
Vijay Patwardhan - Our Nostradamus

I would like to describe the experiences of my wife Indira and mine with Vijay Patwardhan. We have known Vijay for nearly 20 years now. And he has been one of the best things that has happened in our lives.

Sometime in May 1992, while I was in New Delhi on a transfer from my company, Indira and I visited Pune to meet my son who was studying there. At that time, my work life and personal life was in turmoil. Corporate political games and factionalism was giving me a lot of stress; at the same time, my son was not giving me the confidence of being a good student — he had slid down from being a brilliant student to one who was struggling to get along in his class. Like all parents we were concerned at this development, and though we were supporting him in every way and indulging in his constant demands - for a motorbike, clothes, more pocket money - we did not see any change in his attitude which was always rebellious and argumentative.

While Indira and I were trying to figure out a way out of this difficulty with our son, and at the same time I was battling away at my job, we met a cousin of Indira who suggested that we meet a person called Vijay Patwardhan who could help us in understanding the reason for all this, and at the same time show us a way out. “Is Vijay an astrologer?” I asked, and was told, “No, no, he is not that. Vijay does not require your horoscope. He has a divine power to see into your life; in fact he has helped several people with difficulties. And all these people have been satisfied with his advice”. While Indira, an ever optimist, jumped at the idea, I was a little hesitant,

perhaps a little skeptical as well. Nevertheless I was in such a state of mind that I welcomed any help, so we went to meet Vijay after taking an appointment.

We reached his chambers at noon, and I was surprised to see that I had to stand in the corridor leading to his chambers. His door was closed and there were a number of people already standing outside. There was no sitting area, no chairs or sofas. I was wondering - what is this? And while I had an appointment there were others who wanted appointments were waiting. Anyway we also waited outside. Our turn came at 1.00 pm when Vijay beckoned us in and shut the door. It was a very plain unfurnished room and except for 2 chairs placed in the middle and a few paintings on the wall there was nothing at all. Vijay made us remove our slippers and beckoned me to sit on one of the chairs while he occupied the chair across me. Indira was standing behind me. No words were spoken so far.

Vijay then said a silent prayer and then asked me to extend both my hands face up. He then held my hands. They were very soft hands, though strong. With his thumb, he felt the mounts of my hands, touched each finger and the ridges. He then smiled at me and asked me for my date of birth, then closed his eyes. What happened next is really remarkable and amazing !

There was an immediate transformation of Vijay — he went into a sort of trance and started to relate all the immediately preceding events and incidents and in fact told me the reason for our visit on that day. For the next 15-20 minutes, Vijay talked about the cause of all the stress and tension in my life and how long the period would last. I must confess that I have never met anyone like Vijay who could do that. To say that I was totally amazed at hearing Vijay is an understatement - I was literally floored !

Shortly thereafter Vijay looked into my eyes and said, “Do you have any questions?” As I stumbled for words, still recovering from this experience, Indira (who is a better communicator than me and an outspoken one at that) explained the reason for our visit and asked about my job as well as our son and when life would get

organized. Vijay gave some very useful advice and also the time line for my life events.

Vijay then asked me to chant a prayer for Lord Shiva every day as well as recite the Hanuman Chalisa. I got up from the chair and it was Indira's turn. Vijay went through the same process again — he closed his eyes and said a prayer, then held her hands and after she gave her date of birth, closed his eyes and related the recent past incidents and the difficulties as well as why and when we could see the end of all these difficulties. Vijay then suggested some prayers for Indira. He also said that Indira (who had given up her job several years ago) will get back into the corporate world with a bang and get a senior position. I was quite surprised because this was not our plans for Indira. She was quite satisfied as a consultant for a leading political figure at Delhi. Nevertheless we listened to Vijay and left. For someone who entered Vijay's chamber with some apprehension, I walked out as an energetic and confident person having understood that good days would soon follow.

As they say, the rest is history. My life moved on a path that had been foretold by Vijay. Soon thereafter, matters came to ahead and I left the services of the company I was with - after 10 long years, and returned to Mumbai. Indira and I met Vijay regularly as we were only a few hours' drive from Mumbai, and I must admit Vijay gave remarkable guidance to me, almost like holding my hand to walk my life and avoid pitfalls. It has always been so refreshing to meet Vijay; often he would speak with a twinkle in his eye about something to happen in the future that really define any logic. But then - lo and behold ! Things would unfold exactly as he said it would.

To give an instance, Vijay said that I would get a new position with a shipping company and I said to myself, "Shipping? I know nothing of that industry." But Vijay insisted it will happen. When I was offered the position of Chief Executive with a large business group, it was remarkable that the Group also owned a shipping company. Now who would believe that? And so, Vijay became our 'Nostradamus'.

In 1995, during one of our counseling sessions, Vijay told Indira that he is able to see her living in an apartment close to the sea and driving a Mercedes Benz car. Indira laughed at his words saying, “I will treat you when your words come true !” We were wondering how this could happen when the apartment we lived in Mumbai was miles away from the sea, and what we were driving was a Maruti car ! Only the chairman of my group had a Mercedes !

But you will not believe this - shortly thereafter my company offered me accommodation at - believe this - Worli Sea Face in a high rise building ! In 1997 as predicted by Vijay, Indira and I moved to the US where we got nice jobs, bought a beautiful house, and, yes, we now have a Mercedes - plus a BMW !! Vijay had told us not to worry much about our son, and he is now doing very well in his career and life.

Over the years, Vijay has not only been our family counsellor, he has become a very dear friend, and indeed he is my older brother. We got introduced to his family-Mother, brothers, sister, brother-in-law and his nephew and niece. Vijay has also met members of my family. Both of us have shared our joys as well as sorrows together. I am sure all others who sought counsel from Vijay also have similar stories to relate, but Indira and I feel we are really fortunate to have Vijay as our well wisher and counsellor — our very own Nostradamus !!

Ramu Ramachandran
Indira Ramachandran

