

Mr. W. Narayanan : I am Narayanan. W, foster son of Janaki Ramanujan wife of the great Mathematician. Mrs. Ramanujan and my grandmother happened to live in the same house at 37, South Tank Square, Triplicane. That is how I came into contact with Mrs. Ramanujan. She was very kind and quite helpful to my family. While I was suffering from fever, typhoid, my mother was also in hospital. At that time she came into contact with us. She was helping us. Later on, both of my parents died and she had taken care of my whole family. She has not enough money at that time and she was running tailoring classes and teaching students. So, she thought that I may be a disturbance for her some time. So, she thought that I should be put in a residential school and she was preparing to wind up her tailoring classes and other teaching, before she took me with her.

My first introduction to her she was telling that Ramanujan was a great Mathematician. She was aware of his values but then she didn't understand Mathematics in detail. And that is how she will not be able to explain to me in detail. At that time she was repeating many times that Ramanujan was a suffered but he was a very valuable Mathematician. After studying in Ramakrishna Residential School, for nearly three to four years, I joined there in 1955. But during the intervening period also she was financing all my needs. And she was responsible for my college studies. She admitted me in Vivekananda college where I did my B.Com. And soon after my graduation, I joined the State Bank of India in a clerical job at a local branch. She was conducting chits to support her monetary needs. She was conducting tailoring classes and chits for which I was most useful to her. I used to collect the money on her behalf.

In 1962, the 75th anniversary of Ramanujan was celebrated at the University of Madras and we all attended the function. Actually there was a recognition only at that time. From that time onwards there was recognition and more number of people were visiting but even earlier Dr. Chadrasekar used to call on her whenever he visited India.

About Mrs. Ramanujan, I can say only full of qualities which even today I am not able to forget. She was very afraid and strict on to her ideas she will no budge an inch. At the same time whenever money she got she used to spend nearly 25 percent for educational purposes and another 25 percent

for temple/religious purposes. She was the most dominant member of the family there is no doubt about it. And all my actions were according to her wishes only and during the course of my appointment I happened to meet Mrs. Vaidehi Narayanan at the bank. And I introduced her to Mrs. Ramanujan and we got married later in the year 1972. She was most kind towards the whole members of the family. We were living in a very small place at 37, South Tank Square, Triplicane. So, there was a need to switch over our residential. For that purpose only she at her instance we bought this house, we bought 14 Hanumanthrayan street. And my mother-in-law and wife they were situated here so that we can have frequent callings.