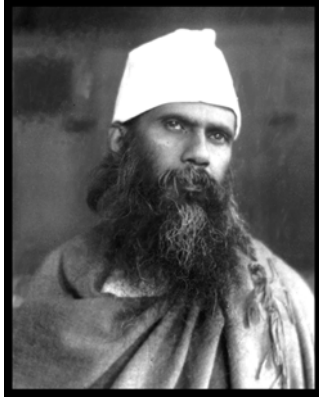


My Life With Anirvan

Part - XX

Though weak due to the high fever in Jabalpur, Anirvanji took his classes on Upanishads at Keyatala Road every day in the morning and on Savitri at Sri Aurobindo



Sri Anirvan

Pathmandir, thrice a week in the evening. During rest of the days in the evenings, he would meet people as usual. During this time he was so much engrossed with the thoughts and visions of “Savitri” and Sri

Krishna – the Dwarkadhish – that some day he fell down and remained unconscious for some time which we did not know most of the time. Sandhya, who was very intimate with him during this period, saw and knew this very closely and was much worried.

Anyway, thus passed the month of February and Anirvanji and Sandhya left for Shillong on 1st March '63.

Immediately after Anirvanji reached Shillong he wrote a post card to me. Before I could acknowledge he wrote another letter.

OM

Haimavati

5.3.63

My dear Gautam,

You must have received my post card by this time. I promised to write to you on Sunday but could not finish any mail. I started work yesterday, not yet with full speed. I am quite well now, physically but the mind has become a blank. And I do not regret it. I can only say God exists, God is existence. Any existence does not matter at all. There is an 'I' which is not mine. That I is Self-conscious and that self consciousness

is a pure colourless void. There is peace which is a promise of bliss, but absolutely without any hedonistic completion. With this background the world appear as a shimmering beauty. The appearance becomes reality. I do not look behind appearances. There might be skeletons underneath, but I don't care. There is only the void and this sheer appearance of beauty – the mayavin Varuna and His maya. You all have become beauteous appearances clothing the void and I love to think of you all.

I don't know whether I am moving but it is so full of peace. May this peace descend into you all. Give your news in detail about everyone. Is Kiki trying to keep her promise?

My love to you, Sudha, Sharad, Jyoti, Bablu and Kiki. Sandhya will write to you soon. His brother is going to be married on the 11th. So she is extremely busy with her school work and this ceremony.

Hope this finds you all O.K.

Evers Yours ... A.

Again on 12.3.63, Anirvanji wrote from Shillong

My dear Gautam,

Your two letters with the consignment notes reached alright. I shall enquire tomorrow if the air-parcel has arrived. It was stamped “Subject to delay”. I did not know that the charges had gone up by 50%! So that now-a-days, it is cheaper to bring things as passenger luggage and no botheration too! By the way, can you tell me, where the office of the “Air Assam” is in Shillong? It sometimes becomes difficult to hunt up these offices.

I am glad to learn that you are all O.K. Sandhya is alright too. She will be extremely busy this week with the homecoming of the

new bride. I fell quite alright now. But I have reduced my working hours from 10 to 6. The night I have kept quite free.

The Sanskrit College is going to pay me handsomely for those summer lectures on the Vedas. So you have no cause for grudge against them anymore.

I am passing my days in a dream as it were. Everything appears so simple and lucent! Just like sunlight! Is it not the simplest thing in the world? It is radiantly white. It suffers all. Nothing can stop its radiation. But if you put a prism before it, it refracts into vibgyor! How wonderful and beautiful too. If you go to analyze it, you can write volumes about its laws and properties. But, is there any need of analysis after all? Why not bask in the sunshine! Just like a tree and suck light, joy and power from it? And give it forth in many hued blossoms? This is life. Gautam, to be steeped in sunlight and break forth in blossoms of good thoughts, good words and good deeds which are all the glory of the sun.

I had a wonderful vision this morning. I was returning to Calcutta from Jabalpur. With my open eyes, I saw the majesty of Dwarkadhish and the loving sweetness of his Rukmini. It stirred me to the depths of my soul! Nowhere have I seen that glory expressed in the figuration of the Lord. Somehow only Nandalal Bose seems to have caught a glimpse of it. But the vision has given me a deep faith in the future of India and the world. The Krishna consciousness is pressing on us. Let us open ourselves to it in the spirit of utter dedication. O, Lord, let thy will be done. That will know no failure. You cannot separate yourselves from Him and say "Failures are ours, while Victory is Thine" - No, no, it is all victory. His Victory!

My love to you and Sudha, Sharad and Jyoti, Bablu and Kiki.

Evers Yours ... A

These letters show how close we are coming to one another almost becoming one! Anirvanji is taking interest in the whole Dharmapal family - he is becoming like the father figure. With me especially, he was like a friend and father both!

On the Bangla New Year day which is also my birthday Anirvanji writes:

Om

Haimavati, Shillong

15.4.63

My dear Gautam,

Your inland letter of the 7th. I send you all my New Year's Greetings.

I am glad Sudha has passed her examination. (Sudha passed her Montessori Teachers' (Child Education) training course and got a job at "Abhinava Bharati" - a children's school). It will be a great opening in her life. It is not extensivity of work but its intensity that matters. In dedicating herself to the bringing up of little children, she will be fulfilling the role of mother for which she had been intended by Bandhuji.

I am also glad to hear that Kiki is trying to keep her promise. If I don't mention Bablu by name in my letters, it is not that I have not an eye on him. But he being a Man does not require much poking. But Kiki is a woman - you will understand the rest. I am not going to express it, otherwise she will rouse a hue and cry. But she is a very very good girl, is she not? By the way, the other day, I was reading in the Bartika perhaps, that the mother had a very naughty cat called "Kiki" whom she loved very much and was wondering who that cat might be! I would have easily placed him (where you know!) the difficulty being that he was a male cat!

I hope this will reach before Sharad starts on his tour. I wish him sackful of good luck. I have told Sandhya about the scheme (I might have suggested that "Sandhya should come down to Calcutta and stay with us and that I will be able to find some work as a teacher for her!") How nice it would

have been if I had kept copies of my letter! Gautam Dharmapal) you suggested. She will surely give some thought to it. She has got your letter.

I have written to Bina about the Gopalpur proposition and am writing today too. It is a good idea for you too to visit the place. My nature is to drift. I cannot move

immediately. So not this year – as I am now deep in my work (writing second volume of Veda Mimamsa).

I hope everything is O.K. with you. How is Jyoti?

My love to you all.

Evers yours ... A

-Sri Gautam Dharmapal