

# Great Artist Dr. Rajkumar

## Dr. Mallikarjuna M

Associate Professor, GVPP Govt First Grade College Ramanagar, Hagaribommanahalli (Tq),  
Vijayanagara Dist Karnataka

### Abstract

this article has the image of a great person achieved Karnataka Ratna Dada Saheb Phalke Winner Dr. Rajkumar, how he grew up in cinema, started with acting in drama, brought his colorful world to the cinema and the thought of an unprecedented achiever is presented here

### Childhood Life:

Dr. Rajkumar was born on 24th 1929. His hometown is Gajanur, which is twelve miles away from Chamarajanagar, near Thalawadi. Gajanur is the hometown of Lakshamma. Singanallur is the birthplace of Puttaswamayya, his father is the famous theater actor Singanallur Sri Puttaswamayya. Mother is Mrs. Lakshamma. The child was named 'Muthuraju' by adding 'Raju' as a portmanteau of Pearl and Thamase as he was born as a gift from Muthu Raya. Dr. Raj had a brother named Varadaraj and a younger sister named Sharadamma.

### Marital Life:

Married to Parvati on 25 June 1953. Parvati later became known as Parvathamma Rajkumar to the Kannada people and became one of the leading filmmakers of Kannada cinema. Vajreshwari has produced several Kannada films under the firm. Dr.Raj's couple have 5 children namely Shivraj Kumar, Raghavendra Rajkumar and Puneeth Rajkumar who are leading actors of Kannada cinema. Daughters Purnima and Lakshmi, elder son-in-law Parvathamma's brother Govindaraj and younger son-in-law actor Ramkumar. There are twelve grandchildren in total, and Nivedita, the daughter of Shivraj Kumar, has acted as a child actress in some films like Andaman. Former Chief Minister of Karnataka S. Bangarappa Dr. Raj's locks. Bangarappa's daughter Geetha is the wife of Sivarajkumar.

### Family and theater influence:

Before playing the lead role in Bedarakannappa, Dr. Raj's name was Muthuraja. Father Puttaswamayya was a big name in Kannada theater during 1930-1950. Puttaswamayya, who was known for his raudrapatras, was an artist in the 'Gubbi Company'. Muthuraj Vidyabhyas is for class four. Because of poverty, the knob company itself became the university. Muthuraj, who followed his father like a shadow, was trained by him. He used to play minor roles in plays. Father's influence in Rajkumar's life is immense. When the Phalke award was announced, the first thing he remembered was his father's words, "This kind of achievement is possible with you," Puttaswamayya had predicted his son's future. It came true.

"When my father entered the stage twirling his mustache and cheering, anyone would get shivers once," said his father.

Commenting on his performance, Rajkumar said that his father's performance is very dear to him, "I also tried to do the same in Bhakta Prahlad's film as Hiranya Kashyapu, but I couldn't."

When Puttaswamayya was acting in the Gubbi company, Muthuraj got a small role in the play "Krishna Leela". A few days later, when Puttaswamayya left the Gubbi company and joined MV Subbiah Naidu's 'Sri Sahitya Imperya Nataka Mandali', Muthuraj accidentally got the role of Ambareesha as Ramakantha in the play "Ambareesha". Later, in Kurukshetra play, the father played the role of Bhima, while the son played the role of Arjuna. It was stage training for Rajkumar. Shocked by the death of his father Puttaswamayya in 1951, Muthuraj again joined the Gubbi company and acted in the play "Bhoo Kailasa". Apart from Gubbi Company, Rajkumar also served for one year in Shree Sahitya Mandali, Seshacharya's Sesa Kamal Natak Mandali.

### **Acting Background:**

Most of Muthuraju's childhood was spent in large Gajanur and surrounding villages. Nanjangudu was a big city that was rarely seen, and Mysore was even rarer. Childhood was prosperous. Poverty, hunger, quarrels, fairs, worship, festivals, fields, orchards, forest-streams, relatives and mother's affection are natural blessings for anyone born in a village; Muthuraj is also fortunate to have experienced all these and improved his childhood. Although Muthuraj was admitted to Hiripura government school, only Muthuraj's body remained in the school. The mind was always outside. Due to the family's poverty, his education stopped at an early age, so he joined the theater with his father when he was still a boy. Puttaswamayya, who was a famous stage actor, taught his son singing and acting lessons at home. Muthuraja's father-in-law Appaji Gowda and Sanne Gowda took music lessons.

Muthuraju's career began as a child artiste in the theater company of Audumbola Gubbi Veeranna. At first he had to play the roles of Sakhi, Sevak etc. It was only then that the main male roles came. Joined Subbayyanaidu's drama company 'Sri Sahitya Samarayya' and played the main roles, the important days of Muthuraja's life, Muthuraja had to shoulder the responsibility of the family as his father left this world. He lived in hardship while acting in plays. Mere, who was married to his brother-in-law's daughter 'Parvati', was also supported by his shoulder.

### **Theater Entry :**

Muthuraja's main field of work is film industry. Although he appeared in small roles in the films 'Bhakta Prahlada' released in 1942 and 'Srinivasa Kalyana' released in 1951, he entered the Kannada film industry through 'Bedara Kannappa' released in 1954. The director of this film, H.L.N.Sinha, changed the name of 'Muthuraja' to 'Rajkumar'. Since then the same name has settled in the hearts of the people of the land. In the beginning Bhakti was confined to the dominant roles. Initially, Rajkumar acted in Bhakti-dominated roles. Devotional films like Bhakta Vijaya, Haribhakta, Ohileshwara Sri Krishna Garudi, Dharmavijaya, Dasavatara, Srishaila Mahatma, Kabir Bhaktacheta, Tukaram etc. were popular among film lovers. As Ravana in Bhukailasa, as Bhasmasura in Mohini Bhasmasura, as Kumbara in Bhakta Kumbara, as Babruvahana, as Mayuravarman, as Kalidasa Rajkumar won the love of the people. His acting is amazing in social films as well. Raya's niece, Karuneye the eye of the family, Nandadeepa, Stepdaughter, Gauri, Sandhyaraaga, Chandravalli's garden- Nandi, Uyale, Guin Kal, Kasturi Niwas, Bangarada Manshin Sanadi Appanna- Rajkumar's acting abilities are extraordinary films. Manogna also won the Best Actor award for his performance in many films. 6) Dr.Rajkumar

**as singer:**

Rajkumar is a great actor as well as a great singer. He emerged as a singer with the song "Yare Koogadali, Oorey Luthamali" from the film "Sampattige Sawal" released in 1974. Before this, he had sung the song "Sharanu Shambho" in the film "Ohileshwar" in 1956 and the song "Tumbithu Manava Tanditu Sukhva" with S. Janakiyan in the film "Mahisasura Mardini". All these three films had music direction by G.K.Venkatesh. G.K. Venkatesh and Upendra Kumar have sung most of the songs in the music. In 1962, he also sang a duet for the role of Gadya Ratna Narasimha Raju in the film "Devasundari". This was the first film song that Dr. Raj sang for someone else's performance.

He won the National Award for the song "Nadamaya Ee Lokavella" in the movie "Jeevan Chaitra". 'Vidhi Barah Entha Ghora' from the film 'Abhi' released in 2003 and 'Bandhuve O Bandhuve' from the same year's film songs.

Rajkumar sang most of his songs with S. Janaki and Vani Jayaram. Also, P. Sushil, Bangalore Lata, Ratnamala He has also sung duets with Prakash, Manjula Gururaj, Chhaya, Kasturi Shankar, Chitra, Sulochana. He used to sing the song "Kannada Nadalil Huttuvanhu, Mettidare Kannada Mannan Mettavanhu" whenever he was born.

The song 'Kannadave Satya' composed by national poet Kuvempu has been sung by Dr.Rajkumar under the music direction of Dr.C.Aswath, a great lyricist. It became even more popular than Mysore Ananthaswamy's version. While theater, cinema and singing are the main stages of Rajkumar's life, 'Kannada Love' is his breath. Raj Kumar was the one who spearheaded the "Gokak Movement" which wanted Kannada language to be given priority in Karnataka. His love for Kannada is unique, unique, and it is because of his immense service to Kannada Nadu-Nudi that he has become a great hero of Karnataka without remaining a popular actor in the film industry.

**Dr. Rajkumar in pro-Kannada movements:**

The Gokak report was ready for mandatory introduction of Kannada in primary education and providing other basic facilities to Kannada language. However, this report was not implemented. In 1981, Writers like Pail Puttappa, Chandrasekhara Pail, Kannada students, many organizations started a movement to implement the Gokak report. This movement came to be known as the Gokak movement.

Although several days passed since the movement started, there was no enthusiastic response from the masses. At this time Dr. RajKumar was invited to the movement and requested to strengthen the movement. Under the leadership of Dr.Raj, Kannada cinema announced to give full cooperation to the "Gokak movement" and toured the state.

Several meetings, speeches were held in major cities of Karnataka. The people of Karnataka responded and participated in the movement with greater enthusiasm than ever before. Dr.Rajkumar's speeches and leadership of the movement were instrumental in creating more awareness about Kannada, building respect, and convincing the then Karnataka government of the rights and facilities that the Kannada language should get. Responding to the intensity of the movement, the then Karnataka government led by "Gundu Rao" implemented the Gokak report.

**Awards:**

Dr. Rajkumar has also received many honors. Since the University of Mysore conferred an "Honorary Doctorate" in 1979 Dr. Rajkumar' said. In 1983, the central government awarded 'PADMA BUSHAN' gave 'Gubbi' is a tribute to the person who worked for the overall development of Kannada film industry

**VEERANNA Award** received in 1993. In 1992, the Government of Karnataka declared '**KARNATAKA RATNA**'.

Honored with the award. Fan-Association Organizations Kalakaustubha, Ganaagandharva, Natasarvabhauma, Kala Kesari, Kannada Kanmani, Varanata, Rasikara Raja They have shown their love by giving many titles like For all these

**"DR.DADA SAHEB PHALKE "** award ceremony is like crowning.

Rajkumar's entire family is serving the film industry. Mrs. Parvathamma Rajkumar is doing valuable service as a producer and distributor. Shivarajkumar, Raghavendra Rajkumar, Puneeth Rajkumar are famous as lead actors. Puneeth Rajkumar won the National Award for the movie 'Bettada Hoo' in which he acted as a child actor. Along with them, third generation actors and actresses are also coming to fame. Rajkumar himself has conducted singing recitals and has provided support to many organizations, educational institutions, theater artistes and technicians when needed. The Chief Minister's Fund, the Disaster Relief Fund, the neighboring victims, had collected funds many times. This makes it difficult to say that he is an artist with a genuine heart.

**Reference:**

1. TK Rama Rao : Man of Gold, Publication- Sudha Enterprises.-2010
2. T.R. Subbarao : Kathina, Publisher, Sahitya Nandan.
3. Devudu Narasimhashastri : Mayura, Sahana-Prakashana. 2014.
4. Kuvempu: Honeymoons in the Hills, Udayaravi Publications, 1995
5. A.N. Murthy Rao : Comprehensive Essays, Publisher-Ankita Pustak-1999
6. KP Purnachandra Tejaswi : Search, Book Publishing- 1998
7. Ranna Kavi : Gadayuddha Collection - Kavyalaya Prakashan 1992