

Mera Bharat Mahan (Why my India's Great)

[INT. TEA SHOP - KERALA, INDIA - DAY]

[SOORAJ and MAHESH sit at a quaint tea shop surrounded by lush greenery. A local tea seller pours steaming masala tea into clay cups. The aroma of spices fills the air.]

SOORAJ: (taking a sip, pleasantly surprised) Ah, the flavors! This handmade masala tea reminds me of the diverse spices of India. Even in a small tea shop, everything is so simple and delicious.

[They engage in conversation, savoring the tea.]

MAHESH: (noticing Sooraj's expression) The beauty of India lies in its simplicity, Sooraj. Here, even the most basic things carry a unique charm.

[Sooraj glances around, observing the surroundings.]

SOORAJ: (impressed) And despite that, the cost of living is still so low here. You can afford a good life without the constant chase for money.

[As they leave the tea shop, they embark on a journey through the state, exploring various facets of India.]

[EXT. COCHIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - DAY]

SOORAJ: (gazing at the solar panels) Cochin International Airport, fully powered by solar energy. The progress and commitment to sustainability are remarkable.

MAHESH: (proudly) Yes, Sooraj. India is evolving rapidly while still preserving its roots.

[They board a METRO train, traveling through urban and rural landscapes in Kerala.]

SOORAJ: (amazed) Metro in Kerala! Back in the States, most areas are car-dependent, but here, even remote places have metro and bus connectivity.

[The train passes through diverse terrains showcasing India's natural beauty – from the lush greenery of Wayanad to the serene beaches in Alapuzha. Sooraj is reminiscent of his childhood that he spent in the beaches of Allepey and gets teary-eyed.]

SOORAJ: (in awe) Look at that beach, Mahesh! You remember we went for a picnic with our families there and had so much fun! Your mother made Biryani for us and I can still feel the texture of Basmati Rice in my mouth! 35 years in the US flew by so quickly, I feel as if I had forgotten to enjoy life and nature!

MAHESH: (smiling) I do remember that.. Alas! I wish my mother could have been with us! I miss her Biryani, but now I can also make it and we can have it tomorrow for lunch (he says in Malayalam that he needs time to go through the recipe once). As for enjoying life, you are at the right place dear.

[They finally reach MAHESH'S HOME in a rural area, still connected by the metro. The simplicity and peacefulness of the surroundings leave Sooraj contemplative.]

SOORAJ: (reflective) Mahesh, seeing the development alongside the preservation of nature and culture, I realize how India offers a haven for retirees. Access to transportation, affordability, and abundant natural beauty make it an ideal place to settle down. What truly makes our country unique is that it's diverse yet connected, modern yet rooted in tradition.

[They sit outside Mahesh's home, surrounded by scenic vistas as the sun sets, casting a warm glow over the landscape.]

FADE OUT.