

"THE MAN THEY CALLED A TRAITOR: THE NAMBI NARAYANAN STORY"

Written and Narrated by Teja

[Scene 1 – Opening: The Daughter’s Question]

Visuals:

A dark room. A man sits quietly by a window, his face half-lit by the morning sun. Papers with rocket blueprints lie scattered on a dusty desk.

We hear the faint voice of a young woman — trembling, emotional.

Voiceover (female, soft):

“Appa (Dad)... you wanted to do great things for this country — and you did.

Yet this country marked you as a traitor.

If anything happens to you, or if you die for crimes you never committed, that stain will stay with our family for a lifetime.”

Music:

A low cello hum. Slow heartbeat rhythm begins.

Narration (Teja):

He was a man who wanted to make India proud — to put our nation beside the likes of Russia and the United States.

His inventions were buried in silence. Politics made his future miserable.

This is the story of a man whose name should be spoken proudly by all of India — yet many remember him only as a traitor.

We must salute him for what he built, even as we mourn what our rulers did to him.

This is not only his story, but India’s — of how truth was buried under politics and betrayal.

[Scene 2 – The Rise of a Genius]

Visuals:

Old photos of Nagercoil. Black-and-white frames of a young boy in uniform, smiling beside his schoolmates.

Transition to Madurai — a young Nambi sketching rockets on notebook pages.

Narration (Teja):

Nambi Narayanan was born on 12 December 1941, in Nagercoil, Kerala.

He lost his father while studying engineering. His mother fell ill soon after, and he had two sisters to take care of.

He completed his schooling at Divid high School.

He earned his degree in Mechanical Engineering and soon after, joined India’s most ambitious dream — ISRO.

Visuals:

Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launch Station, 1966. Engineers setting up primitive launchers on the sandy coast.

Narration:

It was here that Nambi began his journey — a young technical assistant with fire in his mind and faith in his country.

He wanted to make India shine among the stars we dream to reach.

He wanted to make India a nation that no other country could ever look down upon.

■■■ [Scene 3 – Princeton: The Turning Point]

Visuals:

Archival shots of Princeton University in the 1960s.

Students in labs, liquid-fuel experiments, rocket chambers firing.

Narration:

In 1969, ISRO Chairman Dr. Vikram Sarabhai sent Nambi to Princeton University — personally ensuring all his expenses were covered.

He studied under Professor Luigi Crocco, mastering liquid propulsion technology — something India had never touched before.

Until then, most rocket programs in the world used solid propulsion. Then Nambi came — with a vision of liquid propulsion that could change everything.

He could have stayed in the U.S., like many others.

But he came back — because he wanted to see India soar on its own rockets.

■■■ [Scene 4 – The Birth of VIKAS]

Visuals:

France, 1970s. Engineers shaking hands, blueprints rolled open.

Cut to Indian scientists in lab coats working beside French experts at Société Européenne de Propulsion.

Narration:

From 1974 to 1980, Nambi led a team of a hundred Indian scientists in France — developing the Viking-3 Engine.

When he brought it home, he renamed it VIKAS — a tribute to his mentor, Dr. Vikram A. Sarabhai.

It meant development — but for Nambi, it meant destiny.

Visuals:

Rocket launch sequence. Flames, smoke, and cheers as the PSLV lifts off.

Narration:

That engine still powers PSLV and GSLV rockets today.

It has been used in Chandrayaan-1, PSLV missions, and Mangalyaan.

Every satellite India launches carries the heartbeat of his invention.

■■■ [Scene 5 – The Fall: 1994]

Visuals:

Nighttime news headlines flash: “ISRO Spy Scandal!”

Black-and-white shots of police cars, flashing lights, and handcuffs.

Narration (Teja, somber tone):

Then came 30 November 1994.

Without proof, without reason — they called him a spy.

They accused him of selling secrets to two Maldivian women.

They broke into his home and arrested him in front of his family.

Visuals:

Jail bars closing. Interrogation lights. His wife crying silently.

Narration:

They tortured him. They wanted him to name his superiors, to destroy ISRO from within.

But he refused.

He collapsed — but he never surrendered.

He stood alone — not to shine, not to fight — but to prove his innocence.

He endured 50 days of suffering, threats, and torture.

The price he paid was immense. For two years, his entire family suffered alongside him.

His daughter wasn't allowed to receive blessings because her father was branded a traitor.

His son was bullied by friends — called "the son of a traitor and a womanizer."

People threw stones at his house, and even buried his statue in front of his family.

All of this didn't break him — but one thing did.

The one thing he loved and admired the most — ISRO — didn't stand with him when he needed it the most.

■■■ [Scene 6 – The Fight for Truth]

Visuals:

Courtrooms. Files stamped "No Evidence."

CBI officers shaking hands.

Narration:

The CBI found no proof of espionage.

The Supreme Court cleared his name — but who cleared his pain?

He spent 50 days in jail... and a lifetime in silence.

Visuals:

Newspaper cuttings. A man walking alone through ISRO gates.

Narration:

He was transferred, humiliated, and forgotten.

The same nation that he lifted into space — dragged him through the mud.

We didn't see the motive — we only saw the act.

■■■ [Scene 7 – The Redemption]

Visuals:

Supreme Court verdict, September 2018.

Justice Dipak Misra reading the judgment.

Narration:

After 24 long years, the Supreme Court called it what it was — a crime against an innocent man.

Those who accused him are now rulers, businessmen, and influential figures of this nation.

The Court ordered the Kerala government to pay ₹50 lakh in compensation.

But no money could return the years he lost... the dreams he wanted to achieve.

Visuals:

Nambi receiving the Padma Bhushan, March 2019.

Standing tall, tears in his eyes.

Narration:

In 2019, the man once branded a traitor stood before the President of India — honored as a national hero. That day, India bowed its head — not to forgive, but to apologize.

■ [Scene 8 – The Legacy]

Visuals:

Students building rockets. ISRO launches. Children watching the sky.

Narration:

Nambi Narayanan is more than a scientist.

He is a reminder — that truth can be silenced, but never erased.

He showed us what it means to believe in a country, even when the country stops believing in you.

Voiceover (Teja, final line):

For me, he is a warrior —

bruised and broken, yet still standing.

The greatest creator ever.

Science, war, fiction — everything is his to claim,
except that which India returned: pain and sorrow.

They can accuse him of anything...

But they can't erase his achievements.

"They called him a traitor...

But history calls him a patriot."

☒ End Title Card:

"Dedicated to every Indian who was punished for doing the right thing."

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