



भारतीय राजदूत, बहरीन
Ambassador of India, Bahrain

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

An Expatriate in the Service of his Motherland

Soman Baby's name is perfectly appropriate, because when you meet him in person, the first thing that strikes you is a cherubic, baby-like face. But behind this face also lies a kind and generous heart!

Soman Baby straddles two countries with ease and pride: India, the country of his birth and nationality and the Kingdom of Bahrain, a beautiful Island nation in which he resides. If one were to identify a permanent brand Ambassador for India in the vast Indian community of over 350,000, it would have to be Soman Baby. In the Kingdom of Bahrain, Soman Baby is something of an institution; after all, he came to the shores of Bahrain in 1978 to work as a journalist and rose to the present position as Chief Editor of Daily Tribune, a leading English daily. He did this by sheer dint of hard work, a keen intellect and a tremendous sense of perseverance. But if there is one quality that defines Soman Baby in full measure it is the willingness to learn! This sense of humility is what has made him as successful as he is today.

Soman baby is a leading and prominent Indian expatriate. He has achieved this distinction by leading the community in its social and cultural activities. As a good and noble Christian, he is obviously active in the activities of the different Churches in the Kingdom. But, as a person of modern and secular outlook, Soman Baby takes part in every social event that concerns the vast Indian community. He has written extensively on problems and issues faced by the Indian workers and has prepared a White Paper on the subject that has served as a blue print for the authorities in Bahrain. Other notable works of Soman Baby include: his special interview with the legendary Indira Gandhi and his landmark book "Shukran Bahrain", both of which bring out clearly his love for his motherland and his adopted land!

Soman Baby has worked tirelessly to bat for India in Bahrain. He has never for one moment forgotten that he is a son of India and that his roots are there. His love and devotion for the Indian community is evident from the fact that his association with two institutions viz., Royal Bahrain Hospital and New Horizon School – note that one is a Hospital and the other a School! If you think Soman Baby's activities are confined to Bahrain, think again! He served twice as Global Chairman of World Malayalee Council and as part of it thousands of college students in Kerala were trained to become leaders of tomorrow.

Soman Baby is thus the quintessential Indian expatriate who adheres to the dictum: you can take an Indian out of India, but you cannot take India out of an Indian! Certainly, India runs deep in the veins of this community leader who has decided to devote his life to the well being of Indians abroad and to representing his country of birth with both pride and passion.


(Dr. Mohan Kumar)