

Scribbles

Bringing colour to your lives

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Issue No. 5

From the Editor's desk...

During my school and college days, we had one or two best or true friends, some friends and several acquaintances.

What is the definition of the word "friend" in today's context of social networking? We now seem to be on a perpetual mission to see who can collect the most friends on social network platforms. I often ponder just how many of those friends one can call in the middle of the night when a true friend is needed?! And if that friend would indeed venture out at 3 AM, putting their lives on hold in order to help a "friend" in need? Has the definition of the word 'friendship' changed? Or has the word friendship been de-valued?

As part of this special issue on Friendship, Team Scribbles talked to several colleagues within The Group to get their perspective of Friendship. It is indeed heartening to note that most of us still look at the term 'friendship' in the classical sense. You will read some warm and touching narratives in the next few pages of this issue.

I believe it is important to reflect on the true meaning of friendship and occasionally take inventory of who really would be there for us at 3 AM. Here is a piece (I am afraid to call it a poem) that my daughter and I wrote on Friendship – we pooled our thoughts together. Different generations, but similar thoughts.

Someone who is special,
a family of a different kind,
Someone who accepts you for you,
And not for the good or bad in you...
Who is this someone?
No one but a special friend!

A friend is someone you can go to,
Even if she isn't with you now.
A friend doesn't always agree with you,
But never worries about telling you the truth.
With her I can always be myself,
Not caring about the impression I give.

You don't compete with a friend,
You don't mind losing to a friend,
but cry as hard as possible
if you lose one.

Let me sign-off with a favourite Jewish saying on friendship -
'Who finds a faithful friend, finds a treasure'

Ciao until the next issue.

Regards,

Aarada Jagan



They said we couldn't be friends.



But we can. And we are.

**Next Issue: Special Edition on
TEACHERS.**

**Look out for contests in pages
6 & 12.**





The Scribbles Team interviewed Sanmarites across locations on the theme of 'friendship' which is featured in these 'friendship pages of life'. The interview evinced a range of responses – while some felt that friends were companions, who forgive and forget, and share our lives unconditionally giving us sound advice, some others opined that friendship is sharing and caring absolutely free, travels beyond boundaries, beats time, and crosses barriers. Friendship is courage; a blessing; truth; and a rare treasure. Friendship, unlike life, is infinite.

Perhaps these words of Albert Camus best describe the essence of friendship:

“Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend.”

Friendship is a bond of mutual understanding, respect and love. This bond gets stronger with time. Friendship is to make life's burdens lighter for our friends and not make them heavier. To experience friendship, one must have true friends, who are indeed rare treasure. Friendship is a feeling of comfort and emotional safety with a person. In friendship, we do not have to weigh our thoughts and measure words, to put forth before our friend. This is one relation that has been nurtured since time immemorial.

In friendship, friends must understand their boundaries within which both partners function. This helps them to function like healthy individuals in life

as they learn to draw a line as and when needed in a relation.

Friendship cannot survive if one person makes all the effort to sustain it without any mutual recognition from other. We shall not be afraid if the friendship becomes sore sometimes, if the friends care for each other enough they will smoothen it. After arguing or disagreement if both sides care enough they will learn on how to compromise, forget and forgive. Accept them with their faults bearing in mind they accept us with our faults as well. See the good things in them and be happy with that.

In friendship, we shall not expect anything from our friends. We shall give our best to help them every time they need it and

The Friendship



Friendship is a relationship which is beyond expectation. I have a best friend.

Always my birthday wishes will come first from my friend.

M Mahesh, Production, Sanmar Foundries, Viralimalai.



do not expect help in return, they sure will help us as well. When we do not expect, we won't be disappointed. In friendship, if one or both develop bossy attitude it is hard to sustain.

One can probably live without a friend, but would be depressed, because usually friends help you get through hard times, and encourage you to do your best. At some point everybody needs a friend to express our thoughts, to discuss and to get some suggestions in our life. It's good to have at least one friend who will last.

Capt K Rajasekaran, Operations, Sanmar Shipping, HO.



I view friendship in the following order:

Mother>father>guru>friend>God.

My friend met with an accident in Chennai. I came to know of this only after two days by which time he was operated upon. He was unconscious for more than a day. I rushed to Chennai and whispered in his ears that 'I have come and please talk to me' and that minute he slowly regained his senses and spoke to me. Everyone, including his parents and wife knew that if I come and talk to him he will come back to consciousness. And, yes that day I realised the depth of my friendship with him.

J Srinivasan Rangan, Technical Services, Chemplast Sanmar, Cuddalore.



A friend is one to whom I can express anything and everything. He forgives and forgets. He encourages and discourages. My best friend is Thillai, my classmate during graduation - the best of my few friends.

During our first year of graduation, when I literally had no money and no friends at college, Thillai came into my life. He taught me how to live happily even if we do not have money. After my graduation I joined a seafood company. He used to come daily to meet me though the distance between our houses was more than 35 kms in Tuticorin. I miss him a lot these days.

Anthony Raj, Support Services, SSCL, Berigai.



I have two good friends - Rajesh Kumar who studied with me from standard VI and Jebason, a friend at work.

Life has an end. But friendship has no end. Friends are gifts from God. So many things may change in our life, but friendship does not change. A good friend not only helps, but shares and motivates.

I recall an incident when my grandmother met with a fire accident. My friend not only took her to the right hospital but also helped me pay the fees.

S Raju, Electrical Maintenance, Sanmar Foundries, Viralimalai.

Page of Life

There may be a man without wife but not without a friend.



In fact friendship is the only relationship that doesn't have any expectation. If you have a good friend you are rich enough to achieve anything in the world.

TR Binesh, *Mechanical Maintenance, Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur.*



Friend is the only person who shares our life unconditionally without being a blood relation. I recall during my early school days, one day I forgot to bring my pencil to the geometry drawing class. The teacher was ready to punish me for this. My friend came to know of my problem and suddenly he broke his pencil into two pieces and shared one with me.

This incident may look very simple now but at an early age in life, my friend never bothered about the consequences of the problems like, punishment for breaking the pencil or scolding from the teacher. He also never made any condition with me regarding return of pencil or anything else, and his only aim was to protect his friend from punishment from the teacher. That is friendship 'Nanbenda'.

P Senthil, *Electrical Maintenance, Chemplast Sanmar, Cuddalore.*

Friendship is valuable because it is extended unconditionally. When I joined Sanmar, I was totally groping in the dark as I could not immediately settle down in my job. At this juncture my friend S Arul came to my rescue and guided me. He also took enough time to teach all the basics and that gave me the confidence to do the job independently. In fact, what I am today is because of Arul and I remain grateful to him for this.



SS Harikaran, *Accounts, Xomox Sanmar, Viralimalai.*



I have many friends, and I feel that among all the relationship "Friendship" is the one which gives a great feeling of comfort. One enjoys an excellent feeling with mutually affectionate friends. It takes a long time to build good friendships for a lifetime.

Once when my room mate was unwell due to malarial fever I helped him by staying in the hospital for a week, till he got better.

R Chinna Thambi, *Production, Sanmar Foundries, Viralimalai.*



I have lot of friends. In my view friendship is a very good relationship. We often share many things with friends and some things that we do with friends, we cannot share even with our family members.

In 2003, my mother passed away and during her last few days the doctors informed us take her to our native place. I was completely down and at that time my friends Karthik and John Peter stood beside me. They accompanied me in the vehicle while taking my mother. That day I really felt touched by their act and we continue to remain very good friends.

In Sanmar I have another good friend by name Krishnagopal who was my classmate and room-mate in college. He has joined Sanmar and we share a lot of things with each other and are enjoying every moment in life.

S Visvanathan, *Instrumentation, Chemplast Sanmar, Cuddalore.*



I have many friends from my college days with whom I share everything from my heart. I remember, when I was studying XII standard it was a friend who advised me not to join BSc but take a technical course so that I can get a good job. I completed a technical course and joined Sanmar. I thank my friend for his sound advice.

K Balasubramanian, *Mechanical Maintenance, Chemplast Sanmar, Cuddalore.*



Friends are companions who will be with us in our journey of life. We are four friends Subramanian, Arvind, Dhayaanand and myself known to each other for more than 15 years. We always have trust between us.

Amidst of our busy schedules, family activities, and personal work – we ensure to meet, communicate and share the happenings between us. Either of us will step in, to solve others problems by extending hands and sharing shoulders.

Recently we all took a break from our schedules and drove down to Ooty and spent 2 full days together. That was an excellent experience.

H Karthik, *Sales, BS&B, Karapakkam.*



With friends Sharing and Caring comes free without any expectation of returns. Barriers of communication like distance and time does not have any effect on true friendship. One can fall back / depend on friends in times of need, fun, celebration, sorrows and practically any emotion.

To recall an incident highlighting friendship - When my friends helped me a lot during my sister's marriage for management of entire event.

Samir Arora, *Sales, Pacific Valves, Delhi.*



The only relationship that does not relate to blood is friendship.

Friendship has many forms and shapes. It is like water. If we pour the water into a jug it takes the shape of jug. If you pour the same water into a bowl it takes the shape of bowl. Same way friendships will take different shapes and sizes according to our heart. Friendship saves life, Friendship crosses boundaries, friendship is a blessing, friendship is everlasting, and friendship is courage...

I was in 12th standard and about to face board examinations. I was putting extra effort to crack board exam to find some place in a good engineering institute. During that period I felt tremendous expectation pressure from parents, trainers and all others who took care of me in routine life. Giving 5 school exams, 60 tuition exams and 40 to 50 self-assessment exam papers already tired me. I decided to operate "Alt+Ctrl+Delete" function of my life to shut-down the system. My true friend sensed the thoughts running in my mind. He gauged from my voice that I was in a problem and convinced me to live the life. Today I am here (an engineer), only due to my friend.

Omprakash Shah, Sales, BS&B, Baroda.



The essence of friendship is how we choose and how we reciprocate. I have had many friends and after a certain point in life where family and work becomes the key focus, I lost touch with friends. I have spent 18 years in Kolkata and had a very good circle of friends there.

I recall when my childhood friend visited Kolkata along with his family during my stay there. We thoroughly enjoyed visiting places in Kolkata. We felt very happy that he came a long way from Tamil Nadu to Kolkata to be with us, which indeed remains etched in my memory.

TS Muralidharan, Accounts, Corporate, HO.



Friendship is one which originates and flourishes on truth. A friend is with whom we reveal ourselves in full and share all our good and bad times together - a source of strength.

During my college days I was diagnosed with cervical disc prolapse and that happened on the eve of the first semester exams. This means that I had to take on an ornament surrounding the neck, after days of traction in the hospital. Obviously I could not concentrate and study. My friend who was a senior to me in college helped me by reading over my books/notes and planned his studies in such a way that he helped me complete the exams and clear all the subjects. Hats off to him. I was blessed with the friendship who helped me overcome the physical and psychological barriers during that time.

N Angappan, Manufacturing, Xomox Sanmar, Viralimalai.



I have friends and am also happier to be a friend.

Friendship develops soul mates who share a common activity, advice appropriately to advance in life, help each other functionally, socialise with deep emotional support, disclose personal information and enjoy company practically. In 1994, my friend Venkatesh and I travelled from Chennai to Karaikudi by Tiruvalluvar bus after sixth semester B.E exam holidays. On reaching hostel at 05.00 a.m, we found Venkatesh had picked someone's suitcase mistakenly. Both suitcases were having dark green colour military uniform design covers and hence the confusion. After lot of profound thinking, we opened box with the help of keymaker. We found inside the box an Indian bank passbook of one Ganesan. Branch detail given as "Aakkavayal". As we were not thorough with district map, we sought help from nearby Post office and found that it was a small village 35 kms away from Paramakudi.

We reached his village by a town bus and then on a bullock cart. Neighbours there greeted us with warmth and politely explained on behalf of Ganesan that suitcase was wrongly picked by mistake and not intentionally. Ganesan had already left to Chennai for handing over the suitcase. He had tracked Venkatesh's address through a library book. Venkatesh called his parents over landline from an STD booth (as we did not have cell phones) and understood his suitcase reached home in the evening.

(folks, please note that till date I have not checked with Venkatesh now living in U.S.A, what his parents told him about this carelessness. You know why, it is because I am one of his good friends).

M Muralikrishnan, Quality, Flowserve Sanmar, Karapakkam.



Friends are the backbones who give all the support in life.

I had a wonderful incident during the final semester of Diploma, when I had no money to pay the fees (Rs.15000). My friend Venkatesh who was very close to me shared 50% of his fees to pay mine. We took permission from the college to pay the balance 50% after completion of the course.

He is also the person who referred me to Sanmar bringing my career into a shape that it is today. I can say with confidence that he is my best friend in life and we meet every weekend as he is now in Bangalore.

R Chinnaraj, Production, SSCL, Berigai.





This friend of mine – I and all my people call him ‘Sam’. Short and sweet and somehow, in consonance with the name, he has been such a ‘pally-pally’ personality to all the age group in my family - right from toddlers to seniors. Younger to me by 4 years but wiser than me and many in my circle by several years, the very presence of him every day with a large smile used to make us feel comfortable in all situations. I first bumped into him during a cricket match and vividly remember, it all started on a furious fight over some wrong umpiring decision. We aborted the match half way and dutifully continued the grudge for some months later on. As the saying goes, “hatred is the cousin of love”, I realised that the mistake is squarely on me but the damned ego would not permit me to budge slightly and offer him a warm handshake. Luckily, the remote friendship mechanism saw him coming to me suddenly to apologise and the friendship journey is now 30 years plus, during which period, he has never attempted once to point out that it was my fault. So many occasions later vouched for his truly large heart, clarity of thought, unforced commitment, love, care and understanding and the readiness to lend support in all possible ways at all times.

Marriage and circumventions bring in sea changes in all our lives in quick time and unfortunately, the current is so heavy that you are left with little time to tide against the force. He was by my side during happy occasions in my family and more so, during tough times and sad events. In return, I had the fortune of helping him in his career plans and mediate with his parents on his marriage (being a Christian, he fell in love with a South Indian Iyer Girl) and after 10 years of romancing, he married his girl friend and they are now happily settled in Minnesota, USA. When the winter sets in, I happily rewind my memories of accompanying him to the Cathedral for the midnight service, sharing the joy of giving things and the spirit of festivity all over. Starting from Dec 15, our house celebrates Christmas till Jan 15 and though we are thousands of miles and oceans away, togetherness is distinctly felt in our hearts through the chill air and lilting carols during this sweet phase of Christmas followed by New Year. I would strongly deny the saying “Familiarity breeds contempt” Sam can never be so to me and my family at any point in time.

N Srinivasaraghavan, *Support Services, Corporate, HO.*



Friendship is the best relationship, where one can share everything and also helps to grow both in life and career.

I have many friends both at home and in office. Although I have lost touch with some of my friends, I am continuing the relationship with friends in the office where maximum time is spent.

I joined Sanmar in 1998 and met Senthil Kumar who also joined then. We shared a very good relationship and were the only two persons in the shop floor. The families also gelled well and we often help each other whatever may be the need in personal life. The friendship is still continuing with the family bonding.

K Babu, *Mechanical Maintenance, Sanmar Foundries, Viralmalai*



There is an end to all things in life but not an end to true friendship.

A true friend lives in your heart till the end of our lives. I do not want anything except relationship from a true friend. My friend is honest with me and there are no goodbyes for us.

S Saravana Kumar, *Quality, SSCL, Berigai.*



I have a few but good friends. In my view friendship means sharing each other's feelings without any restrictions.

To capture a memorable incident in my life with my childhood friend Chandra Shekar who lived near my home. A couple of years back, when my sister's wedding was happening and we were all struggling hard to arrange money to organise several things, none of our relatives came to our support and none even bothered to ask if we needed any help. But my friend sensed that I would need money even without my telling him anything. He helped me with some money which meant a lot to me. That day he really touched my heart and I felt happy having such a nice friend, who still remains a very good friend of mine.

V Balaji, *Sales Administration, Chemplast Sanmar, Cuddalore.*

Friendship is blessing, as a friend in need is a friend indeed. I have only a few close friends among many friends. During my visit to UK in 1994-95, Jasvant Chauhan, a person unknown till then, became a close friend. We not only travelled in the UK together, I also stayed at his home for more than 3 months. Also, he dropped me at the airport during my departure from UK and did not accept a penny for anything! Whenever, he comes to India, we meet up and enjoy our time together.

Shailesh G Sharma, *Sales, Flouserve Sanmar, Surat.*



I have three friends... Madhu, Loga and Hari from my 11th standard.

A memorable moment that highlights our friendship. I don't remember the exact date; it was a rainy day and a Sunday too. My school had organised a lecture on business mathematics subject. I was down with fever and I still I chose to attend the lecture, as I was not much familiar with the subject. While returning home, I was unable to walk and all my friends accompanied me till home with one carrying my bag and others holding me. It was on that day, that my grandma said, “you should not leave these friends at any cost in your life”.

We all studied in the same college and even worked for a couple of years together in the same company. Now all of us are married and settled in different places and yet we always keep in touch and often visit each other's home at least once every month.

M Vidhyadharan, *Accounts, Corporate, HO.*

Contest time for Spouses...

The teacher who ignited the spark in you . . .

All of us know that the most common definition of a teacher is 'one who imparts knowledge'.

A teacher means this and much more.



A teacher need not necessarily be at school. He/she can be at home, work, in the temple or even at a park.



Write to us in not more than 300 words on "The teacher who ignited the spark in you".

Spouses of Sanmarites, cheer up and get going...

Send in your entries to scribbles@sanmargroup.com before 1 September 2012. Prizes await.

"Though miles may lie between us, we are never far apart, for friendship does not count miles, it's measured by the hearts" clearly specifies the outstanding feature of Friendship.

There is a transparent layer which clearly showcases one's thought to the other. Trust is the crux of friendship and long lived friendships are marked by the faith which one has on the other.

The most outstanding feature of friendship is that there is no age limit for the people to be friends, even a young chap can befriend a septuagenarian. Friendship brings us warmth to our mind and it is the best way of expressing our thoughts to the other who are trustworthy individuals.

Friends are our first critics and they rectify every mistake lying within us. Friends wish for our wellness without any returns. They understand our innate feelings and everyone in this world will surely have their own friends.

Misunderstandings can happen in friendship but it will never become a barrier to us. It adds flavour to our life without which all of us will lead a mundane life.

"A friend is a gift given to us, whom we consider priceless..!!"

S Padmavathy, D/o S Sankaran, Quality, Xomox Sanmar, Viralimalai.



The word "friendship" takes you down the sweet memories in our life.

We meet several persons in our daily life. We speak, work, travel, stay etc with many of them. But we love to cherish and continue the relationship with only a very few persons. Friendship is a feeling of love and affection of one person for another. There may be many friends at the time of prosperity. But most of them desert at the time of adversity. Only a sincere and faithful friend remains with us at the time of our trouble. Healthy social interactions with friends help us lead longer and healthier lives. Choosing a friend is akin to choosing a life partner. It's really a gift of God.

Even though I have many friends who are close to me, I believe Satish, as my best friend. We know each other since childhood and we are close friends for more than 28 years. We have been through many good and hard times together. During our school days we had enjoyed adventures like long distance cycling, trekking, swimming in Cauvery (without knowing to swim) which really bonded and strengthened our friendship. Even though we got separated after schooling, our friendship continued with regular interaction through letters. The letter would almost contain what we do on a daily basis.

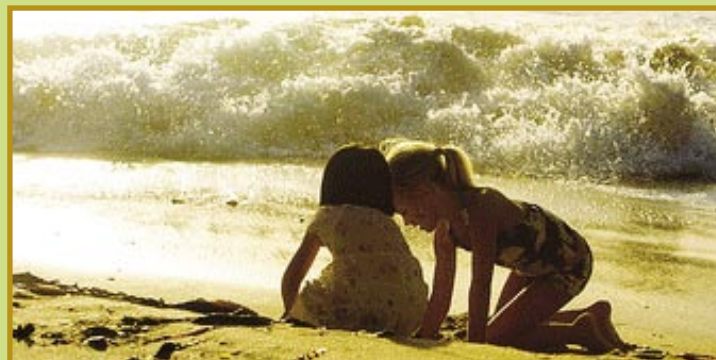
I met with an accident and was hospitalised for a long time. Apart from my parents, it was this team of friends who helped in a speedy recovery. I was taken care of by them when I was in hospital. Satish used to travel most of the days and will be beside me in the nights taking care of me. He is now a commissioned officer in Army and even though we are miles apart, we call each other and discuss anything and everything. Whenever he comes to his home town, we meet in person. I value and treasure his friendship.

V Sriram Kumar, Electrical Maintenance, Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur.

Friends are those who stand by your side in all walks of life. Friendship triumphs.

Masooda and I are friends from the age of 6. Infact during 5th standard annual holidays, I came to my grandma's house in Chennai from Trichy. My parents were trying to seek admission for me in a new school back in Trichy for joining from 6th standard. When my father submitted the application to school on the last date, Principal who is acquainted to us, surprisingly, requested my father to bring the child for interview for confirming admission. And it was Masooda who attended the interview on my behalf to avoid defaulting date.

Krithika, W/o M Muralikrishnan, Quality, Flowserve Sanmar, Karapakkam.



Friends down the ages

“It is those who desire the good of their friends for the friends’ sake that are most truly friends, because each loves the other for what he is, and not for any incidental quality.” So said Aristotle. Friendship is a bond that time cannot sever.

You can find stories of true friends down the ages – from mythology to modern times. Friendship goes beyond age, race, gender, and status. The story of Krishna and Sudama is immortal. The great warrior Arjuna, and Draupadi, the queen of the Pandavas, were both very dear to Krishna who not only helped them in their hour of need, but also guided them through life. It was an everlasting friendship between



Karna and Duryodhana in the Mahabharata. Duryodhana gifted the kingdom of Anga to his friend. Karna remained loyal to him in spite of his mother Kunti’s pleas, and died fighting for Duryodhana in the battle of Kurukshetra.

Manikandan, the Pandalam prince is waylaid by Vavar the pirate. A fierce battle ensues in which Vavar is defeated. Inspired by his victor, he turns over a new leaf. The friendship between the young boy and the Muslim who becomes his bodyguard has become immortal.

There are stories too in which both friends play an equal part. King Vikramaditya and his minister Patti were the best of friends. Vikramaditya was willing to sacrifice his life for Patti, who in turn won over Kali with his clever words and saved his friend’s



life. The story of Damon and Pythias reflects true friendship and self-sacrifice, even in the face of death, which finally won over the tyrant Dionysius who set them free and wanted to become their friend!

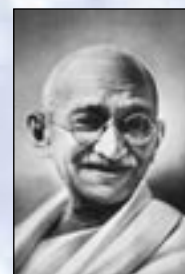


Hephaestion was a general in the army of Alexander the Great. Their close bonding formed in boyhood, continued even after Alexander became king, through the hardships of battles, the ups and downs of court life, and their marriages.

Down the pages of history, there have been many famous friends drawing inspiration from one another. Lakshmi Bai, the Queen of Jhansi had two lifelong friends in Nana Saheb and Tantia Tope, who stood by her in her struggle against British rule.



CF Andrews, a Christian missionary and social reformer was impressed by Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi’s thoughts and actions. He was Gandhi’s close friend and helped him build the ashram in Natal, and publish the magazine ‘The Indian Opinion’. Andrews was responsible in persuading Gandhi to return to India from South Africa. Both the friends went to London to attend the Second Round Table Conference.

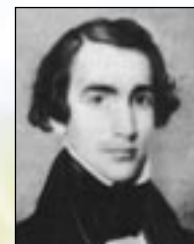


The bonding between Susan B Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, added impetus to the women’s rights movement in the USA.



The deep friendship between famous writers Gertrude Stein and Ernest Hemingway was a strong factor in their literary development. Abraham Lincoln’s

friendship with Joshua Speed is believed to have influenced his politics.



Another famous friendship is that between the authors CS Lewis and JR Tolkien who independently created the two different worlds of Narnia and Middle Earth. Their bonding grew out of their belief in the power of myth, writing and religion.



There are many traditional stories of friendship between animals – like the ant which bit the hunter who was about to shoot

the bird which saved its life by dropping a leaf for it to climb on to from the pond. A friend in need is a friend indeed.

You can be friends with Nature too says former President APJ Abdul Kalam. He has a 104-year old friend who reveals something new to him during his morning walk every day. It is none other than a tree which he fondly calls Arjuna.



Life becomes more enjoyable as you share its ups and downs with friends. People who enjoy interacting with friends are healthier and live longer than the loners who are socially isolated.

S Janaki, Executive Editor, Sruti.



Friends - the fireforce and light of life

I failed to distinguish between love and friendship. There was so much of love and care in my friendship and my siblings, some relatives and children also are my friends and confidants.

Any expression of my unrestricted friendship cannot be restricted to the prescribed number of words. Following are some of the two-liners on friendship I etched in my heart over the years. I adopted them as my own expressions. But the adage 'A friend in need is a friend indeed' is not there. I don't believe in a friendship realised only when needed. I remember a sentence from my school lesson 'I would rather betray my country if it is necessary to save my friend' – E M Foster. He may have only me!!

Friends are like walls. Sometimes you lean on them and sometimes it is just enough to know they are there. Friendship is a gift – value it.

A good way to differentiate love and friendship: "without you I can't live" is love. "U must live, I am with you" is friendship.

Love+Care=Mom, Love+Fear=Dad, Love+Help=Sister, Love+Fight=brother, Love+life=Wife, Love+ Care+fear+help+fight+life=Friend.

A true friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out. Friendship is not just a game. It is not just a world. It is tomorrow, yesterday, today and everyday. Friends stay together and never say goodbye.

Friends are like rainbows. They brighten your life when you have been through a storm.

If feelings are true from the heart, then friends are friends even miles apart.

The privilege of friendship is that we can talk nonsense all the time. And the best thing is that nonsense is understood, discussed and respected. Many friends will walk in and out of your life. But only true friends leave a footprint.

Where I went wrong?

Did I expect too much from them or reciprocation – I don't know. The fact remains that I don't have many friends; who reciprocate my warmth, sincerity, commitment and understand the honesty. I believe honesty and faith need not be sugar coated, especially between friends and well wishers. That is why it is said that as long as one has a good friend, he does not require a mirror. What is seen is the true reflection.

I realised, rather painfully, that one's best friend is his/her own self and what one can do is to look after his/her own self well. Rest will follow. No one else will wish everything good for him and will be in agreement with him always.

I request all my friends, past and present, that **when you count your best friends, don't count me. When you count close friends, don't count me. But when you really need a friend, then start** from me.

K R Induchudhan, Corporate Affairs, Corporate, HO.

On International Day of Friendship

Friendship Day was originally promoted by Joyce Hall, the founder of Hallmark cards in 1919, and intended to be a day where people celebrated their friendships by sending cards. Traditionally, the Day takes place on the first Sunday of August.

The United Nations International Day of Friendship was proclaimed in 2011 by the UN General Assembly with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities.



According to the Friendship Day declaration, the UN Member States and the civil society are invited to "observe this day in an appropriate manner, in accordance with the culture and other appropriate circumstances or customs of their local, national and regional communities, including through education and public awareness-raising activities".

The resolution places particular emphasis on involving young people, as future leaders, in community activities that include different cultures and promote international understanding and respect for diversity.

Many friends acknowledge each other with exchanges of gifts and cards on this day. Friendship bands are very popular in India, Nepal, Bangladesh and parts of South America. With the advent of social networking sites, Friendship Day is also being celebrated online. The commercialisation of the Friendship Day celebrations has led to some dismissing it as a "marketing gimmick". But nowadays it is celebrated on the first Sunday of August rather than July 30.

Dr P Ashok, Medical Services, Chemplast Sanmar, Karaikal.

P Karthikeyan, Quality, SSCL, Berigai.

Friendship

A word so small...

Yet so large in feeling...

A word filled with emotion.

It is true great things come in small packages.

Once the package of FRIENDSHIP has been opened,
it can never be closed...

It is a constant book always written...

Waiting to be read...

And enjoyed.

We may have our disagreements...

We may argue...

We may concern one another...

FRIENDSHIP is a unique bond that lasts through it all....

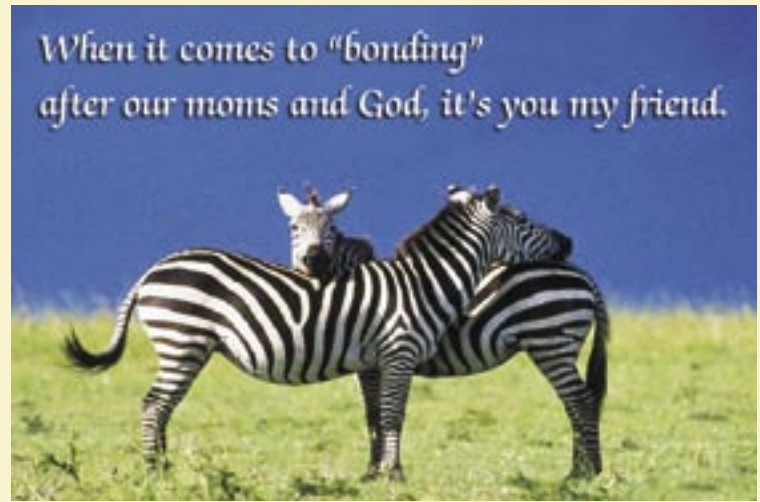
G Rengarajan, HR, Chemplast Sanmar, Cuddalore.

The 'give and take' of Friendship

I guess it is a relationship which could be dated as far back as the mankind. Nobody could attribute any reason for getting into this relationship. To my knowledge it would have stemmed from the basic feeling of "humanitarianism". When likeminded people interact closely for some reason or other it is natural that each one would try to accommodate the other person also. It is more of a personal feeling which will spontaneously come out keeping aside the caste, colour and creed.

Everyone would have experienced the warmth of a friendship. In this modern fast moving world, at least this relationship is somehow thriving. Even those who do not have time to accommodate their blood relations for some reason or the other, make it a point to honour the commitments made to their close friends. Such is the power of true friendship.

Though initially 'friendship' will begin with "give and take policy", but over a period of time, with constant interactions and better understanding, this concept will slowly fade away and the real friendship would emerge. After one stage this would continue without any reciprocal expectations. There are various stages of getting into friendship, school days friendship (again this could be divided in two parts i.e. up to VI Standard and the other adolescence), college days friendship, friendship with neighbours and the friendship in the work place. While the friendships that are developed in the initial stages of school life may vaguely stay in the minds of the persons, the rest would be in their minds till death.



We can add any number of friends to our list at any point of time. But how far and to what extent we can justify each friendship really matters. To me, friendship is something special. I do not believe in numbers. If the number is more we cannot do justice to the friendship. Every relationship needs to be given its due. According to me everyone should have two levels of friendship, one in the inner circle and the other outer one. The friends in the inner circle should be taken into confidence and should be taken along with us throughout. For this the number should be minimum.

The reason we give so much importance to friendship is that when people / situation / relationships around us change, there is this special someone who remains our rock and stands by our side. If that bond is in a state of flux then either your friend doesn't have the strength of character to remain consistent or the relationship was never worth your while.

S Govindarajan, *Support Services, Chemplast Sanmar, HO.*

Friendship Bands

A friendship band is given by people to one another, on Friendship Day, as a symbol of friendship. These friendship bands express feelings of care, affection and love.

In ancient times, Greek and Roman soldiers used to wear friendship bands made of leather straps with gold and silver embellished on it. Most women followed them by wearing them, but they adjusted the band so that it suited their wrists, thus friendship bracelets came into existence.

These bands are mostly handmade, usually of embroidery floss or thread. There are various styles and patterns, but most

are based on the same simple half-hitch knot. The amount of thread used in these bands varies depending on the pattern. The smallest pattern, a double chain knot, requires two strings. The candy stripe can have as few as three strings and as many as forty, based on the desired thickness.

As we have different meanings of friendship for different people, friendship bands also have different meanings and significance for different people.

K Rajesh Kumar, *Corporate Communications, Corporate, HO.*



Corrigendum

Performance awardees of Chemplast Sanmar Karaikal.

(This photograph was inadvertently missed in the earlier issue).

Tenali Rama Series - VIII

No mooli no recipe

One day Tenali Rama was feeling bored and hence thought of playing a prank with his wife.

“I’ve never eaten anything more tasty in my life!” said Rama, who had just returned from his friend’s house.

“What did you eat?” asked his wife with great curiosity.

“Mooli (radish) halwa,” Raman said, smacking his lips.

“Mooli! His wife exclaimed that she had not heard of halwa being made from mooli! It must have been something else,” she said.

She just could not understand how anyone could make halwa out of mooli. Nevertheless, her curiosity was aroused and next

day she asked him to get her the recipe from his friend and some moolis from the market.

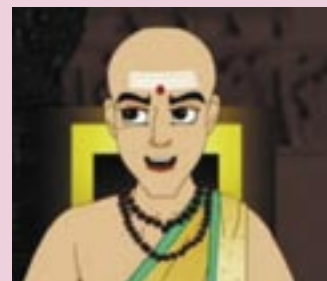
“Where are the moolis?” she asked Rama, when he returned home.

“You see,” he explained, “while I was returning from the market, a goat snatched the moolis away.”

Annoyed at his carelessness, she said “Have you brought the recipe?”

“Well, I thought,” said Raman with a shrug, “The recipe is of no use without moolis, so I let the starving animal eat that too.”

Rama’s wife understood his prank and busted into laughter.



Scribbles School

Dolphins – ‘friends from the wild’

Dolphins are marine mammals closely related to whales and found worldwide. They are among the most intelligent animals with a friendly and playful attitude. Dolphins have played a key role in the human culture.

The dolphin is the only mammal that gives birth with the tail first instead of the head. Young dolphins will remain with their mother for a period of 2 or 3 years.

There are two stomachs for dolphins just like for cows. The first one stores the food for them and the second one is where digestion takes place.

A dolphin may be able to dive up to 1,000 feet. Dolphins can swim at a speed of up to 25 miles per hour for a long time. This is about 3 times faster than the fastest humans in the world.

Dolphins are capable of making a broad range of sounds using nasal airsacs located just below the blowhole which is their popular mode of communication. Play is an important part of dolphin culture and captive dolphins when observed are found to be involved in creation and manipulation of bubble rings.

Dolphins eat several kinds of fish and squids that are available in the area they live. The mother dolphin stays with the calf for 2-3 years till it is able to be independent. The life span of these good friends of humans is 40-50 years of age.

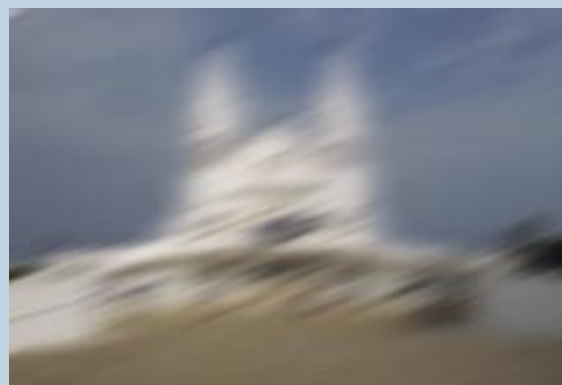


Friendship with Nature



Photograph clicked at Jurong Bird Park, Singapore by **Bhaskar Nandi**, Sales, Tyco Sanmar, Kolkata.

Guess What? Where?



Where is this well-known place of worship in South India ?

Write in to
scribbles@sanmargroup.com



Hogenakkal Waterfalls, Dharmapuri district.

Congratulations first correct respondents:

From HO: P Manoharan, Safety, Corporate, HO.

From Plant: Dr P Ashok, Chemplast Sanmar, Karaikal.

The Wind and the Moon

Once upon a time, there were two very good friends who lived together in the shade of a rock. Strange as it may seem, one was a lion and one was a tiger. They had met when they were too young to know the difference between lions and tigers. So they did not think their friendship was unusual at all. Besides, it was a peaceful part of the mountains, possibly due to the influence of a gentle forest monk who lived nearby. He was a hermit, one who lives far away from other people.

For some unknown reason, one day the two friends got into a silly argument. The tiger said, "Everyone knows the cold comes when the moon wanes from full to new!" The lion said, "Where did you hear such nonsense? Everyone knows the cold comes when the moon waxes from new to full!"

The argument got stronger and stronger. Neither could convince the other. They could not reach any conclusion to resolve the growing dispute. They even started calling each other names! Fearing for their friendship, they decided to go ask the learned forest monk, who would surely know about such things.

Visiting the peaceful hermit, the lion and tiger bowed respectfully and put their question to him. The friendly monk thought for a while and then gave his answer. "It can be cold in any phase of the moon, from new to full and back to new again. It is the wind that brings the cold, whether from west or north or east. Therefore, in a way, you are both right! And neither of you is defeated by the other. The most important thing is to live without conflict, to remain united. Unity is best by all means."

The lion and tiger thanked the wise hermit. They were happy to still be friends.

Krishna & Sudama

Sudama was a poor Brahmin man. He didn't even have enough money to feed his children. Once with tearful eyes, his wife told him, "It doesn't matter if we are hungry but we should at least be able to feed the children enough."

On hearing this Sudama felt very hurt & said, "What can be done? We can't ask for favours from anybody."

Sudama's wife replied, "You talk of Krishna so often. You have been saying that you have a deep bond of friendship with him. He is the King of Dwarka, so why don't you go to him? There won't be any need to ask for anything there."

He decided to go to Dwarka & he started his journey by borrowing some rice snack for his friend. On seeing Dwarka, Sudama was amazed. The entire town was built with gold & the people were very well off.

On seeing Sudama who looked like a hermit, the palace guards asked, "Why have you come here?"

Sudama answered, "I want to meet Krishna who is my friend. Go & tell him that Sudama has come to meet you."

The guard smirked on seeing Sudama's attire. However, he hesitantly went & informed Krishna of Sudama's arrival. On



hearing Sudama's name, Krishna immediately stood up & ran to meet him. Everyone looked on in wonder upon seeing such a great King running bare-footed to meet his poor friend.

Krishna took Sudama into the palace. They recalled their childhood days at the Sandipani's school. Seeing Krishna's wealth, Sudama felt ashamed of the rice snacks that he had brought & tried to hide the bundle but Krishna snatched it from him. While enjoying the snack Krishna said, "I have never tasted such sweetness in anything else."

He stayed at the palace for two days but he couldn't prepare himself to ask Krishna for any favours. On the third day, he got ready to go back home with a warm farewell from Krishna. Krishna embraced Sudama & escorted him out as he bid him farewell.

On the way back, Sudama wondered, "What shall I say when my wife asks me what I've brought back?"

As Sudama approached home not knowing what to tell his wife and to his surprise, he could not find his hut! Instead, his wife came out from a magnificent palace & dressed in elegant clothes. She told Sudama, "Look at Krishna's might; we have been rid of our poverty. Krishna has ended all our miseries." Sudama's eyes welled up with tears of joy and recollected his friend's pure love towards him.

True friendship doesn't distinguish between high & low status or between riches & poverty.



Students... gear up!

An Inspiring Teacher?!

The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.

Share your thoughts of the teacher who inspires/inspired you.

Prizes for the best five entries. A gift awaits you and 'the teacher who inspired you.'

Send your entries to scribbles@sanmargroup.com on or before 1 September 2012.



Symbols of friendship

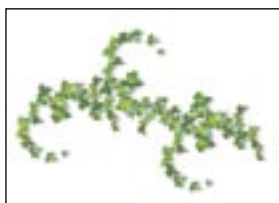
Friendship Plants, Flowers, Fruits, Animals and Gemstones



The Jade Plant or "Friendship Tree" has pink and white flowers and its succulent green leaves, signify the joy and energy between two friends. The plant is said to have the capacity to spread joy, positive energy and add

happiness in any environment.

Ivy is symbolic of connections. It has a propensity to interweave in growth. Ever furrowing and intertwining, the ivy is an example of the twists and turns our friendships often take - but it is also a testimony to the long-lasting connections and bonds we form with our friends over the years.



Another tribute to friendship, as well as the test of time, is the ivy's ability to grow in challenging environments. The ivy is incredibly durable and can withstand harsh conditions. This is symbolic of our ability to stick by our friends no matter what.



The Yellow Rose is the symbol of friendship. However the Pink Rose often takes the place of the yellow rose these days, as the pink rose denotes the warmth, care and closeness of true friends.

The Chrysanthemum is one of the most honoured flowers in Asia. This friendship symbol comes from the Japanese culture. In Japan



chrysanthemums called "kikus" are exchanged between friends as a symbol of the virtue and incomparable value of their friendship.



Pineapples are age-old symbols of friendship, hospitality and commitment. It symbolises friendship, good cheer, human warmth and the family affection that was inherent to

large gatherings. Pineapples are still a treasured housewarming gift for friends and family.

Lapis Lazuli (Stone of Fidelity) For many across the world, Lapis Lazuli is considered a stone of truth and friendship. It helps one to be more kind, helpful and spiritually attuned to others.



A Rhodonite Ball (Rescue Stone) is a talisman of friendship. This ball is carved into a shape of sphere and symbolises the strength and stability between two friends.

Turquoise (Friendship Stone) is one of the oldest symbols of friendship. It is believed to provide a protection shield around your friend and symbolises a growing and healthy relationship.



The Claddagh is one of the famous



Irish symbols of friendship. A Claddagh is symbolic of love, friendship and loyalty. The hands of the Claddagh represent friendship, the heart, the representation of love and finally the crown, the symbol of loyalty.

Dolphins are a symbol of friendship, intelligence, and good luck. Its status of luck was likely related to the fact that the dolphin was most commonly seen on the seas when the weather and waves were calm and fair.



Frogs represent transformation of the positive kind and are a good omen as they symbolise happiness and great friendships.

The Turtle symbolises harmony, and longevity. The turtle is believed to protect and preserve the harmony in friendship.



Guess Who? !

They are Sergey Mikhaylovich Brin and Lawrence "Larry" Page, the Internet moghuls, who co-founded Google in 1998, and redefined the way people use the web.

