

A RESCUED TREE SPEAKS

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Abstract : The rescued tree tells that, "I am, a Bakain tree (*Melia azedarach* L.). I belong to family *Meliaceae* of Neem. I was born from a seed a pot. Mali watered me. With heat of earth and sun I sprouted to become a seedling with roots and shoot Then I was transplanted where I stay now. My roots hold me up and absorb water from soil to transport up to my branches and leaves. My green leaves photosynthesize and make food for me. God has made me a self sustaining living being. I can also feel like humans, but, they think me just a dumb wooden tree. I serve people from their cradle to death, but they cut me in pieces and injure me, because I do not fight and kill. Neither I steal, lie nor argue in the courts for justice, I serve people and beast equally throughout my life as per wish of the God. I serve the mother earth and protect the environment by providing fresh air to all, prepare wood, pulp, timber, food, fodder and fruits for all Some people love me but most of them think me a dead log and cut ruthlessly."

Keywords : Bakain tree, Rescue, Tree speaks

INTRODUCTION

Now here is an interesting story of my life. I was living happily till my age of about 10 years, near Maruti Suzuki Show Room, along, Golf Course Road, Gurgaon. I loved people and provided them shade and fresh air. Birds start chirping on my branches in the morning and amuse me. When I started producing flowers sweet fragrance spread all around me from my small light blue bunches of flowers. When I produce fruits, hungry birds come and eat them. Some people without caring for my pain break my small branches to clean their teeth, even then I served and lived happily.

"One horrible night of 16th May, 2012 totally changed my life. Everything was calm but "Vayu Devta" became angry and started blowing heavy storm which in seconds split me into two pieces (Fig. 1), one of my two branches being heavy fell down causing me cracking pain. I started bitterly crying in terrible pain but no one came to my rescue. In spite of help, a man came with an axe to cut me from the ground and clean the place".

"Fortunately, to my luck a kind person who turned out to be a Tree Scientist was on a morning walk and saw my condition and realized the pain I was having. He stopped and called a person who was incidentally a Mali and enquired why you want to cut, he replied because now it will not survive and die. The scientist said,

"Do not cut this tree we can rescue it to survive". Tree says, I happily started hearing their dialogue," the scientist was explaining how can I be saved".

"The scientist told the Mali that, call about 10 person to lift the fallen branch and join it from where it got split from the trunk. First rap that portion with polythene sheet after it tightly tie a strong rope on the whole cracked portion. The other branch is weak therefore give support to it with bamboo or wooden

branch. Fill the gaps with mud to keep it moist. As the fallen branch was heavy even 8 persons could not lift the branch. It was decided to cut it up to the point of break from stem which was tied with rope as explained above. The cut branch was used to give support to the other branch. "

"The above operation (Fig.2) was done smoothly and I was bandaged and made to stand on wooden log like crutches. You will be happy to know that if my trunk is cut my vegetative buds at base start producing coppice shoots which are mature and quite similar to me morphologically and genetically if not mutated. This is the way I can be multiplied vegetatively into a quite large number of plants."

"Mali did his job religiously well as instructed by the scientist and the result is that even today on 18th July, 2012, after about 2 months I am standing healthy (Fig.3). Out of many coppices, my two coppice shoots have become two side shoots to become healthy trunks like me. I am again giving shade and oxygen to people and fruits to hungry birds. I am also sequestering carbon dioxide to curb pollution".

"Now I am again living a happy life by the grace of God and merciful action of Mali and the Scientist. You can see my story through photos (1-3)."

I appeal, to all of you on my own behalf and my fellow trees to take care of us with love; we are also living beings like you. We cannot express our love toward all living beings in words, but, we are your life line and show our love by providing clean air, greenery, shade, wood, fuel, fodder, fruit and protect environment from pollution to sustain life on this mother earth, when we live and even after we die. Please protect us and plant more and more trees to check erosion of soil and decorate the mother earth. I also help in increasing the ground water level by harvesting rain water, and in sequestration of carbon dioxide. Neglecting trees means neglecting life."

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FIG.1. SPLITTED BAKAIN TREE



FIG.2. BAKAIN TREE OPERATED



FIG.3. AFTER OPERATION BAKAIN TREE GROWING

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