

# Part 08 | Experiences with Swami | Prof K Anil Kumar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eAaoMyCdEtA>

## Highlights

Do I call You Swami? Do I call You friend? Do I call You my Beloved?

It's as if He told me how much authority and trust He has on His children, and how much integrity they have.

If all the love in the world walked on two legs, it would be called Sathya Sai Baba.

On that day, Swami who was seated, got up and went upstairs. I feel like Kodaikanal is a vision of the Supreme Cosmic Being.

## Omniscience about early morning coffee

My heartfelt salutations to the Sathya Sai Media Centre, and to all the viewers who are watching their programmes.

Several hundreds of feet above ground, with mountains above, valleys below, with dense forests, and tall trees on both sides, as if nature has taken its most beautiful form here

is a place called Kodaikanal, located in the state of Tamil Nadu, in the country of Bharat.

We are talking about those incidents. Is it possible to praise our Swami who created this shiny, beautiful form on the earth?

How to praise You, Swami? What a sculptor You are! How charming You made this, Swami!

As we were going up in the car, it was forest on both sides, with tall trees.

As we were driving through the trees, the branches from the trees on one side, and the branches from the trees on the other side, came together, it was as if they were chanting holy verses for Swami,

singing welcoming words. These trees are His creation. It was all so beautiful, I thought.

We kept going upwards. After we reached there, we talked about those incidents.

We talked about the way Swami welcomed us there.

Now I'd like to share a small humorous incident. I have a habit of drinking coffee early in the morning.

But breakfast there did not start until 7:30. At home, I would have already had 2 rounds before 7:30.

How to do it there? Everyone had gathered all the things that Swami gave them.

Whether it was sheets, blankets, toothbrushes, Swami gave us a large amount of luggage.

We took them, and we each went to our places quietly, like soldiers in a camp.

After that, dinner was done quickly, and then Swami said, "You are all tired."

"Take rest. We will talk in the morning." And then Swami went upstairs.

I thought this was a good time. I quietly got up and went towards the kitchen.

I saw three people in the kitchen. Two of them said they used to work in the Anantapur college hostel.

Their names were Sai Ram and Sai Krishna. They became like Nala and Bheema. Their body frames were also built accordingly. I thought they looked good. I asked them their names and asked, "Have you ever seen me before?" "Sir, how can you ask that? We have been working in Anantapur for the past 25 or 30 years."

"We saw you many times." I said, "But I never went to Anantapur. How did you see me?"

"We come to Puttaparthi often. We saw you with our children," they said. But still I wanted to make sure, so I asked them if they knew my name.

They told me. So I could know for sure that they were telling the truth. "There are about 30 - 35 of us, including students, special guests, and staff. What time is breakfast?" I asked.

"At 7:30. Baba always says 7:30," they said. "What time do you wake up to have it ready at 7:30?" I asked.

"Sir, unless we wake up at 3:30 or 4 we won't be ready," they said. "How about coffee for you?" I asked. "We make it for ourselves, and then start our work," they said.

"That's good. If I come, will you give one for me too?" I asked. "Of course, please come," they said. I said, "I can't come at 4. I'll come at 5 or 5:30."

"Alright Sir, whatever time you come is fine," they said. In this way, for the first 4 or 5 days, I used to have my first dose of coffee early at 5 O'clock.

I think it was on the 5th day, Swami was still sitting after we finished breakfast. He called the cook, "Hey, Sai Krishna!" He came running and said, "Swami?" He asked, "What time is our breakfast?" They said, "Swami, at 7:30."

"But there is one person who is drinking coffee at 5 O'clock. Did you ask me before you serving him?"

"Is that your grandfather's property? Did the drinker tell Me? What do you think?" He scolded. How can he give my name away? He looked at me pitifully. I noticed his discomfort. He was almost in tears. "Swami, it's I who is drinking it at 5 O'clock in the morning."

"Oh, you? Why so early?" He asked. "No one else in our house drinks it Swami, only me."

"And later I drink it again with everyone." "What? You drink it that many times?"

"It's not a lot, Swami. I probably only drink about 3 or 4 cups a day," I said. "No, no, you'll get dark. Drink less. But on this trip you can drink it."

"Otherwise your wife will think Sai Baba did not give coffee to her husband." "Drink as much as you want, it's alright." "Your grace, Swami," I said.

"Hey, give him coffee whenever he wants, alright?" He said. That was my very first experience that I had in Kodaikanal.

It's humorous to talk about, and when I think about His love, it is thrilling. The surprising thing is finding out that He knew. He knew that I was drinking it early in the morning, and telling me about it in front of everyone. By this every one could see that Swami is all-knowing.

I realised that He is omniscient. That was my first divine, new and holy experience, I feel.

**The beauty of Kodaikanal**

After that happened, Swami sits in a nice sofa, like this. There is a teapoy right next to Him. On the teapoy are a glass of water, the lunar calendar, and the letters He received. He says, "Come on boys, is everyone here? Good. Did you sleep well? Were you warm enough?"

"Or is it still cold?" He inquires after them. "What did you eat for breakfast?"

"Swami, Idli." "Hey, how many did you eat?" "Swami, two." "Only two? Ayyo! You should have had four."

He asks each one how many they ate, just for fun. After that, slowly He starts talking to us.

That's the first Discourse of the day. We can call it the Breakfast Message.

When He starts talking, I can't tell you how nice it is. It is just a conversation. There's no one else but the students and us.

After the conversation, Swami says "Get up," in His own Rayalaseema dialect.

I always mention this in every meeting. When Swami gets off the stage, He speaks in Rayalaseema.

When He is on stage, He speaks in the Konaseema dialect. A very grammatical, and rigorous Telugu on the stage. Off stage, it's all Rayalaseema and Puttaparthi dialect.

"Alright, get up. Anil Kumar, there is a lake there." There is a hill, and on the hill is Swami's mansion.

Everything all around is green. You won't see the ground. It's like a green carpet welcome.

Perhaps nature has given us a green carpet welcome. Nature has perhaps welcomed us.

Who is Nature? The reflection of the Supreme Being. Who is the Supreme Being? It's Baba Himself.

Swami is the Supreme Being. His reflection is Nature. That Nature gave us a green welcome, I thought.

Lawns everywhere around Swami's building. Those flowers were so beautiful.

Perhaps they were feeling playful because of the Lord's presence.

As those flowers were waving in the breeze, I wished I could have been a flower in front of Swami.

That's how beautiful the flowering plants were, very beautiful! There were steps, and pots along the steps, and again flowering plants in those pots.

Flowering plants all around, and again in Swami's building as well. Very beautiful. Opposite Swami's building is the hill, the path on the hill, meadows all around, the gateway and the road through it.

A straight road. Beyond that road, is a 6 kilometre wide lake.

Beyond the lake is high ground, and again trees, first class greenery, and tall trees.

It's very beautiful. Beyond the 6 kilometre lake, there is a regular route, a bridge going to the Kodaikanal town.

I wanted to describe its natural form, so we can imagine it in our mind's vision.

Don't we hear about such things in the Puranas and enjoy them? They talk about a Rajasuya Yaga, but have we ever seen one?

We listen to the description of the sages and imagine how it might have been. Similarly, when someone like Kasturi garu describes it, we imagine it for ourselves.

### **Swami's conversations with students**

He called me and said, "These boys are young. They're doing MA, MSc, PhD and MTech."

"They are not too young, and not too old. Take these boys with you around the lake."

"You will walk 6 kilometres. Then come back up. In the meantime, I will finish the interviews."

"We will talk later," He said. What is this? Does He need to tell us His programme?

Does anyone tell us? I said, "Yes, Swami." I was still new. This was before I had joined Swami's college.

So this was equivalent to a matchmaking meeting. The actual wedding comes later. I said, "Yes, Swami." I used to be free back then. Ignorant people can be free.

They say, "fools rush in where angels fear to tread." So I used to talk very freely.

"So take them around the lake. We will talk later," He said. There is an extension next to Swami's building on the hill. There is a large hall.

That hall could fit around 200-300 people. There is a corridor all around the hall.

There is a parapet wall around the corridor. If we climb on the parapet wall, we could see all of Kodaikanal nicely.

It's like watching it on a TV screen. Those trees, that lake, and the dew still falling on the lake.

The clouds are still moving. The sun's rays are not yet shining fully. It was still dimly lit.

It was chilly. When we look from above, we can see everything below. The devotees standing like ants on the road.

When we enquired, we found out that they had been sitting there since 5 in the morning.

In that shivering cold. Those are the true devotees. Wow, I thought. Later, they are allowed in rows.

They all climb up the hill. There is a wide open space in front of Swami's building. They even put up a shed above. They can happily sit there. Swami calls them for interviews and talks to them.

And there are also Bhajans. In the meantime, my programme was to take the boys.

So I took them around and talked to them along the way. I'm used to being friendly since my childhood.

I'm not used to being scary or terrifying. It's enough if this life goes on like this.

Cruel beasts are terrifying, not men. I don't like it. Especially those of us in teaching positions, the more loving we are, the better we can teach, and they can ask better questions.

So I was talking to them. They had seen me in Prasanthi Nilayam, so they were also friendly with me.

We completed the circle and come back here. By then, Swami, in His mansion called Sai Sruthi, He finishes His interviews and sits down, as if waiting for us.

After we come He says, "Yes, sit down. Did you go around?" "Yes, Swami."

"How many times did you go around?" "Only one time, Swami." "Only once?" "Did you even go around, or not go at all?" "No Swami, we went around." "Alright."

"Do you know how long it is?" "We don't know, Swami." "6 kilometres." "Hey you, did you brush your teeth properly? Or did you just go back and forth? Chee!"

"You should do it properly." Which means he did not brush properly that morning.

Everyone looked at him. In this way, He checks on everyone. "Did you call home? Very happy."

Slowly He has everyone talking, and talk to us too. One year, Swami started talking about outer space.

What was He talking about? The distance between the Earth and the Sun.

The distance between the Sun and the Moon. The distance between Mars and Earth.

For 3 or 4 days, it was the same conversation. The boys were looking at me pitifully.

Who can tell Swami? How would we fare when the subject is so tough?

I signalled to them to wait. During lunch time they said, "Sir, those stars are difficult, why do we need them, Sir?"

"We came to have fun during summer. What to do if Swami is talking about these things, Sir?" I said, "Wait. I need to look for a chance. Pray that I get a chance, and I will take care of it." After afternoon lunch, Swami comes downstairs. After a while, He calls, "Hey boys!" Then they will come for tea. The first one to come down is Swami. Right opposite is my room. As soon I see Him, I come out immediately. After talking about other things I said, "Swami?" "Yes?"

"Swami, the Earth has been there since before we were born. The Sun has been there for aeons."

"These planets and stars have been around forever. Why do we need to know about them, Swami?"

"You keep talking about them." "What? Why? You don't want them?" "Swami, I'm not saying we don't want them."

"I'm saying we don't understand." "So what do you want?" "Tell us about Your childhood days."

"Tell us about the anecdotes of the Gopikas. Tell us about Your trips to North India."

"Tell us about Your South Africa trip. That's what we came for." "Oh? Are you saying this? Or the boys?"

"No Swami, I'm telling You what they said. Please tell us about Your history," I said. "Oh?," He said.

Believe it or not, Swami changed the topic the next day itself. He too wants everyone to understand, and wants to be loving with them.

### **Daily routine at Kodaikanal**

That would be Swami's first lecture. After the lecture, we would go and sit for lunch, Swami stays standing until we all sit down. He looks around to see whether everyone was sitting in their places.

How were everyone's tables? Were they ready with the serving buckets? They were also students.

He says, "Go ahead," and they start serving. "Did everyone get served?" Then He sits down.

Then they start Brahmrapanam. After that, lunch starts. I don't know what He eats, but Swami watches us the whole time.

How is this one eating? How is that one eating? What is he eating? What is he throwing away?

He watches it all. But I enjoy watching Him. I eat my food everyday anyway.

So I watch Him. There's a table like this, and a silver plate. They serve Him, just like for us.

Very little. If He serves one extra spoon, he will need to take a bus home. He cannot be served even an extra spoonful. "Enough, enough," He says.

He eats with the tips of His fingers. Not like us, mixing everything up. Just with His fingertips.

When He finishes, He washes His hands. Then He looks at us. We would still be on our first item.

He would already have been done. This is one row, and this is another row.

Swami sits in the centre. He looks around at everyone. Then He gets up.

He starts slowly walking, looking at each one's plate. We all come from different backgrounds.

Since I was sitting right in the front, "Anil Kumar, what is that? You did not eat any of those things?"

"What will they think if you don't eat them? They will think Swami did not like it. That's wrong."

"You must learn to eat everything. You can't have mango pickle and Gongura pickle everyday."

"You should eat these too. Understand?" "Yes, Swami." To the next one, "Take how much ever you want to eat."

"But don't throw away anything." Then He goes to the next one. They're older students, so they should not feel bad. "Wipe your mouth, wipe your mouth." Because his lips were covered in food.

He gets the message, "wipe your mouth." He goes around giving instructions to each one.

"Did you finish eating already? You must start with everyone. You must finish with everyone."

"You cannot finish early. That's wrong. That's not table manners. Start and finish with everyone."

No one had taught me about table manners and dining habits.

I don't have a chance in this lifetime. But Swami tells all these things to them.

No one speaks during lunch and dinner. No jokes and fun. He walks around.

He stands there. "Finished? Good. Come on, get up." Elders first, and then students, go to wash their hands.

After that is done, He says, "Go and take rest." Swami goes upstairs.

We can rest until 3 O'clock. I must share something here.

Before we started walking around the lake, the breakfast lecture is done.

Then, after breakfast is completed, He gives us a second lecture.

Where would we get this? At no wedding do we get so many items.

Then He gives us a second lecture. After that is completed, we come back from our walk around the lake.

When we are back, Swami is seated there. There is still some time before lunch.

Then He gives us a third lecture. After we listen to the third lecture, then lunch, and then He tells us to rest.

We come back at 3 O'clock. Then there is a snack. What can I say about it? It's first class.

There are at least two sweets and two savories. At least. They're the size of Tirupati Laddoos.

They're great. You cannot throw them away. You must eat them. You can't say you don't want them.

It's iron discipline. Our faces should look pleasant. That's very important.

We cannot have castor oil faces in front of Swami. We should be ever smiling. In fact, we stay smiling. If anyone is serious in front of Swami, he is probably dead.

Not alive, dead. Only a dead person can be like that. We become joyful when we see Him.

Do lotus flowers fold in when they see the Sun? Do flowers wilt in sun's rays?

After that, everyone goes and sits in the Bhajan hall. Just like in Puttaparthi, there is a stage.

There is a throne for Swami. They spread rugs on the floor for us. There are some chairs set up for the elders.

After everyone is seated, Swami comes out. You should see that walk!

From the corridor upstairs, Swami comes walking, holding His robe with one hand, adjusting His hair with the other hand, sometimes waving His hand, He looks around as He comes.

How is all the beauty in the world right here? So beautiful, I want to watch Him here.

But He might ask why I was standing there, so I went inside. He came in slowly and sat on the stage.

After He sits, He looks around like this. He says, "Hey boy, get up. Give a talk."

Everyone should be ready. If you say, "I need time. I need a week to prepare," you can take the bus home at 6:30.

You must be ready, like Everready batteries. Actually, He only selects those kinds of people. He selects those who are first in sports, first in studies, first in dramas, first in discipline, first in Bhajans, and other outstanding talents. So would that boy hang back? He propounds for some time.

Then, Swami's discourse. That would be the 4th discourse. After Bhajans and Arati, Swami leaves.

After He goes in, He sits down. Before, it was the public meeting. Now it's a meeting about the discourse in the Bhajan hall.

Let's call it an echo meeting, describing what He narrated there. "Did you understand?"

"What did you understand?" He asks. And then He explains everything again. After that, dinner, and then everyone retires to their rooms.

That means, there are 5 discourses by Swami, in Kodaikanal.

How fortunate that is, not just listening to the 5 discourse, but spending time with Him during the discourses.

Watching Him until the end, having breakfast, lunch, snacks and dinner with Him, is it possible? There are those who see Him from a distance and feel happy. There are those who are happy to see a hair of His.

Being with Him, having feasts, what merit must we have received in a past life?

As Rayaprolu Subbarao garu says, "Which past life merit, and which penance made me take birth in this heaven?"

"Whichever land I go to..." that is Rayaprolu Subbarao garu's song.

If we are born here, it must have been some past life merit, or some penance we performed. Gemstones are growing here in these fields. The country of Bharat is where gemstones grow. You are born there. Being born here, being in this country, we understand its greatness when we spend time with Swami.

Otherwise we would not know. Our beloved Bharat is our motherland, a divine land.

"The flowering vine of the spring..." how beautifully Devulapalli Krishna Sastry garu wrote that song!

The expression in that song and its symbolism is Bhagawan's presence, and Bhagawan's Darshan, I feel.

We listen to His words at night, and reminisce about them, and after dinner, we go to sleep.

Who were my roommates? One was Joga Rao garu. His bed is here in the room.

My bed is across from his bed. To the wall was Janaki Ramayya garu.

There was another bed across from his. Satchidanandam, the Sai President of Ooty, Nilgiri Hills.

He has paper mills and so on, a very rich man. He has total surrender for Swami.

But he has an ear problem, and can't hear. He is fortunate - he doesn't have to hear our words.

He has mad devotion for Swami. A bachelor. He donated all of his property to Swami.

Joga Rao garu, among many, many devotees, is a romantic, a romantic conversationalist, and one who can spend time making jokes. He can talk on any topic. By then, he was probably 80 years young.

In this way, each day's programme included 5 discourses, 2 feasts, 2 small meals, beautiful nature,

and in the presence of the Lord, we spent a whole month. I wonder if it was all true.

Each day there was one speaker. They all spoke well, since they are great speakers. You probably heard them.

They trained with Swami, and they speak well. Then Swami gives His review and commentary and His brief lecture everyday.

Concluding message. That's how our first trip happened. All of this happened in 1989.

I was supposed to bring the students back inside after taking them for a walk around the lake.

### **A trip to the post office exposed**

After morning breakfast. After 2 or 3 days, the students joined, but I didn't.

I didn't go with them. They came and sat around Swami. As I was coming in, I could hear laughter.

I knew it must have been something about me. "Hey Anil Kumar, come, come."

"Where did you go?" He asked. "Swami, I was right here." "But all these people came back, and you were late?"

"Where did you go?" I said, "Where would I go, Swami? I went to the post office."

"What did you do at the post office?" What would anyone do at a post office? Would we eat a meal there?

We write letters. What kind of a question is Swami asking? "Swami, I wrote a letter," I said.

"Didn't I tell you that he went to the post office? Didn't I tell you that he wrote letters?"

So, like the cricket running commentary, Swami told them all about my movements.

So as I was telling them again, they were laughing because Swami had already told them. "Who did you write to?" What to say? "Who else would I write to, Swami? I wrote to my wife."

"Oh, what did you write?" What can I say? "What would I write, Swami? What would I write?"

"I said how nice it is here, like Indra's palace, or Lord Vishnu's abode. What I saw, conversations with Swami,"

"that's what I wrote, Swami." "Good. Why did you go by yourself to the post office?"

"If you sent any of our boys they would have posted it. Did you have to go?" "Do you think my boys are like your college students? My boys would not read other people's letters."

"They will never read them. You're used to that college. So you wanted to post it yourself because they might read it."

"My students would not do that," He said. In saying that He was showing how much authority He has on His students,

how much trust He has on them, the integrity they have. It was as if He told me.

In talking about writing letters and so on, we understood His omniscience.

He is all-knowing, all-pervading, each of them is like the facets of a diamond coming forward.

### **Swami as mother, father, Guru, God**

I believe Kodaikanal is a vision of the Supreme Cosmic Being.

The great poet, Devulapalli Krishna Sastry garu, when He described the nature of divinity,

He wrote a small song. We sing during Arati, "Mother, father, Guru and God, they are all You."

"Please accept our Arati." He is our mother, father, Guru, and God. Krishna Sastry garu wrote,

"Do I call You Swami? Do I call You friend? Do I call You my Beloved?"



"What do I call You, what do I call You?" Should I call You Swami? Should I say Swami is my friend?

You're singing, "Friend of the devotee," so "Do I call You Swami? Do I call You friend? Do I call You my Beloved?"

That embodiment of love is like if all the love in the world walked on two legs, it would be called Sathya Sai Baba.

Love walking on two feet is Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Do I call You friend, Swami, what should I call You? How can you call Him a friend?

Swami called a student for an interview. He also called his parents along with him.

If He calls students, the interview would be at least 45 minutes long. That's our count for the ones sitting outside. Those who are sitting outside take note of these things.

If an administrator is called, it's only 15 minutes, since they only get scolded and sent away. We don't have that. He praised that student a lot in front of his mother.

"Your son is very intelligent. He comes on time for Suprabhatam. He is first in his studies."

"He is first in the dramas. He is first in sports," He praised him. Praising their children in front of their parents is like inflating a balloon.

They bloated up and thought, wow! He talked about this and that, gave them Vibhuti, and asked the parents to leave. They stepped outside the door. He caught the boy's shirt and pulled him back.

And then He closed the door. The parents are outside, and he was inside the room.

"Sit down. Do you think everything I said is true? Did you ever come to Suprabhatam?"

"Did you ever come regularly for Bhajans? Did you ever participate in a drama or a sport?"

"Donkey, you have no sense," He scolded a lot. Then Swami said, "They believe their son is growing with Swami."

"They think you will be wonderful, that you will be a source of pride for your village, town, and state."

"You're growing up with Bhagawan. They have so much belief, and you behave like a useless donkey."

"But I don't like to belittle you in front of them. You will feel sad that Swami told them about you."

"No, I'm not someone who does that. I said how you should be, not how you are."

He explained, and sent him away. Friends are those who hold your secrets.

Friends are those who hold your secrets. True friends. That's why Swami calls friendship as 'Maitri'.

Mai-Tri. Tri referring to the 3 times, and Mai, me. One who is with me in the past, present and future.

One who would share my secrets with me. That is why He calls is 'Maitri'. So, "Do I call You Swami? Do I call You friend? Do I call You my Beloved?"

"What do I call You, what do I call You? Do I call You mother? Do I call You father?"

"Do I call You the Lord who takes care of everyone? What do I call You?"

Should I call You mother, Swami? Or should I call You father? What did Swami say to that?

"Why do you call me mother? You call me father."

"Am I your mother? Father? When you come to the college, where is your mother?"

"When you go to the hostel, where is your father? I'm always with you, near you, around you."

"I'm like the eyelid of your eye. You call me mother and father, as if you know your mother."

The love He has when we sit for meals, and Swami sits there with us. After we all sat down He would say, "Alright, start." But that day, Swami just got up and went upstairs.

They served various items on our plates. They are inviting us to eat them. We cannot start until Swami is there and we say the prayer. But Swami went upstairs. What to do? After 10 minutes, He slowly came back. "What do you know?"

"You are ready to eat your lunch. One person got a fever. He has 102 degrees fever."

"So I went upstairs, made some porridge, had him eat it, and then came downstairs."

That's how His love is. Do I call You mother? Only a mother would know when her child didn't eat.

No one else would know. Do I call Him father? Swami said, "If all the fathers were good, why would you be like this?"

"He is not straight. Your father does not have sense. How will you have any?"

How should a father be? Using fear and persuasion, intending well for me, but showing compassion as a father.

"I discovered what a vision..." is a line from pet Adipudi Somanatha's song. I see a father in You, Swami, who shows compassion like mother and father. In such a manner, Swami can be like a father. If He gets angry He won't talk to us. He comes, calls His devotees, talks to them, and goes back in.

Students are used to talking to Him everyday. They got used to giving letters and holding His feet.

They are far away from their parents. So Swami is their friend, their mother, father. Swami's conversation is their pastime.

If that Swami is distant from them, how would they feel? They become shaky. You may have noticed something funny. When Swami is testing us, the first person He looks at is us. Because He needs to avoid us. He looks from up there to see where we are. But when He comes close, His hands go up. We are somewhere else, and He is somewhere else.

During that testing, even He cannot bear being distant from these fools. They are all His children. Slowly, after 4 or 5 days, they start writing apology letters to Swami. They send them to Him. Slowly, the Himalayan mountain thaws and flows and drowns them in His compassion.

From then onwards, their bond and relationship continues as usual. This is the relationship between Swami and His students. In that way, He is like a mother and father in Kodaikanal.

Do you think it ends there? "Do I call You a Guru of Gurus? Do I call You a wish fulfilling tree?" He is the Guru of all Gurus. If you listen to Swami's discourse or Swami's conversation, however long our career service has been, our teaching is nothing. If we teach, we should teach like Him. How much clarity there is in Swami's discourses! You can learn from Swami how to speak, how an ideal speaker speaks. We cannot describe the enthusiasm with which He speaks. It's not like the speeches where teachers and students look forward to the bell ringing. With so much excitement, many jokes and witticisms, He describes a topic completely, with clarity.

There is no such thing as not understanding it. It's a beautiful development. That structure is such that He starts with a topic, then He touches upon several other related subtopics, and once again brings us back to the original topic, the beginning point. Some people speak where we don't know what the beginning is, what the middle is, and we all wait for the ending. Swami's is not like that. He goes through each point, and then brings us back to the beginning. It's very nice. So, what kind of Guru? The Guru of all Gurus. He is the Supreme Guru of all the Gurus. He is Dakshinamurthy Swami, Dattatreya Swami, and there is no subject that He doesn't know about. How expansively He speaks! When we experience the time we spend with Him, the facilities there, and the various comforts there, His hospitality, the tasty feasts, "Do I call You the Lord who grants divine contentment?" Swami, the comfort You gave us is not human happiness, but divine contentment. You gave us the kind of comforts that gods experience. "Do I call You the Supreme Being which is eternal?" Should I call You the Supreme Being? "What do I call You? What do I call You?" Whether you call Him Swami, mother, father, Guru, or the Supreme Being, it is all Swami. All in one. We see different shades in Him. If we have the power to see, there is no question of not knowing it. In this way, Swami was seen in various forms. Talking about His form as Guru, there was a person named Srinivasan garu in those days. He served as the All India President. He was there that day. Kulwant Rai was also there. There was a person called Rajiv Mahajan, the person who added the chandeliers in Sai Kulwant Hall. He was also there. There was a person called Mohan Das, who has a wonderful hotel in Coimbatore. He also has a 13-room house in Kodaikanal. All of them are engineers, no less. Swami asked, "What is matter?" What would they say? "Swami, matter consists of molecules..." "atoms, electrons, neutrons," each person was explaining. "Oh, is that all?" "That's all, Swami, that's what we studied." "Who said so? Matter is energy." "Energy is matter," He said. Quantum physics. "Matter is energy, energy is matter." When He said that, Srinivasan felt an electric shock. "Swami, we didn't know that." "What do you think Swami is? Sit down, sit down," He said. "Swami, You only eat a little bit. How much ever we eat, it doesn't feel enough." "We still feel a kind of tiredness, even after eating." He started laughing. "Oh? Tiredness even after eating? Eat how much ever you want. Who stopped you?" He laughed. Observe the words Swami said laughingly. We think what Swami says are jokes. But there is a message in that joke. Like homeo pills, they are sweet, but there is medicine inside. What did Swami say? "Remember one thing. I said all creation is energy. You should understand." "Matter is energy. Energy is matter," He said in conversation with us that day.

He gave a complete discourse about science in the Hill View Stadium. "What Anil Kumar, how was it?" He asked. "I didn't understand one word, please forgive me, Swami!"

"So how did you translate it?" He asked. "You did it! If I understood it, I would have said so."

"You did it, and saved my reputation, Swami," I said. So, He is the Guru of all Gurus. He is the God of all gods. "Do I call You the wish fulfilling tree?"

You make a wish, and see if it does not come true. But your wish must come from a pure mind.

"I'll do this much, You do that much..." does not work. That's why Swami always says, "Life is not a double sofa set. Single sofa. No partnership," says Swami.

So if we pray with all of our heart, there is no person whose wish is not fulfilled.

Let me know if there is someone like that. I will honour him with my own money. He cannot bear to see someone like that. He won't come near unless we have tears in our eyes.

But when we have tears in our eyes, He cannot bear to see it. It is that kind of a heart. I saw all of these aspects of Him in Kodaikanal.

So we observed Swami from all these angles. The main thing Swami did in that trip, in the '89 trip, was that He started the epic of Ramayana. The things we must always remember are,

how beautiful Kodaikanal is, how Swami's mansion is like Lord Indra's abode,

how Swami's hospitality is precious, wonderful and amazing, how Swami's conversation and love

cannot even be understood by our minds or imagination, how we can only touch the fringes of that love,

these are all the things we learnt. Sai Ram.