

[THE SOMASUNDARAMS / STAND-UP COMEDY]

TALLAHASSEE INDIANS

PART 1

SCRIPT FOR GLIMPSES 2010

Saturday, November 06, 2010, 4:00 - 8:00 PM

Contact: somabhanu@gmail.com

Chiles High School Auditorium, Tallahassee, FL 32312

*Actors: Mettupalli Dastagiri (Krishnan), Manoharan Mariappan (Mani),
Thayumanasamy (Swamy), Gnanabhanu (Rani), & Vivek Somasundaram (Ram)*

[AUTHOR: THAYUMANASAMY SOMASUNDRAM

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[VERSION - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2010]

[*Tallahassee Indians Part 1* is a stand-up comedy routine written by Thayumanasamy Somasundaram. It is similar to *Tanjore To Tallahassee* and parodies the behavior of Indian-born adults living with American-born children. Indian-born adults want to fit in with the American-born kids, however, their inherent Indian behaviors, habits, and accents are hard to relinquish. So we witness the typical clash between the two cultures.

Success of any socio-ethnic group in a foreign land is often measured by its wealth, health, status, and the connections. But I feel that an ethnic group can be truly successful only if it can make fun of itself and enjoy it. So, here I present this short comedy-routine, "**Tallahassee Indians Part 1**". Enjoy! Thanks.

- Thayumanasamy Somasundaram, October 17, 2010]

SET-UP: Dad Swamy, son Ram, and mom Rani are preparing for Raj's friend Mani to visit them in Tallahassee, Florida. Son Ram doesn't know Mani or his family. Conversation begins as they gather around.

SCENE 1 | ACT 1

(Dad) Swamy: Ram, I wanted to talk to you about an uncle visiting us from Boston today.

(Son) Ram: Dad, which uncle is it? I thought all your family lived in India?

Swamy: Yes. All my family lives in India.

Ram: Then where did the new uncle come from?

Swamy: You see Ram! All Indian-Americans who are my or your mom's age are called uncles and aunts.

Ram: Oh! I see. But, how come you addressed Mr. Giriji as uncle even though **his son** is your age? Shouldn't he be called grand-uncle? Like, pa, grand-pa?

Swamy: No, no! He is also another uncle. You see! We don't want to discriminate older people! Let them feel younger. We have to be politically correct!

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[Act 1-Scene2; Act 1-Scene3]

Ram: Oh! Now I understand why Indians have extended families, since our family extends virtually to all Indians in America.

Swamy: I guess so! You know it takes a village to raise a family, here a village full of uncles and aunts. *[Pause]* By the way, you can call his children as cousins.

Ram: What? Wait a minute! They are my cousins.

(Mom) Rani: Yes! Is there a problem?

Swamy: Yeah! Yeah! I didn't think of that way. By the way, my friend has only boys.

Rani: Don't worry. We will get him married to a nice talkative Indian girl. Then he will start to speak proper English!

Swamy: I don't know whether he will speak proper English or not but at least he will learn how to listen and follow the directions!!!

THE END