



Meher Baba
Calling

Meher Baba Calling

(REVISED & ENLARGED EDITION)

including
Selections from the Birthday Messages
of Avatar Meher Baba.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST EDITION

God is everything and God is in everything. He is infinite and absolute. Creation is finite but numerically infinite. Avatar Meher Baba is the personification of God.

Creation is governed by the law of opposites of good and bad and happiness and misery. To maintain the equilibrium of life the opposites have to be more or less balanced, in proportion commensurate with time, place, circumstance and content. If the balance is disturbed there is suffering. When the balance is restored, there is peace. That which affects human life most is happiness and misery. So, that which concerns a human being most is his effort to get happiness and overcome misery.

The happiness we unthinkingly presume to be pleasure goes hand in hand with pain. There is almost an unending game of the opposites of good and bad played on and on in the world, one trying to get ascendancy over the other.

Real happiness is beyond the opposites. One can strive to exceed opposites; but the final release comes from the Perfect Master or the Avatar. It is His Grace of Love that can liberate the soul from the grip of opposites and raise him to the realm of unending Bliss.

The extracts from discourses of Avatar Meher Baba contained in this booklet, given by Baba from time to time, are compiled by the Avatar Meher Baba Bombay Centre. Reading them over and over again would evoke love of the good in man, and in time to come attune him to the spirit of Love of God which Baba says is the aim of life.

ADI K. IRANI Ahmednagar 1964.

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GLOSSARY.

CENTRES FOR INFORMATION & BOOKS.

***I Have Come Not To Teach,
But to Awaken.***

MEHER BABA.

COME ALL UNTO ME

The Call of Baba is God's Voice.

Age after age, when the wick of Righteousness burns low, the Avatar comes yet again to rekindle the torch of Love and Truth. Age after age, amidst the clamour of disruptions, wars, fears and chaos, rings the Avatar's Call:

'Come All Unto Me'

The time is come and I repeat the Call and bid all come unto Me.

I have emphasized in the past, I tell you now, and shall age after age for evermore repeat, that you shed your cloak of life and realize Existence which is eternally yours.

I have only one Message to give; and I repeat it age after age to one and all : LOVE GOD.

WORRY NOT

Do not worry about anything. Keep thinking of Me constantly..I am the only One that exists, the only One that matters.

Do not worry, but love Me more and more. Hold fast to My 'daaman', whatever the trials and difficulties you may be passing through.

Think of Me more and more and all your worries will dwindle into nothing, for they are really nothing; and My Will works out to awaken this in you and in all.

If at all you must worry, let it be how to remember Me constantly. This is worthwhile worry because it will bring about the end of worry. So do worry that you may not forget Me.

Do your best — then don't worry !
Be happy in My Love.

BE HAPPY

Why should you not be happy ? What need bind you to unhappiness ? Binding is self - created. It can be overcome if you really want to become free. You are your own obstacle to freedom, and merely wishing for freedom is not enough. It is not what you think or say that matters, but what you sincerely feel within. If you want God, you must want God alone. It is possible to get God if you want to experience Truth. What is the cost ? Your own separate existence. When you surrender all falseness you inherit the Truth that you really are.

I want you all to be happy. I say to you, remain happy under every illusory circumstance. I am not happy when you don't love Me.

If you have the Peace of a frozen lake you will realize me.

LAY DOWN YOUR LIFE AT MY FEET

If you truly and in all faith accept your Baba as the Highest of the High, it behoves you to lay down your life at His feet, rather than to crave for the fulfilment of your desires. Not your one life but your millions of lives would be but a small sacrifice to place at the feet of One such as Baba, who is the Highest of the High; for Baba's unbounded Love is the only sure and unfailing guide to lead you safely through the innumerable blind alleys of your transient life.

They cannot obligate Me, who, surrendering their all (body, mind, possessions which perforce they must discard one day), surrender with a motive; surrender because they understand that to gain the everlasting treasure of Bliss they must relinquish ephemeral possessions. This desire for greater gain is still clinging behind their surrender, and as such the surrender cannot be complete.

UNDERSTAND MY WAYS

If I am beyond the level of an ordinary human being, and much beyond the level of saints and yogis, then I must be the Highest of the High. In which case, to judge Me with your human intellect and limited mind and to approach Me with mundane desires would not only be the height of folly but sheer ignorance as well; because no amount of intellectual gymnastics could ever understand My ways or judge My Infinite State.

If I am the Highest of the High My Will is Law, My Wish governs the Law, and My Love sustains the Universe. Whatever your apparent calamities and transient sufferings, they are but the outcome of My Love for the ultimate good. Therefore, to approach Me for deliverance from your predicaments, to expect Me to satisfy your worldly desires, would be asking Me to do the impossible — to undo what I have already ordained.

BECOME MINE

I have come down from the Highest to your level. So, take Me to be yours and naturally and automatically you become Mine. If you are poor, take Me to be poor; if you are rich, take Me to be rich; if you are illiterate, take Me to be illiterate; if you are literate, take Me to be literate. I have come down to your level, and if on that level you love Me with all your heart, you will come to My real level of the Highest because I am in all. You can know Me as one of you and one in you only when the veils of separateness are lifted, and this can be done if you love Me honestly and whole - heartedly.

When I drop My Body I will remain in all who love Me. I never die. Love Me, obey Me, and you will find Me.

MY COMMANDMENTS

Desire for nothing except desirelessness. Hope for nothing except to rise above all hopes.

Want nothing and you will have everything. Be angry with none but your own weaknesses. Hate none but your own lustful self.

Be greedy to own more and more wealth of tolerance and justice.

Wage war against your desires, and Godhood will be your victory.

Serve others with the understanding that in serving them you are serving Me.

Be resigned completely to My Will, and My Will will be yours.

Let your temptation be to tempt Me with your love in order to receive My Grace.

YOU ARE FORTUNATE

You are fortunate to have the Avatar. My lovers are fortunate to have God in human form in their presence. Just a glance from Me can give you all you need — can turn your vision inward. You will be sitting here without any outward change, but you will become 'what you really are' — you have to wait for that moment. That moment is near and for that you have to love Me whole-heartedly, otherwise you will miss it. If I knock at your door and you are asleep, I will go away. In Avataric periods, one does not necessarily have to make the inward journeys by stages. If you have the Grace of the Avatar, He just takes you from where you are to where you should be, where God wants you to be.

Love Me above everything, for now while I am in your midst I am most easily found as I really am.

BE LOST TO YOURSELF

To achieve the God – state, do absolutely nothing, while doing everything.

To find God, you must find yourself lost to yourself.

To be infinitely conscious, you must consciously lose consciousness of yourself.

To be ever present with God, never be absent from Him.

Deny your false self, and your real Self asserts itself.

Renounce everything to such an extent that you eventually renounce even renunciation. Die for Baba and then you will live as Baba.

To know Me as I really am, become a child in heart and be wise as a man of wisdom.

Either keep away from the wine of love of Beloved Baba, or if you taste it, seal your lips against complaints.

BE ADDICTED TO GOD

If you become addicted to God, then all your problems are solved. Go on drinking the Love of God until you become one with God.

You have to give up everything, including yourself — then you have Baba to yourself. God is beyond religion, beyond love. When you love God intensely, then there is the experience of real separation from God. When you have the gift of love, you become your Self — the false self becomes the lover of the True Self.

Keep Him ever constantly present within you. Let Him form the basis of all your thoughts, speech and actions. Remember Him in every little thing you do — the responsibility will then rest with Him. You have to love Him to such an extent that you forget about sleep, food, rest and so on, and become absolutely restless to be one with Him, and to possess Him.

WIN GOD'S GIFT OF LOVE

You cannot bargain for love. No amount of penance, meditation, puja, etc. can give that gift of Love. Once the gift comes from God it burns up all the veils of sanskaras (impressions).

To love one soul is like adding its life to your own. Your life, as it were, is multiplied and you vicariously live in two centres. If you love the whole world, you vicariously live in the whole world.

Love others as you would love yourself and all that is yours. Fortunate are they whose love is tested by misfortunes. Love demands that the lover sacrifices himself for the Beloved.

If you have that love for Me that St. Francis had for Jesus, then not only will you realize Me, but you will please Me.

ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF LIFE

The easiest way to achieve the Goal of Life is to 'leave all and follow Me' through love. I do not mean that you should leave your house and family and come here ! I mean that you be in your house and with your family but love Me as I want you to love Me — love Me above all. That is the simplest way. A still more simple way to attain the Goal is to obey Me — Obey Me implicitly. That is simpler than the simplest thing. Try. If you try, I help you. Once you have determined to obey, you are no longer your own. The slightest hypocrisy spoils your determination and makes the whole thing a farce.

Do anything I tell you, even at the cost of life itself. If you do obey Me one hundred per cent with all sincerity, at any cost, it will be greater than loving Me.

HAVE NO EXPECTATIONS OF REWARD

Whatever suffering may befall you, you should put up with it with full faith in and love for Baba. At the most, what could happen ? You might die. It is so very obvious that you have to die one day; you have to drop this body sooner or later. Why not then think that your body is not there already and so act detached ? One more thing you must remember is : be honest. I am in everyone and in everything. Because God is in everyone and everything, He knows everything. So be resigned completely to His Will. The best thing for you to do is just to love Me honestly, work for Me — I alone endure; all else is but a passing show in the work you do for Me. You should have no expectations of reward for any work you do.

THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH

Know you all that if I am the Highest of the High, my role demands that I strip you of all your possessions and wants, consume all your desires, and make you desireless rather than satisfy your desires. Sadhus, Saints, Walis and Yogis can give you what you want; but I take away your wants and free you from attachments and liberate you from the bondage of ignorance. I am the One to take, not the One to give, what you want or as you want.

Mere intellectuals can never understand Me through their intellect. If I am the Highest of the High, it becomes impossible for your intellect to gauge Me, nor is it possible for My ways to be fathomed by the limited human mind.

I am the One so many seek and so few find. No amount of intellectual effort can fathom Me. Only when one loves Me and loses himself in Me am I found.

HOW YOU SHOULD APPROACH ME

I declare to all of you who approach Me, and to those of you who desire to approach Me, accepting Me as the Highest of the High, that you must never come with the desire in your heart which craves for wealth and worldly gain, but only with the fervent longing to give your all — body, mind and possessions — with all their attachments. Seek Me not in order to extricate you from your predicaments, but find Me in order to surrender yourself whole-heartedly to My Will. Cling to Me not for worldly happiness and shortlived comforts, but adhere to Me through thick and thin, sacrificing your own happiness and comfort at My feet, Let My happiness be your cheer and My comfort your rest; for those who lose their all in Me shall have Me ever after.

The best is just to remember Me and forget everything else, leaving everything to Me.

KNOW ME AS ALL— KNOWING

What I want to tell you is that I know everything. I am in each of you, and everywhere. As conscious real 'I' in this false 'I' of yours, I know everything. You exist as you were existing because you were there, you are there and you will continue to be there. You have been caught here in the snares of 'Maya', and the accumulation of sanskaras (impressions) makes you get more and more involved in Maya. All this life is a dream. The past and future are not there. There is only the Eternal Now in the everlasting present.

If you take Me to be God, God is All - Knowing. What is it then that makes you come to Me with your difficulties ? As it is, it seems to you that I do not Know everything ! know that I am Knowledge itself.

KEEP YOUR FACE TOWARDS ME

Keep your faces turned towards the Sun of Truth and your shadows of individualised Maya will lie behind you, and though still existent, will have no power over you. But if you turn your backs to the Sun your shadows will be before you and you will be following them. Although by yourselves you cannot get rid of your shadows, if you turn your backs on them and keep facing the Sun at the time of His full ascendance and glory, your shadows will disappear forever.

For those on the spiritual Path, I am the Sun, giving them Light and Life.

God is not to be found in the skies, or in caves of the Himalayas. God is in the heart of each one. Once your heart is clean, God will shine out of it.

FREE YOURSELF FROM BONDAGE

If you can love Me, love God. Your love will make you know Me. If you can make others happy through your love without seeking your own happiness, You can free yourself from this bondage. You can then find Me as I really am. No sooner do you get that Experience then you feel liberated and experience infinite Bliss.

God's Grace makes you love Me. My Grace makes you One with Me. If any number of calamities befall you and still you keep a smiling face, this may lead you to become like dust, and you can become like dust only if you possess the highest type of love for Me.

To love God as He ought to be loved, you must live for God and die for God, knowing that the goal of all life is to love God, and find Him as your own Self.

REACH BEYOND RELIGION

Give up all forms of parrotry. Start practising whatever you truly feel to be true and justly to be just. Do not make a show of your faith and beliefs. You have not to give up your religion, but to give up clinging to the husk of mere ritual and ceremony. To get to the fundamental core of Truth underlying all religions, reach beyond religion.

I am the Light of the Universe. One day, as soon as you get a glimpse of My Reality, you will come to know Me. Very rarely can one see Me as I really am, you see everything except Me. It is the curtain that surrounds My Reality, even the highest type of inner experience falls short of My real State — for when God manifests on earth in the form of man and reveals His divinity to mankind, He is recognised as the Avatar — the Messiah — the Prophet.

AWAKE NOW

I cannot expect you to understand all at once what I want you to know. It is for Me to awaken you from time to time throughout the ages, sowing the seed in your limited minds, which must in due course and with proper heed and care on your part, germinate, flourish and bear the fruit of that True Knowledge which is inherently yours to gain. If, on the other hand, led by your ignorance, you persist in going your own way, none can stop you in your choice of progress; for that too is progress which however slow and painful, eventually and after innumerable incarnations, is bound to make you realize that which I want you to know Now. To save yourself from further entanglement in the maze of delusion and self-created suffering which owes its magnitude to the extent of your ignorance of the true Goal — AWAKE NOW.

WE ARE LOVING GOD IF ...

If we feel for others in the same way as we feel for our own dear ones;

If instead of seeing faults in others, we look within ourselves;

If instead of robbing others to help ourselves, we rob ourselves to help others;

If we suffer in the suffering of others and feel happy in the happiness of others;

If instead of worrying over our own misfortunes, we think ourselves more fortunate than many others;

If we endure our lot with patience and contentment, accepting it as His Will;

If we understand and feel that the greatest act of devotion and worship to God is not to hurt or harm any of His beings,

We are loving God.

WIN PEOPLE TO THE TRUTH

You can help others to gain spiritual freedom, and to come out of the illusion of duality, only if you yourself do not lose this idea of unity while working for others. When you launch upon your spiritual work, you will encounter divisions that people desperately seek to maintain, which they accentuate and fortify and strive to perpetuate consciously or unconsciously. You have to win people to the life of Truth, they cannot be coerced into spirituality. You must not divide life into departments and then attempt to deal with each department separately. As spiritual workers, you have to aim at an inclusive and creative attitude to the individual and social problems of life. Never tell others what you do not feel yourself. Tell others only what you honestly take Me to be — for I am anything and everything that one can honestly believe.

MY WISH

The lover has to keep the wish of the Beloved.

My wish for My lovers is as follows :

1. Do not shirk your responsibilities.
2. Attend faithfully to your worldly duties but keep always at the back of your mind that all this is Baba's.
3. When you feel happy, think 'Baba wants me to be happy' When you suffer, think 'Baba wants me to suffer'.
4. Be resigned to every situation and think honestly and sincerely; 'Baba has placed me in this situation'.
5. With the understanding that Baba is in everyone, try to help and serve others.
6. I say with my Divine Authority to each and all that whosoever takes My Name at the time of breathing his last, comes to Me; so do not forget to remember Me in your last moments. Unless you start remembering Me from now on, it will be difficult to remember Me when your end approaches. You should start practising from now on. Even if you take My Name only once every day, you will not forget to remember Me in your dying moments.

ASSERT WHAT YOU BELIEVE

Each is free to think of Me and interpret My work as he feels or understands best. Either My words must be presented as they stand, or if interpreted by you, you must not fail to state it as your own interpretation . . . I have never denied being Perfect and being the Avatar, but you do not know that yet. I know I am the One without a second, alone and matchless. You would be quite right to assert and proclaim whatever you truly believe Me to be : never hesitate to own your faith and belief in Me and about Me. But do not claim to know or feel what you actually do not.

When mind soars in pursuit of the things conceived in space, it pursues emptiness; but when man dives deep within himself he experiences the fullness of existence.

DESIRE NOT

Unless you give up the breath of your desires and die to yourself, you cannot have the breath of real life and live forever.

You can own a world as long as you do not allow yourself to be owned by any part of it through attachment.

Renunciation of desires does not mean asceticism or a negative attitude of life. Without avoiding contact with the different aspects of life, maintain complete detachment in the midst of intense activity.

To have one eye glued on the enchanting pleasures of the flesh and with the other expect to see a spark of Eternal Bliss is not only impossible but the height of hypocrisy.

WANT WHAT I WANT

Always do what I want instead of wanting Me to want what you want. Most of you want Me to want what you want; and when you succeed in getting Me to agree to what you want, you are delighted and even tell others that that is what I want !

I know it is not easy to want what I want. In fact, it is impossible for you to want what I want, for it is impossible for you to love Me as I should be loved. But at least do not always be wanting Me to want what you want, and try your utmost to put your heart and soul into doing whatever I want you to do. Only intense love for Me can bring you to obey Me as I want you to.

Trust God completely and He will solve all difficulties. Faithfully leave everything to Him and He will see to everything.

MY WORKERS MUST BECOME LIKE DUST

Recently I heard that among some of My workers there has developed a considerable difference of opinion. Better you do not work for Me than develop such an attitude. I will appreciate your competitive spirit only in your surrender to Me and love for Me. To get yourself divided while doing My work shakes the very foundation of that work. That will defeat its own end. It is the height of hypocrisy to say, 'I alone can do Baba's work'.

If you cannot work together with concord, why open new centres for Me ? If you want to further My cause, there is no escape but to become like dust in my work. There cannot be any compromise. Each of My lovers must become like dust. Then people of their own accord will flock around him and his own life will radiate My Message of Love to others. Becoming dust-like is the only link that would bring you together.

BECOME MORE INTIMATE WITH ME

As you all become more intimate with Me, with opportunities to come closer to Me, all that is good and all that is bad within you comes out in sparks, as it were . . . all the impressions of the past, the accumulations of past 'sanskaras' — all illusory things, which include both good and bad — come out. My proximity, the intimacy with Me just changes that mass of 'sanskaras', and sometimes you find sparks of good and bad flying out.

When you become one with God, the Bliss that you experience is eternal and infinite. There is no break in that Bliss, it is continual. Life in Eternity knows no bondage, decay or sorrow.

Live not in ignorance. Do not waste your precious life — span in differentiating and judging your fellowmen, but learn to long for the love of God.

KEEP ME WITH YOU

I am nearer to you than your own breath. Remember Me, and I am with you and My Love will guide you.

Your being with Me physically is immaterial. It is My being with you that matters. So keep Me with you always.

You have to love God silently and honestly even in your everyday life. Whilst eating, drinking, talking and doing all your duties, you can still love God continuously without letting anyone know.

Through unfathomable ways, I lead you to liberation. Accept My rhythm, come in tune with it without reservations. My rhythm of Truth shall redeem you: it will open your heart, it will give you new love.

SAY ABOUT ME WHAT YOU FEEL

Don't practise false propaganda. What your heart says and your conscience says about Me, pour out without hesitation. Be unmindful of whether you are ridiculed or accepted in pouring out your heart for Me to others.

If you take Baba as God, say so; do not hesitate.

If you think Baba is the Devil, say it out; do not be afraid.

I am everything that you take Me to be and I am also beyond everything; then why hesitate to say out or be afraid to express what you feel and what you think of Me ? Say it out frankly. I am both. However, do not overrule your conscience and do not exaggerate merely for propaganda. Of Myself I say again and again, 'I am the Ancient One — the Highest of the High'.

THE OCEAN OF LOVE

I am the Ocean of Grace, but I am as hard as flint for you to draw the Grace out of Me. The flow of My Grace for you depends upon the intensity of your love to attract it towards yourself.

I am the Ocean of Love.

Those who do not dare to love Me seek safety on the shores. You who have been loving Me are swimming in this Divine Ocean. Love Me more and more till you get drowned in Me. Dive deep and you will gain the priceless pearl of infinite Oneness.

You have not to renounce anything but your own self. It is as simple as that, though found to be almost impossible. You can renounce your limited self by My Grace. I have come to release that Grace.

SERVE HIM WHO SERVES ALL

To serve the God - Man who serves all, is serving the universe. Selfless service and love are twin divine qualities. Only the one who loves can serve. Serve your Beloved God - Man and you are serving your own Self in every other self. The service He expects is for your own spiritual benefit, but this service must be spontaneous, willing, whole-hearted, unconditional and not expecting any reward. His service is an ordeal that tries body, mind and spirit; or else wherein would lie the perfection of serving, if it were to be easy and at one's convenience ? The body suffers, mind is tormented, but the spirit of the selfless server of the Master experiences the bliss of satisfaction.

To avoid inaction on the one hand and the pride of action on the other, it is necessary for the aspirant to construct a provisional and working ego which will be entirely subservient to the Master.

BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF AND GOD

Let your heart be pure. Do not act outwardly what you are not inwardly. Be absolutely honest—God is Infinite Honesty.

Do not pose as being pious, because God is everywhere. God cannot be fooled — so why pose as something you are not ?

I do not want anything else from you but the gift of your obedience. Give Me that and you will free yourself from the bondage of ignorance.

Pay heed and strive for Freedom by experiencing ignorance in its true perspective. Be honest with yourself and God. You may fool the world and your neighbours, but you can never escape from the knowledge of the Omniscient — such is the Divine Law.

SURRENDER YOURSELF

The duty of the Master is first of all to release and free you from the venomous clutches of 'Maya' and then to give you Experience (Realization).

Once you have surrendered yourself to the Master, He has to do His duty to you. He cannot escape that. It is only your unbounded love and unswerving faith that is required thereafter, and that will encourage Him in His duties towards you. So, take your Master to be your God, and with as much love and faith, surrender and serve Him and you will be saved.

If you have the complete faith that Kalyan had for his Master in believing it was night, although it was day — because his Master said so — then you will know Me.

BE RESIGNED TO MY WILL

Be content with your lot — whether rich or poor, happy or miserable. Understand that God has designed it for your own good and be resigned to His Will.

Be resigned completely to My Will, and My Will will be yours.

Some like work, some like play, but when you do it for Me, then it is the same — this is Vedanta in a nutshell.

I want you to remain undisturbed and unshaken by the force of life's currents, for whatever the circumstances, they too will be of My own creation.

If you endure your lot with patience and contentment, accepting it as His Will, you are loving God.

LANGUAGE OF THE HEART

Compared with the essentials of the Path, the three most unimportant things to do are to garland Me, to bow down to Me, and sing empty words of praise or perform Arti. They are not necessarily the signs of Love for God.

The prayer God hears is the prayer from the heart, that raising of the heart, that suffering of the heart — that is what God pays attention to. It is better not to worship if you cannot do so with your heart in it. God does not listen to the language of the tongue nor to the language of the mind. He responds to the language of the heart. The language of the heart is the song of Love for the Beloved. The Beloved can only be found within you, for His only abode is the heart.

Do not lose heart, but keep Me in your heart and remember I am always with you.

START DYING

It is time you started dying — the death of low desires. It is all Bliss, yet all are miserable because of ignorance which causes desires to be fulfilled. The goal of each and everyone is to attain the 'no desire' state. This is the goal. You say 'I want this, I want that !' Needs are not wants, and wanting inevitably leads to suffering. So try your best to want less and less. Try loving, loving more and more, and then you will want less of that which is beyond your needs and want more love. All you have enjoyed all these years is nil. All you have suffered today is nil; it was all illusion. It is your right to be happy, so why try to be unhappy by wanting things ? Want nothing and you will have everything.

The world is slave to needs. The needs must become your slaves. You must learn to use your modern conveniences — not be used by them.

DO ALL FOR ME

The less you think of yourself and the more you think of Baba, the sooner the ego goes and Baba remains. When your 'ego' goes away entirely. I am one with you. So, bit by bit, 'you' have to go. Today your nose, tomorrow your ears, then your eyes, your hands, everything ! So better think of Me when you eat, sleep, see or hear. Enjoy all; do not discard anything, but think it is Baba — Baba who enjoys, Baba who is eating. It is Baba sleeping soundly, and when you wake up, remember it is Baba getting up ! Keep this one thought constantly with you. If you do wrong ! then think Baba is doing wrong ! If you get a pain, think it is Baba having a pain. If you do all this sincerely, you will know something. Try to forget yourself and do all for Baba.

You should live a normal life and just love Baba and not be attached to your being. Then you will have a curtain of Baba's Love protecting you from the world.

HAVE ONE HEART

If you want to stick to me, you must have a clean heart. There is no use in sometimes having faith and sometimes having doubt.

It is best then to leave Me; then you can lead your life in the world and be free. If you want to love Me, you should not try to create confusion among yourselves. You will be loving Me best by loving each other. If one has to say something behind the other's back, how can you tell the world about My Love ? If you all cannot love Me as I want you to love Me, it is best not to speak to the world about Me.

Let us put an end to all hypocrisy. Let hypocrisy be completely wiped out from your hearts. You should all have one heart, a clean heart. We are one family. I would love to see that.

LOVE ME SILENTLY

If you love Me, let that love not be wasted by escaping through your lips in words. It is an insult to real love if and when such love happens to be deliberately exhibited.

You have to be very particular about the purity of the heart; you talk of love, but it is not easy to love. You should love God in such a way that apart from others not knowing about it, you yourself are not aware of it.

For you to bow down to Me, to perform My Arti, to worship Me, is not what I have come for. I expect much from you. I have come to receive your love from you and to bestow My Love on you. Love others as you would love yourself and all that is yours.

Things that are real are given and received in silence.

SERVE OTHERS AS YOU WOULD SERVE ME

Real happiness lies in making others happy. The real desire is that which leads you to become perfect in order to make others become perfect. Live less for yourself and more for others. Serve others with the understanding that in them you are serving Me.

When you serve your fellow-beings with selflessness, you serve God. Selfless service means that it has to be so very natural that even the thought that you are serving should be absent. What God's aspect of Honesty means is that you serve others in order to make them happy at the cost of your own happiness. Honesty demands that no show and no fuss is made of your service, and you treat others as you treat your own dear ones.

To love God in the most practical way is to love your fellow beings.

COME UNTO ME

Approach Me with unfailing faith, love and devotion, and with the longing to receive My divine Love and Grace.

I would like you to bear in mind that you do not approach Me with the thought of any worldly gain. Come to receive My Love. Also remember that whosoever forms friendship with Me loses everything, even the self — then I give God Realization.

However far man may fling himself into outer space he will not change — wherever he goes he will remain what he is. It is when man travels within himself that he experiences a metamorphosis of himself. It is this journeying that matters, for the Infinite Treasure — God — is within man, and not to be found outside himself.

The universe has come out of Me, and has to come unto Me.

REALIZE YOUR INFINITENESS

You are infinite, you are really everywhere, but you think you are the body, and therefore consider yourself limited. If you look within and experience your own soul in its true nature, you will realize that you are infinite and beyond all creation.

The truth of Divine Love is not a hope but a reality — all else is illusion. Have faith and you will be redeemed. Have love and you will conquer the limited self of cravings that veil your own true being as God.

Why seek temporary relief which has in its wake binding ? Ask God not for money, fame, power, health or children, but for His Grace of Love which will lead you to eternal Bliss and freedom.

If you renounce for Me everything physical, mental and spiritual, then you have Me.

OBEY ME

All I ask of you is that you love Me most and obey Me at all times. Knowing that it is impossible for you to obey Me as you should, I help you to carry out whole-heartedly what I ask you to do by repeatedly bringing to you the importance of obedience.

When you do what the Master says, the responsibility falls on Him whom you obey, even when you obey unwillingly.

You can leave your mind to My care by remembering Me or repeating My Name silently as often as you can.

I want you to remain undisturbed and unshaken by the force of life's currents, for whatever the circumstances, they too will be of My own creation.

AWAKE FOR ALL TIME

When you 'awake', you find that the great Dream containing all the varied illusory aspects of dreaming has vanished for ever. Heaven and hell as well as the planes vanish within your Self, to remain as nothing. In this 'awakened' state, there is no scope for anything besides you — the Self, the Existence, eternal and infinite. This is the only Experience worth experiencing and aspiring after. To gain this Experience you have to become as dust at the feet of the Perfect Master — which amounts to becoming as nothing. And when you become absolutely nothing, you become Everything. Once I awake in your heart, you too will awake for all time.

It is My God—ordained work to awaken humanity to the inviolable unity and inalienable divinity of all life. Know that you are in essence eternal, and heirs to infinite Knowledge, Bliss and Power.

SEEK NOT THE KINGDOM OF EARTH

Do not seek material pleasure and you will find the spiritual treasure. This means — seek only God by not seeking material pleasure and you will find God.

You can only seek God through self—denial. The spiritual treasure cannot be obtained by merely stretching out your hand for it. Only in the completeness of self denial can the spiritual treasure become self—evident. Seek the Kingdom of Heaven by not seeking the kingdom of earth and you will find it.

When God is found, you can have no idea what infinite Bliss and Peace is gained. I give you all My Love so that some day you can love God as He ought to be loved.

KNOW ME AS GOD

God is nearer to you than your own shadow. In fact, He is not only within you but He is your very Self. You cannot get at Him for you seek Him through the ego—mind which converts Him into the will—o'—the—wisp.

I am God — God the Beyond and God in human form. I draw you ever closer to Me by giving you frequent occasions of My Companionship. But familiarity often makes you forget that I am God. I know all that happens and will happen. Whatever happens does not happen without My Will. Knowingly I allow things to happen in their natural course.

I come down to your level to such an extent that I mix with you all. I appear to be cheerful, playful, but you have no idea of My Divinity, of My All—pervading state.

TRY NOT TO UNDERSTAND ME

The moment you try to understand God rather than love Him, you begin to misunderstand Him, and your ignorance feeds your ego. Mind cannot reach that which is beyond it — God is infinite and beyond the reach of mind.

Do not try with your limited mind to understand the significance of My actions, nor try to imitate them. You must not do what I do, but do what I tell you to do. To try to bring My every action within the orbit of your understanding is but to understand the limitations of your own understanding. The utter simplicity of My Divine Game appears to be highly intricate as soon as you try to understand it through your intellect.

To ask for a purely intellectual proof of the existence of God is like asking for the privilege of being able to see with your ears.

THE DIVINE GAME

The more you have of My Company and receive of My Love with an open heart, the more whole—heartedly you begin to accept Me. And the more you see of Me, the more convinced you become that you understand Me less and less. Exerting yourself to comprehend My Divine Game through the process of understanding opens up vast fields of speculation in which you wander and arrive sooner or later at a dead—end, finding yourself hopelessly lost. If My actions cause confusion, it is because of your lack of complete trust. Therefore, uproot all doubt and remember well that whatever I do is for the best. All My actions are My Divine response born of My Divine Love.

I never make plans, never change plans, It is all one endless plan of making people know that there is no plan.

GAIN KNOWLEDGE ETERNAL

Knowledge (Self—Realization) uproots illusions, doubts and worries, and apparent sufferings are instantaneously replaced by everlasting Peace and eternal Bliss, which is the Goal of Existence. Do not hope, because this Knowledge is beyond hoping and waiting. Do not reason, because this Knowledge cannot be comprehended or thought of. Do not doubt, because this Knowledge is the certainty of certainties. Do not live the life of the senses, because the lusty, greedy, false, impure minds cannot reach this Knowledge. Love God as the Soul of your souls and in the height of this Love lies this Knowledge.

Why is it so difficult to find God ? It is because you are looking for something you have never lost.

LOVE ME FOR MYSELF

For ages I have been giving in silence My silent Message of Love. You ask Me for a message from My silence, but silent are the words of My silence. Silent is love, and the lover loves My silence and silently adores Me in My silence.

Although I appear to be silent, I speak through you all. I am ever silent and everlastingly speaking; but the time has come when soon I will break this apparent silence, and those of you who love Me will see My Real Self.

I want you to know that I will definitely break My silence; and I want you to cling to my 'daaman' till the very end, irrespective of whether I speak or not. I am the Highest of the High and want you to Love Me, not for any spiritual or material gain, nor for the impending breaking of My silence and My manifestation, but I want you to love Me for Myself as being God in human form.

REMEMBER ME CONSTANTLY

I do not perform any miracles, I do not change the circumstances at all, but there is one thing that is certain: My spiritual status is so high, so great, that if any man in any difficulty, in any corner of the world, at any time, remembers Me with all his heart, the difficulty is immediately solved. That is not idle talk, it is a fact. I am the Lord of the Universe and the Slave of the love of My lovers.

When you feel angry or get lustful thoughts, at once remember Me whole-heartedly. Let My Name serve the purpose of a net around you so that like mosquitoes, the thoughts may keep buzzing around you, yet they will not be able to 'bite' you.

Any moment you feel you are getting excited, remember Me, and you can at once turn that moment into laughter.

EMPTY YOUR HEART OF STRANGERS

If you are convinced of God's existence, then it rests with you to seek Him, to see Him and to realize Him. Do not search for God outside of you; God can only be found within you, for His only abode is the heart. But you have filled His abode with millions of strangers and He cannot enter — for He is shy of strangers. Unless you empty His abode of these strangers, you will never find God. These strangers are your age-old desires — your millions of wants. Honesty in your dealings with others will clear the strangers out of your heart.

Then you will find Him, see Him and realize Him.

The ego-mind must meet actual death if God is to be seen and realized.

SURRENDER TO MY WILL

If you wish to live perpetually, then crave for the death of your deceptive self at the hands of complete surrender to Me.

To completely surrender to My Will, your heart must be pure and your mind empty of all thoughts. All those who surrender themselves in love to Me will see, adore and realize the reality behind My form.

Dust has no thought of its own—whether it is trampled upon or applied to the forehead of a man, or remains suspended in air or water. It is all the same to it. I tell you, there is no truer and better example of complete surrender than becoming like dust.

Spiritual advancement is a succession of one surrender after another, until the goal of the final surrender of the separate ego—life is achieved. The last surrender is the complete surrender, equivalent to the attainment of Truth.

HAVE COMPLETE FAITH IN ME

If you have rock-like faith in God and flame-like love for Him, nothing in this world will affect you. Misery will not trouble you, flattery will not touch you, happiness will not humour you. Such faith and love will cause you to rise above the imaginary phenomenon and make you understand that God alone is real.

Trust God completely and He will solve all your difficulties. Faithfully leave everything to Him and He will see to everything. Love God sincerely and He will reveal Himself to you. This love needs no ceremonies and show. Your heart must love so that even your mind is not aware of it.

Let nothing shake your faith in Me, and all your bindings will be shaken off. Once you open your wings to fly, you must fly straight like the swan. Do not flit from tree to tree like the sparrow, or many things will distract you on the way.

DO NOT FEAR SUFFERING

You should look upon physical and mental suffering as gifts from God. They bring their own lessons of the futility of the passing and of the intrinsic worth of the Eternal.

Do not get disheartened and alarmed when adversity, calamity and misfortune pour in upon you. Thank God, for He has thereby given you the opportunity of acquiring forbearance and fortitude. Those who have acquired the power of bearing with adversities, can easily enter the spiritual path.

Do not fear suffering or blame anyone for it. According to the Law that governs the universe, all suffering is your labour of love to unveil your Real Self. In comparison to the infinite Bliss you experience on attaining the 'I - am - God - state', all the suffering and agonies you go through amount to practically nothing.

BE PURE IN HEART

For the purification of your heart, leave your thoughts alone but maintain a constant vigil over your actions. When you have thoughts of anger, lust or greed, do not worry about them and do not try to check them. Let all such thoughts come and go without putting them into action. Try to think counter-thoughts in order to discern, discriminate, and to learn and above all to undo the actions which are prompted by your own impressions.

If people act dishonestly with you and create difficulties for you and deceive you, and yet you remain honest and pure, you are very fortunate; because these deceivers or your so-called enemies are your friends. They wash away your sins and weaknesses and make your Path clear towards God.

SPREAD MY MESSAGE OF LOVE

Those who truly love Me are my 'centres' in the world. Let each Baba-lover, wherever he or she may be, be a 'Baba's Centre' personified, radiating the eternal Message of Love Divine, living a life of love, sacrifice and honesty.

When you spread My eternal Message of Love to others, show them first that you really love Me. Do not merely make them read My books and messages. Do more — live such a life of love, sacrifice, forgiveness and tolerance that others will love Me. If instead of doing the real work of love, you start doing organised propaganda work for Me, it is absurd. I need no propaganda or publicity. If you cannot live the life of love and honesty, you should stop working for Me.

He who works for Me does not oblige Me, for he works for his own self.

LONG FOR UNION WITH GOD

Long for one thing, be restless for one thing; long for one thing that will kill the millions of other longings — long for union with the Beloved. You should become lost in the idea of possessing the Beloved by hook or by crook. When you are prepared in your heart of hearts to gain union with God at the cost of life and the ridicule of the whole world, then perhaps you may be said to have entered the lane of Divine Love. Even the craving for union with the Beloved creates bindings. Therefore, do not bother about separation or union — just love and love all the more; then you are able to resign yourself and your Path to the Perfect Master who is The Way, and you undergo a gradual change and your ego asserts less and less. Then whatever the Perfect Master tells you to do, you are able to carry out.

EARN GODHOOD

You can earn livelihood with the sweat of your brow, and you can earn Godhood with the blood of your heart.

Unless you become like dust you cannot realize God. But first you have to become like stone, for you cannot become dust right away. What is needed is to retain human consciousness and become as stone, and then wear yourself to dust at the feet of the Perfect Master.

Be bound by freedom — be attached to detachment. That means have desires — but be their master and not their slave.

One who lives for himself is truly dead and one who dies for God is truly alive.

IN MY PRESENCE

Think of things that you will not hesitate to think in My presence; speak words that you will not hesitate to speak in My presence; and do things you will not hesitate to do in My presence.

It is your false self that keeps you away from your True Self by every trick it knows. In the guise of honesty, this self even deceives itself. For instance, your self claims 'I love Baba'. The fact is that if you really loved Baba, you would not be your self making the self-asserting statement ! The self, instead of being effaced in love, believes and asserts 'I' love Baba.

Strength begets humility, whereas modesty bespeaks weakness. Only he who is truly great can be truly humble.

WAYS OF LOVING GOD

Love. Everyone now uses the word 'love'; it has been made so very cheap. If one really loves, one would never utter that word. What does it mean to love God ? It is a very, very great thing. The true lover of God never says anything. He forgets that he loves God.

How will you love God ? How should you love God? Not through so-called prayers or other things. There are two ways. One is to leave all and everything. That means to have nothing of your own, not even your own body — to renounce absolutely everything. Everything means not only your surroundings, but everything, including yourself.

The second thing is something great. There you do not have to renounce anything. You can lead your family life, be in the world, do your work or business, attend your services, attend theatres, parties, everything. But always do one thing ! Constantly think, constantly try, to make others happy, even at the cost of your own happiness.

EXPERIENCE HEAVEN ON EARTH

God who is all Power, all Wisdom and all Love, all Mercy and all Bliss, resides in you all. There also reside in you all the apparently opposite aspects of these infinite qualities, like helplessness, ignorance, lust, cruelty, suffering and so on. He who desires God develops compassion, selflessness and self - denying renunciation. He who runs after transitory shadows — objects of desire — cultivates selfishness, greed and hatred. The former brings peace on earth; the latter brings wars and destruction. Give up low desires and unnecessary cravings and you will experience heaven on earth.

Baba wants all His lovers to know that it is very important not to succumb to lust. Temptations are and will be great, but your love for Him should be greater. Remember Him wholeheartedly, and rise swiftly from where you have fallen and march ahead in His love and service.

FIND ME AS YOUR OWN SELF

You must always remember that the only thing worth remembering is to forget everything else and to remember Me in order to be able to love Me, and then find Me as your own Self.

I am nearer to you than your own breath. Remember Me and I am with you, and My Love will guide you. I am the One who is always lost and found among mankind. It is your love for yourself that loses Me and it is your love for Me that finds Me. Love Me above everything, for now while I am in your midst I am most easily found as I really am.

If you want to know anything of God and to reach Him, then catch hold of Baba's daaman. If you care for God and care for Love and if you have the desire for union with God then the only solution is to catch hold of Baba.

FEEL NOT HELPLESS

If you have realized God within you and you know that God is all-powerful, then you must also be all-powerful. Why do you then feel helpless ? I remain the same Eternal One and am in all; therefore, you all are God; and yet you feel so helpless. Why is this ? It is because there is a kind of veil that veils you from God. You yourself are the veil, and it is not possible for you to lift it — this veil which is yourself. Your eyes which are quite small can see a vast panorama and all the objects contained in it, but they cannot see themselves. To see themselves, a mirror is required. So, when the mirror of My Grace descends, your own True Self is revealed in an instant.

You must drown yourself completely in the Ocean of My Love; then you will find My Grace there.

I MAY GIVE YOU NOTHING

I may give you more, much more than you expect, or maybe nothing, and that nothing may prove to be everything. So I say, come with open hearts to receive much or nothing from the Divine Beloved.

Come to receive not so much My words but of My Silence.

God does everything and in another sense does nothing. Although God does nothing, those who approach Him with love and surrender derive everything that matters in the spiritual realm.

You . . . are one of My rocks on whom I can depend. I can promise you definitely that you will always be near Me until you become one with Me. What more do you want ? What is there to want ? I do not talk much to you, for it is self-understood. You know it. It is within.

HOLD FAST TO ME

When I come down to your level, because of the familiarity and intimacy that is created, you completely forget about My Divinity — you forget that I know every little thing. When I sit with you all, when I enquire about your health and so on, you forget that you must inform Me of every detail, and at the same time you forget that I know everything.

Keep your hearts clean with all that Baba decides. Let there be no lingering misunderstanding. If you all have the love and faith that I am the Avatar, which I am, then you must obey Me, you must love Me. If you are not prepared to obey Me, or if you have doubts and wish to carry out your own will, then you must leave Me. If you love Me, you must hold fast to Me.

SHARE MY CONSCIOUSNESS

I am one with you on every level, but you know this only when your ego and intellect do not interfere. Then Baba appears as He is.

Pay heed when I say with My Divine Authority that the oneness of Reality is so uncompromisingly unlimited and all—pervading that not only 'We are one', but even this collective term 'We' has no place in the infinite indivisible Oneness.

I am ever conscious that I am in you; while you are never conscious that I am in you. Daily I support you and share your consciousness. Now I want you to uphold Me so that one day you can share My consciousness.

Out of the ripeness of experience and through the dissolution of the ego—mind, the soul enters into the sole unity of Divine Life.

TRUE LOVE

If anything ever touches My Universal Heart it is love.

Love and coercion can never go together, but while love cannot be forced upon anyone, it can be awakened through love itself. Love is essentially self—communicative; those who do not have it catch it from those who have it. Those who receive love from others cannot be its recipients without giving a response which in itself is the nature of love.

True love is unconquerable and irresistible. It goes on gathering power and spreading itself until eventually it transforms everyone it touches. Humanity will attain to a new mode of being through the free and unhampered interplay of pure love from heart to heart.

The only thing that I have been repeating ever since the first time I came is LOVE GOD. Age after age I have been saying nothing but LOVE GOD.

DO AS I SAY

Suppose I say, 'Don't worry about your children!' You must take My word, as it comes from God, because I am that. What does the word of God mean? God must know everyone, do everything. Therefore, when He says 'Don't worry about your children' it means you do not have to worry. Suppose I turn My key and there is an earthquake tomorrow and within five minutes all of you vanish. Then what about your worries, about your family and children? Therefore, I say 'Stick to My word' — whatever instructions I may give you. That is all that is necessary. Do as I say and the rest you leave to Me. But do as I say.

I am unmindful of all the qualifications you have. The only qualification I want you to have is love. Love Me and I am pleased with you.

MY UNIVERSAL RELIGION

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 religion and stifle it with ceremonies and rituals.

I have come to sow the seed of Love in your hearts so that the feeling of oneness through love is brought about amongst all nations, creeds, sects and castes of the world.

All religions of the world proclaim that there is but one God, the Father of all in Creation. I am that Father.

I belong to no religion. Every religion belongs to Me. My own personal religion is of My being the Ancient Infinite One and the religion I teach to all is Love for God.

THE AWAKENER

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 the purpose has been served.

I intend to bring together all religions and cults like beads on one string, revitalizing them for individual and collective needs.

My Message always has been and always will be of Divine Love. Let the world know it.

My advent is not to destroy illusion because illusion is nothing. I come to make you become aware of the nothingness of illusion. Through you I maintain illusion which is nothing but the shadow of My Infinite Self and through Me you discard illusion when you experience its falseness.

Be brave, be happy. I and you are one. And the Infinite that eternally belongs to Me will one day belong to every individual.

THE SOUL

At present, you as Soul are unconscious of God and God's Bliss. Your mind now suffers or is happy according to your impressions. Let go the mind and you are your Real Self.

Above incarnate life in birth, and beyond discarnate life after death, the Soul is one indivisible, eternal existence. If death has any value, it is to teach the individual the true art of life.

Neither seek death nor fear it, and when death comes to you it is converted into a stepping stone to the higher life.

You are infinite. You are really everywhere; but you think you are the body and therefore consider yourself limited. If you look within and experience your own Soul in its true nature, you will realize that you are infinite and beyond all creation.

THE PURPOSE OF LIFE

Not by seeking individual happiness or safety but by again and again offering one's life in the service of others is it possible to rise to the unsurpassed completeness of realized truth. God is not to be sought by running away from life but by establishing unity with the One in the many. Purity, love and service are the elements of spiritual life.

Those who cleanse their hearts of the embittering poison of selfishness, hate and greed find God as their own true Self. The truth of divine life is not a hope but a reality; all else is illusion. Have faith and you will be redeemed. Have love and you will conquer the limited self of cravings that veil your own true being as God.

The so many deaths during the one whole life, from the beginning of evolution of consciousness to the end of involution of consciousness, are like so many sleeps during one lifetime.

SPIRITUAL WORKERS

The only reason why I call upon every individual to work for Me is to make each one share the Divine Cause.

So if you are prepared to share My Universal Work, the work must be done one hundred percent honestly, and that work is to spread My Message of Love.

Bear in mind that you should not at all seek appreciation from Me or from others. Remember this much, that work in itself is its own appreciation. The moment you seek appreciation, the work is undone.

The task for spiritual workers to help Me in this dispensation of the Truth to suffering humanity means that you have not only to prepare others to receive this Truth, but to get established in it yourselves.

Spiritual workers are necessarily confronted with many obstacles but obstacles are meant to be overcome. Even if insuperable, do your best, irrespective of results and consequences.

DIVINE LOVE

God and Love are identical, and one who has Divine Love has received God.

Divine Love makes us true to ourselves and to others. Divine Love is the solution to our difficulties and problems. It frees us from every kind of binding. It makes us speak truly, think truly, and act truly. It makes us feel one with the whole universe. Divine love purifies our hearts and glorifies our being.

Start learning to love God by loving those whom you cannot love. The more you remember others with kindness and generosity the more you forget yourself, and when you completely forget yourself, you find God.

My Message always has been and always will be of Divine Love. Let the world know it.

THE ANCIENT ONE

I was Rama. I was Krishna, I was this One, I was that One, and now I am Meher Baba. In this form of flesh and blood, I am that same Ancient One who is eternally worshipped and ignored, ever remembered and forgotten. I am that Ancient One whose past is worshipped and remembered, whose present is ignored and forgotten, and whose future (Advent) is anticipated with great fervour and longing.

I am the Ancient One. Not a leaf has the power to quiver without My wish. I am the One who knows everything about everyone.

I am God, I am in you all. I never come and I never go. I am present everywhere.

The glory of the suns is the seventh shadow of My real state of Reality. Even a glimpse of the glory is enough for one to lose all consciousness.

I am the Universal Thief, I steal hearts.

HAVE HOPE

Great suffering awakens 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 growth. It contributes to the construction of life on the unshakable foundation of the Truth.

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.

SOJOURN OF THE SOUL

The sojourn of the soul is a thrilling Divine Romance in which the lover, who in the beginning is conscious of nothing but emptiness, frustration, superficiality and the gnawing chains of bondage, gradually attains an increasingly fuller and freer expression of love, and ultimately disappears and merges in the Divine Beloved to realize the unity of the Lover and the Beloved in the supreme and eternal fact of God as Infinite Love.

The Source of eternal Bliss is the Self in all. The cause of perpetual misery is the selfishness of all. As long as satisfaction is derived through selfish pursuits, misery will always exist. Only because of the infinite love and mercy of God can man learn to realize, through the lessons of misery on earth, that inherent in him is the source of Infinite Bliss, and all suffering is his labour of love to unveil his own infinite Self.

THE WAY AND THE GOAL

I am the Way ; I am the Goal.

I authoritatively say, I am the Ancient One.

If you love Me with all your heart, then you
will be made free eternally.

I am the Ocean of Love.

I am the only Lover,

I am the only Beloved.

I am LOVE.

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.

UNIVERSAL MESSAGE (Con't)

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 precept. 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 recieve of it. It will help every individual 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.

SELECTIONS FROM THE BIRTHDAY MESSAGES OF MEHER BABA

1931

So long as people will continue attending to the empty shows of customs and ceremonials, they will fail to grasp the essence or substance of religion. Though creeds and theologies are many, religion is strictly speaking only one, and this one religion includes in its essence sublime character, mental purity, love for God, and longing to realize the truth. In order that this religion may be applicable to all caste - tyranny and priest - craft must be eradicated root and branch.

1934

The reason for My coming here to participate personally in your celebration is your love that has irresistibly drawn Me to you. Love is a mighty force. It not only enables one to put the ideal of selfless service into practice, but would transform

one into God. With love one can follow any of the Yogas most suitable to his or her temperament. It will enable an aspirant to follow the rigid principles underlying the spiritual path, and where and when necessary, makes him turn his back on worldly pleasures for the sake of union with the Beloved.

Where there is love there is Oneness, and there can be no question of any particular religion or caste or system, superiority or inferiority, and touchability or untouchability. But to realize this natural quality permanently, one has to submit to the greatest law of God, which is love. It holds the key to all problems inasmuch as under this law the infinite is realized completely for all time in every walk of life, be it science, art, religion or beauty.

May the world realize this highest aspect of Divinity more and more

The incident of birth is common to all life on earth. Unlike other living creatures which are born insignificantly, which live an involuntary life and which die an uncertain death, physical birth of human beings connotes an important and, if they are extra-circumspect about it, perhaps a final stage of their evolutionary progress. Here onwards, they are no longer automatons but masters of their destiny, which they can shape and mould according to will. And this means that human beings, having passed through all the travails of lower evolutionary processes, should insist upon the reward thereof, which is 'Spiritual Birth' in this very life, and not rest content with a promise in the hereafter.

Sinner and saint will appear to be waves, differing in size and magnitude, on the surface of the same ocean, a natural outcome of forces in the universe, governed by time and causation. The saint has neither the price of place, nor the sinner the stigma of eternal degradation. Nobody is utterly lost and nobody need despair.

The knowledge that all have the same beginning and the same end, with life on earth a happy interlude, will go a long way in making the Brotherhood of Man a reality on earth.

1946

Suffering comes and goes; joy comes and goes; pleasure comes and goes. They will demand your utmost patience, courage, poise, and above all, your love and obedience to Me. Whoever stands for Me stands for the Truth, the Eternal Light that is forever illuminating the hearts of you all.

Through darkness to light, through suffering to happiness, through chaos to harmony will be the end of the journey. All suffering has an end. Spiritual happiness has no end. It is perennial.

Giving over your goodness, your strength and your weaknesses in entire submission to Me, you will share My Treasure of Happiness.

1954

Statements and messages can lead us nowhere on the spiritual path. The more you try to understand God, the less you understand Him. How can He who is beyond explanation, be expressed in words? It being infinitely easy has rendered it infinitely difficult.

The secret is you have to become what you already are. You can know Me as I am, as one of you and one in you only when the veils of separateness are lifted. This can be done if you love Me honestly and wholeheartedly.

Lose yourself in Baba and you will find that you eternally are Baba. There can be no compromise in love. It has either to be full or not at all. I say today with Divine Authority that I am the Ancient One and I am the slave of those who really love Me.

1954 SPECIAL MESSAGE

I am never born, I never die. Yet every moment I take birth and undergo death. The countless illusory births and deaths are necessary landmarks in the progression of Man's consciousness to Truth — a prelude to the Real Death and Real Birth. The Real Death is when one dies to self; and the Real Birth is when dying to self one is born in God, to live forever His Eternal Life consciously.

Although I am present everywhere eternally in My formless Infinite State, from time to time I take form, and taking of the form and leaving it is termed My physical birth and death. In this sense I was born sixty years ago and will die when My universal work is finished.

1958

So far as birthdays go, every day is My birthday. I am born every moment and die every moment. So that every day (every moment) is My birthday.

1959

Every second in Eternity every one of us is the same One indivisible God who has no second.

For Ages I have been giving in Silence My Silent Message of Love.

You ask Me for a message from My Silence — but silent are the words of My Silence. Silent is Love, and the lover loves My Silence, and silently adores Me in My Silence.

1960

The True Lover is born at that moment when he dies for God.

When one remains fully and completely resigned to the Divine Will of God, all service, sacrifice, solitude, seeking and surrender merely symbolize one's love for God.

1961

I am the One who is always lost and found among mankind. It is your love for yourself that loses Me, and it is your love for Me that finds Me.

Love Me above everything. For now while I am in your midst am I most easily found as I really Am.

1962

On this anniversary of My birthday I give you My blessings for the deathday of your false selves and for the Birthday in Me of your One True Self.

Lay well and truly in your hearts the foundation stone of My Message of Love and Truth so that this Avatar Meher Baba Poona Centre may be a light for all who come here.

1964

The aim of life is to love God.

The goal of life is to become One With God.

The surest and quickest way to achieve this goal is to hold on to My daaman by loving Me more and more.

All Paths are Mine.

And all lead to Me eventually.

But the shortest way to Me is the no—path of self—annihilative Love.

Throughout the ages men have been deeply involved in the struggle for peace and happiness. It is this struggle that lands them into chaos and misery. If they were only to become conscious of the fact that peace and happiness are not to be fought for but to be sought for within oneself, they would abandon their fighting and be at peace with themselves and the world.

Although I take birth for all mankind, fortunate are the ones who love Me while I am on earth.

1965

Be true to the Trust I repose in you and remember Me wholeheartedly.

All talk about the Path and the Goal is a lantern carried by a blind man. A blind man needs a staff in his hand; the seeker needs his hand in God—Man's.

No sooner you begin to love those whom you cannot love, you begin to love Me as I should be loved.

To love those whom you could not hate is natural, but to love those whom you cannot love is to love Me as I should be loved.

1966

Shun those masters who are like multicoloured electric signs which flash on and off, brightening the dark sky of your world for a moment, and leaving you in darkness again.

I am the Sun which is hidden by the shadow of your self. Cease thinking that you are your shadow and you will find that the Sun which I am is your own Reality.

All that frightens and confuses you and grips you with despair is your own shadow. When the Sun of Love manifests in its glory and all faces are turned towards that Radiance, all shadows will have disappeared — even the memory of them will have vanished.

A post, to stand erect and firm, must have its butt-end sunk well into the ground. Likewise, My lover needs to have the base of his faith embedded in My Divinity if he would remain steadfast in his love.

Be composed in the Reality of My Love, for all confusion and despair is your own shadow, which will vanish when I speak the Word.

I am the joy in your heart and the despair of your mind — for love can attain that which the intellect cannot fathom.

I am present in all hearts gathered in My Name to hear My Message of Love.

1967

Births and deaths are illusory phenomena.

One really dies when one is born to live as God the Eternal, Who is beyond both birth and death.

It is easy to love Me, because I am Love. But it is difficult to love Me with that love by which I am attained.

In this age of mess, My message is :

Hoid fast to My daaman and be one hundred per cent honest in every way; because God, besides being infinite Power, Knowledge and Bliss is also infinite Honesty. And so, by being honest in everything, you will be able to love God honestly as He ought to be loved.

I will be with you all who gather for My birthday to celebrate My being among you. I am wherever My lovers are.

Let my Message of Love through you lead My children to the shore of My Ocean of Love.

My Love will draw them to Me whose hearts long to have a dip in the Ocean of My Love.

1968

From My seclusion I send My blessings to all gathered in My Love to celebrate My seventy-fourth birthday.

Love makes the Formles and infinite become Enformed and Finite as the God-man amongst men.

Love Me more and more, because for the sake of love I have come among you.

On this My apparent physical birthday I send My homage and obeisance to My lovers who live for Me, and would, if ordered, die for me.

1969

To love Me for what I may give you is not loving Me at all. To sacrifice anything in My cause to gain something for yourself is like a blind man sacrificing his eyes for sight. I am the Divine Beloved worthy of being loved because I am Love. He who loves Me because of this will be blessed with unlimited sight and will see Me as I am.

GLOSSARY

ARTI : devotional song

Avatar: descent of God into human form

Daaman: hem of a garment

Maya: Illusion

puja: prayer

sanskara: impression

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