

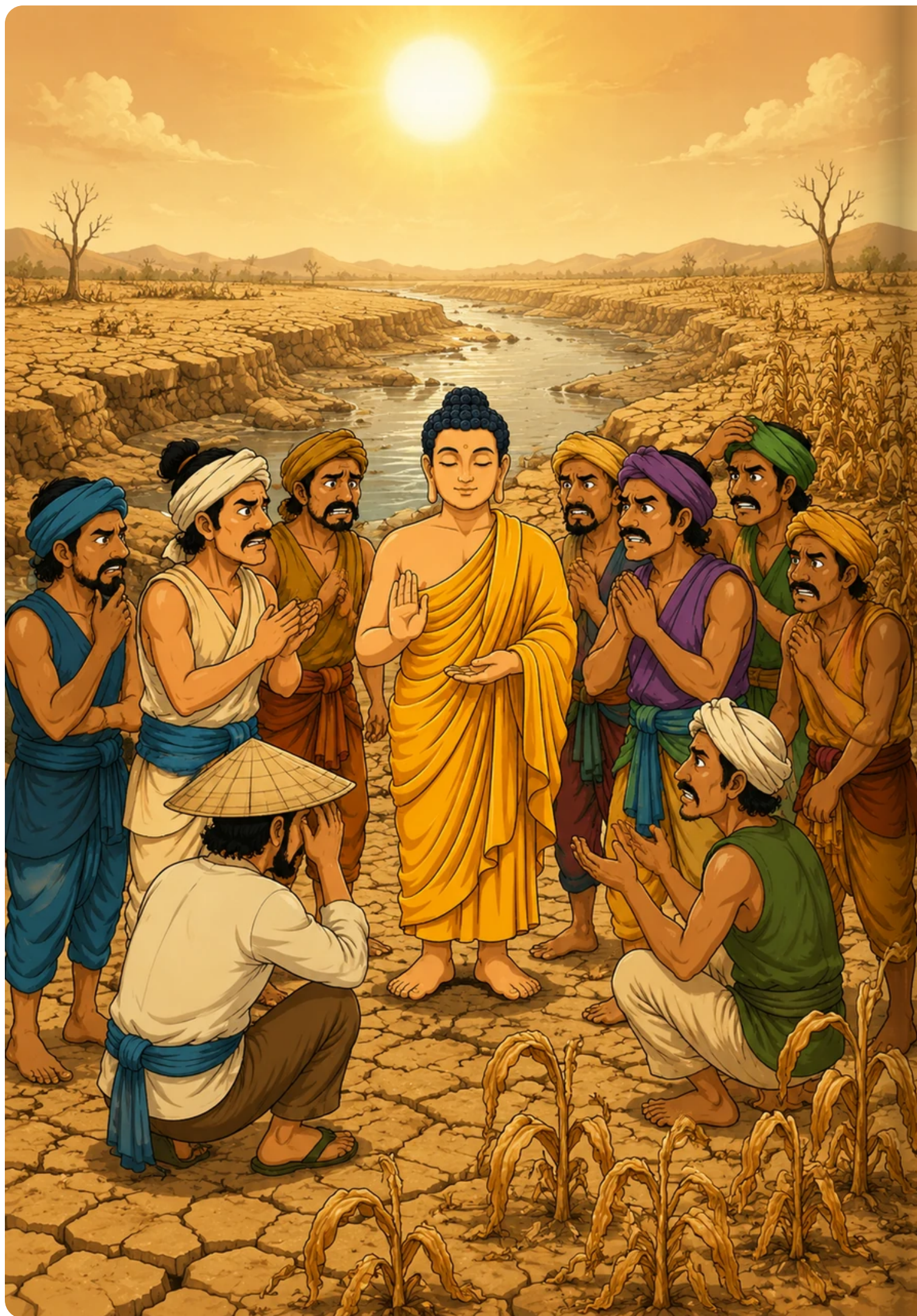


# The Price of Peace: The Story of the Rohini River

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Long ago, the beautiful Rohini River flowed peacefully between the twin kingdoms of Sakya and Koliya. The farmers from both sides used the sparkling waters to nourish their crops, living in perfect harmony and helping one another for generations.



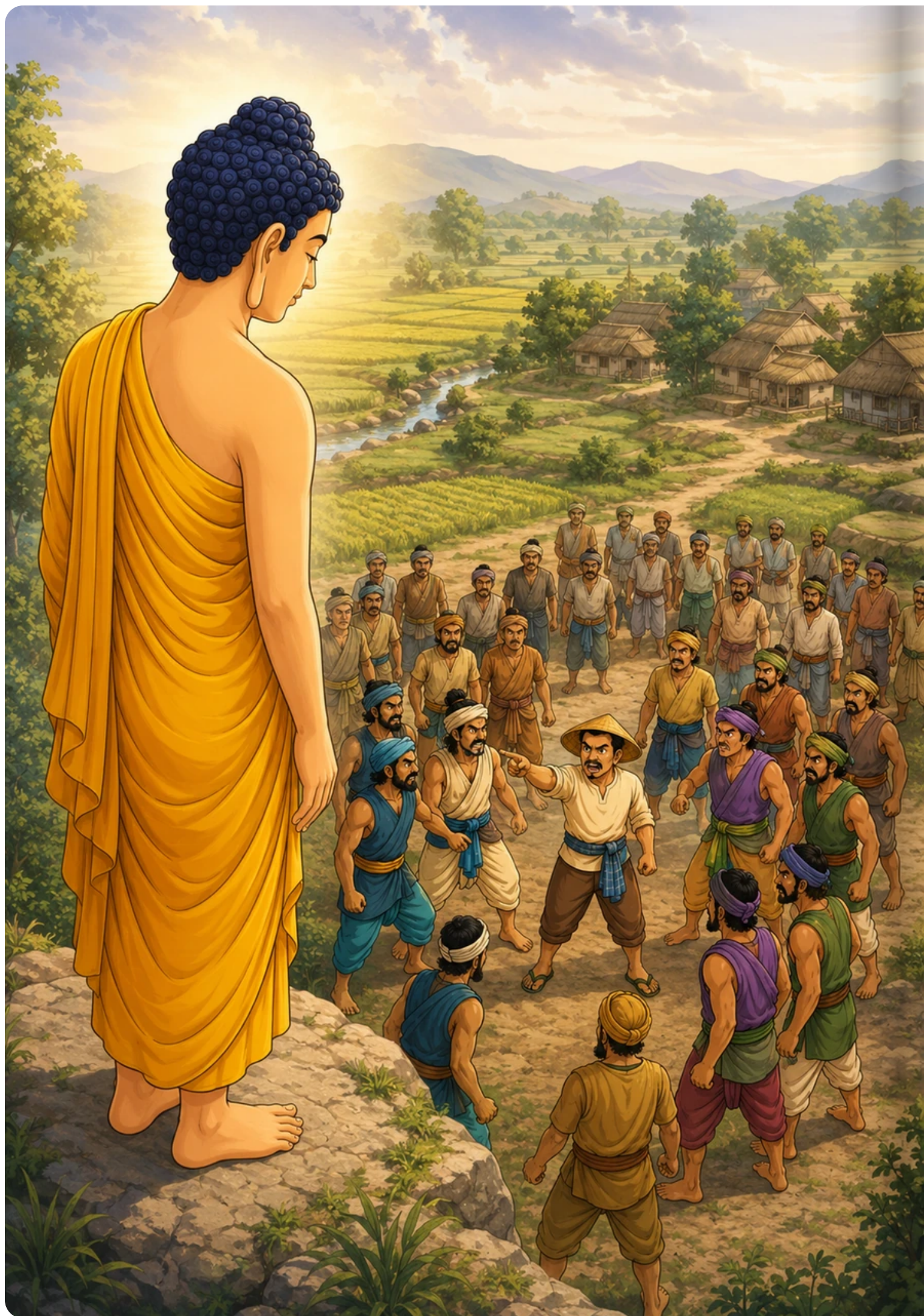
One year, a severe drought struck the land, and the hot sun baked the earth until the river began to dry up. As the water level dropped, the crops started to wither, and the anxious farmers grew deeply worried about whether there would be enough water left for everyone.



Small disagreements quickly turned into heated arguments at the riverbank. The Koliya farmers demanded to use the remaining water first, while the Sakya farmers fiercely refused, shouting that their own crops would die without it.



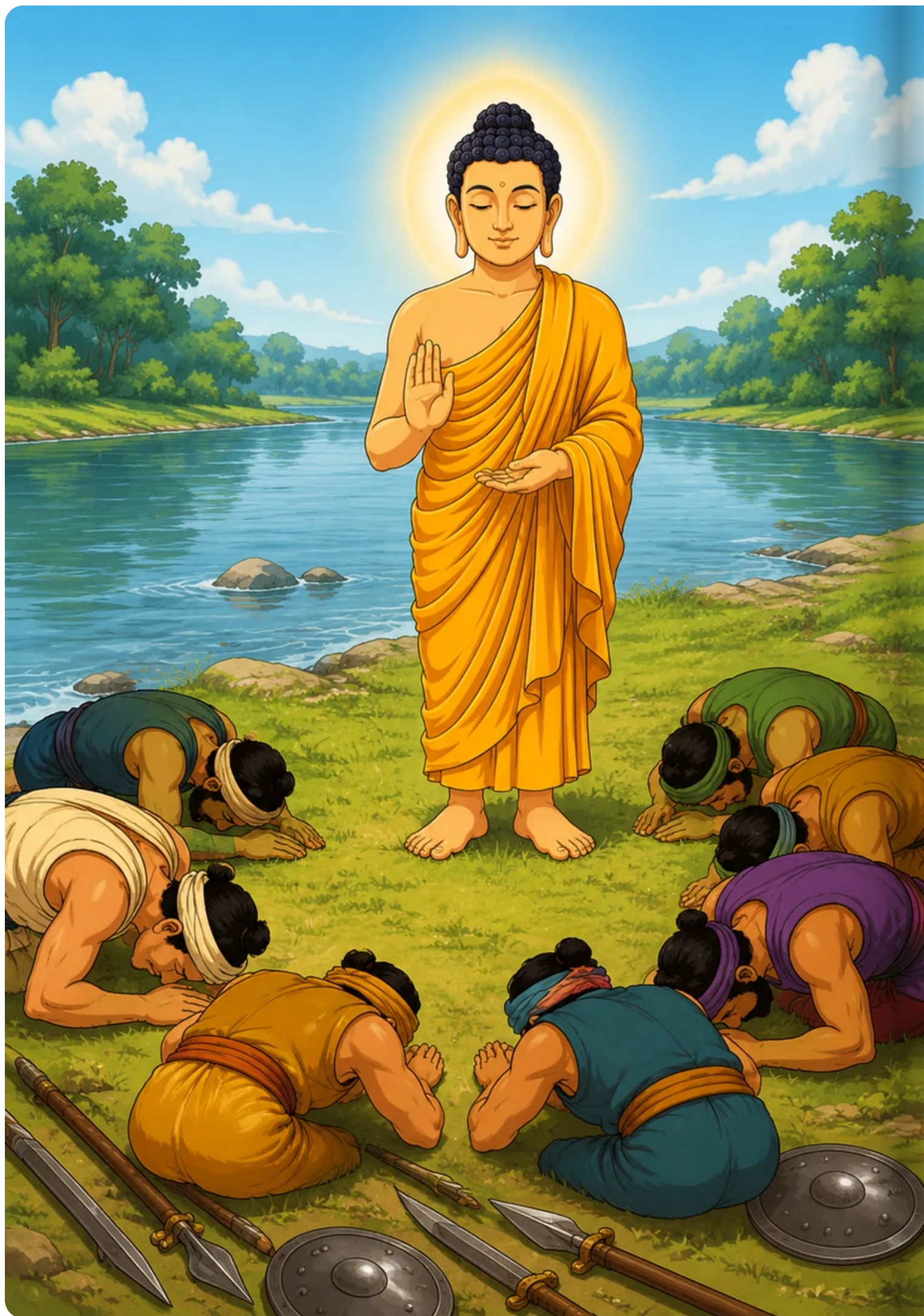
The anger spread rapidly from the fields to the palaces, and soon both kingdoms gathered their armies at the edge of the drying river. Forgetting years of friendship and neighborly love, the soldiers raised their spears and prepared for a violent battle.



From afar, the Buddha perceived the brewing conflict through his profound spiritual vision. Filled with deep compassion for the people, he decided to intervene and guide them away from destruction before blood could be shed.



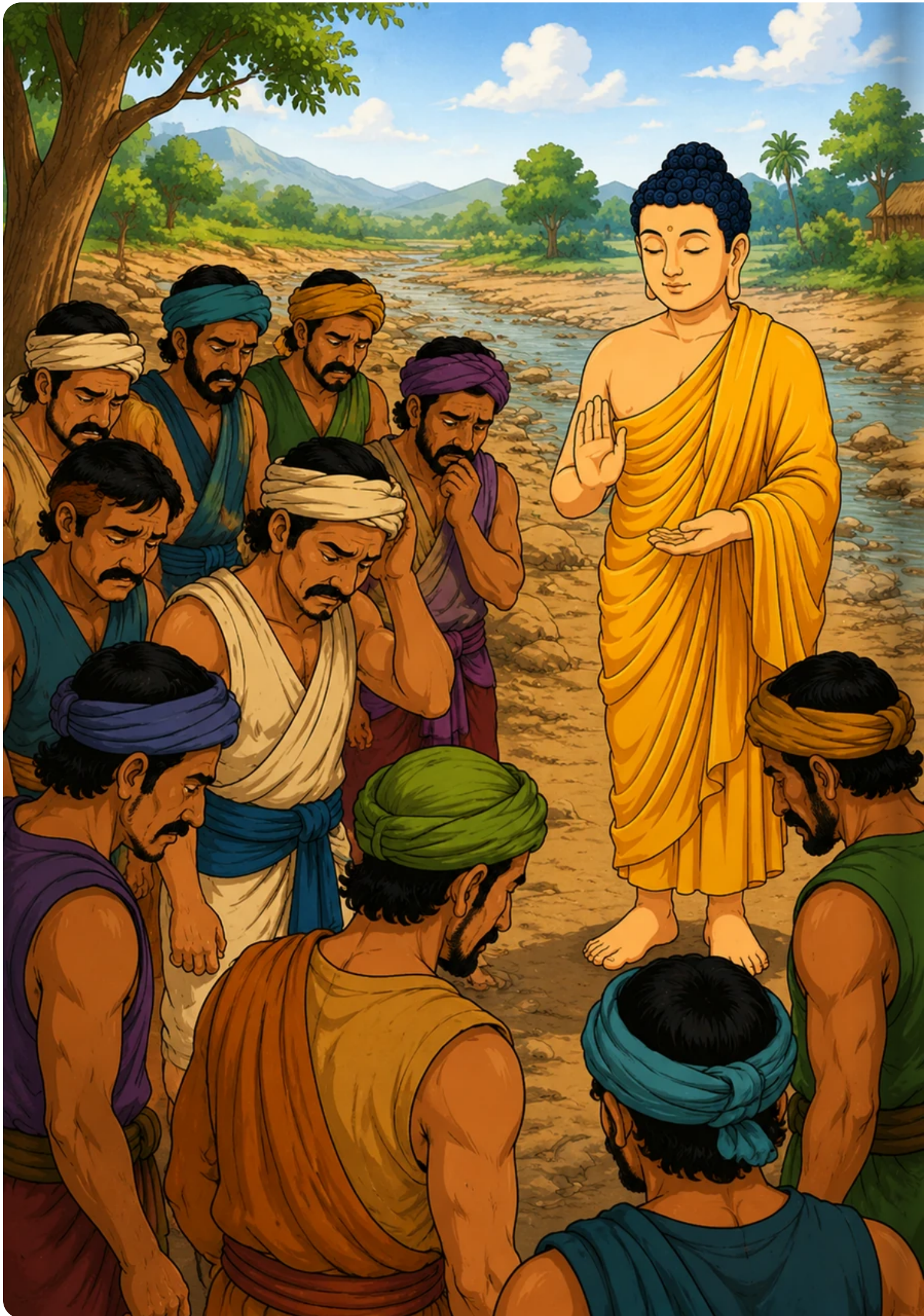
The Buddha arrived at the riverbank and sat peacefully in the air, right between the two armies. His body radiated a magnificent, calming light of six colors that instantly filled the hearts of the angry soldiers with awe and tranquility.



Stunned by the miraculous sight, the soldiers lowered their weapons and bowed respectfully to the ground. The Buddha looked down at them with gentle eyes and asked why they had gathered along the river with weapons of war.



The leaders explained that they were fighting over the remaining water of the river. The Buddha then asked them a powerful question: Tell me, is water more precious, or is the blood and life of human beings more valuable?



Hearing these wise words, a profound silence fell over the crowd as everyone realized the foolishness of their anger. They looked at each other with shame, understanding that no amount of water was worth sacrificing a single human life.



The two kingdoms dropped their weapons completely and agreed to share the river's water fairly and peacefully. Harmony was beautifully restored to the land, proving that wisdom and kindness can overcome any conflict.