**“The Prisons We Broke”**

1. **Describe the god’s house.**

The god’s house in each home would have a square copper tray called kotma, a tiger skin bag called ghol that was used for keeping the bhandara, and a string instrument called chawandake. These four items formed the property that had been handed down by successive generations.

1. **Describe the training of potraja.**

The training begins when the boy is seven years of age. The first Tuesday in Ashadh is chosen to initiate the son into the ritual. The father would begin by decorating his son. First, the parents took down the bundle hung on the PEG. It was necessary to sprinkle gomutra on the bundle before it was opened. Square pieces of choli cloth, which had beeen saved over a period of several years for this occasion, were brought out of the bundle. The son was first dressed in a frock, then the choli pieces were hung on his chest with their ends tucked inside. Bass anklets were clasped around his feet. These made a tinkling sound when he walked. A big whip called asud, the mark of the mother goddess, was hung on his left shoulder. On the right shoulder was hung a bag of haldi and Kumkum. He also had to wear a small brass ring which made a musical sound. They combed his long hair and let it hang loose on his shoulders. Then they smeared his forehead with haldi and Kumkum, applied kajal in his eyes and gave him green bangles for his wrists. The boy would be given another bag called madaan to hang on hi sshoulder for collecting alms. Thus began the child’s training in the art of being a potraja.

1. **Describe the child-hero.**

The potraja is called the child-hero. He made his family proud of him. Everybody becomes fond of his act of praying. The feels heady with all the adoration of his parents. Stamping rhythmically on the floor, the tinkling anklets providing music, he would sing the prayer loudly, dancing all wound the locality. He draws admiring crouds- of men and women, both young and old, who devoutly listen to his songs-everywhere he goes.

1. **What is the ritual of the married women ?**

For married women whose husbands were alive, Tuesdays and Fridays in the month of Aakhad were full of activity. A lot of work had to be doen. The poor daughters-in-law would really benefit from the grace pf goddesses like Lakshmi Aai and Mari Aai. It seemed as if ten days of this month- four Tuesdays, four Fridays, Amawasya and Pournima- were reserved specially for them by the goddesses.