

A rare coincidence, attested by a mystic!

Nitin Mendiratta, 25.06.2022

Having returned from Canada in December 2004 and after failing miserably in my business venture of “East India Technologies”, in 2006, I applied for job posted in newspaper. Requirement of IT Coordinator at an International School in Faridabad, Haryana. I was interviewed by Directors of the School, in Faridabad.

One of the Director was Satyakam. My first project was to make school’s website, for which we had few meetings at his residence in Delhi. In my first visit to his residence, I realised that it was so close to my previous office. In my second or third visit to his house, a “Dejavu” reminder flashed to my mind that it is the same house where I met a Sadhu baba. Entire episode replayed in my mind, like an eternal echo...

In 2003, it was my last day of work at the IT company I worked with. I had resigned. The company was closing down. Dot Com Bubble had busted and IT company’s profits were tumbling. In the evening, I was about to go back home, for some reason I decided to walk around in neighbourhood. Perhaps stressed for fresh air or self-talk? I kept walking along the road. I had walked about 300 meters, when a sadhu baba approached me for help.

“What Baba, just today I lost my job and you are asking me for money”, I said. He did not reply. I gave him 10 or 20 Rs. He was looking at something behind me and while looking at something behind me, he said “Your way will open from here only”, I turned around to see what was he looking at. It was a house and on ground floor of which a woman was closing the gate. It was a red brick house with a striped clothed shed in balcony. I looked back at the Sadhu. After murmuring some words, he went his away. I also went back home...

Returning to present, I recognized that this was same house Sadhu Baba was looking at! Satyakam lived on the second floor of this house. It seemed like a mystic’s blessing!

One fine day (during my employment) I told Satyakam about this Sadhu Baba incident. It did not appear that he was convinced that this was a real incident. But he also knew that I was a good contributor to his school’s mission and that there was no need for me to make up a story like this for any good special points as an employee. He probably would have forgotten this Sadhu baba story in a day or two but for me, my entire duration of work at his school was a divine call, which I want to respond with full determination. It was my duty, I thought then, it was God’s work! I must implement all! All between Vivekananda and Business Management for success of this endeavour!

Satyakam’s father, who retired as Governor of a State of India also visited the school sometimes. In spite of the tall political stature, his father was very polite, kind with an open door for entire school community. Satyakam is a man who would rather take a middle path. Somewhere between Osho and Buddha. Satyakam has outstanding conflict resolution skills and was good with resource utilisation. He is so good in keeping his promises, so sincere in meeting deadlines that if it was up to me, I would make him Prime Minister of India!

I worked for two years with that school. My mother and I had gifted a chair to a very famous Sadhu Baba of Mathura. It is sixteen years; I have left that school’s job and Satyakam has also sold his international school to a businessman but we do exchange occasional new year and birthday messages.

Today, as I look back, I still wonder if this was just rare coincidence or an intervention mystique? A karmic dividend or a delusion of a desperate man to consider a mere job as divine responsibility?

Where does an experience like this stands in the scale between essentialism to existentialism? Should I consider those two years as enlightened living, working for education or is the desire to live for a big audacious goal an error? A fallacy of a well lived life by human mind? Or was it a daily coincidence in God’s world that a young man’s unconsciousness took too seriously?

What do you think?