

Episode 1 script

Duration is 4 minutes

Learning with Grandad

Episode: Stupa

Introduction title sequence

Scene 1.

Interior. Museum exhibition on buddhism *ref to buddhist art and different types of buddhism

Fading into the scene you can hear the ramblings of Pedro, Sipho's grandad. Sipho is staring at the interpretation board intently. He is struggling to understand what is being described.

Pedro kneels to Sipho's level and places his hand on his shoulder to reassure him. Sipho then turns to his grandad (Pedro) and asks;

'What does this mean grandad?'

'It's okay Sipho, it's just a story about the artefact.'

Zoom into the buddhist stupa in a box **ref to Buddhist prayer shrine in artefacts folder and museum exhibition*

Pedro tells Sipho;

'This is something really special to Buddhists, it's called a Stupa.'

Sipho replies intrigued

'A Stupa?' (Elongated)

Pedro adds

'Yes a Stupa. It is the physical representation of the Buddhist's mind.'

Pedro continues to explain but Sipho starts to get distracted by the details on the Stupa.

'It helps to inspire and focus the Buddhist's mind on faith. The stupa always goes to the Buddhist's left or right.' * insert clip here of the mantras being written and placed in the stupa.

Sipho is still distracted by the details on the Stupa, what's caught his attention is the snow lions.

'Look! Look grandad, there's lions on the...stupa. How cool is that?' Sipho exclaims.

'Yes, they look very similar to lions but they are actually snow lions.' Pedro corrects.

'Snow lions?' Sipho is puzzled but as Pedro explains the snow lions come to life and move around the space.

'Yes, snow lions. They represent Buddha's fearlessness, that's why they are on the throne. The throne is the bottom part of the stupa.' Pedro details.

'It is believed that the snow lions wander the mountains of Tibet but you can only see them once you've achieved pure karma.'

Sipho repeats in his mind the word karma but is puzzled and the snow lions disappear.

Pedro has his hand on Sipho shoulder and Sipho asks;

'What is karma grandad ?'

'Is it when you are good and kind something good happens?' Sipho asks.

Pedro answers.

'Yes that's part of it. What you put into the world you receive including the good and the bad. One of the steps to enlightenment is good karma.'

Pedro closes with;

'Buddists believe that good Karma will help you go to a good afterlife.'

Sipho points at the figure on the Stupa and asks. 'And who's that grandad?'

'That is likely a Bodhisattva, an enlightened being who helps others reach enlightenment.'

'He sounds like a good friend, grandad.' Sipho smiles.

Pedro laughs and agrees.

Sipho's stomach rumbles and Pedro says

'Someone sounds hungry...come on Sipho let's go get something to eat.'

End

Credits

Production and curation - Sanne Chiza Blanco & Edward Williams

Animation - Gabriela Bran

Community consultation - Gen Kelsang Khechog from Jangchub Ling Kadampa Buddhist Centre

If you would like to add to the story please contact us at info@wedontsettle.com

If you want to know more about the food Sipho and Grandad are eating please visit (*url tbc?*)

Thank you for watching!

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