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Part III

It is my prayer to Almighty God (Brahma, Vishnu, Mahesh, Ganesha and Hanuman) Goddess Lakshmi, Saraswati, Durga, Parvati and Sita Ram, Radhe Shyam, Saints Beelwika, Tulsidas, Soordas, Vyas Rishi. I want to write in English now to make my grand children ~~to~~ understand

Kindly bestow some power to me and my pen to write some message of my poor advice and opinion for my family members to follow and consider the benefit of their lives in future. I have already written two parts and mentioned the stress of my mind and sacrifices and changes of places and standard of living etc to make my children's career, like education, marriage, behavior, character etc of my sons, nephews, daughters and niece. I had a big hand in their education, marriage, births of their children. By the grace of God their moral, religion, Pujā etc they got by birth <sup>or they</sup> ~~of~~ inherited ~~from~~ their ancestors.

I wrote more than 40 pages in Hindi. I hope my next generation (sons, sons-in-law, daughters, daughters-in-law,) will surely understand Hindi of my poor article. But the second next generation (my grand children) can't, because they do not know to read and write Hindi (their mother tongue). This is a sad story. Once I tried to teach Hindi to Sameer, within a fortnight, he started writing simple letters, sentences and talked in Hindi. He had no Hindi books of beginning to read or practise. I wrote 3 or 4 pages in Hindi

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and translated in English and he copied the same sentences, every day. But suddenly he started to neglect and showed no interest. I also did not try against his willingness. I am very polite to my grand children. I am never strict for anything to them but I never want to spoil them. They are serious and laborious in their school homework. They get A and B+ grades in their school tasks and exams. So I did not think it proper to strictly handle them for Hindi which has no value in this country. Moreover I do not live at one place I often visit my sons, daughters frequently and within or after a year I visit India too. It is my weakness or fault that mostly I talk to them in English as I knew that I had to live here so I should have some practice to reply some one in English. How to handle an innocent child I knew it very well but after completing my own duties, this quality in me has vanished. Although from Pankaj to Sameer (Pankaj, Praveen, Ravi, Sunny, Sanjay, Kukka, Vicky, Vinod + Sameer, ~~and Anshu + Vandana~~ Anshu + Vandana) I did some efforts to handle them. But after these children's childhood I became physically and mentally <sup>weak</sup> for this efficiency. I mostly forgot how I did so. I made and remembered so many stories to tell while they go to bed. I hold them in my laps when their mothers refused

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to do so. In U.S.A. I became quite unfit for this purpose. Pampering children in English was beyond my capacity. I did play so many games with them. They were happy and they asked me to play. But now they have no interest in that kind of games. All of my grandsons, granddaughters are very nice and obedient to me. They love and honor me. Why did I become worried for their future? They have showed no signs to develop anxiety or perplexity in my mind. It is society who is ~~so~~ changing so fast that I am not in peaceful stage. Our Indian society has quite changed in some matters that I fear for my own family members.

I am quite against for cases of divorce. I do care and <sup>am</sup> serious about child's future. Child's life is almost <sup>(kids)</sup> ruined when parents divorce. He or she <sup>^</sup> needs both parents. So it is not advisable to create such situation if the child is born to them. It should be made <sup>illegal</sup> ~~illegal~~ <sup>legal</sup> by law. If some one is prepared for divorce he or she is in search of a better person. You do not know whether you are going to get a better or worse person? If your husband or wife is not a good person, you must try wholeheartedly to change and make him or her nice and good. It is quite possible if couple want the betterment of their future.

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Society of this country does not think <sup>it</sup> to be so harmful for them and their kids. Some people do have repentance and they do remarry but it is rare, I am not talking about 100% of society who are in favour of such kind of life, only a low percent of U.S. society maintain their 1<sup>st</sup> marriage. In India 1<sup>st</sup> marriage is maintained like rock and stone. In marriage ceremony it is a custom to stand the bride on stone, 5 times the bride groom removes her foot but every time she stands on the same rock. The bride groom understands the significance of this ceremony. There are several customary things in Hindu marriage to make the couple to follow them. For these significant rites our Indian kids are prepared and trained automatically as they watch the marriages of their Bua + chacha in childhood + when they become teenager they watch their brothers' + sisters' marriages + some relatives too. So they make themselves ~~to be~~ prepared for such kind of bindings in marriage and seriously follow for the whole life.

In this country they <sup>(our kids)</sup> do not get opportunity to attend Hindu wedding so frequently. They pass their time in different culture either in school or while playing games. How could they learn our culture? It is not their fault.

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They do visit India after 5 or 6 years, only for 2 months or so in summer vacation. They come back with so many complaints of flies, mosquitoes, dirt, road and hot weather etc. They visit their relatives only, they can't understand or enjoy their language. A big problem they face when they go to toilets, see wet floors. I think their parents should visit some good places like Bangalore or Kashmir with them so that kids might not hate to visit their country next time. It is much better if kids visit India on occasions of marriage in winter and after that they are sent to some places where tourists visit. This way they could meet most of their relations, enjoy the junction and see sight seeing etc. Next time they will show keenness to visit their parents' home country. I can't explain whether India is their home country or not, as they born in it ← kids country so have citizenship of U.S.A. In my opinion, they should know originally they are where from.

some better method O, God! kindly bestow <sup>on</sup> me and my poor pen to explain for the knowledge and betterment of our kids who are being brought up in U.S.A and does not know the culture of our family and most of Indians I am unable to explain in sequence as the writers do because I am writing for the first time. It has some incidents and story of my life, and the trend of change

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of our society, so it is mixture of different topics. This is not going to be published, I am writing to let you know about my views and life. At least you should try to understand what I am and what is my opinion, suggestions and advice. Some times you will remember me by reading this, after I do not live. This is only for my family members. I remember my ancestors off and on within my heart but I do not talk about them, nobody has time to listen to me. It is not interesting and important for you people, who did not see them. But I could give their life story to you had I had something in written form.

By chance I remember one important thing my grand father-in-law (the late Raghubar Dayal) was the 1<sup>st</sup> English language student while British Govt was <sup>the</sup> king of India and he ~~top~~ got 1<sup>st</sup> position in his class. I have mentioned few lines about his Hinduism, culture and good qualities in my Hindi article. Some time when you get time you should ask your parents to read and explain to you in English. This will make you understand what your old family members were. My father-in-law (Late Panmatma Prasad) was also a top most law student in Allahabad university. You people are inheriting from them and

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getting I class (A+, A- or B+ etc),

o, God, kindly make my pen faster and my mind efficient to remember the qualities of my previous generation. I am not talking about only for 'Vivai Munesh' families, I am including my daughters' families too to adopt or listen to the qualities of old generation of their mother's side. As I do not know ~~and~~ about details of their fathers' ancestors I can talk nothing about their children inherit good or bad qualities from both sides. I have experience of that Rajan and Robin have inherited so many good qualities from their Nana and Mamma. So it is not unnatural to learn something from us. At least 3 or 4 times they have been meeting each other and having get together frequently, I feel they are becoming family minded and they enjoy the company of each other. Some kids fight with each other and do not like to be together but our kids are different. Our children did not use the word Cousin. They always used brothers & sisters for their (भाई, बहन, भोसरे) cousins. They learnt and talked like they were their own. One strange thing of my life if you hear you will laugh and I do not know as I do not understand what reaction you do have. Now I feel I should not write but I am writing to make you

↑ they are friendly to each other

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surprised, I had habit to read so many novels in Hindi and learnt the <sup>social</sup> problems of society like step mother's behaviour and action to her step son or some child who lives with Chachi or Mami in the absence of his or her mother. I wished I could be a step mother of some kids. Those days we did not talk a single word about our marriage even if parents or elder sister, brother <sup>or friend</sup> ask our opinion. We totally depend on family members, I do not want to go in details about this topic. It never happened in my life. But I saw my grand mother's (in-law at Basti) behavior towards her step daughters + sons and I was impressed and liked her attitude. She might be in Heaven, she was a great soul, when she left this world, some saint visited our home, gave some Prasad + Bhabhati to her she called her son ("Bachcha ko bulao") Sri Panmatra Prasad and she spoke Ram, Rai, Sita Ram and departed peacefully.

She was very laborious, truthful + sincere lady. Her son's, daughters and next generation inherited her qualities too. I am sure. My mother-in-law was also a pious lady, but she was very rich from her childhood, she could not do any hand work even for her children as she always had many servants. She became



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self centered and did not care for other matters. She was most affectionate to her own family like son, daughter and their kids. We imagined when any of them got sick, <sup>in the night</sup> she sat on an arm chair to look after the patient with a time piece (clock) to give medicine in time. She had no faith in me in this matter. Specially in nights she gave this duty when I became sleepy. ~~The~~ whole day I was responsible for the patient and other matters. We had several other persons living with us and I was responsible to provide them everything. I had so many workers but I had to supervise. Such kind of people become mad if they were neglected any how. I took care of them decently like morning breakfast, evening refreshment, milk and they took lunch and dinner in the kitchen, cooking was done by brahmin cook but we had to provide and watch ~~whether~~ whether cook is serving everything (like ghee, auchar, yogurt etc) or not? Cook or servant were not so sincere to the persons who were not related closely and stayed for months.

O, God! help me, probably I am going beyond limit and forgetting main points. But I think it is not very bad and objectionable topic if children listen to day to day affa

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and happenings of the family. We were very few main family members but food was prepared for 25 to 40 persons. It is useless to mention in detail. I lived in such situation and atmosphere that I developed patience a lot. When I was angry at some girl servant or maid servant I never shouted or scolded them. I avoided that nobody might hear my angry voice. This way I did check and control my anger. I think it was very good for my nature behavior and expression. you should be silent

} When you are in angry mood, this silence will definitely make you cool and normal. Anger always creates misunderstandings and makes the situation worse and indecent. So I advise you to control yourself, do not speak. After some minutes or hours you will feel better. Drink one glass of water when you get upset or mad at anybody. Some kids are mad at their younger brothers or sisters. It is not healthy sign. you should love your young brother and sister and provide whatever they want. Certainly your youngsters will love and respect you.

I do not hope that our family kids are learning to disregard their elders whether they are parents, bane dady, bani Maa, Mamma, mami, Chacha, chachi, Bua phupha, Nana, nani, mamsa, mamsi etc. They should take interest in them, talk to them for a while and get their blessings and affection.

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O, God! give me <sup>power of</sup> some special method to let the children know how to control some bad habits i.e. cigarettes smoking, taking alcohol (wines) and drugs etc, you should not keep more money in your pocket, be economical when you are student (even if you are doing summer job) you should not spend your money for bad habits. If you are sitting among bad students (who has no control over these bad things) and they are forcing to smoke or drink or taking wine, you should tell them that you have no extra money, no liking for these things.

If they offer their own money or cigarettes etc, tell them that your conscience does not allow you to do so, you are going to think over about these habits and avoid the situation nicely, not rudely.

~~Recubars~~ O, God! I pray for my family members (specially for kids) who are students of X to XII. Have friendship with girls like your sisters, talk to them politely, gently and nicely but do not start dating. It will be harmful in your studies and you will lose manners and character. When you are quite matured and going to finish your college education, you could select a girl of your choice, <sup>get</sup> involved your parents, ask them to advise you and cooperating to see and judge the girl's

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family and other suitable things. Do not select a girl or boy only on emotional basis or attraction of beauty. Be careful in this matter, it is not a temporary thing, it is a matter of whole life. So do not be hasty. Take advice of your parents and other experienced persons, do not depend on yourself only. Important is <sup>its</sup> permanency & stability of marriage. You can't say that any girl or boy is perfect. Everybody has some shortcomings. Try to make adjustment and decency from both sides. At last you will be happy. My blessings and best wishes are with you all.

O, God! I am closing it for tomorrow. kindly get me prepared to mention some topics like punctuality, sincerity, truthfulness and some services to family members and others.

Punctuality is a good quality for every human being. It should be learned from childhood or student life. If you prepare a timetable for your day to day routine, you will be punctual within some months. If you neglect anytime, you should repent and try it the next day. Repentance for own faults or mistakes a person becomes perfect and do not repeat the same mistake.

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Sincere behavior towards your family, society, neighbours etc is important and necessary, you will be respected if you are working sincerely in your office too.

Truthfulness is another good quality for a person. In other words if you avoid speaking lie you are saved from doing some wrong things, like smoking, drinking, taking drugs, stealing or cheating somebody.

Giving services to family members, household chores, house cleaning, making your home tidy and neat, are always appreciated specially in U.S.A. kitchen work, cleaning, washing clothes are done by own hands, you people must help the house lady whether she is your mother, mami, mausi or chachi or sister. If one ~~one~~ lady works so hard she becomes tired and sometimes grumbles. Situation should not be created like this.

Sameer, <sup>Anit</sup> Anunag, Dotty and Rishi are now in X or above, they are getting very good results. We do hope very shining career of them. God may help them.

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O, God! I pray, good health and excellent career may be bestowed to all our children and grand children. When they are matured and get job they should be prepared for marriage. I wish their career, marriage and whole life may be successful and prosperous. My best wishes and blessings are with them but they should do effort without thinking about result.

O, God! you are with me. I have written quite true story of my life in brief. I tried not to, go in details, exaggerate about our past life from childhood to maturity. I never had any proud about our wealth or luxury. These things are temporary. Sometimes it increases and often decreases. I did not mind it too much. I tried my best to make myself normal and adjust ~~well~~ in all circumstances. Thank God! I was never poor. He helped me through out my life. I did my duties nicely and decently. I pray for this large family to be dutiful, progressive and successful in their lives.

I just remembered ~~some~~ important incidents (circumstances) of my life. Besides my own brother I had so many brothers and sisters from my Chacha, Mاما, मासु and only one brother from Bua whom we called Chandra Bhai. He lived in his home at Gonakhapur but visited us every evening took tea & refreshment with

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us and often ate dinner specially when we had nonvegetarian food. He had liking of nonveg very much, on Sundays or any vacation we took nonveg lunch, our coachman was sent to call him for lunch. He loved us and we treated just like our own brothers. He had no parents. I do not remember my that Bua or Phupha, But I remember his 3 sisters, one was married & sometimes visited her and she also did come to us with her husband, but she died in her early stage, having no child, other two sisters died while they were teenager, Chaudna Bhai had a very big house as joint family property but after their parents death he got nothing except food from his uncle. His education expenditure and other expenses were maintained by my father. I do not remember how he was married? who did manage it? I think it was all done by my parents. Although it was celebrated at their house. His uncle and cousin were famous person of Gorakhpur but inside they were ruined monetarily. In show they were so but their ladies used fine clothes and heavy jewellery and luxury was maintained secretly. Chaudna Bhai's cousin was made Manager of Kayastha Bank Gorakhpur. The bank was opened by my grand father.

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(Baba + Nana) + (two other rich Attorney money, The Manager Ram Ganib Lal (my Chandra Bhai's cousin) was not an honest man. He withdrew from Bank by fake cheques and it failed after some years. He showed himself in handsh and took help from my father. So Chandra Bhai only lived in that house getting full support from his wawa (my father). I gave details of his Jamid it was not necessary for this Jamid but often I remember him and while going to end my article in English, pen was not controlled by me. I think it was his spirit which flowed my pen to this extent. I am interested and willing to write some more lines about his wife. She came to stay with us for few days. She did not like to live that big house but Chandra Bhai did not want to vacate or leave the possession of that house. So they lived in that and kept their valuables in my father's house. When Chandra Bhai came to pick her up, we became so upset that he cancelled her program. This way sometimes she lived for months with us. She was very humorous lady. She did sing and dance before us. She became a great recreation for us. So we didn't want to



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send her back. When Chaudra Bhai became mukhtamam of a Raja family, he bought a house and lived separately. He had only one son and one daughter who has have many children. Her daughter was elder and has 4 sons + 1 daughter all are married so she has a big family. His son was born 14 years after his daughter's birth. Now he is somewhere in Jaipur, I saw his family at Jaipur in Anjan's marriage. At the same occasion I met Chaudra Bhai's wife. That time she was 90, that was our last meeting. She went to Heaven after a year or so. Chaudra Bhai often came to Basti to see me in his way to his father's (in-law) village Lahnauli Distt. Basti. Sometimes he expressed his affection to me saying "Babu! you are my only sister, do you realize?" I replied and said "I know you are my eldest brother etc." He worked a lot when my marriage was settled and performed. He was my father's right hand in emergencies. My two brothers were in job outside U.P. and one was studying law in Uo University.

With the prayers of God I am going to end this mixed story of my life and views. I have been remembering some more ideal persons of my family but I do not want to make it lengthy and uninteresting.

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for my busy grand children, I have written this English only for them, sometimes ~~forget~~ reminds me and read this, I do not know how long I am going to survive? Till I alive I am always your well wisher, praying for your ideal and happy life, My blessings are with you, you people should have faith in God, Certainly God will help you.

If you want to question some unsolved matter, ask me, I will answer

I am closing the chapter, God only knows whether I will be in a mood to write some more chapters, I could write by His help.

If some members of family like to write his own views to guide and help America born children, He or she can add his pages in this file, somebody could critic too.

Society in India is also changing rapidly so I am sending this kind of files to Kusum, Pushpa and others too.

with prayer to God.

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय, ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय, ॐ नमो  
ॐ नमो विद्महे इन्द्रोत्तम, ॐ नमो शंभो महि देव देव

Om Shanti, shanti, Shanti

V. Srivastava