

THE MESSAGES, DISCOURSES, AND SAYINGS OF

MEHER BABA REGARDING

DRUGS



I AM THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH

THERE IS NO CREATURE WHICH IS NOT DESTINED FOR THE SUPREME GOAL,
AS THERE IS NO RIVER WHICH IS NOT WINDING ITS WAY TO THE SEA.

MEHER BABA - THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH

Meher Baba out of His Love and Compassion for suffering humanity urges all, young and old alike not to take such drugs as LSD, Mescaline and Psilocybin. He also cautions everyone to stay away from such smokes as Marijuana, Hashish, Gunja as well as the Opiate addictive drugs such as Heroin, Morphine, Opium and Cocaine. Meher Baba tells everyone this because the fleeting enjoyment and sense of escape one gets from the above drugs is not worth the suffering these drugs bring in their aftermath. What makes it especially bad is that they are a side tracking from the real path which leads to Universal Love, Unfading Bliss, Eternal Power and that Divine Knowledge which makes you know God without the least trace of illusion. Such is the goal of the spiritual path.

Only Perfect Masters who have themselves reached the goal can be of any aid to those aspiring for Self-Realization. Avatar Meher Baba states that without the aid of the Perfect Master or the Avatar who is the Master of Masters that to reach the Infinite Consciousness of God is impossible. For this reason He appears on earth in different ages to help the suffering, groping humanity. When He comes He is usually acclaimed as 'The Messiah', 'The Avatar', 'The God-Man', 'The Rasool', 'The Enlightened One', 'The Highest of the High'. When He lives in the world relatively a few know of Him and even fewer still can accept Him as God in human form. However, the impact of His love and truth is so strong on the mind of man that eventually millions follow Him, even those who could not believe become helpless before His Love and are irresistibly drawn to Love Him.

Meher Baba which means 'Compassionate Father' or 'Father of Mercy' reveals that He had previously appeared in the world as 'Abraham', 'Zoroaster', 'Rama', 'Krishna', 'Buddha', 'Jesus of Nazareth' and 'Mohammed the Arabian Prophet'. Meher Baba discloses that His advent on earth occurs every 700 to 1400 years when mankind is once more ready for a new push forward in realizing his true Self as God. In His own words He spells out.

" I HAVE COME DOWN FROM THE HIGHEST TO YOUR LEVEL
AND IF ON THAT LEVEL YOU LOVE ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART;
YOU WILL COME TO MY LEVEL OF THE HIGHEST
BECAUSE I AM IN YOU."

The ultimate aim of those who become intoxicated by drugs and the aim of those who become intoxicated by loving God for the sake of love, is the same. That is to discover and enjoy that Unlimited Consciousness which is the Highest of the High. The first approach, at its best creates an illusion of release and freedom from care which is temporary. The second approach destroys all illusions,

bindings and ignorance which is the cause of suffering. Meher Baba wants everyone to attain the Highest Consciousness, but in a way that can really bring it about. He does not like people to suffer needlessly the paths that end in frustration and dissapointment because the same effort, love and devotion can bring the desired results when guided by the one who is at the Goal that the seeker yearns to reach.

" ALL TALK ABOUT THE PATH AND THE GOAL
IS AS A LANTERN CARRIED BY A BLIND MAN;
A BLIND MAN NEEDS A STAFF IN HIS HAND,
THE SEEKER NEEDS HIS HAND IN GOD-MANS."

So said Meher Baba, Avatar of the Age.

THE MESSAGES OF AVATAR MEHER BABA ON DRUGS

Just as it is difficult to distinguish an imitation from a real pearl, so it is difficult to distinguish between an imitation and a real spiritual experience.

Once gained, the real experience is never lost; it is permanent.

The experiences which drugs induce are as far removed from reality as is a mirage from water. No matter how much you pursue the mirage you will never quench your thirst, and the search for truth through drugs must end in disillusionment.

Many people in India smoke Hashish and Gunja -- they see colors, forms and lights and it makes them elated. But this elation is only temporary. It gives only experience of illusion, and serves to take one farther away from reality.

A yogi... taught his 150 students to go into trance. When the students came out of the trance they were asked by the yogi to describe their experiences. Their accounts would be amazing to a man in the street, for in their state of trance they saw lights and colours galore, dazzling lights in colours and in circles and in different designs. They felt all things around them pulsating with life and felt themselves separate from their own bodies and become witness to all things. Even such experiences...are not continuous. However, these are not spiritually harmful, but neither are they spiritually beneficial. But experiences induced through the use of drugs are harmful.

1-701 856

THE 'POSING SAINT' AND THE 'OPIUM-SAINT'

a discourse by Meher Baba:

For one to declare that he is a saint and allow people to bow down to and revere him without real authority is to feed one's ego with intense happiness. Simultaneously, with the feeding of the ego comes a feeling of well-being.

One who is addicted to opium (eating or smoking) derives a similar feeling of well-being, though temporarily. After a time the opium-addict begins to feel the after-effects of opium in severe constipation, loss of appetite, headache, dullness and drowsiness. He then begins to realize that it would have been better had he not become addicted. But unfortunately, he cannot give up the habit. He has become a slave. He realizes this too late and sinks into deeper addiction, being tempted to take greater and greater quantities of opium to keep pace with the gradual loss of the feeling of well-being.

Similarly, one who indulges in happiness by allowing people to bow down to him without authority, feels the prick of conscience later on. And, with this feeling he realizes that he has no authority, but has got so used to the habit of feeding his ego in this manner that he is unable to stop the practice. He continues indulging, and after a time does not pay heed to the pricks of conscience. He becomes numb to the voice within.

After years of addiction it so happens one day that the opium addict is found lying unconscious in a gutter full of filth. An extra overdose of opium proves tragic for the addict, who loses complete control over himself. The passer-by scoffs, ridicules, points at him as a confirmed opium addict.

In the same way a person who poses as a saint without really being one, starts to behave in an unworthy manner after years of indulgence in addiction to over-doses of homage. With him, contrary to the opium addict his unworthy behavior is accounted as 'perfection' by his followers! When he abuses others his words are accepted as blessings! When he beats someone, his beating is accepted as the descent of his grace! When he indulges in love-making with the opposite sex it is accepted as pure love! In short, whatever he does, all and everything, is accepted in a spirit of reverence and love by the followers of the man who has posed as a saint. The more unruly his behavior the greater the admiration of the followers. And the greater the admiration the richer becomes the feeding of the ego of the person. Eventually, he falls from the high pedestal of admiration because, not being a genuine saint, the rich doses of admiration and reverence prove too much for the ego to digest! With the fall this 'opiumized' saint is ridiculed. Those very persons, who called themselves his followers, scoff and call him a fraud.

Just as an opium addict has his personal friends who extol the effects of opium and bring into their fold innocent people, so, too, a person who poses as a saint has a ring of followers who extol him and his 'miracles' to attract others to their fold. Such miracles may be just coincidences or even genuine experiences of simple and devout followers, who get desired results through their own faith in and love even for such 'opiumized' saints.

One who has no authority and yet permits people to bow down to him plays a losing game, while those who bow down gain. The unburdening of sanskaras (mental impressions) of those who bow down at his feet is the cause of his loss, for he takes on sanskaras (mental impressions) that can only be wiped off by many more births.

The point to be considered is this: if thousands can benefit at the cost of a false saint should this person be allowed to continue?

If such a person is already in contact with a Perfect Master and loves him, the master immediately puts a check and corrects the shortcomings and warns his lovers about such unauthorized behavior.

If, however, such a person is not already in contact with a Perfect Master, the master never interferes, because eventually this person also derives some benefit. The master knows that this is the play of ego. The cause of any eventual benefit to such a person is that at the cost of his own condemnation he proved to be a dust-bin for thousands to help their sanskaras therein.

There is no doubt that in his subsequent birth his behavior makes the person suffer much more due to this burden of acquired sanskaras. But with the intensity of his suffering, the redeeming factor is the speed with which these acquired sanskaras get wiped off. They are wiped off in proportion to the intensity of suffering. Along with the wiping off of the acquired sanskaras (mental impressions), his own sanskaras also get wiped off speedily.

Just as an unauthorized person, posing as a saint, proves a source of benefit to thousands, so also he proves of harm to many. All this is a play in illusion!

As an opium-addict feels happy to give a tiny bit of opium to another, and that other, when he gets the taste of it, hands over another small dose to his own friend, creating a circle of opium-eaters, the two or three persons, close to the 'opiumized' saint of our discourse, starts spreading news that such and such a woman was blessed with a child, and that another got her wish fulfilled, and that the 'saint' performed many such miracles. A clique of followers around the 'opiumized' saint is created.

This happy picture does not last long, for after some years it so happens that at least one finds out, one day that his master is a fraud and is not God-realized. The impact of such a great set-back in his confirmed belief is so forceful that all his sanskaras, which he had inadvertently transferred on to the 'saint' in his belief and devotion, all of a sudden recoil on him spontaneously and overburden him afresh. Thus the person who had place faith in the 'opiumized' saint suffers a great deal.

Let us view the picture from another angle: suppose I am the 'opiumized' saint and you love me and revere me as the Perfect Master. Your love becomes so deep and your faith so great that you actually make progress on the spiritual path, and really begin to have experiences of the path. In this instance, you are surely benefitted at the hands of 'opiumized' saint. Whereas in the previous case, 'opiumized' saint has done a great harm. Through such 'saints' harm and benefit recoil and accrue.

Baba commented: In India we find people without spiritual authority allowing others to bow down to them. Even one of my old followers, after many years of contact with me, left me 30 years ago and established an 'ashram' at Nasik. You have seen or heard of it as a place of spiritual pilgrimage. He used to tell people, 'Baba has made me his charge-man.' People paid homage to him. The news reached me and I sent one man to tell him to stop all this display and nonsense and come to me. He didn't listen. He was very happy with his surroundings. Three years passed and he established a big following, among whom was a very beautiful woman. It was not a proper marriage and the woman conceived. The police heard of it and the man got frightened. He left and ran to me. Then I reminded him that he did not come three years ago when I called. Now he should either go back and settle with the police or stay with me when he would get leprosy.

There is no mention of this in any of the books, but it is recorded in Chanji's diary. He stayed with me, he got leprosy, all the time repenting. I forgave him and instructed him to go out and beg for his food, to be without money or woman. Not to stay anywhere but to return after a year. He roamed about for two years and came back. He was cured of the disease. Now he loves me fully and longs to tell everyone about me.

But all this is a play in illusion. It is all My play. None can fathom Me as I really am. I am in everyone and I do everything; simultaneously, I also do nothing.

Be brave. Be happy. I and you all are One; and the infinite that eternally belongs to Me will one day belong to every individual.

'Planes' mean what? States of Consciousness. THIS PRESENT STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOURS IS GROSS CONSCIOUSNESS. The gross senses (sight, sound, taste, touch and smell) are used, and you have the gross experiences of eating, drinking, and moving about. This is the gross world...

THE FIRST PLANE

The soul sees wonderful things, and gets enchanted, it loses its gross consciousness and it begins to hear subtle music, and to see subtle sights and to enjoy them... Many pilgrims who thus get merged in the first plane think that they have realized God and get stuck in the first plane. But if the pilgrim keeps himself free from self-delusion or comes to realize that his attainment is really a transitional phase in his journey, he advances further on the spiritual path and arrives at the second plane.

THE SECOND PLANE

In the second 'plane' the soul becomes so enchanted and is so overpowered that everything is a billion times brighter than the sun, and a million times colder than the moon. The soul gets enveloped in this light, and hears the voices and smells the scents so intensely and so overpoweringly that it enters it completely... The pilgrim is now absorbed in bliss and infinite light. Some think that they have attained the goal and get stranded in the second plane; but others who keep themselves free from self-delusion march onwards and enter the third plane.

THE THIRD PLANE

The in-numberable sights and sounds of the in-numberable 'places and states of consciousness' do not overpower the soul. It has now full control over the senses and its experiences... It is now energy personified... You must understand that all 'planes' (of matter, energy and mind), all 'places and states' and all these experiences are illusion. Only God is real.

THE FOURTH PLANE

He now not only feels infinite power but has plenty of occasions for the expression of that power. He can know everything. He can, for example, know what anyone situated in any part of the globe is thinking or doing. Further, he has not only occasions for the use of his powers but has a definite inclination to express them.

The soul is now so overpowered by desires and by its ability to satisfy its desires that it is in danger of falling from the spiritual heights to the lowest depths. It can now do anything, raise the dead, create new forms, do anything it wants. Desires influence it with all their forces; it is in great danger... If the soul does not then succumb to the use of its infinite energy for selfish ends, it reaches the fifth plane.

THE FIFTH PLANE

The merging into the fifth plane is called the annihilation of all desires. Here the incessant activity of the lower intellect comes to a stand-still. He does not 'think' in the ordinary way. Yet, he is indirectly a source of many thoughts inspired in others. He sees, but not with the physical eyes. Mind speaks with mind and there is neither worry nor doubt. He is now spiritually safe and beyond the possibility of a downfall; and yet many a pilgrim on this exalted plane finds it difficult to resist the delusion that they have attained Godhood. In his self-delusion he thinks and says, "I am God," and believes himself to have arrived at the end of the spiritual Path. But if he moves on he perceives his mistake and advances to the sixth plane.

THE SIXTH PLANE

Now the pilgrim sees God directly and clearly as an ordinary person sees the different things of this world. This continued perception and enjoyment of God does not suffer a break even for an instant. Yet he does not become one with God, the Infinite.

THE SEVENTH PLANE

If the pilgrim ascends to the seventh plane he experiences the last merging which is called the final annihilation of the self in God. Through this merging the pilgrim loses his separate existence and becomes permanently united with God. He is now one with God and experiences himself as being none other than God Himself. This seventh plane is the terminus of the spiritual Path, the goal of all search and endeavor. It is conscious Godhood. It is the only real Awakening. The pilgrim has now reached the other shore of the vast ocean of imagination, and realizes that this last Truth is the only Truth and that all other stages on the Path are entirely illusory. He has arrived at the final destination.

Of thousands of such united ones, one comes down to normal consciousness, and is called 'Qutub', or 'Christ', or 'Avatar', or 'Perfect Master'.

When a person attains God-Realization, he has Infinite Power, Knowledge and Bliss; and these intrinsic characteristics of inner realization are the same in all God-Realized persons... The state of Perfection, in which the God-Man dwells, is beyond all forms of duality and opposites; it is a state of unlimited freedom and unimpaired completeness, immortal sweetness, and undying happiness, untarnished divinity and unhampered creativity.

My existence is for this Love and Truth and to suffering humanity I say:
HAVE HOPE....I have come to help you in winning the one Victory
of all victories--to win yourself.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE HIGHER PLANES AND THE EXPERIENCES INDUCED BY DRUGS.

The seventh plane as the Goal of the spiritual Path.
The lower planes (1 to 6) which is the Path.
The experiences of drugs.

All the experiences even of spiritual aspirants on the path to God-Realization are of the domain of illusion and are passing and absolutely unimportant; how much more illusory and distracting are the substances compounded in a laboratory which have the semblance of those of the aspirant on the Spiritual Path.

Even the experiences of the planes of consciousness are only another kind of illusion! Experiences of the planes are 'Real illusion', whereas those derived from the use of drugs are illusion into 'False illusion'.

The one and only true experience is the experience of the Truth, the Reality (The Seventh Plane); for once the realization of God is attained it remains a continual and never-ending experience.

There is...a state in which consciousness indulges in induced experiences such as those gotten from the use of drugs; and even the most fantastic experiences thus induced are only the shadows of the subtle (emotion, energy) plane experienced in the gross world.

The experiences derived through the drugs are experiences by one in the gross (physical) world - of the shadows of the subtle (emotion, energy) planes and are not continuous. The experiences of the subtle (emotion, energy) sphere by one on the subtle planes ARE CONTINUOUS, but even these experiences are of illusion, for Reality is beyond them.

Even actual experiences of the...planes (1 to 6) are likened to the pleasure of children playing with toys.

Q The only real experience is to continuously see God within oneself as the infinite effulgent ocean of truth and then to become one with this ocean and continuously experience infinite knowledge, power and bliss. C

K. P. B.

- Meher Baba -

" Alas, alas, I pity those who compare a glass bead to a pearl."

HAFIZ - The man who became God-Realized

DRUGS - LSD, MARIJUANA, HASHISH, HEROIN, OPIUM, COCAINE, Mescaline, BARBITUATES, GUNJA, ECT.

It is human, and therefore necessarily wrongsighted, to view the result of the drug by its immediate relative effects - to calculate its end result is beyond human knowledge, and only the true guide can point the way.

Even as these drugs hold out an invitation to a fleeting sense of ecstasy, freedom or escape, they enslave the individual in greater binding.

The experience of a semblance of freedom that these drugs may temporarily give to one is in actuality a millstone round the aspirant's neck in his efforts toward emancipation from the rounds of birth and death.

All so-called spiritual experiences generated by taking mind-changing drugs such as LSD, Mescaline, Psilocybin are superficial and add enormously to ones addiction to the deceptions of illusion which is but the shadow of reality.

The greatest service to the world at present is to make people stop taking drugs.

LSD

LSD more than others, give only a semblance of 'spiritual experience', a glimpse of a false reality.

LSD is absolutely of no use for any kind of spiritual awakening.

Although LSD is not an addiction forming drug one can become attached to the experiences arising from its use and one gets tempted to use it in increasing doses, again and again, in the hope of deeper and deeper experiences. But this eventually causes madness or death.

To a few sincere seekers LSD may have served as a means to arouse that spiritual longing which has brought them into my contact, but once that purpose is served, further ingestion would not only be harmful but have no point or purpose.

The longing for Reality cannot be sustained by further use of drugs but only by the love for the Perfect Master which is a reflection of his love for the seeker.

An individual may feel LSD has made a better man of him socially and personally. But one will be a better man through love than one can ever be through drugs or any other artificial aid. And the best man is he who has surrendered himself to the Perfect Master irrespective of his personal or social standing.

Taking LSD is harmful physically, mentally and spiritually. But if you take Me into your heart and love Me as your Real Self, you will find Me in you as the infinite ocean of effulgence. And this experience will remain continuously throughout eternity.

As regards...possible use of the drug by an enlightened society for spiritual purposes - an enlightened society would never dream of using it!

If God can be found through the medium of any drug, God is not worthy of being God.

If the student world continues to indulge in the use of LSD, the best of its intellectual potential will be lost to the nation.

This craze will die its natural death.

LEGITIMATE USES OF DRUGS

Medically there are legitimate uses of the drug LSD. LSD could be used beneficially for chronic alcoholism, for severe and serious cases of depression and for relief in mental illnesses.

LSD produces hallucination, and prolonged use of this drug will lead to mental derangement, which even the medical use of LSD would fail to cure. Proper use of LSD under direct supervision of a medical practitioner could help to cure insanity. It could lead to insanity if used for purposes other than strictly medical.

LIQUOR AS A DRUG: Concerning prohibition Avatar Meher Baba spelled out the following ideas to Miss Talulah Bankhead, film star, Hollywood, 1932.

I recommend education, not coercion, to introduce reforms. Changes affecting the will of the people can never be brought about by legislature alone. The consciousness of the people must be transformed. They must be made to want something better than what they have. No one has as yet, however, gone to the root of the prohibition question. The problem is not whether prohibition

should be maintained or modified or discontinued. People will continue to drink under any of those circumstances. The real problem is why they drink, and what would satisfy them instead of liquor.

There is no question but that those who drink habitually do so in order to experience release. They want something that will lift them out of their crystallization of thought and action, and free them, if, only for the moment, for original expression. That the fact of this method of obtaining release may not be the best one does not concern them - they know no other as yet. If they could be made to realise that the liberation that they seek could be more easily and more completely attained by the control of thought and desire they would certainly practise that control instead of drinking. I will teach many how to free themselves from drink.

WINE

Once in a great while I give wine to my lovers and make them understand that it is not this wine of grapes but the pure wine of love, giving divine intoxication that helps towards union with God.

While wine leads to self-oblivion, Divine Love leads to self-knowledge.

A PRIVATE MEETING WITH MEHER BABA

A man who says he is addicted to drugs.

MEHER BABA. Are you happy?

MAN. No, very, very, miserable.

MEHER BABA. Never think that 'life is dreadful.' 'I am tired of life.' Such thoughts make life miserable. Life is worth living. If you think it is, difficulties will appear insignificant. I will help you to try to develop love. Never think 'I am alone....'

" DON'T LOSE HEART BUT KEEP ME IN YOUR HEART
AND REMEMBER I AM ALWAYS WITH YOU."

Meher Baba, Avatar of the Age urges all to read the book "God Speaks" in which He describes in detail the Higher Planes of Consciousness arrived at without the use of any drugs or artificial aids. It is the journey of the soul or the Divine Plan as given by the one who has made that journey and attained the Goal of goals and now appears as man amongst mankind revealing the future destiny of man as he slowly but surely trods the path to the glories of Godhood.