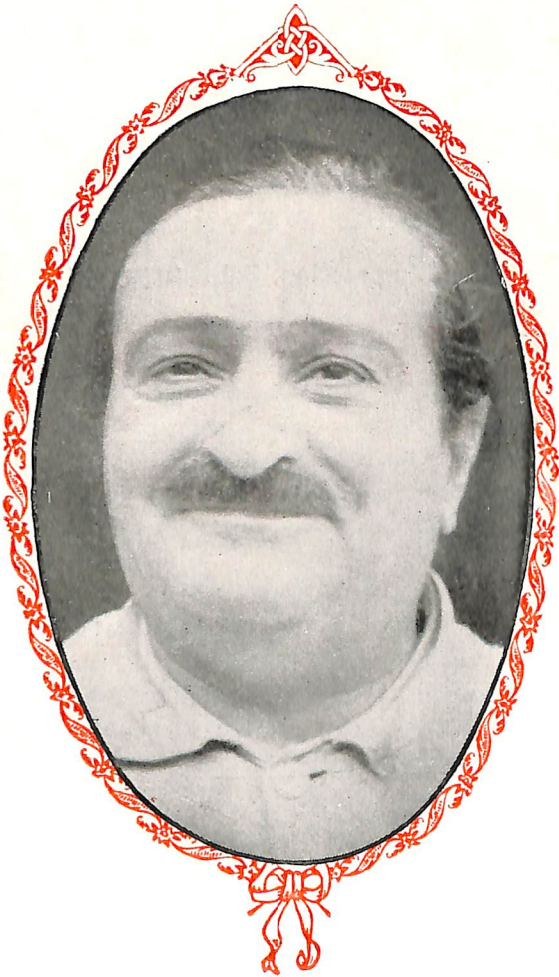


# Meher Bábá

VIGNETTES



A GLOW PUBLICATION

Designed and Produced by  
Naosherwan K. Nalavala,  
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## *Introduction*

**THESE** vignettes from the life of Meher Baba and the messages contained in this booklet embody, so to say, the very life-force that governs and determines Man's action.

It has been prophesied that a pure, untainted civilization would unfurl its banner in the core of the universe whenever a certain distinguished and high-minded sovereign—the shining exemplar of devotion and determination—shall, for the spiritual freedom of mankind, arise, with a definite mission, to establish the New Humanity.

And it is with this resolve so noble in purpose and lofty in theme that Meher Baba is amidst us to awaken us to the reality of Truth, an urge for which mankind suffers in all periods of human history. It is imperative, therefore, for those who seek Him, to avoid the short-cuts to God-realisation and love the God-man who is "the One who knows and experiences Reality, who is Reality, has the ability and authority to point out the false from the Real."

**N.K.N.**



SHERIARJI



SHIRINBANOO



MERWAN

## Life-Story of Meher Baba

**B**ORN in Poona in February, 1894, of Zoroastrian parents, Merwan S. Irani received his education at the town of his birth. Sheriarji, his mystic-father and Shirinbanoo, his doting mother, brought up the child in loving and tender care, in the wake of the prophecy that Merwan would grow up to perform great deeds. Temperamentally, he was extremely loving and genial and made himself popular among his friends and acquaintances, excelling in sports and literature. He was a lover of beauty and took pleasure in music and poetry. Merwan wrote poems in Gujarati, Urdu and Persian, which were published under the *nom-de-plume* of 'Homa'. His childhood was indeed a happy one.



SAI BABA



BABAJAN



UPASNI MAHARAJ



MERWAN

#### THE PERFECT MASTERS:

**W**HILST studying at the Deccan College, Poona, at the age of 19, he was touched and blessed by a well-known spiritually Perfect Woman, Hazrat Babajan of Poona. She transformed his life so completely, that Merwan, known to the vast multitude the world over as **Meher Baba**, lost human consciousness and got merged in the ocean of Divine Love. Babajan once said about Merwan: "**You will shake the world to its foundation**".

Sri Sai Baba, the great Spiritual Master of Shirdi, bequeathed to Merwan the powers of spiritual perfection through Sadguru Upasni Maharaj of Sakori who brought him down to the level of human consciousness, making him fully equipped with the all-pervading knowledge of creation, its foundation and its purpose.

Meher Baba once said: "Sai Baba made me what I am, Babajan made me feel what I am; and Upasni Maharaj made me know what I am."



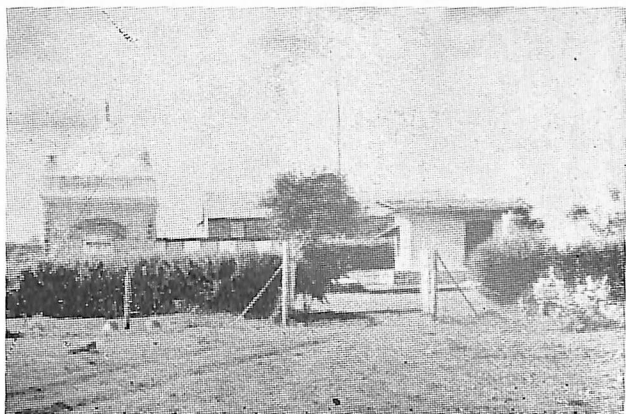
Meher Baba in a state of spiritual agony and ecstasy.

#### SPIRITUAL AGONY:

**A**FTER Merwan's meeting with Babajan, a transformation lifted him to a state of supreme consciousness. He began to experience extraordinary thrills, as though he were receiving electric shocks; joy mingled with pain, and he often lost consciousness.

Merwan was, after coming in touch with Sai Baba and Upasni Maharaj, restored to gross consciousness. He entered the realm wherein Power, Knowledge and Bliss were parts of His sceptre, God-realization His crown, the creation His subjects and He Himself, the new king of the New Spiritual Dispensation.

Being in full possession of universal as well as human consciousness, Meher Baba from 1921 onwards launched upon his work of awakening people to the unity of spiritual knowledge and love.

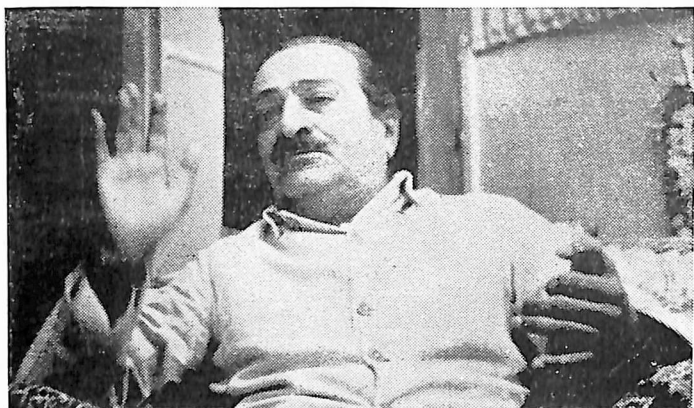


The Tomb, Meditation Cells, Old Hospital and  
Meher Baba's cabin at Meherabad.

#### MEHERABAD:

SOON after, Meher Baba opened a colony near Arangaon, about six miles from Ahmednagar, called Meherabad, where he started a school admitting boys of all castes and creeds freely and without fees; and started a free boarding school for a selected number of boys called the "Prem Ashram". In addition, he established a free dispensary, a Sadhak Ashram for spiritual upliftment of seekers of Truth and a "Mast" (Majzoob) Ashram for God-intoxicated men who were not conscious of their physical bodies because of the overpowering love of God in which they were steeped.

In all these establishments, there was not a tinge of caste or religious distinction whatsoever in thought, word and deed; the only force that kept them together was love and brotherhood.



Meher Baba communicating through hand-gestures.

#### SILENCE:

ON and from 10th July, 1925, Meher Baba began his "silence", i.e., not uttering a word. Nevertheless he is intensively active. For conveying his thoughts and ideas, he used an English alphabet board, spelling out speedily every word and thus forming sentences and addressing people, giving discourses and messages, dictating replies to letters as and when he found them necessary. From 7th October 1954, onwards, Meher Baba discarded the use of even this alphabet board. Ever since, he expresses thoughts through gestures and movements of hands and fingers which the interpreter readily translates into audible words. Meher Baba has declared: "When I speak, it will be only one Divine Word; but it will be the Word of Words or the manifestation of Truth."





Meher Baba embracing a Mast, Mohammed.

### THE GOD-INTOXICATED:

**A**N important part of Meher Baba's work is silent contact with "Masts", viz., spiritually advanced souls having partial or no normal consciousness, and with the mad and the poor. Meher Baba sums up different states of consciousness in relation to "Mind" thus:

Mind stopped is God.  
Mind working is man.  
Mind slowed down is Mast.  
Mind working fast is mad.

It is most difficult to conceive what exactly Meher Baba does with Masts. It may, according to general interpretation, be classified under two heads; one, is to draw out a Mast from his immersed state of bliss or bewilderment in order to make him contribute (according to his level of consciousness) his share towards the cause of Universal Spiritual Work; and, another, is to raise him from his immersed state of bliss or bewilderment to higher and higher states of consciousness towards reaching the Ultimate.

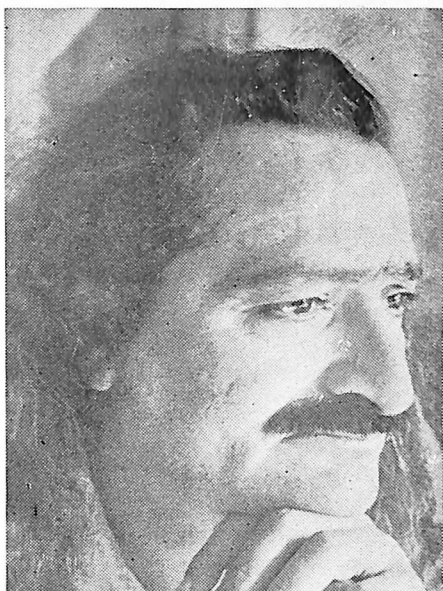


Meher Baba in England.

#### FOREIGN TOURS:

**B**ETWEEN the year 1931 to 1958, Meher Baba made six journeys to foreign countries including England, the United States, Europe, China, Japan, Iran and Australia.

Except on special occasions; viz, devotee's love for darshan, the primary purpose, for which he undertakes to travel far and wide is in conformity with his inner working which is wholly spiritual and universal.

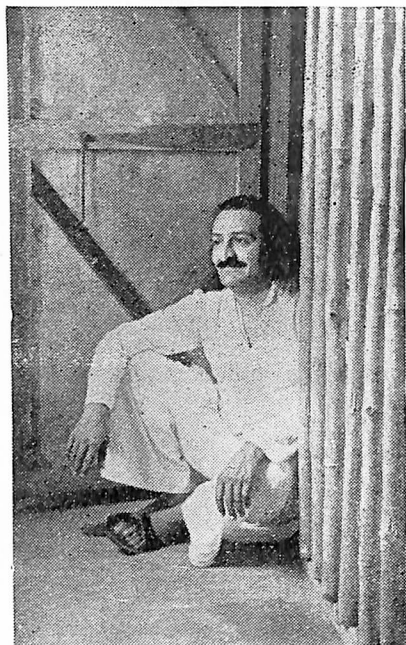


Meher Baba in New Life.

#### THE NEW LIFE:

**T**HE New Life was launched on 16th October, 1949, and ended on 26th February, 1952. It was the voluntary suspension of the state of Perfect Master to become a common man and a Perfect Seeker; in the four-months' seclusion was effected the dissolution of the natural mind in its normal working, and its transformation in the divine or infinite mind, which is the intellect itself, the intuitive or creative mind. This had been accomplished; thereafter as Meher Baba said himself, he was free.

In Meher Baba's words: "The role, which God has willed for me, has several phases. The pre-realization ordinary state, the old life state of realized Divinity, the new life state of perfect humility and intensive seeking of God as Truth through the achievement of "Man-o-nash" (annihilation of the limiting Mind) and the tripartite Free Life, which emerged after the attainment of "Man-o-nash," have all happened by God's will".

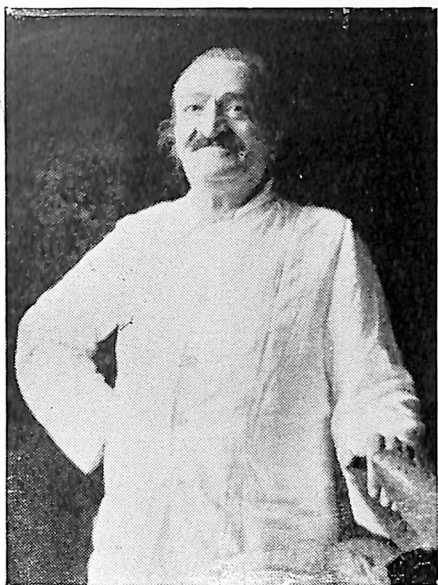


Meher Baba in a squatting posture.

#### THE FREE LIFE:

**W**HAT emerged from Man-o-nash was named by Meher Baba, as his 'Complicated Free Life', in which 'bindings were to dominate freedom'; this was followed by the 'Full Free Life' in which 'freedom would dominate bindings' and then the 'Fiery Free Life', in which 'freedom and bindings would by the grace of God be merged into the Divine Life. Meher Baba said:

“My sole concern in the Fiery Free Life....., will be with the Divine Truth of my realization, which I would like to share with those who seek it. The consuming of freedom and bindings (which is characteristic of the Fiery Free Life) means that there is a complete blending of the God-state and the man-state, so that the one does not live through opposition to the other and there can be no question of the one encroaching upon the other”.



### THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH:

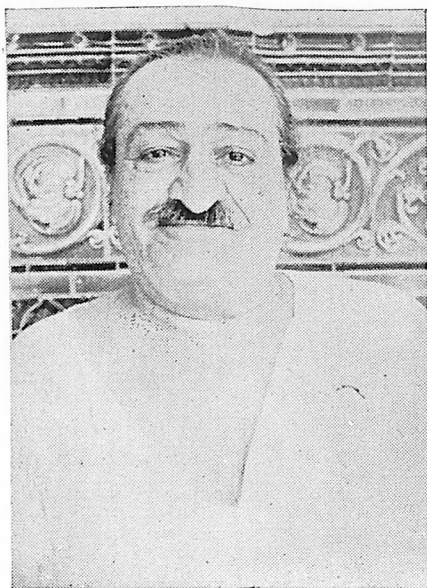
**W**HILE at Dehra Dun in the month of September 1953, the Fiery Free Life reached its culmination, Meher Baba made one of his most significant declaration, a part of which is reproduced here. Meher Baba declared:

“In the world there are countless **sadhus**, **mahatmas**, **mahapurushas**, saints, yogis and **walis**, though the number of genuine ones is very, very limited. The few genuine ones are, according to their spiritual status, in a category of their own, which is neither on a level with the ordinary human being nor on a level with the state of the Highest of the High.”

“The question, therefore, arises that if I am not a **sadhu**, not a saint, not a yogi, not a **mahapurusha**, nor a **wali**, then what am I? The natural assumption would be that I am either just an ordinary human being, or I am the Highest of the High. But one thing I say definitely, and that is that I can never be included amongst those having the intermediary status of the real **sadhus**, saints, yogis and such others.”

“Seek me not to extricate you from your predicaments, but find me to surrender yourself wholeheartedly to my Will.”

—MEHER BABA



#### THE FINAL DECLARATION:

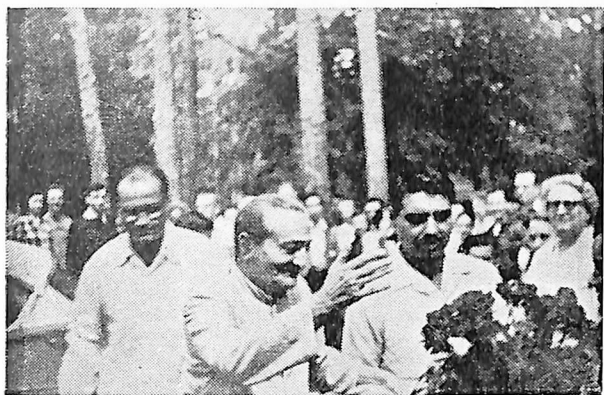
"I have not come to establish anything new—I have come to put life into the old. I have not come to establish retreats or ashrams. I create them for the purpose of my universal work, only to repeatedly dissolve them once that purpose has been served.

"When my universal religion of love is on the verge of fading into insignificance, I come to breathe life into it and to do away with the farce of dogmas that defile it in the name of religions and stifle it with ceremonies and rituals.

"Age after age I come amidst mankind to maintain my own creation of illusion, thereby also awakening humanity to become aware of it. The framework of illusion is always one and the same, but the designs in illusion are innumerable and everchanging. My advent is not to destroy illusion because illusion, as it is, is absolutely nothing. I come to make you become aware of the nothingness of illusion. Through you I automatically maintain illusion, which is nothing but the shadow of my infinite self, and through me you automatically discard illusion when you are made aware of its falseness.

"My manifestation as the Avatar of the time will be of short duration. This short period will, in quick succession, cover my humiliation, the breaking of my silence, my glorification and my physical end. Everlastingly with all the divine bliss within me, I eternally suffer for one and all—thus I am crucified eternally and continually for all."

—Meher Baba.



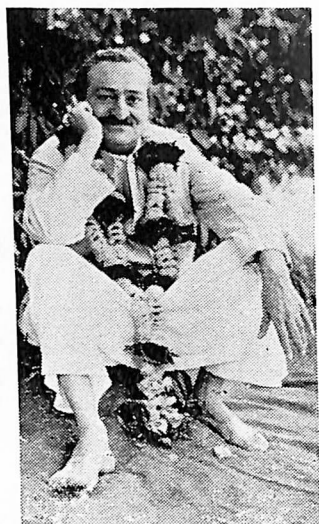
Meher Baba in Sahawas with his Western lovers  
at Myrtle Beach, California.

#### THE SAHAWAS:

**M**EHHER BABA always avoids self-admiration but he is deeply interested in receiving and giving unselfish love. The **Avatar (God-Man)** is not interested in making himself known to the world that he is the head of the Spiritual Hierarchy except for the truth of it and a purpose at once altruistic. Time and again mass-darshan programmes were held at various places for giving messages and sahawas, when thousands were invited to share the love feast served by the Master.

Explaining the special significance of Sahawas Meher Baba once said:

“Sahawas means intimate companionship. It is the intimacy of give and take of love between the lovers and the Beloved. Drink deep at the fountain of love, but do not lose consciousness. If you can but taste even a drop of this love—what a wonderful experience it will be !”



### THE UNIVERSAL MESSAGE:

On 9th July 1958, Meher Baba gave to the world his Universal Message:

**I** have come not to teach but to awaken. Understand, therefore, that I lay down no precepts.

"Throughout eternity I have laid down principles and precepts but mankind has ignored them. Man's inability to live God's words makes the Avatar's teaching a mockery. Instead of practising the compassion He taught, man has waged crusades in His name. Instead of living the humility, purity and truth of His words, man has given way to hatred, greed and violence.

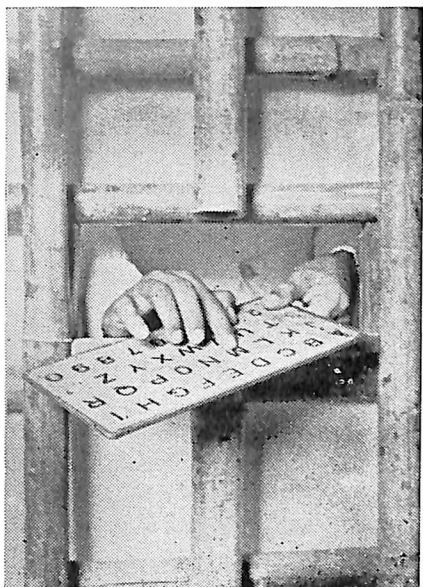
"Because man has been deaf to the principles and precepts laid down by God in the past, in this present Avataric Form I observe silence. You have asked for, and been given, enough words: it is now time to live them. To get nearer and nearer to God you have to get further and further away from "I", "My", "Me" and "Mine". You have not to renounce anything but your own self. It is as simple as that, though found to be almost impossible. It is possible for you to renounce your limited self by my Grace. I have come to release that Grace.

"I repeat, I lay down no precepts. When I release the tide of Truth, which I have come to give, men's daily lives will be the living precepts. The words I have not spoken will come to life in them.

"I veil myself from man by his own curtain of ignorance, and manifest My Glory to a few. My present Avataric Form is the last Incarnation of this cycle of time, hence my manifestation will be the greatest. When I break My Silence, the impact of My love will be universal, and all life in creation will know, feel and receive it. It will help every individual to break himself free from his own bondage in his own way. I am the Divine Beloved who loves you more than you can ever love yourself. The breaking of My silence will help you to help yourself in knowing your real self.

"All this world confusion and chaos was inevitable, and no one is to blame. What had to happen has happened, and what has to happen will happen. There was, and is, no way out except through My coming in your midst. I had to come and I have come; I am the Ancient One".





Meher Baba communicating from seclusion.

## SECLUSION:

FOR awakening the masses and enlightening those in close contact with him, to the existence of one God, one Truth and Love, as the most effective means to attain knowledge of God, he often alternates his activities with seclusions, fasts and silent absorption in spiritual work !

“Seclusion” for Meher Baba is a partial or complete detachment from seeing people and corresponding with them. At the same time, it is for him an intensive spiritual activity of Inner Work which includes for its outward expression, frequent vigorous fasts, occasional movements from place to place, with or without the exigency of Mast contacts, giving to the poor, children and lepers **prasad** (love-gift) of grain, cloth and money. Before performing these acts of giving, Meher Baba washes their feet (including those of lepers) and bows down low on their feet, for, he says, he sees himself as God in them.



### ‘MY MISSION’

“I am not come to establish any cult, society or organization; nor even to establish a new religion. The religion that I shall give teaches the Knowledge of the One behind the many. The book that I shall make people read is the book of the heart that holds the key to the mystery of life. I shall bring about a happy blending of the head and the heart. I shall revitalize all religions and cults, and bring them together like beads on one string”.

“I am the New Christ.

You have waited and waited for Me for a long time.

I am the real Guide.

You will know me. You will see Me. You will feel me.

My word is Power.

My thought is action.

I am the Truth.

Meet Me with open heart and I shall reveal myself to you. I reveal myself to all in experience. I have come to this world to achieve the new wonder of spiritual resurrection”.

—MEHER BABA



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

—MEHER BABA

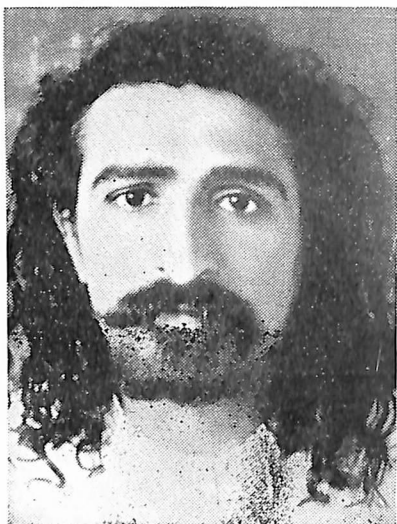
#### 'NO DRUGS'

"ALL so-called spiritual experiences generated by taking 'mind-changing' drugs such as LSD, mescaline and psilocybin are superficial and add enormously to one's addiction to the deceptions of illusion which is but the shadow of Reality.

"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 love for the Perfect Master, which is a reflection of his love for the seeker.

"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 Love. And this experience will remain continuously throughout eternity."

—MEHER BABA



#### 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; Yazdan;  
Ahuramazda; God Almighty; and God the Beloved.  
You are named EZAD; i.e., the Only One worthy of worship.

Dictated by Meher Baba.



REPENTANCE  
PRAYER:

“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 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.

—Dictated by Meher Baba



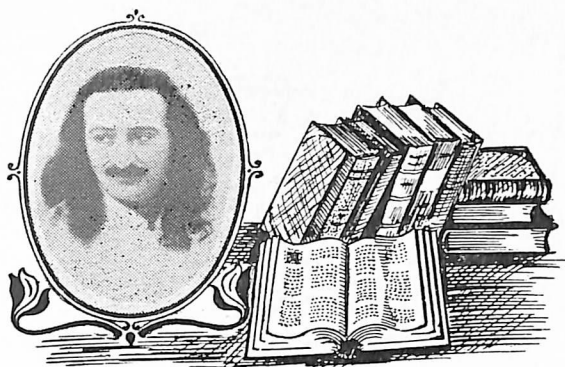
#### TO THE YOUNG:

“The youth of today is the ruling force of tomorrow. All things have a small beginning: the seedling grows into a tree, the stream into a river, and the child grows into a man to use or misuse the lessons he has absorbed in life as a youth. But even after he has grown into a man he often remains a child in the spiritual sense of the word. The world is a kindergarten and school necessary for the spiritual lessons man must learn through countless lives of experiencing the opposites such as pain and pleasure, joy and suffering, good and bad, wealth and poverty.

“Begin to love God by loving your fellow-beings. Begin to see God by seeing Him in all beings and things. Give without thought of return, serve without thought of reward. God is everywhere, in everything. Most of all He is right within yourself. You do not exist for the world—the world exists for you.

“Although I take birth for all mankind, fortunate are those who love Me while I am still on earth”.

— Meher Baba



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