

Photographs – A Note From the Author

In my previous book, 'Cure Yourself', I have not retained the copyright. The contents may be freely used anywhere, with or without the mention of my name or my permission.

In this book also, I have not retained the copyright, except for the photographs on the previous pages.

When I was planning to write this book, I discussed the issue with my publisher and distributor. They confirmed that they had not come across such a book in the market in the past. I got encouragement from this. I then felt that the book would not serve its intended purpose if it did not contain relevant photographs of the private parts of eunuchs. But how was I going to get such photographs?

I talked to two Gurus of eunuchs. They refused to talk on any matter related to sex. I also talked to eunuchs on the road and offered them substantial compensation. They agreed, subject to the permission of their Guru. In four months, I made seven attempts without any success. The attempts failed but did not dampen my enthusiasm. I was losing confidence but not my hope.

I went to a third Guru. I became friendly with her and visited her one evening at about 7 pm. Her five disciples were sitting with her. I did not talk about sex or the photographs. Instead, I performed some small magic tricks and became friendlier with all six of them. None of them had any inkling of my ulterior motive.

After an hour, I took permission to leave. When I got up, I deliberately asked for help to carry my bag of magic tricks to my car, feigning injury in a leg and deliberately affecting a limp. Two eunuchs helped me. They accompanied me to my car, whereupon I invited them for a drive. I sent off my driver, seated both eunuchs in the car and tipped them Rs. 100 each for helping me to carry my bag of magic tricks. They had never been

driven in a car earlier and it was a unique experience for them. I explained to them the various features of the car, such as the air conditioner, the music system, the gear system, the brakes, the windows etc. and let them get a first hand feel. I intended to become friendlier with them. Then I talked to them about their personal relationships with their guru. When they mentioned that they were fine, I cited specific instances to demonstrate to them that their relationship was far from healthy. At the end of my talk, they hesitatingly agreed with me. I was getting closer to them. I also showed them a few photographs of mine in films and TV serials. I could see the stirring of interest in them but it was getting late. They mentioned that their Guru would ask them for an explanation for their delayed return and obviously, the actual reasons would not be justified in the eyes of the Guru. Hence, I dropped them back home and invited them for another meeting during the following week. Before parting, I suggested that they too could make big money if they did something proactively but did not elaborate.

The following week, I met them. I showed them a lot of my published material, including my articles about eunuchs. They enquired whether I was a journalist, which I confirmed. The stage was now set for what was to follow.

I informed them that I was writing a book on eunuchs. People harbour many wrong notions about them, which need to be corrected. I requested their assistance and enquired about the possibility of getting photographs. They immediately agreed for an interview and photographs, which they perceived to be facial photography.

It seemed that I had failed in my final attempt but I did not want to quit before making a last ditch effort. I explained a bit hesitatingly that I needed photographs of their private parts. I also told them a blatant lie (I apologise for this) that many other eunuchs were willing to get photographed but I preferred those two since I thought of them as better people. I offered a lot of money to both for a one hour photo session. I clarified that I would be the sole person present. I also clarified that I would not photograph their faces, breasts, stomachs or any other identifying features and confine myself only to photographing the parts in question. Also, I would use the photographs only for

educational purposes and their names would never be mentioned anywhere, lest they lose everything at the hands of their Guru. This fear of the Guru is logical, since eunuchs do not have anyone other than their Gurus to care for them, unlike the rest of us who have parents. However, these Gurus tend to be rather unforgiving and are strict taskmasters who are prompt to mete out punishment. Once eunuchs are cast out by their Gurus, they have no recourse. Hence, this fear of being outcasts is so strong that they dare not think of violating any of the Guru's laws.

However, they had agreed in principle to the shoot and I accepted all their conditions. I also anticipated another problem – where was I going to photograph them? Hotels posed a problem, since renting a room was fraught with the danger of being apprehended by the police. Though I might have been able to cook up a good story, I would still face detention and they might still not be convinced after my statement. Obviously, the photography was not possible in my car. Further, if I brought them home, the whole neighbourhood would be watching and it was likely to be a cause for embarrassment.

There is a law in life – when all doors close, at least one opens somewhere else. I have a friend who is on very good terms with eunuchs. They are given to visiting his home on occasion. I requested him and he agreed to lend his flat to me for 4 hours for the photo session. It worked!

On the designated day, I invited both the eunuchs. They had a few last minute queries. They were convinced that I had genuine interest in my mind but they also had greed in their hearts. They were convinced that their Guru was not the last resort for them and they could forge a better life for themselves. I assured them that I would honour my promise to them that their identities would remain safe. Hence, I have retained a copyright over all photographs of private parts taken by me.