



An ordinary job, an ordinary office, an ordinary salary but an extra-ordinary life. This podcast is a scan of Gurudev's office and work life.

The Workplace

The first crop of Gurudev's disciples came from his workplace. They were part of the genesis of his spiritual practices. In the early years, he would travel on a bicycle from work to a neighbouring devotee's house to do seva during his lunch break. Later on, his ride was a scooter. His office yielded several disciples, allowed him to meet many in need, while his official camps became training grounds for his younger spiritual recruits. His productivity ratio on seva was unbelievably high.

K.L. Nagpal, a future devotee, was the first co-worker Gurudev befriended at work. Dwarkanath ji who was their landlord and roommate at Paharganj in Delhi, shares an interesting story of how Nagpal ji got the job.

Q: So, what were you saying that Kundanlal Nagpal ji's name was K L Nagpal?

Dwarkanath ji: KL Nagpal. KL Nagpal was also a candidate and the other person named Kundanlal Nagpal was also a candidate.

Q: Who had been recommended?

Dwarkanath ji: Yes. So, by mistake the first name that appeared was KL Nagpal and they thought it was Kundanlal Nagpal.

Q: They gave him the job?

Dwarkanath ji: Yes, they gave him the job. He got the appointment letter and joined the office. After a week, Kundanlal Nagpal's father thought that his son had got the job but when he saw who that person was, he discovered that he wasn't his son. (laughs) Like this KL Nagpal got this job.

Q: (laughs) By error, by mistake...

Dwarkanath ji: Yes. So, the father of the other KL Nagpal blessed Nagpal and said, "You were very needy that's why you got this job. Next time, my son will."

Q: This was his destiny to meet Gurudev?

Dwarkanath ji: Yes, he was destined to meet him.

Nagpal ji was multiple personalities rolled into one. He provided Gurudev with a lot of relief at work and allowed him extra time for seva. His opinions of Gurudev's office life are coming up.

Q: Nagpal ji, this brings me to a very awkward question, was there any bureaucratic problems he had in doing this work?

Nagpal ji: Sometimes, sometimes. He would only face problems with a few people. Otherwise, everybody used to say, "Whatever you are doing, continue doing it." His work was satisfactory and that is what they were concerned with. The work was being done properly, so they did not have a problem.

Gurudev would pick up Nagpal ji who lived in the neighbourhood every morning at 7. Nagpal ji was often late. What Gurudev said to him in humour was, "So many people wait for me and here you are making me wait for you!"

Later, when Nagpal ji got into the justification gambit about how he had to do additional work for Gurudev, he got a good one as a rejoinder. Gurudev said, "I serve others and you serve me. Doesn't that make you greater than me?" And this was very common banter between the two.

Nagpal ji recalls.

Nagpal ji: Today, when I remember a few things, it brings tears to my eyes. For example, sometimes we'd leave for work early in the morning. When I would be late, by 5 mins or so, he would say, "Nage, we have to leave the house at 7 in the morning." He'd come to my house to pick me up. If I'd get a few minutes late, as soon as I sat in the car he would say, "Naaga, the world is waiting for me and you are one person who is making me wait!" (laughs) This was one instance and then there was another instance, like I told you that brings tears to my eyes. People would not leave him in the office and home; he was never left alone. He didn't have time and we would have to fill and sign various vouchers and submit them in the office on his behalf. So, I told him "Guruji, I have to do your work plus mine too, and you are roaming all over the place." He would reply, "Listen, I'm doing public service and you are given the task of doing my work then you tell me who is greater? Who is greater?" (laughs)

The one-time Nagpal ji did a 'katti' with Gurudev and sulked was when his child was born. The incident is recounted by Gurudev's eldest son, Pravesh Channan called Bubba.

Parvesh ji: Nagpal uncle and Guruji were close friends for so many years and slowly, slowly that relationship changed. Most of the times they would go to the office together and return back separately. Nagpal ji directly approached Guruji and told him that he wanted a son. Guruji replied that his wish was granted. Nagpal uncle asked Guruji if what

he was saying was true because if it wasn't, he would be very sad and angry. He told him to tell him the truth. Hearing this, Guruji once again said that he would have a son. After a few days, aunty was 2 months pregnant so he once again asked Guruji, "Will I have a son?" Guruji replied, "Yes you will." Once, when he was in Guruji's room, Surinder Taneja uncle was present there along with others. Nagpal ji told Guruji, "Guruji, please see that I don't get a girl as I want a boy." So Guruji said "Don't worry, you will have a boy only. You go home now." Once he left the room, Guruji began to laugh loudly and told Surinder ji that "He is about to have a girl child." Hearing this, Surinder ji was shocked and asked Guruji, "Guruji, you promised him for a boy and if it's a girl he will get angry." To which Guruji replied that he was giving him a girl because he knew of Nagpal ji's heart problem. I got to know about this incident 2 to 3 years earlier. He stated that Nagpal ji didn't have much life left. However, once this 4th girl arrived into his life, due to some karmic reasons, he would not go anywhere till she was married and settled down. Surinder uncle heard what Guruji said. Eventually, Guruji had to send Surinder ji and a few others to Nagpal ji's house to placate him. By then, Nagpal ji had already had 2 bypass surgeries. He also had a heart attack. He had said "Till his debt are not repaid, he won't die" This is what Guruji had told Surinder Taneja ji.

What was interesting about this incident was that very often Gurudev had to manipulate destiny by playing cards which were not a part of the pack. And this was one such card.

He made sure that Nagpal ji had another daughter amongst the many he already had, to ensure that his life could be extended on that pretext. Because Nagpal ji was a great lieutenant to Gurudev during his office camps, Gurudev was obliged and obligated to him.

Anand Parashar who was a junior in Gurudev's team remembers the years gone by.

If he had been a shayar and I had asked him to rewind to the memories stuck in his head, he would have probably recited the nazm that follows.

*Tum zidd toh kar rahe ho hum kya tumhe sunaye
Tum zidd toh kar rahe ho hum kya tumhe sunaye
Nagme jo kho gaye hai unhe kaha se laaye
unhe kaha se laaye*

Anand ji: What I can understand from what I had seen and experienced, he used to do a lot of seva. In fact, I have never seen anyone in my life who was so dedicated to serving others. I have never seen him getting angry in my life. Whenever he would get time, he would do his meditation. People tell me and I too have seen that when he was on tour, he would spend some time in meditation after lunch. We used to think that he is sleeping but it was not the case. He used to keep an eye on everything. He kept all the information. So, during lunch time, in our office at *PUSA*, there was a person named RK

Sharma ji. There were other people who had issues would come to meet him. Their problems would be sorted only through his blessings. He used to do his seva then during lunch time. There were times when I myself have taken him on my bicycle to do seva.

Q: Being his office colleague, how did you become his devotee?

Anand ji: Once, we were on a tour, this was in the year 1985 or 86. Our tour was in Lucknow in a place called *Surecha*. From there we went to Sitapur to get the maps and there was a vegetable market. We wanted to buy vegetables as most of the staff would stay together. We purchased few vegetables from there. There were many people staying at the camp so we would get all the vegetables in one go as we were in a hurry; I asked a poor vendor to drop off the vegetables in our vehicle. So Guruji said “Do one thing, you go along with him.” I asked him how much will he charge? He said Rs.2. In those days, the value for Rs. 2 was much more than it is today. I agreed and he dropped those vegetables in our vehicle and I gave him Rs. 5 instead of Rs. 2. The vendor said that he doesn’t have change to give back. I asked him to keep it. You won’t believe, I saw that Guruji had kept his hand on my shoulder, I can’t forget that day. He said, “Son, I had come to see this from you.” He sowed the seed of kindness in us.

Q: So, everyone in the office knew that he was a Guru? Would they come to him for help?

Anand ji: As far as help is concerned, human beings are selfish. If anyone says that he is not selfish, then he surely is not telling the truth. If they come to know that their problems will be solved in a certain way then they will follow that way. So, people used to come to meet in the office too. There were even people from outside who would come to meet him in the office and take his blessings. So, whenever Guruji would get time, he would give his blessings to them. Then later our office shifted to Curzon Road from PUSA. There was a tea shop owned by Gupta ji where Guruji would go and meet people and give his blessings.

Q: Then his boss would get very angry on him thinking that he is doing all this extra work instead of office work?

Anand ji: No, I will make it clear that Guruji never mixed this work with his office work. He never let anything impede his office work. He used to complete his office work first. I have never seen a day where his boss or his colleagues, till 1990 when Guruji had taken voluntary retirement that he was slack. I have never seen anyone complaining about his work or of pending work. Never. He used to do all his work up to the mark.

Let’s move to Gupta ji whose tea and juice stall Gurudev frequented.

The lies this man had to tell to protect Gurudev’s presence and location in the office building probably certifies him as the “prince of lies”. Our answer to Charles, the Prince of Wales, is Gupta ji, the “Prince of Tales”.

Gupta ji: There was always a huge crowd of people who would gather to meet him here.

Q: By here, you mean at this tea stall?

Gupta ji: Yes, He would sit at this tea stall. Because Guruji would not meet anyone in the office so he would meet them here.

Q: Ok. He would meet them here. You once mentioned to me that Guruji would have juice from your stall every day?

Gupta ji: So, before we became a tea and coffee stall, we were a juice centre. It was only in around 1973 that we came to know that he was a Guru.

Q: What was his office time?

Gupta ji: He would work from 9:30 in the morning to 4:30 in the noon.

Q: 9:30 to 4:30. Would he reach work on time?

Gupta ji: Yes, in fact he would reach here almost at 7:30 in the morning before work. (7.30?) He will come give his attendance and would leave somewhere for his work.

Q: And he would return from work by 4.30 pm?

Gupta ji: Yes. Mostly he had his field work only. So, he would not be in the office much.

Q: So, Gupta ji, due to him, you must have had quite a few visitors at your stall, waiting to have juice? (laughs)

Gupta ji: (laughs) Well, there would be a few people waiting on the left, a few on the right and a few more who would follow him right into the stall. They would keep their cars waiting at each gate thinking Guruji would leave from this gate or that gate and he would accompany them in their cars.

Q: I've heard that, everyone says Guruji would offer his salary to people at the very beginning itself.

Gupta ji: He would just distribute it.

Q: Have you seen him do this?

Gupta ji: I have. There was no process really. Guruji would simply listen to each person's troubles and give each person a certain sum to help them out. Someone would say it's my daughter's wedding, someone would ask for something else.

Q: Guruji would not keep some part of his salary for himself?

Gupta ji: Later, we used to force him to keep part of his salary. Nagpal ji and later, KL Bakshi would hand over Guruji's salary to Mataji.

Q: Are there any other interesting things you'd like to share about your experiences with Guruji that might interest others?

Gupta ji: Everyday, people would wait at all the gates with their cars to escort Guruji to any place he wished to visit. He would send his bike keys and helmet to me through someone with a message, "Tell Gupta to escort his Guru from here!" (laughs)

Q: Then?

Gupta ji: I would start his bike and go from one gate to the other and people would follow me.

Q: So, people would eventually catch up with Guruji and surround him?

Gupta ji: They could only do that if he wanted to be caught! (laughs) They would never be able to do that. I would leave from this big gate. Seeing us leaving, all the cars would follow us. It wasn't that difficult.

Decades after Gurudev's passing, Gupta ji is a regular sevadaar at the Najafgarh sthan. No more is he the prince of lies. He is a man of great qualities, and though not around physically, Gurudev is still a part of his life!

Pratap Singh ji was Gurudev's superior at the workplace, but de facto he was boss to us all. He revelled in the attention we gave him and our combined efforts kept him quite sorted. A few small favours and a show of respect were enough for him to ignore the fact that we were regular gate-crashers at the office camps which came under his jurisdiction.

Gurudev would accord him due respect and follow protocol. Sometimes at the camps, he would even cook for Pratap Singh ji and at other times, he would oblige him with small favours.

For a confused agnostic and disbeliever, Pratap Singh ji has some heavyweight words to say for his junior at work - the being we call Gurudev.

Pratap ji: He was a very nice boy. With the Guru's grace he had got these Shiv symbols on his palm. He was energetic and sober. He had no ego and was also a hard worker as he would be on field for six to nine months in a year in different areas. So, I found him to be an energetic and good worker.

Q: So, Pratap Singh ji, what was Gurudev's work?

Pratap ji: Soil Survey. He had to do surveys at the river valley projects to demarcate the area, analyze different soils which erode from hilly areas and fill up the catchment areas and reservoir. So, he was working as a soil surveyor in different river valley projects in India especially the Northern India. He was stationed in Delhi. The office time was from 9.30 am, so, he would reach the office by 9 am only.

Pratap Singh ji's expectation from Gurudev was efficiency and deliverability, and he was satisfied with both. That made it relatively easy for him to shut his eyes to Gurudev's spiritual endeavours. He continues.

Pratap ji: He was smiling always. He was never sad and did not like seeing others sad. If a person came to him saying that his wife is unwell, he would say "She will be fine, go." He never said no for anything. He was such a positive thinker.

Some of the official camps that Gurudev was a part of became venues for mass healing and also served as an opportunity to meet his future disciples.

R.C. Malhotra ji started off as Gurudev's friend, later became his landlord, and thereafter, his prime disciple.

RP Sharma ji, a powerful yet simple man, became his *Luca Brasi*.

Dr Shankar Narayan showcased humility by accepting a subordinate as a guru and another subordinate Malhotra ji, as a senior guru bhai.

FC Sharma ji, an icon of humility, was also part of this initial bunch of disciples. He reflects on Gurudev's office life and sense of protocol.

Sometimes great content cannot be accompanied by great audio. So do bear with some audio disturbance.

Q: He used to live a normal life?

FC Sharma ji: Yes. Wherever he used to go in the office, everyone used to call him by his name.

Q: People used to call him by his name?

FC Sharma ji: Yes, by his name.

Q: And he used to address his senior colleagues as 'Sir' and give them respect?

FC Sharma ji: Yes. He never showed anyone that he was a 'Guru' and whenever he used to enter his senior's office, he would ask permission by saying 'May I come in sir?'

Q: Whenever he used to enter his senior's office he would say "May I come in sir?"

The interview continues after a gap of several years.

Q: Everyone has 24 hours in a day, and Gurudev was very devoted towards his work. He went everywhere himself. In spiritual life, you should have time to dedicate to paath. So how did Gurudev balance both?

FC Sharma ji: Only he knows that answer. But he would surely do that. Gurudev worked from 8 am till 5 pm in the office, and did paath in the night from 3:15 am to 5.15 am.

And paath was mandatory for him. And when someone does paath, it infuses them with a certain energy that a person uses to work. There is so much energy in paath that even if you have slept for half an hour, it equals 8 hours of sleep.

I guess, another office colleague, Jain Saab, eavesdropped his way to spirituality. Gurudev was in the process of training his first disciple Malhotra ji and would give him instructions on a daily basis. A debrief would happen every evening. Jain Sahab would sit and eavesdrop. That showed his enthusiasm for the subject. It also led to making him one of Gurudev's most powerful disciples.

Let's hear this interesting story in FC Sharma ji's words.

Q: Mostly, Malhotra ji, Jain Saab and Gurudev used to be together. Gurudev used to spend more time with Malhotra ji and they used to make Jain Saab sit at a distance sometimes as they would discuss their personal issues.

FC Sharma ji: Later, I realized that every morning Gurudev used to tell Malhotra ji that he should do so and so things at night.

Q: Gurudev used to tell Malhotra ji that at night he has to do so and so things?

FC Sharma ji: Malhotra ji used to follow Gurudev's instructions and also report back with details of the experiences every morning. I don't know what he would tell him. Later, we came to know that Guruji was not only training him but also teaching him the mantras to facilitate his meetings with several deities.

Though unclear, that was a heavy weight statement. He said that Gurudev would train Malhotra ji in mantras and make him meet and communicate with those Devi Devtas.

Coming up next is one of the few audio recordings of Malhotra ji that exists. He was probably the first in line of several, and therefore special to Gurudev. Had a pretty good sense of humour and in Gurudev's world, he was more than just an institution.

Q: I had heard that you were a naughty disciple. Is it true?

Malhotra ji: Naughty (laughs)?

Q: You would joke around, tease people and scare Bade Jain Saab. Do all these things come under spirituality?

Malhotra ji: When he committed mistakes, I used to make him understand in this manner.

Another significant co-worker was the late Datta Babu. Gurudev made sure that Dutta Babu was transferred to Calcutta so that he could manage a sthan or a centre of help and healing there.

RK Sharma ji's house which was a cycle-ride away from office became the venue where Gurudev would serve people during office breaks.

Back to Anand.

Anand ji: We have never seen him having lunch at the office. We have never seen him doing so. Actually, to tell you the truth, he never had time. He would meet people during lunch break as well as they used to wait for him outside the office with great hope. Since he had got all these powers from nature, he would never deny people their requests. He would always co-operate from his end.

The little salary Gurudev earned, got even littler on pay day.

Dwarkanath ji laments.

Dwarkanath ji: Gurudev was totally detached from money, absolutely detached. While Nagpal ji and Gurudev both got salaries, Nagpal ji used to get all the money home, while Gurudev came back empty handed. Class 4 employees would drink tea at the tea stall with him. When the tea seller mentioned that the bill was 30 bucks, Gurudev would give him 50 rupees instead and tell him to adjust it in the future. And the driver, he also had a driver that time, he used to ask for money from Gurudev. So, in the evening when he came home, he had no money at all. I used to say, "Nagpal got his salary as did you, right?" To this he replied, "What do I do when people ask me for money. I have to give it to them."

Gurudev had no greed for or attachment to money. At home he was not thrifty with his wife's salary, and at office, generous with his own.

Arithmetically, their combined salaries weren't enough to meet the basic needs of raising a family and the expenses of running a sthan. To top this, the money from his salary was often distributed in part to the junior employees who requested him for monetary help.

And, yet, somehow, the two ends met, even if just about. The secret was *barkat*..the relationship with money which makes your buck last longer.

Gurudev's wife was a pillar of strength. She endured a lot hardships on account of Gurudev's generosity, but she handled the situation with poise and amusement. She was the care-taker of the backend seva that was constantly happening in their home. A school teacher by profession, she worked for the better part of the day and spent the remainder tending to her family and managing the langar or the community kitchen. For her, it was a long 18-hour day, but for him it was probably longer.

She shares a few interesting titbits about his office life:

Mataji: I have heard that in office, he used to say things in the afternoon which came true. Then all these people started following him—his colleagues, the office people—they said he said something at a particular time which came true, and they said they would also say something at the same time. Guruji was low key about this as he didn't want to raise too many eyebrows. He didn't want anyone to know. There were Malhotra etc.—who were his friends. It was at this time that Malhotra came under his fold. Then after that he started giving all these mantras to his disciples.

Dr Shankar Narayan was 'Chef ala Gurgaon' and in charge of the community kitchen during major functions.

Blessed is the Lord that he did not burn his free-flowing lungi when he was near the fire. Of course, he did not know how to cook but he knew the lungi dance long before it became a rage in Bollywood!

Q: How did you know Gurudev?

Shankar Narayan ji: In fact, I didn't know about him till 5 years after I came to the Delhi office.

Q: You were in the same office?

Shankar Narayan ji: No, he was in the parallel office and Malhotra ji was in my office. Malhotra ji never told me about Guruji. I never knew about him. It was only after Mr Dutta, who worked in Gurudev's department, his father was badly ill. He tried all medical cures but nothing helped. Then, somebody told him about Guruji and it was Guruji who actually saved the father. Dutta and one of my colleagues came and told me about this when I came back from Iraq. Then I asked Dutta, "I want to meet him." Dutta said that he knew I was interested in such things. Guruji had also told Dutta that he was waiting for me to come to him. He was waiting for the right time. So, I actually met Guruji with the help of Dutta. I'm so grateful to Dutta as it is because of him that I met Guruji and became his shisya (disciple).

Guruji entered my office room one day. He came in and I immediately got up from my seat and came and sat near him. Within 2 mins he said, "We will go to your house". He sat and then he asked me "What do you want from me?" I told him, "You are a *Shiv bhakt* and I'm actually a believer in Ganpati." Then he told me that it did not matter to him. He had tea and spoke to my wife and children and then left. The next day, he gave me a slip of paper which had a Ganpati mantra. That's how it started. He then gave me my second Ganpati jaap and told me not to give it to anybody.

Q: I want to ask you did you have any other reasons for meeting him?

Shankar Narayan ji: Yes, yes, that I'll tell you. Every day I had to go to this doctor and bring medicines for one family member or the other, especially my youngest daughter Vaishali who is now in USA. After meeting Guruji, I stopped going to any doctor.

Q: Regarding his office, Dr Shakamarayan, I want to ask you considering he had so many people who used to come and meet him even I used to wait outside his office and then there were so many gates, how did his bosses react to all of this?

Shankar Narayan ji: His bosses also used to meet him for help and healing. (laughs) Because, the wonderful thing I can tell you is that his bosses used to come and touch his feet. But when he would be in the office he would actually stand before the table, like a government servant. That is the quality of Guruji.

Q: You have seen that he was following the protocol?

Shankar Narayan ji: In the office, he was like a government servant.

Q: Dr Shankamarayan, did his office people accept the fact that so many people used to come to meet him, stand outside his office. Didn't it make people envious and jealous of him?

Shankar Narayan ji: Of course. I'll give you one example. Guruji was taking me to some place. On the way he met one of his colleagues and he jokingly told Guruji, "Now you have become a Guru." Hearing this, Guruji just smiled at him. There were also few people in the office who were his followers and few of them were also his disciples. In those days, they used to ask Guruji to bring cigarette from the shop.

Q: Before they found out that he was a Guru?

Shankar Narayan ji: Yes, and Guruji used to also go and get Phillip cigarettes for them. He used to actually do all those things.

Not only did Gurudev buy cigarettes for his colleagues, but they often took advantage of his generosity by drinking cups of tea at Gupta ji's stall, and adding the expense to Gurudev's account.

But being exploited never caused Gurudev any awkwardness.

I got this hand me down quote from Bittu ji about what Gurudev had said to him on the subject. He had said "*woh kal bhi pite the, hum kal bhi pilate the, woh aaj pite hai, hum aaj bhi pilate hai, woh kal bhi piyenge, hum kal bhi pilayenge.*"

For him generosity was not a sacrifice. It was a purpose!

What made the office folk look at him in awe was the case of Susheela Chaudhary, an elegant woman whose agnostic husband eventually became a significant player in the

game of seva. His tall physique, bellowing voice and central girth lent him a distinguished demeanour. After his demise, the sthan at Patel Nagar ran in absentia for decades. He served people who visited it in the spirit form. Let's hear her story.

Sushila ji: I have known Guruji since the last 35 years, I have worked in his office with him. When I found out about Guruji, I had a daughter, Ritu, and the doctors had told me that I would never conceive a child again.

This was about after 4 years after the birth of my daughter. When I went to meet Guruji, I wished him Namaste. Then guruji said *"Haan Put, Kis tarah aaye ho* (Yes child what is troubling you)" I said, "I have gone through many treatments and operations for 4 years. All the tests are done, but the doctors have concluded that I cannot conceive a child, as one tube is alright but the other one is bad." Guruji said, "Forget the doctors! They are crazy! You will have three sons." He said this to me on the very first day. And there were tears of happiness in my eyes. I said, "Ok ji." He asked me to get 21 cardamoms. At that time Guruji used to wear steel kada. Guruji said, "By maalik's grace, there will be a child in your house in a years' time." He also said that I will have three sons. After 1 ¼ years, I conceived a boy named Puneet. Then I conceived another boy in the next 1 ½ years after the first boy. Then, one day, Guruji said, "Now be prepared for the next child." I said no and thanked him, "I asked you for one son and you gave me two sons. Now the way you have made me happy, make others also happy too." Then Guruji said, "I have to give you that which is part of your destiny." I said, "No guruji, that's it! Now this should be for someone else."

Whenever I went to meet guruji, he said the same thing to me and I too answered the exact same way every time. And finally, one day Guruji said, *"Tu rooz roti thi, aaj maine usse kahin aur janam kara diya hai"* (as you always kept saying, that child has taken birth in someone else's house.) He also told me where the child had taken birth.

Q: So, this 3rd child which Guruji has given birth somewhere else, do you know who is the child?

Sushila ji: I don't know who is he, but he is born in some affluent family, although Guruji said that the child is a holy spirit and wants to take birth in my family where there is bhakti (devotion), paath pooja (prayer) happening. But when I refused, he gave the child birth in some other family. I went through a period of deep distress. Guruji said, "If you would have let it happen then everything would have been alright as it's a holy spirit and wanted to take birth in your family." Guruji also said that it was my father's spirit. My father used to do paath, pooja, bhakti (chant God's name and do prayer). I was very attached to my father.

What is out of the ordinary in the late Sushila ji's story is that her office associate brushed aside all medical analysis and evaluation, and promised her three sons, delivered two, and at her instance hived off the 3rd to another mother.

As if that was not uncanny enough, he even knew the identity of the not to be born third!
Only supernatural divinity in human form could know this.

The focus on miracles can often make a character too distant to be believable.

By now, you the listener, should be convinced that the universe connived to curate his life and circumstances. The puzzle seemed to fit in place like a script awaiting enactment.

Look at how thanks to a cow, he got admission in PUSA-the agricultural university; how the wrong Nagpal got the job to do the right things, how he developed the attitudes required for the deity that he was to become, how the disciples who joined the same department as him weren't there by coincidence.

In fact, his workplace gave him opportunities to meet people, find and rein in disciples, travel across half the country, extend the reach of seva, fructify the tapasya of many devotee's-past and present, and give salvation to human beings, animals and spirits.

They were a part of his destiny, like he was theirs!

Could even the best script writer have conceived a script like this?

More than creativity and imagination, it would take knowing. The only person who did foretell his script was the one who could see the future – *Rishi Brighu* of the *Samhita* fame.

Gurudev's life was one of amazement. So, let's be amazed.

*Aaye ho nibhane ko jab kirdar zameen par
Kuch aisa kar chalo ke zamana misaal de
Kuch aisa kar chalo ke zamana misaal de*