

**DIVYA VANI**  
**Volume 8 Number 8**

**August 1972**

A periodical Publication of  
the "Meher Vihar Trust"

An Avatar Meher Baba Trust eBook  
June 2018

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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?

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MONTHLY

AUGUST 1972

# divya vani

(DIVINE VOICE)



AVATAR MEHER BABA

PUBLISHERS:  
THE MEHER VIHAR TRUST  
HYDERABAD-29. - A. P. - INDIA.

EDITOR  
SWAMI SATYA PRAKASH UDASEEN

Number 8  
Volume 8

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## DIVYA VANI

The Meher Vihar Trust,

*3-6-417: Post Office Street*

*Himayat Nagar: Hyderabad-29*

(A.P., INDIA)

A monthly Magazine devoted to Avatar Meher Baba and His Work.

Annual Subscription rates:

India:	Rs. 12-00	Sea Mail	Air Mail
U. S. A., & Australia:		\$ 6-00	\$ 12-00
U. K, Europe, Africa:		£ 2-00	£ 4-00

N.B.: All Subscriptions are payable in advance in January every year.

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For all standard English Publications ON and By  
AVATAR MEHER BABA and for their prices address to:  
Sri Adi K. Irani, Meher Publications, Kings Road,  
Ahmednagar; (Maharashtra), India.

Monthly:  
1972

August

# D I V Y A V A N I

(Divine Voice)

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*Publishers :*

**The Meher Vihar Trust**

Himayat Nagar - HYDERABAD-29

(A. P., INDIA)

Sole Distributors :

**AVATAR MEHER BABA MISSION**

3-6-417 – Post Office Street – Himayatnagar

HYDERABAD-29, A. P., India

Volume 8 ]  
Number 8 ]

Price :  
Re. 1/-

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# *Editorial*

We reproduce elsewhere in this journal the Circular Letter issued by Beloved Baba on 30th September 1954, which clarifies the duty entrusted by him to his lovers after He had left His body, and assures His divine presence eternally with us, keeping the internal link between Him and us which can never be severed. We, therefore, draw the attention of our readers, and particularly all lovers and workers of Beloved Baba, to this aspect of our duty now, under the circumstances that have been created after Beloved Baba left his body. There are a few who believe that Beloved Baba will come again in the same body and utter the Word of Words, after which they believe His manifestation will take place. With all love and regard for such people, we beg to differ with them in this matter, and we are among those who believe (according to Baba's own clarification, made time and again) that He had completed His task here hundred percent and to His entire satisfaction, and then only left His body, and that there is no need for Him to come in the same body once again sometime in the near future, just to satisfy our wishful thinking or our own hoping against hope. We believe, according to His own words, that he will be coming again in His own way, taking a new human form and name, after 700 (seven hundred) years, by which time He expects His present lovers to fulfill their duties in right earnest and deserve His blessings and love. His present lovers should share His divine presence with the other lovers who dedicate themselves to the task of carrying out His orders in His physical absence, and thus help keep their internal links with him intact and thereby deserve His grace and love.

The only way Avatar Meher Baba suggested to His lovers to obey Him was not to allow their hearts to be torn asunder by His declarations concerning the dropping of His body, but, on the contrary, to accept His divine will cheerfully and carry on His work bravely, spreading His message of love far and wide, to all quarters, so as to fulfill His divine will. He wanted us to work so intensely that the words "Baba", "Baba", come forth

from every nook and corner of the world and from the mouth of every child so that our ignorance is reduced to ashes by the divine flame of His love. For this purpose He had asked us to come together in order to fulfill His will by taking our stand on Truth, Love and Honesty and thus become worthy of participating in His task. He has bestowed His divine blessings on us for spreading His message of Love to all humanity.

We humbly draw the kind attention of every Baba-lover and worker, and make an appeal in right earnest, to search our hearts and find for ourselves if we are really obeying His instructions mentioned above after He had left His body, and each one of us decide for himself or herself in what way we are consistently striving to keep intact that internal link with our divine Beloved, and also the earnest endeavour we are making to come together in order to fulfill His will by taking our stand on Truth, Love and Honesty. Beloved Baba, many a time, made it clear to us that we should spread His message mostly by the manner in which we lead our lives of love and honesty, as a result of which more and more people will be drawn towards Him; we cannot achieve this objective by merely spreading His literature or uttering words which will have no value without our living the real life of dedication to His divine messages.

At this juncture, as we have mentioned in our Editorial in the previous issue of 'Divya Vani', we propose to hold a seminar of Baba lovers and workers to have an opportunity to come together and have an exchange of views to help ourselves get into a dynamic way of life, based on the principles inculcated by Beloved Baba, and thus rededicate ourselves to those ideals and way of life ordained by Him. Those who can spare their time and money may be pleased to attend the seminar to be held here at "Meher Vihar", Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29, A.P., India, in the fourth week of AUGUST 1972, taking this as our hearty invitation, We publish elsewhere in this issue the tentative programme for these celebrations. For those who may not be able to be present in person, we extend our cordial request to send in their suggestions and contributions, and thus cooperate for the success of this solemn function. We expect hearty cooperation and participation of all prominent Baba Lovers, workers and leaders on this happy occasion.



At 6-00 P.M., on Monday the 21st of August 1972 there will be the inauguration of a Children's Home (Avatar Meher Baba Saranalaya) by Sri K. Brahmananda Reddy, (Chairman, Sixth Finance Commission of India and former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh). The Seminar of Baba lovers will thereafter be continuously held for 75 hours (i.e., till 9-00 A.M. on Thursday the 24th of August 1972). Those who intend to attend and take part in the proceedings may kindly intimate the date and time of arrival in advance, so as to enable us to make necessary arrangements for their stay here during the above period, All correspondence in this connection may be addressed to Swamy Satyaprakash Udaseen, Sole Trustee: Avatar Meher Baba Mission, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29 A. P., India.

JAI BABA!



I AM ALWAYS WITH YOU .... Meher Baba

(Avatar Meher Baba's circular letter dated 30-9-1954)

Dear Lovers,

After Avatar Meher Baba returned to Satara from Meherabad, there was a heavy rush of letters and telegrams here until the 7th October, and all of them were given replies of assurances yesterday evening.

Yesterday at 7 p.m. Baba gave up the Alphabet-Board and since that moment, all the doors through which external relation was maintained with Baba, have also been closed. Your letters filled to the brim with deep love were received in the right time and were read out to Baba. In reply to them all, Baba said:-

"There is no reason at all for any of you to worry. Baba was, Baba is, and Baba will also be eternally existent. Severance of external relations does not mean the termination of internal links. It was only for establishing the internal connection, the

external contacts had been maintained till now. The time has come for being bound in the chain of internal connections. Hence, external contact is no longer necessary. It is possible to establish the internal link by obeying Baba's orders. I give all my blessings for strengthening these internal links.

"I am always with you and I am not away from you. I was, am, and will remain eternally with you and it is for prompting this realisation that I have severed external contact. This will enable all persons to realize Truth by being bound to each other with internal links.

"Oh My lovers! I love you all. It is only because of My love for my creation that I have descended on Earth. Let not your hearts be torn asunder by My declaration concerning the dropping of My body. On the contrary, accept My Divine will cheerfully. You can never escape from me. Even if you try to escape from Me, it is not possible to get rid of Me. Therefore, have courage and be brave.

"If you thus lose your hearts, how will it be possible for you to fulfill the great task which I have entrusted to you? Be brave and spread MY MESSAGE OF LOVE far and wide to all quarters, in order to fulfill My Divine will. Let the words 'BABA-BABA' come forth from every nook and corner of the world and from the mouth of every child, and let their ignorance be reduced to ashes by the burning flame of My love.

"Come together in order to fulfill My will by taking your stand on TRUTH, LOVE AND HONESTY, and be worthy of participating in My Task. I give you all My blessings for spreading MY MESSAGE OF LOVE".

MEHER BABA

# God Tells us ....

—by Lyn Ott

In a time when words lose their power, the secret yearning of the heart to express the sublime, God comes down as Avatar to tell men what they thirst to know in language that men can understand. As Meher Baba, God came down to tell us that God is everything, that God knows everything, and that God does everything. God spoke to humanity through the silent language of Meher Baba. Ultimately humanity will listen and in listening awake.

Baba came to tell us what we now need to know, to tell us the True Story, to tell us of his Love, boundless and unfading. And having told us what he had to tell, Meher Baba has returned unto himself, into that purest Love and Truth. Baba has returned from whence he came in order that he may be permanently with us in his Love and truth.

Being the embodiment of Truth, Meher Baba conveys Truth, i.e. he means what he says.

Whatever riddles appear to be in Meher Baba's message are the riddles of the mind's confusion. Baba did not speak in riddles. To think of Baba's words as riddles and mysteries is to miss the meaning and purpose of his coming in our midst; Baba meant exactly what he said; he did not come to make confusion in the mind but to break away the dark cloud and to clear up the many confusions accumulated from the multiplication of lives in evolution's push.

When Baba says a thing is so, it is so, whether or not it appears to be so. Those who have known Baba know in their heart of hearts that what Baba says is so. And the affirmation of all that Baba said was in his silence which was the silence of God.

## **In Silence**

Baba's silence was contained in the form of Meher Baba, in the form of a man. Now that Baba has dropped the form that

contained his silence it is released and his lovers are the heirs to the Truth of his word. Now Meher Baba's Truth is alive and ringing over the world in a new wave-length beyond the reasoning intellect. Those who now sit and guess and wait for the boom of his silence may be still waiting billions and billions of years from now, for the boom of that great silence is now or never but not tomorrow or next year or next century. Because Baba is God, Baba can only mean what he says, and he has told us clearly what he means.

When my wife and I were with Beloved Baba, he said to us, "When the cathedrals fall, my work is finished." He meant the cathedrals of the mind, for we had been discussing cathedrals built by the mind. Those who know Baba, know that Baba is always specific, never vaguely mystical. Baba's words are specific and are conveyed with semantical exactitude.

### **His Language**

Meher Baba explained that the things he said were meant sometimes in his language alone, sometimes in our language alone, and sometimes in both his and our language. It is, I think, the tendency of the ordinary mind to believe that Baba is deliberately mystifying in his messages and dictations. We tend to believe that those things said by him in our language will happen, that those things said in both Baba's and our language may happen, and that those things said in Baba's language alone probably won't happen at all. This is a tendency of mind resulting from the peculiarity of the intellect which makes us rely on our language more than we rely on Baba's language. The very idea of Baba's having a language of his own is uncomfortable to the intellect.

The meaning of everything that Baba says comes from Baba as the source of Truth. If indeed Meher Baba is the personification of Truth then, inevitably, when Baba speaks in his own language, Baba is most specifically stating the incontrovertible Truth. When Baba descends to speak in our language alone it is most likely that Baba is stating what is more generally the truth. To put it simply, when Baba speaks in his language

alone, Baba is telling us the truth about the Truth, but when Baba speaks in our language alone, he tells us the truth about the false.

It seems natural for the mind to think that what is said in our language is specific and what is said in God's language is vague and remote, perhaps even without any real significance for the world.

It would seem wise for us to consider everything that Meher Baba said to be concretely and specifically true on all planes of existence, but most of all those things that Baba said in his language alone. The word was Baba and in Baba's personality there was no vagueness. All vagueness would seem to be in our inability to comprehend him.

### **The Word**

Meher Baba did say, for example, that three quarters of the world will be destroyed. Some may feel that Baba did not mean what he said since what he said was in his language alone. I feel to the contrary that Baba means exactly and specifically what he has told us because he said this was meant in his language alone. Baba's language is God's language, and the language of God is absolute being of God. Thus, whatever Baba says in his absolute language is absolutely True and will manifest absolutely in all spheres.

When Baba said that three quarters of the world will be destroyed, it is a fact, absolutely inevitably. But how it will all happen is entirely in Baba's own hands, controlled by and through his unlimited compassion.

There is nothing to worry about because the absolute destruction of three quarters of the world must be personally under the control and management of the Compassionate Father. Baba has said, "I am guiding the forces of destruction to their ultimate conclusion."

When Baba made reference to his humiliation, he said that he meant this in our language alone. To me this means that Baba's humiliation is not specific but general, Just as the destruction, of which Baba speaks in his own language, is kept

entirely in his own hands, so the humiliation of which he speaks in our language, is left for the world to dispose of in its own way. For God there is no humiliation. And so all humiliation of the Avatar can only be felt in the minds and hearts of men. The Avatar being human shares that humiliation while he is physically in our midst. He, the One who is Love personified, suffers the neglect of God.

When Baba speaks in his language alone it is very simple, and when Baba speaks in our language alone, it is also very simple. But, when Baba speaks, as he says he usually does, in both his language and our language simultaneously, then we have a remarkable blending of reality and illusion, and the blending is not always so simple for people to grasp.

### **New Life**

When Baba was in the New Life, he spoke in our language leaving aside his own. He spoke as the just, wise and loving man, concerned with the well-being and happiness of all. When we fail to live up to the standards of the New Life we contribute to the humiliation of Baba. When we fail to "face all hardships with one hundred percent cheerfulness," we are contributing to the humiliation of Baba.

It is up to each Baba's lovers to uphold the spirit and the letter of the New Life. This New Life, hard as it may be to understand, was lived for us at our level of understanding, our language alone; he became the living expression in life of not the Perfect Master, but the perfect man living a life of perfect humility. Baba established in the modern world the vulnerability of God as man, and in so doing made possible what he referred to as his humiliation. Jesus did the same when he allowed himself to be taken and crucified by those who could not understand the real humility of the Avatar. The God-Man's humiliation always lies in man's lack of capacity to comprehend what real humility is.

When Baba spoke in his language alone, he spoke from his God-hood. And when Baba spoke in our language alone he spoke from the New Life position, the position of perfect humility and resignation to the will of God. But when Baba

spoke in both his language and our language simultaneously, he spoke from the position of the God-Man, the one who sacrifices himself for all. This is the highest position from which a human being can address himself to men. In 1958, Baba made the powerful declaration, "There is no doubt of my being God Personified." That declaration was issued from infinite humility. For those who have accepted this claim, that acceptance can only have been made in humility. Humility is very simple, but it is not easy.

### **The Happening**

Baba has come and Baba has declared that he completed his work one hundred percent to his satisfaction. And he has left. Yet there are some who wait, some even among his lovers who wait for him to come, not remembering that he has already sacrificed everything for us.

What Baba says will happen is bound to happen merely because Baba is what he is. What Baba says in his language is absolutely True. What Baba says in our language is purely to help us and sustain us until we become united with him in consciousness.

The silence is broken, released from its vessel, and the vessel is disposed of in the beautiful way provided by Baba himself. The Word of Words is released for it is no longer contained. Nothing ever contained Meher Baba's silence but the form of Meher Baba as man.

Thus it is surely true that since the word can no longer be contained, it is released. That word can never be heard in the language of the world, for it is eternally spoken in Meher Baba's own language of imperishable sweetness.

May God soon give his lovers Eyes to see and Ears to hear. But let it be at his Divine pleasure.

**(By the kind courtesy of the "Glow")**

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# Glimpses of the God-Man

MEHER BABA

Interviews at Meherabad

1948 — Part IV

—By Bal Natu

## **Sadguru's Grace, The Matchless Choice.**

One of my friends and an ardent Baba-Lover named Mauni had first met Meher Baba at Satara in September, 1947.\* At that time Shri Baba had given him a six months' *sadhana*, which he sincerely practised. During that period he had some blissful Baba-visions. As he would go out for a walk in the morning, he used to see Meher Baba's smiling face, keeping company with him. Once he saw Shri Baba's full form that grew so tall that it almost touched the skies and then vanished. Perhaps, that was an indication of Meher Baba's All-pervading Presence. After the period of six months, Mauni began to enquire about the possibility of seeing Meher Baba again. In February, 1948, I conveyed to Shri Baba, Mauni's earnest desire to see Him for the second time. Adi Sr. asked me to visit Meherabad with Mauni on 15th May, 1948. Later, I received a telegram to the effect that the time fixed for the visit was on 1st June, 1948. Accordingly we reached Meherabad, a day earlier. Next morning, Shri Baba arrived at Meherabad from Ahmednagar. It was such a joy to see Him moving in the verandah of the new Ashram building, In one of the rooms adjacent to the Hall, a green carpet covered the floor. Facing the door, a mattress lay covered with a white spotless sheet.

Soon we were summoned into the room. Dr. Abdul Ghani Munsiff was in the room with Meher Baba. We offered our respects to Shri Baba and He motioned us to sit down. It was my first occasion to sit so close to Shri Baba on the same carpet. I was delighted and felt a bit shy too. At Shri Baba's behest

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\* Glimpses of the God-Man, Meher Baba, 1947 Part IV, Divya Vani, January, 1972.



I related to Him in a nutshell, Mauni's whole-hearted efforts in abiding by His orders. Shri Baba expressed His happiness and dictated from His board, "What I heard just now has made me happy. Tell me Mauni, what you want." Dr. Ghani read Shri Baba's board and I conveyed to Mauni the same in Marathi. Mauni felt greatly elated. He took out a piece of slate from his bag and wrote on it, "Sadguru Kripa" (the Grace of the Perfect Master). As I read these words Shri Baba's smiling face wore a profound expression and He spelt, "What a wish! Even "seeing" God is less important than the Grace of the Perfect Master. But mind, Grace is not a cheap thing! It's a rare spontaneous happening. It is an unconditional benediction. To receive it, you have to prepare yourself to obey me 100 percent. Are you ready? Whole-heartedly?"

### **Meat-dish And A Bottle Of Wine**

At Shri Baba's words Mauni moved his fingers over. his neck meaning that he was ready to cut off his throat, if so ordered. At this, Shri Baba replied, mostly through His lively gestures, "But, that is very easy! I am not asking you that. Cutting one's throat, leaving the family and the home, are very easy things compared to the obedience of my orders, which may at the outset appear very simple. Are you really ready to obey me? Think well before you say 'yes'." Mauni with a new-born ardour moved his head from right to left, meaning 'yes'. Noticing this Shri Baba began to convey again, "If so, from tomorrow, for one month have a non-vegetarian dish every morning and evening." As I translated these words in Marathi, there was a marked change on Mauni's face which reached the climax as Shri Baba added, "and a bottle of wine at noon."

Mauni is an ascetic type. He wears just a long *dhoti* on his person. His needs are few. He does not allow people to touch his body, as far as possible. Only when he visits Baba-places or Baba-lovers, these restrictions are not literally observed. He has only one meal a day and no tea or coffee. He does not like to drink water, at public places. With such a background, the very thought of having a non-vegetarian diet shocked him deeply. He appeared profusely confused. Casually, may be purposefully, Shri Baba changed the subject and began to discuss other

matters with Dr. Ghani. Was it a pretext to provide time for Mauni to think for himself and decide? Mind is very tricky indeed! It does not admit an open defeat. It is adept in wearing veils and putting forth excuses.

Mauni, instead of frankly confessing his inability wrote on his slate, "Baba, I keep no money, I am a poor person. How can I buy a meat-dish and pay for a bottle of wine every day?" Hearing this Shri Baba solemnly replied, "That is your lookout! You agreed to obey me 100 percent. I have given you the orders. Just tell me if you can follow them most willingly or not. I know, in this state of Maharashtra there is prohibition and wine cannot be had without a permit on medical grounds. If you obtain it in some other ways and take it, you will be put into jail. But that is your side." Mauni appeared more puzzled. At this juncture Shri Baba added, "However, as you have expressed your inability about money, I assure you that it shall not be your problem. I shall arrange for it. But is that the main issue? Be frank. Say whether you are ready to obey me voluntarily and happily."

### **Hesitation In Decision**

Little did Mauni know that till 1932 Meher Baba did not allow His *mandali* to have even eggs. So, they could eat neither cakes nor chocolates. During Shri Baba's first visit to the West, because of the above restriction, the *mandali* who accompanied Him had to appease their hunger, mostly with bread and butter. And it was winter there! Nevertheless, Shri Baba gradually granted permission to have eggs and after a few years fish and meat, if they so desired. There was no 'must' about diet from Shri Baba, except on grounds of health. It is not the diet that necessarily binds but the thoughts of superiority and spirituality which are generally associated with it, that bind, Deep down in Mauni's mind there might have lurked some such thoughts. May be it was to work on such layers of impressions that Shri Baba gave such orders! What Shri Baba expected was 100% dedication of the actions—good or bad, to Him, with no reservations. Was such a state essential for the descent of *Sadguru Kripa*? Whatever it be, Meher Baba, as the Master psychologist, ever knows the best.

When Shri Baba assured Mauni about money, there was a fresh surge of thoughts in his mind. He was on the point of conveying "yes". Just then Shri Baba intervened and explained, "Remember one more thing, 99% readiness with 1% hesitation is not desirable, much less it is expected. In that case it will be better for you to express an honest "no". The obedience has to be unadulterated, total. Be frank, be quick. There are others waiting and I have to call them in". Now, there arose a fresh counter current of thoughts in Mauni's mind. Practically he felt lost in that tempest. Presently, he nodded, "No". Shri Baba flashed one of His old penetrating looks at him and conveyed through the board, "Did I not tell you that you have aspired for the best, but that is not so easy? Yet, I am happy that at the end, you have been honest enough to express "No". Now, forget completely about these orders. Here are some fresh ones for you which you must obey. No choice. For one year, be on a pilgrimage visiting the holy places in India. Don't ask for money; don't touch money. Be careful not to touch any woman. In trains or crowded streets if you happen to touch any woman, remember your dear mother. Beg for food; don't cook food. Take *darshan* of saints you meet, but don't go after any one".

### **"He Knows His Game Well"**

Mauni felt released and very happily agreed to obey those orders. He was in fact leading such a life for years. Fasts, physical hardships and travels were no problems for him. At the end, Shri Baba blessed Mauni and conveyed, "When you finish with the year's itinerary, come and see me," We folded our hands with due reverence to Shri Baba and left the room. As we got out, we had a discussion whether it was right on Mauni's part to convey "No" regarding the non-vegetarian diet. "What on earth had led me to such foolishness?" Mauni thought. He felt that it was just a test and that he had miserably failed. He realised that whatever order the Master gives is for the highest benefit for the person concerned. We agreed on this point and were about to reenter the room. I was to tell Shri Baba that Mauni was ready to obey the first set of orders.

Impulsively I felt that before going inside Shri Baba's room it would be advisable to tell some one from the *mandali* about this

incident. I do not recollect the person to whom I told this. But I very well remember the gist of the reply. He answered, "Past is past and that game is lost! With the Perfect Master every moment has an ever renewing significance. As for taking meat, now, even if Mauni is ready to devour a live lamb, Shri Baba is not expected to reconsider the matter! And again, that will be in a way against the spirit of the next orders." He further explained, "It was Meher Baba's wish that Mauni asked for *Sadguru Kripa* and it was equally His wish that Mauni preferred the second set of orders. Everything happens as per the Divine will of Meher Baba. He knows His Game well. It holds deeper significance of which we are not aware."

### **"Dislikes Bind As Much As Likes."**

The above explanation was enough for us to drop the idea of seeing Shri Baba again. The next day we returned to Kurduwadi. To Mauni, it was nothing like making preparations for an year's journey, to holy places in the northern and southern parts of India. He had to pick up just an extra *dhoti* and the begging bowl. Money he already had none. He was also to continue observing silence. In fact he enjoyed hard life in which everything is taken in the spirit of sportsmanship. As regards diet, I am reminded of an incident in Guru Prasad (Poona) when I had an opportunity to stay with Baba. Every day after lunch Shri Baba would ask us what we had and how it tasted. Once He casually put me a question, "Do you have meat? Are you a non-vegetarian?" I replied, "Baba, mine is a buffer state! Personally I do not relish meat. I prefer a vegetarian diet." Shri Baba smiled and indicated, "Some make much about diet. Every thing has its merits and demerits."

It is true that what comes out of the mouth matters more than what goes into it. Yet it is hard to disbelieve that diet and "drinks" do not influence one's thoughts and feelings. I have an acquaintance for whom spirituality without eggs and meat is far too primitive, whereas one of my friends holds a view that even the sight of meat defiles spiritual life. Personally, I think that one should cautiously discriminate between the pampering of palate and the needs of the body. Whatever be the diet it should keep the body light and consciousness fresh and alert.

Once when Shri Baba was sitting with the group of His closer ones, He conveyed, "Here are some who dislike meat and here are the others who like it most. Dislikes bind as much as likes. My concern is to free you from both. Love alone frees. But where "self" is, love is not; and where "you" are not, Love is." Meher Baba's words are as fresh as the blooming roses, though conveyed years ago.

### **"I Am The Real Businessman."**

Besides Mauni's meeting with Meher Baba on 1st June, 1948, there are a few other incidents which remind me vividly of that blessed day. It was the first occasion for a newly formed Baba-group at Poona, to have Meher Baba's august *darshan*. As a speciality of this group, I noticed that it represented persons following different religions. H. E. Hakim, the head of this group, a double graduate, was a Mohammedan. I vaguely remember that there was in this group, a Christian youth too. In an earlier visit, we exchanged our views on "The Beginning of Creation". At the end of the conversation it was difficult to find as who was confused more. We dropped that subject and turned on to weather. From the heaven we landed on the gross plane! Even to this day I do not dare to talk with any one over this subject again! As I sat in the Hall at Meherabad, a person in early forties was resting by my side. He talked fluently with me in different languages. Later, he asked me to guess his "caste" (religion)! I failed, He was Mr. Aaron, a Jew. There were a few Parsis (Zoroastrians) and the rest of the lot consisted of Hindus. Most of the visitors excluding a few businessmen, belonged to the middle class, serving in some of the offices, in Poona.

After condescending to this *darshan* programme, Shri Baba sent a telegram through Dr. Ghani to inform all visitors at Poona that Shri Baba had consented to give a few minutes' interview to each. This made the visitors all the more happy. After their arrival at Meherabad Shri Baba commenced meeting the Poona group, one by one. As every one would enter the room for his personal interview, Shri Baba would greet the person with the wordless lovely smile that would wipe out bitterness and sorrow, from the heart. To one of the visitors,

a cloth merchant, Shri Baba suggested to repeat without fail any one Name of God, seven thousand times a day. The person: somehow feared that his family and business responsibilities may cause a lapse in carrying out the Master's order. And such a breach of order he regarded as the greatest sin. So, he frankly expressed his inability to carrying out the order.

When the Master gives any instruction in spite of the person asking for it, He definitely confers power on the person to carry it out. So, Shri Baba had a meaningful smile and then He conveyed to the person, "All right. Forget about 7,000 times. Can you do it 700 times? At least do not forget to repeat the Divine Name 70 times a day, without an exception." The visitors of course, very lovingly agreed to this. Shri Baba in a playful mood and with a bit of humour in His eyes, added, "You are a businessman and you did a good business with me too. But mind, I am the Real Businessman!"

### **"I Draw My Dear Ones To Me."**

Another person Tejuma, was in his late fifties and a bit crippled too. Years ago he read the book, "The Perfect Master" by C. B. Purdom. It created in him an intense desire to meet Meher Baba in person. But at that time, he was living in Sind (hundreds of miles away from Ahmednagar). So, he could not avail himself of the opportunity to see Avatar Meher Baba—the Word made flesh. Partition of India into Bharat and Pakistan in August, 1947 brought him to Poona. There he gathered enough information about Meher Baba and His hallowed activities. When he learnt about the *darshan* programme, in spite of his ill health, he decided to join the Group. Thus 1st June turned out to be the most sanctifying day in his life.

At the time of his personal interview, Shri Baba gestured, "Any questions?" Tejuma answered, "No questions, Baba. But I implore you to bless me with your Love." Shri Baba looked pleased with his attitude and conveyed, "A fortunate soul." After some informal and personal talk, Shri Baba instructed Tejuma to repeat the word "Baba" for five minutes at mid-night, for a stipulated period. Tejuma willingly agreed.

At the end, there passed a deep look between the two, Shri Baba smiled and the interview was over. After his return to Poona, Tejumal wrote to Adi Sr. about the observance of Shri Baba's order, his personal experience and its interpretation. In reply to this Adi K. Irani wrote, "In regard to the repetition it would be in one's interest to understand that in so far as the Master's instructions go, they should as far as practicable, be followed literally. What is needed most, in spiritual enlightenment is the grace of the Master ..... It does not mean that your own tastes should not be encouraged ..... They may be striven for but whatever comes to you, after a depth of longing, from the Master, should be taken as a thing potential towards taking you to the Final of all spiritual experiences."

It goes without saying that Tejumal followed Shri Baba's instructions and reaped a rich spiritual harvest. In the case of spiritual experiences the fact seems that Shri Baba has first to lay His finger on the person's heart and then a remarkable change takes place, under the pretext of His glance or gesture or a simple instruction. In case of some, who have not met Him personally, just hearing of His glorious Name or the sight of His pictures has worked wonders. In this sense, perhaps, Shri Baba used to remark, "I draw my dear ones to me (in my own ways)".

### **An Uncommon Phone-call !**

One of my close friends, Laxminarayan B. Thade, a science graduate, had Shri Baba's first physical *darshan* on 1st June, 1948. He was in his early twenties, serving as a clerk in one of the Government offices. In late 1947 he attended a meeting in the East Lodge of the Theosophical Society, in Poona. There, late R. K. Gadekar, one of Meher Baba's dear disciples, delivered a talk on "Meher Baba, The Awakener." It aroused considerable curiosity in him. But his mind rebelled to regard Meher Baba to be the Avatar as was Ram or Krishna. Incompatible! But from this day, commenced a chain of coincidences. In this run of luck, when he visited his grandfather, Yellappa (Dada) Bandellu, he found a Marathi biography of Meher Baba written by Dr. C. D. Deshmukh. After reading the book, Thade felt himself suddenly and deeply drawn to Meher Baba though the reason of this inner pull, he could neither precisely fathom

nor unravel. Since then he did not miss any meeting that gave information about Shri Baba and His Life Divine. Some days later, Dr. Ghani (Munsiff), with the help of some Baba-people in Poona, arranged the above-mentioned programme at Meherabad.

In the beginning the date of *darshan* was fixed in May, 1948. Unfortunately by that time Thade fell sick of typhoid. He felt much grieved for missing the rare chance of meeting the Master. "I must be a first rate sinner," he thought, for it was then physically impossible for him to accompany the Group. Within a few days, however, the news came that the date of *darshan* was changed to 1st June, 1948. Thade felt greatly relieved, but another difficulty cropped up. He was newly appointed as a clerk and in his illness he had exhausted all the leave to his credit. The immediate boss seemed unwilling to sanction him even a day's off. What a pitiable predicament!

At this point a miracle, if one may use that word, happened. A few days prior to this visit his boss had an informal phone call from one of the superior Officers. He suggested that if anybody in the Office wished to visit any saintly personality, he should not as far as possible, be refused leave. Casually, the boss enquired if there were any persons in his section, wishing to visit any saint. Thade, when he had asked for leave had not disclosed to his boss, the intention of visiting Meherabad to see Meher Baba. Now, he felt bold and proud enough to give out the news. He was all cheers to find his boss sanctioning the leave and that too very happily. The reason of the change in the attitude of the boss, he learnt later. But even to this day Thade does not know the person who had talked with his boss on phone and to whom he owes the divine debt! Anyway he got the leave and with great joy, joined the party going to Meherabad, his heart singing. And 1st June marked the most eventful day in his life that opened a splendid spiritual avenue.

### **"Be Good To Others"**

When Thade was ushered into the room for interview, Shri Baba made him sit very close to Him almost touching the low mattress on which He had His seat. He flashed His usual smile upon this young man and Thade felt that it filled and lit



the room with heart-warming love. In Shri Baba's presence he felt like shedding tears of unspeakable relief. Shri Baba asked him through Dr. Ghani if he had read any of His literature. When Thade related the names of some books, Shri Baba seemed pleased. With an air of a proud father, He communicated to Dr. Ghani, "Look, he is so very young and yet he has read the books about me! He loves me." Thade could hardly restrain his tears of joy at these words of unexpected admiration.

In these moments of felicity, Thade remembered his dear father and mother and had a passing thought, "Would that they too had been here!" Just then Shri Baba conveyed the following, "You are blessed. Your parents too are blessed. Don't worry for them; they will share your happiness." Thade was thoroughly taken up by surprise, at this incidental remark. The statement about his parents has come true, word by word. At present, all their children (now graduates) and grand-children are the active members of the Baba-Family and they lead their life with deep conviction in Meher Baba as the Ancient One.

At the end of the interview, Shri Baba asked him if he had to say anything. This young man gathered courage against his shyness to say out, "Baba, at present I am serving in the Government office, I have passed my B.Sc, examination. Should I leave the services to join college to get a Master's degree in science?" Shri Baba had His own way of answering the questions. Dr. Ghani read the reply. "Do whatever you feel best; but do remember one thing. Be good to others and I am always with you." As Thade rose up he looked down at Shri Baba's holy feet and felt like touching them. But every visitor was forbidden to do so. So, unawares his heart silently "rolled out" of his bosom, to lay at Meher Baba's feet, permanently. After his return to Poona, he was soon posted as the Superintendent of the Boys' Hostel where he had ample opportunity to be good to so many students, by taking Meher Baba's name to their blooming hearts.

### **"I Sign On The Heart"**

By late morning the interviews were over. It was a pre-monsoon time. But the humid weather was made cooler by the

morning wind that accompanied Shri Baba's arrival. When the "session" was over, there was plenty of laughter and light heartedness, amongst us all. In Shri Baba's *sahavas*, the minds were unburdened of so many worries. After lunch the party left Meherabad for Poona, with the exalted memory of the precious moments spent in the company of the God-Man. At the time of interviews, little did Shri Baba say to them. But each one felt astonished at the intimate relationship that developed as a result of the few moments passed silently with Shri Baba – The Silence in action. Was there a new cultivation in the inner life of each? Quite possible! In the case of some visitors a few embarrassing incidents had happened, prior to their meeting with the Master. But after meeting Him, the situations changed and they began to perceive order in disorder.

Thade, suffused with Meher Baba's glance of compassion, that was like a shower of love upon him, tried to contact some Baba-people to know of their life with Meher Baba—God in human form. He approached practically each of the *men- mandali* with a small, pretty, card-size album and requested each to write a few lines about Meher Baba—what they take Him to be and what they personally feel about Him, and sign. In one of the next visits to Meherabad, he held this album before Meher Baba and very lovingly implored Him to sign on the first page. Shri Baba's eyes looked brilliant and shining, with wisdom and compassion. Through the meaningful gestures, He conveyed, "I sign on the heart. When you first met me I signed on it. What need is there to sign on this paper?" The indelible words of the Eternal One!

### **Self-destroying Rage**

I wish to conclude the narration of this blessed day with the account of Kishan Singh's interview with Meher Baba. He is one of Avatar Meher Baba's dear ones who had the enviable fortune to stay with the Master, at a stretch for many days and to maintain a day to day diary of that period. It was in 1953 that Meher Baba's headquarters was at Dehra Dun (U. P.) for over nine months. During that period, one of the two bungalows occupied by Shri Baba and the *mandali*, was Kishan Singh's residence. So, he had Shri Baba's *sahavas* practically every day.

But, for the first glimpse of the God-Man he had to pass through the crisis of faith in life. He had Shri Baba's first *darshan* at Hyderabad in May, 1945 and the first interview on 1st June, 1948. As these "firsts" are closely linked the account of "How Kishan Singh came in Meher Baba's contact" deserves to be mentioned. In the late thirties some of his personal problems became so acute that he had to undergo a crucial phase. He became morbidly depressed and apprehensive too. The restlessness was terrible. So much so that he became possessed by self-destroying rage. There has to be a winter before the spring sets in.

In 1937, he first read Meher Baba's name in 'The Tribune'—a daily published from Lahore (Punjab – Pakistan). It was a short report about the lectures given by Princess Norina Matchabelli and Dr. C. D. Deshmukh on Meher Baba. Kishan Singh got the impression that Meher Baba must be a very great saint and that He 'belonged' to a Farsi (Zoroastrian) community. That's all. For months later he did not come across any more news about the Master in any other daily. No books on Meher Baba were available to him. In early forties in spite of a good post in the Government Office, certain problems entailed great mental strain on him which became unbearable. He feared a total nervous breakdown.

Under these circumstances one morning in 1941, all of a sudden he remembered Meher Baba and felt that the only one capable of giving him relief from the state of that intense agony, was Meher Baba. In the first part of the year 1941 Meher Baba visited Rajasthan, Baluchistan (Pakistan) and for over a month His headquarters was at Dehra Dun (U. P.). But soon He left this city for Meherabad, particularly for the work connected with the *masts*. At this time Kishan Singh was at Rawalpindi (near Islamabad, at present the capital of Pakistan). But somehow he got the news about Meher Baba's stay at Dehra Dun. Thinking that Shri Baba would be there, Kishan Singh in his desperate state impulsively decided to take a long journey by train, to Dehra Dun. There was no one to compel him except himself. He resolved to meet Meher Baba and surrender to him or else to throw himself in the holy Ganges—a self-chosen watery grave.

### **The Waiter With A Baba button**

After reaching the city, he enquired about Meher Baba's residence of local people, but they knew not. It was Sunday. So the post office was also closed. Where to get the address? On the spur of the moment he remembered that Shri Baba was born of Irani (Parsi) parents. So he visited one Irani hotel. There, he met a person, maybe a boy who looked like a waiter. Impatiently Kishan Singh asked him if he knew Meher Baba's address. The boy gave him an address and even showed him a Baba-button (locket), on his coat. It was the first time when Kishan Singh saw his Master's face, smiling. Overjoyed, he hurried to the address but to his utter surprise he found that it was incorrect. He enquired of the person living in that house, about Meher Baba. But instead of giving any clue, the person started jeering at him for having come so long a distance in search of a Parsi (?), leaving so many Hindu saints and sages enroute to Dehra Dun. He had no time to spare in convincing that person. He made his way back to the Hotel, looking out for the same boy but in vain. So he approached the Manager who told him that there was no such waiter employed in his Hotel. Kishan Singh wondered as to who he was!

He felt dejected and much confused. With some hesitation, however, he tried to contact a Parsi gentleman who welcomed him and gave him the right information about Meher Baba. He offered him a printed pamphlet containing Meher Baba's message and directed him to write for particulars to Adi K. Irani, at Ahmednagar. The locket and the message bestowed a sort of consolation. But at the same time the devil too began to play its pranks. He started quoting the Bible! He reminded Kishan Singh to be true to the resolve made while leaving Rawalpindi. It was to end his life if he failed to meet the Master. In that state of utter indecisiveness, he arrived at Hardwar. He visited the bank of the Ganges (Ganga), with the thought of suicide, lurking in his mind. The hope of Shri Baba's immediate *darshan* left him. It was a shock to him. He felt greatly annoyed but somehow, could control himself.

And there by the river, most unexpectedly he saw a person who had great affection and love for him. "It's a day of

surprises", he thought. So, with an idea of avoiding this friend he ordered a *tonga* (horse cab) but the person had spotted him and hurriedly got in the same vehicle. Though Kishan Singh did not disclose his intention freely, his dear friend guessed that he was very much overpowered with unwanted emotions and so skillfully tried to pacify him. Sympathy is never one sided and Kishan Singh was in a way won over. With deeper trust in Meher Baba and relying more on His merciful ways, he left back for Rawalpindi.

### **Distant But Momentous *Darshan* Of The Master.**

After reaching home Kishan Singh wrote a letter to Adi Sr. for sending him some books on Meher Baba. Above all he earnestly requested him for Meher Baba's *darshan*. In a short period, he received some Baba-literature. The reading brought him the tidings of hope, a new way of understanding life. As the correspondence continued, he got the happy news about the possibility of meeting Meher Baba in person. But, this programme was later cancelled and he was asked to attend a congregation of Baba-people at Lahore (Pakistan). There, he personally met Adi Sr. and the free talk they had was of great help to him. But the heart was all the time clamouring for Meher Baba's *darshan*. Agog with this thought, he was a prey to a *fakir* who duped him for over hundred rupees; he had promised him Meher Baba's *darshan* in a dream! With increasing eagerness, appeals for *darshan* were made to Shri Baba but Adi through one reason or the other had to ask him to wait for the opportune moment.

From one of the letters he got the information that Meher Baba was staying in Jubilee Hills at Hyderabad (Deccan), now the capital of Andhra Pradesh. He thought of a fresh attempt and sent a telegram directly to Meher Baba requesting Him to grant *darshan*. He expected to get a reply on his address at Delhi. So he left Rawalpindi and waited for a couple of days at Delhi but then he could bear the delay no longer. He proceeded to Hyderabad, hundreds of miles to the south of Delhi. After reaching this great city he encountered a lot of difficulties in getting near the *mandali's* quarters. He was quite new to that

place and Jubilee Hills was an extensive area, with bungalows spread wide apart.

Vishnu, one of the *mandali*, met him and lovingly enquired about him. But when Kishan Singh opened the topic of Meher Baba's *darshan*, Vishnu was entirely uncompromising. He tried to dissuade Kishan Singh from his intention of expecting Shri Baba's *darshan* though he had journeyed over a thousand miles. Shri Baba was on ten days' fast and He specially wished to remain undisturbed during that period. In the course of conversation it was disclosed that Kishan Singh's telegram was received with mutilated words. For confirmation it was sent back to Rawalpindi. Hence there was delay in sending the reply on Kishan Singh's address at Delhi. The telegraphic reply was the bearer of the golden 'summons' that Meher Baba had permitted him to be present at Meherabad on 25th May, 1945. But in the meantime he had left the place for Hyderabad. Kishan Singh's long leave was to expire by the above date. The service rules did not permit him to extend it. And there stretched hundreds of miles between Rawalpindi and Meherabad, That was his genuine difficulty. But Vishnu dared not ask Shri Baba to grant him *darshan*. So, he suggested that Kishan Singh should write a note which he would bring to Shri Baba's notice, if possible. Vishnu left for Shri Baba's bungalow and Kishan Singh with a mixed feeling of fear and delight awaited the decision.

To his great delight Vishnu brought the news that Meher Baba permitted him *darshan*, provided he did not enter the bungalow. He was to have a glimpse of the God-Man from the gate of His residence, a distance of over 300 feet. To this Kishan Singh readily agreed. It was *darshan* and not distance that mattered to him. Baidul was to take him to the bungalow. He instructed Kishan Singh a number of times that he should not bow down his head to Shri Baba by way of paying homage; he could at the most fold his hands. He was not in a mood to understand such details. No sooner did he see Shri Baba standing in the verandah than he prostrated on the ground at the gate, unaware of himself. Baidul got annoyed and helped him to stand erect. Meher Baba's brilliant eyes had a magnetic effect on him and in that state of ecstasy he somehow folded his hands. He was overwhelmed with joy by Meher Baba's radiance,

so tender and His love, so graceful. After a minute or so Shri Baba clapped. It meant "Time's up". Kishan Singh felt that the time was over before it had practically commenced. *Darshan* left him amazed. Was it a dream? He rubbed his eyes to be sure that the Light he beheld was no illusion! He was brought to senses as Baidul admonished him for setting aside the Master's instructions. Kishan Singh could not understand why Baidul or Vishnu made so much about Meher Baba's orders, when the Master Himself was All-Love and Kindness. He did not know then, that the smallest instruction of the Master had to be literally followed as it had its own bearing on the spiritual work. As both of them reached the *mandali's* quarters, there was a message from Meher Baba. He sent His blessings to Kishan Singh. He was asked to lunch with the *mandali* and was to leave Hyderabad by the first available train.

### **Interview, An Unforgettable Event.**

Meher Baba's *darshan* had a penetrating effect on Kishan Singh. He made up his mind to retire at the earliest from the services, to live a life, dedicated to Meher Baba and His Cause. He wrote to the Master, I have decided to dedicate my life to you and serve you; but my inner 'self' is not ripe to receive you. Let me drink a drop of Thy compassion." In May, 1947, he was asked to bring two *masts* from Rawalpindi (Pakistan) to Mahabaleshwar (near Poona). He could not succeed in this undertaking. So, in a letter to Shri Baba he expressed his deep regrets over this failure. Eruch replied, "Baba says you need not worry for not having been able to bring the *masts*. Later on, an occasion may arise when you will be able to render Him important *seva* (service). Till then you go on with your present services in the office." The occasion hinted at did occur though after a period of some years. In summer 1948 Shri Baba agreed to give audiences to His dear ones from the outstations. Kishan Singh was informed about this. With great joy he reached Meherabad on 31st May, 1948 to meet the Master the next day. It was a long awaited and momentous meeting indeed, overdue!

As Kishan Singh entered the interview-room, he experienced a unique quality of love in Meher Baba's presence and saw a radiant halo around Meher Baba's face. In the interview

Shri Baba intimately enquired of him about the long journey by rail and his health—physical and mental. Kishan Singh availed of this opportunity to open his heart to the Master. He was caught off-guard when Shri Baba put him a direct question, "What do you want." He replied, "Is it for me to say what I need? My Master is to decide what I should have!" Shri Baba looked a bit serious and conveyed, "The Master knows everything. But He wants you to reply the question." At this Kishan Singh humbly replied, "Then, please bless me with love and devotion of your lotus Feet. Will you not, Baba?" Shri Baba just smiled, His eyes glittering, but did not say anything. Perhaps, the silence meant something deeper. With a rare feeling of jubilation Kishan Singh managed to leave Shri Baba's presence, to shed tears of joy later, all to himself.

Thus, this day of interviews—1st June, brought the tidings of new life to some souls, eager to meet the Master. In Him they sought consolation of Life. During the period of giving these short interviews, Meher Baba's silent presence with its non-verbal communication awakened the hearts. He used the board sparingly but when He did, it seemed what He had in mind swept along His fingers, which gracefully moved over the letters. And these simple words and instructions followed His dear ones like the sweet humming birds, singing the notes of the moments spent in the company of the God-man. Such were the interviews with Meher Baba, whether at Meherabad or Meherazad or Myrtle Beach. An interview with Avatar Meher Baba is an event unforgettable.

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(To be continued).

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## CHILDREN'S CORNER

By Aunty Sreelatha

My dear Children,

In my last letter I told you that we must have firm faith in Baba and do whatever he tells us. The first aspect of faith is obedience. "Obedience" Baba says is the beginning of real love. It is greater than all spiritual experiences. When you do what the Master says the responsibility falls on him whom you obey.

Baba means that obedience is young aspirant's ladder. In order to reach God, who is on the highest rung of the ladder, we must in the beginning step on the first rung of the ladder which is 'obedience'—Obedience to the Master we adore i.e., obedience to Baba. If we obey Him without why or how, it is His responsibility, it is His duty to save us, to guide us and to pull us out of difficulties. To make my point clear I shall now tell you a story.

Once there was a Guru. He had many disciples. In those days 'Gurus' or Masters generally lived in forests doing Tapas (Repeating God's Name all through the day, eating only to live). They would teach their students all that they know about religion, literature, war-craft etc., each according to his own merit. The students usually were very obedient and did whatever their Master bade them. In our story this Master had many disciples but of all those disciples Madhav was the best. He had every respect for his Master and obeyed him implicitly. One day he went to collect wood for offering oblations. In those days prayers were offered to God by first lighting a fire. Madhav went to collect wood for it. Somehow he couldn't find any dry twigs. So he crossed a river by boat and went in search of wood. By the time he collected twigs, the sun was setting. It was time for the evening prayers. The master got ready for prayers and asked for the wood. The other disciples told him that Madhav went out for wood but had not returned yet. Wondering what might have happened to Madhav, the master came to the river bank and cried aloud "Madhav!, Madhav! where are you? Come here quickly!" The words reached Madhav, who was on the other

side of the river. Hurriedly he took the bundle on his head and came running towards the river. But the boat was gone. He didn't know swimming. There was no way to reach the other side in time for his Master's prayer. He didn't hesitate a minute. He soon began wading through the waters. The river was deep and he would have been drowned. But his faith in his master was such, his obedience to his master was so implicit, that he didn't wait to reason the consequences. He simply followed his master's call and forgetful of everything else, walked through the waters. Wonder of wonders! A lotus leapt up at each place his foot was to tread on water. He came walking on these. From then on he was called 'Padmapada' (Padma means lotus – pada means foot).

So, dear children, believe me. 'Obedience' has such wonderful powers. The only thing you have to do is to obey Baba and he will take all your responsibilities on Him. So,

Be obedient, my child,	Surely will He lead you
Shirk not – shrink not,	Out of storm into calm
Stand up with faith in Baba	Out of darkness into light.



## "I AND GOD ARE ONE" Avatar Meher Baba "DON'T WORRY BE HAPPY"

—Dorothy L. Levy

Don't worry be happy – are Beloved Avatar Meher Baba's  
WORDS ...

Around the world now, let His MESSAGE be heard ...  
For, those living in a make-believe world of fantasy and  
dreams ... ..

Seeking physical pleasure—afraid of the unseen,  
God-Man has been back with us on earth once again ...  
Our Universal Father-Mother—PRAISE HIS HOLY NAME!  
Loving God is to be happy—trusting His WORD ...  
The MESSAGE of LOVE and TRUTH is now heard.  
Beloved Baba said, "YOU AND I ARE NOT WE BUT ONE"  
Yes, all sunbeams stream from the sun ...  
Negative thinking brings confusion and worry

Striving for material things—always in a hurry.  
 Those afraid of the future; making haste—  
 Trying to make social contacts—what a waste.  
 It is God's Blessing to be happy—in all situations  
 Trusting our Beloved Baba's WORDS ... a consolation.  
 If taking the time out to view God's beautiful creation .....  
 There is no other beauty that can surpass nature.  
 When seeing God in the flowers; on the bark of every tree—  
 These are the many wonders to ponder—His creative  
 Mystery ...  
 Each Spring Mother nature brings forth a new birth .....  
 But the WONDER of wonders—God-Man came back on  
 earth!  
 When getting into harmony with creation—  
 In the universal language of love, understood when lovingly  
 related ...

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"BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD"  
 S I L E N T L Y\*

Silence Day—is a most Special-Day  
 Each to live it their own way.  
 July 10th, for Avatar Meher Baba's Family memorable day ...  
 Wherever possible His lovers gather in a quiet way—  
 To celebrate; not to hide away ...  
 This date was given to us by our Beloved Baba to observe ...  
 Communicating in His Love silently—voices not heard ...  
 Though, He speaks through us constantly—GOD IS THE  
 WORD.  
 When going into silence—within a small voice is heard.  
 When remembering God-Man—trying to adhere to God's  
 WILL—  
 In meditation where minds are stilled—hearts with His Love  
 filled ...  
 Silence Day for His lovers has a very special meaning—  
 Avatar Meher Baba came back again on earth to awaken those  
 yet dreaming .....  
 When in His Divine Presence—there was no verbal sound ...  
 You felt His INFINITE LOVE—the MESSAGE...  
 PROFOUND.  
 A slip of the tongue often happens on this Silence Day—  
 We know God IS ALL—the goal and way ...  
 Silently—in memory without words we say,  
 Beloved Avatar Meher Baba Ki-Jai !

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**DO NOT FORGET THE FOUR "L's".**  
(Live, Laugh, Love and Learn)

—T. Dhanapathy Rao

- I. a) LIVE to grow through experiment and experience by living rightly in thought, word and deed with all purity, honesty, simplicity and humility, without any self-absorption and without letting go the hand of truth.
- b) Try to LIVE in the company of Satsang, to exchange divine thoughts and to do the divine service.
- II. LAUGH away your time with all smiles and cheer, without being distressed by tragedies, despair, disappointments, worries, pain and suffering through all awareness, silent prayer and constant Nama Japa.
- III. a) LOVE the living God-man always, if available, with all devotion, dedication and surrender, with unswerving faith through constant remembrance of His life, teachings and Nama, without any second thought for your speedy emancipation and Realisation.
- b) Love all men with all sympathy, compassion, mercy and forgiveness.
- c) Give, help and share with others who are poor, indigent, broken and forlorn through all willing sacrifice, without seeking any publicity.
- IV. If the living God-man is not available, LEARN all wisdom and spiritual understanding from sages and saints through careful, constant observation after seeking real service through all obedience and steadfastness to enter the spiritual path for advancing quickly to realise the purpose of life, unaffected by trials and tribulations, through all detachment from illusion and complete resignation to God's Will.

Do not change your Guru unless he permits you the help of a perfect Master or the God-man.

## MIRACLES AND SPIRITUALITY

by Bh. V. Ramana Rao

In fact, there are no miracles, as everything happens according to laws. God's creation consists of three worlds, one inside the other (1) the gross world of *Matter*, consisting of the Earth, the solar system the stars, planets and all the galaxies, (2) the Subtle world of *Energy* (not to be confused with the gross energy which the scientists know and use) and (3) the mental world or the world of the *Mind*. Only 7000 people enter the last two inner worlds in the natural course. These are real Yogis or aspirants for God. These two inner worlds are referred to in the Bible as the '*Kingdom of Heaven*'.

When a yogi enters the subtle world by involution of consciousness, he gets certain powers (or Siddhis) by which he performs the so-called miracles such as producing things from nowhere, curing some diseases or even raising the dead to life. etc. The temptation to exhibit these powers is too strong, as his mind is not yet properly controlled, and these lead him astray from the right path towards the goal of God-realization. If misused, these may bring about a dangerous downfall to the stone stage. These occult powers have absolutely no spiritual value, as the things produced can be bought in the market. So the help of a Perfect Master or Sadguru is absolutely essential to lead us safely and quickly on to the goal. In all spiritual books, people are strictly warned not to go in for such powers but to give them up willfully, as they come in the way.

A fuller account of the mechanics of Creation and its purpose is given in Avatar Meher Baba's book '*God Speaks*'. Published in America and also available in India from Sri Adi K. Irani, Meher Publications, King's Road, *Ahmednagar*, Maharashtra State. (Price Rs. 37-50). It is *the book of the Age!* It will be of great help and advantage even to the modern scientists who are seeking to find the origin of matter and creation.

May god help us all to know the Truth!

'JAI BABA'

# GLIMPSES OF MEHER

\* (Life-Story of Avatar Meher Baba in Historic Present)

**By Dr. C. D. Deshmukh**, M. A. PH. D. (LONDON)  
Director, Avatar Meher Spiritual Academy, Nagpur

The history of humanity is a story of blunders.  
But humanity has been redeemed again and again  
by the Masters of Wisdom and Love.  
Avatar Meher Baba brings to us a New Dispensation  
of the Eternal Truth, promoting the life of the Spirit,  
which alone can bring happiness and harmony.  
He gives to us the Art of Spiritual life,  
expressing creative culture in all the spheres of human  
drama,  
and transforming entire life, by the release of love.  
He awakens us to the divinity of every one,  
leading us on the Truth one indivisible Life.  
The light which he brings takes us to God,  
who is the fountain-source of life,  
creating harmony out of chaos and giving meaning  
to all the mundane activities of men.  
Herewith are released for you  
a few glimpses into the Life-story of Meher Baba  
the Avatar of our troubled and distracted age.  
The life of the Avatar is divinity in action,  
comprehensive without being diffused,  
having the definiteness of the strokes of hammer  
from the black-smith, forging the base metal  
into a variety of tools and implements,  
linked up with the mixed purposes of daily routine  
or the confused or co-ordinated actions  
of the emergent society of nations.

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\* Thankful mention and acknowledgement is made of all sources of material in this composition in free-verse, most of which was got typed in Guruprasad, in the inspiring company of Beloved Avatar Meher Baba e.g. Purdom's "Perfect Master," "Awakener" and Manuscripts supplied by the Avatar Himself.

To fulfill his self-chosen task in all its numberless aspects,  
 the Avatar takes upon himself a multiple role,  
 leaving no strata of society untouched  
 and no plane of reality unexploited.  
 Having the inviolable and absolute integrity of Truth,  
 his life yet manifests a multiplicity of facts,  
 heedless of any appearances of contradiction.  
 Meher Baba reveals the highest Truth,  
 comprehending, reconciling and transcending  
 the countless traits, fulfilling each other,  
 in a super-human pattern,  
 baffling the proud doctrinaires of academic world  
 and even appearing self-contradictory  
 to the piecemeal understanding of shallow souls.  
 The personality-traits of Avatar Meher are legion,  
 so various as to confound the barren logic of consistency;  
 and they all work themselves out in astounding dynamism,  
 suggestive of the Hegelian Dialectic - -  
 thesis, antithesis and synthesis,  
 rolling on in the divine rhythm of his Avataric Role.  
 The limitless descending into the human form—  
 That is the Avatar, choosing his parentage and worldly  
 context

to suit his mighty purpose  
 Leaving his home at the age of thirteen,  
 a Zoroastrian ascetic roams about in Persia  
 for eight years, disinclined to any worldly occupation,  
 with 'Kashkul' – the begging bowl and a walking stick.  
 The Darwesh descends into the plains of India,  
 along with his brother, again to wander for ten years,  
 in the vast expanse of Bharat,  
 in search of God, and Truth, like a Faquir,  
 At last he yields to his sister's persuasions  
 reconciling himself to the family life of the householder.  
 He is Sheheriarji Irani.  
 After his marriage with Shirin Banu,  
 Sheriarji takes to a worldly occupation.  
 The twain are blessed with five sons—  
 Jamshetji, Meherwan, Jal, Beheram and Ardeshir, .  
 and Mani is the only daughter

1894

Born in Poona at five in the morning  
of 25th February, 1894,  
Meherwan starts his earthly career,  
to play with a cobra, as a babe of eleven months.  
The frantic screams of Shirin Banu are disquieting,  
and the cobra wriggles out his escape, leaving the babe  
unhurt,  
The divine protection is symbolic of the supernal future  
of Meherwan, who soon comes to be designated  
by the abbreviated name 'Meher'.  
Meher combines within himself the extremes,  
Love for music, poetry and nature  
and absorbing meditations,  
in the Muslim burial ground or the Parsee Tower of  
Silence.

1911

In 1911, Meherwan is in Deccan College.  
At once a lover of Hafiz and Shakespeare,  
he is himself a poet.  
'Homa' writing poems for "Sanj Vartaman"  
is none other than Meherwan,  
Founder of the 'Cosmopolitan Club',  
forestalling the Edifice of human Brotherhood,  
the Master-architect is set for his work,  
even during his college days, long before he is self-  
conscious  
of his divine Avataric Role.

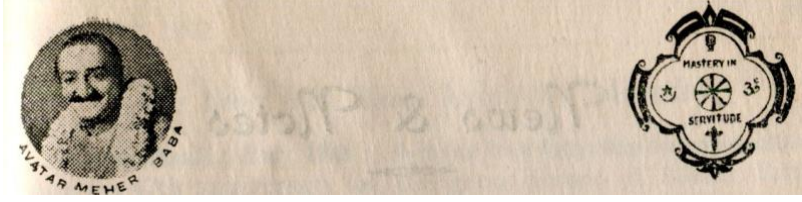
1913

While pursuing his studies for the Bachelor of Arts,  
Meherwan is one day cycling along the Malcom Tank  
Road,  
to sight Babajan, sitting under a Neem tree,  
With meaningful blue eyes that are the very windows of  
Eternity,  
and august white hair encompassing a face  
of majesty and grace, the old prophetic lady-sage  
has crossed one complete century,  
witnessing the rising and vanishing of many generations.  
The Neem tree her favourite place,

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(To be Contd.)





JAI BABA!

## INVITATION

We extend our hearty greetings to all the Baba-lovers on the happy occasion of the Ninth Anniversary of the Meher Vihar Trust and the Meher Vihar Association and the first Anniversary of the Avatar Meher Baba Mission. We cordially invite them all to attend the happy functions to be held from 6 p.m. on 21-8-1972 (Monday) to 9 p.m. on 24-8-1972 (Thursday) and take part in the Seminar of Baba lovers and workers during this period.

We are glad to inform that the Avatar Meher Baba Saranalaya will be inaugurated at 6 p.m. on 21-8-1972 by Sri. K. Brahmada Reddy (Chairman, Sixth Finance Commission of India, & former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, India.)

Other details of the rest of the programme will be issued shortly.

With loving regards,

Meher Ashram  
Himayatnagar,  
Hyderabad-29  
A .P., India  
24-7-1972

Swamy Satya Prakash Udaseen  
on behalf of  
Avatar Meher Baba Mission  
The Meher Vihar Trust &  
The Meher Vihar Association

# *News & Notes*

## **Avatar Meher Baba, Khammam Centre**

The following members observed Silence from the mid-night of 9-7-72 to the midnight of 10-7-72.

Bro. Sri J. Sudarsanam  
Chy. Sreenivasa Baba  
Chy. Narasimha Rao  
Chy. M. V. Dinakar  
M. B. I. Sarma (President)

M. B. I. Sarma, M.A.

## **Meher Cottage, Srikakulam**

Sri M.B.G. Sastry, B.E., Executive Engineer, R & B, Vanaparthy, visited A.M.B. Srikakulam centre on 29-5-72 with another Baba lover Dr. V. Subba Rao of Visakhapatnam, to see the prayer hall of Srikakulam Baba Centre. He expressed his satisfaction as the building came up out of love of the Baba lovers for Beloved Baba. Sri Sastry addressed a few words to a small gathering, giving his views about Baba's dropping the body, His silence and its breaking, and the events to follow.

On 5-5-72, Sri V.V.V.L.N. Prasad Rao's, son, Sri V. Sri Kumar was blessed with a daughter, who was named Meher Bhanu. We invoke Baba blessings on her for a long prosperous life! [Ed.]

V.V.V.L.N. Prasad, B.A.

We are glad to acknowledge with thanks the receipt .of Rs. 20/- (Rupees Twenty only) donated to "Divya Vani" by Sri Thumalapally Veerabhadra Rao on the auspicious occasion of his youngest daughter's marriage at 11-20 p.m., on 5-7-72 at Tadepallegudem, W. G. District, The bride Chy. Sow. Bharathy was given in marriage to Chy. Sadashiva Durga Prasad, M.Sc., (Tech), eldest son of Sri Thatikonda Nageswar Rao of Vijayawada.

Baba's blessings on the newly wedded couple for a long and prosperous wedded life!  
—Editor.

### **Avatar Meher Baba Silence Anniversary Celebrations**

**at Jhansi: July 11th:** A three day function to commemorate the 47th anniversary of the great silence of Meher Baba on July 10th was held in Sadhna Bhavan, Jhansi. Inaugurating the function Dr. Govind Das Richharia, Member of Parliament, said that Meher Baba's assurance to save the world, prepared for self-destruction, through Divine love and Divine intervention is hopeful to humanity. Swami Satya Prakash Udaseen, Editor, 'Divya Vani' Hyderabad, emphasized the secrets of Avatarhood as laid down in the scriptures and books of Meher Baba published in the East and the West and discussed how Meher Baba's mission and spiritual activities were Avatarhood personified. Parmeshwari Dayal Pukar from Meherpuri, Uttar Pradesh, disclosed his inner experiences which came to him like miracles and convinced him of the divine perfection of Meher Baba and inspired him to dedicate his life for Meher Baba's Divine Mission. Dr. G.S.N. Moorthy, M.A. Ph.D. Gitabhusan Adhyatmic Prachar Praveen from Khargpur (West Bengal), in his scholarly talk, discussed the significance of silence as the source of all speech, actions and creation as given in the scriptures of all recognised religions and the works and sayings of the saints, scientists and the masters. Meher Baba's silence, he discussed, was not a vow but the silence of the Perfect Master of the age, undertaken for more than a period of forty years to fulfill his Divine mission on earth, as ordained by God, to redeem humanity from self destruction, ignorance and suffering. Dr. Moorthy quoted Gandhi commenting about the silence of Meher Baba as saying, "It is not the dead silence of the grave-yard but the living silence of the soul." Supporting the possibilities of Meher Baba's predictions to effect the worldwide change through giving the original word while manifesting His real form the scientist of today has also begun to say that "the whole world has sprung from the single vibration." Shri Krishna Chandra, Divisional Superintendent, Central Railway who was present on the occasion, expressed that worldly gains can never secure eternal peace. It is possible only through attaining unity with the Divinity. In the end, Shalig Ram Sharma, organiser of the function, stressed the importance of the 24 hours' silence on July 10th as per previous instructions of

Meher Baba and recited the prayers of God given by Meher Baba. The lovers of Meher Baba observed 24 hours' silence on the 3rd day of July 10th. —Shalig Ram Sharma

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are glad to receive a copy of "Meher News Exchange", a quarterly published from U.S.A.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE JOURNAL:**

The purpose of the Meher News Exchange, East/West is to attempt in a small way to provide a communication "Link" between East and West that we have all missed since the family letters ceased. It was Baba's wish that the East and West come close together.

The news letter will include events of interest to Baba followers, announcements of activities and projects by group and individuals in the United States, Europe, India and Australia and news relating to Meherabad, Meberazad and places connected with Avatar Meher Baba.

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### OTHER DETAILS OF THE JOURNAL

#### THE MEHER NEWS EXCHANGE

East/ West

P.O. Box. 1023 North Myrtle Beach. - S. C. 29582

Published Quarterly

Sheila Krynski : *Publisher*

Ann Conlon : *Editor*

*Associate Editors:*

Sharon Childs – Sunny Parsons

Printed by Sheriar Press, Inc.,  
Crescent Beach S.C. 29582

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## MEHER VIHAR TRUST

3-6-417, Post Office Street

Himayatnagar, Hyderabad-29, (A. P. India)

Publications ready for Sale:

<i>English Publications</i>	<i>Inland</i>	<i>Foreign Sea Mail</i>
1. The New Life of Avatar Meher Baba and His Companions – Calico Binding.	Rs. 9-00	\$ 1.50
2. The Life Circulars of Avatar Meher Baba. (67 Circulars)	Rs. 4-00	\$ 0-75
3. Heed My Call	Rs. 1-25	\$ 0-35
4. <i>Divya Vani</i> – Back Issues (From April 62 to April 72) Each Copy	Rs. 1-25	\$ 0-50

N.B. (i) All the prices are inclusive of Postage by Book Post.

(ii) All Foreign orders to accompany cheques drawn in favour of "Meher Vihar Trust".

*Telugu Publications:* (Excluding Postage) –

1. Batasarulu	(Part I)	Rs. 3-00
2. Avatar Meher Baba	(Part I)	Rs. 3-00
3. Do Do	(Part II)	Rs. 3-00
4. Do Do	(Part III)	Rs. 3-50
5. Do Do	(Part IV)	Rs. 4-00
6. A. M. B. Western Lover's Experiences		Rs. 1-50
7. Meher Sankharavam		Re. 1-00
8. Avatar Meher Baba Sthavam (Part I)		0-25
9. Do Do	(Part II)	0-25



1. I belong to no religion. Every religion belongs to me. My religion is love.
2. I am the divine beloved that loves you more than you can ever love yourself.
3. I am the Lord of love and Servant of My lover.
4. Let *Principle* in work and *honesty* in life prevail.
5. One penny extracted, in My name, without true basis is dishonesty and will be the cause of *millions of births*.
6. Think well of those who think ill of you.
7. If you truly and in all faith accept your Baba as the Highest of the High, it behooves you to lay down your life at His feet.

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