

**DIVYA VANI**  
**Volume 2 Number 9**  
**March 1967**

A periodical Publication of  
the "Meher Vihar Trust"

An Avatar Meher Baba Trust eBook  
June 2018

All words of Meher Baba copyright © 2018  
Avatar Meher Baba Perpetual Public Charitable Trust  
Ahmednagar, India

**Source and short publication history:**

*Divya Vani* = Divine voice.

Quarterly, v.1, no. 1 (July 1961), v. 3. no. 2 (Oct. 1963): bimonthly, v. 1. no. 1 (Jan. 1964), v. 2 no. 3 (May 1965): monthly. v. 1. no. 11 (July 1965), v. 12, no. 6 (June 1976): bimonthly, v. 1. no. 1 (Aug. 1976), v.14. no. 1 (Jan. 1978): quarterly, v. 1, no. 1 (Jan. 1979), Kakinada : Avatar Meher Baba Mission. 1961- v. : ill.. ports.

Subtitle: An English monthly devoted to Avatar Meher Baba & His work (varies).

Issues for July - Oct. 1961 in English or Telugu.

Editor: Swami Satya Prakash Udaseen.

Place of publication varies.

Publisher varies: S. P. Udaseen (1961-1965): S.P. Udaseen on behalf of the Meher Vihar Trust (1965-1969): Meher Vihar Trust (1970-Apr. 1974).

Ceased publication?

## **eBooks at the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Web Site**

The Avatar Meher Baba Trust's eBooks aspire to be textually exact though non-facsimile reproductions of published books, journals and articles. With the consent of the copyright holders, these online editions are being made available through the Avatar Meher Baba Trust's web site, for the research needs of Meher Baba's lovers and the general public around the world.

Again, the eBooks reproduce the text, though not the exact visual likeness, of the original publications. They have been created through a process of scanning the original pages, running these scans through optical character recognition (OCR) software, reflowing the new text, and proofreading it. Except in rare cases where we specify otherwise, the texts that you will find here correspond, page for page, with those of the original publications: in other words, page citations reliably correspond to those of the source books. But in other respects-such as lineation and font-the page designs differ. Our purpose is to provide digital texts that are more readily downloadable and searchable than photo facsimile images of the originals would have been. Moreover, they are often much more readable, especially in the case of older books, whose discoloration and deteriorated condition often makes them partly illegible. Since all this work of scanning and reflowing and proofreading has been accomplished by a team of volunteers, it is always possible that errors have crept into these online editions. If you find any of these, please let us know, by emailing us at [frank@ambppct.org](mailto:frank@ambppct.org).

The aim of the Trust's online library is to reproduce the original texts faithfully. In certain cases, however-and this applies especially to some of the older books that were never republished in updated versions-we have corrected certain small errors of a typographic order. When this has been done, all of these corrections are listed in the "Register of Editorial Alterations" that appears at the end of the digital book. If you want the original text in its exact original form, warts and all, you can reconstruct this with the aid of the "register."

The Trust's Online Library remains very much a work in progress. With your help and input, it will increase in scope and improve in elegance and accuracy as the years go by. In the meantime, we hope it will serve the needs of those seeking to deepen and broaden their own familiarity with Avatar Meher Baba's life and message and to disseminate this good news throughout the world.

Monthly:

March 1967

# DIVYA VANI

( DIVINE VOICE )

*Editor:*

SWAMI SATYA PRAKASH UDASEEN

*Phone:* 3 6 2 3 3

**"The Meher Vihar Trust"** Grams: "MEHERVIHAR"

3-6-441, 5th Street,

**Volume 2 ]**

Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29

**[ Price:**

**Number 9 ]**

(A. P., India)

**[ Re. 1-00**

# MEHER PUBLICATIONS

(Revised and Exhaustive Price-List)

	Rs. P.
God Speaks by Meher Baba (Published in U.S.A.) with Charts	... 37.50
Listen Humanity by Meher Baba (Published in U.S.A.)	... 37.50
Avatar by Jean Adriel (Published in U.S.A.)	... 20.00
Civilisation or Chaos? by Irene Conybeare (2nd revised edition)	... 12.00
In Quest of Truth by Irene Conybeare	... 12.00
Stay With God by Francis Brabazon (Published in Australia)	... 12.00
The Everything and The Nothing by Meher Baba (for India – Published in Australia)	... 5.00
The Work of Meher Baba with Advanced Souls, Sadhus, The Mad and The Poor by Dr. William Donkin	... 3.50
Wisdom of Meher Baba by Ruth White (Published in U.S.A.)	... 3.00
Discourses by Meher Baba in 5 vols. (vols. 1 and 4 are out of stock) each vol.	... 5.00
Let Us The People Sing by Francis Brabazon	... 3.00
Messages by Meher Baba (Eastern & Western)	... 3.00
Meher Baba in The Great Seclusion by Ramju Abdulla & Dr. C. D. Deshmukh, M.A., Ph.D.	... 1.00
Sobs & Throbs by A. K. Abdulla (mimeographed)	... 10.00
The Quest by Francis Brabazon (Published in Australia)	... 2.00
Sparks from Meher Baba (Published in England)	... 1.00
The Highest of the High by Meher Baba	... 1.00
Meher Baba's Call and Existence is Substance and Life is Shadow by Meher Baba	... 1.00

(Continued on 3rd cover page)

Monthly:

MARCH 1967

# DIVYA VANI

( DIVINE VOICE )

AN ENGLISH MONTHLY

Devoted to Avatar Meher Baba & His Work

*Editor:*

SWAMI SATYA PRAKASH UDASEEN

*Hon. Assistant Editor :*

L. Venkayya, B.Sc., LL.B., D.P.A.

*Phone: 36233*

*Grams: "MEHERVIHAR"*

**THE MEHER VIHAR TRUST**

3-6-441, 5th Street,  
Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29  
(A. P., India)

**Volume 2 ]**

**Number 9 ]**

*Annual Subscription:*

**Rs. 12-00**

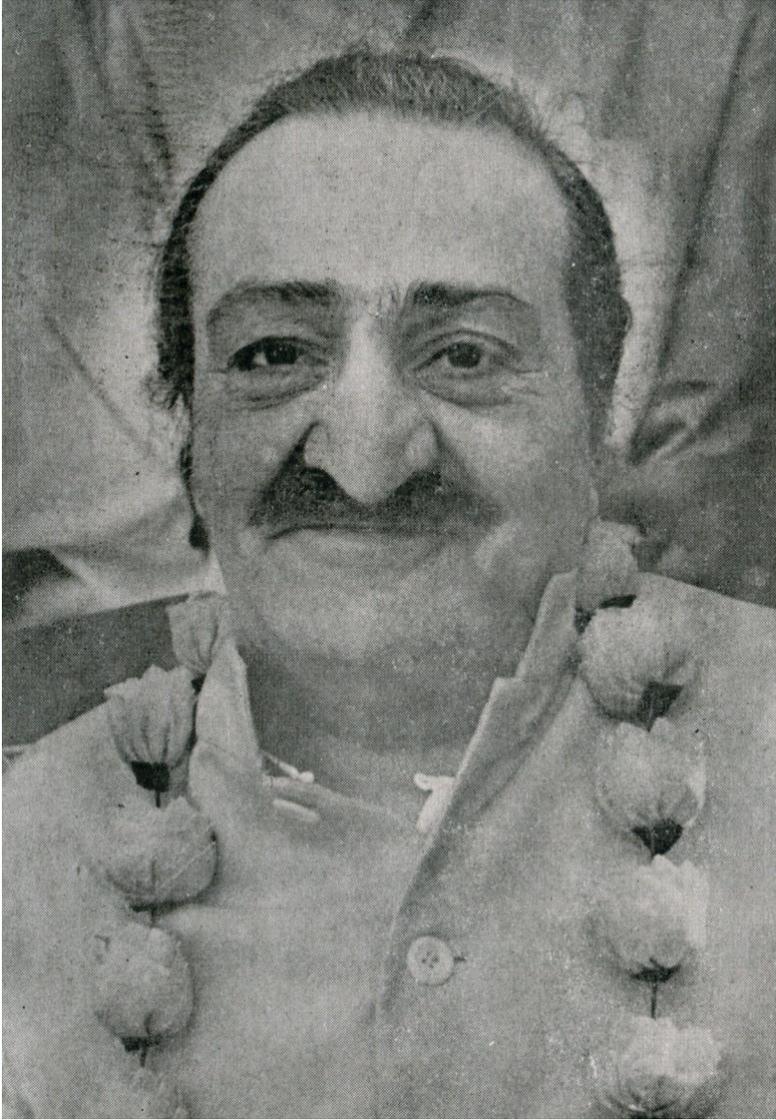
**Single Copy: Re. 1-00**

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
Editorial: ...	3
Divine Consciousness <i>by Meher Baba</i> ...	6
Meher Baba – The Living God <i>by Dr. A. N. Deshpande, M.A., Ph.D., Nagpur</i> ...	9
God-Man Meher Baba (Poem) <i>by Naosherwan K. Nalawala, Editor, "Glow", Dehra Dun</i> ...	14
Avatar Meher Baba <i>by Justice V. Ramaswami, New Delhi</i> ...	16
Greetings to Avatar Meher Baba (Poem) <i>by I. V. R. Ramakrishna, Kakinada,</i> ...	21
The Truth of Meher Baba <i>by Dana Field, U.S.A.</i> ...	23
Conscious Living is Spiritual Life <i>by K. K. Ramakrishnan, Poona</i> ...	35
Life (Poem) <i>by "Gemini"</i> ...	40
Avatar Meher Baba and His Glory <i>by Dr. Ram G. Ginde, Bombay</i> ...	41
News in Brief: ...	49

---

## AVATAR MEHER BABA



"I have come not to teach but to awaken."

*Editorial:*

## THE WAY IS CLEAR AND SAFE

While affirming the purpose of life, Beloved Baba hath said: "What else is life meant for, but to love God and become one with Him? God is the only Reality. One has to go on and on until we arrive at a stage, when we must love God, because we know all life leads to Him..." "Let me tell you this fact. There is nothing to worry about, nothing to be disheartened about. We are all, each one of us, meant to be happy. Our life is by God's Grace and our happiness is that which makes us feel that we are one with God. Know that all else is illusion", declared Beloved Baba. He also clarified that there is no 'Sadhan' higher than love and that there is no law higher than love, and that God and love are identical and that one who has Divine Love has reached Him.

But, it is true that when we undergo suffering in life, our faith in God is shakened and that is why Baba explains to us thus: "When suffering comes, it comes according to the divinely established law of Karma. It must then be accepted with grace and fortitude. But it must be remembered that your actions are the cause of much of your suffering. Through wise action it can be minimised. What humanity needs is spiritual wisdom; and for this it must inevitably turn to Perfect Masters and Avatars.... Suffering comes through ignorance or attachment to illusions. Most people play with illusions as children play with toys. If you get caught up in the ephemeral things of this world and cling to illusory values, suffering is inevitable. It is not easy for little children to give up

their toys, for they become victims of habit, which they cannot undo. In the same way, through millions of lives, you have got into the habit of playing with illusions; it is difficult for you to get disentangled from them.... For ages and ages, the Soul (Atma) has been seeing its own shadow and getting engrossed in the illusory world of forms. He gets addicted to the spectacle of his own creation and desires to see it through cycles and cycles of creation. When the soul turns inwards and longs to have self-knowledge, it has become spiritually minded. But even there, this habit of wanting to see some spectacle persists for several lives. The soul wants to experience some miracle, or in more advanced stages it wants to perform miracles and manipulate phenomena. Even spiritually advanced persons find it difficult to outgrow this habit of playing with illusions. Persistent attachment to miracles is only a further continuation of the habit of playing with illusions." He then declares: "It is not miracles, but understanding which can bring you True Freedom. *If you have firm faith and unfaltering love for the God-Man, your way to Abiding Truth is clear and safe.* Then you have no time to waste in playing with things that do not matter. Be ye guided by Love and Truth. This is the simple way that leads to God. Although it appears as the most fantastic imagination, yet it is the fact that the very life of man is the veil that shrouds the reality of the eternal existence of God. It is the irony of divine Fate that God gets lost in man to find Himself, and the instant that man gets lost in God, God realizes His Reality as Existence, Eternal and Infinite."

How very simple and direct is the way to God realization, and how very clear and safe is the way for those who have firm faith and unfaltering love for God-Man has also been amply explained by Beloved Baba, our Compassionate Father. It behoves a real seeker now to choose his way, either to accept Him whole heartedly or reject Him and lose this unique opportunity of the Divine presence

of the Avatar of the Age, in the form of Meher Baba. But for those of us who had the good fortune to be the recipients of His Grace and Love-blessing, the only clear and safe way is to have in Him absolute faith and to completely surrender unto Him, and our only prayer to Him shall be that we must be bestowed with strength to hold fast to His 'daaman' to the last breath of our lives.

May He Bless us all!

Jai Avatar Meher Baba Ki Jai !

---

---

#### NOTE:

From 1st April, 1967, Beloved Baba will not hear any correspondence unless it is very important and this too only when directly connected with Baba-work. Any correspondence connected with personal difficulties or boons will not be entertained. Baba wishes to be absolutely undisturbed from 1st April to the end of the year 1967. —Adi K. Irani.

# \*DIVINE CONSCIOUSNESS

by Meher Baba

So much has been said and written about the "Highest Consciousness" and God-realization that people are bewildered as to the right process and immediate possibility of attainment. The philosophical mind wading laboriously through such literature only ends by learning a few intellectual gymnastics. The Highest State of Consciousness is latent in all. The Son of God is in every man, but requires to be manifested. The method of attaining this great Consciousness must be very practical and must be adapted to the existing mental and material conditions of the world.

Rituals and ceremonies instituted by the priest-ridden churches have made the process of attainment too dry; and that accounts for the lack of interest felt all over the world towards religious things in general. India, in spite of its high state of spirituality, at the present moment is very caste-ridden because of the enforcement by various cults of a plethora of rituals and ceremonies which maintain the form but kill the spirit. Forms and ceremonies, instead of diminishing the ego, strengthen it. The stronger the ego, the more aggressive it becomes. In the anxiety to become conscious of a separate self through thinking thoughts such as "I am in the right", "I am the favoured one". "I only have the right to live", one becomes destructive. The furious race for armaments by the Christian world, evincing an utter disregard for the Commandment of Jesus that if one cheek is smitten, the

other should be offered, shows clearly what I mean by the ego. In the evolutionary ascent from the mineral, vegetable and animal life, the latent mind gradually expands and develops till full consciousness is reached in the human form. To create this very consciousness, the universe emanated from the Infinite Ocean of Knowledge and Bliss, i.e., God the Absolute. In the human form, however, a difficulty is confronted, to remove which, prophets and spiritual Masters have periodically visited this earthly plane. Besides full consciousness in the human form, as a result of previous conditions of life, the ego, the 'I', is evolved.

The ego is composed of fulfilled and unfulfilled desires and creates the illusion of feeling finite, weak and unhappy. Henceforth, the soul can only progress through the gradual suppression of this finite ego and its transformation into the Divine Ego, the One Infinite Self, but retaining in full the consciousness of the human form. When man realizes this state of Divine Consciousness, he finds himself in everyone and sees all phenomena as forms of his own Real Self. The best and also the easiest process of overcoming the ego and attaining the Divine Consciousness is to develop love and render selfless service to humanity in whatever circumstances we are placed. All ethics and religious practices ultimately lead to this. The more we live for others and less for ourselves, the more the low desires are eliminated, and this, in turn, reacts upon the ego, suppressing and transforming it proportionately. The ego persists to the last. Not till all the six, out of the seven, principal stages on the Path, culminating into one God-conscious state, are traversed, is the ego completely eliminated to re-appear on the seventh plane as the Divine "I", the state of Christ Consciousness to which Jesus referred when he said, "I and my Father are one" and which corresponds to the state of living in the Infinite and finite at one and the same time.

The above is the normal procedure for one who works on his own initiative without having come across a living Master. With the help of a Perfect Master, the whole affair, however, is greatly simplified.

Complete surrender to the Divine Will of the Perfect One, an unflinching readiness to carry out his orders, rapidly achieve a result not possible even by rigidly practising all the ethics of the world for a thousand years. The extraordinary results achieved by a Perfect Master are due to the fact that being one with the Universal Mind, he is present in the mind of every human being and can therefore give just the particular help needed to awaken the Highest Consciousness latent in every individual. Perfection, however, in order to achieve the greatest result on the material plane, must possess a human touch and a keen sense of humour.

I eternally enjoy the Christ State of Consciousness, and when I speak, which I intend doing in the near future, I shall manifest my true self.

Besides giving a general spiritual push to the whole world, I shall lead all those who come to me towards Light and Truth. This, in short, is my mission in the world.

The ability to perform miracles does not necessarily connote high spirituality. Anyone who has reached the Christ Consciousness can perform them. People must not come to me merely for help in their physical infirmities or for material purposes. I shall perform miracles when the time and the situation demand, and not to satisfy mere idle curiosity. Spiritual healing is by far the greatest healing, and this is what I intend to give. The Highest is latent in everyone, but is to be manifested.

---

# MEHER BABA—THE LIVING GOD

by Dr. A. N. Deshpande, M. A., Ph. D., Nagpur

God exists. Whether we wish or not, whether we know or not, whether we agree or not, He exists. His existence needs no proof.

Those who have eyes will see Him even in the smallest blade of grass. Those who have ears will hear Him even in the chirping of the tiny little sparrows. Those who have the sense of smell will enjoy His fragrance even in the down-trodden particles of the dirty dust.

Those who have the sense of touch will feel His presence even in a substance which is the hardest of all the hard substances in the world. It is in fact not necessary to go in search of Him in the outside universe. He is there everywhere. He is also within us. He is always with us. He is our constant companion.

## MEHER BABA

Though so very near and close to us, we are scarcely aware of Him? Why? Because we have put veil upon veil between Him and ourselves. There is the veil of ignorance. There is the veil of arrogance. There is the veil of indifference.

Man, by himself, on his own, is incapable of removing these veils. It is only with the divine help of a Man-God i.e., Sad-guru or a God-Man, i.e., an incarnation of God in a human form that these veils can be completely done away with. The divine help is a rich and

enviable fruit which can be gathered only from the tree of total surrender—the tree that needs three things for its full growth—the water of self-annihilation, the manure of ungrudging and smiling obedience and the cultivation of pure unearthly love.

There are always at all times in this world Sad-gurus, Perfect Masters, who are genuinely eager to give divine help to those who are seeking it with real spiritual restlessness. The mankind of today has been endowed with a rare fortune; because it is blessed with the unique, heavenly opportunity of receiving direct spiritual guidance from Avatar Meher Baba, the Living God. God, who had incarnated in the bygone ages as Rama, as Krishna, as Buddha, as Christ and as all other Avatars has now come down to the earth for the spiritual uplift of mankind as Meher Baba. He has Himself declared to the whole world that He is the Avatar—the God-Man.

This declaration of Baba is likely to sound fantastic and unacceptable to those who take pride in calling themselves rationalists or slaves of reason which is ego-centered and highly unreliable because of its extremely limited capacity of complete comprehension. Rationalists are Red Guards let loose on the world of spiritual values by the fiend of intellectualism.

Rationalists are ungrateful, because they fail to take cognizance of the glaring fact that the power of reason which they extol to the skies is a gift given to them by God. So, if the rationalists unwisely throw a glance of derision at the claim of Avatarhood made by Meher Baba, it deserves to be completely ignored.

Meher Baba's declaration of His being the Avatar is in complete consonance with the Avataric way—the way in which the previous Avatars have made themselves known as God-Men—as incarnations or as Messengers of God. His Avatarhood has been recognized by millions of people in nearly all the countries of the world.

### LOVE AND SERVICE

Meher Baba was made aware of His own Godhood by the five Sad-gurus—the five Perfect Masters, viz., Hazrat Babajan of Poona, Narayan Maharaj of Khedgaon, Tajuddin Baba of Nagpur, Hazrat Sai Baba of Shirdi and Upasani Maharaj of Sakori. When Sai Baba for the first time met Meher Baba, he had very significantly addressed Him as 'Parvardigar'! It can, therefore, be very aptly said that the five mighty rivers of Divine Grace flowed into the ocean of love that is Meher Baba.

Baba is Love incarnate. He is the Beloved, the Compassionate, the Ancient One. Love and Service are the magnificent pillars on which is erected the grand dome of His earthly Avataric life. Let us try to understand that Baba is the Master of the highest of the high; yet He is the servant of the lowest of the low.

The story of the service that He has rendered to the destitute, the diseased and to the God-intoxicated is thrilling and invigorating and is full with volumes of spiritual meaningfulness. This story is like a rare jewel, the luminosity of which can never be adequately described even if one constructs an edifice of words as big, as spacious and as gigantic as the Himalayas.

Baba's life is aglow with the unusual glory of Mastery in servitude. Service came to know of its own real significance when Baba used it for His work, it secured its own real abode when it came into Baba's contact. Baba is service. Baba is Love—Love that is uncontaminated by the multifarious mundane desires and longings. It is God's love. It is boundless. It is selfless. It is ever new, ever alive, ever full of inspiring vigour.

It is Wisdom-Love. It is a flower which comes to life and blooms in the garden of divine Wisdom and adores that garden with its sacredly captivating beauty. It is like the moon shining and spreading its smooth,

sweet nectar rays in the azure sky of God consciousness. Love is the primary force which is the creator and builder of the universe; and it is mainly through the power of love that the innumerable problems that the world is facing can be solved satisfactorily and permanently—problems at various levels of life—social, economic, political, religious, national and international.

So, when considered from this point of view, it has to be emphatically maintained and proclaimed that love is a world necessity; it is vitally and urgently needed for the survival and sustenance of the human race. That is why Baba awakens and kindles the flame of love in our hearts. That is why He is the Beloved of His lovers. Love is magical in its effects. It can bring us face to face with God. That is the reason why Baba expects from us unstinted, whole-hearted and faith-generated love. When Baba's love towards us and our love towards Baba converge, we begin to experience waves of a new dynamic energy which enables us to throw off the shackles of the variegated alluring illusions and to have proper understanding of the Real Fundamental Existence.

Love and Service are long known medicines, but mere medicines do not work. Almost all the physicians have the same stock of medicines in their hospitals, but it is the hand of the particular physician that cures and gives the desired results. For the eradication of the ailments of the present day world, let us pray at the feet of Avatar Meher Baba and seek His divine help because He is the Greatest Physician meant for the existing humanity.

### **MEETING GROUND**

Meher Baba is the meeting ground of all the religions. By birth He is a Zoroastrian. When, while in His teens, He had in His hand a small book on Buddha, He had suddenly experienced, like a flash, the awakening—'I Am That.' He got His schooling in a

Christian School. Out of the five Sad-gurus who gave their blessings to Him, three were Mohamedans and two were Hindus. If all the lovers of Baba happen to meet together they would automatically form an assembly of the best representatives of all the religions of the world.

It is a very significant attribute of His personality—significant in the context of the hard world realities and their attendant expectations. Even the material well-being of the man of today is, to a large extent, dependent upon the early realization of the state of world peace. To achieve it, a chord of sympathetic understanding between the various religions of the world has to be established.

Meher Baba is the greatest Musician who is showing the right way to world peace by striking the proper note of accord between the different religions of the world.

### **BIRTHDAY**

25th February 1894 is the birth day of Meher Baba. \*Today is 25th February. Today is the day when we should strengthen the bond of love that we have in our hearts for Him. Today is the day when we should throughout the 24 hours, repeat His name with deep genuine faith. I may be a Hindu, I may be a Muslim, I may be a Zoroastrian, I may be a Christian, I may be a Buddhist; but by lovingly repeating the name of Meher Baba I will be repeating the name of God of my own religion; because God is One and He has incarnated Himself as different Avatars in different ages. Meher Baba is the Avatar of the present age. He is the saviour and Sad-guru of the world of today. Let us place at His feet the gem of our unadulterated love and pray for His spiritually sweet blessings.

—————

---

\* This refers to 25th Feb '67, the 73rd birthday of Beloved Baba.

# GOD-MAN MEHER BABA

by Naosherwan K. Nalawala,\*

Editor "GLOW" DEHRA DUN

He is born with the brilliance of a thousand torch-lights;  
Lighting the firmament with the splendour of the sun;  
He is born when the night is hushed into silence,  
And the moon sees the day with its sparkling dewy-eyes;  
He is born when the cloud floats in the wide space,  
And the Star stands perched in the open sky above.

He grows up and high with the songs of the birds,  
And the looks at the Sun with an aspirant's urge;  
He grows up in wisdom in the expanse of freedom,  
Brightening his self with the beauty of a mission;  
He grows with his heart cleansed and untainted,  
His soul overbrimming with the joys of the real.

---

\* On the 73rd Birthday of my Most Beloved Meher Baba, I have written this dedication. These lines carry the burden of my soul and they detail an account of my visions that have been trampled upon and dreams that have been obliterated.

But my creative impulses have not been weakened and I turn to the Sun, my Beloved, my soul athirst, till I lie in the lap of wakefulness.

Hail! to the Avatar who says 'AWAKE' and Creation walks in His Presence.



# \*AVATAR MEHER BABA

by Justice V. Ramaswami, New Delhi

I am very happy, indeed fortunate, to be present this evening at the 73rd birthday celebrations of Sri Meher Baba. You have already heard an exceedingly able account of the life and teachings of Sri Meher Baba by Dr. G. S. N. Moorthy. I have not personally had the good fortune to meet Sri Meher Baba. From the books so kindly sent to me by Mr. Dhar, I have derived some insight into His teachings and also the way of life which He inculcates. From that I have read about Him I have come to the conclusion that He is a very great saint directly in the line of our country's philosophic tradition.

Our scriptures proclaim from the very start that there is only One Reality in this world which is described in different ways. It is demonstrated in the Upanishads that one supreme God dwells in the hearts of all human beings. But though God may be present everywhere, all of us are not equally conscious of the presence of God. It is only the great saints and sages and hermits who have realised the Divine, who have felt the reality of God in their own being and who live in the consciousness of the presence of God everywhere. As an orphic tablet says: "I am a child of earth and of starry Heaven, but my race is of Heaven alone." The tendency of human beings is to go forward and to go upward. Human tendency is always towards Divine. The aim of human life is God-realisation

---

\* From speech delivered on the occasion of the 73rd Birthday celebrations of Avatar Meher Baba at New Delhi on February 25, 1967.

and it is stated in our scriptures that unless man achieves God-realisation his life would have been in vain. As Rabindranath Tagore has movingly stated in one of his poems:

"If it is not my portion to meet thee in this my life then let me ever feel that I have missed thy sight: let me not forget for a moment, let me carry the pangs of this sorrow in my dreams and in my wakeful hours.

"As my days pass in the crowded market of this world and my hands grow full with the daily profits, let me ever feel that I have gained nothing—let me not forget for a moment, let me carry the pangs of this sorrow in my dreams and in my wakeful hours."

Our scriptures have said, 'uttama sahajavastha'. You should always live soaked in the nature of God. Whatever you happen to do, whatever profession you happen to practise you should do so with the consciousness of the Supreme. That is the 'sahjavastha'. What we have to aim at is the highest goal, i.e., living in the consciousness of the Divine, working in the consciousness of the Divine, and looking up to God with his eternal presence in our hearts. That is the highest kind of philosophy and that is the highest kind of religion. All the great saints of God are the messengers sent by the Supreme for the purpose of satisfying the aspirations of the human individual. Every saint embodies the light of the Supreme. Such a saint is not a person who draws the influence from God by philosophic fulfilment but he is a person who has seen the Divine and has felt the reality of God in his own being. That is the goal we have to aim at, to live with the sense of dedication to God. Our object should be to become a consecrated individual, a dedicated soul, a transformed being. When we attain that state there is an invisible splendour which would shine out. How is the perfection to be attained? What

is the path trodden by mystics and saints? What is the method of God-realisation? In what way are we to cross the Rainbow Bridge from darkness to light, from untruth to truth and from life to immortality? There are three methods mentioned in our philosophical tradition. The first is the method of Knowledge. The second is the method of Devotion, and the third is the method of Action. As Plotinus has stated:

"There are different roads by which this end (of spiritual apprehension) may be reached; the love of beauty which exalts the poet; that devotion to the one and that ascent of science which make the ambition of the philosopher; that love and those prayers by which some devout and ardent soul tends in its moral purity towards perfection. These are the great highways conducting to that height above the actual and the particular, where we stand in the immediate presence of the Infinite, who shines out as from the deeps of the soul." (Letter to Flaccus)

The teaching of Meher Baba is that the way of devotion is the best for attaining God-realisation. The method of devotion is "surrender in trusting Grace of the Lord. The human soul draws nearer to the Divine by contemplation of God's Power, God's Wisdom and Guidance, the constant praise of Him with a devout heart by conversation about His qualities with others, by singing His praises with fellow-men, and by doing all acts as service to God. The devotee has an utter sense of humility and surrenders himself and all his works to God. But the practice of Bhakti Yoga is not a mere emotionalism. Unless there is purity of conduct there will be no true devotion, no true Bhakti. In a similar manner, highest devotion results in highest knowledge. In other words, Bhakti Yoga must be supported by Karma Yoga on the one hand and Jnana Yoga on the other. Therefore a true devotee must have purity. He must have

friendship and compassion towards all God's creatures. He must possess equanimity in misery and happiness. Devotion to God therefore must be sustained by high moral conduct; in other words, Karma Yoga and Bhakti and Jnana Yogas are only three different aspects of the same way to God-realisation. The devotee must be in healthy contact with practical life on the one hand and with a philosophical Knowledge of God on the other hand. In other words, Bhakti Yoga, Jnana Yoga and Karma Yoga are the three wings on which the soul soars into immortal light.

I have already stated that we are inheritors of a great and noble philosophic tradition. We must be worthy of our inheritance and we must play a worthy and noble part on the world's stage. It is necessary that at the present moment we should lead dedicated lives. The spirit of sacrifice should prevail over the spirit of enjoyment and the spirit of acquisition of worldly goods. We should not demand of society more than what we give to it. We should practise the art of giving. The way of attaining the Supreme is the hard way of high moral conduct. We must realise that happiness is achieved not in personal acquisitions of money or goods or the material amenities of life, but, on the contrary, by "giving out" and by sharing with others not only money and goods but love and sympathy, compassion and goodwill. It is only when we destroy the concept of our ego that we achieve real happiness and begin to see some meaning in life. It is only when we are interested in other persons and their problems, it is only when we identify ourselves with the great movements of the world in thought and action, it is only when we learn to lose ourselves in some great cause, that we begin to see the meaning and purpose of life. That is why I say that we should go back and take inspiration from the ideals of our great philosophic and religious tradition. It is necessary that we should take inspiration from the life and teachings of Sri Meher Baba. We

should remember that our country is holy and great because it has produced sages, saints, hermits and holy men. The image of the country which is present in my mind is of a country, the keynotes of whose culture are *satyam*, *tapas*, *danam* and *yagna*—truth, austerity, gift and sacrifice. These are the imperishable features of our philosophic tradition, and in one of the Upanishads it is said that *tapas*, *danam* and *yagna*—austerity, gift and sacrifice are the gateways for the realisation of the Supreme. The recurrent idea of our philosophic tradition is that service of man is a method of *sadhana* for God-realisation.

Before I conclude, let me express my gratitude to Avatar Meher Baba for His telegram conveying His grace and blessings to my wife, myself and all of us who are present at this meeting today. Let me also read out to you the birthday message sent by Avatar Meher Baba on this occasion:

"Births and deaths are illusory phenomena. One really dies when one is born to live as God, the Eternal who is beyond both birth and death."

Let me conclude by a prayer that Meher Baba may have a long life, so that He may be able to give blessings to this troubled world for a very, very long time to come. Let me thank you for kindly inviting me to this auspicious occasion.

---

# Greetings to Avatar Meher Baba

by I. V. R. Ramakrishna, KAKINADA

Loving words and tender phrases  
From my heart this joyous day  
Sweetly come to sing YOUR praises  
And to thank YOU for the way,  
YOU have brought me all life's blessings.

I send you Birthday greetings,  
As from a lovely garden  
We choose the fairest flowers  
So memory keeps safe cherished,  
Here's to the past and its memories  
of happiness complete.

Here is the Joy of the present  
And all that makes life sweet,  
And the future YOU hold  
May the days ahead be bright  
With happiness and pleasure.

O MY DEAR  
There is no end  
To all the joys YOU bring.  
And here with LOVE I fondly send  
And every wish is prompted  
By affection most sincere,  
My thanks for everything.

Count not YOUR AGE by years YOU LIVE  
As YOU ARE AGELESS,  
But by the happiness YOU give.  
The Lovers YOU make, the Good YOU DO  
The Confidence that's placed in YOU,  
The Silent cheer YOU  
Day by Day bring to others  
And all the things YOU DO.

Reflect these lovely qualities  
So much a part of YOU,  
Bright with promise  
Dawns on the World once more.  
Above the shadows of the past  
Our hopes triumphant soar.

May all the wishes  
We all hold so dear  
Be realised in this year.  
May it bring new blessings rare  
And through the year may life  
Be sweet beyond compare.  
So tender is my greeting,  
So true the LOVE it brings,  
So deep the wish it would express  
For all life's happy things.

No other phrase can say it,  
But the one I am using here  
Just a simple heart-felt wish  
"A HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU DEAR".

---

# The Truth Of Meher Baba

by Dana Field, U.S.A.

The Word of the Avatar is Truth, not rationalized facts or philosophy, because He does not use the ordinary intellect circumscribed by illusion. It is Truth based on direct experience. Intellect questions man's importance, his goal in life, or the uniqueness of *this* Earth. Baba knows! "God-love penetrates the illusion, while no amount of illusion can penetrate God-love." Baba says: "Only in the human form is it possible for life to attain its final Goal, which is to realize the all-pervading and infinite Divinity. Only in the human body can one attain realization and fulfill the purpose of creation. Hence the supreme importance of the human body." And here is something for the Space-Age. "Some of the worlds in the gross sphere contain minerals and vegetation only; others contain countless embodied beings also, and in some there are included human beings. The point of prime importance in the gross sphere is our world (Earth). Here, amongst all other beings who are conscious in greater or lesser degree of the gross, Man with his full consciousness is *superior* to all other beings of all the gross worlds. This means superior also spiritually. Man is greater, in the strength of potentialities latent in him for Realization, than even the angels and Archangels. But until man *here* Awakens to the subtle, his full consciousness remains wholly occupied with the gross, even when he reads and thinks of spiritual subjects."

Philosophers and theologians admit the possibility of God's taking on human form in order to render His

merciful and efficacious help to mankind, but they cannot know that the time is NOW! Meher Baba tells us: "Irrespective of doubts and convictions, for the Infinite Love I bear for one and all, I continue to come as the Avatar, to be judged time and again by humanity in its ignorance, in order to help man distinguish the Real from the false. *The time is come!* I repeat the Call, and bid all come unto Me." This Call *shall* be heeded.

Baba's 'God Speaks' is not just another book: it is the Divine Word aimed to pierce thru' the mind to the heart, to arouse intuitive appreciation that helps to grasp its deeper significance for man's destiny as a Soul. The author is not just a man: He is also Conscious God. Therefore, a mere cursory reading of the work will not yield all its hidden treasure of His Infinite Knowledge, etc., particularly since the mind will resist being used as channel for the heart, thus releasing its hegemony over it. The intellect will resist understanding Baba's profound Truth and will also try to forget it quickly, reject it—because it will sense the beginning of the end for its false and tyrannical rule thru' imagination and rationalization. Baba says: "The mind is the seat of ego; the heart is the seat of Truth." It is, therefore, essential that one try to affirm first of all WHO BABA IS. That will give inner conviction, and His grace will help one see by the light of his own Soul, thru intuition of the spirit.

Baba says: "Realization comes, not thru the intellect but thru the heart; from loving God in everyone and everything one meets in life. There are three kinds of convictions: 1) Intellectual conviction, which is arrived at thru reason & logic, as a result of which one is convinced that *God Is*. 2) Conviction by sight—one *sees God* everywhere, in everything, as clearly as external objects are seen, but with the spiritual eye. 3) Real conviction, thru experience, when one *becomes God*. Then one knows that

only God exists, and that all else is illusion, and that we are all One in His Love. It is only when one gets this conviction that he really knows WHO BABA IS. I am one with you on every level, but you know this only when the ego and intellect do not interfere—then Baba appears as He Really Is. One has to die to oneself to know Me."

The farther we get from the source or spirit of religion, i.e., the Truth as revealed by the *Living Avatar* who is one with it, the more complications, formalism, "manyness." Biological man preserves illusion by substituting love, worship and service to God by love of things material, satisfying physical appetites and / or concentrating on intellectual pursuits. As a result, instead of resisting temptation we resist God's Will; instead of giving all to God and dwelling continuously on Him, we waste our precious life-time, energies and money on accumulating good and evil attachments that chain our consciousness to earth. We all feel the need to love and be loved—"the greatest thing we can give or receive," says Baba; but why not choose the Highest, in the person of the Living Avatar, instead of compromising for lower values? For, we become like that which we love. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." What profiteth it man to give charity and clear his conscience by living up to social responsibilities, if he is not honest with God who is more than conscience, who is his very Self? Integration of personality according to worldly standards is not the Truth of Oneness with Baba, who liberates us by snapping us out of the hypnotic state induced by the glamour and clamor of senses and mind, by Awakening us to the wonder of the Heights and Depths of the soul—Reality. For this blessed Awakening, Baba has given us many keys of self help such as: "Be good, be natural; I am Supernatural," and "Love Me more and more and more." Thus shall we snowball to the greatness of Baba's Truth: the goal of life is to come closer to Baba through merit, not wishful thinking or subterfuge; to belong to Him through the spirit of Truth, love and service—of which He is the

supreme example; which He IS. To set at naught the more abundant life that the Living Avatar gives is ingratitude and shows incapacity to feel and value His Truth, and no amount of renunciation can substitute for it, being of Maya. St. Paul knew this Truth, which he called Christ. He said: "And though I speak with the tongues of angels and have not charity (love, agape), it is nothing." Not to become ascetic but to control, sublimate the dark emotions and desires when they come up, through the application of intelligence, principles and love of God, i.e., spiritual life—this is being good, being natural and depending on Baba, who is also Supernatural, for results. By lifting, sensitizing our consciousness of Baba, the choice becomes not between good and evil but between good, better and the Best, the Highest of the High. Baba does not tell us to stop working, eating, sleeping, talking, i.e., being good, natural, except as token of obedience to His Will, temporarily, to get us under His Grace. The Path to the Truth of Existence leads thru' nature beyond nature, thru' civilization beyond it, thru' illusion beyond it. We do not leap into Divine Existence across the chasm of human weaknesses, 'gross consciousness' into the superhuman realm, but seek God's aid and grace to cross the intervening void, illusion: God's aid and grace are obtained by moderating our 'natural' way of life, not suppressing it; by balance and control, not avoidance and repression; by loving and affirming more, not hating the world—by accentuating the positive, the creative, the loving, the qualitative and spiritual side of our nature, life and society. We do not isolate ourselves from society, its trials and temptations in order to become spiritual but rather resist them by facing our problems and 'karma'. We lead others to Truth, not as from a distance i.e., by teaching, preaching but let Baba, through our example and channelship (love and obedience), Awaken. We cannot 'help' others to the Truth of Baba without ourselves being involved in the process of Awakening. The best way is to let Baba do it all thru' us. He is the

Agent; we are the instruments. We gain freedom in Truth, not by merely self-willed abstinence from action or indulgence but rather by renunciation and non-attachment, under Baba's orders, because of spiritual purpose: DIVINE PLAN. Thus, Baba tells us, our good and evil is "drowned" in Him and He takes on full "responsibility" for our lives, for results of our actions. Our concern, therefore is not about rewards or worry about consequences but about dedication and rededication to Baba. "Be not concerned with those things, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven", said Jesus. With Baba on our side, we cannot lose but find balance in the midst of worldly strife, peace in the midst of daily life, happiness in doing our duty, character in the midst of chaos. We need not abdicate from our intelligence and faculty of discrimination, in order to follow Truth in the heart. The Truth of Baba is discovered by the application of spiritual principles (such as Neti-neti, Aham Brahm Asmi) to problems in our nature—cleaning out the subconscious of wrong thought-habits, unhappiness, moods, anger, greed, sloth, negativity, criticism—thus we grow spiritually. Tension in the world, though distracting, is good for awakening consciousness. There is a price to be paid for the living Truth of Baba: we must change our consciousness, identity, which means changing our way of life, attitudes, habits, even traits. God wants 'all of us', not just part of us, the little money, time and energy that we can spare.

Life is a function of soul, Truth. Complications come in because we identify ourselves with property, personalities, etc. Illusion governs our lives thru' the glitter of outer power, wealth, pleasure, honor. But if we do not have these attachments and pre-occupations, then our lives are simplified and we identify ourselves with the Within, with Being and not its attributes, i.e., outward drive, extraversion. To get out of the confusing search for Truth we must face the fact that *God is*

*here now*, in the form of the Avatar, and that He does all: therefore, humility, obedience, love towards the One Beloved is our salvation—thru' building our relationship with Him. Loyalty to Truth within means forsaking the sensual drive outwards, away from the Self—preoccupation with the many hinders concentration on the One. He is our Center, a well of silence, spirit and contentment.

Truth cannot be forced, preached, taught, bought... it is the grace of the Perfect One, given like a flower to the chosen ones, thru' touch, look and word—more like an inheritance than earned wealth. Thus He gives us the Truth, the *experience of Baba*, who is Truth incarnate. Can anyone imagine how the Over-soul, in His infinite love and mercy, takes on the form of man, stepping-down His Absolute Divine State to our low range of vibrations so as to have a more vital contact and communicating Pure Truth via His perfect example, His touch, look and message, ... God speaking to man in silence! His vibrations are high, pure, powerful; He transforms us by helping us find the Self in all selves, Himself—the only thing we have in common with Him. Only He, the Living Avatar, Divinity in Person, the God-Man can bridge the gulfs between man and man, the individual and his True Self, nation and nation, man and God. Baba brings us out of the forest of materialism, superstition, individualism; beyond the woods of good and evil, life and death, to the Eternal Tree of Existence—Truth and Love. Blessed are they who live and die with the name of the Lord on their lips, for they shall attain to Divine Existence.

In so far as we have faith in, understand and love God do we express our consciousness of harmony and freedom in our daily life, for we then shall have "put on the incorruptible". Freedom is not a matter of performing miracles—we cannot escape from the prison of self by sprouting wings or becoming invisible; it is erasing

illusion or drawing aside the veil of gross consciousness that obscures our vision of the Divine Ego; it is freedom from false belief about the universe. When we erase illusion, we have established Truth. Why live in the semi-darkness of human love which is not unmixed with hatred, misery, envy and fear, when the bright light of His Love is here to illumine us. To love truly is to know the Truth. Our rate of growth in God-consciousness depends on the measure of our acceptance of Truth, i.e., each goes ahead at the 'speed' of comprehension and love of which he is capable. When we exchange quantitative for qualitative values, our life-experiences, too, follow that pattern ... we do not seek mere entertainment, knowledge, possession, i.e... for themselves but in so far as they further our life-in-God, in so far as they serve God's purpose. We see the illusory nature of quantitative life, the essence of experience being within us—wisdom, happiness, security and joy.

In our search for Truth we need not be austere for Baba has made smooth our path: by His vicarious suffering, fasting, praying, crucifixions, He has redeemed our souls from Maya and channelled the Grace, into the world. By their magic power, by His Divine Love for one and all we can change ourselves and bring others to the Beloved. By returning love for hatred, good for evil, we decrease Maya and increase God in the world. In moments of trial we should think of Baba, see spiritual principles as more real than emotions, persons and things involved: we withdraw the mind from external causes and appearances to the Glorious Truth of Oneness, balance and love within. By thus retreating strategically, we strengthen our position in Truth, Baba, in whose impregnable fortress of Divine Love no destructive force can reach us or pass the sentinels of God's wisdom, courage and bliss. May we be worthy of the great privilege of learning Truth from the Source of Truth. Let us be open-minded and open-hearted so that our sensitivity to Beloved Reality will make us aware

of higher Truth all around us, always. When the heart, mind, tongue and hand are One, Truth appears in fullness. Truth and love are the irresistible power of our soul, expressing itself in life. By balancing goodness with discrimination we gain God-power. Baba says that we should desire Self-realization in this life-time, because it is ours by right of having gone thus far through evolution and reincarnation. With the Avatar's Presence on earth today, great leaps Truthward are possible for all who take advantage of the numerous opportunities He offers us to come closer to Him. All He wants from us is a measure of (unselfed) love, expressed in thoughts, words and deeds in His name and under His direct orders.

Few are ready to worship God in spirit, and fewer still accept Him in His Personal aspect as the Avatar: the many-in-the-One cannot grasp God's utter humility in becoming man, and so they must worship formally they know not what. Nevertheless, Baba points out that it is good to worship even though it be idols because God looks upon the heart filled with devotion and sensitivity, despite the limiting intellect. All love finally comes to Him, says Baba. But if Maya, in the form of theological or nature worship is so beautiful in its dualism, how much more wonderful and worth-while is Reality, Truth of Baba, the Infinite Essence Within!

Religious life involves character and change of personality: it is more than just knowledge or the art of manipulating life thru' the use of consciousness or Universal Mind for ulterior motives. When the Law feels that we shall make the best use of material goods, it will provide them abundantly. Loving and devoted service to, or in the name of the Living God in our midst is the surest Path out of the wilderness of illusion. It is of greater spiritual worth to repeat His beloved name (Japa) than to perform the thousand and one daily tasks on our own. For Maya's hand is in everything that is not in and of God. We're all borrowing trouble in the form of

"sanskaras" (impressions on consciousness that will have to be expressed) and cheating ourselves of our 'portion' which is called Existence by Baba. Baba points out that those who have set their hearts on the high goal of Realization are faced with the 'impossibility' of eliminating action which is the function of life and is of the false "self", life being the opposite of Existence. All learning, all spiritual experience, all discipline, all unselfishness, all love of God is a drop in the bucket compared to the "Grace and guidance" of the Perfect Master whose consciousness is that of Infinite Existence itself. To surrender completely to Baba; to be open to His divine influence; to be receptive and sensitive to His Wish, Will, Love; to be aware at all times of His High State; to not only obey His orders but seek opportunities to serve Him secretly; to want to share His burdens as well as His Prasadas and Darshans; to be so united with Baba that we are conscious of Him in every breath—this leads to the last death, that of ego-self and its illusory life. Baba states clearly: "If you seek to live perpetually, then crave for the death of your 'deceptive self' at the hands of 'complete surrender' to Me." The end of life in illusion is the beginning of Eternal Existence in Baba. "This *Yoga* is the Essence of all *Yogas*," says Baba. A single hearted, profoundly dedicated and consecrated life is needed, conversion rather than proselytizing, to truly love God. True surrender is self-giving to the One Beloved, the crucial point in our destiny as souls. Awakening Conversion involves the commitment of breaking with our sinful (sanskaric) past which Baba makes definitive.

To find out what we really are we need to be de-hypnotized—to have the veil of ignorance (Avidya) removed from our consciousness—and then we can see beyond the seeming of duality (the polarities), the plane of the senses and mind, i.e., we realize the essential, harmonious, spiritual Oneness of all. But only the Beloved Master can take us thru' those Planes of Existence safely,

and bring us to the goal of all religions, re-union with God. When one has a burning desire to see God, he must also have the innate ability to do so; but it is by the grace of the God-Man that it can be realized. For it is Him that we would behold with the eye of the spirit, and it is He who reveals Himself in many ways to those whom He chooses according to His Wish and their merits.

The end of knowledge, God-truth, should be action-in-love as an expression of our faith in, and obedience to, the Beloved. This is balance—to love God in man, man in God; but above all, it is needful to love God and man in the person of the God-Man. There is, then, the application of God's nature to service, and the love and devotion we have for God in the form of the Avatar. Love of God is inimical to self-love: that is where many stop short thru ego centeredness. That is the straight way (and narrow gate) to the One Beloved—without traversing the long road of theological studies and accumulation of experiences in Maya, good or bad. Love for the God-Man is non-sanskaric (it may be karmic), whereas whatever we do of our own will must be worked out, balanced—an endless, illusory cycle. The Perfect Master makes us whole and perfect, for He is Perfection: He gives us the experience of blissful rebirth in spirit, for He is THAT (Om Tat Sat): He pours the power of life and love into our cells, for He is Infinite Power. All we really need to do is to let go of our false concepts of self (false consciousness)—fears, worries, doubts, negations, sense of separation and lack—and let Him (the Self in all selves) pattern our lives according to His Will which is consonant with our Soul's deep desire for true Selfhood. In gulfs of darkness or in light, in defeat and in triumph we always seek the will of the One Beloved. That is giving all to Baba.

God, in His infinite love and mercy for humanity, has revealed Himself in the form of Meher Baba on earth

to-day. He desires us to realize Him in all His Divine Glory, to remake us in His own image, to Awaken us to the Presence of His great life, love and wisdom within and around us. We are partaking of this glorious privilege thru' our attitudes of silence, listening, prayer, consecration, communion, obedience, love and service in His name and according to His dictates. To God, we must come with a pure heart and mind: rather than be overcome by evil (false desires), we use the power of enlightened spiritual mind to saturate the sub-conscious with true, life-giving suggestion and realization. This is voluntary involution choosing the best standards for the New Life-in-God. From God-in-Person we learn compassion and non-criticism, and to feel the allness of the One Truth always, everywhere, in everyone and everything. God always takes the initiative. As this is the end of the old and the beginning of the New Cycle, when the Avatar appears, He has issued His Divine Call and opened the gates wide for all to come unto Him, be they saints or sinners. This is the New Dispensation. "By Grace ye are saved through faith," said Paul. The choice we are faced with is whether to accept the God-Man's invitation and increase God's Kingdom and thru' spiritual faith, truth, love and service in obedience to Baba come closer to Him, experiencing true spiritual worship, or turn our backs on salvation and now to continue as slaves of Illusion. God Speaks: His Voice resounds thru Eternity, establishing the Laws of Being. Those who have 'ears' let them hear and, hearing obey ...

### **God, His Fishermen and Gardeners**

Why worry? What is there to fear?  
 When God, the Avatar, is here.  
 Why worship idols of illusion,  
 Knowing that "God alone is real."  
 Why seek Gurus and strive for things?  
 When God in Person is so near and dear.

Let us not be caught  
 In the net of Maya,  
 That takes so many forms,  
 But rather be Baba's Fishermen  
 Of the many-in-the-One.  
 Let us not build defenses  
 Against life's surging sea  
 That threatens to engulf us  
 But rather with faithful thought,  
 Know and feel that He upholds us.

We plant the seed of Baba's love  
 In the hearts of our fellow-men,  
 And leave the rest to Baba;  
 Giving His love to all we meet,  
 No matter what the response may be,  
 Once we have done our creative best  
 To bring new souls to Baba.  
 When people and circumstances seem evil,  
 We take refuge in His beloved Name;  
 Seeing God everywhere dispels  
 False belief in the power of Maya.  
 Baba's Name and His image turns the key to freedom  
 Declaring the Truth of Baba—Oneness—  
 Destroys the illusion of manyness.

---

# CONSCIOUS LIVING IS SPIRITUAL LIFE

by K. K. Ramakrishnan, Poona

Conscious living is Spiritual life. By conscious living I mean a life that is lived with an undimmed awareness of the meaning and purpose of human life—a life in which each step one takes is a conscious step nearer to the ultimate goal—a life which expresses every moment one's conviction and one's ideal in life, leading one steadily and surely to the fulfilment of one's highest aspiration in life. An ideal aspirant is he who has before him the concrete form of what he wants to attain or rather what he wants to become—that form becoming him every moment with an encouraging smile.

The greatest tragedy of the present day humanity is, that out of hundred persons ninety-nine do not have an aim in life and the 100th one has a blurred or confused vision of his aim or goal in life. Now, what is the ultimate aim of human life? In the Western democratic countries in the so-called free world, the ideal is equality i.e., providing equal opportunities for one and all, to grow and achieve the highest place in the society. Thus the West has no definite aim nor direction. In the Eastern democratic countries, i.e., in the so-called communist world, the ideal is to work according to one's capacity and take according to one's need. The State is supreme and human life is subservient to the well being of the State. There is a certain amount of direction in their attempt, but the pity is the ideal is purely built upon a materialistic philosophy. Besides they have not yet succeeded and the structure they are building up gives an idea

of a Temple without a God or say a body without a soul. "To understand the problem of humanity as merely the problem of bread is to reduce humanity to the level of animality," says Meher Baba. Even material adjustment of human problems can only succeed when there is proper spiritual understanding. India is at present striving to build up a socialistic pattern of society. With the best of intentions of the few honest leaders left in this country now, I feel, India is destined to fail in her attempt, unless she cares to build the foundation of that society on true spirituality. India was and is still the motherland of spirituality. India's greatness is not born out of shouting slogans of hatred, expressed in the catch-phrases of political self-interest; her greatness was and still is in her having spiritually Perfect Masters guiding her destiny from time to time. India is blessed; for, the ancient light has once again descended here to guide the destiny of man everywhere. India will regain her glory and take her right place amongst the nations of the world when she hearkens to the call emanating from the Silent One.

Coming back to the point of the ultimate aim of human life; in the religious scriptures, it is written, and spiritual masters and preachers declare, that the purpose of human life is to realise God. Does this mean anything to us? The pity is today this word 'God' through usage has lost all meaning. So, to the great majority of people the statement that "the Goal of life is to realize God" means nothing.

But one thing is certain—that each one of us seeks something. Beloved Baba says: "Consciously or unconsciously, every living creature seeks one thing. In the lower forms of life and in less advanced human beings, the quest is unconscious; in advanced human beings, it is conscious. The object of the quest is called by many names—happiness, peace, freedom, truth, love, perfection,

Self-realization, God-realization, union with God. Essentially, it is a search for all of these, but in a special way. Everyone has moments of happiness, glimpses of truth, fleeting experiences of union with God; what they want is to make them permanent. They want to establish an abiding reality in the midst of constant change. It is a natural desire, based fundamentally on a memory, dim or clear as the individual's evolution may be low or high, of his essential unity with God; for, every living thing is a partial manifestation of God, conditioned only by its lack of knowledge of its own true nature. The whole of evolution, in fact, is an evolution from unconscious divinity to conscious divinity, in which God Himself, essentially eternal and unchangeable, assumes an infinite variety of forms, enjoys an infinite variety of experiences and transcends an infinite variety of self-imposed limitations." Thus Meher Baba awakens the consciousness of man to the fact of life—life as an evolutionary process, in which God losing Himself in man unconsciously seeks to find Himself as God consciously. It is a divinely planned path. Every man or woman, nay every living creature on earth is marching towards the one and the same goal, destined for one and all. The only difference is some tread the path consciously, others—the majority of them—unconsciously.

When a man is able to visualise his ideal in life, that is, when he is able to have a clear picture of his destination in life, he may be said to be at the beginning of those life-processes which will make him a mature man. The great need for man today is to have a definite aim in life. When, a man after having a definite aim in life, consciously directs the course of his life towards the attainment of that aim with a determination and one pointed sincerity of purpose, he may be said to be on the spiritual path. Common man today is under a mistaken notion that spiritual life is something entirely different from the life he leads now and here. He makes com-

partments in the free flow of life and distinguishes one from the other as religious and irreligious, spiritual and non-spiritual, etc., leave alone, the number of divisions already created in the human society in the name of religion, race, caste, creed, colour and nationality.

Expounding the Truth of religion, Meher Baba says, "I belong to no religion. Every religion belongs to Me. My personal religion is My being the Ancient Infinite One, and the religion I impart to all is Love for God, which is the Truth of all religions. This Love can belong to all, high and low, rich and poor. Everyone of every caste and creed can love God. The one and only God who resides equally in us all is approachable by each one of us through love.

"Religion, like worship, must be from the heart. If instead of erecting churches, fire-temples, mandirs and mosques, people were to establish the House of God in their hearts for the Beloved to dwell in supreme, My work will have been done. If, instead of mechanically performing ceremonies and rituals because of age-old customs, people were to serve their fellow beings with the selflessness of love, taking God to be equally residing in one and all and knowing that by so serving others they are serving Me, My work will have been fulfilled."

What Baba wants from us is to be conscious of God's living presence in us and every living being around us, and He expects us to live every moment of our life conscious of this fact. Baba has made realization of Truth infinitely easy for us today, because He makes us feel that our "own Self is nothing but God". Baba says, "It is a mighty divine joke that everyone, being most powerful and blissful, feels most weak and miserable. So, love Me as I want you to and you will find that your own Self is nothing but God. And the practical way for the common man to express this love whilst attending to the duties of everyday life is to think lovingly, speak lovingly

and act lovingly towards all mankind ... taking God to be present in each and everyone." This is conscious living, living our every day life, being conscious of His living presence in everyone. On and often Baba tells us to love Him more and more. It often makes me think what does Baba mean by loving more and more? For, how can there be more love and less love? Love is just love. It can have no measurement. What I understand is that by repeatedly reminding us to love Him more and more, He is helping us to be more and more conscious of His presence in and around us. And it is in the very nature of love to make the lover constantly think of the Beloved. He wants our thoughts to be purified by His love, He wants our words to be releasing His love and our action to be an expression of His glory and power. In short, He wants our conscious life to be a living message of His Love and Truth.

May we be worthy of His Love!

---

#### APPEAL TO OUR DEAR SUBSCRIBERS

The Subscription for 'Divya Vani' for the current year, commencing from July, 1966 to June, 1967 is payable in advance. We would, therefore, request all our subscribers to kindly send the amount as early as possible, so as to enable us to serve them promptly and diligently in Beloved Baba's Cause.

We specially request our subscribers, who have not paid so far, for the previous years also, to send the amounts due immediately.

*Editor & Publisher*

# L I F E

by 'G e m i n i'

The dawn ceases by kindly ray  
Twinkling stars fade in sky  
Yellow rays on dewy bud to bay  
Hill or vale; that's the start of a day.

So doth begin the human life  
To rich, poor and to all alike  
Most pleasant is the dawn of life  
Safe in mother's care with no care to self.

The morn Sun doth start activity  
Baby into boy on to future's certainty  
In clouds Sun plays hide and seek in fun  
So doth the youth into life's run.

The midday Sun blazes in anger  
As middle aged man with worries for ever  
As the Sun goes down in the cool evening  
Retired life he doth have recollecting.

As stars twinkle in twilight  
He hath urge for eternal light  
Thus day starts to start again  
Pray Meher to stop this evolution strain.

---

## **\*AVATAR MEHER BABA AND HIS GLORY**

by Dr. Ram G. Ginde, Bombay

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all forming this large congregation of men, women and children, belonging to different religious groups and to different walks of life, who have assembled in this hall this evening to rejoice and to take part in the seventy-third Birthday celebrations of our Beloved, Avatar Meher Baba, from one of the corners of His vast creation.

I have neither the adequate knowledge nor the requisite experience to speak with any authority on Baba or His mission. Yet, the mantle of presiding over this function has fallen on my shoulders. I feel this is primarily due to the Grace of Beloved Baba Himself and through His Grace due to your love and devotion for Baba. It started taking shape just a fortnight ago as a result of the persuasive pleading of our dedicated and dynamic secretary of the Avatar Meher Baba Bombay Centre, brother Shorabji Siganporia and materialized after the virtual order of Beloved Baba's secretary, brother Adi K. Irani. I am particularly happy that my dear friend and an ardent Baba lover, Dr. Hoshang P. Bharucha of Navsari has been invited to give us a talk on Baba on this occasion. Being keen on meeting and listening to him, I thought that the easiest way of making my attendance at his lecture certain was by agreeing to preside over this function.

---

\* Presidential speech delivered on the occasion of the 73rd Birthday celebrations of AVATAR MEHER BABA on 25th February, 1967 at Bombay.

Having explained this background and craving your indulgence for a while, I feel emboldened to stand before you to speak a few words on this auspicious occasion. But please remember, that listening to me is like following a blind man who obviously cannot guide others similarly afflicted much less those, who are already possessed of sight. It may appear strange but truth at times is stranger than fiction, that in our original state we all must have full vision which we seem to have lost by turning deaf ears to the advice of those, who retained it at all times.

To quote Francis Brabazon, who has over the years made a deep and scholarly study of various religious systems and philosophies, written much in his inimitable poetic style and now a very close associate of Beloved Baba for over a decade, "The words of men are like candles which burn out leaving both the speaker and the audience in darkness. But, the message of Divine Incarnation, both at the time of utterance and for posterity, is as the Sun which never sets and is always available if one will but pull up the blind of prejudice and partake of its light." On one occasion, Beloved Baba Himself while giving the reasons for His silence said that "All talk in itself is idle talk. Lectures, messages, statements and discourses of any kind spiritual or otherwise imparted through utterances or writings are just idle talk when not acted upon or lived up to." Therefore, a great responsibility falls on the shoulders of any one who speaks, who has to carefully choose his theme and words and try to match them with supporting action by living up to them. Saint Ramdas said, "*Bole taisa chale tyachi wandavi pawule*" meaning "Those who show by example in actual life what they utter or preach deserve to be adored."

In all creation, as we see around us, man alone can communicate with others of his kind through the medium of the spoken word. So, we cannot help talking and ex-

changing thoughts and ideas. In the case of ordinary men very few of these thoughts and ideas are likely to contain elements of Truth and real value; many of them turn out to be false or half truths. The vast majority of them however prove to be either insignificant, valueless, degrading or even mere waste of breath. Yet, in this present Avataric period, the silent God in human form, our Beloved Baba has literally shaken up the whole universe without uttering a word during the last 42 years, by itself a unique phenomenon.

Human memory also is very short. We often cannot recall what we ate, spoke or did even a few days or weeks before, let aside recalling all the events of a life-time. Persistent lack of memory is likely to lead to confabulation where imagination runs riot. Is it any wonder then that due to the accumulated karmic influences or Sanskaras, both good and bad over millions of births, deaths and rebirths and pent up desires or *vasanas* which have left our consciousness we have been equating, in ignorance of course, our true selves with our gross physical bodies? As a result, we have been plodding our lives in these cycles of stormy seas like little boats which have lost their oars or rudders, drifting aimlessly tossed hither and thither by the surging waves lashing at them constantly. In a situation like this, all of us should have been drowned long long ago: but we seem to go on and on almost till eternity, a situation which makes no sense at all. Obviously, there must be a reason and purpose behind all this creation in which man in spite of his vast knowledge, scientific advancement and material achievements finds that he has lost himself. Thanks to the merciful God, who, having created this Universe in His original urge to know Himself—what is described as His Whim or *Laher*, has been running this show since His first realization of His original state, giving a certain hope and opportunity to one and all to realize themselves at their proper and appointed time.

We all have experienced how our parents and elders bring us up and guide us through our childhood and formative years. The same type of role is played ordinarily by the spiritually advanced souls, sages, saints, sadgurus and mahatmas, who are constantly warning us of the dangers and taking us safely to our destination of self-realization. But when in spite of their efforts, the stormy ocean in the form of the Universe in which we live becomes uncontrollable, the All-Knowing, All-Powerful and Merciful God takes over the command and manifests Himself in human form from time to time, saves us from being lost and gives us all a Universal push towards our goal.

The Blessed Lord in one of His former Avataric manifestation declared as stated in (chapter IV verses 7 and 8 of) the Bhagavadgeeta:

*Yada-Yada hi dharmasya glanir bhawati bharata  
Abhyutthanam adharmasya tadatmanam srujamyaham  
Paritranaya sadhunam winashaya cha dushkrutam  
Dharmasamsthapanarthaya sambhawami Yuge-Yuge.*

So beautifully put in verse by Sir Edwin Arnold in his 'Song Celestial'!

"When righteousness  
Declines O Bharat: when wickedness  
Is strong, I rise from age to age and take  
Visible shape, and move a man with men  
Succouring the good, thrusting the evil back,  
And setting Virtue on her seat again."

In our times, Baba says the same thing—"Age after age, when the wick of righteousness burns low, Avatar comes yet once again to rekindle the torch of Love and Truth. The Avatar's call rings out—COME ALL UNTO ME." I am sure this is the call of hope for all of us present here and also to all others elsewhere.

Most of us are aware of and witness to the continual rise of human suffering, hardships, sickness, wickedness, bitterness and frustrations all over the world in spite of apparent affluence, ease, progress, prosperity—and material comfort, during the last hundred years or so. Most of them are but a loud expression of man's inhumanity to man, funnily enough often carried out in the name of God and religion. A time seems to be fast approaching when man may blow up this Earth in one of his weaker moments. Nothing of the kind however is going to happen. How fortunate we are that the Blessed Lord has come down again amongst us donning human flesh like everyone of us at this very critical period. Happily He has been familiarly known to us as our Beloved Baba—the compassionate father who took this human form for our sake on this day seventy-three years ago.

Speaking on births and deaths, Baba Himself says: "I am never born, I never die. Yet, every moment I take birth and undergo death. The countless illusory births and deaths are necessary land marks in the progression of man's consciousness to Truth ... Although I am present everywhere eternally in My formless infinite state, from time to time, I take form, and the taking of the form and leaving it is termed My physical birth and death ... In this sense I am born (We know—in this present physical form 73 years ago) and I die when My Universal Work is finished." On the occasion of His 73rd Birthday, Baba has sent us the following message. "Births and deaths are illusory phenomena. One really dies when one is born to live as God, the Eternal, who is beyond both birth and death."

We all know that our Beloved Baba has yet once again gone into seclusion since May 1966 and will remain so till next year. The strain of His Universal Work is so great on His ageing physical body, which has already taken such a heavy toll all these years for our sake, that it is only by His supernatural powers that He is able to

carry on till He accomplishes His self appointed mission. The thought that is uppermost in my mind at present and no doubt in yours too, is "Can we do anything which would lessen His burden and physical suffering?" Volumes and volumes have been written in the form of different religions and philosophies, which may take the whole of one's life or may be many lives before one can understand the miracle of this Universe, our place in it and how we should conduct ourselves during our sojourn. Yet, we do know that there have been great men, sages, saints, and sadgurus, some with very little formal education, who could from their personal experience spontaneously declare with authority some of these universally applicable perennial Truths. When one comes face to face with Truth one just feels it in the same way as one knows the sweetness of sugar the moment a tiny grain is put into the mouth. It does not take long then for the darkness of ignorance to disappear and to see the Sun of light or knowledge in full glory.

Beloved Baba has made it all very simple for us. He just asks us to love Him, hold on to His daaman or garment and remember Him whole-heartedly. He has been repeating time and again that he has come amongst us not to teach but to awaken us. Each one of us can do this in a variety of ways best suited to his or her station in life, the simplest requiring hardly any effort being to think of Him and recall His name with all one's heart commonly known to us as Japam. While eulogising the profound influence and tremendous power of Namjap, I recall reading somewhere "*Name pashana tarile tarateela manawa nawala kaya*" meaning, "as a result of the power generated by Namjap, inanimate and heavy objects like stones which ordinarily sink in water, have floated, what is there to wonder if man who can easily learn to swim crosses this ocean of life." In the same strain a saint while singing Divine glory has said: "*Jo Hariko sada gaega tohi parampada pawega*" meaning,

"One who constantly meditates and sings the glory of the Lord, is sure in course of time to enjoy the highest state of Eternal Bliss." Recalling the same thought from another verse of the Bhagavadgeeta, (Chapter X, Verse 10) The Lord declares:

*Tesham satata yuktanam bhajatam preetipurwakam  
Dadami buddhiyogam tam yena mam upayanti te.*

Meaning, as I understand it, "unto those who are constantly engrossed in serving my cause with wholehearted love and devotion, I bestow on them or bless them with instinctive discriminating mind, which by habit, becomes a way of life, as a result of which they ultimately come unto me."

Dear Baba lovers, with your permission, I would like to close this talk with Baba's final declaration in 'God Speaks': "When Infinite Reality (i.e. God) manifests on earth in the form of man and reveals His divinity to mankind, He is recognized as the Avatar, the Messiah, the Prophet. God thus becomes Man.

In this manner, Infinite God, age after age, throughout all cycles, wills through His infinite mercy to effect His presence amidst mankind by stooping down to human levels in human form, but His physical presence amidst mankind not being apprehended, He is looked upon as an ordinary man of the World. When, however, He asserts His divinity on earth by proclaiming Himself the Avatar of the age, He is worshipped by some who accept Him as God; and glorified by a few who know Him as God on earth. But it invariably falls to the lot of the rest of the humanity to condemn Him while He is physically in their midst.

Thus it is that God as man, proclaiming Himself as the Avatar, suffers Himself to be persecuted and tortured, to be humiliated and condemned by humanity for whose

sake His infinite love has made Him stoop so low, in order that humanity, by the very act of condemning God's manifestation in the form of the Avatar should, however indirectly, assert the existence of God in His Infinite, eternal state of REALITY.

The Avatar is always one and the same because God is always one and the same, the eternal, indivisible, infinite One who manifests Himself in the form of man as the Avatar, as the Messiah, as the Prophet, as the Buddha, as the Ancient One, the Highest of the High. This eternally one and the same Avatar is made to repeat His manifestation from time to time, in different cycles, adopting different names and different human forms, in different places to reveal Truth in different garbs and different languages, in order to raise humanity from the pit of ignorance and help free it from the bondage of delusions."

Let us therefore dedicate or rather rededicate ourselves on this auspicious day of Beloved Baba's 73rd birthday to love Him more and more by serving His cause in one way or another and sing His glory in one voice. Avatar Meher Baba Ki Jai!

---

**NOTICE:**

Most attractive and beautiful Baba lockets are now available as follows. Please write to Sri Jal S. Irani, 765, Dastur Meher Road, Poona (Maharashtra State), India.

	Rs. p.
Rings with stones complete	3 00 each
Loose stones only	1-00 "
Neck stone lockets	1-50 "
Badges with different photos	1-50 "
Small Plastic lockets	0-60 "
Locketts of superior quality and very attractive	15-00 "

---

# News in Brief

## AVATAR MEHER BABA'S 73rd BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

### NEW YORK (U.S.A.):

New York City, U.S.A. which in recent months stirred under the impetus of a wave of Indian culture via musicianship and film-making, received another and different injection on February 25, as the birthday of Avatar Meher Baba was celebrated at the elegant Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, that stands on fashionable Central Park South.

The public had been invited through press and radio announcements for this unusual honouring of the Man living in India who asserts that He is the Avatar of the present age. "Avatar" is synonymous with "Messiah" for Western comprehension—but there was nothing staid or stolid or even "religious" about the programme, though its fundamental philosophical note was evident.

Yet no explanation for Meher Baba's unequivocal claim were indulged in; for, evidently this birthday party had not much room or time for such. The visitor or newcomer who wanted to question and follow the mechanics that had caused Meher Baba's devoted followers to throw this party, could start at the book counter and avail himself of some printed material which he could study at his leisure later on.

Now was the time for reading of a special cable from Meher Baba, and time for song, and talk and showing of films of Meher Baba in India. And there was some

poetry too. It was excellent and flavourful poetry that had come from the hands of a distinguished son of Australia who now lives as a close disciple of Meher Baba in India. It was only an excerpt from a book of 155 pages, but what an excerpt it was! The Man whose birthday was being celebrated is the friend of all but He is also the Master, and the excerpt was a beautiful and mystical orchestration of the steps to His feet, the steps that all pilgrims must follow in losing the lower self to realize the ONE SELF.

The spark for all this intensity of feeling and devotion was lit by Dr. Harry Kenmore, a practising and successful chiropractor of New York City, whose blindness has been no barrier to his hemisphere-hopping activities that take him each year on his solo jaunts to India. And it was ably fanned and transported to the audience from the stage by people of caliber who came from the diverse ranks of entertainment, art, the judiciary and the college campus.

A beautiful birthday cake with pink icing—pink is Meher Baba's favourite colour—was served to the guests afterwards as the refrain of "Happy Birthday, Dear Baba" came from the hearts that had been warmed by an unbelievable celebration in a city that has often bragged that it has seen everything.

To top it all, arrangements had been made with the facilities of Radio New York World-Wide to broadcast a tape recording of the entire two-hour programme to over 100 countries on the following day. - Louis

#### **MELBOURNE (AUSTRALIA):**

The Melbourne Group of Beloved Meher Baba celebrated His 73rd Birthday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. Adams. There were many new faces at this happy gathering; they were young people who were having their first Baba Birthday gathering, and the Adams'

living rooms were bursting at the seams with Baba lovers from near and far around Melbourne.

Three Baba films were shown, including the colour picture of the East-West gathering in 1962.

Each person received a copy of the cable from Baba, which read: "I will be with you all who gather for My Birthday to celebrate My being among you. I am wherever My lovers are. I give My love and blessing to you each of My lovers of the Melbourne Group — MEHER BABA".

The youngest children blew out the candles on the Birthday Cake which were lit towards the end of the evening, and all joined in singing the birthday wishes to Beloved Baba. The cake was cut and pieces distributed to all the guests to take home.

—E.M.Smart

#### **AHMEDNAGAR:**

The unusual enthusiasm manifested at the 73rd Birthday Celebrations of Avatar Meher Baba at Ahmednagar speaks volumes about the change that has suddenly been wrought by the Divine message of our beloved Baba.

Khan Saheb Sarosh Irani, with the band of their selfless workers—Bros. Chhagan Master, Rangole, Rustom Kaka, Vaman, Bhagirath, Khedkar, Manek and others were full of extraordinary energy this year. They were bent on belying the famous saying that 'the prophet is not respected in his own town' and they were cent per cent successful in their noble venture.

The bhajan mandali which went on doing *kirtan* everyday from 19th to 23rd February 67, at different places were a common attraction for the people in general. On 19th February at Pimpalgaon Malvi, near Meherazad, a Kirtan (in Marathi) was held by Krishna Kumar Alandikar in the heart of the village. Nearly 500 villagers

attended the Kirtan, which began at 9 at night and ended at 12 midnight. During the course of the Kirtan, Krishna Kumar referred to Meher Baba as the Avatar of the Age like the previous Avatars—Rama, Krishna, Christ and Mohammed and Beloved Baba's message of Love and Truth, etc.

At the end of the Kirtan one of the Mandali members spoke for half an hour giving a brief and precise account of Meher Baba's inner work performed for the spiritual benefit of the whole world and the Oceanic Sound which Meher Baba will utter, the Word of words, bringing in an upheaval of spiritual, mental and physical dimensions to the entire creation and the world that will be the forerunner of the establishment of peace and plenty in the world.

On 20th February, the second day of celebration, a Kirtan by Krishna Kumar was held in Bhingar (suburb of Ahmednagar) Nehru Chowk from 9 O'clock at night, when nearly two thousand persons attended and heard the Kirtan and the talk with rapt attention. On 21st, 22nd and 23rd February also, there was Kirtan by Krishna Kumar and brief talks at Buaji Bua Mandir, "Dana Dabra" locality and Ganj Bazar area, which served intensely to arouse interest among the people in the town.

In the evening of 24th, Viloo Villa, the residence of Khan Saheb Sarosh Irani presented a gala appearance, where not only the elite of the town gathered together but the top-most civil and military officials in Ahmednagar graced the occasion with their presence. The place was tastefully decorated. In a very sweet voice the *Parvardigar* Prayer was first recited on the mike, which was listened to with rapt attention. The music went on till the party lasted. The guests were then led to the tables where non-cereal food was served. Along with this food, spiritual food was also served in the

form of distribution of small pamphlets and folders. The party went on for three hours. It was admirably organised by Mrs. Viloo Irani, the hostess.

The same afternoon in the Society High School Hall at 5 p.m., Dr. Hira Lall Chopra of Calcutta University, delivered a lecture on 'Meher Baba and Modern Times' to the students of the school. Many other ladies and gentlemen interested in the subject were also present.

On 25th February, Baba-lovers started assembling together early in the morning from 4 a.m. Precisely at 5 a.m. the birth-time, Baba's Parvardigar Prayer was recited all standing and the arti performed. Dr. Hira Lall Chopra spoke on the birthday message of Avatar Meher Baba which He gave to His lovers this year. He emphasised the real meaning of life and death and how it was expected by beloved Baba to be understood in the context of the present day world.

Sri Dhakephalker spoke on the special message of Baba which was sent to the Centre for this occasion and Sri Adi K. Irani while paying his respects to Baba, dwelt mainly on the practical aspect of Baba's holy teachings.

On this auspicious day, about 1200 persons mostly from Arangaon, Bhalvani, Kup and Rampurvadi villages were served with food.

In the afternoon, there was a grand procession taken out in Ahmednagar, which added to the historic traditions of the town. Village folks in their bullock-carts in dozens were all eager with their natural ways of manifestation of their love for Baba. At 5 p.m., the procession commenced with bands playing and the village parties, with small sticks in their hands leaping and dancing in circles, in their traditional manner. Singing-parties on the bullock-carts, 'Shahnais' and bands played by bandsmen in their coloured uniforms, womenfolk with a big flag ahead of them and singing songs of Baba and students in rows, all

loudly pronouncing "Avatar Meher Baba Ki Jai" got it reverberated in the whole town. The main attraction of the procession was the jeep in which was placed a huge photo of Baba cut in wood and tastefully decorated and surrounded by myriads of small electric bulbs. Also a cart carrying a big photo of Baba held by village folks of Arangaon trailed behind.

A half-a-mile long procession wended its way through the streets and thoroughfares of Ahmednagar which lasted till 11-00 in the night. People from their house-tops showered flowers on Baba's photo. The processionists were also served with drinks on the way by the townsmen. Fire-works at various stops and at the Centre during the night presented a glorious sight which will long be remembered by the people of Ahmednagar. There were several parties of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh singers, who entertained the town with their devotional songs. It goes to the credit of Khan Saheb Sarosh Irani and Mr. Adi K. Irani, under whose guidance the entire programme was arranged.

On 26th morning at Sarosh Cinema, a public meeting under the presidentship of Khan Saheb Sarosh Irani was held. The Collector was to preside over the function, but, as he had suddenly gone out of town on some very urgent official errand, Shri Sarosh Irani took the chair in his absence. After Shri Adi K. Irani introduced Dr. Hira Lall Chopra to the audience in his own inimitable way, Dr. Chopra spoke on 'Man and God' and kept the audience spell-bound for more than an hour.

On the same night there was a musical concert by the prominent singer Smt. Padmavati Gokhale.

#### **AVATAR MEHER BABA BOMBAY CENTRE:**

In the early morning, as usual the Baba lovers' gathering was held in 'Meher Hall', to commemorate the Beloved's 73rd birthday and also the 5th anniversary of

'Meher Hall'. After Arti at 5 a.m. sharp, Sri S.R. Sigantoria read Baba's messages and Dr. Hoshang P. Bharucha, who was also present on this auspicious occasion translated them into Hindi. Then followed unfurling of Baba's flag by Sri Kishenchand, devotional songs by the Centre Bhajan Mandali and the recitation of a specially composed poem by Sri Eruch Patel.

In the evening, the public meeting was held in Sunderbai Hall, under the presidentship of Dr. Ram G. Ginde, a very prominent Baba lover and well known Neuro-surgeon of Bombay. Dr. H. P. Bharucha was the chief speaker on this occasion. Sri Sigantoria, while extending a hearty welcome, introduced the president and the chief speaker to the audience. After Dr. Ram G. Ginde delivered his inspiring presidential speech (given elsewhere in this issue), Dr. H. P. Bharucha, in his talk explained, in a very lucid manner the different planes of consciousness, the illusory nature of all things in the world, and the only Reality, that is 'God'. On this occasion, a very attractive brochure giving important dates and events in Baba's life was also released on behalf of the Centre. Copies of the brochure were freely distributed at the meeting. The programme came to an end with musical entertainment by the gifted artists of 'Vasant Sangeet Niketan', Arti and hearty cries of 'Avatar Meher Baba Ki Jai' !

*(News received from other places will be published in the next issue of the Journal.)*

---

**Statement about ownership and other particulars about newspaper "DIVYA VANI" to be published in the first issue every year after last day of February.**

Form IV

1. Place of Publication ... 3-6-417, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29.
2. Periodicity of its publication Monthly
3. Printer's Name ... Swami Satya Prakash Udaseen  
Nationality ... Indian  
Address ... 3-6-417, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29.
4. Publisher's Name ... Swami Satya Prakash Udaseen  
Nationality ... Indian  
Address ... 3-6-417, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29.
5. Editor's Name ... Swami Satya Prakash Udaseen  
Nationality ... Indian  
Address ... 3-6-417, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29.
6. Names & addresses of individuals who own the newspaper and partners or shareholders holding more than one per cent of the total capital. Swami Satya Prakash Udaseen, Founder-President and Managing Trustee, 'The Meher Vihar Trust', 3-6-417, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29.

I, Swami Satya Prakash Udaseen, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date 25-3-1967 (Sd.) **Swami Satya Prakash Udaseen**  
*Publisher*

*(Continued from 2nd cover page)*

Meher Baba by His Eastern & Western Disciples	...	1.00
The East West Gathering by Francis Brabazon	...	8.00
God-Man by Charles Purdom (Published in England)	...	37.50
The Unstruck Music of Meher Baba Compiled by Maud Kennedy (Mimeographed)	...	23.00
In Lap of Love by Naosherwan K. Nalavala	...	3.00
What Am I Doing Here? by Ivy O. Duce (Published in U.S.A.)	...	5.00
Flower of Contemplation by Adah Francis Shifrin	...	1.00
Life Circulars of Avatar Meher Baba (Annual subscription from April to March)	...	4.00
The Awakener (Quarterly Journal – Published in U.S.A.) Annual subscription, including registered postage, from July to June	...	15.00

*Available from:*

## **MEHER PUBLICATIONS**

**King's Road, AHMEDNAGAR**

Maharashtra—India

---

Meher Baba on 'War'	...	...	Rs. 0-50
Meher Baba on 'Love'	...	...	Rs. 0-40
Declarations of Divinity	...	...	Rs. 0-30
Why Meher Baba is Silent	...	...	Rs. 0-25
Meher Baba on 'Hell and Heaven'	...	...	Rs. 0-20
Meher Baba on 'The New World Culture'	...	...	Rs. 0-15
A Discourse by Avatar Meher Baba	...	...	Rs. 0-10

*Available from*

## **Meher Era Publications**

**Avatar Meher Baba Poona Centre**

**441-1 Somwar Peth, Poona – 2.**



Print Edition Text	Online Edition Text	Page Number	Paragraph No.	Line Number
ast	fast	5	1	6
uplift	uplift	10	2	9
boundless	boundless	11	4	6
dependant	dependent	13	2	4
crucifixions	crucifixions	29	2	3
Nam	Name	34	2	9
My	May	39	2	1
thursting	thrusting	44	5	5
t	it	45	3	5
Avtatar	Avatar	48	1	3