

My Life With Anirvan

Part - XVI

Again on 25th March 1962, Anirvanji writes from Shillong,

My dear Gautam,

Excuse me for taking such a long time in answering your letter, I have been racing with time. If for one reason or another, I miss one Sunday, it b e c o m e s impossible to find an opportunity of writing a letter during the week days, though I had thought of doing so, the last two weeks. The result was that many and many



Sri Anirvan

mental dispatches have been sent to you during the whole time! Perhaps, that is the easier way and costs you nothing!

I am glad to hear that you are determined to carry on the torch. That's brave! The foundation stone is always deep in the earth, beyond the sight of men, but it is strong to uphold the whole Super-Struture. Live deep within yourself, let your whole life become a "flame-song" as the

Rishi used to say. I have much much hope in you. You and Sudha like two comrades-in-arms, as one might say like Krishna and Panchali and Sharad and Jyoti like Vasistha and Arundhati – is it not a glorious dream? Well, you will surely have your golden deer-skin; I shall not forget.

To live deeply, fully, truly and let all works become an emanation of light, that is what we have to achieve.

Sandhya is alright. She sends you her love. Radesh's wife has been sent to the hospital for delivery two days ago and as yet there is no news. We hope everything will come off alright!

With love, Ever yours A.

To follow the next two letters, it would have been better if I had the copies of my letters to Sri Anirvan. But unfortunately, I did not keep copies of my letters then and so we have to manage as it is!

Om

Haimavati

15.4.62

My dear Gautam,

Your letter of the 5th reached here on the 9th. I am anxious about Sharad's health, Sandhya has written in the meantime. As there has been no further communication from you, I hope he is alright by this time. Please write.

I don't yet know when Sudha Bose or Nivedita comes, but Gopikanta of Jadavpur University is expected to come in May when the university closes. I shall require these things.

1 Cushion of pins for flower arrangements

*2 Hindi Dictionary (Sudha's school)
Rs 5/-*

1 watch (presented by Jnohontosh

1 waste paper basket of bamboo rods in the shape of a basket.

You may make the purchases later on when it is definitely known who comes when.

I am glad to hear Narayani (Bose) is writing and completing the works of Sri (Atindra) Bose. I wish her all success.

The very same idea haunts me too. Only I have added Shiva to my pantheon. It is something like this.

The void of the Buddha (One of zero)

Shiva and Shakti in Kailasa (the Eternal two)

Krishna (Sporting with the many)

In Krishna I find the fulfillment. I think not only of the adolescent Krishna but also of the philosopher, the patriot and the man of action. He dreamt of an India which is yet to come. May he inspire us always, as hard as a rock and as soft as a flower!

My love to you all,

Ever yours A.

The next letter is dated 22.4.62

My dear Gautam,

Your post card of the 19th gave me a great relief. I hope Sharad is progressing quite satisfactorily and will be all right in a few days. Please keep me informed of his condition.

Dasgupta will be leaving next week. The Pathmandir bids henceforth to be a pure Jnandir (Temple), no establishment and hence no paying guest concern anymore.

Gopi has come here, he will stay as long as circumstances are favourable to him and he can go on with his studies without interruption. He will cook for himself and pay a small sum as seat rent. Things are in the melting pot now!

By Shiva I meant what is technically called the Mahashiva, the Para-Samvit (The highest knowledge) or Chit-principle (Chit – consciousness) of the Shaiva Sarshana, not the Shiva of Trinity (Trinity – Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva or Maheswara). This I add to make my idea clear to you. The rest is quite okay.

Any how, I feel, you are never to be defeated and victory to Her!

With love for you all, Ever yours .. A.

Next two letters are post cards –

Om

Haimavati

4.8.62

My dear Gautam,

Your post card of the 2nd reached yesterday evening. Sandhya was speaking of you the other day. She might have written to you. I shall enquire.

You are the standard bearers of Bandhu. His immortal spirit is the kindly light that is leading you on. Spiritual achievement is always measured by the calmness and the depth that you have attained to. The glory is within. May it shine unquenched in you all.

My love to you and to every one of yours and mine!

Evers yours ... A

Om

Haimavati

19.8.62

My dear Gautam,

Your card of the 14th. I had the general attack of lumbago during the rains because of exposure but it was not acute. It passed away in three or four days and I am alright now.

But from the middle of June, I could not work for six weeks or so. Physically, I felt

very weak and was quite unable to bear any strain. I have been working at a stretch for the last twelve years. Every ten or twelve years, I have got to go to seclusion, forget everything about the world. It was perhaps that mood which overtook me. I am alright now and working normally but am not at all hurring with my work. Let it grow up naturally. No use forcing pace (Anirvanji was now working on the 2nd volume of Veda Mimansa).

I am glad Sudha has taken to her studies seriously. Let her make hay when the sun shines.

We are okay. With love for you all

Ever yours .. A.

Sri Anirvan had begun planning for his next pilgrimage to Western India, to his dear river narmada and to Dwaraka, the capital of the yadu race of Sri Krishna during the Mahabharat period. Four places of pilgrimage at the four corners of India, which all Hindus desire to visit at least once during their lifetime since at least two thousands years are Jagannath Puri in the East, Rameswar in the South, Dwarak in the West and Kedar-Badri in the North.

Jagannath Puri was visited quite a few times by Sri Anirvan since his brahmachari days with Swami Nigamananda Saraswati – his Guru. Anirvanji visited Rameswar and Kanyakumari in January 1961. Now he was planning to visit Dwaraka in January 1963.

Though I belonged to Gujarat, I too had not gone to Dwaraka all this time and so I too decided I will accompany Anirvanji in his next pilgrimage. This matter comes up in the next letter.

Om

*Haimavati, Shillong,
23.9.62*

My dear Gautam,

I did not answer your letter last week because I was waiting for some information from Calcutta.

Benoy Mukherjee of 18, Basanta Bose Road, will be coming to the Pathmandir after the Pujas to stay for a month. Of course, he will be making his own cooking arrangements or if it is convenient for both he may mess with Rao (Sri Rao was a permanent paying guest of the Pathmandir. He was a lecturer at the Lady Kean College, where Usha Bhattacharya was a principal.) who has become a "self-cooker" like myself. I am writing to him today to bring with him the books that are lying there as luggage... all expenses fully paid by me. I hope you will make necessary arrangements when he contacts you.

Perhaps Jyoti will be soon going to Bombay. Is she alright now? Yes, Sudha must not be disturbed in her studies. How are Bablu and Kiki doing? Bablu must have found his line and what is Kiki going to do? Is she going to be a "Jane of all trades!"

We are having beastly weather here. There is hardly a few hours of sunshine and it is raining continuously, though not heavily but quite nastily enough to damp body and mind!

Are you keeping quite fit? The days must be very busy for you. But the nights? Are they quiet & smooth? Are you training yourself for a yogic sleep? It is a mere suggestion. It might help you lot.

I have not written to Dilip Babu (Sri Dilip Kumar Roy at Poona- Hare Krishna Mandir) yet. I shall take up your idea of first going to Bombay and then taking up Saurashtra and Madhya Bharat. Next month, I mean to do a bit of book and map reading to prepare myself for the tour.

Hope you are all quite O.K.

My love for you,

Ever yours .. A.

-Sri Gautam Dharmapal