



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: January 2026
WORKSHEET NO.-19	Topic: The Holy Panchayat	Note: To be written in notebook



The Holy Panchayat **By Munshi Premchand**

Munshi Premchand's "The Holy Panchayat" is a story about friendship, justice, and the sanctity of the village Panchayat. It shows how truth and fairness prevail when individuals rise above personal bias to uphold collective justice. In short, *The Holy Panchayat* is a timeless lesson in justice, integrity, and the moral strength required to lead fairly, even when personal relationships are at stake.



A1. Choose the correct answers. Put a tick mark.

- Jumman and Algu were partners in _____.
a) Friendship b) business c) **farming**
- Whom did the old woman choose as the sarpanch?
a) Samjhu b) **Algu** c) Jumman
- What breed were the handsome pair of oxen Algu had purchased from Batesar?
a) **Pachchain** b) Soulguru c) Indica
- Jumman made the decision in favour of Algu because _____.

- a) Of their friendship
- b) he did not want to deviate from the truth**
- c) he wanted to spite Algu

A2. Answer these questions.

1. Describe the relationship between Jumman and Algu.

Ans: Jumman and Algu were very good friends and were partners in farming but the bond of friendship between Algu and Jumman was broken after Algu had given a verdict in favour of Jumman's aunt.

2. How was Jumman's behaviour towards his aunt?

Ans: Jumman's behaviour towards his aunt was very disrespectful. Before the transfer of the property, Jumman pampered his aunt but afterwards treated her very poorly.

3. How did the judgement proclaimed by Algu impact their friendship?

Ans: The bond of friendship between Algu and Jumman was broken after Algu the judgement in favour of Jumman's aunt. The very basis of their friendship shook and the old intimacy faded away.

4. Why did Jumman say that Algu had been punished for treachery?

Ans: Jumman said so because one of the oxen purchased by Algu died and Jumman believed it had happened because Algu had committed a bad deed which was to give the judgement against him.

5. How was the altercation between Algu and Jumman settled?

Ans: The altercation was settled when Jumman found himself in the same position as Algu must have been previously. He realised the responsibility the moment he was given the high office of the sarpanch. He announced a fair judgement in favour of Algu. Jumman embraced his friend and said that he realised that on the seat of judgement one is no one's friend or foe. Justice comes first.

6. Why did the villages have an unwavering faith in the Panch?

Ans: The villages had an unwavering faith in the Panch because it was an essential form of ensuring justice within society and they considered the word of Panch the word of God.



proclaimed



A3. Answer these questions with reference to the context.

1. *But at this moment you and Khaala are equal in my eyes.*

a) Who said this and who is he talking about?

Ans: Algu said this and he is talking about his friend Jumman and his aunt.

b) What do these lines reflect about the speaker's behaviour?

Ans: This line reflects that the speaker is impartial.

c) Why did he say that they were equal in his eyes?

Ans: He said so because Algu was chosen as the panchayat by Jumman's aunt and because the word of the panchayat is the word of God so both the parties were equal in his eyes.

2. *This is justice. This is not the work of man.*

a) Who said this?

Ans: Algu said this.

b) Why were the speakers happy?

Ans: The speakers were happy because Jumman had honoured the seat of justice and given an impartial judgement.

c) What was 'justice' in this context?

Ans: 'Justice' in this context was the judgement that Samjhu should pay the price of the ox to Algu as the ox was not suffering from any disease when it was sold to him.

A4. Think and answer:

1. *An awareness of the burden of a responsibility often alters our narrow outlook. When we lose our way, this awareness shows us the light.*

Explain this statement in the light of the story 'The Holy Panchayat'.

Ans: This statement holds relevance in the chapter. Earlier when Algu was on the seat of justice and announced the judgement against Jumman's mistreatment of his aunt. Jumman became his enemy. But when the same responsibility fell on him, he realised the burden of responsibility and in turn understood Algu's position.
