

WHO IS MEHER BABA ?

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Meher Baba, also called The Awakener, (original name Merwan Sheriar Irani) (B. Feb. 25, 1894, Poona, India—d. Jan. 31, 1969, (Ahmednagar)), spiritual master in western India with a sizable following both in that country and abroad. Beginning July 10, 1925, he observed silence for the last 44 years of his life, communicating with his disciples at first through an alphabet board but increasingly with gestures. He observed that he had come "not to teach but to awaken," adding, that "things that are real are given and received in silence."

He was born into a Zoroastrian family of Persian descent. He was educated in Poona and attended Deccan College there, where at the age of 19 he met an aged Muslim woman, Hazrat Babajan, the first of five "perfect masters" (spiritually enlightened or "God-realised" persons) who over the next seven years helped him find his own spiritual identity. That identity, Meher Baba said, was as the Avatar of this age, interpreting that Vedantic term to mean the periodic incarnation of God in human form. He placed himself among such universal religious figures as Zoroaster, Rama, Krishna, Gautama Buddha, Jesus, and Muhammad. "I am the same Ancient One come again into your midst," he told his disciples, declaring that all major religions are revelations of "that One Reality which is God."

Meher Baba's cosmology may be summarized as follows: the goal of all life is to realize the absolute oneness of God, from whom the universe emanated as a result of the whim of unconscious divinity to know itself as conscious divinity. In pursuit of consciousness, evolution of forms occurs in seven stages: stone or metal, vegetable, worm, fish, bird, animal, and human. Every individualized soul must experience all these forms in

order to gain full consciousness. Once consciousness is attained, the burden of impressions accumulated in these forms prevents the soul from realizing its identity with God. To gain this realization the individual must traverse an inward spiritual path, eliminating all false impressions of individuality and eventuating in the knowledge of the "real self" as God.

Meher Baba saw his work as awakening the world through love to a new consciousness of the oneness of all life. To that end he lived a life of love and service which included extensive work with the poor, the physically and mentally ill, and many others, including such tasks as feeding the poor, cleaning the latrines of untouchables, and bathing lepers. He saw a responsibility to give spiritual help to "advanced souls," and travelled throughout the Indian subcontinent to find such persons.

These outward activities Meher Baba saw as indications of the inner transformation of consciousness that he came to give the world. He established and later dismantled many institutions of service, which he compared to scaffolding temporarily erected to construct a building that really was within the human heart. He said that a "new humanity" would emerge from his life's work, and that he would bring about an unprecedented release of divine love in the world.

Between 1931 and 1958 he made many visits to the United States and Europe, one such trip in 1952 establishing the Meher Spritual Center in Myrtle Beach, S.C. A similar centre, Avatar's Abode, was created at Woomby, Queensland, Australia in 1958.

From the mid-1960's Meher Baba was in seclusion, and during that period several U.S. drug experimenters were drawn to him in a quest for spiritual truth. Through them his

admonitions against the nonmedical use of psychedelic and other drugs came to the attention of the news media in the U.S. and the West. He warned young people explicitly that "drugs are harmful mentally, physically, and spiritually", trying to draw them away from drugs and toward a spiritual life.

Meher Baba never sought to form a sect or proclaim a dogma; he attracted and welcomed followers of many faiths and every social class with a message emphasizing love and compassion, the elimination of the selfish ego, and the potential of realizing God within themselves. Although his equation of the several manifestations of God was syncretic, he won many followers from sects and denominations that repudiated syncretism, and encouraged those followers to be strong in their original faiths. After his death his followers heeded his wish that they not form an organization, but continued to gather informally and often to discuss and read his works and express through music, poetry, dance, or drama their reflections on his life. His tomb at Meherabad, near Ahmednagar, has become a place of pilgrimage for his followers throughout the world. His books include "**Discourses**" (5 vol., 1938-43; the earliest dictated on an alphabet board, the others by gesture), "**God Speaks**" : The Theme of Creation and Its Purposes (1955), and "**The Everything and the Nothing**" (1963).

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DICTATED BY AMATAR MEHER BABA - 1953

The Master's Prayer

O Parvardigar, the Preserver and Protector of All, you are without Beginning and without End,

Non-dual, beyond comparison; and none can measure You.

You are without colour, without expression, without form, and without attributes.

You are unlimited and unfathomable, beyond imagination and conception, eternal and imperishable.

You are indivisible; and none can see You but with eyes Divine.

You always were, You always are, and You always will be;

You are everywhere, You are in everything; and You are also beyond everywhere and beyond everything.

You are in the firmament and in the depths; You are manifest and unmanifest; on all planes and beyond all planes.

You are in the three worlds, and also beyond the three worlds;

You are imperceptible and independent.

You are the Creator, the Lord of Lords, the Knower of all minds and hearts; You are Omnipotent and Omnipresent.

You are knowledge Infinite, Power Infinite, and Bliss Infinite.

You are the Ocean of Knowledge, All Knowing, Infinitely Knowing; the Knower of the past, the present and the future; and You are Knowledge itself.

You are All-merciful and eternally benevolent.

You are the Soul of Souls, the one with infinite attributes;

You are the Trinity of Truth, Knowledge and Bliss;

You are the Source of Truth; the Ocean of Love.,

You are the Ancient One, the HIGHEST OF THE HIGH.

You are Prabhu and Parameshwar; You are the Beyond

God, and the Beyond-Beyond-God also; You are Parabrahma.

Paramatma; Allah; Elahi; Yezdan; Ahuramazda;

God Almighty; and God the Beloved.

You are named Ezad; i.e. the Only One worthy of worship.

The Prayer of Repentance

"OM Parabrahma - Paramatma"

"Ya-Yazdan", "La ilaha illallah".

"O God, Father in Heaven"!

We repent, O God most merciful, for all our sins, for every thought that was false or unjust or unclean, for every word spoken, that ought not to have been spoken, and for every deed done that ought not to have been done.

We repent for every deed and word and thought inspired by selfishness, and for every deed and word and thought inspired by hatred.

We repent most specially for every lustful thought, and for every lustful action, for every lie, for all hypocrisy, for every promise given but not fulfilled and for all slander and backbiting.

Most specially also we repent for every action that has brought ruin to others, for every word and deed that has given others pain, and for every wish that pain should befall others.

In Your unbounded mercy, we ask You to forgive us, O God, for all these sins committed by us, and to forgive us for our constant failures to think and speak and act according to Your Will.

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MEHER BABA INFORMATION

1. **For information and literature :**

**AVATAR MEHER BABA TRUST OFFICE,
King's Road,
AHMEDNAGAR 414 001.**

2. **To visit Avatar Meher Baba's Samadhi, at
"MEHERABAD",
Proceed to Ahmednagar, and turn right on reaching
Nagar Railway bridge. Proceed about 5 Kms upto
ARANGAON Village.**

परवरदिगार प्रार्थना

हे परवरदिगार सबके राखनहार और सबकी रक्षा करनेवाले, तुम्हारा कोई आदि नहीं है; और न तुम्हारा कोई अन्त है, तुम अद्वैत हो, तुम तुलना से परे हो, और तुम्हारा पार कोई नहीं पा सकता है। तुम्हारा कोई रंग और कोई रूप नहीं है, तुम आविर्भाव से रहित हो, और तुम निर्गुण हो। तुम अपार हो और अगाध हो, कल्पना और धारणा से परे हो, शाश्वत और अनश्वर हो। तुम अखण्डनीय हो; और दिव्य नेत्रों के सिवाय और किसी भी प्रकार से तुम्हें कोई नहीं देख सकता है। तुम्हारा अस्तित्व सदैव था, तुम सदैव रहते हो, और तुम सदैव रहोगे। तुम सर्वत्र हो, तुम हर वस्तु में हो; और तुम हर जगह से परे तथा हर वस्तु से परे भी हो। तुम आकाश मण्डलमें हो और महासागरकी गहराइयों में हो; तुम व्यक्त हो और अव्यक्त हो; तुम सब लोकों पर हो, और समस्त लोकों से परे हो। तुम तीनों जगत्तों में हो, और तीनों जगत्तों से परे भी हो। तुम अगोचर हो और स्वतंत्र हो। तुम सृष्टि के रचनेवाले हो, स्वामियों के स्वामी हो, समस्त मनो और हृदयों के ज्ञाता हो; तुम सर्वशक्तिमान हो, और सर्वव्यापी हो। तुम अनन्त ज्ञान हो, अनन्त शक्ति हो, और अनन्त आनन्द हो। तुम ज्ञान के महासागर हो, सर्वज्ञ हो, अनन्त ज्ञान रखनेवाले हो; तुम भूत वर्तमान और भविष्य के ज्ञाता हो; और तुम स्वयम् ज्ञान हो। तुम पूर्ण दयामय हो, और सतत् परहितकारी हो। तुम आत्माओं की आत्मा हो और अनन्त गुणों से सम्पन्न एक परमात्मा हो। तुम सत्य, ज्ञान और परमानन्द की त्रिमूर्ति हो। तुम सत्य के मूल हो, प्रेम के महासागर हो। तुम सनातन सत्ता हो, ऊँचों में सबसे ऊँचे हो; तुम प्रभु और परमेश्वर हो; तुम परब्रह्म हो; और परात्पर ब्रह्म भी हो, तुम परब्रह्म परमात्मा हो, अल्लाह हो, इलाही हो, यजदान हो, अहुरमज्द हो, और प्रियतम ईश्वर हो। तुम्हारा नाम एजद अर्थात् एकमेव पुज्य है।

प्रायश्चित्त प्रार्थना

हे असीम दया के निधि प्रभुराज !

हम अपने सब पापों के लिये पश्चाताप करते हैं - हर एक विचार के लिये जो असत्य, अनुचित या गन्दा था; हर एक बोले हुये शब्द के लिये जिसे बोलना हमें उचित न था; और हर एक कर्म के लिये जिसे करना हमें उचित न था।

स्वार्थ से प्रेरित हर एक कर्म, शब्द तथा विचार के लिये; तथा द्वेष प्रेरित हर एक कर्म, शब्द तथा विचार के लिये हम पश्चाताप करते हैं।

विशेषकर हर एक कामुक विचार तथा क्रिया के लिये; ऐसे हर एक वचन के लिये जिसको हमने पूरा नहीं किया; और सभी निंदा, पाखण्ड, दम्भ या लोगों के पीछे उनके दोष बताने के लिये हम अनुताप करते हैं।

और खास कर, दूसरों का नाश करनेवाले हर एक कर्म के लिये; दूसरों को दुख देनेवाले हर एक शब्द तथा कर्म के लिये; तथा दूसरों पर दुख गिरने की इच्छा करने के लिये। हम अनुताप करते हैं।

हे प्रभुराज ! आप हम पर असीम दया करके हमारे किये हुए पापों को क्षमा कीजिये। और वैसे ही आपकी मर्जी के अनुसार विचार करने में, बोलने में तथा कार्य करने में जो हमारी असमर्थता सदा रहती आई है, उसको भी क्षमा कीजिये।

यही हमारी आपसे प्रार्थना है।

