

This is the part of the text from the *Cāndāyan* when Chāndā's father, Rao Mahar, is being challenged by a neighboring Rao, Rūpchand, who has fallen in love with Chāndā and will do anything to carry her away from her father's palace. Thus, a war begins, with Rao Rūpchand assaulting the kingdom of Rao Mahar, located in the city of Govar. Rao Mahar has sent his messenger, Basīth, to negotiate terms with Rao Rūpchand. But, Rūpchand wants nothing to do with terms.

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बसीठ बहरि गोवर महिं आए। महर देखि जन आगे धाए॥ 1
पूछा महर कसर सौं आएह। काह कहिह कस ऊतरु पाएह॥ 2
जस पूछा तस बसीठैं कहा। सुनइ न राजा कोह कइ रहा॥ 3
हस्ति घोर धनु दरबु न मानइ। चांद मांग जिहि सूरु न जानइ॥ 4
जउ जउ चांदा बीचहि दीन्हां। तउ तउ राउ चाह जिउ लीन्हां। 5
कइ मंति जसि तम्हं उपजइ राजा कीजइ सोइ
उवत सर गढु तोरें फुनि पछितावा होइ॥ 6

Basith returned and entered Govar. Seeing the crowd, Mahar ran forward [1] and asked, "Have you come with good news? What did you say (to him), and what was the answer you received?" [2] Just as [the king] requested, so Basith spoke, "The King [Rūpchand] did not listen. He remained angry. [3] He doesn't want elephants, horses and money. He only wants the 'moon'. He doesn't even recognize the sun! [4] Ever since we have hidden Chāndā, since then this king has wanted to kill us. [5] O King, whatever happens to be your opinion, so be it! At the rising of the sun, and the destruction of [his] fort, may he then repent before you![6]

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महरइं मुख कंवरन्ह कर चाहा। छतिस करी दहुं बोलिय काहा॥ 1
बहुतन्ह कहा चांद जउ दीजइ। इक मुखु होइ राज फुनि कीजइ॥ 2
अउर कहा बरु निकरि पराइय। दिवस चारि बोहेर गै आइय॥ 3
कुंवरु धंवरु दीते गारी। जेइं जरमेन्हिं सो माइ सियारी॥ 4
भूजहि सासन पाटन गाऊं। अब जिउ देहिं चांद के ठाऊं॥ 5
जउ लहि सांस पेट महिं तउ लहि करिहइं मारि।
पनि सर रचि सभ बरिहहिं जइस होइ उजियारि॥ 6

Mahar looked at the faces of the princes and courtiers and asked, "Do you belong to the 'Thirty-Sixers'?" [1]¹ Many of them responded, "If you give Chāndā to [Rūpchand], then we will rule with a united front." [2] Others said, "It will be good if you flee from this place and stay away

¹ A reference to the thirty-six Rajput tribes, who had settled in the Avadhi area.

for four days.” [3] Kunvarū and Dhanvarū shouted obscenities at all of them, saying, “Though you have been born like anyone else, in reality you have been born from the stomach of a jackal – your mother was a jackal! [4] We have been given the right to rule a city and enjoy the benefits of the villages; now we will give our lives for Chāndā’s cause! [5] As long as we breathe we will fight. In the meantime, we will all make a funeral pyre and burn, from which our fame may glow. [6]

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राइ रूपचंदु गढ़ होइ बाजा। राउ महर दर आपन साजा॥ 1
पहिरि संजोइ बांठु हथवासा। कुंवरू आगे पाउ हुलासा॥ 2
बांठ कहा अरे तू को आही। बिथा मरेसि उट्ठि घर जाही॥ 3
कुवरू तरपि खांड लइ काढ़े। छतीस करी सभ देखइ ठाढ़े॥ 4
बांठइं ताकि खरग गै मारा। फरी लागि धर किएउ अपारा॥ 5
दीठि भलानि खरगु जउ चमका फरि लै हाथ हत छटि।
लाग खांड बांठा की कुंवरू गा भुइं टूटि॥ 6

[When] King Rūpchand appeared at the fort, King Mahar prepared his army. [1] Wearing armor and carrying weapons in his hands, Bānth became energized when Kunvarū appeared before him. [2] Bānth said, “Oh, who are you? You’re useless and will assuredly die...get up and go home!” [3] Hearing this, Kunvarū became agitated and drew out his sword while all the ‘Thirty-Sixers’ stood and watched. [4] Taking aim, Bānth came forward and swung his sword at Kunvarū; [Kunvarū] grabbed a shield and endlessly parried [Bānth’s thrusts]. [5] But, his vision was disturbed by the glint of Bānth’s sword and his shield fell from his hand. Bānth’s sword found its mark, and Kunvarū fell to the ground, dead. [6]

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धुंवरू देखा कुंवरू परा। रोहितासु जैसे परजरा॥ 1
हाथि सांगि मारेसि तस आई। फरी लागि धर गएउ चकाई॥ 2
फुनि काढिसि बिजली करवारा। डाक देइ गै हनेसि कटारा॥ 3
टूटि खांड टाटर महिं आवा। बांठ कहा हउं एहिं पइ खावा॥ 4
फुनि लीन्हति काढिसि तरुवाई। तउ हति बांठा चला पराई॥ 5
खेदत अढुका धंवरू परा दबि संहराइ।
पलटि बांठ जउ देखा तउ फिर मारेसि आइ॥6

Dhanvarū saw that Kunvarū had fallen and became fiery like Agni himself. [1] He took a spear in hand and threw it [at Bānth], but it struck his shield, missed and fell to the ground. [2] Then, at the thumping of a kettledrum, he drew out his sword ‘Lightening’, and went to attack [Bānth] with it. [3] The blade shattered when it struck [Bānth’s] head, and Bānth said, “Either I or someone else will finish him off.” [4] After that, Dhanvarū reached for a *taruvāī* (?) and drew it,

Banth hit him and fled. [5] Chasing him, Dhanvaru *adhukā* [mounted a horse] and subduing his foes, he fell down while killing them. Bānth, returned, saw the situation, then came forward and killed him. [6]

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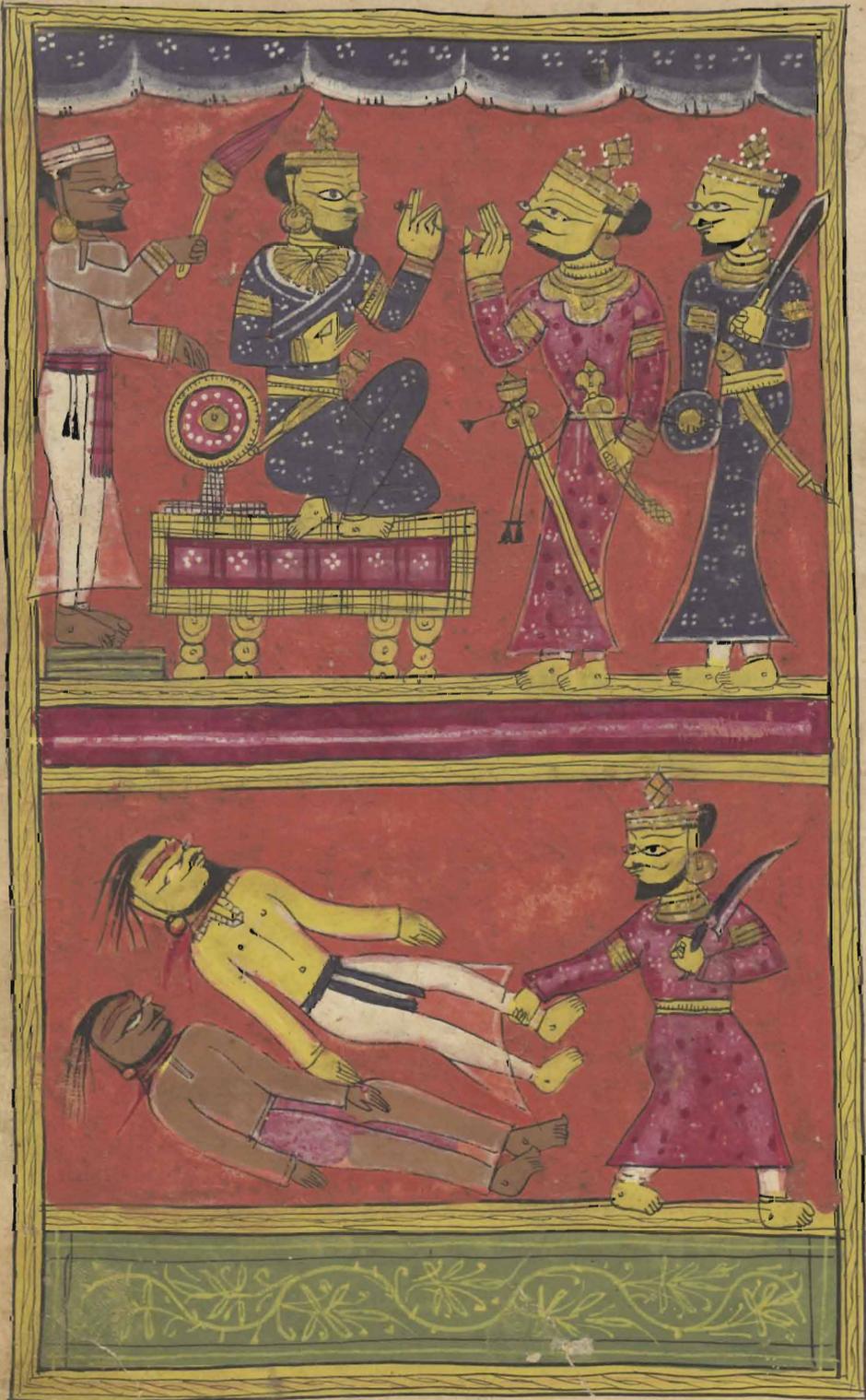
बाजे तार दुवउ जन मारे। अउर कुंवर महरइं के हारे॥ 1
दूवउ आने पाधर घिसियाई। पायक बइठे घरह पराई॥ 2
रगत दुहू के सरवरु भरा। एकउ कुंवर न आगें सरा॥ 3
जिन्ह देखा तिन्ह गएउ परानां। दर महिं कोउ न करइ पयानां॥ 4
जे महरइं जेवनारि जिवाए। संकरी बार निकाजइं (न काजइं) आए॥ 5
भाट कहा महर सेउं तउ पैं पावहि तीरु। बेगि हंकारि पठावहि लोरिकु बावनु बीरु॥ 6

Applause rang out [amidst the enemy] when the two [warriors, Kunvarū, Dhanvarū] were killed, and other young princes of [Rao] Mahar were defeated. [1] Those two [Kunvarū and Dhanvarū] were dragged back by servants; [Mahar's] infantry sat down and sang their praises. [2] A small lake had formed from their blood; not one prince came forward. [3] Others who saw [the two lying there] also lost their courage; the army had lost its will to fight. [4] Those whom Rao Mahar had fed in his kitchens, now, in adversity did not come to work. [5] The royal bard said to Rao Mahar, "Quick, call the brave Lorak and Bāvan, send them [into battle] and you will achieve your goal." [6]

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भाट गोसाई तुम ही धावहु। आगें दइ लोरिक लइ आवहु॥ 1
चढि तुरंग भाटु दउरावा। लोरिक जाइ जुवा फर पावा॥ 2
कहवां भाट घोर दउराएहु। काकर पठए कहा तुम्हं आएहु॥ 3
ओर महर तुम्हं बेगि हंकारे। कुंवरु धंवरु बांठइं मारे॥ 4
जा रबि गोवरु लागि गुहारी। लइ अब चांद होइ अंधियारी॥ 5
उठा लोरु सुनि (नांखा परलै) महर भया अवसान। आजु बांठु रन मारउं (देखउं राइ) परान॥ 6

O Bard, Gosain, dash [to the fort], present yourself to Lorak and bring him back. [1] The bard mounted a horse, made him gallop, arriving to find Lorak gambling. [2] "Bard! From where have you come, racing this horse? Who sent you, and why?" [3] "Rao Mahar has called you, come quick, because Kunvarū and Dhanvarū have been killed! [4] 'Sun' go, and ally yourself with Govar; the "moon" is about to be snatched away, darkness is upon us." [5] Lorak jumped up when he heard of the destruction of the army and Rao Mahar's dejection, [saying:] "I will kill Bānth this very day on the battlefield and see Rao Rūpchand flee. [6]



घर गा लोरिक डांग संभारी। ओडन खांड लीन्ह पटतारी॥ 1
 बांधि रगाउलि कसि सिरि पागा। पहिरेसि सार तार का आंगा॥ 2
 घनसहरी करि खँचि बंधावा। पेट रु गात सनाहु मढ़ावा॥ 3
 टाटर चहुं जन लीन्ह उचाई। लोरिक मूंड दीन्ह औधाई॥ 4
 सारंग एकु जुगुति कर चढ़ा। जनु अरजुन कहं रावनु गढ़ा॥ 5
 फरसा कुंत कटारी लीतेहिं बांधि चला तरवारि।
 रगत पिपासु खांड लोर कर दौरा जीभ पसारि॥ 6

Lorak went home, searched for and prepared his club/mace, took his shield (? ओडन) and sword.

[1] Tying (?रगाउली) [on his feet], tightly winding a turban on the head, he put on an upper garment of mail. [2] He grabbed a hammer (घनसहरी), tied it to his hand, and wore armour around his waist. [3] Four men lifted [Lorak's] helmet and placed it on his head. [4] Skillfully, he took a bow in his hand, as if it was the favorite bow made for Arjuna. [5] Taking along a pick-axe, spear, dagger, and tying on a sword, he set off and ran, the tongue of his drawn sword thirsting for blood! [6]

खोलनि लोरहि चलन न देई। अबहि राउ किन चांदा लेई॥ 1
 में का उकर जीव रखावा। जूझे कहं कस महरि बुलावा॥ 2
 गांव जि बांठहिं जीव रखाहीं। ते कस आजु न जुझें जाहीं॥ 3
 जिव घरबात जीव धन मोरा। बारु न देखें देहउं तोरा॥ 4
 तुझ कछु होई तौ हौ कौ जीवौ। काह खाइ के पानी पीवौ॥ 5
 गाढ काजु मरें कर कैसें जीउ लुकाऊ। माता देहु असीस मुझु मारि बांठु घरि आऊ॥ 6

Kholin was not letting Lorik go [saying], "Why shouldn't Rao Rūpchand take away Chāndā now? [1] Do I have the responsibility of protecting her life? Then, why is Rao Mahar summoning you to the battle? [2] The villagers that come under the king's domain should protect her. Why aren't they going into battle today? [3] You are a benefit to this house, you are my wealth. I will not let anyone see a hair of your head! [4] If anything should happen to you, how will I live? Will I be able to eat or drink?" [5] [Lorik responded,] "Putting oneself at risk is a difficult thing to do, how can I hide from this duty? Mother, give me your blessing, that I shall return home after killing Bānth." [6]
