

SPW Part 30 C

Om Sri Sai Ram

Prashanthi Sandesh

DR. S. BHAGAVANTAM

By Bhagawan's grace, I could share with you certain of the details relating to Sri N. Kasturi and also Sri Rama Brahmam. And now I would like to draw your attention to another great devotee.

He is no less than Dr. S Bhagavantam, an eminent scientist. He served as the vice-chancellor of various universities, and later he retired as an advisor to the Central Government, Defense Department, Research Wing. Dr. S. Bhagavantam is known all over the world for his research and publications. Most of his students are well spread all over the country, and serving as heads of the departments. He is a senior devotee. And let me share with you a couple of points that he himself mentioned.

Dr. Bhagavantam visited Guntur way back in the year 1970. He addressed a public meeting at a medical college, Guntur auditorium, and many of the public are invited. My father happened to be the student of Bhagavantam. He got his MSc. Honors under him when Dr. Bhagavantam was in Andhra University. So my father wanted to see him, and asked me also to accompany. So both of us went to the auditorium, Medical College, Guntur, 1960 . . . ah, 1970, yes.

When Dr. Bhagavantam started his lecture, in a peculiar way: He started saying this, "I want you all to imagine yourself in my position. If you step into my shoes, imagine yourself how you would be. Think that you are in my position and let me know how you would act." With these words, he started his talk. It only means he wants every one of us to imagine ourselves in his position and then judge how we would behave.

Dr. Bhagavantam mentioned some of his experiences with Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

It seems long back that Bhagavantam and Bhagavan Baba were just walking along the seashore. They walked to some distance. And Bhagavan asked Bhagavantam, "Bhagavantam, shall we sit here?"

And Dr Bhagavantam, being agnostic, he began to think that Swami must have kept something there hidden. Therefore, 'Why should we sit here?' He wanted to test Swami. With the result he said, "Bhagavan, we walk ah for some more distance."

So both of them walk for some more distance, and then Bhagavan, ah, and then Dr Bhagavantam said, “Swami, we sit here.” It only means the place was selected by Dr Bhagavantam.

So at that selected spot, both of them sat and Bhagavan started just playing with the sand there like children. And suddenly He joined both the hands and just has gone a little bit deeper into the, into the sand. Suddenly He picked up a copy of *Bhagavad Gita*. And Dr. Bhagavantam was stunned! “How do you expect *Bhagavad Gita* out of the sand? How is it possible?”

Then Swami said, “Bhagavantam, you like *Bhagavad Gita*. You keep this copy with you.”

And then that Bhagavantam verified where it was printed. He could see the press also. And Dr Bhagavantam said at that meeting, “Imagine yourself in my position. If you find Baba materializing *Bhagavad Gita* out of the sand, how do you feel? Well, I was astonished for myself.”

And then Dr. Bhagavantam explained another experience. It’s in another time. They’re walking along the sea shore. Then they went little close to the sea. And then the waves were rushing forward and they felt the touch of the waves. Well, they were enjoying, and suddenly Swami turned to Bhagavantam and said, “Bhagavantam, what is the other name of ocean? Do you know any other name of ocean?”

And Dr. Bhagavantam said, “Ratnakara! Ratnakara is the name of the ocean, Swami.

“Oh! So *Ratna* means ‘pearls’, *kara* means ‘giver’. So this ocean must have pearls. Is that so?”

And then both of them walked little bit. Suddenly, what you call, a necklace of pearls, a necklace of pearls, a chain of pearls started moving towards them, right on the surface of the water. And the chain came and just touched the feet of Bhagavan.

Then Swami picked up and said, “This is Ratnakara. *Ratna* – pearls, he is giver. Ratnakara has come here to pay his respects to Swami.” That’s what Baba said.

This was narrated by Bhagavantam and said, “How do you feel? If you are in my position, how do you react?” And so he questioned. Well, we have nothing to say about it. All of us will be dumb-founded like him.

And then Dr. Bhagavantam narrated another miracle. It seems Bhagavan and Bhagavantam visited a temple. And there Bhagavan materialized a diamond, and then could fix it to that idol there, Sivalinga. He could fix that diamond to that Sivalingam, to that idol there.

When Bhagavantam started wondering, 'How is it a metal could be fixed through a stone like that? Is it possible?' That he was doubting.

And then Bhagavan said, "Bhagavantam, I know what you are thinking. Can't you understand, the One who created the diamond is also capable of fixing it? Yes, I materialized it. Why do you doubt that I cannot fix it? The Creator can fix it also."

This Dr. Bhagavantam said, and also made a statement that there's nothing that Swami cannot do. That He transcends all laws of science." Being a physicist himself, he made that statement.

Then Dr. Bhagavantam narrated another experience. This he said it in his talk in the Divine presence of Bhagavan in front of 20,000 audience, at Bangalore in one of the summer courses then.

And Dr. Bhagavantam said . . . Swami was sitting there. It seems Bhagavantam went to Washington, United States of America, to attend a conference. He attended the conference. It was rather late by the time the conference concluded. He came out of the conference and he could not find any restaurant or hotel to have his food. Almost most of them are closed, and those which are open are non-vegetarian food. And Dr. Bhagavantam is a very traditional orthodox man. He accepts only vegetarian food. So he went on searching by going in his car.

Suddenly he found, 'Ganapathi Vilas', there in Washington, America. 'Oh,' he was surprised, 'How is it Ganapathi Vilas is here?'

He got down from the car and went into Ganapathi Vilas, ate *idli* and **sambar** and came out. This experience he narrated in front of Swami. "Swami, You knew that I was very hungry. You materialized 'Ganapathi Vilas' there, and could also see that I had *sambar* and *idli* there. Swami, you are very, very merciful." That's what Dr. Bhagavantam said.

He narrated another miracle. It seems he went to some other country for a conference, and in the return trip it so happened that he missed his passport. When passport is missed, one cannot stay there, one cannot return. He will be in jail. He was very much upset, sweating horribly. He went on searching all the bags desperately. He could not find his passport. He was feeling so bad, helpless.

Suddenly the passport was noticed in his own bag which he searched several times before. Surprisingly it appeared. And Bhagavantam mentioned this miracle in front of Swami, telling everybody, "It was Swami who brought that lost passport and kept it in my bag. If it had not happened, I would have been held up there." That's what he said.

These are the experiences. I may also add a pleasant note here. It was only after Bhagavantam, (that) many of the scientists across the world started visiting Prashanti Nilayam and they became devotees. We really thank his services.

And he also served as translator of Bhagavan's discourses for some time. I am so glad to share these details of Dr. Bhagavantam with you.

SWAMI KARUNYANANDA

And then let me also bring to your attention another illustrious person who always stayed with Swami, a very great personality, and by name Swami Karunyananda.

Swami Karunyananda spent most of his time with Bhagavan. He accompanied Him wherever He went. Once, I think it was the year near 1972, Swami asked him to speak on one of the days during the summer course, and Karunyananda mentioned one or two experiences which I wanted to share with you.

Well, after taking His permission, once Karunyananda was returning home. He stayed there near Rajahmundry of East Godavari in an ashram by name, I mean, Dowlaiswaram. Dowlaiswaram is a place where there's ashram, where he spent his life time there.

So having taken permission from Swami, he was returning home back to his ashram. Usually, as most of you know, the express trains stop at midnight in the railway station, Rajahmundry railway station, midnight time.

So this gentleman got down and he had to go to his ashram. And on the way, he has to cross the bridge also. Well, as he came out of the station, he found the watchman of his ashram. With his help, somehow he could manage and reach his ashram.

Well, he changed his dress, had wash and all that, and he turned back. He didn't find the watchman there. He was very much surprised, 'What happened to the watchman?'

And then he came out and he went at that, what you call, a small hut specially provided for this watchman stay there. He found that watchman sleeping and snoring. He got him up and said, "Arre, you came to me, and dropped me here, escorted me. How is that you have gone back to your place and (are) sleeping like that?"

Then watchman surprisingly said, "Sir, I did not come to the station at all. I have not escorted you here. Usually you write a letter to me to come to the station to receive you. But this time you have not the written letter. So I did not come to station."

This Karunyananda mentioned and told everybody, "Swami has taken upon Himself the role of a watchman to help me. That is compassion of our Bhagavan." That is what Karunyananda said.

He mentioned another incident. In his ashram, only men stay, very few people. It seems one day in the late hours of the night, one lady came there. She is a pregnant lady. She may deliver any time, ready for delivery. And she wanted Karunyananda to give her some accommodation in the ashram.

Karunyananda said, “Amma, here only men are here, very few of us. You need somebody’s help for because you may deliver at any time. What can I do? How can I help you?”

Seeing her pitiful condition, he has shown her a room to rest. Alright, she went in and rested there.

Next morning Karunyananda wanted to see how she was doing. He went and opened the door. To his surprise, he . . . Karunyananda Swami could find that she delivered a child and she had . . . and the child and mother had wash. And the mother also combed her hair!

And then Karunyananda asked her, “Amma, how is it? Who helped you? Who was here on the spot at the time of delivery?”

And then that lady pointed out Bhagavan’s picture hanging on the wall. “That lady helped me at the time of delivery at midnight. That lady helped me. She gave us wash and she combed my hair, that lady.”

Evidently, Baba came in the form of a woman, a mid-wife, to help this lady. This was narrated by Karunyananda in front of Swami.

Then he said, “Our Bhagavan is so merciful that He doesn’t mind taking any form, doing you, doing any kind of service that you need on the spur of the moment. We are very fortunate to have been born in this age. We have been His contemporaries. Never leave Bhagavan. Trust Him until your last breath.”

These are the statements made by Karunyananda in the year 1972.

Thank you for your time. Meet again.