

# RIVERSIDE RIPPLES

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SERVICE Above Self  
**ROTARY SURAT RIVERSIDE**

*We meet every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. at Dr. Bhacca Rotary Hall, Jeevanbharti School.  
All our meets are dinner meets.*

Vol - Dec05/03/17



## Cover Story



### SWISSLAND OR FAIRYLAND???

**Y**our editor was proved wrong for his statement in Riverside Ripples Vol-12 that "If there is heaven somewhere on earth, then it is at Tapovan Farm" when Rotarian friends went to a 2-day picnic at Swiss Land Resort, Nr. Chickli - courtesy Rtn.Samar-Komal Zaveri. (The meetings of 13th & 20th Dec. were clubbed to the 17th and 18th of December). The 42 acres of land that houses 15 private bungalows of Rtn.Samar and his friends, boasts lush green gardens and a swimming pool besides a homely kitchen, which was very kindly made available to Riversiders who had a ball during the weekend picnic.

The caravan started a couple of hours late than schedule at 4:00 p.m. as the first three cars sailed towards the serene outing savouring sugarcane juices on way near the famous sugarcane factories near Maroli. The close vicinity of the destination gave much flexibility to the members to start later in the evening after finishing other important assignments; though this writer feels a group picnic should've had group commuting too in order to get the most fellowship out of such events.

Post dinner, everyone wished Birthday Bums to annet Malav Mehul Shah as he cut his Birthday cake amidst a lot of cheer and frolic. The happy hours that followed witnessed a good "Antakshari" game where the male members were pitched against the formidable Anns. The females having the *nightingale of our club* Ann Ami and some *encyclopaedias of Bollywood* like Ann Priti &

proposed Anns Rinkal-Kavi on their side were confident of *crushing* the opponents but some surprise defiance from Rtn.Mihir with able support from others drew the game as the fellowship extended till the wee hours. Even Prez. Divyang amused all as he chipped in with numbers like "*Mere tute hue dil se koi to aaj yeh puchhe*".

Surprisingly nobody overslept the morning (I guess everyone wanted to make the most of the day). Warm snacks and tea welcomed everyone. Bathing water being heated in big vessels on logfire, the rural way, added to the ethnic environment.



Then it was time for us to get another surprise in the form of proposed member Ashutosh Thakkar. He alongwith another proposed member Keyur Thakkar dictated the whole morning as everyone present played various group games like *Alphabets*, *number 4&7*, *PingPangPong*, and *Dumbsheras*, reminding us of another friend of Riverside Rtn.Raju Pandit. His anchoring was so captivating that members didn't mind the delayed lunch. Even the kids were enchanted by the place and were merrying in groups of their own in the process freeing their *moms*.

As they say "all good things have to end", we dispersed in the evening to return back with sweet memories of a picnic; which for those who didn't attend, I'm sure, have missed a life time opportunity to experience heavenly bliss. Riversiders extend their heartfelt thanks and warm gratitude to the loving hosts Komal & Samar Zaveri.

"Let me explain the problem science has with Jesus Christ."

The atheist professor of philosophy pauses before his class and then asks one of his new students to stand.

"You're a Christian, aren't you, son?"

"Yes sir," the student says.

"So you believe in God?"

"Absolutely."

"Is God good?"

"Sure! God's good."

"Is God all-powerful? Can God do anything?"

"Yes."

"Are you good or evil?"

"The Bible says I'm evil."

The professor grins knowingly. "Aha! The Bible!" He considers for a moment. "Here's one for you."

Let's say there's a sick person over here and you can cure him. You can do it. Would you help then? Would you try?"

"Yes sir, I would."

"So you're good...!"

"I wouldn't say that."

"But why not say that? You'd help a sick and maimed person if you could. Most of us would if we could. But God doesn't."

The student does not answer, so the professor continues. "He doesn't, does he? My brother was a Christian who died of cancer, even though he prayed to Jesus to heal him. How is this Jesus good? Hmmm? Can you answer that one?"

The student remains silent.

"No, you can't, can you?" the professor says. He takes a sip of water from a glass on his desk to give the student time to relax. "Let's start again, young fella. Is God good?"

"Er... Yes," the student says.

"Is Satan good?"

The student doesn't hesitate on this one. "No."

"Then where does Satan come from?"

The student falters. "From... God..."

"That's right. God made Satan, didn't

did make everything, correct?"

"Yes."

"So who created evil?"

Again, the student has no answer.

"Is there sickness? Immorality? Hatred? Ugliness. All these terrible things, do they exist in this world?"

The student squirms on his feet.

"Yes."

"So who created them?"

The student does not answer again, so the professor repeats his question, "Who created them?"

There is still no answer. Suddenly the lecturer breaks away to pace in front of the classroom. The class is mesmerized.

"Tell me," he continues. "Do you believe in Jesus Christ, son?"

The student's voice betrays him and cracks.

"Yes, professor. I do."

The old man stops pacing. "Science says you have five senses you use to identify and observe the world around you. Have you ever seen Jesus?"

"No sir. I've never seen"

"Then tell us if you've ever heard your Jesus?"

"No, sir. I have not."

"Have you ever felt your Jesus, tasted your Jesus or smelt your Jesus? Have you ever had any sensory perception of Jesus Christ, or God for that matter."

"No, sir, I'm afraid I haven't."

"Yet you still believe in him?"

"Yes."

"According to the rules of empirical, testable, demonstrable protocol, science says your God doesn't exist. What do you say to that, son?"

"Nothing," the student replies. "I only have my faith."

"Yes, faith," the professor repeats. "And that is the problem science has with God. There is no evidence, only faith."

The student stands quietly for a moment, before asking a question of

his own.

"Professor, is there such thing as heat?"

"Yes," the professor replies. "There's heat."

"And is there such a thing as cold?"

"Yes, son, there's cold too."

"No sir, there isn't."

The professor turns to face the student, obviously interested. The room suddenly becomes very quiet. The student begins to explain.

"You can have lots of heat, even more heat, super-heat, mega-heat, white heat, a little heat or no heat, but we don't have anything called 'cold'.

We can hit 458 degrees below zero, which is no heat, but we can't go any further after that. There is no such thing as cold; otherwise we would be able to go colder than -458 degrees. You see, sir, cold is only a word we use to describe the absence of heat.

We cannot measure cold. Heat we can measure in thermal units because heat is energy. Cold is not the opposite of heat, sir, just the absence of it."

Silence across the room. A pen drops somewhere in the classroom, sounding like a hammer.

"What about darkness, professor. Is there such a thing as darkness?"

"Yes," the professor replies without hesitation. "What is night if it isn't darkness?"

"You're wrong again, sir. Darkness is not something; it is the absence of something. You can have low light, normal light, bright light, flashing light... but if you have no light constantly you have nothing and it's called darkness, isn't it? That's the meaning we define the word. In reality, Darkness isn't. If it were, you would be able to make darkness darker, wouldn't you?"

The professor begins to smile at the student in front of him. This will be a good semester. "So what point are you making, young man?"

"Yes, professor. My point is, your philosophical premise is flawed to start with and so your conclusion



must also be flawed.”

The professor's face cannot hide his surprise this time. "Flawed?

Can you explain how?"

"You are working on the premise of duality," the student explains. "You argue that there is life and then there's death; a good God and a bad God. You are viewing the concept of God as something finite, something we can measure. Sir, science can't even explain a thought. It uses electricity and magnetism, but has never seen, much less fully understood either one.

To view death as the opposite of life is to be ignorant of the fact that death cannot exist as a substantive thing. Death is not the opposite of life, just the absence of it. Now tell me, professor. Do you teach your students that they evolved from a monkey?"

"If you are referring to the natural evolutionary process, young man, yes, of course I do."

"Have you ever observed evolution with your own eyes, sir?"

The professor begins to shake his head, still smiling, as he realizes where the argument is going. A very good semester indeed.

"Since no one has ever observed the process of evolution at work and cannot even prove that this process is an on-going endeavor, are you not teaching your opinion, sir? Are you now not a scientist, but a preacher?"

The class is in uproar. The student remains silent until the commotion has subsided.

"To continue the point you were making earlier to the other student, let me give you an example of what I mean?" The student looks around the room. "Is there anyone in the class who has ever seen the professor's brain?" The class breaks out into laughter.

"Is there anyone here who has ever heard the professor's brain, felt the professor's brain, touched or smelt the professor's brain?"

No one appears to have done so. "So, according to the established rules of empirical, stable, demonstrable

protocol, science says that you have no brain, with all due respect, sir. So if science says you have no brain, how can we trust your lectures, sir?"

Now the room is silent. The professor just stares at the student, his face unreadable. Finally, after what seems an eternity, the old man answers. "I guess you'll have to take them on faith."

The class breaks into a deadening applause.

"Continuing further, Sir, when GOD created the universe he made a set of

rules which governs every living organisms, categorized in his own way. For some, life is a predestined, well programmed journey of life. For others, like humans, the rules of life are a direct results of their own actions, words, thoughts or/and conducts. So, Sir, happiness, sadness, good, bad, sickness, good health, poverty and abundance, is man's own doing unto himself. The wrong and bad happenings in man's life, is nothing but the lack of righteousness in his way of life."

### G.S.E. TEAM VISIT

A Group Study Exchange team from R.I. Dist. 1820 GERMANY is scheduled to visit Surat from January 1st 2006 (Sunday) to January 5th 2006 (Thursday). The team consists of 5 specialist members other than the Rotarian group leader. They are:

- 1) Rtn. Dr. JOERG GOLL - Team Leader - Marketing Consultant
- 2) Ms. HILKA BAERENFAENGER - Corporate Communication
- 3) Ms. Dr. KATRIN BAUFELD - Gynaecologist
- 4) Ms. Dr. KATRIN EICHLER - Radiologist
- 5) Ms. EVA MACIEJEWSKI - Savings and Loan Banking
- 6) Mr. THOMAS SCHARMANN - Water Management

During their visit to Surat, they will be staying with different host Rotarians. The visit includes the following programmes:

- a) Individual Vocational Visits
- b) Visit to a textile factory
- c) Visit to Mahavir Cardiac Hospital
- d) Meeting with the Police Commissioner of Surat
- e) Visit to a diamond factory.

Moreover, a joint meet with all the Rotary clubs of Surat is scheduled for 4th January '06 at Hotel Holiday Inn.

Kindly confirm your attendance for this meet with the President Rtn. Divyang or Hon. Secretary Rtn. Mihir Shukla as the club has to share the expense of this meet with other clubs.

Another GSE team from R.I. dist 1180 U.K. is scheduled to visit Surat from the 12th Jan to 16th Jan. This team too consists of four specialist members other than the Rotarian group leader. The detail programme of their visit shall be covered in the next bulletin.

### QUOTES FROM ROTARY HISTORY

"We speak of Rotary as a force or movement... conjuring up visions of a great, faceless organisation of nameless persons. However Rotary is an association of individuals from many nations and many walks of life, speaking many languages and embracing many faiths - but united in the common goal of offering service to mankind above self."

*-George Kiyoshi Togasaki, 1968-69 RI president, from an article titled "Participate!" in The Rotarian, July 1968*

THIS IS HILARIOUS

How to tell the gender of a fly

This is the cleanest e-mail joke I've come across in a long while. Go figure...

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.  
 "What are you doing?" She asked.  
 "Hunting Flies" he responded.  
 "Oh. Killing any?" she asked.  
 "Yep, 3 males, 2 Females," he replied.  
 Intrigued, she asked. "How can you tell?"  
 He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."



DISTRICT CONFERENCE

**A**s informed earlier, the District Conference- '**ANANDAM**' is scheduled on the 6th,7th & 8th Jan '06 at **DAMAN GANGA VALLEY RESORT, SIVASSA**. The district Governor Shri Ashis Roy has promised 100% entertainment and trunks of information for all the Rotarians - new and old.

The registration charges for all the three days without the stay is Rs.1500/- per pax. Kindly confirm your participation with the President Divyang or the Hon. Treasurer Rtn. Jugal Singlot at the earliest.

HAPPY HOURS  
 AT  
 SWISSLAND RESORT



FIRST LADY SONAL  
 AT PLAY IN THE GAME  
 DUMBSHERAS

**Birthday Bums**

20-12	Ann Komal Zaveri	5540562
22-12	Ann Bhavna Savla	2235068
22-12	Ann Jayshree Dalal	98251 18704
25-12	Ann Charulata Vashi	98244 77354
27-12	Sadhana Pachisia	2224416

**FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS**

**CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP**

Its X'mas time and also the Rotary Family Month. You don't have to give Prez. Divyang a better excuse to extend the celebration mood. After a long while, we are again having a fellowship meet at our regular venue, with a special guest. No prizes for guessing who?

**Date** : 27 December, Tuesday  
**Time** : 8:30 p.m.  
**Venue** : Dr. Bhacca Rotary Hall, Jeevanbharti