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SUBJECT

Meherabad Diary

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JANUARY - 1929

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Meherabad Diary

JANUARY 1929

Tuesday, 19 January 1929
 "Last year, this day, the boys cried," }
 this year " " " " " " " " " " }

This morning, Pulu arrived from Bombay, sad & disappointed
 - The relics of all hopes, shattered. All

Closing of Special Meeting of the private members was called,
 and the discussion was carried - as to what to do in future.
 The situation as at present was Very Critical. It demanded
 an immediate solution, otherwise the whole thing - Ashram or
 in ^{had}abad, to be closed. For, as it was, we were already in
 debt of @ Rs. —. How long should we burden Mr. Sattha?
 He actually wanted 12- to-day, for immediate payment: Besides,
 there were other items to be paid off; Suppose, we could ever
 manage all that - by disposing of the hi-shells here, of the huts -
 after dismantling etc. But we must close the Ashram at
 once. Otherwise, the Ached daily running expenses, would be
 so much more a burden, & what Shree said, is not advisable &
 I did not like - Better to leave here with @ 5-6 Mandolins.

Leaving
 INDIA? Then if in Ashram, will it be closed, where should we
 go? at least Not in India; after closing the Ashram. Must go
Out of India. - Baghdad suggested, the various questions
 discussed - then dropped, the question of Closing taking a
 different turn

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Ho! Ho! Halt!

Why should we close, at all? What is it that necessitates its closing? Let us remove that cause, if we can. It was the question of the running expense. Buwa Sahab suggested 500 a month would be sufficient, & undertook to manage that, if the No. of the Maudeli boys be reduced to c 40 boys, 25 Maudeli - contract given. The Ashrafi was there kept, but with

The reduction of Maudeli boys

Buwa Sahab was asked to manage all this affair - to sort out Names of those quite necessary, willing working, & willing to stay, or to ask other less useful Maudeli to "pack off" families, to march off. - 7

What a beginning on the New Year's day!
God forbid, the 364 days to follow would not be so gloomy!

Meetings & discussions bet. Baba & Buwa Sahab, & B. Sahab & Kashi & others, were frequent. The "Sweeping off" work started. It was indeed an unpleasant task for Buwa Sahab to ask the Maudeli or boys to go. - He was in search of some sound, solid, substantial reasons. What should I say
(or excuse.)

to all, what was on Shaul's I gave & was the Main puzzle now running in his Mind. With his hands on the big mustaches, eyes narrowed (ajar), - has by special pose - he tried to think, & think Much, but all in vain!

A Surprise — Chalsey!

In the evening, I went to Shree, with a ^{proposition} new, to Speak to Shree for a Solution of this ever-turbulent problem (Cunning, expense) which was running throughout the day in his Mind, but to his utmost Surprise, & extreme joy, Shree ^{calmly} replied - "Don't worry, Child, all will be well! Chalsey, Chalsey! These last words were full of Meaning & Significance (as they were full of mystery too). Why, only this Morning, all was in a fix, Situation Critical, all to be observed — and then now, as if Nothing had happened, Shree said so calmly "Chalsey" — Well that would be better indeed, but how? — Well, we have now not to worry. If He says "Chalsey", then "Chalsey" of Must. "But, boy, don't think of moving from here" — that was a sweet way of patting it.

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@ 500 - a month - easily managed

If it was a quarter of @ 500, it could be easily managed.
He could manage for other arrears etc upto Nov. but
henceforth, this figure - must work.

For Baba's sake -

Poor A! what a sacrifice did he give for Baba? The
hospital bill, and the passage & other expenses for Mr. Starr
& Co. came to somewhere @ 40 - & in this time of 350.

This would have served for 6 months' standing expense.
but what to do? They were to be packed off, and

earlier the better! - It was such a relief to see -
to see them aboard a steamer, all well, & pleased. That was
his wish, & for the Master's wish, @ - could do much.
& He did it actually, even after terrible struggles. Bravo!

"the Key?" or Wednesday, 2nd January 1929

The Automatic walk off -

Yesterday, Bawa Sahab was in ^a fix - rather confused, as to what excuse he should put forth for the Maudslayi boys to go away, and here was the result!

Rashed, one of the eldest boys, who had been thinking of going home, and had already urged Bawa Sahab to write to his father etc. to-day seemed to be disinclined to stay, & himself wanted to go away. Not only did he alone prepare to go away, but his remarks, ^{during the last few days amongst boys} seem to have passed the ears of some of the boys, who quite contrary to all expectation, took it into their heads to go away. The first victim seemed to be Reffeyuddin, who quite strangely, got up from meditation, and requested for a permission to go away. Besides, he asked in such a way as to indicate a Crack - (rather mad) mind & some concern was felt re: the boy - as to whether he was pure actual mad - but it was eventually discussed & decided all would be well. Nusruddin - poor boy had to go too, though he had much inclination ^{to stay} & actually shed tears! These 3 were therefore sent by the afternoon 1 o'clock train - to Chalisgon, Vullbh - had already gone this morning to Wagar - Sayuj
 2102 5222 out

They would not care to think of the Actual Situation here - Shree's absolute aloofness from its workings, either in writing or pecuniary management, except his contribution of a Hindi lecture, every issue. To make matters quite clear, as also to enable his father to write freely, - thus to avoid any troubles arising out of "Yes & No" in future, Shree thought of a splendid plan - to give a New additional explanation, making it quite clear to the public that Shree had Nothing absolutely to do with it except contributing a lecture every issue. At these draughts on Vernacular was Made out, making everything clear - & sent to Mr. Dastur for getting it translated into English - but Oh! - The row that followed! "It is absurd - it is ridiculous - it can't come ^{now} - & so on & so on" were the better words Shree had to hear - & had to hold back and leave it!

But afterwards, fortunately, the hot brains being cooled down, it was typed - at first, a cold, passage just to persuade Shree, who disapproved saying "leave it - do as you please - No necessity" - and then after some time, another better & clear passage was written & typed out, & Nishum was specially sent to Hajer to arrange for that - if possible on a separate Coloured slip.

Letter Circular - Bawa Sahib, all-in-all (like Bada Sahib)

According to the discussions, and arrangements previously made, Bawa Sahib was henceforth considered to be the "all-in-all" (like Bada Sahib) with all administrative powers, and a Circular to that effect was taken round.

The "Chalti" Hava (vacation) - was every day holding new victims, for being packed off. Certain members' families had to go - only selected Maudali boys to remain.

The "sweeping off" work was carried on with all vigour - those who had to go, passing off one by one.

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Thursday, 3rd January 1929

A Most-Memorable Day — This day will be considered in In'abad a most Memorable day — for to-day happened an incident that was never expected — It was a bolt from the blue.

Chhota Baba — the pet of all — the fortunate recipient of Shree's divine Grace & Blessings, left here. It was a surprise to all — none was prepared to hear that this "Chelke hava" would ^{be} captured in its clasp, such a "dear ^{soul} of all" was never, never expected. Of course, Chhota Baba had been privately speaking of his intention to go to ^{some} ~~place~~, but that was taken quite lightly, by all. None took it so seriously. But the decision was made. Dear Chhota Baba was to go — and alas! he did go! What a pity? One dear, darling face, so charmingly beautiful at times, with the flow of the silken tresses, with a gray "Soya" on-mov'ng here & there — will be so sadly missed! Ever thank-ful, endowed with the most enviable Grace & Blessings of Shree — Much higher in state than ordinary mortals — this dear being had had some charming influence round him — created by his lovely model of a face, his very pleasing, mild manners with

all, and above all his typical lovely smile, that had a charm of its own! Oh - that there could be more - What a luck!

And Chota Baba had to go by the 5 O'clock train. Arrangements were made by the Ashram School authorities, to give our beloved Chota Baba a hearty send off, worthy of him, and accordingly, the School was closed at 3-30, and with the refinement of the Ashram boys, staff, Ch. Baba was carried to Diabad, where all gathered together in the hall - to give a hearty send off to Chota Baba - R. Sahab, the "Special Surgeon in waiting" of Chota Baba, explained in Persian, the purpose of Ch. Baba's going - & had, on behalf of the Diabad, Ashram, A.S.S. wished Ch. Baba, a happy journey - or a hearty send off, he couldn't speak! The event had an effect on him which prevented all outburst in words. - With a loving embrace to one and all - the Ashram kiddies, staff, & the Mandala members, Ch. Baba had a touching farewell to all! It was an event that dumbfounded all - a scene of sobbing

expression of feelings! — Time could be had for any
 The event was so sudden that no preparations for "Something
 special" to be done. There was not even a garland! Flowers,
 virelets, & bouquets were brought indeed by Manaji presented
 at the last Moment, but they were too inadequate for the
 occasion! Perhaps, at the last moment brought a New si va,
 put that in his feet, and Penu, too, so generously presented
 Chota Baba, with his New Coch, for use for a while! The
 "Daya" of Chota Baba was much worn out & gone! Poor
 dear Smt! didn't care for even proper clothings & belongings!
 Mr. Saleb accompanied Ch. Baba to Station a Bicycle,
 Mr. Borker, Gay in the Same Tonga!

This evening, The ashram boys, & staff, & the Maiddi, all
 gathered together on the hill-side of the railway lines, to
 give a last, parting salutation, to Ch. Baba, when the train
 passed! ^{impressive} It was indeed a very warm and most
 sympathetic salutation that was given to the worthy
 'recipient of their grace' — which ^{just have} surprised the inmates
 of the train even! — the first incident of its kind, since the

establishment of the New L'abad.

The School again ???

This Morning - there was a discussion re: Keeping of the School or otherwise, in view of the fact that 3-4 Teachers were still going. Could the School be managed with only 5-6 Teachers that were to stay. After some discussion, it was decided that it could be managed, with some modifications in the present system order.

At @ 7 P.M. - near dispensary, there was a discussion, which started from Ranjoo's telegram Affair to Muzzul Hag. - and the trend of talk took the discussion in a broad general left. For, Mag. Hag. who had seemed to have retired from all political activities (formerly a prominent figure, & a president of the Muslim League) due probably to his inclination for the Spiritual path. If he comes, Shree and explain - put him in the path, and with his great influence, he can do great service etc. - Let us see - The News of the world abroad were the News of quarrels & dissensions amongst the greatest leaders etc. - for which, Shree abruptly turned the topics and remarked forcibly -

"The time for a World Upheavel is Near at hand. I shall speak all to the world, and make my voice heard, & felt throughout the world. —

But then, this Abraham etc. shall have to be closed. Let us see, It's a pity while Europe & America are showing signs of inclination towards spiritualism, while people of the Upper North (North) in Poland are forming a Committee in Shree's Name, & ask for Shree's guidance, help & instruction, the people here at hand have been trying to ridicule Shree! Pity! Turkey (an Eastern country) is trying to westernize, when westerners are trying to easternize themselves in certain respects! What a difference!

Shree, in "leher", tonight, called Sidhu for Lurgui, while
 gramophone was going on in the Ashraam, and everything was
 going in quite O.K. when the devil crept in — there abruptly
 sent Katch (Dona) to see what R. Sahab & his boys, who
 were taking Night class in school, were doing, whether they
 were sleeping etc. But — there was some other Cat out of
 the bag. Lohaji & Kalyan were caught trying to talk
 with R. Sahab — with Leps — against Shree's orders to speak with
 anybody. Both were severely reprimanded — R. Sahab too
 was taken to task — & in such distressed mood, there left
 the hall — with orders to Bawa Sahab, "Not to allow any of the
 boys near Shree, in these precincts" etc. — This was a
 peculiar incident — that while all were in full glee, enjoying
 gramophone & songs etc. Shree all of a sudden asked Katch to go
 & see the Class at school & report etc. — It proves beyond
 doubt, that He is young all! It only requires a thought, a
 flash, perhaps, and all is clear as daylight!

Friday - 4th Jan'y 1908

There was Nothing particular, except the "Sweeping off" of those members who had to go.

Amongst Next visitors, there was one Mr. —, who came with his father's brother. He was said to be an Engineer in the distt.

L. Arayaon!

At 7 pm, Shree & Mandale, being specially invited at Arayaon, to attend the Marriage Ceremony of the Sister of Bapu Jawardhan (an old student of H.H.S.), a daughter of Shree, went to Arayaon, in a procession. A welcome party came to receive Shree just half the way up the hill, and with the hypocritical Indian music & drums etc. and amidst clouds of dust, the procession was taken round the village & entered the ^{village} temple where the marriage ceremony was performed. The bride & the bridegroom had Shree's brother - with the party was taken to Bapu Taleha's Vada, where tea was served - to all! - The party returned at 9 pm, in procession up to this (hill) side of the Potogie.

Saturday - 5th January 1929

Nothing particular till afternoon, except private meetings - as to how to pull on & how long!

A Surprise

The beloved Cheta Baba, who had only just left @ 2 days back, appeared, walking along the road from Station to Aranyam, and Patti-Idi who were coming from Wasse, pecked him up, & brought here - ! It was no small surprise for all.

Padri - who had been to Bembay to arrange for the passage etc of
Mr. Starr & Party, arrived ^{this afternoon}. He had been here, at Bayas
 yesterday, with the Mhau Sahab's family, who had been to Stoby, &
 who returned yesterday - by Motor

So - at last the Starr & party - had left Saha by the
Azguilla - on the 2nd January. - It was no small relief to
 all - His recent behaviour - with Adi & others - even with
Shice was far from _____. It was a great sacrifice
 on part of Adi for Saha's sake to get them overboard. Su
Saha too did no little service. - A petty mistake by h
 in misjudging him, cost us @ 6 to 7. - She wanted
 help, & these people started off with the money entrusted to them
 for buy. It was a clear case of _____ however, when
 they came from such a distance - it would be unfair to ill-
 treat them, ^{coldly or indifferently} quite unworthy of their darbar. So, except
 was tolerated - to the last. The patience kept by Adi & the
 was really marvellous. They all had to suffer one way or
 the other - - were occupied with in pl hole and are becom
ing wor se. but all these tortures were - put up very
 creditably. Their sacrifice was admirable.

The Meher Message - major series forth (meher) issued
arrived at Poona today. See

It was given to understand to Mr. Padi, by some local gentlemen near Mumbai, where they had stopped their car for some repairs etc. that a Motor Car, in which Prof. Kapach & his family & others were proceeding to Panaji before yesterday (2nd), met with some accident near here - and the ladies being injured, they were taken to hospital at Thana. (vide Janu - News attached)

Prof. Kapach's Name suddenly gave a thought to Savarkar Padi - that it might perhaps be the same party, who were reported to be going to Nagar (to Baba) - with Col. Irani - viz. - others, & it was quite quite natural that if they wished to create some disturbance here - during their visit - (or any such evil intention) - this was a deserved punishment - rather a warning, which if they cared to take up, would do them much good. Let us see what transpires. These are all conjectures!

