

Please read my article: (K. David Nirikshana Rao Kurakula -KDNR - Rtd. HOD, Dept. Of Chemistry)

I wrote about Sri. K. Anil Kumar garu in the 57-th segment of his Immortal 88-part Book titled 'MEMORIES & MEMOIRS'. It was first written as a conversation in our College Whats App group, on his FIRST LOVE - THE ANDHRA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, GUNTUR.

I was a student of A.C. College during 1965-'69 (P.U.C & B. Sc), a resident of Wolf-Hall in the same period and a member of the Chemistry faculty from 1969-2007.

A LIVING LEGEND (The Introduction)

"Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will work for kings, not unimportant people." Proverbs 22:29

He was my teacher in A.C. College and in a sense, he still is!

He is the center of attraction wherever he is! A voracious reader, an excellent teacher, an intent listener, an affable friend, a captivating story-teller, an engaging conversationalist, an unstoppable joker, a talented voice-imitator, a sartorially stylish person, a skilled writer, an able administrator, a fluent speaker of chaste English & Telugu languages, an effortless interpreter from English to Telugu and with equal felicity from Telugu to English, a spell-binding orator, a much-sought-after international speaker on spiritual matters, a man of endless energy and boundless joy...what else and what not ? You name any positive personality trait, he certainly has it!

I guess he is now around 75 years, still active & vibrant as ever! Have you guessed who he is? I will tell you, but not yet! Not today. Please wait for tomorrow!

A LIVING LEGEND (The Conclusion)

ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE:

Gratitude for his Alma mater and the teachers that directly or indirectly shaped him to be the shining star that he is now is indelibly burned into his brain and he wears it on his sleeves! Mention the name of 'Andhra Christian College, Guntur or the name of any of his Gurus, he becomes like a man possessed. The ecstasy must only be seen to be believed! He begins to sing and dance, Yes D A N C E, totally disregarding the fact of who he is and where he is!

Divinely gifted with a golden voice and a gigabyte-sized evergreen memory, he recounts fascinating facts and amusing anecdotes about the College and its rich history to regale the audiences anywhere! I was thrilled to see him do a jig on the dais, as late as Jan 12, 2017, at the college Alumni meet, attended by a galaxy of VVIPs and a large number of students of yesteryears. This dancing in the public, reminded me of King David dancing in the streets, before the Ark of the Covenant, engrossed in joyful worship (2 Samuel 6:14)!

DEEPLY DEVOUT YET DOWN TO EARTH:

Unless you ask him specifically, you will never know that he is such a deeply religious man. He doesn't wear the proverbial 'Holier than thou' look. Healthy humor is his forte. He is a moving encyclopaedia! Broach any subject and you will never be disappointed!

WIDELY TRAVELLED AND VASTLY WISE:

As far as I know, he has visited more than 108 countries, to give religious discourses. Devotees in India & abroad lap up the rivers of wisdom that come out of his mouth! He is the author of 20 books in English and 6 in Telugu!

It is becoming increasingly difficult for me to go on any further without revealing his name. So I reveal his name here & now!

Who else fits exactly into all the details mentioned above? This Living Legend is none other than,

SRI * ANIL * KUMAR * KAMARAJU * GARU

He is the official translator of 'SRI SATHYA SAI BABA' of Puttaparthi, conveying his message & mission to the non-Telugu speaking devotees around the world. He also worked as the Principal of 'Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning', White Field Campus, Bangalore, later as the Professor of Bio-Sciences in 'Sri Sathya Sai deemed University', Prasanthi Nilayam campus, Puttaparthi.

Google his name, 'Anil Kumar Kamaraju', you will know how greatly popular he is all across the globe. You get loads of information - audio & video as well!

I should have mentioned in my self-introduction at the outset that I was a student of Biology in P.U.C., and of CBZ in my B.Sc. Later I did my P.G in Chemistry.

It is my good fortune to be his direct student, not just me but also my wife Mrs. Kempu Navaratna Kumari. In the recent 'Alumni Meet' I mentioned above, as Sir was leaving the Assembly hall, he happened to see us both at a distance in the audience, greeted us loudly by our names. We were overjoyed at this. Please find few photos of this event attached herewith. I recorded the video of Sir dancing on the dais but somehow it got deleted from my phone. If any of you present on that day have it, kindly post it!

In the year 2000, I was attending a refresher course in Chemistry at Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur. During that time, I visited 'Prasanthi Nilayam' Puttaparthi, along with my batch mates. When I contacted sir regarding our visit, he arranged a volunteer to receive us, seat us in the front rows in the Darshan Hall. The hush and silence & the rapt attention of hundreds of devotees as Sri Sathya Sai Baba was wheeled around in the aisles was stunning!

In fact, I also visited Tirumala, Madhura and other South Indian Temples during the college staff tours, thanks to my senior colleagues and friends like J.B.Sarma garu, S.Muddu Krishna garu and GVLN Sajeeva Rao garu.

At the beginning of this month I had a chance meeting with Mr. Mandali Koteswara Rao of the Zoology Department, where he mentioned about how Sri. Anil Kumar garu was posting his 'Memories & Memoirs' of the college, in the Alumni Whatsapp group. I was not in that group as my Whatsapp number is a different one. I took from Mr. MKR the phone number of Sri. Anil Kumar garu, but even before I rang him up, Sir himself called me and emailed me all the 54 parts posted till then. It was beautifully written 'Chronicles of the College' that informs and inspires the later generations.

Having conveyed my initial impressions on 'Memories & Memoirs', I said, "Sir, you wrote about everyone, but who will write about you? His answer was, "No need. For, I see myself in every person I wrote about."

At that very same moment, I determined in my heart to place on record my impressions about the Living Legend that Sri. Anil Kumar Garu is! Hence this article!!

May God bless Sir & his family and use him for the well-being of the mankind!

Thank you all for your patient reading!!

G O D * B L E S S !!!