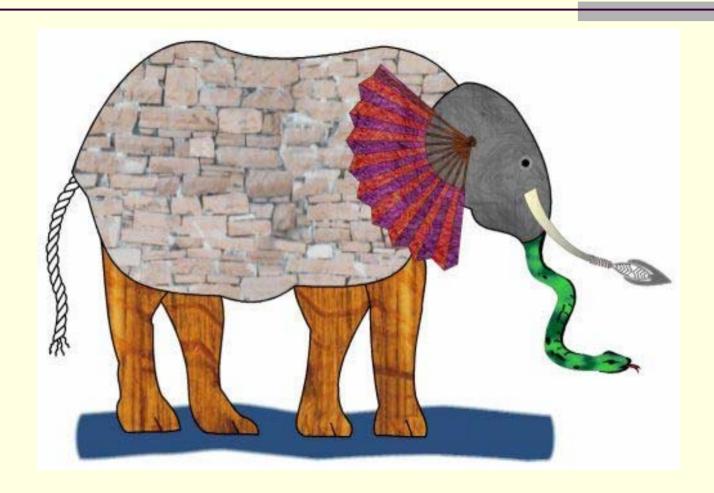
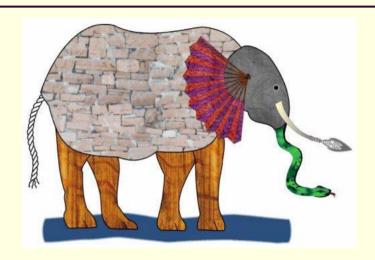
Justice Martha Lee Walters
Oregon Supreme Court
February 14, 2007

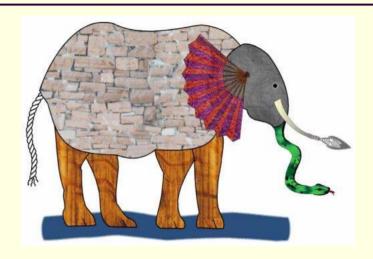
# The Blind Man & The Elephant

John Godfrey Saxe's (1816-1887) version of the famous Indian legend

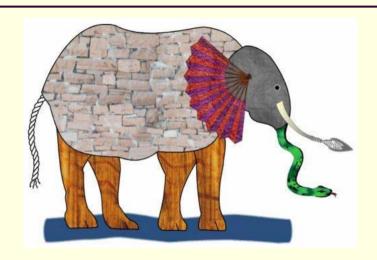




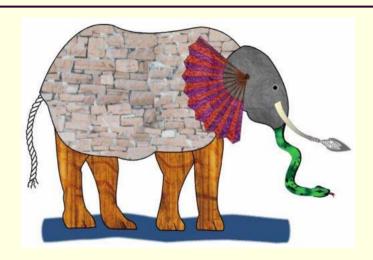
It was six men of Indostan,
To learning much inclined,
Who went to see the Elephant
(Though all of them were blind),
That each by observation
Might satisfy his mind.



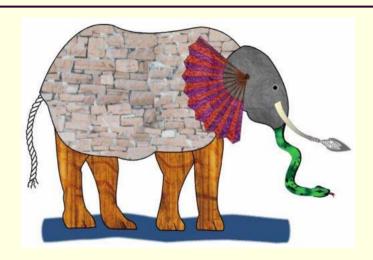
The **First** approach'd the Elephant,
And happening to fall
Against his broad and sturdy side,
At once began to bawl:
"God bless me! but the Elephant
Is very like a wall!"



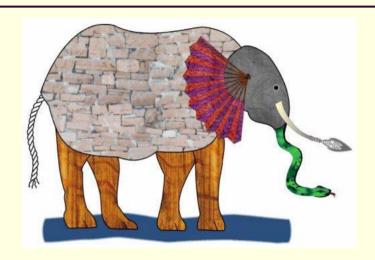
The **Second**, feeling of the tusk, Cried, -"Ho! what have we here So very round and smooth and sharp? To me 'tis mighty clear, This wonder of an Elephant Is very like a spear!"



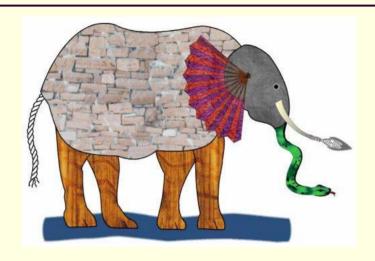
The **Third** approach'd the animal,
And happening to take
The squirming trunk within his hands,
Thus boldly up and spake:
"I see," -quoth he- "the Elephant
Is very like a snake!"



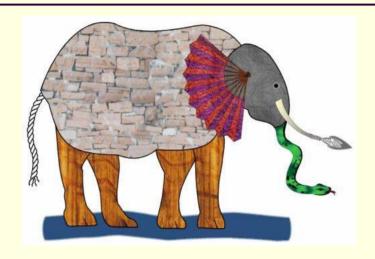
The **Fourth** reached out an eager hand, And felt about the knee: "What most this wondrous beast is like Is mighty plain," -quoth he,-"'Tis clear enough the Elephant Is very like a tree!"



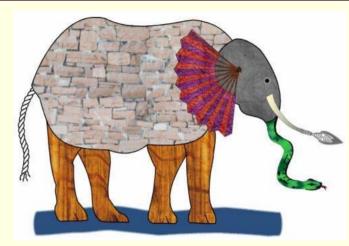
The *Fifth*, who chanced to touch the ear,
Said- "E'en the blindest man
Can tell what this resembles most;
Deny the fact who can,
This marvel of an Elephant
Is very like a fan!"



The **Sixth** no sooner had begun About the beast to grope, Then, seizing on the swinging tail That fell within his scope, "I see," -quoth he,- "the Elephant Is very like a rope!"



And so these men of Indostan
Disputed loud and long,
Each in his own opinion
Exceeding stiff and strong,
Though each was partly in the right,
And all were in the wrong!



MORAL,

So, oft in theologic wars
The disputants, I ween,
Rail on in utter ignorance
Of what each other mean;
And prate about an Elephant
Not one of them has seen!

# Say Yes

#### **Ask Questions**

#### Work as a Team

# Stand up ~ Speak Out

#### Find Solutions

- Say Yes
- Ask Questions
- Work as a Team
- Stand Up ~ Speak Out
- Find Solutions