

Timun mas

Long time ago, lived an old women named Mbok Sirni. She lived by herself because her husband had long passed away and she had no children. Everyday, she prayed so God would give her a child. One night, when she was praying, a giant passed her house and heard her pray.

"I can give you a child on one condition," the giant said to Mbok Sirni, *"You must give the child back to me when it is six years old."*

Mbok Sirni was so happy, she did not think about the risk of losing the child later and agreed to take the giant's offer. The giant then gave her a bunch of cucumber seeds. *"Plant it around your house."* The giant then left without saying anything else.

In the morning, Mbok Sirni planted the seeds. The seeds grew within a few days, and blossomed plentifully. No longer after that, a big golden cucumber and carried it home. With caution and care, she sliced the cucumber. She was very suprised to see a beautiful baby girl inside the cucumber. She then named the baby Timun Emas (it means Golden Cucumber).

Years passed by and Timun Emas has grew to become a lovely and beautiful little girl. She was also smart and kind. Mbok Sirni loved her very much, but she kept thinking about the time the giant would take Timun Mas away from her. Mbok Sirni became sad, because she was going to part with Timun Mas and she just realized that the giant was an evil giant. Seeing Mbok Sirni who was always sitting contemplating, Timun Mas dared to ask *"Mom, why are you always looking sad lately?"*

Mbok Sirni also told Timun Mas things that had been kept secret all this time. In order to save Timun Mas from the giant, she had to meet the holy man who lived in Mount Gundul. The next morning, Mbok Sirni took leave of Timun Mas to go to Mount Gundul. When she got there, she immediately met the holy man and conveyed the purpose of his arrival. Then the holy man gave her four little bags, each one containing cucumber seeds, needles, salt, and shrimp taste. *"Timun Mas can use these to protect herself,"* said the holy man to Mbok Sirni.

A few days later, the giant came to see Mbok Sirni about her promise.

"Mbok Sirni! Where is Timun Mas?" shouted the giant.

"My daughter, take these bag with you. It can save you from the giant. Now, run through the back door," said Mbok Sirni.

But the giant saw Timun Mas runny the woods. The giant was angry, starved and enraged, he rushed toward Timun Mas. Mbok Sirni tried to stop him, but the giant was unstoppable.

The giant was getting closer and closer, so Timun Mas opened the first bag she got from Mbok Sirni. She threw the seeds, and nothing happened. Timun Mas took the second bag with needles inside and spilled the content behind her and nothing happened. Timun Mas then reached the third bag and spilled the salt inside and nothing happened.

“Aaargh, I’ll get you, Timun Mas!” shouted the giant.

Timun Mas saw the giant coming, so she reached for the last bag, she took the shrimp paste and threw it and again nothing happened. Mbok Sirni also managed to stop the giant.

“Let me offer you something.” Mbok Sirni said to the giant.

“No, you promised to give her to me!” shouted the giant.

“Yes, but I will give you more food,” said Mbok Sirni, *“ I will grow some fruits and vegetables every day with Timun Mas, then I will sell them and will give you food whenever you want, and you don’t have to bother Timun Mas anymore.”*

The giant thought about it and finally agreed. Then they immediately went home. Since then, Timun Mas and Mbok Sirni live happily ever after.

THE END