

Aaryan Sharma

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# Value Education - Activity II

## Bonding & Gratitude

### Tantra's Chai-wale-Bhaiya - Dammam Rajasekhar

Introduction - Dammam bhaiya is someone who I and all of my friends invariably depend on. Be it those nights of exams and quizzes when we have to pull an all-nighter or an occasion of celebration when we all want to throw a party. With his subliminal presence, he becomes an indispensable part of all our celebrations and college experiences.



Me and Dammam Bhaiya in front of JC,  
please ignore the works of my apocrine gland

He was born and brought up in Hyderabad and, surprisingly, can speak Hindi very fluently, considering his mother tongue is Telugu. He doesn't have many hobbies, but he likes to work out. He also likes to go grocery shopping when he's free. He's very young—just 29 years of age. Fish curry is one of his favourite foods (something that we have in common). He also likes to watch Movies, thrillers specifically. His favourite actor is Surya, perhaps a Telugu actor. Visakhapatnam and Tirupati are some of the places he visited outside Hyderabad. And in Hyderabad, he's seen almost all the places! (Expected since he's a native ;))

One of his favourite places in Hyderabad is WonderLa, a waterpark located 35 km away from the campus. He liked the place so much that he felt like he was in a foreign country! His home is 3 km away from the campus. He usually comes to campus around 4 pm to the campus and goes back home by 3 am. When we complimented him about how good his Chai feels on the eve of exams, he replied that those days its an exam for him too. This exhibits his commitment towards his work.

## Kadamb-wale Bhaiya - Tapas Kumar Sahu

Introduction - Kadamb-wale Bhaiya, whose name we did not know until we did this interview, also had a similar impact on us. Often, I take my plate out of Yuktahar to the neighbouring room allotted to Kadamb mess to have my food. This is quite common among students whose friends have their registration across different messes. One fine day, I was too lazy to go to Yuktahar to get rice, so I decided to get some Biryani from Kadamb instead. This was the day when I had my first memorable interaction with Bhaiya. He caught me taking Biryani and scolded me, and sermonised on how I shouldn't be taking food from the mess I wasn't registered for. I felt a tad bit embarrassed being chastised in front of everyone like this and thought to apologise to him after my food was over. When I approached him and started to apologise if I let him down, he laughed it off and said that he had no intention of scolding me, and explained how he had to do that because others were looking, and had he not said anything, everyone would start flouting rules of mess, which is not what he would want. He laughed more and said, it's okay if I want to take some food from Kadamb, but instructed me to do so only when no one is looking so others don't start imitating this behaviour. We both laughed, shook hands and went our ways. Keeping aside the ethics and morality of taking food from a mess you're not registered for, what he did that day taught me how a simple gesture of kindness, and carrying yourself with a smile and laughter with no expectation of being reciprocated, can lighten someone's day so much. It also taught me how an innocuous act of violence, be it physical, mental or verbal, can greatly impact not just you, but also the people around you significantly. From that day, each time our paths crossed, he has never failed to exchange a smile and brighten my day. Every now and then, he also teases me by saying he's angry that I didn't take Biryani from a mess.



He is from Odisha, and he had no specific dreams in his childhood. He also has no hobbies that he likes to pursue in his leisure. He is married and 36 years of age. He came to



A photo with the top G

Hyderabad 10 years ago through his brother, who worked in a call centre then. He goes to his home town for around 15 days to a month in 6 months. He does not watch movies or have any specific actors he likes, but he does watch cricket a lot. So he does have a favourite team: Chennai Super Kings. He likes the team because of his favourite player: Mahendra Singh Dhoni. Interestingly, in his ten years of time in Hyderabad, he's yet to visit any places of significance here. He likes Puri a lot, and does not have his lunch when there is Puri for breakfast. He's a non-vegetarian, and has chicken and egg three times a week that is made in mess. Surprisingly, even though he likes chicken a lot, he's yet to have Shawarma, a delicacy famous among non-vegetarians. He comes to the campus for work at 5 am, and leaves for home by 3 pm, working 10 hours a day, seven times a week. He lives near the University of Hyderabad, and commutes via cycle. The one-way commute takes 20 min every day. He previously worked at the University of Hyderabad, then shifted to work in a call centre, and then came to IIIT.

## Bakul's Beloved Ramesh Bhaiya - Mekala Ramesh

Introduction - Bakul has many security guards, but Ramesh Bhaiya has been everyone's favourite. To emphasise his celebrity-like fame, it would be pertinent to mention his reaction when we first approached him for an interview. When we approached him, he instantly identified us from a distance, and asked: "You're here to take my interview, right?". There's no one in Bakul who hasn't heard of the shenanigans that he pulls at night. He comes to different floors to audit and manages to bamboozle almost anyone he sets his eye on. With that being said, the bigger reason so many people like him would be the way he always smiles and keeps a jocular attitude, and never fails to reciprocate the smiles we give him.



A Resident of Bakul Nivase & Ramesh Bhaiya

Ramesh Bhaiya's from a princely town called Mahbubnagar, 180 km from Hyderabad. His favourite food is Hyderabad Biryani. And he likes chicken a lot. He also watches movies and likes to watch family movies. His favourite actor ( actually actress) is Soundarya, a Telugu movie superstar. He also likes juices, so we thought to buy him Mango juice from JC, since it was scorching outside. He has been in Hyderabad for 11 years now. He's been to many places in Hyderabad, and he found Charminar the best place among all the places he's visited. He wanted to become a policeman when he was little. He likes to watch TV in his leisure, movies specifically. His native language is Telugu. He can speak Hindi fluently because he's been on campus for over ten years and has interacted with students for so long.