

B Birth and Parentage

*Diary
2001*



B for Birth & Parentage

BIRTH & PARENTAGE

1

MON

JAN

001/364

What is in a name?

Shakespeare has asked ⁱⁿ his plays
through the mouth of HAMLET

"Call me by any name" Was the reply
of ... in his play. - ...

Of late there is a spree for change of names
of places, cities & Railway stations.

Of course, the trains will be just as
crowded at Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus
as they were at Victoria Terminus,
as infected by pier-punctures at Chennai
as they were at MADRAS Central Station

But are we so insecure in our
independence that we need to prove to
ourselves that we are free to the core?

2

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EVE

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Like everyone else on this Planet,

nobody can name himself or herself

when he/she was born. That job is usually

the privilege of mother/father/brother/sister

whoever takes the lead. In US the names are

recorded through computers immediately after birth

so parents would be ready with their choice

in advance. In India the name is recorded on

a rice plate on an auspicious day (usually 11th or 25th

after birth) in the presence of friends & relatives

at a function called "NAMA KARANA" or ~~नामाकरण~~

in the background of Veda Pattanam & ~~नामशत्रु पूजा~~ (not ~~नामशत्रु~~)

The name is usually related to the star/lagna

day & presiding deity (god or goddess) & Kula gotram

the village, town or country of domicile and so on.

There is no animosity against gods or the people

of their background. It is only to make people aware that was how my name ^{became} so long

Is there no comfort, after all
in being able to take places for
granted, without the continuing sense,
that they are susceptible of being
renamed in their turn, either to satisfy
regional feelings or political inhibitions.

Similarly in some parts of India,
it is customary for a bride, upon marriage
to take on a new name — not just surname —
but a first name — chosen by her husband
or her family members. It is as if
the rulers of Bombay & Madras wanted
to show that they were now the "LORDS &
MASTERS of these cities and to demonstrate
the change, by conferring a new name upon them.
It is only to demonstrate that they are
now in charge of the show.

4

THU

JAN

004-361

to be more precise:

Today's Priorities

Pamula representing the name of family

Venkata representing the family deity

RADHA representing mother's favorite Goddess

KRISHNA representing the color & complexion

MURTHY representing the family deity
like Rao for Noyogees

like Murthy for Brahmins

like ending in n for Tamils

like Bhat for Kannaigas
and so on.

①

Pamula Adinarayanaiah
I

Pamula Vandhanamma

I am Pamula Venkata
Raghavendra Murthy, a believer,
with the blend of piety & practicality,
faith & reverence, that characterises
much of Hindu belief. It is an
attitude towards our Hindu religion
that helps sustain Indian secularism.

I too came to my own secularism
through my ancestral roots of Andhra.
My parents^(x) too were both born in Andhra
Pradesh out of Andhra parents, but
from an interior district of the state
Nellore, called the Nee bore of Andhra.
The town Nellore, the HQ of the district
is unattractive & unremarkable. While
my parents hail from a village PAMULAVAR
PALEM
an hour away from the district Capital.

PAMULAVAR
PALEM

donated to
our family

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of vedic culture of our family
for its future growth & promotion

My parents too hail from an Andhra family whose principal source of income was AGRICULTURE. Their roots lay deep in Andhra soil, from which has emerged the good values that I cherish from the Indian soil.

- It is not often that an American reference seems even mildly appropriate to an Indian scene, but a recent study established some astonishing parallels between US & India, particularly Nellore (AP).
- 1) The life expectancy of a male American is 72 yrs. that of a male Andhra farmer is 70 yrs.
 - 2) The literacy rate in US is 95%. Whereas in Kerala is 99% & in Andhra 90%.
 - 3) The birth rate in US is 16/1000. Whereas in Kerala it is 18/1000 & Andhra 15/1000.

4) It's working men & women enjoy higher minimum wage. It exists anywhere else in India, much less ^{US}

5) When a film star Rajan was elected American president, the neighbouring state of Tamil Nadu elected film star M G Ramesh Chandra as its Chief Minister

6) Andhra Pradesh is a microcosm of every religion known to the country; its population equally divided into one fourth of Muslims, Christians, Scheduled Castes and Hindus, each of whom is economically & politically powerful.

7) A combination of enlightened electorate far thinking Nawab of ^{ex} Nizam state with progressive beliefs on Hinduism & Hindu traditions rule the desert state

8) At the top of all, Andhras brought their religious thrust & questing spirit to the entire world.

The great Advaita philosopher like Sankara Charya, though born in Kerala, travelled throughout length & breadth of AP on foot laying the foundation for a reformed & revived universal HINDUISM.

9) Andhras never suffered from any inhibitions about travel: While the national capital & central Secretariat account for > 20% Andhras, many NRIs from Andhra occupy vantage positions in USA.

10) The willingness of Andhras to go anywhere & do any job outside in Gulf countries or USA is legendary. All these speak high of a rare & precious heritage that is the patrimony of Andhras, a heritage of openness & diversity & high aspirations & considerable accomplishments.

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Today's Priorities

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All these aspects speak of a rare & precious heritage that is the patrimony of Andhras — a heritage of openness & diversity, of pluralism and tolerance, of high aspirations & varied accomplishments. To be one of Andhras is also to claim a rich tradition of literature and intellectual enlightenment.

With all this, Andhras take pride in their collective identity as Telugus; on religion, caste, sub caste or region. Better Andhra, Circars or Telanganites come later on, if at all it is needed.

There is no paradox in asserting that these are all qualities that help make Telugus good Indians in a plural society. You can't put better ingredients into the melting pot.

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Despite regional differences, Andhra Pradesh embodies the "Telugu" mind; a state that has practised openness and tolerance from times immemorial (right from the time of Tanguturu Prakasam Pantulu) that has made religious & ethnic diversity a part of its daily life, rather than a source of divisions; that has overcome caste discrimination and class oppression through education & land reforms and political democracy; that has honored its women like and enabled them to lead productive & empowered & fulfilling lives. Everyone is appreciative of Andhra model which emphasizes on productivity & output & good results. As an Indian first & ~~the~~ next I look forward to the day when AP will be ahead of all states in rates of Indian development.

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all states in rates of Indian development

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Today's Priority

One reporter asked me whether I am
an Andhra or Telanganite. I told
I am a MULKI, a pucca Telanganite

19
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2001

based on a MULKI certificate I procured
for the sake of my children's education.

I tried to satisfy his mild criticism;

because the reason was simple. Though I was

born in Palam (Andhra) got brought up

Nellore (Andhra) & educated at Nellore &

got my degree in Arts from Andhra University

Waltair (Visakhapatnam), did my law &

public administration from Nizam College

(Osmania University) at Hyderabad.

I got enrolled in BAR Council at Hyderabad

while continuing in my job @ AG's office

immigrated to US after my retirement

finally became a US Citizen

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Today's Priorities

Though I am basically a Telugu ^{Andhra} **22** **MON** **JAN** 2001,
 in cities & towns in India & around ^{growing} I am an Indian; like thousands ^{like me}
 and finally became an American Indian.
 Our family name **PAMULA** (which we
 call it as a sur-name in Indian context)
 becomes our main name in U.S.A
PAMULA, handed down from grandfather
 to father & down the line becomes family
 identification as Mr **PAMULA**, head of family
 Similarly the family name of my wife
GURAM, before her marriage becomes
PAMULA after her marriage ^{with me}
 and now identified as Mrs **PAMULA** ^{daughter}
 me. After clubbing our family name ^{with} this
 we are now known as **PAMULA VENKAT** and
PAMULA VENKATA ^{with}
 the discrimination of one alphabet **(A)**.

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2001

Though we claim to be Telugus,
 very few members of our family
 could read Telugu script. While I had
 my education upto SSLC (secondary school)
 in Telugu medium, I switched over to English
 in Intermediate & graduation & further up
 after migration to Hyderabad (URDU MEDIA
 Nizam's rule)
 my children had no scope to learn Telugu.
 They all studied English medium with
 different second language options like
 Sanskrit (for my daughter) and
 French (for my boys) & German
 for one of them to facilitate migration. Outside
 so much so, it will be a comedy of errors
 when all of us meet - once in a way,
 when it will be Greek when one speaks &
 Latin when the other man responds to.

25

THU

JAN

095-340

Today's Priorities

"you don't know"

he demanded.

Everybody knows his caste.

He manifestly confessed

1. ~~g die mit Kerosin~~

19

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1

EVE

2001

JAN

[illegible]

Some one enquired of my son
 at Los Angeles Airport - "What code are U" 26
 He blinked in nervousness & looked at me. Sub Case? (X)
 I had to go to his rescue and tell him
 that we are TUMMAGUNTA DRAVIDAS &
 adding that I did not bother to enlighten
 my boys on such family matters.
 But I did tell them that we are BRAHMINS
 & that too orthodox brahmins, hailing
 from Tummagunta, a remote place in AP.
 My parents too were born in little towns
 in Andhra Pradesh, near NELLORE,
 hailing from TAMULA VARI PALETY
 a hamlet donated to our family
 by virtue of an great grand father's
 special shiksha to cure snake bites with
 his special MANTRA (GOSPEL) for snake bites.

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Today's Priorities

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JAN

My great-grand father
Pamula Venkata Narasiah

was a lover of snakes and learn
to play with them ^{make them} & dance with him.

They never harmed him anytime.

Slowly he learnt the art of depoisoning
them & desomonicizing them venom

with his powerful looks, gaze & speech.

Slowly he started treating snake bite
patients with his speech & warm looks.

If anybody is bitten by a snake,

they should communicate the message
to reach him on time so that he will do

the needful by performing a mantra to dilute
the venom and make it ineffective.

The modern equivalent was to break a leg down

or hammer down. Whatever he has on his hand

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at the moment when he received the message

① In case the message reaches

him through a phone-call,

he cracks the telephone receiver

on to the table with a bang,

whether the impact gets transferred to the person at the other end of phone.

to be personal - the other end of phone

⑧ for the longterm maintenance of the family & descendants

of the family & descendants

5. $\triangle \triangle$

EVE

Our primary concern now is

to take care of his many a village

(Intens. meaning to get extinguished)

4th functional scheme, like a

simple with NAW grade complex, a

social & primary health Centre etc -

Today's Priorities
If any body informs him personally of 2561

a snake bite, he will receive a big 31
blow on his cheek or his head WED
for the impact of which the venom in patients' JAN
body get diluted & he gets cured in no time 031-334
The news of this magic treatment reached
the nearby Maharaja of Venkatagiri,
who awarded him an entire village (x)
for his progeny to emulate his glory.
That is how he became the inhabitant

of PAMULA VARI PALEM (which exists even now in NELLORE DT.)
(LATE a Communist acolyte of 3.5 acres in an area)

Our family name which was
hitherto known as SOORAM
had been changed to PAMULA
after our great grandfather Pamula Narasayya

That is how all members of our family
have become PAMULAS.

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FEB 2001

My GRAND PARENTS.

Today's Priorities

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It is customary for a Hindu Brahmin to know his antecedents & the names of his grand-parents upto three generations backwards so that he will be in a position to pay his respects to his ancestors, not only for their birthday when they are alive but also to perform Poojas & lamparans for their past three generations on their death as well as on important days like Shravane Purnima & Mahalaya Amavasya. I have therefore made it a point to note down their names & lineage for three generations from the time, as indicated in the two charts I have drawn on the next page:-

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My grand father, whose name was

Pamula Anantha Narayanaiah, must

have seen a man of principles; otherwise

he would not have left the village in a

fit of fury and anger with his own brother

Pamula Venkata Narayanaiah on a

point of principle. They lived in a joint family

in our village Pamula Varipalem doing

only agriculture but never attend a school

to improve his education. He was incorruptible

and earned a name for strict impartiality

in his family as well as outside in the village.

His loyalty to the state in paying his taxes etc

was well known. But he never had any

ambitions to accumulate riches, at the cost

of others and left us very little property, in the

shape of wet lands, enough to sustain our life.

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He might not have had ^{much of} any religious training as such, but he had that kind of religious culture with frequent visits to temples and listening to religious discourses, which were available to many Hindus of his times. He used to read Gita & chant religious verses at the instance of a religious friend ^{or} family used to chant along some of the verses at the time of worship & also make one repeat to his tunes.

My grand father was a lover of his clan, truthful, brave & generous but that tempered. He never lived for the sake of his property but stood for justice & impartiality, and earned a name for his independent nature & love of society.

In fact ours was a big joint family of formula dynasty of Pamulevaripatam but it was only due to family disputes that led to the fragmentation of the family. It so happened that Pamula Venkata Narayana's family suffered from attack of small pox on account of which he lost his wife, after which he got married again, because he did not have any children by his first wife.

After a couple of years, I heard, that my ^{grand} mother was also affected by some disease but recovered by the Grace of our family deity Goddess Mahalakshamma in response to our family prayer taking a vow to have a temple constructed for our family goddess which was taken up in right earnest by my grand father Annappa Narayaniah, out of an joint-family fund, as it was in interest of the joint family.

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But this proposal was not to the liking of the elder grand father Venket who demanded a partition of joint family. My grandparents had to succumb to the pressures for partition, from the ladies side as well & that was the reason we got separated. Somewhat we lived in the same village till the construction of temple was complete after which my grandfather shifted his family from the village to Nellore town in the interest of the education of his children. That was how my father was able to complete his secondary education & win the award of SSCC (Secondary School Leaving Certificate) by virtue of which he was able to educate his children, to the extent such facilities were available to us at Nellore town.

That was how my grand parents
 Pamula Anant Narayanaiah and
 Pamula Janakamma happened to be
 the Dharmakartas & Hereditary Trustees of
 the Mahalakshamma Temple complex
 consisting of LADY Mahalakshamma @ centre
 LADY Naga Kali to the left
 & LADY Natasaraswathi to the right.

They have also donated some wet land
 in favour of the temple, followed by some
 other donations from other residents
 of the village, the income from which
 is being utilised for NITYA NAIVEDYAM
 & other rituals which are performed by
 a separate poojari from out of this
 common good fund generated from
 the family funds.

Today's Price
I have try to complete this Chapter with my
recollections of my associations and my grand
parents to the extent I vaguely remember.

① When I was five or so, he used to carry
me on his shoulders, wherever he goes
to the market, to the village, to the temple etc
and introduce proudly about his grand son.

② We had hundreds of cattle, consisting of
cows, bulls, buffaloes & calves to give us
sufficient milk for our use. He used to
make me suck milk from the udder
of the cow, along with its calf, which
was an experience by itself.

③ He used to take me with him to the
temple & attend lectures & also pay homage
to the principal deity, but not before offering half
lotus sit-ups etc. The
Lord Ganesha stand up at the entrance.

(1) In yet another bizarre incident-
 we used to drive our cattle to the ^{of} Forest ~~WADA~~ ^{Forest} nearest- grazing lands, MUNASAPADU, (about 25 miles away from home) we took on contract-
 like grazing rights only. We used to stay there for a month, staying in a farm house & cooking our own food and eating ^{some} locally improvised cutney products & raw vegetables available.
 One day we could not procure a match stick to make fire for cooking (since we could not come across any smelter in forest). After waiting reasonable time, my grandfather procured some jaggery from a nearby farmer & mixed in the wet rice and started to munch the entire raw wet rice till the evening. It was a wonder how we could digest the raw rice without poisoning the stomach.

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After all, where there is a will there is a way.

(5) Another adventurous aspect of today's Priorities
this grazing cattle was taken by Mr. [unclear]
used to walk all the 25 miles up to them

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8. With the assistance of an Agricultural Assistant.

On one of the years, when I insisted on
accompanying ^{him} to the farm, he carried me
on his shoulder for all the 25 miles,
of course, with intermittent breaks of
rest - especially when I volunteered to walk
behind the capital.

(6) In one such encounter, we halted one night near a Railway station, enroute, when we drove the cattle into a nearby loco shed for stay. We did not know how the accident occurred, but $> \frac{3}{4}$ th number of cattle strayed on to the Railway track & were run over by a goods train in the ^{early} hours of the night. I started crying for the loss of the cattle & the entire family mourned the huge loss of cattle.

7) My grand father was a dare-devil
 doing most of his work & cattle work
 all by himself without any assistance
 He learnt swimming also & could jump into
 the well to recover the bucket or any other
 utensil that drops into the well accidentally
 In one such incident he broke his
 thigh bone as a result of which he could
 not walk the rest of his life without crutches
 Most of the time, he used to rest on the
 big ^{wooden} family box (2' x 3' x 3') most of the time
 the box used to store all valuables, clothes &
 family documents & promissory notes & land records
 The entire family used to cherish possession
 of this valuable box, later used by my father too
 for his life time till it decayed by itself
 after being eaten away by white ants.

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Today's Priorities

TUE

FER

058-307

9/11 My grandmother Pamela Jandkonne
was a keen & banky personality
with poor health & highly religious &
orthodox in performing her daily rituals.
Yet she was bold enough in discharging
her family responsibilities to the core
without fear or favour.

In one incident, I know of, one was bold enough to take a cross bar and dismantle the building wall (next door) abutting our building, ^{being} constructed by her own daughter (my auntie) because the proposed construction encroached few inches into our area (next-door) even though my father was willing to concede for the overlap.

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(8) I had the privilege of feeding him as he lay flat on this wooden box & helping him in discharging the various calls of nature & cleaning the premises to make it hygienic.

(9) My grand mother was very orthodox and performed the family pooja all by herself and never allowed kids to come nearby. She was the only female member of the family who expired with a good red sindoor on her forehead when ^{my} grandfather was alive. I still perform this sindoor ritual on every Anniversay day of my parents when I think of all my grandparents for three generations, as per our family conventions.

(10) After the expiry of my grand mother, I used to feed my grandfather, lying on ^{Huge family} wooden box for his life & cleaning the area free from excretion. I still adore the joint family photograph of my grandfather & grand mother ^{one} in family room & worshipping them for my life time.

My PARENTS — FATHER

Today's Priorities

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FRI

MAR

061-304

My father was a lover of his clan, highly orthodox, truthful, brave & generous but slightly short-tempered (not so much time now). He spent most of his leisure time on religious duties like taking care of his parents, discharging sacred ^{duties}, like sandhya vandhanam (three times a day) Friday poojas to anna on family diets (Mahalaxmi) & temples. He used to attend all religious lectures wherever conducted & used to take me also along with me to make me hear in scriptures. But he was inflexible and had earned a name for strict impartiality in his family as well as outside. His loyalty to the religion & in performing religious chores, he was second to none. If I am paying sandhya vandhanam today, at least once, it is all due to his incident blessings.

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My father never had any ambition of his own to accumulate wealth or ^{late} ~~late~~ and left us only little property. He had ^{late} ~~late~~ marriage only to discharge family responsibilities. He had not much of education save that of practical experience & worldly wisdom. He studied up to Matriculation, ^{followed by Teacher's Training} which was the highest of his times, to make a decent living. But his rich experience of practical affairs stood him in good stead in the solution of the most intricate ~~Qs~~ & in managing hundreds of students & men of his times. Of religious training, he might have had very little, but he had that kind of religious culture, with frequent visits to temples and listening to religious discourses & began ^{Chanting} ~~reading~~ Gita as part of his daily routine along with Sandhya Vandanam.

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S

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He was attuned to the core and maintained his personal cleanliness & so (SWEET RD) to see an extent too! -

MAR

066-299

- 1) Whenever he goes out of our home on errands he never enters without cleaning his legs with water.
- 2) When he goes on duty to his school (which happened to be a Christian Mission) he wears school dress with a turban & coat.
- 3) When he returns from school, he will preserve his school dress in a remote corner of the room not accessible to children & takes his bath before entering.
- 4) When he attends religious discourses in a temple, he attends in Dhavshi & Madi garments.
- 5) When he attends to the lectures in the morning before attending school, he used to carry my wristwatch (in a box) and wear it because of the leather belt (being unattuned) keeping the watch box in his front as he listens to the lecture. Once he forgot to pick up the watch-box.

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March 2001

APR 2001

⑥ He wears religious dress of a full fledged Shakti & Anga Vasthran

7) He never leaves home without the sacred mark of VIBHUTHI TRI SCRIPT on ^{his forehead}

8) He keeps his hair cut always trimmed to the skin with a semi-circular arch in front

9) He performs his Sandhya Vandanam both morning & evening sitting on the TULSI KOTA which was his favorite spot -

10) He invites a religious guest - Brahmin whenever the high dignitary attends our town

11) He offers free B/F, lunch & dinner to a deserving poor student ^{for a week day} & pays his school fees ^{for a month}

12) He offers free tuition to deserving students not whenever they like, but throughout the year & offers scholarships to the deserving candidates.

People try to be modest - while referring to their parents, as their role-models or mentors in life; but for me the case is different. I always tried to walk into his footsteps, follow his religious type of life & modest eating & running his business wherever he goes. I think there can't be a father-cum-teacher like Parmukh Adinrajanich, who coached his children in strict discipline. He always taught me to be honest to one's goal & ambitions to be achieved in life. Money was never a priority in his life, and love never be. He never stopped for crumbs and always maintained his self-respect. He wholeheartedly devoted his life to his children. ~~He believes in: "IT GOD KNOWS, THEN NEVER"~~

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2001

and follow them in their study programme.

At one stage of his career, he even volunteered ^{or threatened} to resign his job in the municipality, when he refused leave to coach me for my SSLC Examination. He believes in: "If not now, then never!"

A ^{very} simple and an honest-soul, my father was a man of principles & strict discipline. I still recall the way he punished me & my siblings when we failed to check the pellets in the tool box or forgot doing homework before going to bed. He insisted on our reading till 9 PM under the street light (by sitting on our staircase) avoiding kerosene lamp which affects our sight. Being himself a teacher, he keeps a constant vigil on our studies, on our doing homework & performance in weekly / monthly tests etc.

I realized that it is not easy to be a teacher, only I stepped into his profession immediately after my graduation. One needs to have a lot of patience & devotion to be a schoolmaster, particularly primary school, then kids are about to shape.

If someone says that there is dearth of good teachers today, then the same is true of students as well. Students need to be equally obedient, diligent & eager to learn.

I have no hesitation to say that true learning begins from home only. Children imbibe these qualities only from their parents.

As regards myself, I have no hesitation to say ~~that~~ even proud to say that I have imbibed the qualities of honesty, integrity & hard work from my father and he had been the biggest influence in my life & career.

17

SAT

MAR

076-289

8

Today's Priorities

(4) and also insisted on his children
~~not~~ by hearing a couple of stories
in Bhagavad-Gita daily after Sandhya

He was a regular reader of epics and Chant's few verses of Bhagavad Gita daily and developed a strong faith in theory of KARMA.

The banner of his pooja room in the terrace, reads "Karmanyeva Adhikaraste Ma phalashu. Kadaachana" which professes to say that:

"I truly believe that all living beings are responsible for their KARMA which reflects all their actions and effects of their actions."

I came from a family of orthodox brahmins wedded to an culture with implicit faith in karma. My father used to perform Sandhya Vandanam and Gayatri (108 times) three times a day & takes his morning coffee only after morning Sandhya lunch only after his noon Sandhya vandana & dinner only after the evening Sandhya Vandana, while I ^{now} perform all three put together (3 in one) before lunch time, without breaking the tradition.

S	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	

APR

2001

I cannot forget the manner & way in which he tried to influence me and make me find some sense in what he was doing.

21
WED
MAR
08:30 AM

his daily rituals so that I follow his schedule.

His arguments & reasoning were equally convincing.

In today's hurry-burry world of business, the greatest problem faced is STRESS & it was only to reduce or limit it since that this

ritual is prescribed in Vedas. Sandhyavandana

is the best method because Pranayama, which

is part of this ritual, ^{not only} helps the physical system

but also helps the mind to keep it serene.

It is a relaxation exercise and also a

tension relieving exercise. But we are not

supposed to do pranayama for that very purpose.

Relaxation is considered to be a by-product,

the primary purpose being spiritual benefit only.

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S
01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

APR

2001

The most important part of this ritual is the performance of GAYATRI (108 times a day) but this mantra

is not aimed at any particular god or deity but a body-less worship of ^{imaginary} BRAHMAN himself but in order to provide concentration & serenity to the process, to personify ADITYA or Sun God to represent the universal concept of Brahman irrespective of caste, creed, religion and sex.

The strength & power of Gayatri is reflected

1) in the TEJAS of a Brahmachari (celibate & unmarried)

2) in the strength & prosperity of GRUHASTHA (married family man)

3) in the support & solace of VANAVRASTHA (Recluse or dhan)

Thus from the date of the upanayanam of young through the upadesam of this sacred & valuable mantra

GAYATRI make his FRIEND - PHILOSOPHER & GUIDE,

support & strength for the rest of his life.

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15

16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

APR

2001

Coming to the form & content of
great Gayatri Mantra, as given in
my letter: "It looks as though Lord Brahma
milked out from the three Vedas, three letters
A, U, M to make it AUM or OM and
formed by their Coalition, three bilateral
mono-syllables together with three mysterious worlds

BHUR → Earth

BHUVANA → Sky

SUVAHA → Heaven.

Brahma also milked out from the same Vedas
incomprehensibly, three measures of their
inaffable TEXT beginning with the words TAT
SAVITRI or
SAYATRI.

EVE "Thus shrinking the stoka as:

OM BHUR BHUVA SUVAHA

TAT SAVITHUR VARENYAM

BHARGO DEVA SYA DHEEMAH

DHEEYO YONAH PRACHODAYAATU!"

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15

16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

APR

2001

The sloka does not aim at any particular God, goddess or other deity,

but on the Universal BRAHMAN / SUN GOD

Who provides us light & shine, day & night,

What means to ~~BRUKE~~ ^{BRUKE} "UNIVERSAL GOD":

"Let us invoke the powers & energies of

CHITTA, SATYA & Ananda swarup

extending & covering all the three worlds

(Bhoolok, Bhuvan loka & Svaran lokam)

and pray to them to energise us &

guide us & our actions & Buddhi

Towards righteous actions and.

(अपने बुद्धि को सत्य काम में लमावें)

EVE

Finally my father told me ^{how} that Sarathi's
mantra was derived: "गार्यं तं त्रायते मायत्रे"

In other words, it is the prayer that protects the Charter

There is the most important & potential mantra

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15

16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

APR

2001

with being chanted in our daily lives.

As I mentioned earlier, my father was a man of principles of discipline punctuality in the performance of daily chores & tried to influence us on same lines. I still recall the pose he gave to us in the morning hours sitting on the Tulsi koka facing the rising sun & chanting Gayatri (I have preserved one of his photographs which I tried to paste along side page) He never compromised on his ^{principles} principles, though his area of work & stewardship skills operated in a Church compound catering to, mostly children of Christianity. He never tried to impose his personal opinion & religious feelings to act on his work culture or disregard the needs & aspirations of the Christian community.

I had learnt the "Art of Giving" only
 from my father. Great spiritual leaders &
 successful businessmen have always advocated
 the principle that "the more you give
 the more you will receive"

but most people are ^{too} scared to believe
 that the philosophy of ~~the~~ looks quite common
 man also (though I gained the impression
 that only the rich could indulge in activities
 of this type which they only could afford, &
~~therefore~~ they get involved in securing their
 lives rather than giving to create abundance.

His philosophy was like this: "When people
 focus on others, instead of themselves, whether
 in business or work place or domestic atmosphere,
 it will create an image of one who helps others
 rather than live in turn by to help U or others

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S
 21 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

MAY

2001

in the same fashion

Then the takers also gain from the expense of the givers. What a brilliant idea?

A big family friend of ours invites us to attend a meeting of his business Network which offers its members opportunities to share ideas, contacts & business referrals.

Their Password/Slogan was "GIVERS GAIN"

Which gives an impression or belief that "When business people set goals to help others & honestly work to achieve these goals, they usually gain the most out of others' experience, through a reciprocal benefit."

Let us forget about business & look at our daily routine life. Magic happens in life when we open our heart out to give something.

Let us look at the benefits of the principle of "Givers Gain" in other aspects of our life.

If you smile at someone
in most cases, you get a SMILE back
with a redoubled vigour or with more courtesy.

If you are polite & courteous to people
they reciprocate in more than one way.

Likewise if you are rude to someone
they treat you in the same manner.

If you get angry with someone, he gets
angry in return with more vulgar language.

The bottom line is "What U give is what U get".

So we need to make a choice on what
we want to come back to us in return.

Magie happens when we open our heart to give.

Let us think for a while why to pose the following type of Questions everyday?

How can I help someone today?
How can I make someone happy today?
How can I make a difference with life?
How can I give today?
What I can give today, without expectations?
Do not focus on what U get in return?
Don't count the pros & cons?

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S
01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 MAY
21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

2001

If we are honest in our approach
 incredible things can happen in our life.
 Our actions can be as simple as smiling
 at someone, letting a scooter overtake you
 in a busy traffic, helping someone to reach
 his office in time or attending his meeting on time,
 just remember, no action is small enough.
 The indirect benefits of helping others are plenty.
 We feel great about ourselves & the level
 of our confidence boosts up & our image shoots up
 & we feel more relaxed & feel like repeating ^{our} performance.
 The beauty of the entire philosophy is that ~~that~~
 we feel elated & grateful when we help people to
 succeed & do everything out of the way as well,
 without any expectations. However "GIVERS GAIN" principle
 can ensure that we get lot more than what we give.
 Some rewards may come straight away & some round the corner.
 Some in part & some reserved for next life even.

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S
 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 MAY
 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

2001

The first person who revealed to me the magic of giving was my father. "It is what you can give that shows you real worth," my father used to tell us time & again.

One day as I was playing on the street, I came across a boy crying on the street wearing nothing, even without a nicker to cover his private parts. I called him & asked him why? His father (a drunkard) beat him when he asked for a nicker. I called my dad & told him about his pitiable condition. My father told me:—

"Why don't you give him one of your nickers?"

I ran in & came out with one of my old nickers & asked him to wear. His face turned happy & smiling.

On my next birthday, I purchased dozen nickers and distributed to a dozen poor boys at school.

Since that happened to be my 12th birthday →

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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MAY 2001

I believe that everyone in their lifetime comes across a bit of magic that reminds them of the importance of "Giving". Another incident reminded me of the well-known saying "It is more blessed to give than to receive".

On my first arrival in Hyderabad, to report in AG's office on my first appointment, I stayed with a brother of our doctor friend Dr. Raghuram of Nellore who wrote to his brother Mr. SRIRAM of Railway Hospital at Secunderabad to receive me & accommodate me in his quarters till I found some alternate accommodation close to my office. During that stay, there was a birthday party on a Sunday to celebrate his daughter's by name SRISHA's birthday celebrated at home,

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31											

MAY

2001

for which I was also invited.

18
WED
APR
100 237

Being Sunday I could not find any gift shop open in nearby location. I attended the party empty handed. I looked around at things I had & wondered when I could part with any of them. I could not offer the gifts I got from Mom & Dad for sentimental reasons. Finally I attended the party with empty hands and greeted her with a good birthday message in good handwriting. Finally as I came out of their premises to enter into my family quarter @ Nallakunta I wanted to take leave of her & went in to convey to her & felt guilty of not having followed up on my intentions. To my surprise she picked up her only possession "Red corded ^{center} piece" & gently laid in my hands, telling "I miss U my uncle". My eyes became moist with the gift she gave me to realize the magic of giving rather than receiving.

As I mentioned earlier, my father was an orthodox Brahmin, to the core performing his religious rites, like Sandhya, to accurate timings & taking care of his kids & encouraging them to give their best in return. He performed his responsibilities as a teacher in a convent school run by a Christian father Rev. Allen, who appreciated him for his deep sense of duty & maintaining discipline at school. Soon he became the Headmaster of that school controlling as many as a dozen other teachers both male & female. Though he was only a second grade teacher, he was very fluent in English, being an old Matriculate of Pontifical days, & capable of picking up the hiccups of his students & steering them to English medium students to the satisfaction of their parents.

Today's Priorities
He migrates from Parmlatan pattern to
Mellae Tern only to take care of his
children & educate them for their future growth.

23
MON
APR
2001

In addition to, taking care of my studies,
he used to take me to our village, on every
weekend, to take care of agricultural operations
and to collect the vegetable seeds for next week.

We travelled by his Cycle, with myself helping
him in pedalling, from the rear carrier
While making these small trips of 7 to 8 kms
also he used to brief me with some of the
interesting topics like the shape of earth & the
continents & oceans & rivers & natural phenomena
like SUN & MOON and also chant slokas
from Aditya Hridayam & Ramayana & Mahabharat
in order to generate my interest in these topics

make me chant some slokas like :-

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	MAY
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10

2001

One of the outstanding figures of Ramayana who strides across like a colossus in Lord Hanuman, according to my father his matchless character, heroic doings & towering spirituality, made him emphasize on me, his parental commandments like:

"You have now make the character of Mahavir, your ideal. See how, at the command of Ramachandra, hardly before he could complete his message of advice, he enlarged his enlarged his body to cross the Ocean. He had no care for life & death except to trace His Lord's ladyship. He was a perfect-master of his senses & wonderfully worldly wise (30's). The secret of his success was 'Obedience to Guru without questioning'. You have now to build your life on this great ideal of personal service."

Though I contemplated on consolidating
the joint family, after his retirement,
I could only achieve partial success,
in ensuring the completion of higher
education of my brother & sisters
(about which I will be explaining in detail
in the later volumes of my biography)
but failed to take care of my parents
during their last stages of life. He ran
to me, along with my mother, when I met
with a scooter accident, to see ^{me} on the hospital
bed, after surgery of my skull bones &
stay with me during the entire convalescence period.
But when he became sick & got him admitted
in VHS Hospital at Adyar, Madras (while he
was staying with my brother) he went into coma &
was unable to identify my arrival to see him.

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	W	T	F	S	S
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31									

MAY

2001

As soon as I got the news of his admission into VHS Hospital, Ayer I took the first available flight on 16th May 1980 along with my sister (Dr KUSUMA MBS) I could hardly ~~leave~~^{see} him for three days, (I could not practically do anything to serve him or help him) as he was admitted into the ICU (Intensive Care Unit) where no visitors were allowed, except a lady attendant, which was rightfully performed by my aged Mother. I could only kiss him on his forehead, after he expired & I had the odium of carrying his dead body home on 19th May 1980 (evening by 7 PM or so) and perform his funeral rites on 20th May followed by 10 day rituals upto 31st May 1980 in Vaikunda Sameradhana and receive Adarsham messages from close relatives. I still cherish my long association with him by recounting his + points on every 25th of 4th & 24th of every year.

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31											

2021

My MOTHER.

Today's Priorities

2

WED

MAY

122-243

The outstanding impression my mother had left on my memory, is that of Samhiness. She was ^{deeply} very religious. She would not think of taking her meals without her daily prayers, similar to the exercise or Anusthanam ritual of my father. She was very diligent towards her daily chores, that she could not waste even a minute on any unfruitful exercise. After completing her bath & washing her clothes she conducts her Devi-Anusthanam with her clothes on, till they get dried up automatically as she chants in front of the kitchen fire. As she chants various verses like Mahalakshmi Ashtakam & Annapurna Ashtakam it was easy for her daughter to pick up the verses & try to repeat them & ^{daughter-in-law} get them by heart effortlessly.

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11

JUN

2001

I do not remember her having
 ever missed observing fast during CHATHURMAS,
 (a vow of fasting & semi-fasting during
 the four months of the rainy season - long lent)
 She loved to take the hardest vows, without
 flinching or breaking. I know this is no excuse
 for relaxing them. Living on one meal a day
 during Chaturmas was a regular habit with her.
 Not content with that she started fasting every
 alternate day during one year. During another year's
 Chaturmas, she loved not have any food
 until seeing the sun next morning. To help her,
 the children on those days, would stand on the
 terrace, staring at the sky, waiting to announce
 the appearance of the sun to our mother.
 I remember the days when on the sudden
 appearance of the sun, we rush in to announce to her

4

MAY

a sort of
long lent

Everyone knows her during the

height of the rainy season, the sun ^{MON}
does not condescend to show his face ^{MAY}
because the rain clouds ^{hiding} cover up the sun.

Somedays when the sun played hide & seek,

Mother would run out to see the SUN

with her own eyes, but, by that time,

the fugitive sun would be gone behind
the clouds, thus deferring her or delaying

her meal. Even then she was forced to

miss her meal, she would say cheerfully,

"God did not want me to eat today!" &

then she reverts to her round of duties.

SHE also practises sometimes, CHANDRAYANA,

a sort of fasting or eating, in which, the

daily quantity of intake food is increased/diminished

according to the Waxing or Waning of the MOON.

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30								

My mother had a strong common sense & a
 spare presence of mind particularly regarding
 Children & their health. We never had petrol supply
 or Electricity those days & so living on the kerosene lamps
 The job procuring kerosene from the ration shop
 as & when the stocks come to the shop (nobody knew when)
 was entrusted to me. Most of the time I sat on the staircase
 facing the street & doing my home work watching
 the incoming & outgoing vehicles. One day as soon as
 I sighted the vehicle, I ran inside the home
 picked up the two bottles (one for white & another yellow)
 rushed on to the road to fall in line in the Q
 In the process, I dashed into an old man fell to the ground
 breaking the two bottles with their tops lingering in my fingers
 In haste I tried to pick up the bottles & my left palm
 struck into the narrow top palm of the bottle with sharp edge
 I ran home with a bleeding left hand, when
 she broke down with tears. I expressed my feelings facing page

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S
 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

JUN

2001

as in

My mother was stunned to see
my bleeding palm & immediately
tore a corner of sari she was wearing
drew a match stick to burn it into a
black powder and plugged the injury on my palm
which stopped the bleeding immediately thereafter
The injury got sealed up & dried in couple of days
You can see the scar on my left thumb
even today, seventy years after the accident.

In yet another incident when I
accidentally swallowed a ten paise coin while
playing with it, my mother gave me a
glass of milk with some castor oil mixed in it.
This cleared my bowels like a loose motion &
out came the coin crystal clear in its true colors.

In a third situation, when I burnt my forehead
she applied coconut oil & wrapped it with plantain leaf &

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S
01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 JUN 2001
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

rolled a cloth over it. By next day the swelling came down.

That was how I got ^{always} quick relief

She looked with a spirit of SYANA MUDRA

with a presence of mind with three types of values:

1) SYAN YOGA → the pursuit of knowledge

2) KARMA YOGA → dynamic action & growth

3) BHAKTI YOGA → devotion with a higher purpose

Translated into English, these three types of YOGA broadly mean KNOWLEDGE, ACTION & CARE.

Like the lady poet SOROSINI NAIDU, my mother too felt a kind of spirituality while cooking.

When she was bisking ^{chick-} peas or saabudanna

and when they danced in the flame like a

devotion in divine ecstasy, she used to

like to elicit answers from ^{us for} us like:

"Who is greater, water or maker of bread?"

or a maker of wheat?

Which is easier? How do you like it? Which?

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

JUN

2001

She never drives away any beggar
 without offering some thing or other
 either a food item or clothing or medicine
 "Finding your Dharma or showing your true nature
 in everything you do is your true spirituality
 - Whether the event occurs or takes its place
 when you are cooking for the family
 or engaged with your children" she says
 She finds pleasure in feeding the animals
 like cows & buffalo which provide us with milk.
 She feels happy in conveying vegetable waste or
 rice pouring or milky waste from kitchen it is
 available & carries it home for > half kilometer
 for the sake of her cattle. She does not drink
 the entire milk from the udder of cow / buffalo
 but leaves back the share of the calf or kid
 in the udder to be sucked by the calf.

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11

JUN

2001

3074

Was the last person

Today's Priorities

She ~~used~~ to have her lunch or dinner only after feeding the rest & waiting for any incoming guest or feeding the cows/dogs etc & having sufficient quantities for the late comers.

MAY

Her concept of HAPPINESS was not at the cost of a sick or fasting member of family or on the presence of a beggar at the door.

Her idea of HAPPINESS is expressed ⁱⁿ the following lines written by somebody & translated by Rashidurrahman Tajore

" I Salute the life that is revealed, not hidden
And the life of surging sea of fire;
And the life that is tender like a LOTUS
And the life that is hard like a thunder-bolt

A life full of joy like cheers or weary with its pains
A life eternally moving & rocking the world into stillness
A life deep & silent - breaking out into the

Roaring waves of HAPPINESS"

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11

JUN

2001

3024

Today's Priorities

My mother was the eldest of ^{big} 21 a Gurram family and nine children (Six daughters & three sons and was the first to be married into family and was loved & respected greatly by all the members of both the families on either side. In turn she gave birth to six loving children (two sons & four daughters) and the credit for the success of family goes to the mother for her compromising nature & mutual cooperations and also maintaining cooperations with her in-laws on the one side & her own parents on the other.

She had an aged mother who left this world prematurely leaving her ^{aged} father (who lost his sight very early in life) to the care of their daughter (my mother) for life-time also taking care of a widowed sister partially insane.

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18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

JUN

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3036

Before being his core, her mother's last-
 born was her youngest son, roughly of
 my age (roughly five years old, just admitted
 to Duddu Subbramanyam's elementary school)
 was to be married into an family by
 offering our youngest daughter in marriage.
 This birth was fulfilled into a historic,
 unprecedented coincidence, ^{with my marriage} later in 1949
 (which is later dealt with exhaustively in
 a later volume no... of my autobiography)
 Ever since then that Chap grew with me as a
 member of our family & ate in the same plate.
 Both of us took care of his aged blind father
 escorting him, walking on either side, holding
 each one of ~~his~~ hands (clapping his right-left palms)
 whenever he chooses to come to my place or go back
 from their ancestral house (one kilometre away)

23

WED
MAY

1433999

along with me

EVE

S

20

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S
 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 JUN

2001

As I write this 75 years later, I visualise the situation from before my eyes

(my mother) understandably

To be frank, she had a soft corner for

her daughters, rather than her ~~sons~~ ^{sons},
~~either~~

because the sons were comparatively well-off,
or rather the daughters married into families
of whom close relatives were not doing well.

The eldest daughter having been married late
did not have any children & lost her husband too
prematurely & so she preferred to stay with her mother

because the other daughters (the second one married
to her son brother on a mutual exchange basis)

the third one a postgraduate in medicine
(who could not get married till late due to ^{simple} deformity)

preferred to marry a Tamilian (in a late marriage)
and was comfortably placed in life compared to others)

and the youngest one (the last to be married)
(with her lip deformity) could find a suitable alliance

from a close family, comfortably working as a Govt employee.

25
MAY

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2001

I remember the last journey I made
 with my Mother on an agricultural Tractor
 from Nellimitta to Pamulevanpalem (as the
 bus was out of order even before starting)
 I escorted her to our village, worshipped our
 family goddess at Pamulevanpalem and
 came to NLR to stay with our sister Anirudha
 for the night before departing to Hyderabad.
 At Hyderabad she attended ^{Sekhar & Sujatha's} Mohan Chaya's
 marriages at Vasavi Kalyana Bandapam.
 On 20th May 1987 of Mohan & Chaya } at
 on 6th Dec 1986 of Sekhar & Sujatha } Hydco
 on 19th May 1977 of Mani & Seena at Chennai
 after which I put her in train to Orampakkam
 to attend ^{Twin} the marriages of Satya Lakshmi & Sobha ^(my nieces)
 after which she settled ^{down} with my brother at Adapur, Chennai.
 She expired on 2nd Nov 1987 at Adapur, Chennai.
 When she was staying after my father's demise in 1980

28

MON

MAY

1987

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 She expired on 2nd Nov 1987 at Adapur, Chennai.
 When she was staying after my father's demise in 1980

Oh my MOTHER

29

TUE

Today's Priorities

You mean so much to me

Oh ~~MOTHER~~ You brought me up so lovingly
with so much thought & care
and set a fine example to all
which I am always proud to follow

Oh Mother, You did all things that counted. --
things I am thankful for even today.

OK, Mother, You have always given so unselfishly
the Values, human & spiritual, You taught Me
the Sacrifices, physical & mental, You made ^{to} Me
The Confidences, You had given ME
have all contributed ~~to~~ many ways
to make my life full & happy too.

Oh Mother, You had helped me & encouraged ME
to do my best at all times,
preparing ME and showing ME
the way to handle all problems &
conflicting situations arising
in my life.

OH MY MOTHER

Day's Priorities

30

WED

150-215

You proved so much for me

Oh mother, when things were not working out -
favourable to me & I came here

then I was worried about

You cheered me & inspired ME

to make a new beginning

Oh mother, You understood my situation &
gave me hope and comfort

Which no one else could offer.

Oh mother, in a world of uncertainty,
I knew nothing & nothing means to me

more than knowing you through & through

Your love & loyalty to the family

only to pass stranger & stranger

in the future days to come

With great love to my mother & seeking her blessing

Pamula Venkat Radhakrishna MURTHI

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My GRATITUDE to my parents

Today's Priorities

Shakespeare, in one of his wonderful plays, "A YOU LIKE IT" Conveys a universal phenomenon, "We can even bear up to the biting cold but we cannot tolerate the ingratitude shown by our own near & dear ones (Kith & Kin) Parents from middle & lower middle class families, shed their painful perspirations to earn money in order to educate their own children to higher & higher excellence (degrees) But the latter spends lavishly on games & vices instead of concentrating on their studies & forgetting their family background.

In many advanced countries, college students go for work in order to support their college education or do part time study & part time work at night in the college/university library

or distributing Newspaper dailies etc.

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JUL

2001

But in India, many college going students
 suck the blood of their parents and instead
 of meeting the college fees & examination fees
 demand pocket money for handouts, picnics &

Are they not cheating themselves?

Is this the respect they show to their parents?

Or do they have any respect for God overseeing us?

Students must realize that they cannot be

a continuous pain to their parents always.

If the students want to repay their parents,

they must show ^{them} love & respect - as living gods,

Compromise on certain issues like earning

for their fees through part-time employment.

If not aspiring for great achievements,

then one should show their expression of gratitude

to their parents for bringing them into this world &

for providing for their basic necessities.

Parenting has become much more
 Challenging in 21st Century than in 19th,
 because children of the present generation
 are more smarter, tougher & more independent.
 The system developed in United States
 is more democratic & recognizes the need
 for children to be respected as individuals
 first and then as son/daughter as the case may be.
 Families have gone nuclear round the world &
 Father & Mother go for work together or in shifts.
 Children are exposed to too much & too soon.
 While we cannot change the dynamics of
 today's life, we have to find a way out.
 Transport has become a problem & risky too.
 Combined education is the order of the day &
 no separate schools for girls as in our days.
 We have to provide for all contingencies
 before putting a baby in a school/crèche.

HOME is the place where children learn better and apply their knowledge. Relationships have become dearer to all of us. Yet there is one area of life which takes a back seat in our mad rush from one day to another.

Often we don't make any honest effort or find enough time to understand our own children, more than the outsiders. We generally label them as lazy or sleepy, or good for nothing or good for anything etc. I wonder why we go into this s/p self-fulfilling or self-diminishing descriptions and

consequently develop low esteem on our own children. Communicating effectively, understanding their behavior, applying sensible discipline & building their self-esteem forms p/p this interactive workshop to help us.

to develop into an effective parent.

8

FRI

JUN

1590116

2001

As I said in earlier pages, parenting has become a tough task these days. Parents are supposed to be three-in-one, friend, philosopher & guide to the child in addition to being their first teacher & role model. No descriptions like cover the entire gamut of their responsibilities in making them the best future citizens within an chosen sphere of activity.

As a famous philosopher wrote:

"The woods are lovely, dark & deep
I have no time to stand & stare
Two roads diverged in a yellow wood
I could not travel in both,
I looked down on one as far as I could
Then took the other one".

But a study by senior team
has some dampening news
for today's generation of adults.

Researchers at the Children's Society
in Britain have carried out some
extensive studies and found that
children are not acquiring basic ^{moral} values
these days, because today's parents
are actually poor role models.

They questioned >1000 people and found that
2/3 of adults believe that moral values
of young people have declined considerably
since the time when they were young.

According to the study by "The TIMES", "the rise of
celebrity culture & weakening family bonds
are undermining the traditional moral values
among the younger generation!" -

When you have a famous parent, and the world expects you to follow the footsteps of your parent, it may be a challenge for you to break away. Bollywood or Tollywood records have some interesting stories to tell you, down the generations - those of repeating surnames like Bachchans or Arunks, of sons & daughters, who followed suit on the illustrious footsteps of the generation before them. In music, sports & business too, the torch was frequently handed down through families. But for the progeny of some, following suit in the well-established pattern was not just ^{like} that. A couple of them stood at the X road, where well defined footsteps paved the way, but then took a turn to find their own different channel.

for ex: Dr Shantaram, ^{famous} film maker's children & grand children, did not get into film business because even if they succeeded in film business they did not want to shine in the name of their father or father-in-law.

Rohit Sharma, the elder son of Shantoor Hossain Pandit Shriv Kumar Sharma has an uncanny resemblance with younger brother Rahul Sharma.

For him, DAD was always "a chilled-out person who never forced either of us to take up music". Being good at academics, movie buff, his son became a graduate in Business Economics from London University.

Love in movie production. He admits that both his "father who studied Business Economics & mother who came from a business family, urged him to go ahead & explore further on Music on his own".

When you talk of walking one's own way,
 breaking away from established family traditions
 I think of Deepika Padukone (daughter of
 Ace Smritter Prakash Padukone) who never
 considered sports as a professional choice.
 "I might have played as an youngster,
 but gave it up & went into modelling"
 For Tejas, the grandson of Bale Muralikrishna
 who chose an independent path instead of
 being forced into a profession of his parent/grandparent
 I do know the series of Mrudangam ^{prayer} Rock, ^{no one}
 "Can force me into a profession to learn music".
 He is now glad to be doing things in his own way,
 but with the blessings of his parent/grandparent
 The common factor in all these cases is
 a supportive family, family of parents
 that led the child to do what he wanted to.

On the outside of the picture, I have a couple of instances of a protective parents confessed of mistakes they committed in bringing up their kids.

One parent says: "After watching as many as 18 Christmas mornings back to back, I realised ~~that~~ ^{despite the} fact that we wanted our son to grow up to ^{be} a normal boy, we never gave him, what he really wanted: a gun."

(Of course, not a real gun, but a toy gun to aim at squirrels & cross him ^{some} he felt ^{urge})

He did not get one because they felt that it may tempt him into glorified warfare.

Later they discovered when he was admitted into a professional school, he improvised a weapon like a gun, from a bent stick and attempt a shot at the Goodman truck.

In another case we have heard that a parent took special classes to prevent his child from exposure to risks.

The instructions made it clear that the most dangerous thing in your house is not a loaded gun but it is grape.

Grapes are just the size of a kid's windpipe. If a child eats a bunch of them over time,

quickly, one might get stuck & cut off the air supply. I understand hot dogs are also exactly the ^{same} diameter as a kid's throat.

No greater caution must be used than the child consumes these articles. Both these foods

are fine to eat, ~~but~~ as long as they were cut up but not otherwise. Even since then

Whenever we had grapes, we always cut them into molecular-size bits before offering to children.

My experience shows that the ^{parent-} American Society is one that is over-cautious in many situations involving kids & their activities. We are ^{dependent} people who are just too lackadaisical. Our malls are not ^{child-} safe or friendly or accident free. Children are molested on a school bus when the teacher escorts could have prevented such cases. Schools in the Middle East have parent volunteers in bus to ensure travel of kids safe & secure. These are just few instances/areas in which parents & school administrators need to be proactive. We seem to learn such incidents only after they occurred. Why are we unwilling to or incapable of preventing such incidents before they occur? What happens to ^{our} God given freight. School Management also should be roped in to ensure the safety of their kids till they reach home.

Some pointers for parents to take care of:-

Today's Priorities

29

FRI

180-185

- 1) Parents must educate their children about "Good touch" & "Bad touch" & be a little more open.
- 2) Children must be taught to say "NO" to an adult whatever be the situation.
- 3) Children should be cautioned about the danger of keeping secrets, even if bribed/scared.
- 4) Parents should also be watchful to any changes in child behaviour which is inappropriate.
- 5) Medical problems such as chronic itching, or pain in the genitals should be the concern of parents.

All said & done, parents be more watchful about the safety of their kids from the time they leave their homes, till they get back in a single piece. As far as possible, it is better one of parents ensure the dropping & picking of kids back, all by themselves personally instead of delegating their duty to their servants or householders.

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Significant ~~Case~~ of PARENTS - A MUST

Today's Priorities

I recall that, before starting my book ² up, I had dedicated my writings to my MOTHER "Studying a saying which says" MOTHER is a TRUTH because U come out of her womb, while FATHER is a faith because U accept him as father on mother's introduction. In either case they take care of U for Your life time from childhood to Your old age, but not without themselves growing old & exhausting their ^(both physical & mental) faculties. ^{Woman's} Recalling the four stages of a Man's life; it is said "Childhood:

Youth:

Adult load:

old Age:

After successfully discharging his responsibilities ^{mobile &} in the four Quadrants, MAN; being not stationary _{WOMAN} walks into the first Quadrant of childhood when he needs care & comfort

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by his own progeny / Children created by himself

Shows when parents become old by efflux of time
 they come under the care of children. It is their
 bounden duty to take care of them and not dump
 them in any old age home etc. It is but natural
 by sheer efflux of time, old parents may pick up
 some ailments, which may be temporary or permanent
 and hence need the assistance of youngsters to
 help them in their needment. When I went to US
 to visit my son in New Jersey state, I used to
 attend the Senior Centre for time pass. I came
 across a couple of Indian citizens who invited me
 to their home, where I enquired of their parents:
 "Oh they are all in old age home". I asked him
 "Why? When I am on job earning millions". He
 retorted saying: "Tomorrow I & I will face the same fate".
 It is ridiculous I thought but kept quiet.

5

THU

JUL

186-179

Today's Priorities

" జీవితా వాక్య కరణాత్

(ప్రతి జ్ఞం భూత భూజనాత్

గ యా యాం జండ దా నా త్తాచ

(అ) భుక్తి నిః శ్రేయ స మ్నానాత్

I want to add one more line to this

2

3 That is to say " Take care of them
4 both by body & soul
5 When they grow old "

EVE Instead of dumping them or lodging them
in any old-age home or some
orphanage or " SARANALAYAM " as long
as you live & pass them on to your children

2001

JUL

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In one of the lectures I had attended, I heard a saying on our ^{Three} duties towards parents:

- 1) Pay heed to Their advice when alive
- 2) Provide for extensive poor-feeding on, ^{Their} Anniversary day
- 3) Offer Puja Pradhanam @ Gaya after death

These are three Gunas of an ideal son.

I was wondering why the scriptures did not spell out how they should be treated when they are incapacitated & when they don't have their own independent income. That is why the American law has provided for their admission into an old age home for their safety & comfort. Indian law is still trying to live some smug promises & is yet to crystallize their thoughts & bring out some legislation on this subject. Let us hope for the best before we get our turn.

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15

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168-177

Today's Priorities

గణిత సంఘం తీసి వచ్చి

2) మాన వత్తి లేని ఎకాభిన శాస్త్రం

3) ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶନା ନିମ୍ନ

4) దాన శీలత లేని ధన సంపాదన

5) નીચે લેખે જાણકારી આપો.

6) विश्वसनीयता 2050

2వ తరగతి పాఠ్య పుస్తకం.

EVE

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2001

JUL

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I received a six line mandate from my parents who warned me against the following six principle as causing huge damage to the society:

- 1) Education without morality
- 2) Science without humanity
- 3) Commerce without community
- 4) Earnings without charity
- 5) Politics without chastity
- 6) LIFE without Divinity

My father further advised me to say:

"If your aim is definite	} You should be	
If your purpose is laudable		reaching the goal
If your plan is wise		of your ambitions
If your schedule is steadfast		ahead of schedule
If you play a clean game all the way through		and reap the benefits of your efforts soon.

I have seen following his advice all along that I am today, to his best wishes & blessings only.

I have always wondered at the almost robotic way we function to day. What is the reason to continue a relationship or a venture when there is no emotion or a heart with it. I think we should try to live by our free flying emotion that allows clarity & energy to work without self interest. There may be either material rewards or spiritual rewards — You can't have both. You must be able to do different things & take different paths to acquire each. I feel that I have been blessed through my life by my instinctive parents. Whoever I am today is due to supreme guiding power of my parents, my master Sooryanarayana guiding me from the top to toe the right line, though my own effort helped me in a big way to connect my thoughts with my inner self.

The conundrum of modern-day life has robbed us of compassion - we have been drained of love & humility. It is better to live life as an honest-free spirit & challenge those who infringe on my joy. It is good to remember that life can be easily destroyed if we are not careful in our efforts. We have to realise & face reality as they face you & act when to move forward & when to let-go.

Dissatisfaction, Sadness & hatred —
these are the mind's creations. We need not
sever our connections with the world,
if we feel let down. To believe that,
it is essential we live a normal life
while trying to find out the root cause
of the dissatisfied mind. This approach
is both realistic & practical in my opinion.

While in the case of American students, the parental involvement is non-existent. In the case of Indian & Chinese students, it is parental pressure that works in favor of the children to reach higher grades & lucrative jobs. An American journalist said: "Most of us become parents long before we stopped being children. But the same cannot be said of Asian and particularly Indian ~~children~~ ^{parents}. They slip from childhood to parenthood with utmost ease and once they assume their new role, they take to their duties to the point of forgetting that they too have a life of their own. You may call it as "Result oriented parenting" or any such thing, but as far as pushing their children into "fruitful activities" or "topping ⁱⁿ studies" Indian parents beat the dads & moms of any other country, hands down.

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19

THU

JUL

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Today's Priorities

Culturally we, Indians are a strong community for long.

Unlike the west, we believe in some sort of togetherness & commonness. Words like "family", "community" have a lot more significance in our daily lives. In our country, parents essay their roles (Whether it is from child to father or father to grandfather) up to their maximum capacity & this goes to the extent of leaving behind their own lives as individuals. Parenting is a life long activity. It is continuous "give & give" process (not a "give & take" process) for a life time ^{EVE} till the sons/children follow suit - uphold the system of a joint family as long as it is feasible & practicable.

2001

JUL

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Millions of Indian parents are forced to take voluntary retirement from active jobs once their wards leave for IITs or IIMs or any foreign universities. Having given their best years to parenting, they find it hard to reconcile to a childless existence. Fathers & working mothers can still cope with this situation because they have their careers to fall back upon. But the condition of non-working mothers & housewives & superannuated mothers becomes unbearable because it is too late for them to embark on a ^{new} career. The poor sons become victims of "Empty nest syndrome".

Would it not be better, if my thinking goes right & clicks, whether this vast & multi-dimensional pool of parental talent & rich practical field experience, can be merchandised for the benefit of the International Community, to bring up foreign kids & multicultural kids leading to the American & European children mix leading to the amalgamation of world cultures.

21

Today's Features

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JUL

2016

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EVE

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Another important aspect of parenting style
parental involvement in India has been
the nature of a "Friend, philosopher, guide & Teacher"
to their children & are equally responsible for
their personality development.

Apart from parental pressure and
wide ranging expectations, it is their confidence
in them that helps a child to perform better.
Things nonworking parents face a situation
of "Empty nest syndrome".

At any rate, an educated child who would be
capable of serving society at large, should be
a source of pride to the parent. Parents know full well
that for higher education, children stay away
from them & so there is no need ^{to feel} "Empty nest syndrome"
or being left alone. If I may be permitted to say,
it is not the parents who need children but ^{in fact} children need their
parents for all times to come, wishing for their growth.

2001

JUL

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Moreover, an Indian middle class family offers an ideal surrounding & good setting for the growth & development of a child.

Apart from formal education, there is a lot to learn from the rich & diverse cultural & social milieu here. Not only that, the Indian schools are much safer than American schools, rocked by shooting incidents now & then.

In fact, India has the right potential to emerge as an international result-oriented & bright surrogate parenting outsourcing hub. Each alien child that can be brought-up here, would not only be a good intl ambassador but also a consumer of Indian products. However,

one ~~drawback~~ ^{drawback}, we should be guarded against, is ~~that~~ ^{whether} such a divided attention affects, in any way, the development of their own children. Let us make an ~~early~~ ^{early} beginning, to gain leadership over Chinese counterparts, who might venture into similar projects.

A latest new reality in India, is to hire a detective to control your child.

Today the inquisitive mind of the parent wants to micro-manage & control their kid's life.

Some desperate parents are hiring cyber-detectives

Particularly during DANDIYA NIGHTS, parents of

Armedakins went berserk hiring private detectives to spy on their teenage children for total control.

Parents are willing to do anything, even to keep a body guard for their daughter when she goes on dates.

The story does not end here. Parents tie up with some international agencies to get more information about their kids living abroad too.

I don't think this is the right method. Instead, I personally feel that parents should spend quality time with their children & try to have friendly relationship.

The number of snoop parents has more than doubled in the twenty first century.

Today's Priorities

Today's Priorities: No doubt, a lot of watchfulness may be needed, but some parents may be overbordering towards being overcautious & don't want to leave their children alone, because they have too little faith in their ability to deal with ^{some critical} situations.

The spy approach may also face a backlash because the kids may feel that they are constantly being watched over and so may not feel OK but may tend to react to this. Says a child psychologist to whom the problem has referred to. This is not the best parenting model. Teenagers are highly emotional & parents must keep this in mind & try to dilute the fragile relationship before it becomes difficult to bridge. Rather than resorting to such tactics, it is better to know their kids more intimately by bonding with them in playing games like cards/billiards.

[illegible]

2001

30
JULY

In one particular case, a mature lady
 tried to look for a boy friend LNL exact
 same qualities of her father. It may be right-
 to a certain extent for similar parameters
 but if she gets obsessive & wants her boyfriend
 to be exact father's replica, I am afraid, it
 may not be fruitful. If the guy looks-
 talks-walks like the dad, he might have an
 admirer. But if he likes as well as the dad does,
 he might get into trouble, if the girl knows
 that he is good without being good enough to become
 another William Shakespeare. All said & done,
 it is great to be a papa's favorite girl.
 But it can lead to funny situations-
 disastrous ones at times- when a few of these
 father's girls base their parameters on similarities
 then her happens, some men experience accidental fatherhood
 of a daughter.

Looks funny... 2001

PARENTING

Today's Priorities

WED

ADG

213-159

Another important aspect of parenting is however busy your work schedule may be, making time for kids is all that is really required. Many times with our busy schedules we end up organizing things, trying to get tasks or odd jobs done up & constantly running against the clock. We often make plans to spend quality time with our children but when the opportunity comes, it turns out to be a lecturing session or correcting time. We struggle between wanting to provide the best & expecting them to be the best. In the midst of the tussle, there is not enough time to simply enjoy each other's company. Lack of time together also means a lack of adult-child rapport or lack of proper guidance & supervision.

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For want of rapport + communication
Children may end up with inappropriate
role models from peers + TV addicts.

Due to the crunch in quantity time,
the quality time also suffers resulting
in frustrated kids, who are also at the
end of their patience with their parents.

What seems like rebelliousness,
may actually be a cry for meaningful
connections with parents. We may want
them to switch off the TV or stop playing
or not go out with friends, but it may
put their mood off. But after that,

if we make some effort to play a game
of Scrabble or Chess or read a book or
indulge in some witty banter, or pulling
each other's legs, it may help of creating
a meaningful dialogue.

Merely giving advice might put them off, while spending quality time with them could work wonders.

When we acknowledge mutual coordination & consciously make a meaningful dialogue effort to spend meaningful family time together, it sends a clear message to our children. It may be something like:

"We love you, you are very close to me
 You are important to us and
 we enjoy your company & time.
 Let us spend time together
 and try to solve our problems
 & proceed ahead to achieve our goals".

So, spending time with your kids is an important aspect of managing your time which helps both in the long run.

Humility vs Learning

Today's Priorities

I always believe in HUMILITY

WED

ADG

200-145

I am concerned with caring of elders.

When there is humility, there is WILLINGNESS to learn. When humility is lacking, Ego comes in, which does not let us learn and move forward.

Sometimes I am faced with CRITICISM.

Still I need to see when I can learn anything from it, instead of feeling bad about it.

Even when things go wrong for me, they have something to teach me to improve.

Sometimes I feel like correcting some people & further the effect of my words has no impact on them & instead develops some resentment.

I am caught up in a frequent situation without any expected result but on the other hand I find my relationships getting strained too.

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Humility needs a good home to dwell in
 When the mind is filled with negative feelings
 or biased ideas towards any family member
 we can't use humility. So it is very much
 necessary to fill our mind with positive thoughts
 In case I come across any negative thoughts
 towards anyone, I try to make an attempt
 to remove them forthwith from my mind.
 I need to tell myself that what I don't
 like is only one aspect or one particular situation
 connected with that person, but not the whole
 personality, himself in toto. In this way
 I can be able to change my own attitude &
 also can help the other person to bring about
 a change in his behaviour or response.
 I don't forget that every one has his share
 of fortune to be nurtured by constant use.

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SEP

2001

I always feel that the happiness is
in distributing the fruits of our future
experience to others. Life generosity.

The more I remember & recall my efforts
to migrate to Hyderabad & look my way up
I feel the efforts of my solo effort to my
luck & fortune for success I had attained,
the more I feel like sharing with other
members of my family & distribute the
treasure of life, then I enjoy sharing with them.
I also realise that the more I give to others
it increases my treasure with better openings.

Each one is destined to have his share
of fortune which stands written on his face.
I think of all these things for which I consider
fortunate & try to make best use of those
by extending to some to the next of my kin.

results
 15

AUG

2001

I always wish everyone the best
 so that everything goes well with his wife.
 When there are good wishes, with our ^{limited} ability,
 we develop some kind of love & affection.
 We have to speak the love is free from
 selfishness & will not turn bad effects on him.

Such words are free from any kind of
 negativity, so develop some positive power.
 Such powerful words will certainly bring
 some change in others & even so in the
 case of some family members.

It is ^a deeper necessity that words to be true & effective.
 We must send some positive vibrations by
 telling them assertively with a whole positive heart.
 With such thinking I derive positive results
 for my actions & provide benefit to me & all.
 My action & words bring long range benefits to all
 my brothers & sisters in the long run.

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Another important aspect I learnt
in my life is: "Life goes on learning tonight
as it goes on - everyday day in & day out

(Everyday is a new experience by itself &

Every person we meet - on the street is a new learning

I am now 70 plus. & I have not stopped

learning. I am trying to develop some

peace of mind & trying to keep changing

my way of life, way of thinking, eating etc on

everyday to register some kind of improvement

in my health, bright & manner of living &

trying to slip into the realm of spirituality as well.

I realised that Spirituality is not to get

converted into an ascetic, but it is achieving

the ability to enjoy life's highs & lows

It is enjoying everything life has to offer you,

Whether is about God or human behaviour

20

MON

AUG

2001

Here or less, I have come to the conclusion
 that whatever happens to me will happen.
 You can't change the way life flows on;
 but I know how my life changed over the years.
 I came to Hyderabad on a meagre salary
 of 80 plus DA of 52 (Total 132) but still went
 on improving my qualifications while on job
 to become a postgraduate by studying night-
 college & engaging on tuition to earn more money
 & remitting back home to meet their requirements.
 I took life as it came to me (as explained elsewhere)
 and was prepared to struggle, knowing the
 midnight oil. I went on & on but there was
 no looking back. I learnt from everything that
 I came across to learn. I met people from all walks
 of life & I lived myself in all walks of life, because
 it is life - constantly expanding & expending myself.

SUN 19

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SEP

2001

It is enough if the success or greatness
one achieves does not get into his head.
If you are not super bloating with your
own success, you are not taking life lightly
& you are not taking the downside quite badly
either when it comes or when you face it.

Destiny, Standom or falling into the ditch,
all will help you to get up & rise up in life.

It is a supreme feeling to keep living &
to be working in your own choicest way & life &
constantly creating & searching for better avenues.

I am not God or demi-God nor a badshah or king.
I don't understand it when others call themselves
so & so or accept other people calling them in that fashion.

In this time of democracy & multiparty politics,
nobody is a permanent X at any point of time, he is
likely to be thrown out. It is people that make you
it is foolishness to forget that appeal
even momentarily or for all time to come.

Throughout my career,
 I realize that I will be grateful to God
 if I am left as it is and blessed with good health.
 If I have learnt well - I have learnt,
 I am content because it is the people & my
 interactions with them that never stopped teaching me.
 At first, in the early stages of my life,
 when opening my eyes,
 it was my parents & then my school teachers
 and then my colleagues in office & then friends
 with whom I go for my morning walks & the
 fellow travellers with whom I travel in life's journey.
 I never say "STOP" or "I finished & no more"
 "I have already learnt enough".
 The day we take that attitude & say like that,
 our creativity comes to a NAUGHT & we stop
 our learning & our downfall starts. I have
 too much for such thinking. I have longed. I have
 to travel more & longer & longer distances
 there is much more to see. I take in
 in the life's journey I learn more & more.

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Abhishek Verma once expressed
the biggest turning point in a man's life
is his MARRIAGE (which I don't accept)

One aspect may be true because your
life-style changes, "Who U are" changes,
you now have kids & they start growing up;
your responsibilities change and in turn
they get married & the ^{number of} family members change
your incomes changes & grow shorter & shorter
at certain point of time, conflicts creep in,
you take certain harsh decisions,
rightly or wrongly and with distorted results
and you find you balance between your
Career & family broken or shattered
if your decisions are wrong & not well taken
or your status is elevated by right decisions
and you become the President of America or
Prime Minister of India.

I have never lived back in my life except until I started writing my autobiography as a pastime but not for any commercial purpose. Then my I realised really too that nobody can raise their little finger against me or about my long & stuporous career. Even if people laugh at me, I do not bother. There is a sharp conviction in me because I know no one can take back the credits I have won nor my achievements earned from a hard life. I have nothing to fear & then there is nothing to fear there is full security for me for the side of God whom I adore & Lord Soorya whom I namaskar everyday. When there is security there is peace & fulfilment. That is why I always stand for my ideals & principles. I always accept for & cons take right decisions at the right-time with the blessings of my favorite Gods & Lord Suryabhegan who bless me everyday.

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SEP

2001

My experience like some seniors

Today's Priorities

Incidentally I tried to study the lives some great people & noble prize winners whether they devoted substantial part of their life & time with their family & children but-disappointed Dr Rajendra Kumar Pachauri, the head of IPCC who shares this years nobel prize like AL GORE on October 12, 2007, had a piece of advice for the corporate sector when he said:

"Firstly, energy sufficient-structure must be made so that optimum energy is utilised, but-recommended thrust-to be more on non-conventional energy sources as they are the real sources of the future". He was quite lavish in his praise for the youth, when he said: "The youth today is much more aware about the environment than the adults of today they have the power to influence the adults to a great extent & that makes a lot of difference."

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Today's Edition
When asked about his 67 year old
environmentalist spend time with his family,
he said: "I don't get to spend much time
with my family". Sometimes I regret this.

How does the environmentalist know his tension?
"I love to swim - play cricket - read & pen my thoughts"

With environmental studies becoming an
integral part of today's school curriculum,

Panchuri has a word of advice for today's
academicians, when he says: "The ambit

of environmental studies can be broadened
by taking them from the classroom to the fields.

This will make learning an interesting phenomenon

What is otherwise boring when done in classrooms.

His advice is for everybody should have introspection

to lay down standards for himself, if we

wish to have a healthy environment.

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Long ago I came across a
senior poet-saint dedicated to the
service of Tamil language. As a child she
once completed another poet's unfinished verse:

Qn: If you do you a good deed,
When ^{you enjoy} ~~live~~ the results of your deed?

She added to say: "Like the water poured
at the foot of the coconut tree is
returned to you as water hidden in the
coconut fruit you place from its head".
What she means to highlight through this
is: "Service without expectation of returns
is only the ideal & praiseworthy path".

In yet another divine verse, she proclaimed
that there are only two castes in this world:
the high born who help others when they are in distress
& the low born who never help others even if they can.

She is no other than Ayya, the famous Tamil poet

Every noble soul is tested on the
pedestal of perfection. Aranyak was
asked four questions by Lord Muruga:
An answers earned for her. Divine Grace:

Q(1) What is hard? Poverty is hard to bear.
Povrty in youth is harder to feel.
Harder still more is an incurable disease.
Still more harder is a faithless lover who abandons her.
Hardest of all is ~~an~~ dependence (on others) for
food on others who dislike you.

Q(2) What is sweet? Solitude is sweet.
Sweetest is the worship of the LORD.
More sweetest still is the company of your GURU.
Sweetest is to be constantly making ground for GURU.

Q(3) What is Big? Big is the world.
Bigger is Brahma who created world.
But Brahma emerges from the navel of
Lord Vishnu who sleeps on the ocean.
The ocean was gulped by sage Agastya
who was born of a pot. The pot comes from
the earth which rests on the cosmic serpent's head
(Adishesha's head). The serpent is but a ring
on the finger of Parvathi, who is half of Lord Shiva.
Lord Shiva resides in the heart of the devotee
who alone is the biggest.
So human life alone is biggest of all in this world.

① What is RARE in this world?

Rare is human birth and

Rarer is human birth without deformity

Rarer still is human birth with an inclination

towards wisdom and self-sacrifice and

RAREST is human birth possessing both

Charity & penance for universal well-being

When she was about to be married away

by her adopted parents, she prayed LORD Ganesha

her ISHTA DAIVA, who rescued her by changing

her appearance from that of a beautiful

maiden to that of a graceful old lady

that better way of conveying that the

pleasures of youth are fleeting & distracting,

while the wisdom of the old is eternal &

helpful on the spiritual path, which means to say

"Overcoming desire is a prerequisite for any spiritual aspiration"

Another amazing personality whom I came across during one of my US visits is Michael Douglas, who has been won over by India. The actor, director & producer ^{shooting} who was here on location hunt for his next film, takes about 15 food & more. But right now, when I met him, he was on a location shooting for his next film. He was engaging, like any other tourist, by the colors & vitality of India. and is enamoured by the dynamism he sees here. In fact, as I proceeded to talk to him widely he goes a step further and says that he is enamoured by the whole country. He smiles when he says: "I love the country." "It is an amazing place to live in it." "It is a thrilling joy to go round it."

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Today's Priorities

"What is it that Michael likes the best -
about India" I was wondering without
any confrontations, because it is safe for me
"I must-confess, I love the food here"

Said Mr Douglas: "The mix of spices is brilliant. I am exploring & trying to explore more & more about India & further beyond the horizons".

The actor was trying to talk to Chief Minister Rajasthan to book Jodhpur palace for his location shooting. Stayed at Umair Bohra's palace and the location where may be seen in his film "RACING THE MONSOON".

The movie stars his wife CATHERINE JONES along with Ananya RAI BACHCHAN + Michael himself as the lead actors.

While Michael refused to reveal more, his gestures revealed that Ba Cachen Baker is a very much a part of the films!!

Today's Priorities
The next personality I came across was
a lady Munira Chandasama from Nepal
who completed her degree at Harvard
at the age of 71 & who is a living proof
that it is never too late to pursue your dream

Munira MLC a master's degree from Mumbai
enrolled for a master's programme in Sociology &
Gender Equality at Harvard University, USA

"Perhaps it is the age I ventured to realise
my dream that surprises everyone" she quipped
Each experience at Harvard Univ was wonderful
Of the 40+ plus students ranging from late teens
to late twenties, I was the only exception late sevens

Here is one occasion when my age worked to ^{my} advantage"

After this she wants to explore more universities
to study psychology & religion, & explore new avenues

But one thing she made clear to all of us was

"I will not let back twiddling my thumbs".

MY TEACHER — GURU

Today's Priorities

19

WED

SEP

202-103

This being the month of September, the Teacher's Day round the corner, I am to remember an incident of my school days.

My English teacher gave us a small poem and asked us to learn its meaning & get by heart and give him the feedback after a week.

On his return, he asked for the response. Then all of them gave their own versions except me. The teacher had asked me again & again but there was no response.

Anticipating some communication problem he demanded again & again in English & Hinglish but after each time I was getting scared & unable to open up my mouth. I could only say "one line" "one line".

The teacher started demanding "Even after a week you could not learn even one line!"

Saying this he gave me a blow on my face.

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Today's Findings
The teacher demanded me to get
out of his sight, when I went
corner & started crying while others left the class for lunch

21

SEP

SEP

"TIME is supposed to be the best healer"

After the lunch hour, the Guru had got
cooled down & got busy with other work.

He started thinking about my incident
and came in search of me & felt
sorry. He had never slapped any boy before.

He sent for me to the teacher's room
& I stood before him in a humble way
with folded hands. The teacher placed his

palm on my head and asked me coolly

"That is the one line you have learnt"

I repeated my answer saying: "I could not-

The teacher demanded { I learn one line even
asking for that line. } after one week"

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Then I opened up the text book and
undulined ^{following} the line I could not get
by heart even after one week.

24
MON
SEP
2001

"LEARN TO CONTROL & BE A MASTER OF YOUR ANGER"

The teacher snatched the book from my
hands & started reading the portions
after which his body trembled & his hand
got shaken up and the book fell down.
His heart filled with great remorse & guilt.
Being a guru it was his duty to teach their
meaning before giving any home-work. But
he failed to do that. Instead he had the cheek
to beat me up, though I learnt its meaning
but failed to control my inclination.
While the teacher, being an aged senior should
have known about the significance of anger
but was unable to control his anger.

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"I had learnt a lesson which the teacher has failed".

26

WED

SEP

2020-09-26

I remember having read the story from Mahabharat in which Prince Yudhishthira did ^{exactly} the same thing what needed to be done that day. He took the lesson of idealism from the book and applied it to a real life situation. No wonder, he got the title "DHARMA RAJA" who learnt the lesson that "one must honour his GURU in all circumstances". In the momentary loss of sanity that DRONACHARYA took upon himself, he showed to his other students & for generations to come down the folly of losing one's Temper signifying of great Temper.

DRONA: A guru in the truest sense with no desire for anything
YUDHISHTHIRA: A student ready to sacrifice everything for the sake of GURU

No wonder, it is said boldly in the VEDAS for all TIMES

GURUR BRAHMA GURUR VISHNU
 GURU DEVO MAHESWARA
 GURU SAKSHAT PARABRAHMA
 TAT SAMI SRI GURAVENAMAHIA

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Here is another instance from EPICS which shows
the type of company one keeps & lesson for
acts even from the womb & imbedded in the
Once Indra kidnapped Hiranya Kasyapa's wife for
fear of her incoming child heressing the devas for life
Enroute he was obstructed by Narada who tried
to prevail on his wisdom not to ^{cause} offend or damage
to the child as it amounts to BRAHMA HATYA.
Indeed he took her into his hermitage & made her
listen to spiritual discourses along with the child
in the womb, who later turned out to be
a staunch devotee of Lord Vishnu.

From this one can easily understand the
type of company one keeps or the type
of guru one hears & attentively gets
physically & mentally transformed into an ideal
Thus the type of company/guru one follows in life
has a profound impact on the life of the child

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Good-Parenting - for a BETTER TOMORROW

Today's Priorities

MON

OCT

274-091

I happened to read the following story from the website "ranshenker @ yahoo.com"

"Once a person was caught stealing someone's wallet in a crowded street & was handed over to the police for interrogations.

Since he had a long history of theft & perjury as evidenced by investigation, he was produced before a magistrate & a case booked.

After hearing the evidence produced by police & before passing his judgement, the Magistrate asked the boy whether he had anything to say.

The accused, while pleading guilty to all charges made a peculiar request - "I am sure I am

going to be punished severely but my only request is that my mother too should have an equal of punishment, about to be passed by Your Majesty. The Magistrate was astonished for his words

& asked him to clarify the reason for his request.

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Good-Parenting for a BETTER TOMORROW

Today's Priorities

I happened to read the following story from the website "ranshanker@yahoo.com".

"Once a person was caught stealing someone's wallet in a crowded street & was handed over to the police for interrogations. Since he had a long history of theft & premeditation as evidenced by investigation, he was produced before a magistrate & a case booked. After hearing the evidence produced by police & before passing his judgement, the Magistrate asked the boy whether he had anything to say. The accused, while pleading guilty of all charges made a peculiar request - "I am sure I am going to be punished severely but my only request is that my mother too should have an equal punishment, about to be passed by Your Majesty". The Magistrate was astonished for his words & asked him to clarify the reason for his request.

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The grown boy continued his statement saying: "In my childhood, I used to indulge in small thefts ^{in the neighborhood} & pickpocketing & handing over the money to my mother & she used to feel proud of my feats & appreciated for my behaviour. Today I am standing before you as a piece-thief, thanks for my mother's encouragement. Had my mother been severe with me for my first theft or misbehaviour in pickpocketing & stopped me from repeating it, I would have grown into a good citizen. That is why I feel that my mother is equally responsible for the misbehaviour of her child".

The Magistrate while appreciating his plain talk and excused him from all the charges levelled against him by the police, called for his mother & handed him over to her with a warning for better way of bringing up her child, saying:

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NOV 2001

"Parenting is an art. The tender mind can be moulded into any shape form and it is the responsibility of the parents to shape their wards' mind and behaviour in such a manner that they grow up to become a good citizen of the world.

Today's ^{cheap} digital literature sold on footpath, compiled with medical reports & yellow journalism all these others on the quality of education: Education without moral values, ruins a person & hence spoils the society. Only moral values & fear of God Almighty can only save the present-day youth & society. Orthodox religious practices like S.B., G.S.D. are no longer relevant to modern times.

The school/college syllabus & educational standards should be so modernized as to lay stress on character building as priority.

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Instead of confusing & confounding
 the child's mind with such good-
 concepts of "Madi & Acheram", it is
 advisable to sow the seeds of good moral
 values of truthfulness & reverence for elders.
 Teach them to be more God-fearing and
 think of Him before committing any such offense.
 Groom them to have an ambition of his own
 and seeks to achieve his own ambitions in his
 own righteous way and win respect from all.
 At the same time teach them not
 to be over-ambitious. Teach them,
 never to nurture desire for other's
 belongings and never to receive any gift-
 or other offerings from others, even if
 they are given voluntarily, if it is not really
 essential for his growth or progress.

"Learn the value of money
and not too much greed for money"

Try to implement in the younger minds
the basic precepts that monetary comforts
are not the only comforts in life to survive
and that moral values should never be
compromised for the sake of earning few chips

"I have stuck to noble values like
honesty & integrity & truthfulness
all my life, yet I had to face some
ordeal in my simple living and
plain thinking"

No wonder if a plain ^{grown-up} speaker
is change sheeted for being too much plain
speaker which might be interpreted dubiously
This can be the immediate reactions
of even a grown-up person from innocent
media environment"

In Mahabharat, we find that the famous Dharmaputra (the eldest Pandava) suffers in spite of being benign at heart.

Do the comforts that the evil Duryodhana enjoyed signify that he was an ideal soul?

Don't try to evaluate your goodness against your life in the present-day world.

The two do not stand for comparison, ideally. What is the true reward for righteousness?

It is the mental satisfaction and inner excellence that you achieve in life.

The worldly comforts are but a trifling when compared to the great asset of mental satisfaction & inner values.

To our parents an immediate responsibility is to internalize this golden rule and pass it on to our children down the line.

Speech of education & school applies
to magistrate further added a
additional remarks stating that:

"Do not make your child a book-worm
Accord as much importance & time
to "play" as you do to their "studies".

It is from the play field that the child
brings home the noble quality of "

EQUANIMITY in VICTORY and DEFEAT.

There is no better place for the child
to inculcate the values of "GIVE & TAKE"

These are the virtues that will be the
guiding stars for success, when the
child grows up & faces the world in

their normal course when they start
earning for their own sake as for the
maintenance of their aged parents.

"Always communicate with the child
 in their own language in plain speaking
 feed them with values of life and
 human values in the form of fables,
 stories of great men who stood by
 their own principles of human life & values
 along with stories of Saints & Mahants.
 Keep repeating these human values
 to the child day in and day out
 whenever you get an opportunity
 to interact with them and also constantly
 reminding the child of these disciplines
 will certainly make an impact on their minds
 and bears fruit in the long run.
 All this depends on how painstaking the
 parent is & how much is he interested in
 the well-being of his own child when
 he faces the hurdles to morality?

OCT

29/10/13

Finally, as your child grows into a mature adult, they alone should be able to evaluate their own life & satisfy themselves: "Am I leading a worthy life?" This is the prime Question that they will have to need to answer at any point of time in their future journey of their life.

If you want them to answer this Question proudly with a clean & guiltless heart and face the world bravely with a clean conscience tomorrow,

You as Good PARENTS / Grand Parents have to take the right step TODAY.

" A BETTER SOCIETY TOMORROW is in the hands of today's Parents & Grand Parents "

NOV

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00:30:00

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EVE

ONE

TWO

THREE

FOUR

FIVE

SIX

SEVEN

EIGHT

NINE

TEN

ELEVEN

TWELVE

THIRTEEN

FOURTEEN

FIFTEEN

SIXTEEN

SEVENTEEN

EIGHTEEN

NINETEEN

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-TEACHER

Today's Priorities

-TEACHER-

Today's Priorities

The aim of our life is to realize our own potential & set free the limitations & bondage imposed by the mind. Further the concept of individuality & its interaction with the world are all in the mind do not affect the real subject. The principal aim of life is achieve this freedom. To understand this interaction we need, as a first step, we need ^{advice of} a Guru. Next to start with, we should choose right path. Our vision clear to be able to take right decision. It is here a Guru plays his role in guiding you. A Guru is one who can inspire & instill you towards God's realisation. In fact there is one Guru for all of us, who is no other than God himself. The human mind always wants a live example to imitate & a live hero to worship. The human Guru fulfills these psychological requirements & effectual brings about God's realisation very easily.

You Respect for ELDERS

Today's Priorities

2

FRI

NOV

306-059

Parents gave you a precious life
While your in-laws gave your wife's life
So have great respect for your parents
as well as your in-laws. Serve them well
& the love & respect you do to them
will be imprinted in the minds of
your children, who observe you 24/7
every day. If you do not serve them well
then your children too will develop
the same impressions in their minds &
their nature too will become the same.
We cannot remain in the same state
of health & we are also bound to get
old, weak & handicapped & incapable
of doing anything. At that time your children
will come help you out.

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DEC

2001

At the stage they are bound to ask
 you: "How much you have served your
 parents & elders and in-law etc"

5
 MON
 NOV
 360-01

So if you are a son, be a good son
 Serve your mother. Don't ask anything from her
 Only ask for her blessings to be able to
 serve her. I felt guilty when I had to
 transport my mother from my village to
 Nellore in a tractor (with a lot of jolting)
 As the city bus failed enroute from village.
 Whatever you do to your parents, it will
 never match with what they had done for you.
 We can never become debt free, ^{from} serving
 your father & mother. Whatever you may
 have done for them, we can never pay back ~~their~~
 debts to our parents. We can never be
 free from what we owe to them.

We are totally indebted to our parents
 & there is no way to be out of this debt
 of it will never now, can even match

NOV

21-054

What little we do for them. So then what?

We can only serve them & make them happy

Wherever they are (Whether they are with you,
 or your brother/sister or finding for
 themselves in their own ancestral home)

By making them happy, our own debts
 will get excused or paid up only partially

The amount of difficulties a mother

gives birth to a child, after bearing him/her

for nine long months, the child can never

do the same amount of service & overcome
 the hardship she had undergone. Where

did we get this body from? From your mother

It is your mother that has taken care of this body

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2001

for nine long months

However educated we are now,
 or whatever stage you reach higher
 later in your life, it is your mother
 that gave you the structure & shape
 we did not know how to crawl, sit
 or stand and walk gradually & slowly.
 It is she that has taught you how to sit
 & stand & made us walk holding her hand
 or fingers or her stick if she walks with
 her stick on. We did not know even
 to eat but it is our mother that fed us
 & shows how to eat telling beautiful
 stories on grass & buds or sun & moon
 and gradually taught us to eat & drink.
 Imagine her plight with your elder brother
 or sister & an equal amount of shame with
 your next of kin.

After undergoing lot of difficulties only, our parents would have brought us up, taking care of us at every stage.

Even when we went out to play games & came back with a broken hand or leg or a bleeding nose she immediately tore off her saree & tied up the injured finger to stop the bleeding.

Once in 1939 (when I was 9 yrs old) the job of procuring Kerosene from ration shop (Whenever the Quota Vehicle comes to town)

Was my job since I was the one who used the lamp to study. I used to carry two bottles (one for White Kerosene and the other for Yellow).

It so happens on one weekday when the Quota Vehicle showed up I was playing. My mother called up to bring Kerosene.

With Billa & Kodie in one hand

I picked up ^{both} the kerosene bottles ^{fast} in my other hand & ran out to stand

in the Queue for collecting our Quota oil. But hardly I could reach the kerosene shop.

Then midway, the two kerosene bottles

I was carrying (which were making some grunting sound crashing like each other)

banged against each other & broke &

fell to the ground, with only the two

neck portions ^{together} with the holding thread

staying firm in my hand. Promptly

I threw out the Billa & Dhandu, I was

carrying like then in my left hand & approached

the broken bottles to pick up (unmindful

of the fact they are useless for holding kerosene

& in the process the broken neck tore away my left thumb

with blood oozing out like a fountain.

I did not take much time
 to run back home with my bleeding palm
 & reached my mother's lap crying & shouting.
 Mother promptly took the end of her saree
 drew a match stick & burnt the cloth piece
 & applied the soft black powdered cloth &
 pressed into the wounded palm to plug
 the hole and prevent the blood from flowing ^{out}.
 Which ^{one} present-day's mothers do like that?
 Her presence of mind to stop the
 flowing blood was super & unthinkable.
 Later whenever similar incident happens
 I do the same thing with my own
 children or my neighbor's children.
 No need for any ATS injection or antibiotics
 to prevent infection. Hats off to her for
 the extraordinary manner in which she dealt
 with the situation.

Even if father were to be absent that moment at home (instead of my mother) he would not have dealt with the situation similarly or with the same amount of promptness & presence of mind & curative thinking. When I narrated this incident to my father later when he came on the scene, I praised my mother to the skies. But he said: "What is the big deal?" I said to him: "Try to keep an injured child in your lap or carry him on your shoulder or make him drink a milk or a cup of tea." I feel the difference. He said: "I am sorry. I can't do it."

It is only because of mother's motherly strength (as of JS) that we are taken care of & grow bigger from strength to strength.

Therefore whatever way we
 are capable of now, we must serve
 our parents well, feed them well,
 cherish them, yeoman's service & live up to
 their expectations & ambitions.

Those who do not understand, I pray
 that they understand how respect their elders.
 I am sure God will not spare nor respect
 those who do not respect their parents.
 No one will trust them, because
 the one who could not be there for his parents
 who else can take care of their place.
 As if it is some thing like a sidekick (power
 of nature) or God's realisation, let us
 serve our parents well & to their satisfaction.
 I implore upon my brothers & sisters too
 to ensure that they pass on the same message
 to their kids & grand kids.

21
 NOV
 2001

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DEC 2001

Human Behaviour & Human Life
If you serve your parents in

23

NOV

this manner, they will be served

we will become free from "I-ness"

is egoless (NIRAHANKAR) or EGO-LESS.

By serving them like material goods

also may not give them the same moral

happiness which they enjoy like your

personal service & affection ^{more} than simple

material satisfactions.

By serving them like material wants

we may become free from "MINE-NESS"
(I-NESS) (NIRMAHATTA)

but personal service in their last hour

will give them greater satisfaction than

material satisfactions. When they will get

eternal peace & Shanti to remember

You for their life time.

Human Behavior VS Human Life

Today's Priorities

session 19

26

MON

NOV

330-035

I have seen somewhere a link between human behavior & human life

It may look like an algebraic equation but it is as simple as elementary addition

For basic changes in behavior add up to fourteen years of human life. This was the largest ^{ever} result of the largest study conducted

in USA. The study published in PLOS MEDICINE examined the impact of FOUR HEALTHY BEHAVIOR of those who lived 14 yrs longer than those ^{who} adopted none of these habits:

The University of Cambridge & Medical Research Council found that participants increased their life expectancy by longer than study counterparts by

- 1) NOT SMOKING
- 2) EXERCISING Regularly
- 3) Drinking alcohol in moderation
- 4) Eating 5 servings of fruits & vegetables

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Why argue about this study? Everybody knows there is no benefit in smoking. Why pick up a study that says your good health & report or heart & look ten years older as the report said & at the top of all smell bad & costing you more? Genetics do play a factor but this study illustrates what you can do about it. It is all about choices & bear in mind that the choices you make do not only affect your health but your family members as well. While I appreciate the suggestion to moderate the drinking of alcohol, I would go one step further & delete it altogether & suggest that Government should ban liquor & stop giving licenses to liquor bars & close the factories manufacturing liquor.

Ultimately, my formula for good health is not Four basic changes but FIVE basic changes adding FIFTEEN years to your life.

My Five basic changes are

① GETTING up early and performing 12 Surya namaskars before getting up.

2) Any other exercise of your choice including Walking (morning & evening) at least 1KM up & 1KM down.

3) Eating five servings of fruits & vegetables.

4) Avoiding alcohol totally.

5) Develop belief in existence of God & pray for his blessings at bedtime.

This is my formula for good health.

Which I myself practice before praying to others.

PARENTS VS CHILDREN

Today's Priorities

Today's Priorities

3

MON

337-098

Before I complete this volume dealing with my elderly parents/grandparents before assuming my own responsibilities as a parent; I am interested in knowing or dwelling to know whether there is any magic cut off date/period when the off springs become accountable for their own wonderful selfmade actions. Is there any wonderful moment, when parents can feel relieved & become detached spectators in the lives of their children & keep under their rugs, or shrug before the winter fire & feel "It's their life; why should I bother" and feel complacent, ^{even} when something happens requiring parents involvement?

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JAN

2002

When I was in my teens,
 I carried my brother on my shoulders
 to drop him at his school, on my way
 to my college & on my way to a school
 where I worked as an untrained school-
 assistant- and picked him on my
 way back home in the evening.

When I was in my twenties,
 on my first job (a permanent job)
 I walked from one corner of the city
 to another corner at odd hours, to
 conduct some lectures to supplement
 my income for my Government job, &
 supplement for the additional remittances
 to be sent home or to meet additional
 expenditure involved in the education of
 brothers & sisters in a foreign land.

6

THU

DEC

340-025

Today's Priorities

When I was in my mid 20 to 30,

I was summoned by the principal
of a convent school & demanded payment
of damages for broken furniture
involved in some petty squabbles
of school children (including my son
who was involved ^{by miscreants} with ulterior motives
as he happened to be the top scorer
of the class & cause damage to his
reputation in the class)

As if to console me (reading my mind face)
the principal / Rector of All Saints High School
told me: "Don't worry - Enough said,
has to go through such trouble at this stage
so let you can sit back at a later stage
to relax and enjoy when I am and
feed you in your old age!"

2001

DEC

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When I was in my Thirties, I stood in a hospital corridor waiting for doctors to put a few stitches on my son's head (when he had a fall from the terrace through the window lintel in running for a kite (Thirteen PanThang). A nurse asked "When do U stop worrying?" I said "When they get out of accident stage"

When I was in my Thirties, I was caught & interrupted by a ^{Traffic} police constable for carrying two children (one in the front & another in the back) on my cycle carrier on their way to school, for over-crowding. As if to read my mind, the police man asked me: "इतना बच्चा क्यों उठाते हो?" (Why do you take so much Trouble). I told him that everybody has to pass through this stage so far U can sit back & relax comfortably at a later stage (which never comes).

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JAN

2002

8

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DEC

242-023

Today's Priorities

Added to that. I had to undergo
 the toil of studying in a night college
 to improve my own prospects of successful
 career in law & public Administration
 to provide for a comfortable future
 placements, after my retirement from
 Government jobs, till I was able
 to fulfill all my family responsibilities

SUN 9

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When I was in my forties,
I had to think of marriages of
my unmarried sisters (I urged to
and relieve the burden of my parents
and keep them engaged in some useful
professional course (Medical & Pharmacy)
till we lay our hands ^{on} a suitable
alliance sustaining for a life time
I had to spend anxious moments
some time & suspense to guide them
in proper direction for their bright future.
No doubt my elderly parents also
shared my agony in fixing their
marriages at a convenient household
to last for a whole time & also ensure
their jobs to continue till their retirement
to sustain their prolonged marriage life.

When I was on my full fumes
 I had to think of ^{suitable} ~~placements~~
 for my ^{male} ~~own~~ children and
 also fix a suitable marriage alliance
 for my only daughter in a well-to-do
 household to last for her life-time.

I spent half of my life in responding
 to telephone calls or waiting for the
 phone to ring up & wait for the
 transport to bring my children back home.
 My friends, neighbors & bene factors
 one Mr Umanthaswara Rao, my right hand
 of Mukunda Rao, my left hand)
 tried to assure me at this stage.

"This is only a transition stage, you
 can find yourselves in comfortable positions
 in a few years & you will be well off & stop worrying."

When I was forty two (in 1977)
 When I met with a scooter accident
 I hurried to reach my children
 proceeding to Chennai (to see them off)
 Myself & my wife

(the subsequent parts of the text was not readable. After multiple scans, a very faint image could be obtained. Mrs. Nagamani (PVR's daughter), after multiple extrapolations, interpolations and interpretations inferred that the following could be text what it could have been.)

When I was forty two (in 1977) when I met with a scooter accident, I hurried to reach my children proceeding to Chennai (to see them off).

Myself and my wife were searching for suitable alliances for my children

That it was nothing I came to see

The blessings of my parents and The Almighty, support and cooperation of my friends and interested colleagues (like Mukunda Rao and Uma Maheswara Rao).

My parents also coronated me with timely advice saying "when my children get married I can stop worrying and led my own life and I believed in that but when the time comes they happen to stay with me.

Both my parents stayed with my brother till they breathed the last breath.

By the time I was fifty,
 I was still worrying for the
 successful marriages of my children.
 I was half sick & tired of being
 vulnerable in the process of
 finding suitable alliances for them.
 But there was nothing I could do
 without the blessings ^{my parents and} the Almighty's
 support & cooperation of friends &
 interested colleagues (like M Rao & U Rao).
 My ^{abv} parents comforted me with timely
 advice saying "When my children get married
 I could stop worrying & lead my own life."
 I believed in that but when the time
 comes, they happened to stay with my brother
 at Chennai during their last stage of
 life, till they breathed their last breath.

By the time I retired from
 service I could perform the marriage
 of my daughter before retirement
 though initially I proposed to perform
 the marriage on Turamala Hills @ CCC college
 I had to transfer the venue to Chennai
 at the request of the bridegroom's family
 and perform at Chenchudal & Lemma
 Kalyana Mandapam at Triplicane, Madras
 on 18 May 1977 (even at this stage,
 some confusion prevailed causing me worry)

EVE

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JAN

2002

By The time my only daughter
got married in 1977 (While in service)
I thought my worry is over & that
I could perform the marriages of boys
leisurely; but slowly one after another
started going out of the country.

Sekham was the first to go out
in January 1983 & so I had to initiate
proposals for his marriage right earnest-
and perform his marriage in December 1983
after calling him for US (like a girl
who is prepared to go bus along with him)
Later I could find a suitable match
for the second one from the same list
and perform his marriage like an equally
qualified girl (like computer competition)
in May 1987 without much difficulty

It is only the married ~~any~~
 third son that create some tension
 to me, because he would not easily
 compromise with any girl unless he is
 fully satisfied

both to completion of all marriages of son
 I thought I could be care free with
 of them working in Hyderabad & the other one
 at Bangalore. But with the closure of
 PRAGA TOOLS in Hyderabad, Mohan volunteered
 to go out with his spouse & left to Nagpur
 & from there to New Delhi. After this
 Mohan's Third Son (Madan) got hooked by an
 international company & was selected by them
 for their NOIDA office at Delhi.

With more favorable conditions to go out,
 Mohan also opted to go out to USA
 while Madan's company offered to send
 him to their Principal Employees at USA
 with CAUTION.

By the time I reached ~~SEVENTY~~,
I was ^{left} alone in Hyderabad with my office

Can it be that the parents are sentenced
for a lifetime of worry & tensions?

Does the concern for one another,
handed down like the torch to blaze
the trail of human failures/frailties
and the fears of the unknown?

Is the concern of the head of family
for ensuring the comfort & convenience
of each member of the family a curse?
Or is it a VIRTUE that elevates us
to the highest form of life?

Whether the family union ^{that was} ensured
in 1965 (at so much of self sacrifice)
could be ensured or even attempted at -
You can read my later volumes of

M T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T F S S
... 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 JAN 2002
21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 ...

my autobiography?