

## IMPERFECT BLABBERING

Hi, “Baddu” - this is how I have always been addressed by all my non Badaga friends, whether in and around ‘Kurunji’ Restaurant in Cash Bazaar of Ooty, or my Pre-University days in Ramakrishna Mission Vidhyalaya, CBE, or in my college and PG days in Mysore & Bangalore. It sounded native and musical to my ears as it always gave me a distinct identity in terms of my native place – Ooty and my community – Badaga, both of which I have always been immensely proud of, like all of you are, I am sure. Hence permit me address you as “Baddu”, irrespective of your age, gender, profession, outlook and place of living. Do feel comfortable addressing me the same.

Dear Baddu, the burden of my blabbering here is to lay emphasis on the flip side of an otherwise interesting characteristic feature of a “typical baddu guy” – FUN LOVING.

While the Fun Loving nature of a Baddu sets him apart from the rest of the crowd, it has, at the same time, more often than not, placed him in a funny spot as well. As a baddu it sets you apart from the rest because you are the only one in the crowd to extend a helping hand to a stranger in trouble while the others either look on or feign ignorance at the person in trouble. Again you are the only one, who, without any hesitation, would seek help (even barrow money) from strangers.

To hell with the Consequences, **YOU ARE FUN LOVING !**

It sets you apart because you are the only one in the crowd who is proud to declare that you, as a groom, would offer dowry to your would-be bride and not seek it from the bride as the rest of the men (non-badagas) do in India. Yet you are the only one who, without any hesitation, would make your wife & mother slog in tea gardens and agriculture fields to earn your daily bread

and blow up the hard earned money with your friends-either drinking, playing cards or in horse racing.

To hell with the Consequences, **YOU ARE FUN LOVING !!**

It sets you apart because you are the only one in the crowd who is proud to say that you still live in a joint family-with parents, uncles, aunts, grannies, cousins etc., and that the family properties, even if it is just one square building in the village, is still undivided. Yet again you are the only one, who, without any hesitation, would become bankrupt fighting a court battle just to prove that you don't like to "loose" to your own brother!

To hell with the Consequences, **YOU ARE FUN LOVING !!!**

It definitely sets you apart because you are the only one in the crowd who can boldly declare that your entire village, whether of ten houses or of thousand, would rise as one on occasions of weddings, rituals and celebrations of individuals and community, thus sharing pleasures & pains together. Yet you don't bat an eyelid when your village of even ten houses is divided into three 'parties' to perform poojas to the temple deity of the village during the annual 'habba', purely because of your 'prestige at stake' situation.

To hell with the Consequences, **YOU ARE FUN LOVING !!!!**

It once again sets you apart from the rest because you are the only one who would never hold the butt of a fag or a wine glass in front of an older person from your village even though he may have come to you with begging alms. You respect his age and do it from the bottom of your heart. Again you are the only one capable of over drinking in public functions and invite sad comments from the non-drinking 'morons'

To hell with the Consequences, **YOU ARE FUN LOVING !!!!!**

Hi baddu, are you a “typical baddu” with all the above paradoxes? Or a “hybrid baddu” – born in ‘hatty’ and brought up in the city? Or a “global baddu” – baddu at heart and global in outlook? **YOU KNOW IT BETTER.**

Who? Me? I am an **IMPERFECT BADDU**. Don’t ask me what it means, I don’t know myself!

Mail your acerbic outpourings, bountiful brickbats and cutthroat comments to [sadabang@yahoo.com](mailto:sadabang@yahoo.com).

Beware of your appreciative remarks on this write up, lest, you shall be constrained to endure with another dose of such imperfect blabbering from Kuruthukuli Baddu Sadasivan.

Thanks for your patience. **HAVE FUN.**

**By**

**Sadasivan, Kuruthukuli**