## Our neighbour Dharma?

లక్ష్మీపతి నిరుపేద కావచ్చు. భక్షపతి కుబేరుడు కావచ్చు. ఆనందరావు మొహంలో మచుకెనా సంతోషం కనిపించకపోవచు. పిచ్చయ్య మహా మేధావిగా పేరు తెచ్చుకోవచ్చు. పేరు మనిషికి ఒక గుర్తింపు మాత్రమే. ఆ నాలుగైదు అక్షరాల ఆధారంగా ఎవరి వ్యక్తిత్యాన్మీ అంచనా వేయలేం. ఈ సంభాషణ

ఇతివృత్తమూ ఇదే.

Suma: The music teacher says she's not cut out for a singer.



Saira: Let her try one more time.

Suma: My schoolmate Sangeetha has attended music classes for four years. She's not learnt even the basics so far. Saira: Classical or light music?

Suma: The music teacher says she's not cut out for a singer.

Saira: Let her learn some other art.

Suma: Your cousin whom we visited at the hospital, what's his name?

Saira: Anjaneyulu.

Suma: See how often he falls sick. He hasn't the least power of resistance. Seems a perpetual patient!

Saira: I've told him several times to change his lifestyle.

Suma: Mr Dharmaji ... A man of affluence. But does he ever help anybody with money?

Saira: Our neighbour Dharma?

Suma: And we have our Satyam. He's perfected the art of lying. Can we tell lies so effortlessly as he?

## **MILTON?**

Teacher: What do you know about

Student: Milton is a famous company. It's a household name.

It's products are lunch box, water bottle, vacuum flask, casserole ...

Teacher: Stop!

Student: Anything wrong, sir? Teacher: Tell me about Milton, the

blind poet.

Saira: Let her learn some other art

> Saira: His friends call him a born, chronic. innate, inveterate liar!

Suma: See Mr Anand. He has a villa, a luxury car, a flourishing business and what not. Yesterday he called me to say he wasn't happy.

Saira: But what's your pressing, pestering doubt?

Suma: None of these persons have grown into personalities associated with their names

Saira: Do you think names given at birth are prophetic?

Suma: Why didn't they grow upto expectations?

Saira: Whose expectations?

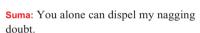
Suma: Parents' expectations, of course. Saira: Parents name their baby by looking at the face and its features.

Suma: Aren't personalities predetermined by names given at birth? Saira: No. Personality is a result of environment, socio-economic conditions,

cultural background and many other factors.



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Saira: Thank you for reposing confidence in me. May I know your doubt?

Suma: You know I have a cousin by name

Saira: You've mentioned her many a time.

Suma: She has everything a woman could ask for. But I've never seen her happy and peaceful.

Saira: Any problems?

Suma: Do you remember my friend Lakshmi? She visited our place last year. Saira: I do remember her.

Suma: Her husband is head over heels in debt. They are in dire straits. They can't make both ends meet.

Saira: I'm sorry for them.

Suma: My sister's daughter Saraswathi has failed again.

Saira: Flunked her exam again?

Suma: She couldn't pass her tenth standard in seven attempts.

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