

EVERLASTING LOVE: FEELINGS & EMOTIONS

A Loving Tribute to Saroj Prasad.

**The Pillar of the Prasad Family of
Bellbowrie**

15th August 1940 to 14th March 2013

Dr Ram Lakhan Prasad

Love Is Fire Love Is Flame

EVERLASTING LOVE: FEELINGS & EMOTIONS

**A Loving Tribute to Saroj Kumari Prasad,
my beloved wife who passed away on
14th March 2013.**

Love that blooms well lasts forever.

**Dr Ram Lakhan Prasad
The Prasad Family of Bellbowrie
30th June 2014**

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PREFACE

This was not an easy project to create and complete, but I am happy that I have provided a lifetime reading material for the Prasad Family. This can be read and used as a knowledge base for the activities of one of the most important members of the family, the strongest pillar of the The Prasad Regime.

Saroj Kumari Prasad was the angel who dedicated her whole life to construct a proper family life out of a wild and cruel man like me. She tamed me well. I am truly thankful for all she did to foster us. She tamed me through her love, compassion and complete empathy. That is the reason I called her a 'Devi', which can loosely be translated as an angel. She was My Pretty Lotus.

This publication cannot be fully understood and appreciated by anyone reading it alone because it is complex, emotive and exceptional for the family. The information, knowledge and activities that are compiled could only be fully realised and comprehended if they are looked at passionately and with the same feeling as when they were created by me.

The readers of this publication have two choices- to read or not to read. If you decide to read the presentation you have to do so with due respect for the departed soul because she was not an ordinary person as can be seen from various poems, articles and speeches. She was much larger than life itself.

Apart from understanding the English Language, the readers have to have a reasonable appreciation of Hindustani Language as well because some of the creativity is expressed in Hindi language. You might not be able to read this in one sitting so your reading could be spaced into various episodes.

The only purpose for putting this publication on Google Plus, Google Drive and Free Ebooks is to leave a legacy behind so that all the children and grand children together with their friends, relatives and others could have an easy access and a reasonable appreciation of the work, services, dedication and achievements of this great personality whose contributions to strengthen the Prasad Family were always admired and treasured by everyone that came into contact with her.

I was once told that love is like war, easy to begin but very hard to end. We began our love life in a very peaceful and calm manner and

ensured that every step we took was on the firmest ground of morality, culture and tradition. This was one of the reasons for the success and sensibility of this romantic story.

We were very proud to instil many of our ideas on love, relationship and family life to all who came into contact with us in our life time. I do not know that we acted as role models but we have left a healthy legacy behind for people to emulate.

My beloved Saroj was the radiant star that kept shining in my life and that was the reason I never saw any low-lying clouds of despair and despondency but was always encouraged and motivated to hold my head high and live a wholesome life. She succeeded in convincing me and I was the fortunate benefactor.

One final point. The sentiments and emotions contained in my poems and articles are very personal and at times would be difficult to decode, understand, interpret and appreciate as was intended. A complete and full understanding would result by reading all the items and appreciating the symbolism, background, themes, events, form as well as the rhythm and rhyme.

14th March, 2014.

INTRODUCTION

I made this decision to publish this presentation because I wanted the fond and golden memories of my beloved wife Saroj Kumari Devi to be treasured somewhere safer to be read and appreciated by my children, grand children and other relatives and friends. I wanted to express my deep love and devotional dedication to My Saroj.

I do not know for sure if this will be read and appreciated by my people with the same interest and enthusiasm that I took to create these but we all live in this world with hope. That is what I am doing. I am hoping that all the deeper feelings of love and emotions contained in this publication will provide some interest, lessons, information and knowledge to the readers.

My Saroj, my Pretty Lotus, was not an ordinary woman. She was a devoted wife, a loving mother, a very pleasant grandmother, a fine friend, a dutiful daughter, a super sister, a brilliant student, a dedicated educator, a candid community worker and above all she had a very kind, calm and controlled personality. She was a perfect persona that was a rare gem.

She was an angel of the Prasad Family and if I did not create these memorable presentations then I would not be rightfully celebrating all the goodness, truth and beauty that this lovely lady displayed, personified and represented in her almost 73 years of useful existence.

I was extremely fortunate and proud to have her company for fifty-five years. She tamed me, she loved me, she looked after me and she bestowed me with a family that celebrates all of her glory and fame.

There are many strange twists and devious turns as one hopped down the overgrown bunny trail of life and I know that there are always Jokers in the pack of cards when it came to things of interest in the family life. I say that life is full of surprises and ours was no different. Let me be that Joker and reveal it all.

Our love grew humdrum in the later years of our marriage. We were together for so long that we had become almost exquisitely attuned to each other. For me she was the one and for her I was the one. Our love could not be turned off like an electric light because it ran from our heart and our heart had its own imperative.

Our marriage was successful because we looked at it as a balancing act and it also was dependant on a high tolerance for any irritation. When the clouds rolled in then we also knew that sooner or later they will roll out.

She will be in our hearts and minds forever and we are certain that she has reached her complete Nirvana, her mukti, her salvation and her Atma is one with her Parmatama. Her karma, her words, deeds, thoughts, character, habits and dedication have made her attain life in heaven and not reincarnate in this sinful world.

As a result of all her accumulated karma, she was an enlightened being lightening up the darkness of our lives.

When she came to the end of her life's journey, I was with her and could see an exceptional radiance around her that looked like a freshly bloomed lotus and I felt that she had found the way out of the cycle of rebirth and this was the fruit of her good karma throughout her life.

I could feel that she was letting go all attachment and aversion and thus attaining Nirvana, which was total libration from all her suffering. Although she was experiencing

unparallel joy that flowed from within her and was able to achieve her internal serenity and limitless happiness but in the eyes of sentient beings like me I felt the greatest of sorrow and could not accept the truth that she had attained the ultimate happiness. I stilled longed to be with her.

So the instant that my Pretty Lotus extinguished the fires of delusion that was the instant she experienced and attained Nirvana but at that time in my loss and tragic situation I could not understand that her accumulation of karma and all the good, truthful and beautiful merits were going to live with me forever. I was blessed.

It seemed that she was saying, “Darling, I have ‘nothing’ to give you and I am going empty-handed.” In asking her to pass on that ‘nothing’ to me I received ‘everything’ that she had accumulated over the years, her meritorious karma. So from her word ‘nothing’ the notion of ‘everything’ arose for me and I am celebrating those fond golden and treasured memories and would continue to do so until I join her.

May she rest in peace and I look forward to joining her to complete my life as a loyal husband and a faithful friend. Each and every poem and article that I have composed is an

epitome of my deep love for this unique lady in my life- a pretty lotus, a lamp, a light and a bright star that will shine brightly throughout the rest of my life.

I will not find another Pretty Lotus, My Saroj in this world because she was the woman God planned for me and she loved me to the breadth and length of me. She always filled me with joy and while my life was hers, her life was mine. That was the reason for our happiness and bliss.

However, the life that we had planned for ourselves in our old age had completely changed after her passing away. I never knew the pain of the loss of such valuable treasure before so I neither knew that the pain would ever go away nor I could understand my grief but I only wanted to outrun my sorrow and loneliness. This has not happened.

Although my only objective now is to sleep away the pain in my heart and body but so far this has not been possible and I know that it will never ever be achieved until I join her.

I love you Darling. You are my Angel, my Pretty Lotus.

I salute you for all your instinctual devotion to the Prasad Family of Bellbowrie.

Ram Lakhan Prasad.

The Pretty Lotus

I have observed and admired the lotus flower all my life because the flower always looked so clean and pure in any pond that I visited. However, the lotus that bloomed in our pond came to be associated with purity, pioussness and beauty of one unique and rare individual of the Prasad Family whose name **Saroj** means lotus.

Her parents gave her this beautiful and spiritual name because they were told by the astrologers that this pretty baby was destined to become a great personality as she grew up and matured. So she did, and when she completed her education she was decorated with many medals, certificates and meritorious accolades. Saroj became a brilliant teacher and served the community for over half a century as a dedicated worker in Fiji and Australia.

One of the most fortunate individuals was Ram Lakhan Prasad, who fell in love with her and married her and then they together nurtured a wonderful family called the Prasad Family of Bellbowrie.

Saroj and Lakhan enjoyed their blissful married life for almost fifty years and would have celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on 19th January 2014. However, the Pretty Lotus left this world leaving the family of four grown up married children and ten grand children forever mourning her unexpected departure. Such is life.

Throughout many cultures over time, the lotus has been a powerful image and a spiritual symbol and similarly our lotus, our Saroj, became a sacred name for us. She turned out to be our angel, who was an excellent daughter, a sensible sister, a devoted wife, a loving mother, a kind grandmother, a loyal friend, a brilliant student, an effective teacher, a professional teacher trainer and above all a very fine human being.

The spirit of Saroj has been spotless, like the pretty, pure and divine lotus. Over the years, she served the Prasad Family with great dignity and merit and created a harmonious atmosphere for every one she hugged, kissed, touched, cuddled, taught and gave or provided her tender loving care.

She illuminated and enlightened the lives of so many of us but left this universe at the age of seventy three on 14th March, 2013 with nothing but greatest glory and fame. So the

jewel in the lotus was gone and left us with multiple golden and fond memories for us to treasure and celebrate. That is what we are doing now and will continue to do forever.

The heart and soul of our Saroj was like an unopened lotus which developed internally over the years to unfold and blossom to give us unity in diversity in our lives and provide pure joy that we so proudly enjoy today.

Our Saroj was the symbol of everlasting beauty, fruitful fertility, pleasant prosperity, sincere spirituality and esoteric eternity. She was a perfect representative of somebody who carried out her tasks with little concern for any reward and acquired a full liberation from unnecessary worldly attachments.

We have experienced that our Saroj represented the open flower in our family and the unopened lotus bud that was a true representative of a folded soul that had the ability to unfold and open itself up to the divine truth, beauty and goodness. She believed in the power of the Supreme Being but distanced herself from meaningless and frivolous religious ceremonies that wasted our time, money, efforts and dignity.

It is hoped that the presentations in this publication would provide a better

understanding of not only the lotus as a divine and sacred flower but our Saroj as a Pretty Lotus of the Prasad Family of Bellbowrie. It is our utmost pride and honour to narrate some of the meritorious words, thoughts, deeds and activities of this angel who was born to serve the family and the community.

We have included the words of this Lotus (Saroj) who created this reflection towards the final days of her life. There are numerous creative and poetic episodes expressed by her husband, her instinctual lover and unconditional devotee of over half a century.

Some specific reflections have come from her children and grand children and others. So at last, this has become a momentous creation and a symbol of adoration for every one to read, appreciate, learn and enjoy.

After the passing away of Our Saroj, our Pretty Lotus, I decided to develop this publication to celebrate her meritorious life together with her power of passion and glory. Therefore, I would like to provide the timeless significance of the lotus flower to show how our Saroj represented such a divine and sacred phenomenon.

As the lotus flower symbolizes the clarity of heart as well as the mind and represents

strength, good luck, good life, honour and respect so was our Saroj in her words, deeds and thoughts. So for all of us she was a universal representation of the spiritual presence in our lives and representing holiness, good wishes, purity and positive energy. She gave us her all and took nothing as any reward in return.

With the emergence of the sun, life is born and with this emergence, the lotus flower acquires a special meaning and timeless significance to humanity. As the bearer of creation, the lotus flower holds a special place in mythology, in nature and in our lives. It symbolizes not only creation but the timeless and continual process of birth and rebirth.

We have seen that at night, the lotus flower goes to sleep but at sunrise with the awakening of the sun, the lotus flower emerges to life in the pond.

Just as in nature, life is born and reborn when people pass away to be born again or resurrected, it symbolizes an openness and submissiveness even as the roots are mired in the muddy worldliness and sin. They symbolize the surrender of the mind to the powers above. Our Saroj was no less significant than these natural and cultural beliefs.

So the lotus flower has indeed acquired a special significance over the centuries in many cultures. The opening petals of the lotus flower symbolize the potential for the soul to expand and blossom into beauty and divinity. Our Saroj was always ready and eager to spread her arms and great influence for all of us.

Let me show some of the meanings of the lotus flower in different cultures. According to the Indian culture the lotus flower denotes prosperity, knowledge and learning, fruitfulness and illumination. According to the Hindu mythology, the lotus flower is associated with Goddess Lakshmi, the goddess of wisdom and generosity.

She is often portrayed as sitting on a completely blossomed lotus that gives a sense of purity to her form. Our Saroj, Our Pretty Lotus, was no less significant. The Lotus flower is viewed as a representation of spirituality according to the ancient beliefs.

The lotus flower is often viewed as a symbol of aspirations to rise towards the light as the roots of the lotus flower has its roots in the mud but it grows in the upward direction. Our Pretty Lotus, Our Saroj, aspired and grew upwards and kept growing until she made us aware of the values and qualities of humanity.

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