

HANDOUT

Poem 5- A legend of the Northland (Class-IX)

Module 2/2

This story is of the Northland area, the area which is near the North Pole. This exact place is not specified but 'Northland' means the area in the northernmost part of the earth i.e., near the North Pole. 'Legend' means a historical story, one which is very old and has been passed on from generation to generation.

The poem is a legend about an old lady who angered Saint Peter because of her greed. The story goes on like this. One day, Saint Peter was preaching around the world and reached the door of a cottage where this woman lived. She was making cakes and baking them on a hearth. St. Peter was fainting with hunger. He asked the lady to give him a piece of cake. The cake that she was baking then appeared to be too big, so she did not give him that and instead, she baked another smaller one. That also appeared to be big so she did not give him that also. The second time she baked yet another smaller cake but found it too big to give away. In the third attempt, she took an extremely little scrap of dough and rolled it flat.....