



মণিগোবর্ধনোঃ তেঃ নক্ষত্রংগঃ (অঃমঃ)

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)**

Government of Manipur

## LESSON -15

### King Solomon the Wise

#### NOTES:

**Summary:** King Solomon, king of Israel, became renowned throughout the Middle East for his wealth and wisdom. The Queen of Sheba was herself fabulously wealthy, yet curious and sceptical of Solomon's reputation. With great ceremony she visited him to see for herself. She asked the king about many issues which had been troubling her and discovered how wise his answers were. She was also overwhelmed at what she saw when Solomon showed her around Jerusalem, commenting on the opulence of his palace, possessions and retinue. She admitted that the reality far exceeded what she had heard about the king.

The queen acknowledged that Solomon's wealth and wisdom had come from God, to help him rule well. She then gave the King some very expensive presents, including spices, gold, precious stones and algum-wood for building his palace and the Temple. Solomon reciprocated and gave her all that she requested before she returned home. The story illustrates: Solomon was blessed not only with the wisdom he requested from God when he became king, but with immense wealth. In the Old Testament, wealth was regarded as a sign of God's blessing. Solomon's material riches were seen as evidence that God likes to give bountifully to those who honour him.

Glossary:

Councillor: A member of a council

Palanquin: A box borne on poles to be carried on men's shoulders

Stalks: Stems of plants

Pollen: Powder – like substance in a flower that helps in fertilisation