

PRINCE INDRA BANGSAWAN
Pangeran Indra Bangsawan

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PRINCE INDRA BANGSAWAN

King Indra Bungsu

Once upon a time there was a kingdom named Kobat Syahrial. The palace of Kobat Syahrial Kingdom stood tall extravagantly and luxuriously. The wall of the kingdom palace was made of marble and alabaster coated with gold, while beautiful fine rug covered its floor.

The name of the King who ruled in the Kingdom of Kobat Syahrial at that time was King Indra Bungsu. He was a very wise King and always acted justly. The people in his country lived peacefully because their King always took care of their welfare. It was no wonder then that the King was very much admired and loved by his people. And so, the Kingdom of Kobat Syahrial was well known due to the King's charisma and its rich natural sources.

King Indra Bungsu had a Queen named Siti Kendi. She was very beautiful with her olive skin, curl eyelashes, and long hair. The fame of her beauty was spread abroad. All of the people loved her and were very proud of her. On top of that, she was also well-known for her skills in organizing social activities. Therefore, King Indra Bungsu loved her deeply. The people in Kobat

Syahrial were also so fond of the Queen because she took a good care of their life as well.

The King and her Queen lived inside their beautiful and luxurious palace. However, their richness and great fame did not much to calm the King's troubled heart. The reason was because he had not yet a child who would become his successor or the heir of the Kingdom.

The King was not the only one who felt restless, since the Queen also shared the same feeling since she had not yet shown any signs of pregnancy. Once day, the King felt an urge, stronger than usual, to beget a child immediately. He let his wife Siti Kendi know about it.

“Dear Wife, we have been married for quite some time and we are not lacking of anything right now. However, there is one thing that made me worried,” said the King. “I keep thinking about a crown prince who will become the heir of our Kingdom, which we do not have yet.”

“My Husband, actually I have been thinking a lot about that as well. But what should we do? I have sought many advices from the healers, but until now I have not shown any signs of pregnancy,” replied the Queen sadly.

While they were pondering about having a child, the King contemplated the matter for a while. Finally, he invited a royal advisor to come to him.

The King's advisor was well-known for his broad knowledge in religious matters. He advised the royal couple to pray a lot and ask for directions from the Almighty God. Besides it, King Indra Bungsu and Queen Siti Kendi had to give a lot of alms to the poor people.

For a period of time, the King, his Queen, and all of the people in Kobat Syahrial country lifted up their prayers day and night. They asked the Almighty God to give them directions and gave alms to poor people.

By the grace of God, shortly afterwards Queen Siti Kendi got pregnant. King Indra Bungsu was so happy. He gave thanks to the Almighty God. The good news spread fast throughout the Country of Kobat Syahrial. The people welcomed the good news happily and kept praying that the Queen would always be healthy until her delivery time.

When the pregnancy of the Queen reached the ninth month and ten days, she gave birth safely. Her delivery was assisted by the famous healers of the country. Queen Siti Kendi gave birth to twin baby boys who were named Prince Syah Peri and Prince Indra Bangsawan.

Years later, both Crown Princes had grown up into handsome young men. They had been brought up just like princes, being served by many maids. And when they traveled, they were always protected and guarded by the war chief.

Both Princes were educated like any other children. However, as a prince who would be his father's successor, i.e. King Indra Bungsu, the two of them would be given additional education. Then, the King sent the governor to find the best teacher.

They were taught how to fight in war, how to govern the people, how to use the weapons, and how to ride on horse.

They learned so many skills including on wars and governance, as well as religious matters.

Prince Syah Peri and Prince Indra Bangsawan were diligent in studying and practicing. They were smart and tough students. The King was very happy to see the progress of his sons as both showed great results due to their intelligence and diligence.

One day, when the King was watching his two sons practicing, a question crossed his mind about who would be the one to replace him onf day. Both were equally smart and tough in using the weapons and riding horse. King Indra Bungsu could not decide right away.

The King thought it over and sought a way out to be able to make the right decision and to treat both of his sons justly. Finally, he nodded his head as he a great idea crossed his mind.

After a long thought, the King planned to put his idea into action. At the set time, he locked himself in his room, pretending to be sad. It had been a week that the King did not come out of his room and did not show himself.

The supposition of King Indra Bungsu turned out to be true. His attitude and behavior were soon noticed by the people around him. The Queen, the Crown Princes, the governor, and the ministers were wondering about his changed attitude, worried that he might have been sick. However, they were too reluctant to ask him directly. Finally, the two sons came to the Queen Siti Kendi and raised their question in reverence.

“Mother, what happened our father? Does he have a problem? He has not come out of his room for a week. I am afraid that he might be sick,” said Syah Peri.

“Wouldn’t it be better if we ask him directly about the matter? Maybe we can help,” added Prince Indra Bangsawan.

Having heard the words of her sons, the Queen stood up and came closer to them.

“You are right, My Sons. Your father might be having a complicated problem. You’d better come to see him together and listen to whatever he tells you!” replied the Queen.

After a little while, both Princes went to the room of King Indra Bungsu. They went there to find out about their father’s condition. Prince Syah Peri encouraged himself to ask to his father what had happened that he locked himself in his room.

“We are concerned and worried about your health, Father. We’re scared that you might become ill,” said kata Syah Peri.

“That’s right, Father. What is it that makes you so anxious? Do tell us, Father, we might be able to help you!” begged Prince Indera Bangsawan.

King Indra Bungsu was glad to see both of his sons come to see him. He came closer to them.

“My Dear Sons, how proud I am of you two for being very attentive to your parent. Actually, one thing that makes me sad and restless is my dream. I had a particular dream, Sons,” explained King Indra Bungsu.

“What did you dream about, Father?” asked Prince Syah Peri, “We’d like to know more about it.”

Both kept urging the King to tell them about it. Without any hesitation, King Indra Bungsu told them about his dream.

“In my dream, I was riding a horse in a jungle. All of a sudden a handsome young man showed up. He had an enchanted grass on his hand. You must know what an enchanted grass is. It is a wind instrument from bamboo which produces beautiful music and its melodious sound could calm my heart. I wanted so much to have that enchanted grass. But when I asked the young man to give it to me, he refused and told me that whoever could take and possess the enchanted grass, he would be the next king.”

“My Dear Sons, though I have been the King in the country, I have not possessed the enchanted grass like the one possessed by the young man in my dream. I would like to have it. I was thinking that maybe one of you can help me find it,” said King Indra Bungsu.

Having heard the explanation of their father, the two Crown Princes stared at each other and came closer to their father, wanting to discuss more about it. Then, Prince Indra Bangsawan said, “Alright, Father, both of us will try to find that enchanted grass. We would like you to bless our efforts.”

Later on, they told their mother, Queen Siti Kendi, about the King’s dream.

Prince Syah Peri

With the blessings from their parents, the two Crown Princes set out to look for the enchanted grass. They walked together, going in and coming out of jungles. They stayed together and helped each other when facing difficulties.

One day, having passed the crags, huge rocks, and big trees unscathed, they arrived at the peak of a mountain. Out of the blue, a typhoon came and almost knocked them down. Prince Syah Peri and Prince Indra Bangsawan sought a refuge while holding hands, afraid that the typhoon would sweep them away.

But then all of a sudden a thick layer of fog covered the two brothers' sight. Prince Syah Peri and Prince Indra Bangsawan were unable to see their surroundings because their vision got blurry and it was getting darker and darker. In the mean time, the typhoon attacked them more fiercely that they finally lost their grip on each others' hand.

When the storm struck, Prince Syah Peri was tossed near a tree and lost his consciousness. He regained it when the weather cleared up, fluttering his eyes open and looked around while still lying on his back.

“Arrgh, where am I? What happened to me?” he wondered.

The collapsed trees were scattered all over the ground. On his left, a big tree had toppled. Another tree was uprooted not far from where he was.

“What a frightening typhoon! I was scared to death,” thought Prince Syah Peri.

All of a sudden he remembered his younger brother, Prince Indra Bangsawan.

“Where is he? I have to help him. Arrgh ..., ouch ..., my body is terribly sore,” he groaned.

Prince Syah Peri tried to get up slowly and to stand straight using a long piece of wood. He was limping while trying to gather his strength.

Finally, he decided to continue his trip by walking to the north. He supported himself with a stick, wobbling around while trying to look for his brother.

The Prince kept walking, moving farther from where he was separated from his brother. He kept walking to look for his brother and the enchanted grass.

Without him realizing it, he had arrived in a vast area. He was startled to see that place, which was as beautiful as a well-kept garden.

“What is the name of this land?” he wondered.

The Prince racked his brains to try to remember whether he had ever visited that place before. He stopped for a while to look at all the things around him.

Various flowers and trees grew there. He walked again along the beautiful garden and hoped to meet someone eventually. However, he did not see any single soul around.

“Incredible! I don’t see anyone here. But... but... all these flowers and trees are arranged so neatly I am sure someone must be taking care of them,” said Prince Syah Peri in surprise.

He kept walking and after some time, he saw a house in a distance. He approached the house and saw that it was also well maintained, judging from its clean and orderly appearance.

“I’m going to enter it. Who knows I might meet someone who can tell me where I will be able to get the enchanted grass,” he murmured.

After a little while, the Prince arrived at the house and stood right in front of it. He walked around it slowly as he observed each corner of the house closely.

“The house is very clean and neat. Its owner must’ve been a very diligent person for taking such a meticulous care of its cleanliness and beauty,” thought the Prince.

Having walked around the house, he stood in front of the door and was thinking of knocking at it, but he felt a bit hesitant.

Urged by his curiosity, finally the Prince made up his mind to knock at the door.

He knocked twice, and then three times, without no one answering. He tried to knock one more time, but still there was no response from inside the house.

“Argh, how come there is nobody in this house? I’m going to wait until the owner comes,” he thought.

The exhausted Prince sat alone on the porch. He took a rest while waiting for the owner of the house. All of a sudden a thought crossed his mind that maybe there was someone inside the house but something had happened to him or her. Then he decided to enter it without waiting for its owner any longer and started to approach its door, which turned out to be unlocked. He could enter easily and saw that there was nobody inside that quiet and silent house, where all of its furniture was organized tidily.

Prince Syah Peri slowly entered the house, walking inside with a great caution. He gazed around and found nobody. Then, he turned to the right and saw a room there. He decided to walk towards it with great caution. Then he quietly put one ear against its door, trying to listen to any sound behind it, but he heard nothing. Then, he squatted and peeked through the keyhole.

“Oh My Lord,” whispered the Prince to himself, “there’s a princess over there with all of her body tied with rope. Who on earth is she and what has happened to her?”

Many questions arose in Prince Syah Peri’s mind as he observed the condition of the sleeping Princess from the keyhole once again.

The Prince racked her brains of how to help ber. He looked for a key, but could not find it. Finally, with all of his strength, he broke the door open. The Princess jolted, awakened from her sleep. Prince Syah Peri stared at her for a while, while the Princess’ eyes also stared back at him as if begging for his help. With a swift movement, he set her free from the rope that had tied her whole body.

Once again he stared at the Princess, who was sitting on a chair.

“What a lovely princess. I have never seen her before. Who is she, where is she from, and how did she end up here?” the Prince wondered.

The Princess was now free from the rope that had coiled around her body. She tidied her dress and sat down on the chair again.

“Thank you, Sir. You are very kind,” she said gratefully.

The Prince nodded, before he too sat down not far from her. He asked her many questions, to which the Princess provided satisfactory answers.

“My name is Dewi Ratna Sari. I come from the Kingdom of Asikin. My country was destroyed by a giant who attacked and defeated us all. After that, I was kidnapped and brought to this house.”

“Where is the giant now, Princess?” asked the Prince.

“I have no idea, Sir. He usually comes during the full moon to take a rest here because this place is well-known for its beauty and comeliness,” explained Princess Dewi Ratna Sari.

“I will wait for that giant then. I will defeat him so that he will stop disturbing you,” said the Prince.

“Oh, no, Sir, don’t do that! I am afraid that he will kill you. He is so strong, Your Highness,” said the Princess.

“Don’t worry! I will do my utmost. I want to kill him so that he won’t disturb you again,” insisted the Prince.

During the full moon, the garden looked more beautiful under the moonlight. Soon the giant arrived there. When he reached the threshold of the house, he was intercepted by Prince Syah Peri who managed to bring the giant down with his excellent bow. His arrows pierced through the giant’s heart, who collapsed and died instantly.

The Princess immediately rushed to the Prince and sat down at his feet, kneeling down in reverence. Then, she asked for his permission to clean up his wounds and the dirt on his body.

A moment later, they both took a rest by sitting in the living room. Then, they started to tell each other about their life story. As time went by, they became closer and grew fond of each other. Finally, they got married and Princess Dewi Ratna Sari followed Prince Syah Peri wandering about together, looking for the enchanted grass and his brother Prince Indra Bangsawan.

Prince Indra Bangsawan

Prince Indra Bangsawan was fortunate. He survived without any injury. He was tossed to the grass and was covered by a big rock. Behind the rock, he was safe from the typhoon and thick fog.

After things returned back to normal, Prince Indra Bangsawan came out of his shelter. He tried to look for his brother, but all he could see was scattered pieces of trees, wood, and rocks. Finally, he decided to walk alone to the west. Before leaving that place, the Prince prayed that his brother was safe and that they would see each other again someday.

He did not meet anyone during his travel. Only trees, logs of wood, and rocks scattered all over. It was such a terrible sight.

Having walked for quite some time, he took a rest under a big tree, observing everything around him. Not far from his resting place, he saw a big cave.

“It might be safer for me to rest in this cave. Who knows I will be able to find the enchanted grass there,” so he thought.

He fell asleep for a while inside the cave. When he woke up, he observed it closely and discovered a long corridor inside it, where he ventured in.

When he reached the middle of it, the Prince saw a bright light at the end of the corridor he was passing through. He continued to step forward with the same caution. Finally, he arrived at the end of the corridor where the bright light came from. The Prince was startled when he came out of the corridor because he came out to a vast field outside it.

Prince Indra Bangsawan kept walking throughout the vast field, hoping to meet someone along the way. However, as far as his feet stepped forward, he did not see a single soul.

Finally, Prince Indra Bangsawan saw a house and walked towards it. In front of its door, he he paused for a while to observe the house before him.

“This house is quiet big and nice. Who is the owner of this house? If it is possible, I would like to rest inside for a while. I’m quite exhausted,” he thought.

Then, he sat on the front porch of the house. When he was resting there, he remembered his brother.

“What has become of my brother? What should I tell father and mother upon my return to Kobat Syahrial country?” thought Prince Indra Bangsawan.

The thought about his brother made him sad. He recalled how they used to play and practice together. He also remembered how one time Prince Syah Peri came to share a piece of cake with him.

All of a sudden, the order of his father crossed his mind again.

“I have to look for the enchanted grass. Who could tell me where I can find it? Maybe inside this house there is someone who has an enchanted grass,” thought the Prince.

“Whose house is this? Looking at what inside it, I am sure that someone must live in this country. However, as far as I have traveled, I haven’t met anyone,” thought him again.

Prince Indra Bangsawan surrendered himself to the Almighty God. He prayed, asking for direction and protection for himself and his family.

A moment later, he heard the sound of approaching foot steps. He found an old lady behind his back.

“What is your name, Young Man?” asked the old woman tenderly.

“My name is Indra Bangsawan, Ma’am,” replied the Prince.

Then the old woman and Prince Indra Bangsawan got to know each other by telling their life story. The Prince told her about his

family. He also told her about his father's request to find an enchanted grass for him.

"That's why I ended up here, Ma'am. I have promised and made up my mind that I will not return before I can find the enchanted grass and bring it home," he said.

"You are such a good son to try to fulfill your father's wish," said the old woman. "You may live here, if you want!"

"Thank you, Ma'am," replied the Prince.

"Alright, now wash yourself and take a rest over there!" replied the old woman, pointing at another room.

The old woman also took a rest, lying down on her bamboo cot. She could not close her eyes since she could not stop thinking about that young man named Prince Indra Bangsawan. Then she folded both hands and put them below her head.

"If it is true that the young man is Prince Indra Bangsawan, then he is the one I have been looking for all this time because he will be able to help King Kabir set his country free from the giant's threats," thought the old woman.

In the next room, Prince Indra Bangsawan lied down on a bamboo cot to rest without being able to close his eyes either. His mind wandered and a thought of his brother made him very sad.

“Why are you crying, Prince? What are you thinking about?” asked the old woman.

The old woman came to the room of Indra Bangsawan because she had heard his sobs. Indra Bangsawan jolted when he heard her voice. With one swift movement, he sat at the edge of the bamboo cot.

“Forgive me Ma’am for having disturbed your resting time. All of a sudden I remembered my parents and my brother, Syah Peri,” said the Prince with a sad face.

Prince Indra Bangsawan recounted what had happened during his trip. The old woman listened to his story carefully.

“Then what happened next? How is your brother now?” asked the old woman with growing curiosity.

“I have no idea how he is now. I don’t even know whether he’s alive or not. When the weather had cleared up, I immediately looked for him to no avail. I kept looking for my brother and the enchanted grass, until I came to this house, Ma’am,” explained the Prince.

The Land of Antah Berantah Permana

Prince Indra Bangsawan shared a lot of his life stories with the old woman who paid attention to his each word. At a certain point she said, “Young Man, you are such a good boy. I am so fond of you. I will now consider you my own grandson,” said the old woman.

Later, the old woman invited Prince Indra Bangsawan to the living room where she had been resting.

“Grandma, what is the name of this country?” asked the Prince.

The old woman smiled when she heard the question. She nodded her head several times while fidgeting with her wooden cane.

“It’s called the Land of Lorong Antah, My Grandson,” replied the old woman while staring at Prince Indra Bangsawan.

“Grandma, is there any neighboring country near this Land of Lorong Antah?” asked Prince Indra Bangsawan with an interrogative tone.

“Yes, of course. The country is called the Land of Antah Berantah Permana which is ruled by King Kabir. However, the country is under the power of a giant. He always disturbs and puts the country in a mess since he wants to kidnap Princess Dewi Kemala Sari. The giant is very powerful. His supernatural power derives

from his seven noses and seven mouths,” explained the old woman.

“According to my prophecy, the only one who is able to defeat the giant is named Prince Indra Bangsawan. If that is truly your name, I beg you to help the country and people of Antah Berantah Permana, Grandson. If you can defeat the giant, I will reward you with an enchanted grass,” said the old woman.

“Really, Grandma, you will give me an enchanted grass?” asked Prince Indra Bangsawan with a hopeful tone.

“Know that the enchanted grass you’re looking for is unique and I am the only one who has and keeps it,” replied the old woman. “I will give you the enchanted grass if you are willing to help defeat the giant. What do you think, My Grandson?” she asked him.

“Alright, Grandma, I am willing to do it. Tell me about the family of King Kabir,” asked Prince Indra Bangsawan.

“King Kabir has a lovely daughter. She will be engaged to be married to the son of King Sembilan. Since his country keeps being disturbed by the giant, King Kabir made a contest. Whoever kills the giant, he will be made the husband of Princess Dewi Kemala Sari,” explained the old woman, who possessed magical powers.

“Grandma, I set out and left my parents in search for the enchanted grass. Therefore, whatever befalls me, and no matter how hard the obstacles I have to face, I will strive to get that thing,” said Prince Indra Bangsawan.

“If it is so, go help King Kabir from the hands of the giant immediately,” said the old woman.

With unwavering determination, Prince Indra Bangsawan decided to go to the land of Antah Berantah Permana.

“I will, Grandma, but how can I arrive at the palace? Isn’t the palace of King Kabir quite far from here? Besides, I haven’t been there before,” said Prince Indra Bangsawan.

“You can get there by using this magical sarong which will help you achieve what you want by only putting it on. You’d better disguise yourself and change your name into Anak Budak. If you find difficulties, come back here immediately!” instructed the old woman.

After that, the old woman went outside the room. She took out an old sarong and gave it to the Prince while explaining how to wear it.

At the set time, Prince Indra Bangsawan got ready for his departure to the palace of King Kabir. He surrendered himself and prayed to the Almighty God.

Following the old woman's instructions, the Prince disguised himself as a man named Anak Budak. By putting on the magical sarong, Prince Indra Bangsawan arrived in the Land of Antah Berantah Permana in a blink of an eye.

Anak Budak

Upon his arrival in the Land of Negeri Antah Berantah Permana, Anak Budak, which was Prince Indra Bangsawan in disguise, was heading for the downtown where he met the royal commander who was looking for a man to look after the goats.

“Alright, Master, I am willing to work as the shepherd of the goats,” said Anak Budak.

Shortly afterwards, they went to the palace, marching one after another with steady steps. King Kabir found out about the arrival of Anak Budak and asked him to come and see him.

“This is the Kingdom of Kabir, Young Man. If His Highness accepts you, you can start working here today. You shall bring the goats to the meadow,” said the commander.

“Very well, Master, I will do it,” replied Anak Budak.

Like a commoner, Anak Budak showed his astonishment when he saw the luxurious and majestic palace of the Land of Antah Berantah Permana. He looked up to see the beautiful and magnificent palace roof, and turned his head to the left and to the right to see the decorations and walls made of marble and alabaster.

While in fact, he had gotten used to the luxurious things like that in the Kingdom of Kobat Syahrial.

The accompanying guard saw Anak Budak's attitude and had to refrain from laughing. After a while, they arrived in front of the King Kabir's throne where they knelt down in reverence.

"Your Majesty, we come in your presence. We bring this Anak Budak who will take care of the Princess' goats," said the guard.

"Very well, Guard. Young Man, what is your name and where are you from?" asked King Kabir to Anak Budak.

"Your Majesty, I am usually called Anak Budak. I don't know my origins since I have been an orphan since I was little. I wandered where my feet led me. I happened to meet your commander who was looking for a shepherd," said Anak Budak.

King Kabir observed Anak Budak closely. His heart was a little bit moved with compassion towards the young man.

“Very well, Anak Budak. I accept you to work here. You have to look after the goats of my daughter with great attention. Give them food and drink so that they become fat. Guard! Take care of Anak Budak so he can start working right away,” ordered the king.

Anak Budak and the guard left the kingdom’s throne and the guard told him where the goats were and gave him all of the daily necessities. The following day, Anak Budak started his new task by taking the goats to the meadow. He tied them so that they could not run around. After that, he took a rest under a tree where he sat watching the herds. He then took out his magical sarong and turned back into Prince Indra Bangsawan.

“How vast this meadow is. I have to be careful in looking after these goats. Hopefully they become fat soon so that Prince Ratna Kemala Sari will be happy,” said the Prince.

The breeze blew against the tip of leaves of the trees in the meadow. Leaves of bamboo, frangipani, and banyan trees were swaying following the direction of the wind. They swayed to the left and to the right depending on where the wind moved them. The air under those trees was cool and refreshing. Shortly after, without him realizing it, the Prince fell asleep for a while under the tree.

When it was almost afternoon, he woke up from his nap and saw that the goats were still in the place where he had tied them. Then, he packed his belongings and took out his magical sarong to turn himself again into Anak Budak. He ran slowly towards the goats in the middle of the meadow.

He led the goats back into their pen. That was the daily task of Anak Budak from morning to afternoon. As time went by, the goats became fat and started to reproduce. How skillful Anak Budak was in taking care and watching for those goats. King Kabir and Princess Ratna Kemala Sari were happy to see their goats become fat and clean.

The happiness of the royal family was disrupted by the news of the giant's arrival. The King was angry and sad because the giant would take Princess Ratna Kemala Sari. Thus he ordered the guards and all of his people to fight against the giant. The order was spread throughout the whole Land of Antah Berantah and was eventually heard by Anak Budak who was determined to fight, defeat, and even kill the giant.

The people of the Land of Antah Berantah Permana were preparing themselves to fight against the giant. They practiced to combat in war and to shoot with bows. So were the commanders inside the palace. They practice their combatting skills and were trained to shoot a bow and to make a trap to ambush the giant.

Anak Budak took out his magical sarong. At once, he was already back inside the house of the old woman.

“What should I do, Grandma, to face the giant? I heard that he would take Princess Ratna Kemala Sari,” asked Prince Indra Bangsawan.

“Don’t worry, My Grandson, you will be able to defeat the giant. God has appointed you to be the only one who is able to beat him. I will give you a sturdy horse to fight against him. Don’t you have a bow? Don’t forget to bring it with you, and the more important thing is, you have to aim at his seven noses and seven mouths because there is where his power comes from. When you have them in your hands, he will drop dead right away. Now, go back there immediately! I have a feeling that the giant has already arrived,” instructed the old woman.

Having listened to the old woman’s explanation, Prince Indra Bangsawan returned to the Land of Antah Berantah Permana by riding his magical horse.

The giant had come back again to the Land of Antah Berantah Permana. His footsteps were as fast as light, accompanied by a deafening thudding sound. He wanted to take Princess Ratna Kemala Dewi with him. However, King Kabir tried to keep his evil plan from prevailing. Finally, the King declared a war against the giant.

A heated war then broke out between the giant and the Land of Antah Berantah Permana's inhabitants. The people and the royal commanders united to combine their strength. They were led by a royal courtier. When the giant was in the middle of the battlefield, the royal courtier's troop ambushed him. They managed to besiege him, carrying various weapons.

Arrows, machetes, and other various weapons of the people pierced the giant's body, and yet he was still standing tall. He raged more violently and destroyed all things before him. He was furious because he had not yet attained what he wanted.

The battle between the giant and the people was not a balanced fight. Many people and royal commanders fell and got injured. So was the son of King Sembilan, who was wounded and unable to defeat the giant. Meanwhile, the giant still displayed his formidable strength, as if he had inexhaustible force and was immune to death.

Amidst the more unbalanced battle, all of a sudden a handsome and mighty young man showed up on his magical horse. The young man was in fact Prince Indra Bangsawan but the people did not recognize him. Armed with a bow and a sword, he headed directly to face the raging giant.

The Prince was sitting straight at the back of his magical horse. His right hand took out a long sword from its sheath. From a

distance, the sword glistened, looking very sharp. In the meantime, his left hand held his bow, while the arrows were arranged neatly in their sheath behind his back. The arrowheads looked dangerously pointy.

With a deadly pace, the horse lunged at the giant. At the same time, the Prince on its back was ready to stab him with his long sword.

“Arrrgh... arrghh ...” roared the giant.

The Prince managed to thrust his sword to the giant’s eye. The giant struggled to fight back. He exerted all of his might to capture the Prince. However, the old woman’s magical horse was unbeatable. With an agile movement, the horse dodged him out.

The Prince jumped off his horse, as if the animal itself would like to give an opportunity to the master to fight alone. The magical horse also seemed to know the threatening danger that it ran away to avoid the rocks thrown by the giant.

The Prince started to attack the giant with his sword and arrows. When the arrows pierced his body, the giant tried to pull them out. He managed to do so and threw them back at the Prince who ducked out all of them with quick and accurate movements. All of a sudden he was already back on his horse, having shown his incredible fighting skills.

“Ha, who on earth that young man on the horse is? How heroic he is! His fighting skills are unbeatable and... and... how skillful he is with the bow and sword,” said the son of King Sembilan in awe.

“I don’t know. I have never seen him before. Who is he? What a stunning power he has! Hopefully he will be able to defeat the giant!” said his friend.

“Alright then, we’d better withdraw. Let that young man fight the giant. It looks like his strength can match the giant’s,” said the royal commander.

The Prince handled his bow and sword very well and with agility. One, two of his arrows stabbed the giant’s nostrils. The giant moaned in pain while trying to pull those arrows to no avail.

King Kabir went to the battlefield with his entourage. The King would like to see the young man whose bravery he had heard about from his royal commander.

When he arrived in the battlefield, the King did not see any young man fighting the giant. He only saw that the giant had collapsed, lying supine on the ground with lots of arrows stuck on his body. King Kabir scrutinized the giant’s body. Apparently, his seven noses and seven mouths were missing. Someone had chopped

them off. He ordered his guard to bury the corpse of that wicked giant.

While fighting against the giant, Prince Indra Bangsawan had shot his arrows at the giant's seven noses and seven mouths. And then, with a flashing movement, the Prince swayed his sword at them.

He managed to cut off the giant's noses and mouths. However, his action was not clearly seen by the spectators of the fight. He put the seven noses and mouths of the giant inside his arrows sheath so that nobody could see them.

The King was still wondering about the mysterious person who had killed the giant, when Anak Budak walked steadily towards the royal throne with a package in his hand.

“Forgive me, Your Majesty, for being daring enough to come and see you in person,” Anak Budak knelt down in reverence.

“What's the matter, Anak Budak?” asked the King.

“I would like to deliver this, Your Majesty,” replied Anak Budak while lifting the package above his head.

The King stood up and took the package, and remained shocked.

“Ooh...! The giant’s mouths and noses, all seven of each,” he said in awe.

The ministers and royal courties observed the the scene and all of a sudden the King remembered the vow he had made. Meanwhile, Anak Budak remained still on his knees before him.

“Royal courtiers and ministers, I will give my daughter’s hand to be married to anyone who is able to deliver the giant’s noses and mouths to me. Anak Budak has come now with these proofs. Therefore, I’d like to inform you today that I’m goint to give my daughter’s hand to be married to Anak Budak,” said the King to the ministers and royal courts.

Anak Budak was startled, not expecting that the King would be willing to give his daughter’s hand to be married to him.

“Whatever it takes, from now on, you are my future son-in-law,” continued the King.

He ordered his royal courtiers and ministers to give Anak Budak a better role just like a prince. The news of Princess Ratna Kemala Sari who would be married to Anak Budak was quickly spread.

The Son of King Sembilan

The news of Princess Ratna Kemala Sari who would be married to Anak Budak was spread throughout the Land of Antah Berantah Permana. The news reached the son of King Sembilan as well, who became furious upon hearing it, since it had been arranged previously that Princess Ratna Kemala Sari would have been engaged to be married to him instead.

Being offended, the son of King Sembilan made a plan to attack the Land of Antah Berantah Permana and kidnap Putri Ratna Kemala Sari. They gathered their people and commanders, along with their complete weapons.

On the set day, the people of the Land of Sembilan departed to the Land of Antah Berantah Permana. On his way, the son of King Sembilan decided to send a letter to King Kabir and instructed a commander to deliver it ahead of them.

Shortly afterwards, a guard came to tell the King that a messenger from the Land of Sembilan had arrived. King Kabir was very shocked when he read the letter.

“How insolent they are to threaten me this way! I’m going to face them. I am not afraid at all. Guards, come here right away! Hurry and order all of the people and commanders to immediately form

a troop to fight the attack from the Land of Sembilan,” said King Kabir with clenched teeth.

“If King Kabir would like to keep his land safe, he is requested to give Prince Ratna Kemala Sari to the letter messenger. On the contrary, if King refuses to give his daughter, the Land of Antah Berantah Permana will be attacked by the people and son of King Sembilan.”

A fierce battle broke out between the Land of Antah Berantah Permana and the Land of Sembilan. However, many people from the Land of Antah Berantah Permana’s side fell and got wounded.

King Kabir didn’t have a heart to see his people keep falling and being wounded so he decided to go as well into the battle to face the son of King Sembilan personally. He was determined to beat his enemies with his own hands.

However, the prediction of King Kabir was wrong. Apparently his enemies were a lot stronger. He was cornered by the son of King Sembilan and his troop. With long swords and various other weapons, the son of King Sembilan and his troop hemmed King Kabir in, while swaying their weapons in a threatening way.

In such a hopeless situation, King Kabir surrendered his fate to God by lifting up a prayer in his heart, “Oh Lord, please forgive

my sins. I surrender myself to Your will. I beg you to protect my daughter and all of my people!”

Out of the blue, as fast as a lightning a young man showed up and snatched King Kabir from his enemies’ hands. From the back of his horse, Prince Indra Bangsawan swiftly lifted King Kabir off the ground and put him to sit behind him.

And then, at breakneck speed, the magical horse galloped towards the palace. Prince Indra Bangsawan helped King Kabir got off his horse. Then he saluted the King and left immediately.

King Kabir didn’t have any chance to recognize the young man who had helped him and so wondered who that young man could be. Then, he quickly went inside his palace, intending to take his daughter away. He looked for Princess Ratna Kemala Sari and Anak Budak, who had become his future son-in-law. However, he could not find Anak Budak and so he marveled even more about who his future son-in-law really was.

In the meantime, the battle outside the palace heated up even more. A young man, which was Pangeran Indra Bangsawan himself, was successful in fighting against the enemies from the Land of Sembilan. Finally, they got won and the son of King Sembilan admitted his defeat by withdrawing his troop. Having won his fight against the son of King Sembilan, Indra Bangsawan then went back to the old woman’s house.

“Alright, My Grandson, take a rest for a little while! I will take the enchanted grass that I have promised you.” Shortly afterwards, the old woman came back with something wrapped in a piece of cloth.

“My Grandson, here is your enchanted grass. Take it and keep it well! Then, go back to the Land of Antah Berantah Permana! King Kabir is waiting for you,” instructed the old woman.

“Alright, Grandma. Thank you very much,” said the Prince.

With his magical sarong, the Prince arrived instantly at the Kingdom of Kabir. He saw that the war had been over. However, the place teemed with people and commanders who were busy cleaning up the battlefield and attending to the wounded ones.

Then he sneaked into his room so that nobody would notice his arrival. The Prince was about to transfer himself back into Anak Budak, but he got distracted with the enchanted grass from the old woman that he did not do it immediately. In the mean time, King Kabir, who had been looking for Anak Budak since the battle had been started, was walking towards his room. When he opened its door, the King was shocked at the sight.

“You..., you... aren’t you the young man who has helped me? Why are you here, in the room of Anak Budak?” asked King Kabir with a surprised tone.

Prince Indra Bangsawan, who had not been transformed, was also startled. He then remembered that he had not locked his room. He did not think that someone would barge in without knocking. Finally the Prince decided to reveal his true identity, while bowing down in reverence.

“Forgive me, Your Majesty! You are right, I am the man who has joined your troop in fighting those from the Land of Sembilan, and I was the one who has helped you from their hands. Please forgive me, Your Majesty. Actually Anak Budak and I are the same person.”

King Kabir flashed a smile and held the Prince’s shoulders to make him stand up. Then, he stared at the young man intently.

“What is your name, Young Man?” asked the King.

“My name is Indra Bangsawan, a son of King Indra Bungsu,” replied the Prince.

King Kabir nodded and all of a sudden hugged Prince Indra Bangsawan since he was happy and proud of his future son-in-law, who turned out to be a prince named Indra Bangsawan.

“My guess was right, that Anak Budak is actually a brave man. Please don’t transform yourself anymore. I will keep my promise

to let you marry my daughter Ratna Kemala Sari,” said King Kabir.

After that moving revelation, the King asked the Prince to take a rest while he himself went back to his throne since the son of King Sembilan, who had admitted his defeat, was already waiting for him there.

Prince Indra Bangsawan Got Married

Having admitted his defeat, the son of King Sembilan excused himself to return to his country. After the war was over, King Kabir would like to keep his promise immediately. He would let Anak Budak, which is Prince Indra Bangsawan himself, to marry his daughter. The news about the King’s future son-in-law soon became the talk throughout the whole country.

The royal family was busy preparing all the required things for the wedding ceremony. The commoners also joined them by helping the royal courtiers. They were very glad to participate in preparing the wedding of the Princess who they loved deeply.

Banners were hoisted everywhere while the emblems of the country were also put up in every corner of the streets. The ditch along the road was cleaned up so everything looked neat and nice to look at.

The invited guests started to arrive. A lot of them were also kings and princes from the neighboring kingdoms. They wore elegant clothes and came with various vehicles. Some brought horse chariots, while some rode their elephants. The old woman with supernatural powers also came, keeping her promise to Prince Indra Bangsawan.

The arrival of those guests was such an interesting sight for the people of the Land of Antah Berantah Permana. They became such a unique attraction for the commoners.

The guests and royal family, as well as the royal courtiers had gathered in the open hall. Judge Faaludin, who would lead the wedding ceremony, had arrived as well.

King Kabir, along with Princess Ratna Kemala Sari and one of the palace advisors, sat next to the religious judge. In front of them sat Pangeran Indra Bangsawan. King Kabir asked the religious judge to start his daughter's wedding ceremony.

As any other bride and groom, the Princess and the Prince were dressed up elegantly.

Princess Ratna Kemala Sari wore a lovely wedding gown and put on beautiful jewelries, looking gorgeous on her wedding day. So was the Prince, who looked elegant and handsome. The couple looked truly stunning together.

The wedding party of the King's Princess was held for seven days and seven nights. Many performances were shown and the people really enjoyed the celebration.

The wedding party was like a festivity for all of the people in the country. Every people, without any exception, rejoiced in it. The whole Land of Antah Berantah Permana had a great time together.

The Return to Kobat Syahrial Kingdom

Prince Indra Bangsawan told his wife about his intention to visit his parents who he had left for so long. Princess Ratna Kemala Sari then invited him to see King Kabir.

“Forgive us, Father, for coming to see you without being summoned,” said Indra Bangsawan.

“What's the matter, Son?” asked King Kabir.

“Father, I would like to visit my parents in the Land of Kobat Syahrial. I have been separated from them for so long,” replied Indra Bangsawan.

King Kabir could understand his son-in-law's feelings. Then he asked the Queen to prepare everything for the Prince's oncoming trip.

Prince Indra Bangsawan and Princess Ratna Kemala Sari went back to their room immediately. However, after seeing King Kabir, Indra Bangsawan fell sick. His body temperature was high, and he was shivering. His sickness seemed to be quite serious.

All kinds of medicines had been given to him, so were all kinds of potions. Yet he did not get any better. The King, royal family, and royal courtiers got into a panic. They were sad and confused, not knowing what to do.

Healers had been called, but none of them could heal him. The sickness of Prince Indra Bangsawan was even getting worse.

The news about Prince Indra Bangsawan being sick was spread and even reached the neighboring countries. The kings in the Land of Sembilan also came to visit him. They all looked very sad.

In a faraway place, Syah Peri was talking to his wife. He looked anxious, as if he something had been troubling his mind.

“What are you thinking about, Husband?” asked Dewi Ratna Sari.

“My Wife Dewi, I am thinking of a particular dream. Last night I dreamed of seeing again my brother Indra Bangsawan. In my dream, he was falling from such a high place,” said Syah Peri.

When she heard her husband's explanation, Dewi Ratna Sari came closer to him. She consoled her husband by saying that she owned an amulet in form of a piece of stone which had a power to heal sick people.

Syah Peri was relieved to hear his wife's words. He then asked his wife to look for his brother.

Having walked for quite some time, they entered a village and were surprised to find such a peculiar atmosphere in the village. All of its inhabitants looked as if they were mourning over something. Syah Peri then approached one of them and asked, "Sir, what is this land called? Why do you all look so sad as if you are mourning?"

"You are right, Son. This country is mourning. The son-in-law of our king is very sick. By the way, this is the Land of Antah Berantah Permana, Son. Who are you and where are you going?" replied the villager, posing a question back to his interlocutor.

"I am Syah Peri and this is my wife, Dewi Ratna Sari. I'm looking for my brother. His name is Indra Bangsawan," said Syah Peri.

The villager was surprised to hear Syah Peri's answer. Then he told him everything he knew about Prince Indra Bangsawan.

Syah Peri was overwhelmed with joy when he heard the explanation of the villager. However, he got dismayed again when he knew that his brother was very ill. He and his wife excused themselves from the villager.

Syah Peri accelerated his steps in order to arrive immediately to the palace of the Land of Antah Berantah Permana. He wanted to see his brother from whom he had been long separated. Shortly afterwards, Syah Peri and his wife reached the palace.

“Officer, please bring us to the King’s presence. We are the relatives of Prince Indra Bangsawan,” said Syah Peri to a guard at the gate.

The royal courtier took Syah Peri and Dewi Ratna Sari right away to the presence of King Kabir.

Syah Peri then explained everything to King Kabir. Having heard the statement of Syah Peri, King Kabir’s heart was relieved and in turn told them about the disease of Indra Bangsawan.

King Kabir then invited Syah Peri and his wife to see Indra Bangsawan. Syah Peri was very sad when he saw his brother’s condition. However, he did not show his sadness in front of Indra Bangsawan.

Syah Peri then took the amulet his wife had given him. He asked for some water from the royal courtier. He took the glass of water and helped Indra Bangsawan drink it.

By God's grace, slowly but sure the power of the amulet started to work. Prince Indra Bangsawan was gradually able to move his body. His pale face started to to regain some color. He had come around. When his eyes met Syah Peri's, he immediately embraced his brother.

They hugged each other for a long time, as if they wanted to make up for all the time they had spent being separated from each other. Everybody witnessed it with a lump in their throat. Some even could not keep their tears from falling.

Having caught up with each other's news, they were invited to dine together with King Kabir. Syah Peri and his wife stayed in the Land of Antah Berantah Permana for several days and were treated like close relatives by King Kabir.

The health of Prince Indra Bangsawan recovered speedily. This urged a wish in his heart to see his parents in the Land of Kobat Syahrial. King Kabir and his Queen approved his wish.

At first they intended to set out with just four of them; Syah Peri and his wife, with Indra Bangsawan and his wife. However, upon knowing that someone that they loved deeply would go away, a

lot of people wanted to come along. Many people from the Land of Sembilan decided to come along as well. The Prince's entourage now consisted of a large number of people.

At the palace of Kobat Syahrial, the King was sitting in front of his royal courtiers and his Queen. He was talking about his two sons who had gone away for so long to look for the enchanted grass. They had not talked for so long when two villagers came to see him.

They reported about a big group of people coming towards the Land Kobat Syahrial. The large entourage belonged to the two Crown Princes who had gone for so long.

“Is that true that they are my sons' entourage?” asked the King to the villagers.

The two villagers nodded to answer his question. The King also asked whether his two sons brought along their wives.

“I think so, Your Majesty. I saw a lot of women in the entourage,” replied one of the villagers.

“Courtier, prepare a place to rest for the entourage of my sons! Welcome them warmly,” ordered the King.

The entourage of both Princes was soon welcomed with a great fanfare by the court officials. Both sons of the King and their

wives were soon invited to enter the palace. There, the King and his Queen had been waiting for them impatiently for quite some time. When they came in, they hugged them one by one.

“My Sons, you have come home safely. Are these your wives?” asked the Queen. “They are so lovely. Both of you have made an excellent choice,” she praised them.

The two Princes then introduced their respective wives. Prince Syah Peri introduced Dewi Ratna Sari and Prince Indra Bangsawan introduced Ratna Kemala Sari. Then, the two Princesses were invited to follow the Queen.

Having caught up with each other’s news, the King asked about the task he had given them.

“Did you get the enchanted grass, My Sons?” asked the King.

“Forgive me, Father. I was not successful in bringing home the enchanted grass for you. But Brother Indra Bangsawan did find it,” replied Syah Peri.

King Kobat Syahrial nodded his head several times.

Then, he asked Syah Peri whether the Prince was willing to accept his younger brother Indra Bangsawan, as the next King. Syah Peri turned out to be such a big-hearted prince. He accepted the decision with such a big heart.

The King was very proud with his two sons. Finally, on a chosen day, Prince Indra Bangsawan was crowned King of the Land of Kobat Syahrial, earning a title as Sultan Indra Bangsawan.

Sultan Indra Bangsawan ruled the country justly. Therefore, many neighboring countries decided to join his kingdom, including the Land of Sembilan. As time went by, the Land of Kobat Syahrial became very famous and continued to expand greatly. Its people lived prosperously, and the land was known as a kingdom which preferred peace to war.