

Part 15 | Experiences with Swami | Prof K Anil Kumar

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCGh5Js_xRc

Highlights

I'm surprised, even today, how did I come? How was I able to come? "You eat again, even though you ate earlier, what's your problem hearing the same things you heard?" said Swami. The wedding dates are getting closer. The calendar dates are rolling along. My heart is beating here. O Swami, this trifeeta is just great, I thought. Is this a punishment? A test? Or protection? What should I think of it? The minute you think you have succeeded, your downfall starts immediately. Swami takes on total responsibility. "You can leave after I leave. Understood? Don't worry, go," He said. I was checking the time, I was starting to sweat, even as I was translating. And there was fear on another side. My situation was horrific. "Why fear when I am here?" said Swami. What great words He said!

Visiting Dharmakshetra with Swami

What Bhagawan says to us many times, we listen and then tell others. But has it really been drilled into our hearts? We won't know until we are tested. We say it out loud. For example, Swami says, "Why fear when I am here?" So have we lost our fear? We are afraid of every single thing. Swami said so, but I must believe it. He said another thing. "Leave your burdens at My feet." "Go back with Ananda, bliss," He said. "Leave your burdens at My feet. Go back with Ananda, bliss," Swami said. But we carry our burdens on our own heads and buckle under their weight. We hear them, but it is difficult to put them into practice. Whether it's because of other people or relatives, or due to family pressures, we are undergoing these difficulties, by not leaving them for Swami to handle. Because we have no time, no thought, or to put it succinctly, no brain. This goes on. One such incident happened to me. Although it is personal, I'm narrating it so that everyone can learn and enjoy. Just before I came to Puttaparthi from Bengaluru, in the last days of being there, this incident happened, which I will narrate to you. Swami had planned to go to Mumbai during that time. It was a 5 day plan during May. He said, "Anil Kumar, be ready to come along." I thought I would die. Because during those 5 days, I think it was the 19th of May,

that was to be the day of my 2nd daughter's wedding. If I go with Him, how would I manage? Swami would be there until the 20th and the 21st.

I have to attend the wedding, but how? The wedding was arranged at Tirupati.

I don't have much influence in Tirupati. Because I'm from Guntur I can have anything done.

There is a proverb that says, "An official in one town is a labourer in another town."

You may be a big shot in your town. Only when you go out of town is the real deal.

What could I do in Tirupati? And Swami said this. I kept my mouth shut. He was coming by this way a second time.

I thought I would speak to Swami, but He cut through that line and went to the next one.

I thought Swami shut my mouth. I sat again the next day, to try to ask again.

He slowly came and stood in front of me. "Swami, my daughter's wedding is on the 19th."

"I know, I know," He said and walked on. He asked me to come to Mumbai but He said He knew about my daughter's wedding at the same time.

What is my solution? I wasn't able to talk.

He came my way again in the evening. "Are you getting ready?" He asked.

My heart started beating fast. "Anil Kumar, all the Mumbai people like Indulal Shah only want you."

"They are asking you to come. What can I do?" He said.

I smiled within myself, but I was also surprised. Who are they to ask for me?

This is a fire test, I thought. "What can I do?" He said.

"Alright, Swami," I said. I was going in a plane with Swami.

My heart started beating as fast as the plane was flying.

Eventually, we got off at Dharmakshetra. The discipline, the activities, and the quality of devotees at Dharmakshetra,

the contribution of Dharmakshetra to the Sathya Sai Organisation, cannot be quantified in words. Dharmakshetra published many books.

Dharmakshetra was the one that established the organisation. By that I mean the devotees of Dharmakshetra, not the building itself.

Those devotees include Indulal Shah and everyone from there.

Many international conferences took place there. The programmes for those conferences were set up under the supervision of these Mumbai people.

I always felt that Dharmakshetra is the international headquarters of Sathya Sai Organisation.

Puttaparthi is an international organisation of all religious people.

Of all theists, of all religions. So this place is like an ocean.

They received Swami cordially and Swami's meetings were to start in the evening.

Darshans were held in the mornings. These went on well. Bhajans are very nice too.

Dharmakshetra is built on top of a hill.

The city is at the bottom. When we stand at Dharmakshetra, we can see the entire city.

Since it is set on top, we can see the whole city.

All the devotees gather at the bottom of the hill at the time of Nagarasankirtan.

Swami's Darshan is at 9 or 9:30, but it starts getting crowded at 6:30 itself.

Although the time for Swami's discourse is at 4:30 or 5 in the evening, the place gets full by 2:30 itself.

There is not an inch of space anywhere. The crowds go past the roads as well.

We feel like the crowd is spreading like the Juhu Beach. That's how it is. Dharmakshetra is formed like a lotus flower.

It is really beautiful. Each facet looks like a window, going around in a circle.

It is a must-see place. As sacred as places like Kashi and Prayaga are, the places that are sacred for Sai devotees are Dharmakshetra, Sundaram, Sivam, and above all, Prasanthi Nilayam.

These are places Sai devotees must certainly visit. The construction of those buildings happened under His supervision.

Swami gave a discourse in the evening, which was very good. On a high dais, there was a doctor or a dentist who was an old devotee.

He too gave a very good speech. He is a good organiser and a good speaker.

Swami delayed a plane

Then it was the next day. The wedding dates are getting closer.

The calendar dates are rolling forward. My heart was beating fast.

O Swami, this trifacta is just great, I thought. I went to Swami's room early the next morning.

"Yes, Anil Kumar, when is the wedding?" I think there were still 2 days for it.

"There are 2 more days..." "Still 2 more days? Alright," He said.

It was my daughter's wedding, and I was responsible for it. What is my situation if He said, "Still 2 more days"?

I come from Guntur, but the wedding is in Tirupati.

Who is going to make the arrangements? Who will bother about us? How to inform Swami?

Does He not know? I kept quiet. "There is still time," He said.

Then it was evening. After the discourse, He said, "Anil Kumar, I remember."

"Wedding right? I know." What does He mean by I know? To stay or to leave?

I kept quiet and sat. What was going on in Tirupati?

We didn't know anyone. It was not our town. But the people in Swami's organisation knew me well.

When I was the State President, I went with them and worked with them.

We were all very friendly. They know me well.

What was going in Tirupati? My wife went a few days ahead of time.

She slowly started making arrangements there.

I don't know what she was doing. I didn't even know what to do, to know what she's doing.

I thought she must be going through her troubles. I was still here. Now it was within 1 day.

"Swami, it's tomorrow, I must go Swami." I said. "Tomorrow? Alright," He said. If it's tomorrow, I must at least start here today.

Oh no, what has Swami set me up for, I thought. Indulal Shah and others were listening too.

Their hearts too probably started beating faster, just like mine. Anyone listening to that situation would feel it too.

What to do? Two people came in the afternoon. The President of Dharmakshetra, and the Sevadal Convenor. They said, "Swami asked us to show you around Mumbai."

To see Mumbai? What I needed to visit was Tirupati, where the wedding will be.

What to do about visiting Mumbai? Since He said so, they would tie me down and take me.

"Alright, let's go," I said. We went to a few places. I didn't know enough to ask about anything.

I had never seen Mumbai in detail, except touching the airport there. Other than changing flights during international travel, I never saw the city.

They didn't show me either. The car just travelled along the tar roads. There was something called a Shopper's Complex.

You can find everything there, like at a mall. I suppose those who shop are shoppers.

It was a large building. You can find everything there.

We went in. "Sir, buy what you want," they said.

What I want? I have 4 children. What they want, or what I want?

Or in general? "What do you mean?" "Look around Sir, if you like anything, get it," he said.

"You can say what you want, but I will have to pay for it later."

"Sir, we came to Shopper's Complex. Get what you want. You can send money later," they said.

Even to send it later, I don't know how much the bill would be. Would I need to pay with a month's salary? Or two months' salary?

Where can I get it from? But since they said, I walked around. I bought a few decorative pieces for the girls that I thought would be good.

I don't think they would like them since I never selected anything. But they were sitting there like security guards right next to me.

So I bought a few small things. I asked, "What is the amount of the bill?"

"Let's go Sir," they said. In the meantime, we still had to see Mumbai.

We received a phone call from Swami. "Tell Anil Kumar to come back." If we could see Mumbai in an hour, would it even be Mumbai that we saw?

It takes an hour just to drive on the road. We said, "Coming, Swami," and went.

Then another message, "Did he start?" Phone calls started coming from Dharmakshetra.

We speedily returned. There were a lot of people gathered for the public meeting.

I went straight to my room, changed my clothes and got dressed,

and went on the stage. Swami was there. "Is Mumbai nice? Did you see everything?" He asked.

"How could I see everything in an hour, Swami?" "Mumbai is an important and famous city. It was nice, Swami."

"Aha, very good," He said. Then the meeting started.

At any cost I had to start back that evening. Otherwise I would not be able to reach by the next day.

What to do? Swami already said He knew, so what more can I tell Him?

He started His discourse, and I was translating. I don't know what kind of test it was, but Swami went 20 or 30 minutes longer than usual.

I had to leave. I kept checking the time. I was starting to sweat.

I was translating. There was fear on another side.

My situation was horrific. In the end I let it go, and drowned myself in the translation.

I fulfilled my responsibility. The programme ended.

After Arati, Swami came down. The Dharmakshetra people set off crackers, like it was Diwali.

All kinds of firecrackers. "Look how beautiful, Anil Kumar, come and see," He said.

For me, I was bursting on the inside. I had to leave. Swami is asking me to watch these firecrackers.

I was next to Him. "Yes Swami, very beautiful." "Look, look, how high it's going! And when it burst there are flowers!" He was saying.

I kept watching. After it ended we came back.

"After dinner, watch the Bal Vikas programme also," He said.

I had to have dinner, and then watch the Bal Vikas programme too? I had to catch the flight in Mumbai at 8 O'clock.

Unless I caught it, I wouldn't be able to go to Madras. From Madras, I had to reach Tirupati.

What to do, I thought.

There was nothing I could do. I had dinner and watched the Bal Vikas programme.

In the end, Swami came to me and said, "You foolish fellow,"

"I stopped the flight you had to catch for an hour and a half."

"Delayed, that's all. It will start only after you get there." "Understand? So don't worry, go."

"Alright Swami, I will leave now."

"But 3 days after the wedding, come back here," He said.

I had to return by the 3rd day. What else to say, other than, "Yes, Swami."

"Give My blessings to everyone," He gave His blessings. "You can leave," He said. By the time I came down, there was a car ready for me.

They took me to the airport. Whose was that car? Who had it ready? I don't know.

I went straight to the airport. The flight was ready and was about to leave in 15 minutes.

Immediately they gave me a boarding pass. Who bought it? How much was it?

I don't know. I took the pass and got in. I was only thinking about Tirupati,

but I didn't think about who brought the car, who bought the flight tickets.

I got on the plane and eventually got to Madras.

Daughter's wedding arrangements

From Madras I had to get to Tirupati. There were no direct flights to Tirupati back then.

I was wondering what to do. I just got down and went to the visitors' gallery.

Friends, relatives and family members who want to receive their people wait there.

A man came to me who I knew well. He is a resident of Kavali.

His name is Vagicherla Koteswara Rao. A very good and kindhearted good man.

He refers to me as his brother-in-law. My actual brother-in-law is in America.

But this person is the only one in the country who calls me brother-in-law more often.

He shouted from there, "Brother-in-law, why are you here?" "I need to go to Tirupati." "I thought you were already in Tirupati."

"Why are you here?" "Swami sent me only now, what to do?"

"Let's go, I will take you to Tirupati in my car," he said. "Koteswara Rao, why are you here?"

They own a pharma company.

"I came on company business. Then I saw you, and your company is good for me," he said.

He took me straight to Tirupati. Where to go? Where to stay?

Where was the wedding? Where is the groom's family? Where is the bride's family staying?

Who is arranging the wedding feasts?

Who is arranging the chairs and the tents? Who are the guests?

I'm from Guntur, so who would come all the way to Tirupati? These were my doubts.

Who could I ask? By the time the car arrived at the railway station, believe me or not,

The railway station was filled with Sevadal people wearing their scarves. I thought maybe the All India President, or the World Council Chairman was coming.

Or maybe some VIPs of the Sathya Sai Organisation. I asked, "What's all the commotion?" Someone said, "It's Anil Kumar garu's daughter's wedding, so that's the commotion." "Is that right? It's my daughter's wedding, and you are all in a commotion?"

"The groom's family is arriving in this train. You were with Swami in Mumbai."

"We didn't know if you would be coming or not." "We are here to receive the groom's family. What should we do?"

"Madam is walking to and fro on the platform. They are to arrive in the Narayanadri Express."

"So she's walking back and forth," he said. I was happy that I got there just before the groom's party arrived.

I also went on the platform. The train came. The groom's party got down.

Where to take them? Where will they stay? I didn't know.

I asked one of the Sevadal members, "Where should we take them?" "Sir, we reserved 13 rooms in the Alipiri guest house."

"We arranged breakfast for them. Let's take them there," they said.

"Oh good, how will we take them?" "Why Sir, we have 4 AC cars and an AC bus."

"We will take them in those." Everyone went and was dropped off there.

Breakfast was Idli, Dosa and Upma. There were 13 rooms.

It was all arranged well. But now I had a doubt. What was the lodging bill going to be? What would be the bill for the breakfast?

How to pay them? "How could you arrange for 13 rooms?"

"Why so many items for breakfast?" "It's alright Sir, we came so far. How to explain. Let's go."

"Where is the wedding?" I asked because I didn't know anything.

I don't think anyone would listen to me or believe what I say.

I myself wouldn't have believed me. I still can't believe it. That's my situation. The marriage of one's own daughter.

It's impossible to imagine that situation. Imagine it yourself. They said, "Sir, all the wedding halls were already booked."

"One of the Sai devotees has a movie theatre. After the movie ends today, the wedding will take place."

In a movie theatre. I said, "It might be fine to perform a wedding in a movie theatre."

"But what would the groom's family think? They might think a movie theatre is disrespectful."

"I'm nervous that they may ask us about it," I said. By then, another person came along.

"Sir, a wedding got cancelled in one of the wedding halls." "Let's book that wedding hall and perform the wedding there," they said.

O Swami, You saved me, I thought. The wedding party went to that place.

I too went there. "Who are the priests?" "We arranged the TTD temple priests, Sir."

"How about the musicians?" "The temple musicians will come and play here."

"Who are the guests coming to the wedding?" "The invitations must have been sent but who would come to Tirupati?"

"Why Sir, all the Sai devotees in this district will attend."

"Everyone in the Chittoor district will come," they said.

They were all Sai devotees. I went to my daughter.

She was the bride. She said, "Father, I knew you wouldn't be able to come."

"We know that you wouldn't have been able to come on your own."

"We know that you went on Swami's work." "We have been going through these kinds of experiences since our childhood."

"Since we knew you wouldn't come, we selected an elderly couple in America who are dear to us."

"To give away the bride." Meaning, my dupe, like the dupes in a movie.

"We selected a couple. They would have performed the wedding if you didn't come."

"We made that arrangement too. I know about your situation."

"That's fine, but what about the groom's family?" "I told them ahead of time."

"This is what happened. My father had to go there. We don't think he can come."

"If he comes, we will be happy. If he doesn't come, we are used to it."

"I told them that. What else would they say? Would they have said No at the last minute?"

"They agreed. But you are here now, so we're happy," she said. The wedding hour was at 12:30 or 1, midnight.

How to engage the guests until then? No one would be there at midnight.

What to do? I knew many people, because I was the State President of Andhra Pradesh.

I knew many important people. I was acquainted with them.

Professor Raghunatha Acharya, a resident of Tirupati, and a Vice Chancellor of the Vedic University.

He was a resident of Tirupati and I knew him very well. I went to his house. "Sir, I don't have any one else to rescue me."

"You alone can come to my rescue." "Anil Kumar, what is happening?"

"Sir, the wedding is at midnight. I would like to arrange your speech before that."

"I know that people will attend well for your speech." "You are a great orator, a Veda Pundit, a great devotee of Swami."

"Kindly come to my rescue," I said. "You don't need to ask me twice." "You know our friendship. Of course I will come," he said.

So we arranged his speech prior to the wedding. All the people were spellbound by him, and then they stayed on for the wedding.

I must tell you something here, even though it's out of context.

My son came to me slowly. He is a computer engineer.

He said, "Father, I have a small request to make." "What is it?"

"Don't give your speech now. It's enough for Raghunatha Chari to speak."

"Not you, please," he said. "That's fine, I will take rest. I was the one who called Raghunatha Chari."

"He will speak. Why would I speak?" I said. He spoke, and then the ceremony went well.

Vagicherla Koteswara Rao stayed along for two days.

He is a resident of Kavali. He used to refer to me as brother-in-law.

He also took on the role of an Uncle while announcing the gift contributions.

He also arranged all the transportation. He stood by on the stage supervising all the decorations.

We don't belong to the same class. He is a very wealthy man.

Just like his name proclaims, he is a 'Koteswarudu', one with crores of money.

We are just dependent on our monthly salaries. So I very happily got Kubera himself as a brother-in-law.

As he oversaw everything, the ceremony went wonderfully well. It was completed by early morning, and there was a special Darshan arranged to see the Lord of Tirupati. Similar to what is arranged for ministers. On TV they announce 50,000 or 70,000 devotees attending. They say it took them 23 hours or 18 hours to stand in line. "How did you arrange this for me?" "Everyone who works in the TTD are Swami's devotees, Sir." "They put us in on a priority basis," they said. What can we say? We were given priority to go and perform the Lord's ceremonial wedding. Then we went to get their marriage registered. And then the reception was arranged in Hyderabad. All the wedding guests on the train wanted cool drinks. After they sat in the train compartment. I was still feeling hot myself. He said, "Brother-in-law, don't worry, we'll take care of it." After I sent them off, we had to gift the groom's party with Saris. I said, "Koteswara Rao, let's go via Madras." He said, "Okay, Sir." So we went to Madras where there are many silk shops like Sri Kumaran Silks, etc. "We want to buy some Saris for the groom's party." "Yes, Sir," he said. With this incident you will understand how irresponsible I am, as a person. "Brother-in-law, are you carrying any cash?" He asked. "I am." "How much did you bring?" he asked. "I have 20,000," I said. "Only 20,000? You won't even get one Sari for 20,000." "Is that right? I have no estimates." "It's alright, I will take care of it." "We can sort it out later," he said. We bought 3 Saris worth 70,000 or so. Saving my dignity, we returned to Hyderabad. Swami, this is how You directed this whole story? You had so many volunteers to help? I'm someone with not one coin extra. In another place, another town, the wedding took place in the great abode of the Lord in Tirupati. Who would make the arrangements? Who would perform the wedding? You kept the father of the bride with You. You Yourself became the father of the bride. You became the director. You arranged all these people, Bhagawan! And so I kept thinking about Swami many times with joyful tears and gratitude.

Daughter goes to America to study

The reception ended, and from there I slowly made my way back to Puttaparthi. By the time I got back to Puttaparthi, my transfer orders were ready on the table. To be transferred from Bangalore to Puttaparthi. I thought I would inform Swami and then leave. But no, I was told to pack and leave immediately, and report in Puttaparthi within 24 hours. Was this a wedding gift for me? What to think of it? Is it a punishment? A test? Or protection? What to think of it? Whatever it is, I don't have any other refuge. You are my only refuge, I thought and came after packing up in Guntur. I made my way here slowly. I already talked briefly about the time when I came here.

But it still surprises me even today how was I able to come? How did I come?
And what are the repercussions? I don't think it's a mistake to remind and warn myself again.
Swami once said in a discourse, "You think why is Swami repeating Himself?"
"But don't you wash your face even though you washed it before?" "You wear the same clothes that you wore before."
"You eat again even though you ate earlier." "What is your problem in hearing the same words that I spoke before?" asked Swami.
I would like to tell you something that is inspirational and filled with devotion.
I feel this is a kind of a spiritual warning and wisdom for everyone.
Whatever work we take up, it is filled with tension. If we arrange a Bhajan in our house, we feel tension.
If we arrange a thread ceremony, we feel tension. Whatever work we take on, we feel tension about who will do it, how many will show up?
How to do it, and so on, constant tension. But with Swami's grace, at the actual hour I had no tension.
It is only pretension. No tension. Everything was taken care of.
Even if we don't invite anyone to the Bhajan, a 100 people will show up.
We may plan for 25 people, but 70 people will show up. Who sent them? Only Swami knows. He takes on full responsibility.
Swami takes on total responsibility. Why? Because He is the master of the house.
He is the master of the house. You're only an instrument. Swami is always proving to you that He is the doer, but do we have the wisdom to get it?
We tell everyone that we did it. This ego that I am the doer haunts us for several lifetimes. And it is still sticky. Truly, it appears as if Swami did it.
Swami took care of my 2nd daughter's wedding, from A to Z.
The groom waited two years for my daughter while she was studying in America.
"But Swami, can we get them engaged? And then she can go to study?"
"No, no. Who knows how their minds will change after getting engaged?" "I will tell you. Don't speak," He said. Swami had everything go that way.
What can I say? My eldest daughter's wedding was performed directly, and my second daughter's wedding indirectly, both by Swami. Swami directed everything. Although I bought all those valuable things in Shoppers' and the wedding feasts arranged in Tirupati during a time when many weddings were going on, the prices were sky-high, and they said that it was enough to have a third of those things.
"Oh no, we are happy to work in your house," they said. By whose grace was all this? Kindly remember that our dignity and reputation in society our status or respect, all are by Swami's grace alone.
The moment you think you achieved something, your downfall starts right then.
If you say, "Swami, You alone!" you will achieve the highest peaks.
If you say 'I' you will fall into the deepest pits.
But because we are humans and as we eat sat and spice, and there are people supporting us, we think it's all due to us.
The moment you lose the 'I' or 'mine' only then can we be called true devotees. In my life, my second daughter's wedding feels unbelievable, even to this day.

She went to America alone to study. Guntur is an ordinary town.

From there, she went alone to America. What to do?

There was a Shirdi Baba temple in front of our house. "I can't send you alone, no way," I said.

She went and cried in the temple in front of Shirdi Sai. "Swami!"

"What did You say? Didn't You talk about women's empowerment?"

"Didn't You establish the college in Anantapur?" "Did You not take on lady doctors and lady lecturers?"

"I want to go to America and do my MD. Will You send me or not?" She cried in front of His photo in Guntur.

At that time I was in Puttaparthi. Swami called me into the interview room and said, "She is crying there. Why is she crying like that?" "Tell her to definitely study her MD. I will send her to America."

"Certainly send her," He said. Her cry here was heard there.

What to say? "Why fear when I am here?" said Swami.

What great words! Such a great truth! A truth beyond truth.

Truth beyond all truths. Taking His words, I arranged for my daughter to go to America.

At first she went alone, before her wedding, and came back in time for her wedding.

My wife and I went to the Mumbai airport to drop her off. We went to Mumbai. Look at the events that happened. There were firings in Mumbai.

You all might have heard about the Mumbai clashes. It had come out in the newspapers. Many people lost their lives.

The whole city was under curfew. An overall curfew. She had to travel that night. How to even get to the airport?

No cars, no buses, no transport. I thought we would try.

I called Indulal Shah garu. "Anil Kumar, don't worry, I will have a pass issued."

"You can go in our vehicle which will display the pass." "The police won't object. You can go," he said.

He sent a car and my wife, my daughter and I went in the car. When we got to the airport we saw a board displaying all the flights and destinations, their flight numbers, and a series of 'Cancelled, Cancelled, Cancelled'.

All flights were cancelled. She had to leave that night. What to do?

Very good, Swami, what is this test? I thought in my heart.

Suddenly, the flight she was to go on was displayed as "As scheduled."

It showed that it would be on time. Only her flight.

In this way, we sent her on that flight alone.

She boarded at a hostel and did her MD. I felt bad that I sent her alone.

She wrote me a letter from there. "Father, I'm studying well."

"I'm getting above 90% in everything. I'm doing well in surgery and medicine."

"I feel like Swami is right next to me. When I finish at the operating table and wash my hands,"

"I smell Vibhuti on my hands. What to do? Swami accompanies me on every test."

"Otherwise how would I get above 90 in everything?" "Who would take care of me here, in a foreign country, in Dallas?"

"This is Swami's grace, father," she wrote in her letter. She is a daughter, so there is a lot of love.

"I know that you worked very hard for us." You taught lessons in college, as well as in tutorial college,"

"and tuitions at home, you worked really, really hard, I know." "My time is coming. I will have you travel on a plane."

"No need to teach tuition, etc." she wrote, and I had tears in my eyes.

When our children write letters like that, what else do we need? These days they talk about coming up by their own efforts.

But this letter said, "Father, you worked hard, I will take care of you." I read that letter and had tears in my eyes.

Just then Swami came that way, while I was in Puttaparthi.

"Your daughter is thinking of Sai in America, but in Puttaparthi you are thinking about family."

"Do you have any sense? Swami takes care of everything, it's all Swami's grace."

"She says she is getting above 90 marks in everything." "Wherever she goes she talks about Swami's Vibhuti."

"But you are like this? Don't you have any shame?" "Will Swami not take care of her?" He laughed out loud and walked on.

4 Lessons from doing Swami's work

In that way how that Protector protected her, how we walked along with us, how He brought my family a long way,

so that even an irresponsible person such as me could raise his head in dignity,

that is all Swami's compassion. Other than Swami's activities and Swami's discourses,

I have nothing else in my life. For such a person, Swami did everything.

So what I would like to tell everyone is whatever work we do, Swami will not keep it to Himself.

If you do work worth 10 Paise, He tosses 100 Rupees at you.

Bank interest is only 14 or 15%. Swami's interest is 150 or 200%, although I can't calculate.

We could probably say 1000%. That's how much interest Swami gives in return. He does not keep anything to Himself. If you say, "I'm doing Swami's work,"

"what did I get? What did I receive?" How will know just yet? The future is yet to come.

You may not get the results right away. But Swami notes down everything.

What you did on any day, Swami remembers it all.

Swami had once given an interview to a man named Nagabhushan Rao. He said, "Swami, why did You call me? I don't have any belief in You."

"I don't have any faith in You. I only came because people from my town came."

"Why did You call me for an interview, Swami?" he said. "It's true that you don't have faith. I came to your town during summer."

"You gave water and buttermilk to all the people who came there." "Why did you give them?"

That is faith. Not coming to see Me," said Swami.

So He remembers from times much earlier. Karunyananda asked Swami, "Swami, how did I get such good fortune?"

"During the Razakar movement, when a massacre took place, you carried their corpses."

"That Seva is what brought you here," said Swami. So whatever work you do for Swami, it gets doubled and multiplied several times,

and we are granted protection, strength, courage and prosperity.

You should not think, "Why, why?" This is the first lesson I wanted to share with my Sai family. It's not about talking about my personal experience. There is a second lesson. Whatever work you want to do, we will have tension.

In our children's matters, sending them to foreign countries, weddings and thread ceremonies, sending them off to their new families, it is inevitable that we feel tension.

But just at that moment, Swami takes away all the tension.

Just as doctors use forceps to quickly pull away something, Swami too provides a resolution to any problem in a single moment.

So there won't be any tension. The third lesson is if we do Swami's Seva, Swami will do our work. How will He do it? Swami will do it better than even we can do it. Even if we take on several lives, we would never be able to do anything like Him. He will do and show it to us. Whatever one does, Swami gives back that much and more.

These are the experiences in my life. The fourth lesson is, never think that we will do it, that we are doing it, or that we did it.

As long as you don't have the feeling of doership, we will be happy.

And Swami proves that He is with us. This incident happened while I was there, just before receiving my transfer orders.

What can I say? After I came to Puttaparthi, many incidents happened.

We talked about the details in terms of various places, but not according to the calendar.

How did I first come to Swami, then how Swami made me the Principal of Brindavan College, and His intention of why He brought me to the Brindavan College, I didn't know until later.

I was very upset in the beginning. I was grieving like Sita in Ashokavana.

But no, only because of living in Brindavan, I was able to get close to Him.

Because of living in Brindavan, I was able to become His translator.

Because of living in Brindavan, I was able to go to many places with Him.

Because of Brindavan, I was able to experience many miracles. Although it was tough, and the tests were harsh, Swami kept protecting me, saving me, and eventually delivered me to the shore. We learnt about those incidents from Brindavan.

Before leaving Brindavan, my second daughter got married.

Immediately after returning from there, I received transfer orders. Then I came to Puttaparthi.

How Swami invited me at Puttaparthi,

and how He arranged for my living here, I narrated some of them.

Next, we will learn more about those. Sai Ram.