

92/5 Hs in our Life

Last month my friend's wife was admitted to the hospital. She was pregnant. To avoid the last minute complications, doctor advised her to get admitted for observations. Obviously she was upset with the very thought of staying in the hospital. We all tried our level best to pacify her. I even sang one of the famous songs from the Hindi film 'Basera'. (**Jaha pe savera ho, basera wahi hai**'). I had seen this movie way back in 1983. Luckily she understood & accepted the reality that she has to 'enjoy' her stay in the hospital in the interest of her soon to be born child.

Few days passed nicely. Again she got upset and became home sick. Doctor had come for a special round in the afternoon as it was a Sunday. My friend was also present. She was requesting the Doctor to discharge her. Before the Doctor could say yes or no, I made **spontaneous remark** that Surekha; please remember that **there are 5 Hs which play a vital role in our life. Why don't you enjoy one H at present?** She being the enthusiastic lady got puzzled and inquisitive about the 5 Hs. I suggested that at present she should have her lunch and rest for a while and I would explain these 5 Hs in my next visit and till then she should be happy here. I left with my friend. **This article is about these 5 Hs namely House, Home, Hostel, Hotel and Hospital.**

If we observe these words closely, one will realize that concept of '**House**' is already taken care of in last 4 words namely Home, Hostel, Hotel and Hospital. '**House**' is made up of 4 walls and a roof. But the same '**House**' becomes a '**Home**' when the people staying in the house enjoy very excellent relations with each other. However, in day to day life, both the words namely House and Home are used interchangeably as is evident from advertisements issued by Builders and financing institutions. **Ultimately the love between the family members demarcate as to whether a flat is a house or home.**

Family atmosphere in the house/home in our childhood plays important role in our personality development, outlook towards life etc. Initially we get admitted in a school, then into '**High school**' and at times in a '**School Hostel**'. Atmosphere in high school or hostel also has long lasting effect on our personality.

After completing graduation, generally a student is forced to stay in a '**Hostel**'. Those staying in a '**House**' since childhood do not find it difficult to adjust with '**Hostel**' life. However, those staying in a '**Home**' obviously find it difficult to adjust with '**Hostel**' atmosphere. However young generation always gets fascinated and also wish to enjoy the limited freedom in '**Hostel**' life. The main problem is of Mess Food and fear of ragging.

On completion of higher education, one hopes to hook a good job, high designation and fat perks. Such jobs may not be available in a home town and one may be forced to stay away from their parental home. Here again, a person enjoys the stay for a few weeks in a '**Hotel**' but soon he gets fed up with the food and typical hotel atmosphere. **At times people get 'home' sick.**

At that time, one starts thinking of getting married. A person buys an apartment or takes it on rental basis. **If he happens to get good wife, his 'House' becomes a 'Home' and easily forgets the freedom he once enjoyed in a 'Hostel' or a 'Hotel'.**

A person may experience 'Hospital' at any age. In fact he is born in the '**Hospital**'. But generally and more frequently one comes in contact with advancing age as the enjoyment in young age takes it toll. One gets admitted in a '**hospital**' after an accident. **(Many accidents take place with our active involvement :)** Well, jokes apart. You will observe that a '**House**' is **hidden in a 'Hospital'**. But still we make meaningless efforts to search '**Home**' in the '**Hospital**'. How one can expect even a professional nurse to render service with a smiling face at all times. There is bound to be a difference between service rendered by your beloved wife and a nurse. But due to medical procedure, you are forced to have minimum stay in a '**Hospital**'. We don't like the food, expect that somebody should be by our side all the times, friends and acquaintances should call on us etc. We get happy when our loved ones call on us but equally get frustrated when few people drop in to enquire about our health. At times, we don't like people enquiring about our health on phone with our relatives instead of calling personally.

In short, a person makes efforts to search 'Home' in a 'Hostel', 'Hotel' or a 'Hospital'.

At home or house, we hate the rules. We don't like if elders ask us as to where you are going, at what time you would return, whom you are meeting etc. There is nobody to ask these questions in a 'Hostel' or a 'Hotel'. But at that time, a person becomes home sick, he becomes sentimental, he misses home food etc. That is the reason, students try to escape from Hostel freedom on weekends and if possible try desperately to spend weekend at home with their near and dear ones. While on a business/ office tour, one tries to complete the work as early as possible with an intention to return home early. Patient always has a feeling at the back of his mind that the doctor is unnecessarily holding him in a '**Hospital**'. Medical care is also possible at '**Home**'. In short, he is not happy staying even in a 5 star Hospital and wants to run away to enjoy the '**Home**' comforts.

Friends have you ever thought of the unlucky students who are forced to stay in a hostel or of a person, who has to stay away from his home for a job, may be even in a good hotel. Of course, one can take an apartment on a rental basis, but it may not be always possible. At times, old people are admitted to a hospital as there is nobody to take care at home. Under such circumstances, a person becomes desperate for his house. Funny mentality indeed. **He searches home while staying in a Hostel, Hotel or Hospital. But while at Home, he gets fascinated with the idea of freedom in a Hostel or Hotel.**

Have you ever thought about the mind frame of your family members while you are away from home? Do you think that when you are not able to enjoy whatever good food at hostel or hotel, whether your mother or wife would be enjoying home food? Do you remember your mother giving you a box of Ladoo, Chivda etc. when you returned to the hostel on Monday morning? Do you remember your Dad giving you extra pocket money during your stay at the hostel? Do you remember your mother or wife cooking special dishes of your choice on your return from office tour? Do you remember or seen grand sons waiting for your return from the hospital to finish half told story? **If you happen to get such environment, then I would say that you are the luckiest person in this world.**

Relationship is born with the birth but prosper only with good behaviour. Man is a social animal. We stay in a society. Please remember that society starts from you or you are the centre point of the society. **Hence we build & maintain relationship with others.** However

the outcome of a relationship also depends on the response from the other end. Disturbance in the relationship upsets you. Relationship should not be based on selfish grounds. It should not be developed by concealing the expectations from the other party. Since the other party does not know your expectations, may not reciprocate thereby upsetting you. Just think on your real motive in developing a relationship. I do agree that a person feels secure in certain relationships.

Friends, what is your experience with Home, Hostel, Hotel and Hospital? You want to hear my experience first. OK. I have already mentioned in my Spandane articles that my I was born in a middle class family. I hardly enjoyed the company of my Father. At a very young age one thing was engraved in my mind that my father would leave this world within a few years due to diabetes. I was barely 18 when he expired few months prior to retirement. My childhood was spent in the company of his medicines. You may not believe but I used to give insulin injection to my father since the age of 7 years. I was very short tempered & vagabond in my childhood. Once, my father threatened me that I would be sent to a Hostel. My school had a hostel facility. When I talked with the students staying in that hostel, my behaviour improved. ☺ Hence I do not have any experience of staying in a hostel.

After completing higher education, I took up a job in an industry and had to travel for office work. However, I enjoyed my stay in a Hotel. Twice, I had experience of a Hospital, once in January 1985 for piles operation and second time in July 1996 after I met with a bus accident while returning from Poona. In December 1998, I suffered from fever of unknown origin but escaped the trip to Hospital. ☺ Well there is no point making guesses about the future. **However, I consider myself lucky that most of my life was spent in a 'Home', thanks to my mother and now my wife 'Sumitra'.**

I pray to almighty God by whatever name called that all of you should enjoy your stay in your 'sweet Home'.

Friday, March 19, 2010