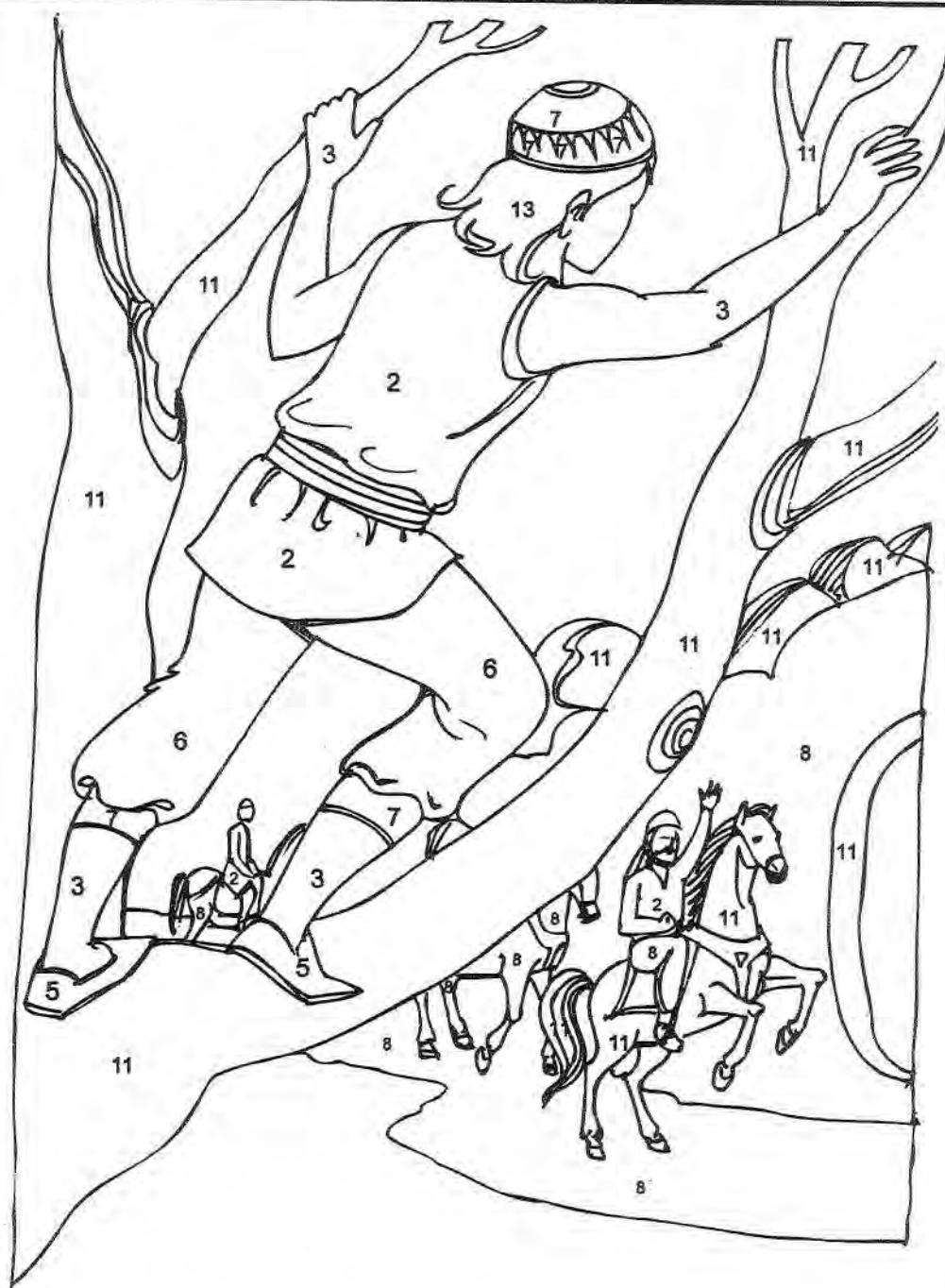
While Cassim was a selfish and a jealous man, Ali Baba was a kindhearted man who always helped others and believed in living happily with whatever money he had. Ali Baba was also very fond of his elder brother.

Cassim had married a rich wife, which made him richer, popular and arrogant. Even his wife was an arrogant and a jealous woman just like her husband. Ali Baba was also married but to a girl from a poor family. His wife was innocent and kind hearted too.

Though Ali Baba was poor, the couple was very happy with what they had. Ali Baba made his living by cutting wood from the nearby forest. Daily he used to go to the forest, gather the wood, which he brought upon three donkeys, into the town to sell.

1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



One day, when he was in the forest cutting wood, he saw a troop of horsemen with weapons on them, coming toward him. Fearing they might be robbers, he hid his donkeys behind a bush and he too climbed a tree to hide.

When the horsemen came up and stopped near the tree, Ali Baba counted them and found they were forty in number. The horsemen dismounted their horses in front of a huge rock that was there nearby.

A lean and tall man from the group went forward to the rock and said the words, "Open, Sesame." And Lo! Instantly, a door opened in the rock. While Ali Baba was dumbstruck with what he was seeing, all the men passed through, and the door closed after them.

Ali Baba stayed on the tree and after awhile the door opened again. Again all the robbers came out one after the other and the captain closed the door by saying, "Shut, Sesame," and they all rode away.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black



ALI BABA ENTERS THE ROBBERS' CAVE

When they were out of sight Ali Baba came down. Out of curiosity to check what was there in the cave, he went up to the rock and said, "Open, Sesame."

The door at once opened and Ali Baba found himself in a large cave, which was full of all kinds of treasure—rich silks, carpets, gold, silver ware, and great bags of money. Ali Baba was astounded to see such a great, valuable treasure in the cave and stood shocked for several moments, not knowing what to do.

Realizing that it was not safe to stay longer in that cave, Ali Baba loaded his three donkeys with as many of the bags of gold as they could carry and closed the door by saying, "Shut, Sesame." Then he made his way home.

When he reached home and told his wife of their good luck, she could not believe him. She cross-questioned him and made him take an oath that he had not robbed any treasure. "Don't you know what kind of a person I am? Of course! I have not committed robbery," replied Ali Baba.

He then explained her the whole story. Overjoyed by what she heard, his wife wished to count the gold to see

- 1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



how rich they were. "No, that will take too long. We must dig a hole and bury it at once." Said Ali Baba. "You are right. But at least we should have an idea about how much wealth we have. So, I shall measure it while you dig the hole." His wife replied.

"But we do not have a measure of our own" replied Ali Baba. "I will borrow from your brother's wife", she said as she ran to Cassim's wife to borrow a measure.

"Sister! Can I please borrow your measure? I want to measure the grains, my husband brought from the market." She asked Cassim's wife politely.

Now Cassim's wife was very inquisitive, and wished to find out what they actually were going to use the measure for, so she stuck a piece of wax to the bottom of the measure.

She then gave it to Ali Baba's wife and said, "Sister! Please take this measure. I could not locate it immediately as it was left in the store since long. But don't forget to return it after your work is over."

"Ok sister!" replied Ali Baba's wife and rushed towards their house excitedly.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black



When Ali Baba's wife finished measuring the Gold, Ali Baba asked her to return the measure and also warned her not to disclose even a word about the treasure. His wife nodded in agreement and carried it back, but did not notice that a piece of gold had stuck to the wax.

When Cassim's wife saw the gold she was awestruck and told her husband about it. She said, "Look how rich your brother had become. He has so much wealth that he is using a measure to check it."

But Cassim refused to believe her words because he very well knew that Ali Baba was poor. "My brother and wealthy? I cannot believe it." He said. When Cassim refused to believe her words, his wife swiftly ran in to the house and brought the measure with a gold coin stuck to it.

"Now at least do you believe my words? Ali Baba's wife borrowed this measure and returned it just now. It has a gold coin stuck to it."

This time, Cassim was really shocked. He just could not understand where and how Ali Baba had acquired Gold from. Intrigued about the whole issue, Cassim went to Ali Baba to know the secret. Overjoyed to see his brother at his doorstep, Ali Baba welcomed him inside and inquired the reason for his visit.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



"My dear brother!" Cassim said, "I heard that robberies have been on a rise. You should be careful. Have you locked up the gold you brought home safely? Any lapse would land you in trouble. Tell me how you got such a huge quantity of Gold? I shall give you a brilliant and a safe plan to hide the treasure." Ali Baba was shocked to learn that his brother knew his secret. "Do not ask me to reveal how I got it brother. It will not do any good." Replied Ali Baba. But Cassim paid no heed to his words and persuaded him to explain how he had become so rich that he had to measure his money.

Left with no choice, Ali Baba explained him everything and also said, "Brother! Please do not go near that cave. The robbers are very ruthless." "Don't worry about it." Said Cassim and walked out of Ali Baba's house. But as soon as Cassim heard the story, he made up his mind that he too, would get some of the treasure. Even his wife encouraged him to go to the forest and accumulate as much wealth as possible. So he started to the forest with ten mules the next morning.

- 1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black



DEATH OF CASSIM

Soon, he reached the place mentioned by Ali Baba. There he tied up all his donkeys and proceeded towards the cave. He looked at the cave, stood in front of it and said, "Open, Sesame," Immediately, the rock opened and Cassim made his way in to the cave. As soon as he went inside the cave, its entrance was closed automatically.

Anticipating, finding lots of treasure, Cassim slowly moved inside. But when he actually caught sight of the treasure lying in the cave, he was astounded as it was much more than what he had imagined. He stood there for a few moments looking at the glittering jewels, absolutely unable to believe the sight before him.

Wherever he saw, he found Gold, Silver, jewels and diamonds. As his head reeled and heart thumped faster, Cassim greedily piled up bags of gold and dragged them to the door.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



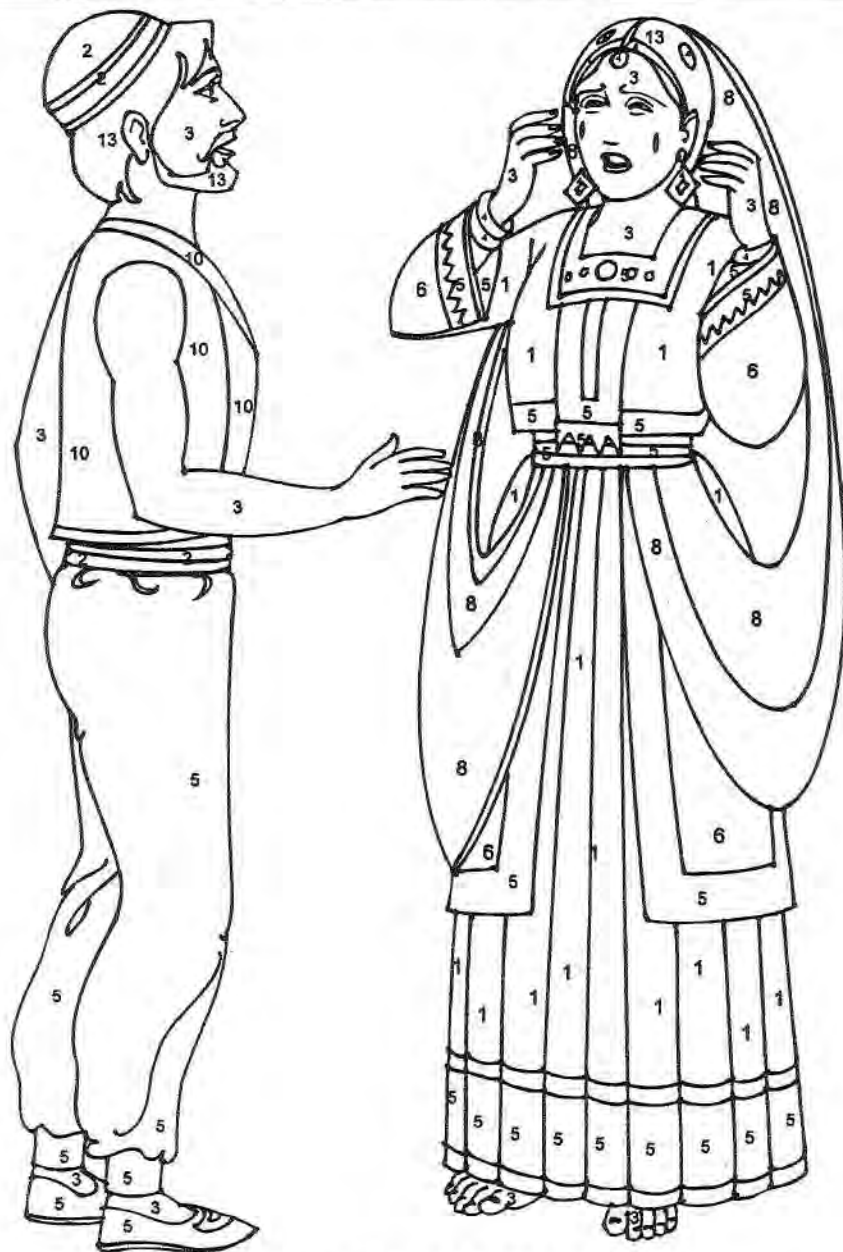
All set to go, he stood before the door of the cave in order to say the magic words that could open the cave. But Lo! He suddenly realized that he had forgotten the magic words. Shivering with fear, Cassim started shouting aloud for help. At the same time, he cursed his bad luck too for getting stuck there alone.

In the meanwhile, the group of robbers came back to the cave. As soon as they sighted the donkeys tied up at a distance from the cave, they grew suspicious that some one had found the secret of their cave. "The person who knows about our cave must be still inside the cave. Let us go and punish him for the blunder he had committed." Yelled the captain of the group. "Open Sesame" he said aloud and immediately, the group rushed in to the caves with swords in their hands.

They spotted Cassim who was totally unnerved with fear and within no time, captured him and tied up with ropes. The robbers then dragged him to their captain and threw him at his feet. The captain of the group glanced cruelly at Cassim and in split of a second, cut him in to four quarters with his sword.

"Hang these four quarters up in the cave so that it would serve as a warning for those who dare to enter the cave in future" ordered the captain. The other robbers did as ordered and again left the place on their horses, closing the cave. When night fell, and Cassim had not returned, his wife was greatly alarmed. But since she had none to share her fears, she ran to Ali Baba at once. On seeing his sister-in-law, Ali Baba welcomed her affectionately and asked her why she had to visit his house at such a time.

- 1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black



DEAD BODY FOUND

"What should I say dear? Overcome by jealousy and greed, I sent your brother to the robber's cave. He went in the morning but had not returned till now. I am worried about his well being. Please go and find out where your brother is" cried Cassim's wife. Ali Baba tried to comfort her and told her that he would certainly go and find out the whereabouts of Cassim.

When morning came, and Cassim did not yet appear, Ali Baba decided not to waste further time and got ready to visit the cave. As usual, he took his donkeys and started to the forest as if he were going to cut the trees.

After he reached the forest, he straightaway headed towards the cave without wasting much time. With a hope to find his brother, he searched the near by places but could not find him anywhere. Meanwhile, Ali Baba spotted his brother's donkeys tied up at a distance from the cave. Sensing some danger, he worried for the safety of his brother and at once reached the cave.

1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



Standing before the cave, he recited the magic words and opened the door of the cave. When he went inside and walked a little further, Ali Baba was struck with horror when he saw Cassim's body hanging in the cave.

His sorrow knew no bounds when he found his brother's dead body in that state. But he recovered after a while quickly, wrapped up the pieces and carried them home on one of the donkeys loading the other two again with gold.

Ali Baba reached home after the night fell and started thinking about the future course of action. He felt that it was not advisable to let the others know about the reason for his brother's death.

After a deep thought, he decided that Cassim should be buried without letting anyone know that he was murdered. He decided to pass on the same message to his sister-in-law.

He then summoned a trustworthy slave named Morgiana who was working in Cassim's house. Ali Baba took her aside and said, "Morgiana! I am going to share a top secret with you. Please promise me that you won't share this with anyone else. Being a trustworthy member of the family, now the responsibility to save the family reputation is in your hands."

- 1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black



Morgiana was a very nice girl who was loyal to Cassim's family. She was quick witted and intelligent too. On hearing Ali Baba's words, she knew that some thing was amiss. She promised not to let the secret out at any cost and listened to Ali Baba as he spoke.

"Morgiana!" said Ali Baba "My brother had died in the hands of a few robbers while trying to take some of their hidden treasure from a cave. Now, it is your responsibility to give the news to my sister-in-law and comfort her. Also ensure that no one knows the actual reason for my brother's death."

Though Morgiana was shocked to hear the news initially, she came to terms with the truth quickly and understood the situation. She also promised that she would take care of the family and keep the secret too. When Cassim's wife saw them talking, she grew suspicious and asked,

"Ali Baba! Please tell me what had happened. Is everything all right? Is your brother in some kind of trouble?" Ali Baba then walked towards her and said, "Sister-in-law! I have a very bad news for you. The robbers murdered my brother. But I request you to control your grief and see that the actual reason for my brother's death is not known to the outside world. Otherwise, we all would be killed by the robbers."

1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



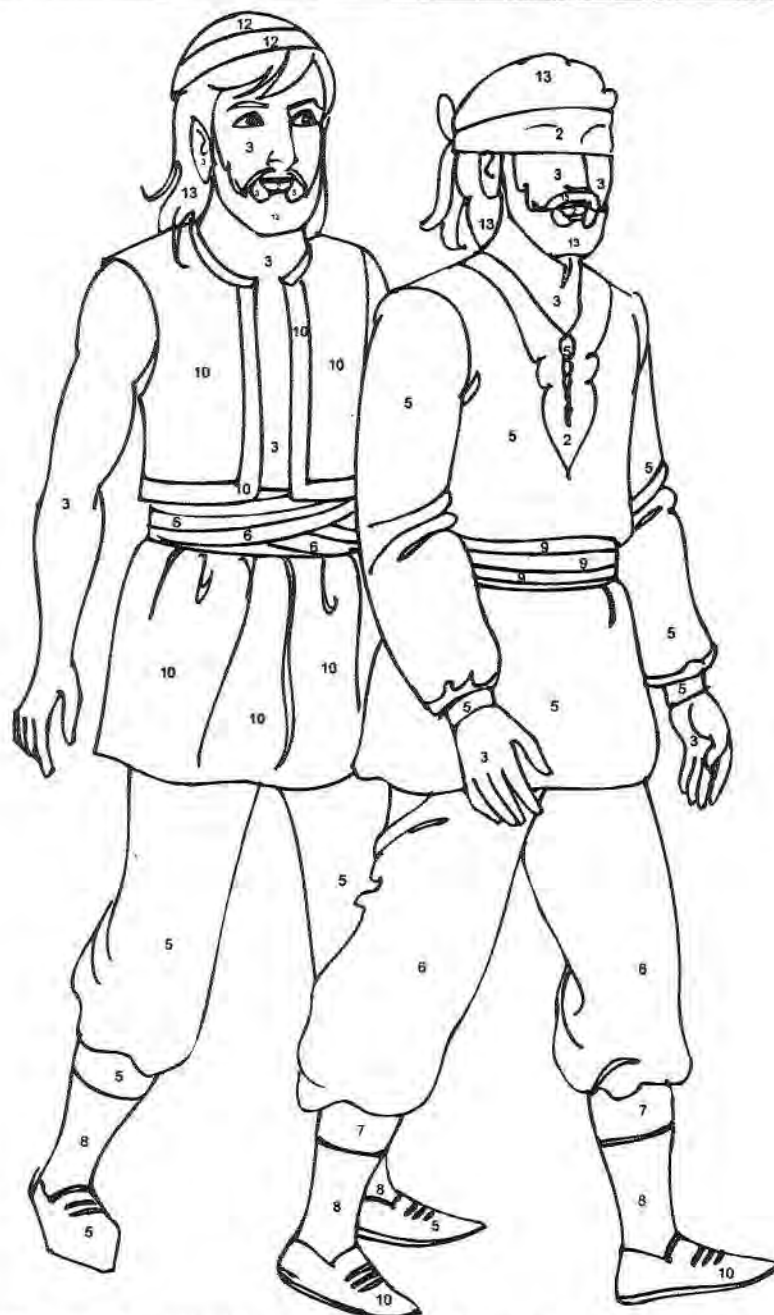
ALI BABA'S PLAN

Grieving her husband's death, Cassim's wife repented her previous actions. "All this had happened because of my greed for wealth. Now, we have no one to take care of us except you. I shall follow your instructions and do as you say." Said Cassim's wife and put the entire responsibility on Ali Baba's shoulders.

Immediately, Ali Baba got in to action and also asked Morgiana to assist him. Then both of them behaved as if they were visiting a Doctor and passed on the news to the people of that place that Cassim was seriously ill. Then, Ali Baba disguised himself and went to a tailor. "I will pay you 10 gold coins. Will you work for me?" asked Ali Baba addressing the tailor. The tailor was too ready to oblige and nodded in agreement for his proposal.

Ali Baba then tied a piece of cloth over the tailor's eyes and led him towards his house. He also took him through different streets and complicated the route so that he would not know where he had done the work. Ali Baba very well knew that what he had intended to do was a dangerous task and that he would be killed if robbers knew the secret.

- 1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black



He then made the tailor sew the separated parts of Cassim's body. Though the tailor was not used to such kind of work, his greed for the gold coins made him take up the work. After completion of his work, Ali Baba dropped him back at his shop in the same manner, as he got him. Then it was declared to others that Cassim had died, and the funeral was held without betraying the secret of his death. "Remember that this secret has to be maintained at any cost and any lapse on our side would land us in danger." Warned Ali Baba and left to his place after the funeral.

Meanwhile, the robbers again visited their cave. The captain opened the cave by reciting the magic words again and the other members of the group went inside, carrying the bags of the wealth they robbed. Finding that Cassim's body had been removed, they understood that there was still somebody who knew their secret. The captain was red with anger and he resolved not to rest till he found out who it was.

He then summoned one of his followers and said, "Go to the town and see if you can find a clue about the person who discovered our cave." The Man who was assigned this task immediately started to the town disguising himself.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black



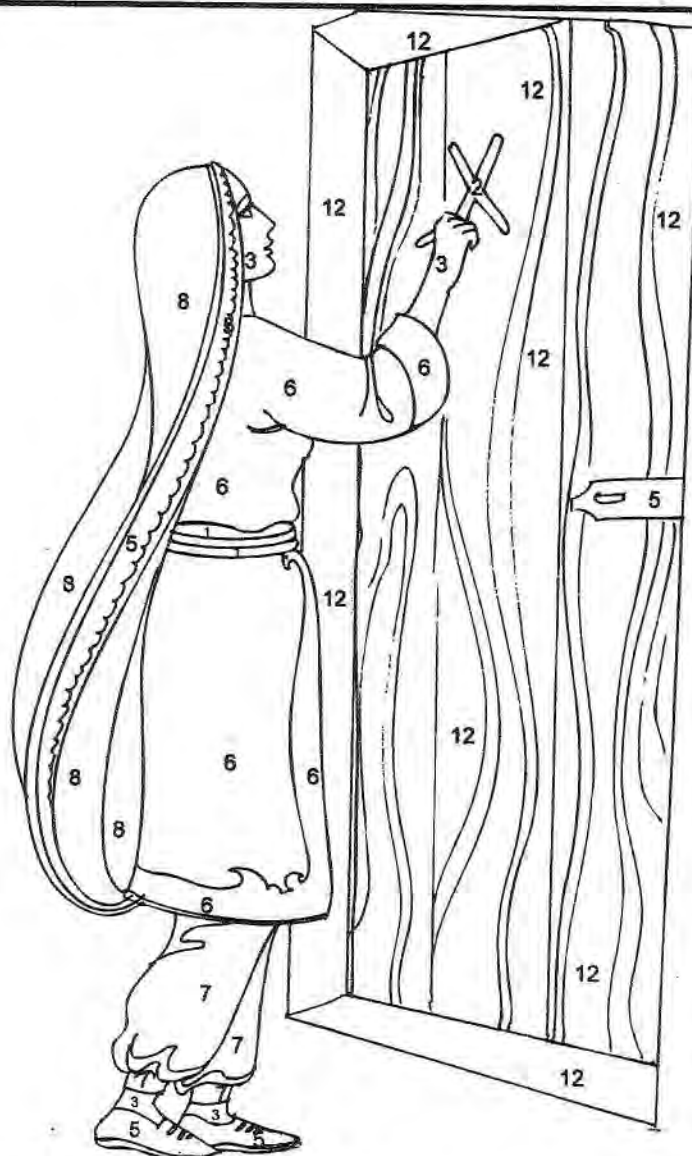
DISCOVERY OF ALI BABA'S HOUSE

The robber roamed all over the town, started enquiring about recent deaths in the place. Roaming so, one day, he accidentally went to the tailor's place and sat on the step before his house. He requested the tailor to give him some water to drink. In that manner, both of them started conversing with one another. The robber lied to the tailor that he was on a pilgrimage, which the tailor easily believed.

Continuing to talk so, the robber cleverly asked the tailor if there were any recent deaths in the town. The tailor immediately told him of how he had been hired to sew up a dead body. The robber at once felt that he was on the track of the one he was looking for, so he offered the tailor a large piece of gold to show him the house where he had done the sewing.

"Sir! It would be a great favor, if you help me with the address of the house. I intend to request that wealthy man to give me some money to meet the expenses of my remaining pilgrimage. I am sure he would help some one like me. Moreover, I am ready to part with a large piece of gold from whatever I receive and give it to you in return for your kind help" pleaded the robber innocently.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black



Again taken over by greed for money, the tailor fell for the proposal. "But sir! My eyes have been covered while the man took me to his house." Replied the tailor. "But you might be able to locate the house if you are blindfolded again," said the robber.

The tailor felt that the robber's idea would work and agreed to the plan. He then let the robber blindfold him. As the tailor walked on through the streets, the robber carefully followed him checking the surroundings keenly.

Finally the tailor stopped before a house. It was indeed; Ali Baba's house and the tailor had succeeded in locating it perfectly. The robber then marked 'X' on the door with chalk, and returned to his comrades to explain them what had happened.

Shortly after, Morgiana came out of the house and saw the mark. Being an intelligent girl, she immediately realized that there was some mischief behind the mark. Moreover, since Ali Baba warned them about the danger from the robbers, Morgiana was more alert than usual. Unwilling to take any chance, she quickly thought of a plan and marked the doors of all houses in that street with the same mark on each side.

The robber, in the meantime, had reported his success, and the captain ordered all to go into the town, separately, and meet together at a certain place, where he would join them. That night he took the robber who had found the house, and went with him to look at it.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



The robber triumphantly led him into the street where Ali Baba lived, and when they came to one of the doors, which Morgiana had marked, he pointed to it. But the captain soon noticed that the next house was also marked in the same way. They walked further looking at each house keenly, only to find that all the houses have been marked in the same manner.

He saw that they were fooled. He feared that the soldiers would catch them if they stayed there for longer and so he ordered his men to return to the forest.

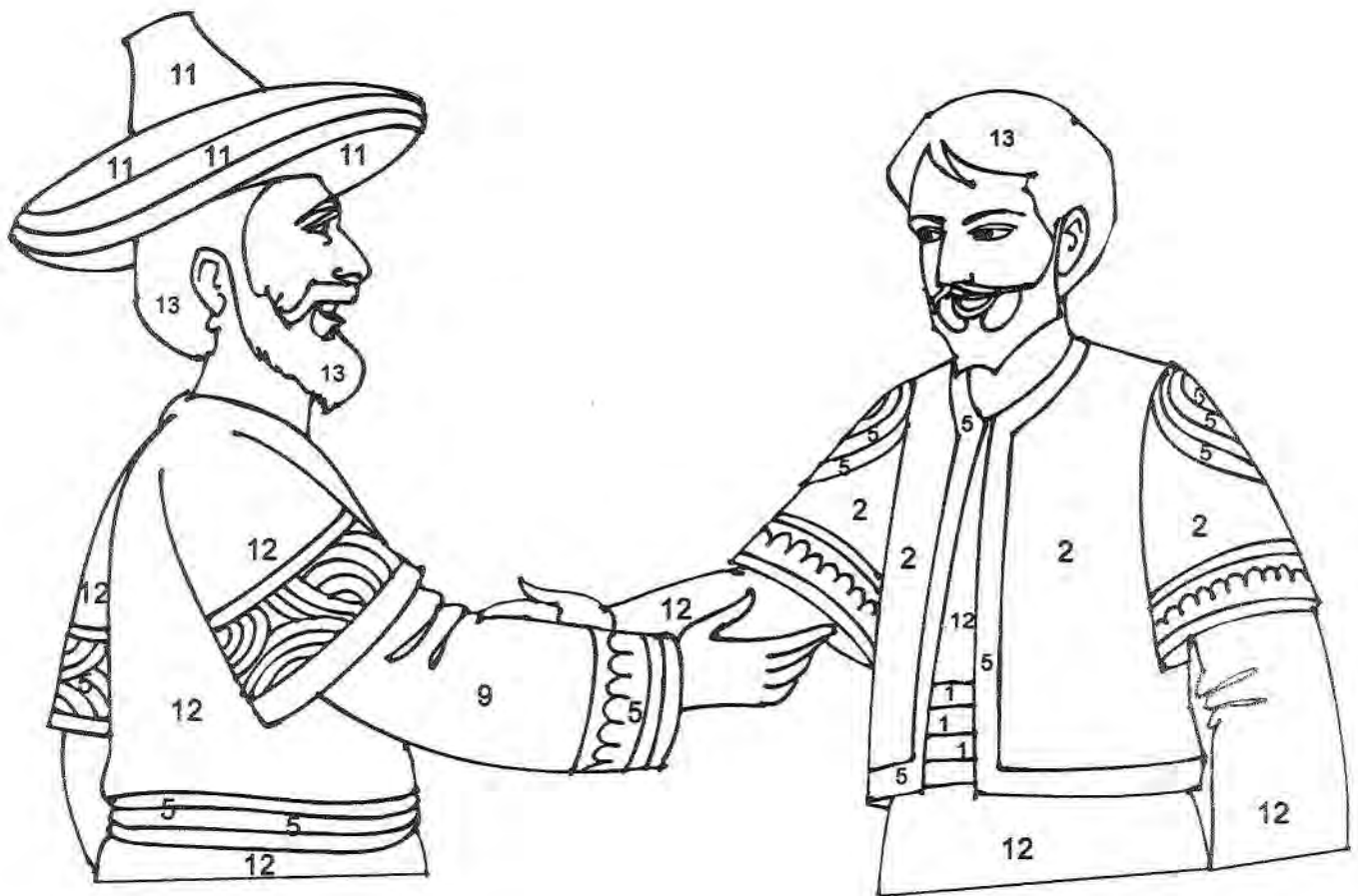
Another robber from the troop then volunteered to try the task. In the same manner as the first robber, he located the house and put a mark with red chalk, in a place where he thought it would not be seen. But even the red chalk mark too could not escape the eyes of Morgiana. This time too she marked the other houses in the same place and manner.

The robbers went to the town as before, but when the captain and the robber came to the street they found that they were baffled again. After failing so, for several times, the captain went personally in order to locate his enemy. He went around the town, talking to several people and tried to gather as much information as possible. In one of such enquiries, the captain learnt about the death of Cassim and also how Ali Baba had acquired lots of wealth.

Certain that Ali Baba was the one who entered his cave and took away his wealth, the captain fumed in anger. He decided to teach Ali Baba a good lesson. Then the captain went himself, and saw the house where Ali Baba lived but did not put any mark on the house. Instead, he looked at it so carefully that he would know it when he saw it again. He then, went away from that place only to return along with his troop.

- 1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



IN THE DISGUISE OF AN OIL MERCHANT

The captain devised a plan to end Ali Baba and immediately sent his men to buy twenty mules and forty leather oil-jars, one full of oil and the rest empty. When they had brought them to the cave, he put a man in each of the empty jars, and loaded all the jars on the mules, and set out for the town so as to reach it after it is dark.

He led his mules through the streets till he reached the house of Ali Baba and then knocked on his door. When Ali Baba opened the door, the captain said, "Sir! I am an oil merchant. I have just arrived in to this town but could not find a place to stay. I need to travel a great distance still. It would be a great favour, if only you could accommodate me in your house tonight." Ali Baba was so hospitable that he immediately agreed to accommodate the captain in his house. Thanking him for his generosity, the captain said, "Sir! Can I also ask your kind permission to drive my mules into your yard? I wish to unload them, and set the jars down so that even the mules can get some rest too."

Ali Baba, who had no suspicion, immediately agreed to his words and said, "Sir! Please treat this house as yours. You can certainly drive your mules in and unload them."

The captain then, carefully placed the jars on the floor and whispered to his men, hidden in the jars that they should come out of the jars as soon as they hear him throw a stone out of the window. He then followed Ali Baba into the house.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



MORGIANA DISCOVERS THE PLAN

As soon as Ali Baba came inside, he summoned Morgiana and told her to prepare some food for the guest. Morgiana immediately went in to the kitchen to make necessary arrangements. But it so happened that Morgiana needed some oil to cook but there was no oil in the house.

As it was too late to buy any, she called another servant and asked him to fetch some oil from the jars placed by the oil merchant in the yard.

When the servant went straight to one of the jars and tried to remove the lid, he saw that there was a man inside. Frightened by the sight, he silently ran away from there and narrated every thing to Morgiana. Though Morgiana suspected some foul play, she exhibited no anxiety. Instead she went to the yard along with the servant and slowly knocked on one of the jars. On hearing the knock on the jar, the robber inside it whispered, "Is it time to come out?"

Though immensely startled, she did not lose her presence of mind, but answered in a male voice, "Not yet." She went in this way to all of the jars, answering the same until she came, last of all, to the jar of oil. She at once saw the danger to which her master was exposed, and laid a plan to avert it.

She filled a great kettle from the jar of oil, and set it on the fire till the oil was boiling. The other servant who was there with her had no clue, what Morgiana intended to do with the boiling oil. He followed her actions with curiosity.

Meanwhile, the captain of the robber's troop finished his dinner, took leave from Ali Baba and retired in to his room on the pretext of having some rest. But in reality, he was waiting for everyone to go to sleep so that he can carry out his plan.

- 1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves







DEATH OF THE CAPTAIN

Back in the cave, the captain was restless till he came up with an idea to kill Ali Baba. After a serious thought, he laid a plot to take revenge on Ali Baba, whom he now hated worse than ever. He first changed his looks as much as he could, he went to the town and rented a warehouse, to which he took a lot of silks, jewellery and other stuffs, and set up a business as a merchant under the name of Cogja Hassan.

Now Ali Baba's nephew was a merchant, and, as it happened, had his warehouse near that of Cogja Hassan. As Ali Baba often went there, the captain soon discovered their relationship. So he set himself to get into the friendship of the nephew, who was immensely inspired and attracted towards the captain.

The captain succeeded in his mission so well that he was soon invited to Ali Baba's house for dinner. "Sir! Please come to our house for dinner tonight. I would like you to meet my uncle, Ali Baba." Said Ali Baba's nephew to the captain.

The captain who was waiting for an opportunity like this was elated at the offer and immediately accepted to visit his place. That night, he went to Ali Baba's house and under his garment he concealed a dagger with which he intended to kill Ali Baba at the first chance. He shook hands with Ali Baba and humbly said, "Sir! I am grateful for inviting me over for dinner tonight. I have been planning to meet you since long." Ali Baba who had no clue, who the merchant actually was, heartily smiled and replied that he too wanted to meet the friend of his nephew and also a great merchant since many days.

- 1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



At the table he took no salt, for among the Persians, even the wickedest think it wrong to kill a man whose salt they have eaten. Morgiana, who was serving, noticed this, and it caused her to suspect him. She felt that the affection the merchant was showering on Ali Baba and his nephew was just an act and that the merchant had come there to harm them in some manner.

She immediately thought of a bold scheme to avert the danger that was in store for her master, called Ali Baba aside and said, "Master! I seek your permission to dance before the guest, whom you have invited home tonight."

As she was a fine dancer, and often danced before the guests of Ali Baba; he immediately agreed to her proposal. So, after the meal, as Ali Baba, his nephew and their guest sat smoking, she came to give a performance. She carried a tambourine in one hand, and in the other a dagger, which, in dancing, she pointed playfully at the breast of each as though that were part of the dance.

While dancing, she carefully observed the expressions of the guest and realized that he was in some sort of tension and hurry. She also saw that he had a dagger concealed in his garment. When she was through with her dance, she went from one to another with her tambourine, according to the custom, and Ali Baba and his son each put in a piece of gold. Then she came to Cogia Hassan, and, while he was reaching his hand to put in a coin, plunged her dagger into his heart, and he fell dead.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



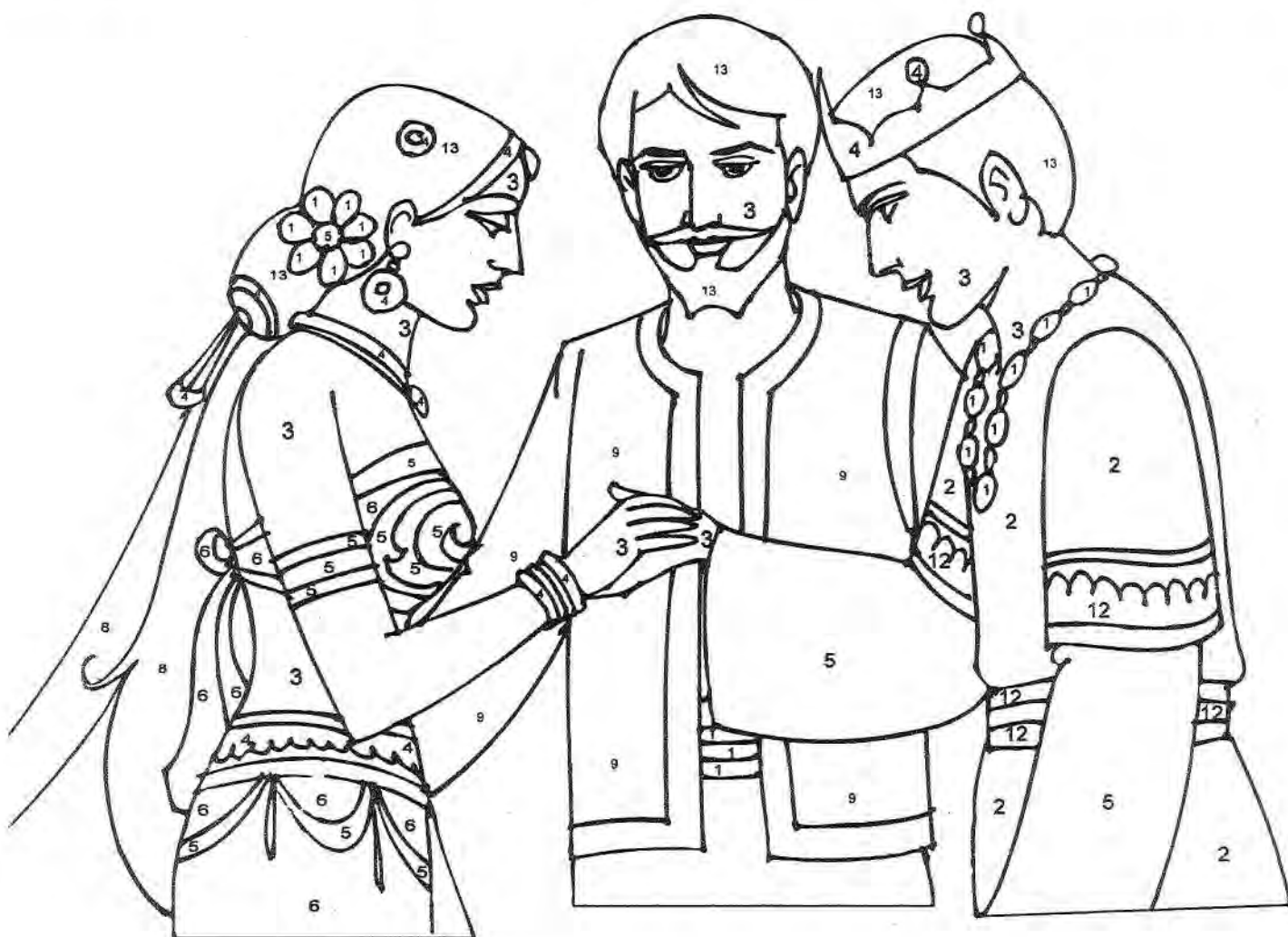
Startled by her sudden act, Ali Baba and his nephew cried out with horror. They were very much annoyed with Morgiana for having killed their guest. "Why have you killed him?" yelled Ali Baba shivering with anger. "Master! Please listen to me carefully. I can't even think of harming you or doing anything that would damage your reputation. Please trust me and be patient. You would know the reason behind what I have done." Pleaded Morgiana.

Though Ali Baba and his nephew were still annoyed with her, they decided to hear what she had to say about the whole episode and signaled her to continue speaking. Morgiana bowed to her master and slowly walked towards the dead man. She then slowly opened his garment and showed them the concealed dagger hidden under the garment. She also removed his disguise, after which Ali Baba recognized him as none other than the captain of the robber gang. Ali Baba stood there speechless for a while after he realized that he had escaped the greatest danger.

Morgiana then turned to Ali Baba and said, "Master! Now do you see that he is not a merchant but a robber in a merchant's disguise? This is the same person who had been plotting to destroy you and your family since long. He came here only to kill you with his dagger at the right moment. By God's grace, I could sense his evil plan and that's why I killed him before he could cause any harm to you." Ali Baba's feelings changed to joy at his escape, and his admiration for Morgiana's shrewdness, courage, and fidelity grew beyond words. He felt that, he could neither say nor do enough to thank her.

1. Pink 2. Red 3. Orange 4. golden yellow 5. Yellow 6. Light Green 7. Dark Green
8. Peacock Blue 9. Royal Blue 10. Violet 11. Brown 12. Yellow Ochre 13. Black

Alibaba and The Forty Thieves



On Morgiana's advise, they soon disposed of the captain's body by burying him in the garden with his comrades. "Master! As all the robbers are dead now, you are free from further danger. You can live peacefully from now." Said Morgiana looking happily at Ali Baba.

Moved by her loyalty, he went up to her and said, "Morgiana! I have no words to thank you. Only because of you, my family is free from danger today. What can I do for you to convey my gratitude to you?" Morgiana humbly bowed to Ali Baba and replied, "Master! I need nothing from you. Please continue to shower your affection on me. That is my only request."

Though Ali Baba fell silent for that moment, he wanted to do something that could express his gratitude towards Morgiana. He then went and discussed the same with his sister-in-law and wife. After several discussions, three of them came to a conclusion that Morgiana should be made the daughter-in-law of that family by marrying her to Ali Baba's nephew. Soon, their marriage was performed in a grand manner. Ali Baba invited all the people of that city for the marriage and treated them with tasty dishes and valuable gifts. Morgiana's joy knew no bounds for the affection showered on her by Ali Baba's family.

However, Ali Baba had never revealed the secret of the robber's cave to any other person. One day, he went to the cave along with his donkeys, loaded the treasure on them and came back home. He donated lots of wealth among the poor and took their hearty blessings. Every one lived long in peace and happiness.

- 1.Pink 2.Red 3.Orange 4.golden yellow 5.Yellow 6.Light Green 7.Dark Green
8.Peacock Blue 9.Royal Blue 10.Violet 11.Brown 12.Yellow Ochre 13.Black