

Meher Baba Australia

June - August 2019



“I have come to sow the seed of love in your hearts so that, in spite of all superficial diversity which your life in illusion must experience and endure, the feeling of oneness, through love, is awakened amongst all the nations, creeds, sects and castes of the world.”

Exact source of this quote presently unknown. © AMBPPCT.

Ocean of universal life



Meher Baba outside Kaka Baria's room (later Dr Goher's dispensary room) at Meherazad. Baba was preparing to wash a mast, maybe Ali Shah. This photo was taken in 1949, either in January or June. Photo by Padri. Courtesy of MSI Collection India.

In the hour of trial, let not our thoughts be for our limited selves, but for others, not prompted by our egos, but responsive to the claims of our divine selves, which unite us with the rest of mankind. We cannot dodge our responsibility by evasion.

To ignore human suffering as merely an illusory aspect of the illusory universe is indefensible. Not by ignoring suffering, but by ministering to it with creative love, do we gain the road to Life Eternal. Not through aloofness or indifference, but by eager, selfless service are we brought nearer the fountain-source of that transcendental rhythm which is at the heart of God's Universe.

Service with reservations is mere window dressing. In identifying ourselves with a narrow group or faction, or with some limited ideal, we do not achieve a real fusion of our segregated selves, only the appearance of such fusion. The true merging of the limited self with the Ocean of Universal Life involves complete surrender of isolated existence in all its aspects.

Foggy conjectures, or a hodgepodge of ideas are no substitutes for a clear definition of man's true goal. If the world culture of tomorrow is to be an improvement on the savagery of today, it will have to emerge from an absolute understanding

of the Universal Law, wholly independent of existing traditions and superstitions. It will not come into being through the sterile process of disembalming and re-hashing obsolete values.

The glorious vista of God's Cosmic Plan is obscured by creeds, dogmas, sectarianism and superstitions. These limitations can be transcended by man not through blind or total denial of any worth in existing concepts, but by the discovery, unfolding, accentuation and development of whatever fragments of divine Truth may be hidden in them.

This, however, must be accomplished, not within narrow, frigid limits, but in an atmosphere of pure, unhampered love. Such love cannot function in an environment polluted by prejudice of any kind.

The humanity of the individual — his kindness and compassion being toward all created beings — is the real test of civilisation. The true barbarian is he who is devoid of humanity. However learned a man may be, whether a master of science, or a paragon of worldly attainment, if he lacks humanity he is still a barbarian.

In every part of the world, mankind is perpetually disintegrating into narrow groups based upon the superficial and basically false differences of caste, creed, race, nationality, religion, ideology or culture. Since these groups have long been accustomed to distrust and fear those outside their self-imposed boundaries, they are animated by indifference, contempt or hostility toward each other.

This attitude is born of ignorance, prejudice, envy, selfishness. It can be remedied only by the fostering of the spirit of mutuality which breaks through artificial isolationism and derives its imperishable strength from the sense of the inviolable unity of life as a whole. Love alone can achieve this. Spontaneous love, that knows no man-created boundaries, is the great universal bond which unites all living creatures in immortal Oneness of the soul.

Once it is universally recognised that there are no claims greater than the claims of the Universal Divine Life, which includes all beings and all things without exception, this pure interflow of immaculate love will not only create lasting peace, harmony and happiness in individual, national, and international spheres, but will shine forth in its own purity and beauty as God's most precious gift to man.

The New Humanity will come into being through the release of selfless love in measureless abundance. Through the free, unhampered interplay of this true love from heart to heart, man will attain the new state of being, the highest level of life destined for him upon this earth.

Divine Love is impervious to the onslaughts of duality, for it is an expression of Godhood — Infinite Unity — Itself. Through Divine Love, the New Humanity will be put in tune with the Holy Plan. Divine love will usher in not merely imperishable kindness among men, infinite bliss in personal life, but will also make possible the flowering of harmonious, co-operative life among the peoples of the world. It will give birth to

an era in which mankind will be emancipated from the tyranny of dead forms, an age that will give full scope to creative life and bring spiritual illumination to man's intuition. It will be an era free from illusion and rooted in divine Reality, an age blessed with lasting peace and abiding happiness, the millennium that will initiate man into the Life of Eternity.

The New Humanity calls for creative statesmanship that will recognise and emphasise this great potentiality of mankind. It calls for a leadership that is dynamically aware of the essential unity of all human beings, not only through their predestined co-partnership in the Divine Plan for man upon earth, but also by virtue of the fact that they are all living expressions of the One Life.

No line of action — no covenant — will be helpful nor fruitful unless it is in absolute harmony with this profound law of the universe. The regeneration of humanity depends upon leadership that has the wisdom to understand this transcendental fact, the inspiration to make creative use of it and the authority to put it into operation.

Avatar Meher Baba Ki Jai

Excerpts from 'SILENT REVELATIONS OF MEHER BABA: EXCERPTS FROM THE SILENT DISCOURSES OF MEHER BABA', 1944, p.p. 23-27. Compiled and edited with love by Alexander (Zandor) Markey. © AMBPPCT.

Root cause of war

Meher Baba

As in all great critical periods of human history, humanity is now going through the agonising travail of spiritual rebirth. Great forces of destruction are afoot and seem to be dominant at the moment, but constructive and creative forces which will redeem humanity are also being released through several channels. Although the working of these forces of light is chiefly silent, they are eventually bound to bring about those transformations which will make the further spiritual advance of humanity safe and steady. It is all part of the divine plan, which is to give to the hungry and weary world a fresh dispensation of the eternal and only Truth.

At present the urgent problem facing humanity is to devise ways and means of eliminating competition, conflict and rivalry in all the subtle and gross forms which they assume in the various spheres of life. Military wars are, of course, the most obvious sources of chaos and destruction. However, wars in themselves do not constitute the central problem for humanity, but are rather the external symptoms of something basically even more grave. Wars and the suffering they bring cannot be completely avoided by mere propaganda against war; if they are to disappear from human history it will be necessary to tackle their root-cause. Even when military wars are not being waged, individuals or groups of individuals are constantly engaged in economic or some other subtle form of warfare. Military wars, with all the cruelty they involve, occur only



Meher Baba and Naosherwan Satha at Meherazad. This photo was taken in 1949, either in January or June. Photo by Padri. Courtesy of MSI Collection India.

when these underground causes are aggravated.

The root-cause of the chaos which precipitates itself in war is that most persons are in the grip of egoism and self-interest individually as well as collectively. This is the life of illusory values in which men are caught. To face the Truth is to realise that life is **one**, in and through its manifold manifestations. To have this understanding is to forget the limiting self in the realisation of the unity of life.

With the dawn of true understanding the problem of wars would immediately disappear. War has to be

so clearly seen as both unnecessary and unreasonable that the immediate problem would not be how to stop wars but how to wage them spiritually against the attitude of mind responsible for such a cruel and painful state of things. *In the light of the Truth of unity of all life, cooperative and harmonious action becomes natural and inevitable.*

Hence, the chief task before those who are deeply concerned with the rebuilding of humanity is to do their utmost to dispel the spiritual ignorance which envelops mankind.

*DISCOURSES, 6th Edition,
Volume 1. © AMBPPCT.*

Meher Baba's Message to the World

Meher Baba

The present world crisis, chaos and universal suffering is *absolutely necessary for eventual spiritual upliftment and for a new world in which peace, love and divine aspiration will reign supreme.*

None should therefore feel frightened or dismayed, but remember instead the certainty of this bright future.

From the point of view of spiritual reality, the words “national” and “foreign”, “killed” and “killer”, “war” and “peace”, “success” and

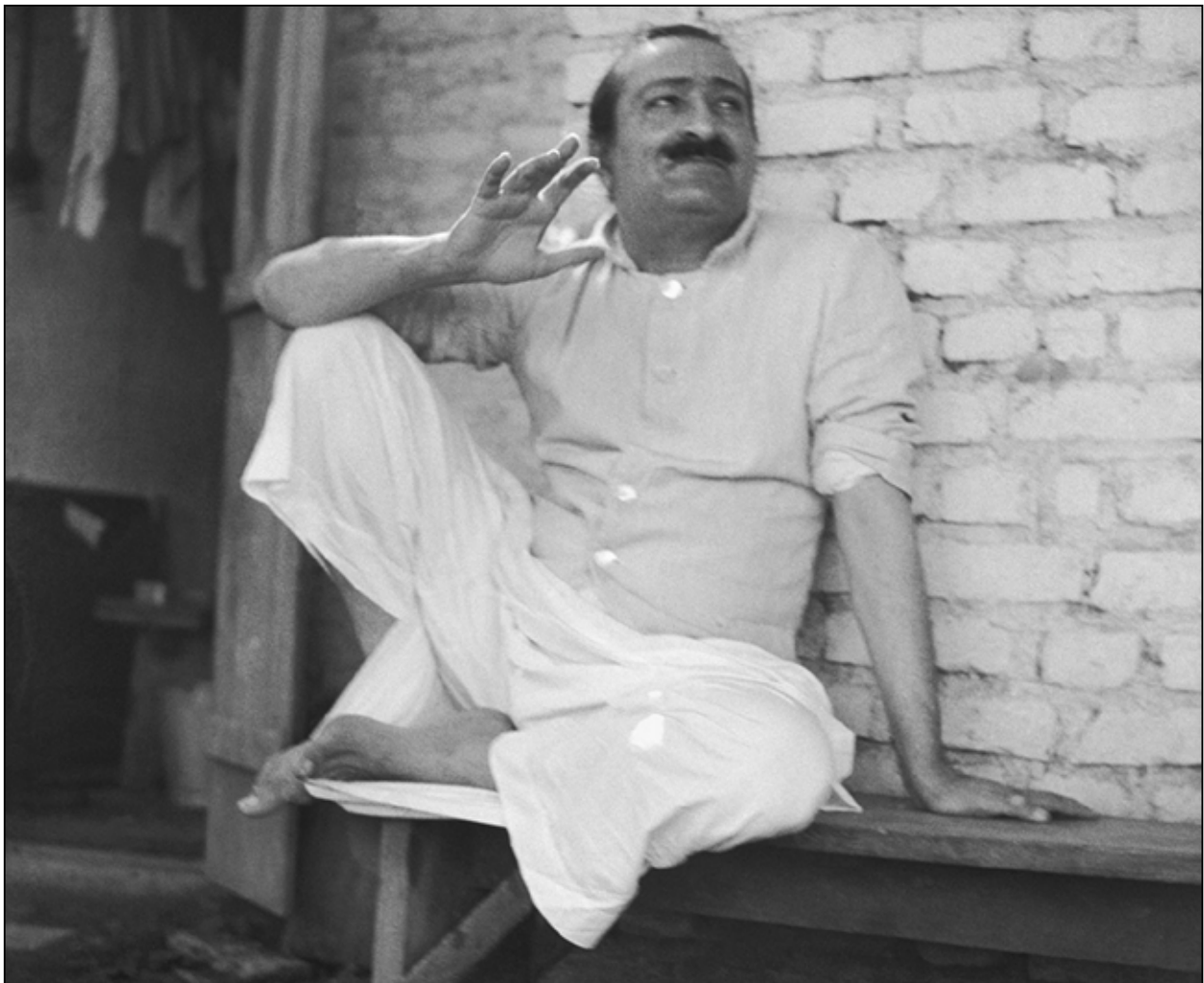
“defeat” *have no existence and are only imaginary dreams, and the present universal chaos is just a universal nightmare necessary for the universal awakening.*

*Body-forms and minds are innumerable and of infinite variety, but **souls are all originally and eternally one. In fact, only one Infinite Reality exists and that is God.*** So this apparent world catastrophe is, by Divine Will, essential for a Divine manifestation of love and real peace which will occur in the near future,

and in which I have to play the greatest part.

All men and women throughout the world who care to share in my work can do so by trying their utmost to maintain a pure character, to avoid strictly feelings of lust and enmity in any form, to try not to be the victim of fears nor of the weaknesses of lying and back-biting, in personal quarrels never to attack anyone save to defend the weak and to do even that absolutely without hatred.

*MEHER BABA JOURNAL, V.2,
No. 9, p. 572. © AMBPPCT.*



Meher Baba at Meherazad, either in January or June 1949. Photo by Padri. Courtesy of MSI Collection India.

War and beyond

War and the suffering which it inevitably brings cannot be avoided by mere propaganda against war. If war is to disappear from human experience it is essential to destroy its root-cause. The life of illusory values in which man is caught is the breeding ground of the chaos that precipitates war. Individual and collective egoism and selfishness, that hold most of mankind in their grip, are its root-cause.

Man alone is responsible for war. Through his greed, vanity, selfishness and cruelty he brings the recurring evil upon himself. God, in His Grace, transmutes this man-made tragedy into a channel for the quickening of humanity to a recognition of higher values.

Appalling as it is, man's war is thus saved by the Infinite from remaining an unmitigated evil.

To purge himself, man has to become conscious of the *redeeming God-Design in man-created war. To understand the real significance of violence and non-violence in this God-transmuted pattern of spiritual values requires a true perception of the meaning and purpose of existence.*

Man's actions in war, therefore, should not be motivated by slogans, however high-sounding, that are based on erroneous concepts of violence or non-violence. His actions require the prompting of spiritual understanding, which is above men-made rules of Divine Love, which is above man-conceived duality.

God's design infuses man's war with the capacity to generate and foster many qualities of divine importance,

preventing it, therefore, from being wholly without spiritual significance. When man's mania for possessions or dominance forces a peaceful people to take up arms for the sake of higher values or for unselfish considerations of general well-being, war becomes not merely inevitable, but spiritually defensible.

In war the people of the earth are roused to make unlimited sacrifices and to endure untold agony for the sake of their countries or principles. In doing so, they demonstrate their latent capacity for great sacrifice and endurance for high stakes, all of which is a triumph for the soul.

To claim special dispensation in war, for any particular race, religion or ideology is indefensible.

All such assertions are based on the false doctrine of division and duality. Since the Law of the Universe is synonymous with Oneness, and *Oneness precludes separation of one soul from another, there is no justification whatsoever for any side to claim in war that God favours it exclusively.* God does not scale His Grace to suit man's temporal quarrels and prejudices. His favour knows no discrimination; **His love is all-embracing.**

The time has come for man to acquire new vision and proclaim the ultimate truth that all life is one, that all life merges in God, who is the only Reality, that God alone is worth dying for and only God is worth living for, and that all else is a vain and empty pursuit of illusory values.

The spiritual oneness of all souls remains inviolate in spite of all

wars, and from the point of view of ultimate Reality, *no soul is ever actually at war with any other soul.* War is a conflict between different ideologies and concepts which extends to and involves not only the minds, but also the bodies of people. But the undivided and indivisible soul of mankind **remains one** in its unimpeachable and integral unity. The divine catalyst that keeps the Soul-oneness of all Creation intact even in the midst of the most devastating war, **is love.**

All collective efforts draw upon some aspect of love for their functioning. Wars are no exception. They too are often motivated and conducted by a form of love, but ... it is a love whose nature has not been understood. For even though wars demand the large-scale organising and functioning of co-operative endeavour, the spiritual potential of such collective undertaking is artificially restricted by identification with segregated groups or limited ideals.

In order that love may come into its own it must be freed from all impediments and released from all limitations. *Love manifests in all phases of human life, but is restricted and often poisoned by personal ambition, racial pride, narrow loyalties, individual and national rivalries, chauvinism, attachment to caste, sect, religion or sex.* To usher in the resurrection of humanity, the heart of man will have to be unlocked and a new love generated in it – a love which knows no limitations, no corruption, and the ultimate love that is wholly free from

Only through such universal interflow of selfless love will it be possible for humanity to eradicate 'greed, intolerance, exploitation' – the three demons responsible for war – in all the gross and subtle forms which they assume in civilised life. In no other way can the mass-mind be purged of its age-old war psychosis.

The chief task of those deeply concerned with the regeneration of humanity, *is to wage a holy war against the pernicious state of mind that justifies aggression in **any** form.* This can be accomplished only by dispelling the spiritual apathy and ignorance which holds the mass of mankind in bondage.

If humanity is to redeem itself it will have to emerge from the dreadful cataclysm of war with unimpaired spiritual integrity with hearts free from the poison of malice and revenge, with minds disburdened of blows given and received, with souls unscathed by suffering, and filled with the spirit of unconditional surrender to the Divine Will to inspire and ensoul the New Humanity.

*Excerpts from 'SILENT
REVELATIONS OF MEHER
BABA: EXCERPTS FROM THE
SILENT DISCOURSES OF
MEHER BABA', 1944, p.p. 18-22.
Compiled and edited with love by
Alexander Markey. © AMBPPCT.*



THE HAND OF MAYA

It will seem to some that the causes of War lie wholly within the responsibility of the individual.

For others, society will be the cause.

Still others will see the hand of Maya,

And some ...

will see the will of God.

— *Meher Baba*
LISTEN, HUMANITY,
p. 133, 1982. © AMBPPCT.

The life of the spirit

The ways of the impressionable many are as a rule stamped by the attitude and behaviour of the influential few.

In our age, these key figures in public life are, with rare exceptions, glamorous exponents of crass materialism.

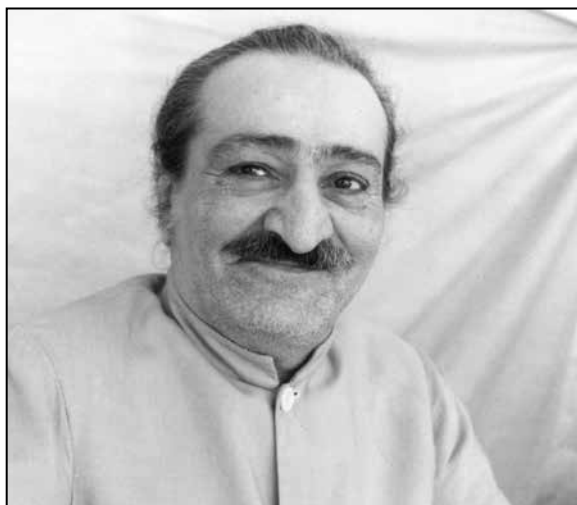
They are habitually played up by news-hungry media as front-page sensation. The inevitable psychological result is a world consciousness dominated by gross materialism.

The worldly man in his limited capacity fancies something to be right. He then proceeds to make it right for other people of similar tendencies and to declare it sacrosanct against the judgment of those whose concept of right differs from his.

Such a life of arbitrary definition and uncritical imitation is not the life of the spirit. Blind surrender to convention does not necessarily result in wise action and much less does it lead to perfection. The life of the spirit has its basis in a true understanding of values, and is governed by it.

In the life of perfect action there must be harmonious adjustment between the material and spiritual aspects of life. This cannot be effected by granting equal importance to them. The spirit must and always will have an inviolable priority over matter. This sovereignty is not expressed by avoiding or rejecting matter, but by making full use of it as an appropriate vehicle for the expression of the spirit. There is no basic conflict between the current of mundane life and the life of the spirit.

The spiritually evolved do not



Meher Baba at Meherazad, circa 1954.
Photo taken by Bhaiya Panday.

disdain objects of beauty or works of art. They do not disparage the noble achievements of science nor scorn the constructive attainments of politics. Things of beauty become degraded only when perverted into objects of craving, jealousy or exclusive possessiveness. Creations of art can degenerate similarly into media for the inflation of the ego and the breeding of human frailties. Triumphs of science are desecrated by man into instruments for mutual destruction. Domestic and international chaos are aggravated and perpetuated by the prostitution of politics for selfish ends.

Rightly employed, however, and invested with spiritual understanding, things of beauty and culture can become sources of purity, inspiration and joy. Works of art have the power to ennoble and raise the consciousness of man. Attainments of science reveal their capacity to redeem mankind from unnecessary handicaps and suffering. Political action, transmuted by the alchemy of the spirit into statesmanship can be instrumental in promoting the true brotherhood of humanity.

The life of the spirit is not achieved through ignoring worldly aspects of existence. It comes to full flower when applied for the Divine purpose, which is to bring love, peace, happiness, beauty and spiritual perfection within the reach of all.

The life of the spirit finds its truest expression in all-inclusiveness, free from attachment, and in appreciation untrammelled by entanglement.

This cosmic poise comes to ultimate fruition in spiritually perfect souls.

They have the divine capacity to manifest supreme excellence in any phase of life they deem necessary for the spiritual quickening of other souls. If there is lack of happiness, beauty or goodness in the life of those who come within the orbit of the Master, these very deficiencies are transmuted by Him into opportunities to shower upon them his divine love and to redeem them from temporal or spiritual poverty.

Thus the everyday responses of the Perfect Master to his worldly environment are the highest expressions of the life of the spirit on the physical plane. They are manifestations of dynamic, creative Divinity that spreads and multiplies itself, spiritualising everything with which it comes in contact.

Excerpts from 'SILENT REVELATIONS OF MEHER BABA: EXCERPTS FROM THE SILENT DISCOURSES OF MEHER BABA', 1944, p.98. Compiled and edited with love by Alexander (Zandor) Markey. © AMBPPCT.

Travail of the New World Order

Meher Baba

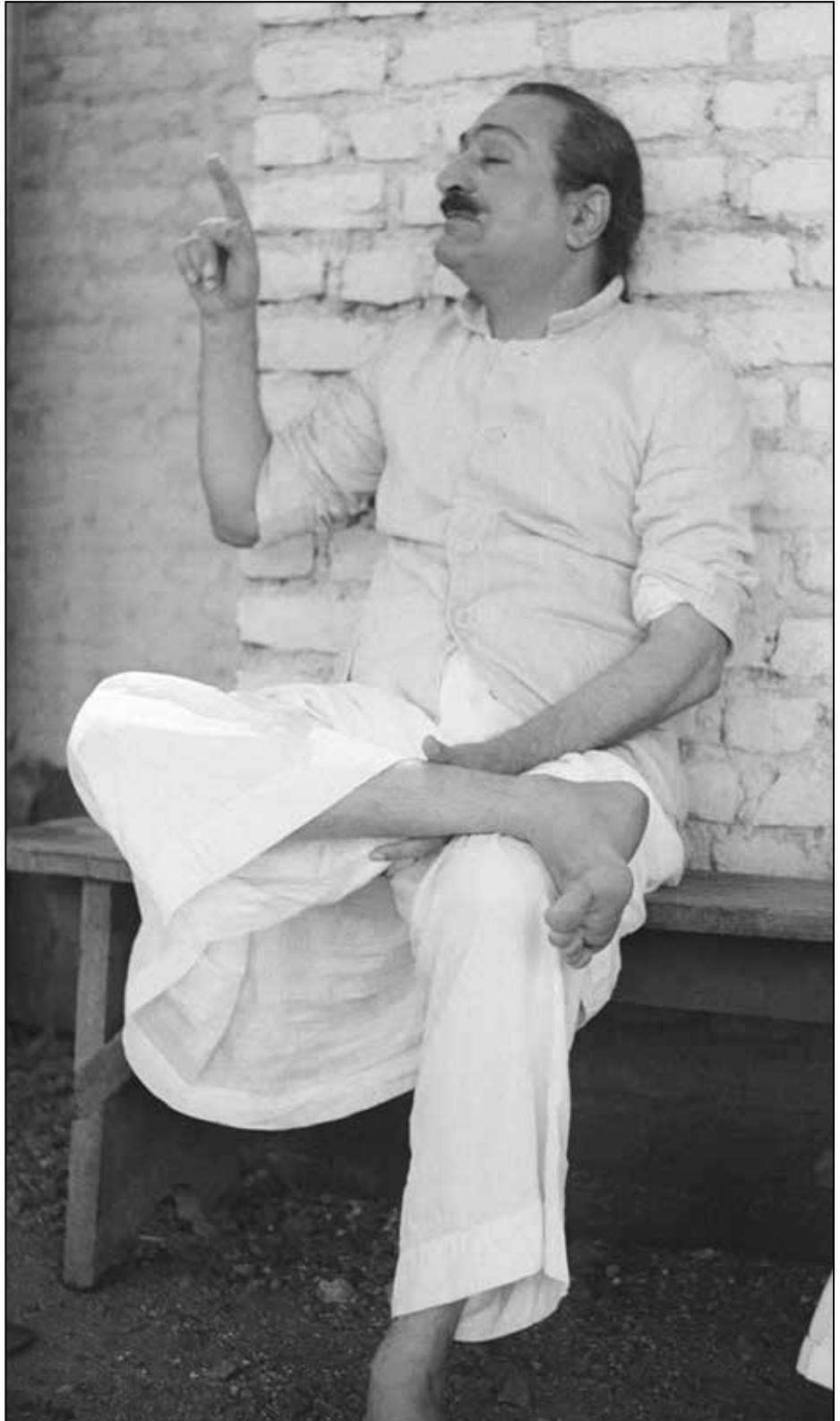
The world storm, which has been gathering momentum, is now having its greatest outburst; and in reaching its climax, it will work universal disaster. In the struggle for material well-being, all grievances have assumed fantastic proportions. And the diverse differences of human interest have been so accentuated that they have precipitated distinctive conflict.

Humanity has failed to solve its individual and social problems, and the evidence for this failure is but too plain. The incapacity of men to deal with their problems constructively and creatively reveals a tragic deficiency in the right understanding of the basic nature of man and the true purpose of life.

The world is witnessing an acute conflict between the forces of light and the forces of darkness. On the one hand there are selfish persons who seek their happiness blindly through lust for power, unbridled greed and unrelieved hatred. Ignorant of the real purpose of life, they have sunk down to the lowest level of culture. And they bury their higher selves in the wreckage of crumbling forms which linger on from the dead past. Bound by material interests and limited conceptions, they are forgetful of their divine destiny. They have lost their way, and their hearts are torn by the ravages of hate and rancour.

On the other hand there are persons who unveil their inherent higher self

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Meher Baba at Meherazad, either in January or June 1949. Photo by Padri. Courtesy of MSI Collection India.

through the endurance of pain and deprivation, and through the noble acts of bravery and self-sacrifice. The present wars are teaching man to be brave, to be able to suffer, to understand and to sacrifice.

The disease of selfishness in mankind will need a cure, which is not only universal in its application, but is drastic in its nature. Selfishness is so deep-rooted that that it can be uprooted only if it is knocked from all sides. Real peace and happiness will dawn spontaneously when there is the purging of selfishness. The peace and happiness which come from self-giving love are permanent.

Even the worst sinners can become great saints if they have the courage and sincerity to invite a drastic and complete change of heart.

The present chaos and destruction will engulf the whole world. But this will be followed by a very long period in which there shall be no war. The passing sufferings and miseries of our times could be worth enduring for the sake of the long period of happiness which is to follow.

What will the present chaos lead to? How will it all end? It can only end in one way. Mankind will be sick of it all. Men will be sick of wanting and sick of fighting out of hatred. Greed and hatred will reach such intensity that everyone will become weary of them. The way out of the deadlock will be found through *selflessness*. The only alternative which will bring a solution will be to *stop hating and to love, to stop wanting and to give, to stop domination and to serve*.

Great suffering shall awaken great understanding. Supreme suffering fulfils its purpose and yields its true significance when it awakens exhausted humanity, and stirs

within it a genuine longing for real understanding. Unprecedented suffering leads to unprecedented spiritual outcome. It contributes to the construction of life on the unshakeable foundation of the Truth.

It is now high time that universal suffering should hasten humanity to the turning point in its spiritual history. It is now high time that the very agonies of our times should become a medium for the bringing of a real understanding of human relationship.

It is now high time for humanity to face squarely the true causes of the catastrophe which has overtaken it.

It is now high time to seek a new experience of reality. To know that life is real and eternal is to inherit unfading bliss. It is high time that men had this realisation by being unified with their own selves.

Through unification with the higher self, man perceives the infinite self in all selves; and he becomes free by outgrowing and discarding the limitations of the ego-life.

The individual soul has to realise its identity with the supreme universal soul with full consciousness. Men shall have reorientation of life in the light of this ancient truth, and they will readjust their attitude towards their neighbours in everyday life. To perceive the spiritual value of oneness is to promote real unity and cooperation.

Brotherhood then becomes a spontaneous outcome of true perception.

The new life which is based upon spiritual understanding is an affirmation of the Truth. It is not something which belongs to utopia, but is completely practical. *Now that humanity is thrown into the*

fire of bloody conflicts, it is, through immense anguish, experiencing the utter instability and futility of the life which is based upon purely material conceptions. The hour is near when men, in their eager longing for real happiness, will seek the true source of happiness.

The time is also ripe when men will ardently seek to contact the embodiment of the Truth in the form of God-man, through whom they can be inspired and lifted into spiritual understanding. They will accept the guidance which comes from divine authority. Only the outpouring of divine love can bring about spiritual awakening.

In this critical time of universal suffering, men are becoming ready to turn towards their higher self, and to fulfil the will of God. Divine love will perform the supreme miracle of bringing God into the hearts of men, and of getting them established in lasting and sure happiness. It will satisfy the greatest need and longing of mankind.

Divine love will make men selfless and helpful in their mutual relations, and it will bring about the final solution of all problems. The new brotherhood on earth shall be a fulfilled fact, and nations will be united in the fraternity of love and truth.

My existence is for this love and this truth; and to suffering humanity I say: Have hope.

I have come to help you in surrendering yourselves to the cause of God, and in accepting his grace of love and truth. I have come to help you in winning the one victory of all victories — to win yourself. “

DISCOURSES 7th Edition p.p. 298-300. November 1944. © AMBPPCT.

Remembering Delia

Sarah McNeill (April 2019)

Quite a long time ago – early 1970s maybe – before the Meher Baba Association had a centre as such, meetings in London were held at various places. Delia DeLeon's flat in Kew was one place to go for quite a number of Baba lovers. Delia had met Meher Baba and spent time in India for a while as one of a small but close group of western women. I counted myself fortunate to meet her when I was a complete newcomer and much in need of guidance. I knew of hardly any other Baba lovers and only remembered her name because it was the same as that of girl from Panama I knew at a boarding school when I was about nine.

Checking out that name “DeLeon” in the phone book, I rang the number and was momentarily taken aback when a very clear voice said, “You’ll just have to help yourself!” I paused for breath and then heard her say “I’m sorry. Who is it calling? I was just serving tea to my guests...” Her abruptness took me by surprise but, for me, that conversation was the beginning of an instrumental link to the Beloved. I was subsequently able to call on Delia at her home and when I explained how I’d had a school friend surnamed DeLeon, she picked up the phone, saying “That would have been my niece in Panama”. There and then she put through a call to Panama City, got her niece on the line and gave me the phone, expecting the two of us to have a conversation! We exchanged a few words, barely talking for more than a minute. I was tongue-tied in shock and amazement.



Delia, Mehera, Meher Baba at Meher Center, Myrtle Beach, USA May 1952. Photo taken by Charmian Duce. © Meher Nazar Publications.

Over the weeks that followed Delia mentioned to me her wish to set up a children's group because quite a few of the people who attended her meetings had young children at home. As her own flat couldn't provide the space she required, one of the group (Peter Townshend) offered her the unused upstairs room of his studio at Twickenham. Delia was delighted. She could at last start up regular weekend meetings for children. The room was spacious and the location, just outside central London, perfect in every way. The very young, accompanied by their parents, would be able to hear Baba stories, learn Baba songs and make friends with others of their own age. The parents arranged games and music or set out refreshments in the adjacent kitchen. Pictures of Baba provided constant awareness of his closeness. It was at that time

Delia, with her customary brisk but graceful authority, roped me in as a helper and, being as yet somewhat new and uninformed, I was carried along with the current of Delia's energy. Taking my daughter with me, we boarded the train to Victoria on Saturday afternoons and then took the underground out to Richmond.

About half a dozen parents turned up on the first Saturday. Numbers grew as the weeks passed. Mike Morice would be there with the young Mani; Australians Georgina and Craig San Roque brought their children; Ann Syz also joined as the word spread, and within a few weeks a dozen or more children were being brought along to take part. Delia was a formidable director. For her this was Baba's idea and the event was to introduce children to being in Baba's

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South West Sahavas

Jake Horsey

Far off at the most westerly spot in Australia there is a little place called 'Margaret River'.

In the most south-western corner of Western Australia, the Margaret River region is bound by the Indian Ocean to its west and the Southern Ocean to the south.

The 'Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge' is a dominant feature in the region, consisting of ancient granitic rock that is up to 1.5 billion years old; It is the old core of a mountain range that formed when today's India collided with it.

When the two landmasses separated again about 135 million years ago, and India drifted north, the ridge was left behind.

Where this ancient ridge rolls down to meet the turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean, for the first time in history, Baba lovers gathered to share the intimate companionship of Beloved Meher Baba, at the inaugural South West Sahavas.

Held over three days, April 5-7, the Sahavas beautifully bore the heart-print of our Beloved Master as guests flowed in from around the Western state, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, and India.

Renowned for its internationally acclaimed wine, Margaret River was given a soaking in a spiritual wine as lovers of God from all walks and paths shared songs,



Participants at the South West Sahavas, Margaret River, Western Australia, April 5-7 2019.

stories, intuitions, discussions and the silent recognition of a great Love that pervades the all in all. As grapes hung heavy on vines awaiting the winter harvest, lovers of God had already begun praising the Master Vintner's Sahavas and were busy preparing for the wine of His Love.

The Sahavas verily inspired a balancing of the head and the heart, with strong evocative presentations and discussions, as well as intimate talks and music. Singer, author, scholar, musician and artist Dr Ward Parks presented three talks based on some of Meher Baba's earliest work and teachings (see topics below).

The talks were filmed and will be available via the Western Australia Meher Baba webpage. John Isaacs Young (or should I say John Isaacs 'Jung') gave a tantalising

insight into Carl Jung's work, giving the audience a profound awareness of the interpenetrating knowledge streams of psychology and the spiritual path, the process of individuation, all while revealing profound connections to the various spiritual traditions that have paved the frontiers of consciousness. Principally giving a breathtaking insight into how utterly ground-breaking Meher Baba's cosmology is from the standpoint of modern psychology.

The presentations led to a discussion group on the "age of intuition" on the Friday night, and a seminar on Saturday night on the topic of "Culture, Civilisation, and the Avatic Advent". A short game preceding the seminar revealed how much the audience knew (and didn't know)

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on the topic. Broaching challenging questions that had been raised by young people from India, Australia and America, panel members and the audience shed light on a topic that has often gotten lost in the byways of political and social discourse in the media and public forums. The age-old Avataric Call flowed in perennial streams as the conversation was brought back time and time again to the beautiful spiritual truths crystallised and embodied in our Master's life and words.

On day 2, while listening to the song, "Francis' Hands", Margaret Harrison touchingly recalled her memory of Meher Baba's plane landing in Melbourne in '56 when she was but a young girl.

By spontaneous request on day 3, Margaret humbly shared her memories of a life that had been profoundly given to Baba and touched by His love. Margaret was the only guest who had physically met Baba, and Baba's presence lingered in the ether as she spoke. Margaret's family had been Sufis who ultimately recognised Meher Baba as the Avatar. The spirit of her stories no doubt merged with the outflow of the Margaret River as it joined the Indian Ocean, christening the land and waters surrounding with the Name-stamp of Beloved Baba, and flowing across the tides of time to His Feet.

It was the first time that the East had come so far West in Australia for a Sahavas. In Ward Parks' words such an event sets precedents and has an effect for a long time. As I write, the perfume of Baba's Love gently lingers, poised and awakening, as it continues to rejuvenate and inspire the hearts of those that had been present at the Sahavas. His Name-tune whispering sweetly upon the breeze and along the arteries and veins of highways and streets, as His lovers return to their respective homes and jobs scattered across the country.

Meanwhile, Ward Parks and John Isaacs Young travel East, making their way across the vast distances that span



View from the 'Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge' a dominant local feature consisting of ancient 'granitic' rock, thought to be the old core of a mountain range, up to 1.5 billion years old. Margaret River, Western Australia.

Australia, filling the gaps of 'Nullarborean' longing that cry out for the Avatar as they gaily whistle His Name to Avatar's Abode. Perhaps they will return in time for the Anniversary of Beloved Baba's flood tide of Love in Woombye in '58, carrying the tune of the inaugural South West Sahavas to the heart-ears of our Baba-family in the East. Perhaps they will say on arrival: "Far off in the most westerly of the "most east of the west" is a little place called Margaret River, even there I could hear His singers weaving melodies of His beautiful Name-tune."

Ward's 3 Talks at the Sahavas

Session One

A Literary Introduction to Baba's Work in the late 1920s: In God's Hand and Infinite Intelligence.

Session Two

Thinking the Imagination in Infinite Intelligence, and Baba's Spiritual Training of the Mandali in Tiffin Lectures.

Session Three

Baba and the Meher Ashram Boys: Primordial Cosmology and Illuminations on the Spiritual Path in Creation and its Causes.

Mani's Dream: The Five Perfect Masters

Peter Rowan

I do not normally write speculative essays concerning Avatar Meher Baba, preferring to make sure I have well researched material to back my commentary and judgement of any recorded instances and activities during His glorious Advent.

In this present case, even though speculative, I consider I have a degree of empirical data which allows me to explore with a tentative certainty, some factors which give weight to my proposition that I have sound evidence of the accuracy of Mani's insight and intuition in her wonderful dream of Beloved Baba showing her the present sites of four of the five Perfect Masters, due to having been to one of the sites which presented to me signs of what I feel is an accurate verification of her dream.

In 1998, Mani's delightful book *Dreaming of The Beloved*¹ was published, in it she recounts twenty-four dreams she had over a span of many years where Beloved Baba directly entered her dream-world, and which she relates to us with charming candour.

The dream under discussion here, which Mani had some time after Baba dropped His body, is titled by her, *Where Are They?*² Mani tell us it was odd for her to have this dream, as she had never speculated, or was in the least eager to know about the whereabouts of the present five Perfect Masters, but in this particular dream, seemingly unaccountable to her, Beloved Baba presented Himself to her asking directly if she knew where the present five Perfect Masters were!

It should now be mentioned that in Mani's opening introduction to *Dreaming of The Beloved*, and which she gives the heading *Baba-Dreams*, she clearly enunciates that even though Baba has time and again made it clear that life itself is but a dream, and dreams in themselves are nothing but a dream-within-a-dream, it should be clearly understood that according to Beloved Baba His presence in a dream is very real indeed.

She writes, "Someone asked Baba whether dreams in which He appears are not different from other dreams. Baba nodded emphatically, "Yes, they are," and explained that dreams of Him are of great significance because of His Presence therein. Even illusion becomes illumined and transformed when the light of His Presence touches it."³

One cannot doubt this, when we consider our own great fortune when having not only life changing, but life directing dreams in which Beloved Baba's loving Presence is there guiding us, in the most subtle and clear way.

What I found to be most surprising in Mani's dream, were the locations of the Perfect Masters that Baba revealed to her, as only one was in India, and He indicated only where four of the Perfect Masters were, and not the fifth, which I take to be highly significant and will later comment on in this essay.

The countries in question, where Baba showed Mani where the present Perfect Masters were, are India, Egypt, Japan, and most surprisingly, Greece. Yet it is in Greece, where I found, what I believe for me verifies almost irrevocably, the veracity of Mani's dream.

Before studying Mani's dream more closely, I will give a broad overview of the historic spiritual milieu of these countries, excluding India, as we have a great deal of information on the birthplace of Avatar Meher Baba already.

Egypt, as the first place outside of India, shown to Mani by Baba, should not surprise too many people, as Beloved Baba gave a great deal of attention to Egypt in 1932, by visiting all the major pyramids, including the 4,700 years old step-pyramid of Saqqara, the age of this pyramid indicates the immense antiquity of Egypt and is a standing reminder that the pyramids were built to express the vast spiritual knowledge Egypt possessed at the time. Beloved Baba has also indicated He had been in Egypt 'in ages past'.⁴

Even more importantly, Baba said the specific reason He went to Egypt was to visit a Christian Coptic Church in Cairo founded in the 4th century, under which is a crypt-like cave in which Joseph and Mary took refuge with the infant Jesus during their flight from the persecution of king Herod. Baba was radiant with joy with this visit and referred to it as 'my dear old place'.⁴

A further indication, of Egypt's spiritual worth, is that Baba has mentioned that outside of India there are very few masts, but Egypt is an exception, having a few of these advanced souls.⁵

When in the USA forming the charter for Sufism

Continued on next page



Aerial view of Mount Everest and surrounding landscape of the Himalayas. Photo by shrimpo1967. CC BY-SA 2.0.

Reoriented, Baba was asked if there were any genuine Sufi Murshids, Baba said there were five, two in India, one in Egypt and the other two being in Iran and Algiers, these mentions I believe should satisfy our enquiry into Egypt.⁶

Japan is not so easy to spiritually classify, as it wasn't until the 6th century that the 28th Buddhist patriarch, Bodhidharma, said to be in direct unbroken lineage to Gautama Buddha, introduced into Japan, via China, the Dhyana school of Buddhism from India, revolutionising spiritual thought over the more primitive concepts of Shintoism.

Many branches of esoteric forms of Buddhism developed over the centuries in Japan with strong monastic overtones, and with intense meditational practices becoming the norm suiting the Japanese contemplative nature admirably.

But I would suggest, that Japan's real spiritual history took place in 1932, when Meher Baba was on the ship 'Empress of Japan' which called into Yokohama Japan on June 19th, staying for half a day, and then on to Kobe, staying for another half day, before continuing to China.⁷

During September 1954 Beloved Baba was holding a Sahavas program at Meherabad, which came to be known as 'the three incredible weeks', one day, during the program, Baba was brought a card which read, "If I could see you for a moment, I would be eternally grateful."

It was from Kazuteru Hitaka, a 42-year-old Japanese man from Tokyo who had heard about Baba in Japan and was visiting India.

He had been anxious to meet Baba and when invited in, deeply moved, he prostrated before Baba who told him to

rise, and then gave him His fruit juice to drink, telling him to drink it all.

Hitaka said to Baba, "I would like you to come to Japan", to which Baba replied, "After 700 years, I will come to Japan."

Hitaka had journeyed from Calcutta and had to return there for a short time, Baba invited him to return to Meherabad a few days later. Hitaka returned, on September 27th, and Baba gave him orders to keep silence from midnight to the evening of the 28th, to think of Baba only and read His messages. Baba said to Hitaka, "You may become one of my chief workers in spreading my work in Japan, but you must first absorb me and feel that you love me. I will help you, for I am in you."⁸

Greece, the last country which Baba indicated to Mani, has a long intellectual-philosophic-spiritual past, we only have to consider Plato, his teacher Socrates, and his pupil Aristotle, stretching back to the 5th century B.C., with Plato's strenuous denial of the reality of the material world and that reality was able to be accounted for through the senses.

And then moving down to the era soon after Christ, when Greece adopted the Orthodox view that Christ was Head of the Church and did not accept the Papacy, but founded their Orthodoxy on the church principles which the Apostles of Jesus Christ had laid down in the 1st century A.D. The Greek Orthodox Church has continued with a strong monastic tradition of veneration of Jesus, Mary and the saints, producing a long line of saints since then.

India was a powerful influence on Greece also, the



The Pyramids of Giza, Egypt. Photo by Ricardo Liberato. CC BY-SA 2.0.

influence of Buddhism made deep philosophic inroads into the Greek collective psyche by the 2nd century A.D., which one can see in the Ghandhara Buddha images of the period showing Graeco/Roman features and dress.

Avatar Meher Baba has given us, what I feel is a wonderful overview, of the Greek spiritual dilemma which the ancients must have experienced in their search for an enduring Reality. Zeus in Greece was considered the highest of all the Gods, but Beloved Baba informs us that in fact Zeus is commensurate with *Indra* of Hinduism, who is king of the first section of the third heaven of the third plane and known as king of the gods and of the angels.⁹

I will now quote direct from Mani's dream, "*Where Are They?*", after Baba had asked her, "Do you know where the five Perfect Masters are?", and she answered, "No Baba, I don't."

"He Said, "Come, I'll show you," and strode over to my side. I could no longer see His face. I could see only the wide sweeping movements of His beautiful hands as He displayed this tremendous drama before my eyes.

Baba said, "The Perfect Masters are in deep monasteries, which is why you cannot see them. I'll show you where they are."

He clapped His hands, a clap which seemed to cover the whole sky but made no sound. Right after the clap, there appeared a range of mighty mountains before us, showing clearly that the habitat of one of the Perfect Masters was in the Himalayas, in India.

Baba looked very pleased with the revelations He was making, and now and then cast a glance at me to see if

I was properly impressed. I was indeed much impressed as the second place revealed was Egypt, the land of the Pharaohs. There before me stood the pyramids where Baba had stood when He visited Egypt.

The seat of the third Perfect Master was a surprise for me. As Baba pointed towards the sky, I saw Mt. Fuji with its snowbound peak, and I knew that one of the Perfect Masters whom Baba spoke of as being in a 'deep monastery' was placed in Japan.

To show me the habitat of the fourth Perfect Master, Baba and I had to walk over some rough terrain till we stood before a towering wall of sheer rock. We had to bend our necks way back to be able to see some apertures in the rock which I understood were used to bring in domestic supplies. This place had a profound effect on me, and I knew without a doubt that this was Greece.

By now I was pretty much caught up in this drama of our Beloved, and was eager to know of the fifth Perfect Master.

Suddenly feeling no movement beside me, I looked up at Him as if to say, 'Where do we go from here?' and found that Baba was striding away, far ahead. Try as I did, I could not catch up with Him, and woke up."¹⁰

Given the simple and precise clarity of this dream of Mani's, is it possible to consider it was anything else but revelatory, and a precisely articulated presentiment from Avatar Meher Baba, her Beloved Lord and brother?

The iconic symbology of the first three images which Baba showed her are obvious, the Himalayas of India are like no other, just as the pyramids cannot be anywhere but

Continued on next page



Mount Fuji and Chureito pagoda with cherry blossoms, Japan. Photo by Reginald Pentinio. CC BY 2.0.

Egypt, the shape and rise and snow-capped peak of Mt. Fuji in Japan is unique, and readily recognisable, but what of her abstract description of what she saw to be in Greece, and her profound conviction it was definitely Greece where Beloved Baba showed her where the fourth Perfect Master was, even though a definite symbol of Greece never presented itself as did the other three locations?

To arrive at a definite answer, we must first analyse what Beloved Baba told Mani before taking her on her inward journey to the sites of the Perfect Masters, and how it relates to Greece.

The major statement by Baba that they were in 'deep monasteries', informs us that the Perfect Masters are secluded and closed off, and generally not available to humanity.

Mani tells us she and Baba had to walk over 'rough terrain' and then stood before a 'towering wall of sheer rock', and then Baba and she having to bend 'their necks way back' to see some 'apertures in the rock', which she understood were to 'bring in domestic supplies', she then knew 'without a doubt' that this was Greece.

The first question we must now ask is, why 'domestic supplies' and to whom were they being delivered? There can only be one answer, the supplies were being delivered to monasteries. The fissures in the sheer rock face were like channels to haul the supplies up to the monasteries on top of the rock surface, this also explains why Baba and Mani had to crane their necks to see to the top of these towering cliff-like retreats, and why they had to travel over rough

terrain to get there.

There is a place in Greece which answers Mani's dream-revelation description precisely, and which I have been to twice, it is known as *Meteora*.

Meteora, in central Greece is comprised of unique and enormous rock formations of natural pillars and hill-like rounded boulders that rise monolithically from the ground and dominate the landscape, these immense pillars of rock from the 14th century onwards, hosted twenty-four precipitously built monasteries, of which today six still survive and are habited by monks in four, and by nuns in the other two.

Until the 17th century the only means of access for monks and goods to these secluded monasteries, was either by rope-ladder, or by baskets and nets winched up fissures in the sheer rock face, in at least two of these monasteries the winching device can still be seen.

Eventually rough steps were hewn into the rock to make the monasteries more accessible, but it wasn't until the 1920s that a bridge from the nearby plateau, and with graduated steps to the six extant monasteries made them readily available to foot traffic.

In 2010, Ananda and I visited *Meteora* for several days, staying in the village of Kastraki at the foot of this towering complex of rock. We visited all six monasteries, which are open to the public during certain hours only; on one day alone, we walked for six hours over about ten kilometres, up hill and down dale amongst this astounding landscape enjoying its profound ambience, and then climbing the



The Grand Meteora monasteries, Greece. The village of Kastraki is behind the rocks on the left. Photo by Stathis Floros. CC BY-SA 4.0.

steep stone steps up to the monasteries.

The interior of the monasteries have a serenity and distinct sanctity about them, and only occasionally does one see a monk or a nun, as they tend to seclude themselves during visiting hours, but on a Sunday morning Ananda and I found ourselves inadvertently in the main sanctum of a monastery while mass was being intoned by the monks, and prostrated ourselves to Beloved Baba, after a short time a monk approached us, and in a challenging but kind way asked if we were ‘Katholikus’, meaning of the orthodox faith, I shook my head ‘no’, and he looked sternly at us, we stood our ground for a while, and slowly backed out saying to him quietly, “Avatar Meher Baba ki jail”.

One must remember, that even though one of these monasteries may contain a Perfect Master, they still essentially belong to a religious order, governed by the traditions and rituals of centuries, which one is expected to respect and observe.

I have now presented my reasons why I believe *Meteora* in Greece was the specific clue in Mani’s dream to the fourth Perfect Master indicated by Beloved Baba, and which also gives substantial credence to the locations of the first three Perfect Masters.

As Mani mentions, in her dream she could not elicit information on the fifth Perfect Master from Baba, from which naturally arises the question, ‘why?’

The answer may possibly lay in the fact that Avatar Meher Baba in this Advent has, according to Mani’s dream, dispersed the five Perfect Masters across the face of

the earth to bring about a fresh dispensation of spiritual revitalisation to all nations.

It would seem till now, that India was the only repository where the Perfect Masters could exercise their divine duties toward the Avatar, but in this new spiritual epoch which Avatar Meher Baba has brought about for a ‘new humanity’, He has travelled extensively leaving His Divine Imprint in many countries.

Two countries, previously untouched by the enormous weight of religion and spiritual consolidations of ages, are the relatively spiritually youthful USA and Australia, and it is only in these two countries that Avatar Meher Baba has established, for the first time outside of India, two Spiritual Centres in His name, namely Myrtle Beach Spiritual Centre in the USA and Avatar’s Abode in Australia.

To conjecture, that either of these two places or countries could be the recipient of His Grace, by having the fifth Perfect Master in either of them, to my mind could be a distinct possibility, and a sound reason as to why He didn’t reveal this to His dear sister Mani!

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2. Ibid p28
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Fundamental values

Meher Baba

In the world of quiet speculation, as well as in the world of surging political activity or individual striving, men are desperately trying to remedy the many ills to which humanity is heir.

All our creeds and faiths, all our parties and “isms” are so many practical solutions offered towards this purpose. But, though good in their intention and starting point, they often create confusion instead of clarity because, they lose sight of the inescapable truth that all external organisation is doomed to failure unless it is implemented by inner spiritual transformation of the individual.

I am therefore not concerned with parties, creeds or “isms” but only with those fundamental values, which must be wholeheartedly and universally accepted, if humanity is to be truly saved.

*GLIMPSES OF THE GOD-MAN,
Vol 3, p. 271, Bal Natu 1982. © AMBPPCT.*



I am also your friend

Meher Baba

“I wonder if you understand how fortunate you are to have Me with you in this way? Think of those people at the darshan on the 12th, who fought to have a chance to touch My feet for just a fleeting second; who wanted so earnestly to receive prasad... which means ‘a gift of God’.

They are the ones who really love Me. The others, the social people, the political people, the intellectual people, they make their speeches and they leave the platform”

“In Andhra for fifteen days we had two or three darshan programs every day and we had thousands of people coming from surrounding villages in bullock-carts and on foot. They would not understand your being here with Me this way.

“Remember always that I am your Master, but that I am also your friend; That I am one with you, **and one of you**. Therefore you can be completely natural with Me, and tell Me frankly whatever is in your mind.

When I am with sadhus, no one is more serious than I am. When I am with children, I play marbles with them. *I am in all, and one with all*. That is why I can automatically adapt Myself to all kinds of people, and meet them where they are.”

THREE INCREDIBLE WEEKS WITH MEHER BABA, September 11th-30th, 1954. By Charles Purdom and Malcolm Schloss. Originally Printed in Awakener Magazine 1954-1955. Published 1979 by Sheriar Press and Circle Productions 1979 p.p. 26-27 © Copyright Avatar Meher Baba Perpetual Public Charitable Trust

MAYA SPEAKS

I tell you lies
You'd never guess
I tell you lies.
Sublime effects and sleight of
hand
Scene-shifts, colours, light and
sound
What magnificence
What versatility
What's not to love?
All lies! Intricate, indecipherable,
inspiring, amazing and
hypnotic.
You are transfixed,
How could you not be?
Don't turn away.
Happiness is the commodity
Plenty in store
I make consumers of you all.
Come again, come back for more
It awaits you, the marble palace,
the market place,
The magic gardens too
And many strange, exotic rendez
vous,
Invitingly, irresistibly and
beautifully Real.
Take, touch, feel the quality
Enjoy possession of these goods
All yours for the asking
No, don't turn away now, take
some more
And come again
It's always here,
I'm always here to welcome you
And serve your every wish, your
greatest need
And your slightest fancy,
Made available immediately
In response to your desire.
I tell you lies, such perfect lies,
You'd never guess ...
Don't look elsewhere.

Sarah McNeill

My dear Eruch and all dear Ones

Francis Brabazon

Transcript of 4 page handwritten letter (N.B. "Typed and sent" has been added in pencil at the top of the letter)

Avatar's Abode

June 20 / 69

My dear Eruch and all dear Ones,

Please excuse me for being so slow in confirming my cable of arrival and in sending you some news.

I arrived at Sydney airport with no Billy-boy to meet me – Air India had not telexed their Sydney office to advise him. Fortunately, I had some time ago, made a note of Bill's phone number, but was wondering how to phone him and keep my eye on my luggage. Then a man came up to me and asked could he help me. And 15 minutes later along came Bill in his big family car (Japanese station-waggon) and took me to Meher House, skirting the city on the way.

Beloved Baba must have inspired the new architects and engineers – Sydney is now a city of tall, graceful buildings with a network of fly-overs and under-passes along which the traffic moves swiftly and silently. Incidentally, I don't think I will renew my driver's licence – the traffic flow is much faster than when I was here before and my reflexes are much slower.

Joannie gave me a loving welcome to Meher House and (like a true Aussie) put the kettle on for a cup of tea. She and Bill have made a wonderful job on the interior of the house – rich and quiet and warm reflecting beloved Baba's love. Bill did not go back to the office and we talked till lunch time, till afternoon tea (when Jenny came home from school and gave me a big hug) till dinner, till bedtime.

During the evening I spent an hour with Jenny on the piano and was rather dismayed to find that she has not been taught anything of the fundamentals of music. Dear Michael, when he returned from school was full of talk about the Great Darshan and was very pleased to get Uncle Pendu's message and advice. Noticing my lack of clothes he gave me a new sweater as a present. The next day was his birthday so I wrote a new song for him in a tune he likes.

The next day again, Bill and I flew to Brisbane (700 miles) where dear John met us in his new car (also Japanese) and he also presented me with a new sweater. We covered the 70 miles to Avatar's Abode in an hour and 20 minutes, and were given a Baba welcome by Joan (who put the kettle on) and Robert and Lorna and Radha and Reg. And one, Beryl Giddens, who was staying with John and Joan. The tree growth in the Place has been truly fabulous. There are trees where none were before – a whole forest of young pines – and the trees that were are double their height. Tree-ly speaking, Avatar's Abode is flourishing.

Continued on next page



L to R: Joanna Bruford in front, John Bruford behind, Reg Paffle, Joan Bruford, Rada Rouse, Lorna Rouse, Robert Rouse, Ken (Lorna's brother), on the front steps of the Bruford residence, Avatar's Abode, 3 September 1960. Photo taken by Bernard Bruford.

It is also beginning to flourish with a crop of new young Baba lovers; a quite small crop admittedly, but as beloved Baba continues stirring His Stir it will become a big crop. (Mani probably would have written a “bumper harvest”. Right?) Jim and Joy Sherwood, Maria Gray, George McGahey, John Martin and his wife, Philippa, and a couple more came up from Brisbane for the Anniversary weekend. On the public night (Saturday) two local young couples came and also a couple of young chaps hitch-hiking north. There were also two local middle aged “conservative” couples.

We welcomed them with songs. Then Bill spoke about beloved Baba’s stay here and the purpose of the Place, and I gave a 20 minute address. Then there were more songs; and remembrance of the Darshan Days, with Bill generally taking the lead. We hoped that the last Group June 3-10 was keeping up the joyful spirit of the previous Groups.

Well, all you dear ones at Guruprasad will be packed for your return to Meherazad by the time this reaches you.

Sorry Eruch, but I’ve got in first “exchanging my pen for a spade” and an ax and cross-cut saw. You may remember the open shed we had put up for a Meeting Hall for beloved Baba’s Visit, but had to abandon because the rain beat in. Reg and I have laid concrete “footings” on which to carry galvanized iron sheeting to enclose the place. As a second job (while the concrete was setting) we have cut posts and rails for a small stock-yard. We have two cows and one calf and another is expected any day. Our next job after these two are finished will be fencing, after which we intend to increase the herd.

The weather has been pleasantly warm with cold nights, but now a fine rain is falling. Outside a Kookaburra, the bird which laughs at sunrise and sunsets, is sitting on a post enjoying it and in the distance a couple of magpies are warbling. Lorna feeds two butcher birds in flight as they swoop low past her window. There are two tom-cats which play together and never fight. Someone remarked, “At least they (the cats) are living as Baba would have us live”.

With much love from all here,

Francis

I nearly forgot to mention Joan’s garden. It is most beautiful, and she does nearly all the work in it herself. I expect to go to Meher House early next month and stay until some time after the Anniversary there: August 10-14. The tape processing is proceeding and a copy will be sent to Mani in due course. Please tell Goher that I will attend the matter of “dough” when I go to town.

F.

Remembering Delia **continued from page 11**

own loving presence. One of her first instructions was for all those present to start the afternoon’s activities with a loud rendition of Baba’s name sung to the tune of ‘Frere Jacques’! Somehow, we all managed to fit the words to the tune!

The upstairs room at Eel Pie studio (known as Oceanic) was spacious and full of light. Doors opened out onto a roof-top area overlooking the river where a small bridge reached over to Richmond Park. It was a beautiful location. For me and my daughter, the walk from the station to the studio was a fifteen-minute leisurely stroll which led across the grassy perimeter of the park to a tow path. Following the river, the path went under a railway bridge and on beneath trees to the small pedestrian bridge near Oceanic. Baba made everything very pleasant.

Children participating in the Saturday afternoon gathering were quick to catch on. All the games were given a Baba-context. Mike Morice I remember was fired up with the idea of having the kids create a special board-game, along the lines of ‘Snakes & Ladders’ but based on the journey of the soul as explained by Baba! Cardboard, paper, crayons, scissors were all provided. Looking back now, I wonder if anything ever came of that – surely an idea worth developing! The group’s activities continued for a while but as the venue became more widely known, Saturday afternoons at Oceanic were busier with more regular Baba celebrations and official fund-raising events. I have a vivid memory of Delia introducing a visitor from India, Kusum Sandhu. Kusum had her own group of singers in Delhi and was very interested to sit in on the children’s sing-song which made Delia relaxed and happy. A precious moment for us all.

Meher Baba Says



“Repeat my name constantly and awaken me in your hearts so that you become awake for all time.”

“I want every lover of mine to repeat my name with every breath. The repetition should be continuous and such that even in sound sleep it should continue like your breathing. Then there is some possibility of experiencing a glimpse of me.”

Meher Baba Australia

Steven Hein, MBA Editor

What is ‘Meher Baba Australia’?

It is a volunteer run, non-profit initiative. We publish a newsletter that aims to connect the community of lovers of Beloved Meher Baba.

Interested in assisting with production? Contact Steven Hein, Editor. stevenhein101@gmail.com.

Frequency - four issues a year

March, June, September, December.

Cost?

There is no charge as such. We do however ask readers to subscribe, to actively choose to receive / keep receiving the journal.

How do we cover printing & postage costs?

We welcome donations. Occasionally, if costs go up and funds run low, we even invite and encourage donations.

Actual costs of a hardcopy issue?

To produce, print and post within Australia, each issue costs us approx \$7.50 AU. For the 4 issues that's about \$30 AU a year. International postage costs a bit more.

The digital email PDF version?

We also have the low cost PDF version we distribute by email. Many of our subscribers choose to subscribe to receive both email and hardcopy versions.

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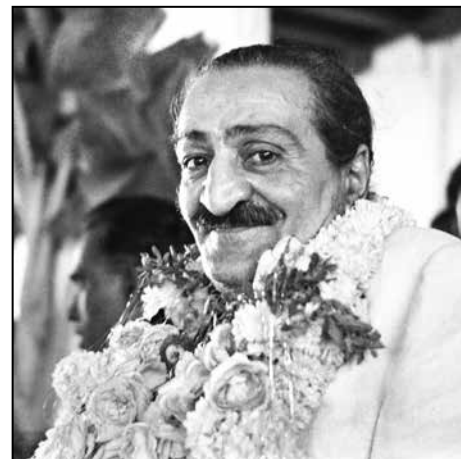
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Meher Baba Australia

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Photos to be minimum of 1MB, preferably over 2MB.
PLEASE NOTE that the editor reserves the right to edit all published articles for length and content prior to publication.

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Cover This Issue: Meher Baba, circa late 1950s, probably in Poona, India. Photographer not known. Avatar's Abode Archive.

Sydney Meher Baba Community

(Please note that all dates and details below are subject to change, however all effort will be made to ensure late-breaking updates are provided by email and/or Facebook)

Sydney Anniversary

Special Guests

Wendy Haynes Connor and Buz Connor.

Dates

Friday - Monday August 9, 10, 11, 12, 2019.
Details will be provided via email and Facebook.

Please email Jenny Keating if you want to be added to our email list jkeating@tpg.com.au

Monthly Meetings at Meher House are held on the last Sunday of every month. Prayers and Arti, open discussions about Baba, occasional guests, vegetarian potluck meal. Contact; Ross Keating M: 0416 883 373
E: ross-keating@hotmail.com.

Monday Night Discourse Meetings are held on most Mondays at the home of Kris Wyld. Occasional special guests. Contact Kris Wyld M 0407 481 323.

The Meher Baba Sydney community is always searching for volunteers to serve in Baba's cause and love and in a variety of ways. For further information contact Kevin Mossberger on 0412 559 402.

Online links and contacts:

Meher House meherbabasydney.com/meher-house.html
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What's on at Avatar's Abode

61st Anniversary 2019

Friday June 7 – 11:30AM to

Monday June 10 – 2:30PM.

Special Guests

Adrienne Shamszad from the USA, a singer-songwriter whose inspired music for her Beloved is both personal and delightful.

Ward Parks, one of the foremost scholars on the works of Avatar Meher Baba, will share his insights into Meher Baba's words.

Dr. Ajit Soni, presently a practicing M.D. from Navsari, India, who was fortunate to have had Meher Baba's Darshan at the age of 8 at Guruprasad in 1964.

Keep up to date with 61st Anniversary program and news at the Avatar's Abode website avatarsabode.com.au

Monday Mornings Meeting

10–11.30am in the Meeting Hall. For information: Lorraine 5446 8005 or babakalyan55@gmail.com. All are welcome to join with stories, readings, poetry, songs and a cuppa.

Tuesday Mornings You are most welcome to join us in the Bookstore, 11am–12pm. Geoff Gunther (07) 5442 2467.

Wednesdays Reading Group 4.30pm – 5.30pm in the Bookstore. Contact Wilma Pearson phone 0404 775 789 or (07) 5473 9947, email wilmapearson@aapt.net.au.

Friday Mornings This study group is taking a break until further notice.

Saturday Film Nights on the first Saturday of the month at 7pm. Contact: David and Glenda Hobson on (07) 5442 1220 or Jim Frisino on 0417 112 668.

Melbourne Meetings

The best contact for Melbourne activities and meetings is Jasmine Ilas. Give her a call on her mobile 0438 300 193. Please leave voicemail if she can't take your call.

Meher Baba Gatherings in WA

Phone Paul Morris 0429 310 169 or Julie Lee-Morris 0428 250 294.

New Zealand

Travellers to New Zealand who want to meet Baba lovers there are invited to contact Jill Hobbs, 19 Brassey Rd, Wanganui. Ph: (06) 347 2974, Email: jillhobbs1954@gmail.com

Meher Baba Australia is a non-profit publication independent of the Avatar's Abode Trust. The views expressed in articles in *Meher Baba Australia* are solely those of the authors.