



SAKTHI FOUNDATION - Uni5 EDUCATION

ASSOCIATES OF BHARATHIYAR - 5. Sudesamithran. Mr.

G.Subramanya Iyer

We thank this noble man for bringing the lamp called Bharathiyar to the external world. He has said that he got the inner vision that he has linked with the poet's self-truth somewhere. His invitation to Bharathiyar has laid the clear and required back set up for his creations and service to the nation. Bharathiyar joined in Sudesamithran in 1904.

Bharathiyar was also well aware about this news magazine. When he asked the date of joining, Iyer said, *"Bharathy! You can come today*

itself along with me to Madras"

The magazine used to publish news from all across the world and Reiter news also. Bharathiyar has to translate many English articles into Tamil. But Iyer did not permit him to write any articles on his own immediately. But he started learning many techniques in publishing field. He also started creating a new form of poem writing - poem in prose form. "வசன கவிதை".

This was very novel to Tamil language, so the editor encouraged this.

His salary was very low, but work time was long. He enjoyed that! G.Subramanya Iyer was aware about poet's urge in freedom. So he was very careful in editing his essays. But he has understood his language skills and once said, *"Bharathy every essay written by you is one lakh rupees worthy!"*

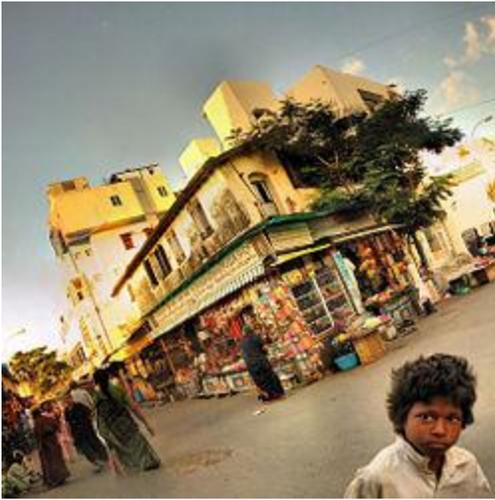
Iyer was very smart in making others to do more work for him. Let us listen to our Mahakavi about Iyer the great!

Bharathiyar talks,

" Subramanya Iyer is very smart and good in his character. He is short. His face is marked with many scars like thorns. But his mind was clear and great. He does not know to cheat others. His ideas were clear. He respected all and tried to maintain the harmony of the society through his paper.

I laugh when I think how Iyer makes others to work more for the newspaper. One day I was preparing to go home by evening, but I do not have money. I used to hesitate whether to ask Iyer.

There came the office bot with a cup of coffee saying, "Sir! Iyer asked to offer this to you!"



I was feeling happy about Iyer's affection. He came there and I forgot to ask him money.

Iyer said, "Bharathi! Sir.Henry Gattton has given a good talk about India. Did you read about it?"

I replied, "Yes1 I read it, very well!"

Iyer, "Yes! I feel we must translate that and publish tomorrow!"

"Yes! I agree"

"No one other than you can translate that article in Tamil without changing the fire of spirit!" - says Iyer.

I felt humble.

"You need not stay in office to translate, you can take home. You need only half an hour to translate it. Why cannot you get it by morning?"

I cannot say no to him. I did several such translations at home also. But I thank time for making me to improve my translation skills.

G.Subramanya Iyer is my Guru in magazine field. He did not allow me to write about politics but he gave the full freedom to work both for his paper and INDIA magazine. Once when he asked me to write welcome address to Whales Prince, I first thought to refuse. How can I write a welcome address to a person who has made us slaves? But I thought from the side of our nation's tradition in treating any one as friend and wrote a welcome address as if Mother India welcomes him and his wife. I too accept there are many good things like modern technology, press were introduced by the west. So we need to be thankful!

Later G.Subramanya Iyer gave me the option to leave to work totally for INDIA. But he requested me to write more in Sudesamithran. He stood inbetween extremism and terrorism.

Do you want to know how BANK OF INDIA was started?

Later G.Subramanya Iyer was the root cause for starting INDIAN BANK. I thank God for making me to assist him to start that bank.

He used to collect money from public through Sudesamithran. This fund will be saved and given to freedom fighters especially to survive. It was Deepwali time. Freedom fighters celebrate Deepawali with more respect. For them that was the day to stand against evil. So to help his mission I wrote an article in INDIA as follows.

"Dear people! Please donate funds to G.Subramanya Iyer for his Sudeshi movement to support many social well fare activities. He has already collected Rs.6500. But the fund is not enough. So please support for national service through him!"

Even my message got published in bit notices in many languages and given to the public.

Iyer the great

One day Iyer send a man to call me to his home. I met Iyer at his bed room. He was resting. He looked depressed and tired.

"Iyer! Are you sick?"

"Yes! Bharathi! Mentally I am sick. Did you hear that Arbuthnot Company got closed forever?"

"What do you mean?"

"Yes! There were several issues among the officials and members. But the new is not getting to the public. They bribed the British and gave I.P to the company. I have my own money in that. Than that Sudeshi's fund has been deposited in that company. It is public money. I am responsible! I do not know what to do?"

"Iyer! Do not worry! I will write about this in INDIA. We will fight for the justice. You also keep on writing. We must start own bank for us."

I wrote a strong firing article to condemn this company. I could also see people crying for losing their funds. Because this company was very near to my office. British government considered the articles and cases.

I wrote as follows, **"It is injustice that rich men of the nation deposited the fund and became poor. So the law must help the new poor men to get back their funds"**

"I thank Mr.Krishnasamy Iyer a leading young lawyer who helped in this case. He also supported many people who lost their funds. He was the one who is totally responsible for INDIAN BANK'S origin. So the relation with me and Subramanya Iyer is very deep and responsible." says Mahakavi.

Once Iyer said with real respect as follows,

"Bharathi! Your work is great. Your language is excellent! Every letter can be paid with a lakh of rupees. Really you are Kalidasa! But I am Bojaraja to offer you great amount. I am not having enough money to pay you!"

So we thank and say goodbye to G.Subramanya Iyer and leave his office in Armenian Street just adjacent to Thambu Chetti Street in Broad way.

OM SAKTHI!

Madras, September 2nd, 2012.



Sudesamithran office in Madras Broad Way, where Mahakavi worked