**Sai Pearls of Wisdom,**

**Part 32-D**

**FILM ACTORS**

**May 7, 2022**

**Om Sri Sai Ram**

**Prasanthi Sandesh**

Om Sri Sai Ram! Prasanthi Sandesh welcomes you. Today, I would like to share with you the unforgettable experiences of three imminent, popular and ardent devotees of Bhagavan Baba.

The first and foremost is Anjali Devi. Anjali Devi is a film actress from South India. She acted in hundreds of films, in different languages of South India – Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, so on and so forth. She received many State and National Awards. She is really a long-standing devotee of Bhagavan. Swami used to visit her residence whenever He happened to go to Madras.

Most of you must know that just by the side of her residence at Madras, there is a vast land that belongs to her. She donated the whole site to Sri Sathya Sai Tamil Nadu Trust, and there they built a very, very beautiful Mandir called ‘Sundaram’, Swami’s residence building and temple. Sundaram!

Sundaram means beauty. Really speaking, it is a befitting name given to that building, and that name is given by Bhagavan. Sundaram – very beautiful! It’s so beautiful that upstairs we find a balcony projecting out like a lotus flower so that Swami can stand there and give Darshan, as He does here in Prasanthi Nilayam with that lotus flower in front of the silver gate on the first floor here in Prasanthi Nilayam. Like that Swami can come out and stand there upstairs in the building near the lotus flower and give Darshan. I am a witness to that wonderful scene.

Madras consists of many, many devotees. So it is no surprise that thousands attend *Nagarasankirtan*, particularly when Swami happens to be there. When these thousands of devotees assemble there, all lights are projected on Swami upstairs, and down where all we sit on the ground, it’s all dark. It’s just *Nagarasankirtan* time – twilight, so its dark still! All lights are focused on Swami, standing on the lotus flower – what a beautiful, heavenly site it is! I don’t think it is possible for any poet to describe and do justice to that entire scene. That’s what Sundaram is! And be that as it may, the whole land is donated by Anjali Devi.

Well, when Swami was in Kodaikanal, He mentioned one incident relating to Anjali Devi, and that I want to share with you. I will tell you what Swami said. That’s all! She might have had many, many miracles, but I do not know them. But the one I am going to tell you is narrated by Bhagavan Himself in Kodaikanal.

In those days – in the late 50’s or early 60’s, Anjali Devi produced a film, a cinema by the name of *Suvarna Sundari, Suvarna Sundari*! Her husband Adi Narayana Rao is a music director. And this cinema, *Suvarna* *Sundari* fetched them 1 crore rupees profit in those days. 1960’s, 60’s - you can imagine what that amount is! It’s not a small amount in those days, I tell you! Well, she took Swami’s blessings and with that blessing only that film was released.

See, how time acts! As years went by, they produced another cinema. But they sustained a heavy loss! They could not face the public. Both of them – husband and wife drove to Mahabalipuram, a seashore near Madras. Mahabalipuram is a place that many people visit, which is of historical importance. Many visitors go there. There the sea is close by. The husband and wife went to Mahabalipuram straight, driving. Well, they drove and they wanted to go into the sea straightaway, to drive the car into the sea. In other words, they wanted to commit suicide.

Will Baba allow such a thing to happen? When they were about to go into the sea, they heard a loud shout, “Stop! Stop! Come back!” They got down and looked on both sides. They didn’t find anybody. They sat again and wanted to commit suicide by driving the car straight into the sea. Again a loud shout, still louder shout, “Stop! Come back!” Then they could understand Swami wants them in Puttaparthi. They dropped their attempt to commit suicide and drove straight to Puttaparthi. Then Baba consoled them, “Why are you afraid? Am I not here? Do I allow you to die like that?” This is what Swami said. This miracle of Anjali Devi is narrated by Bhagavan Himself. I am so glad to share with you this wonderful experience of Anjali Devi!

Then there is another actor, a cinema actor by the name of Kantha Rao, Kantha Rao – KANTHA, Kantha Rao! He was a popular actor and a very great devotee of Bhagavan! This actor is very famous in what we call fiction stories, mythological stories, story-based films - mythological story-based films and fiction like that! And he is known to fight and he can fight with swords, archery and also he knows horse riding. Therefore, he was very much involved in such scenes where he can exhibit his talents.

There was one director in those days, by the name of Vittalacharya. In all his films, most recently, Kantha Rao is the hero. And this Kantha Rao, the film hero, happened to visit a place by name Sullurpet in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh. Kantha Rao and I shared the same platform, and Kantha Rao spoke at that meeting. I am directly telling you what he shared, what was his experience, with a large gathering that evening.

Kantha Rao said, “Swami helped me in many ways. Not only blessings! He was of financial help to me also.” That’s what Kantha Rao said. It seems in one of the film shootings, he was to fight with an enemy with swords – *tak*, *tak,* they should fight! And suddenly, he was supposed to jump from one boat into another boat. So there are two boats. He will be fighting in a standing posture while he is there in a boat, and suddenly he has to jump into another boat. The whole thing is at sea, in a vast sea! Two boats were there. One, he was fighting in, and then he should jump into another boat. The fighting was going on with swords. Now it was time for him to jump into another boat. Kantha Rao jumped! But instead of landing in another boat, he fell in the middle into the sea. He fell in the middle, into deep water there! Sea water! He would have drowned and died then and there itself.

But Kantha Rao explained at the public meeting that two hands lifted him up and the two hands did not allow him to drown. He was brought to the boats safely – safe and secure. “These two powerful hands lifted the whole body and placed me in another boat. And these two hands are none other than Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.”

Later when he visited Prasanthi Nilayam, Swami said, “You are fighting very well, but you should also know the distance between the two boats and then fight so that you can easily jump into the other boat. But you fell in the middle! You would have died had I not been there. What would have happened to you by now?” That Swami said. This miracle Kantha Rao narrated on the dais.

He also shared another experience. He got his daughter married and she was to join her in-laws. The day when she was to leave Madras, Kantha Rao had film shooting there. He was very busy with the shooting of the film so he could not accompany his daughter. So he asked his wife to accompany the daughter and drop her there in her in-laws’ house. Right! In strict obedience to her husband, wife of Kantha Rao accompanied the daughter with all the boxes and the jewels.

Most unfortunately, by the time they reached their destination, to their utter surprise they found the the bundle of jewels missing. Totally gone! Someone must have stolen the whole lot. What to do! She immediately rang up to Kantha Rao and said that they lost the jewels. She was reprimanding her husband for not joining them and in turn Kantha Rao was also scolding the wife about why she was reckless. Later, after heated argument on phone, his wife and daughter returned to Bangalore. In the meantime, Kantha Rao also reached Bangalore.

They were all sitting there for Swami’s Darshan. Swami slowly, slowly came towards Kantha Rao. Kantha Rao was seated in the fourth row so he has no chance to touch the Feet of Swami. Therefore, what he did was he jumped from the fourth row and fell at the Feet of Swami. Swami scolded him before everybody. “Do you think this is cinema shooting? Is it not indisciplined to jump like that?” Swami scolded him and then later He called the couple and granted them interview. There in the interview room, the couple cried and told what had happened, that they lost the jewels.

Swami heard patiently and then waved His Hand. By the wave of His hand, He brought the bundle of jewels they had lost. They lost it somewhere at a remote distance; and Swami materialized the bundle of jewels here, and then asked Kantha Rao and his wife, “Please open the bundle. Verify whether jewels belong to you or not!”

She said, “Swami, Swami! They are our jewels!”

“*Haan,* good! Take it. Be happy!”

Our Swami could materialize the lost jewels, bringing them in a perfect state. That is how Bhagavan blessed Kantha Rao. So in this episode, we have heard about two eminent, prominent, popular devotees and film actors, Anjali Devi and Kantha Rao.

We’ll meet again next time!