

BIRTHDAY

Khairabad
09.12.01

Dear Athreyaji,

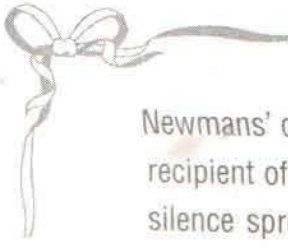
I understand that very soon you will be celebrating a milestone Birthday and I am asking myself, 'what has friendship / association with Athreyaji meant to me?'

To my surprise I find myself groping for words to answer that question. My relationship with you extends over a period of 30 years. And I never stopped to question the nature of that relationship. Like a smoothly following river these years have passed by taking along its course ever richer silt of your learning your experience and expertise I met you way back in 1971 or was it 1972? I came with Fr. George Kandathil S.J., our T.A Guru, to Bombay at your invitation to conduct a programme for the Indo-American Society. At your suggestion I gave a day's special programme to a group of ladies on strokes. I still remember the strokes I received from you that day. I walked away from the venue of the programme - Taj Hotel, feeling 'taller' than I walked in. The confidence you placed in me by asking me to meet the ladies' group as the sole resources person was in itself a great stroke. Your words of admiration at the end of the programme had a magic effect on me. I ever need to regain my self-confidence at any moments of uncertainty all I need to do is to transport me in fantasy to the Crystal Room at Taj and re-listen to your words of appreciation at the end of my programme for the ladies.

My association with you became more frequent when I shifted to North India. You invited me to conduct programmes for BPCL, Tata Libert, FDC.... You recommended clients to me. Through you I have gained many friends besides your own daughter Usha. You trusted my efficiency and effectiveness as a resource person, counselor and therapist, be it TA, NLP, Enneagram or even Pranic healing. You were indeed the Fairy Godmother and I felt verily like a Cinderella in your company.

Athreyaji, to me you are the very epitome of all that is noble in Indian culture and Hindu religiosity. In your gracious manners you are a perfect model of Cardinal





Newmans' description of a gentleman. While giving you behave as if you were the recipient of the gift. Prose flows like verse from your lips and from your pen. And silence spreads over your friendly face the moment the other person starts to speak. And when you choose to speak again you choose to make a complimentary response that disarms even the most querulous speaker. Time and again I have marveled at your proficiency in keeping the transactions complimentary.

Atthreyaji, I treasure the memory of my contacts with you at ICTA programmes as well as the programmes in Bombay. You are a never failing friend, someone I can count on someone I look up to, someone I am happy to have associated with and am deeply indebted to. May God whom you and I serve in love, reward you richly for what you have been to me and what you are to many others who have met you on the path of life.

Atthreyaji, I wish you a very Happy and Blessed Birthday.

'May the Lord answer you when you are in trouble!
May He accept all your offerings and be pleased with all your sacrifices
May He give you your heart's desire and make all your plans succeed. (Psalm20)

With warm regards, ,

Sr.Candida Kandathil

