

**Avatar Meher Baba's
Brief Life Sketch and His Messages**

**Avatar Meher Baba's
Brief Life Sketch and His Messages**

Published By

**Avatar Meher Baba Tamilnadu Centre
(Madras)**

~~No. 3 First Street, Third Main Road,
C. I. T. Nagar Extension, Nandanam P. O.
Madras - 600 035.~~

**In Commemoration of the 95th
Birthday of Avatar Meher Baba.**

1989

**Words of Meher Baba
are copyright Avatar Meher Baba PPC
Trust Ahmednagar, Maharastra.**

Cover photo : Meelan Studio, Pune.

1-703519

A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF AVATAR MEHER BABA

Merwan Sheriar Irani, known as Meher Baba, was born in Poona, India, on February 25, 1894 of Persian parents. His father Sheriar Mundegar Irani was of Zoroastrian faith and a true seeker of GOD.

Merwan was a student of St. Vincent High School and of Deccan College in Poona. In 1913, while in College, a momentous event occurred in his life the meeting of Hazrat Babajan of Poona, one of the five Perfect Masters of the age. Babajan gave him God-Realization by kissing on his forehead and made him aware of his high spiritual destiny.

Eventually he was drawn to the other Perfect Masters — Narayan Maharaj of Kedgaon, Tajuddin Baba of Nagpur and Sai Baba of Shirdi. Saibaba on seeing him uttered 'O Parvardigar' (which means God, Almighty) and internally directed him to Upasani Maharaj of Sakori. During the next seven years Upasani Maharaj gave Merwan Divine Knowledge

and proclaimed him Avatar of the Age and allowed some of his own disciples to follow him. His spiritual mission can be said to have begun in 1922 when he drew around him his first close disciples. It was one of these early disciples, who gave him the name "MEHER BABA" which means 'Compassionate father'.

After giving necessary training to his disciples, Meher Baba established a colony near Ahmednagar which is called Meherabad. Here, Meher Baba initiated activities like a free school, where spiritual training was stressed; a free hospital and dispensary & shelter for the poor. No distinction was made between the high castes and the so-called untouchables. All mingled in common fellow-ship through the inspiration of the Master. To his disciples at Meherabad, who were of different castes, creeds, religion and nationality, he gave a training of moral discipline, love for God, Spiritual understanding and selfless service.

Through these activities he gave spiritual stimulation to life as a whole, stepping up to higher level of consciousness, gearing to a new rate of energy and activity, leading humanity to freedom from bondage in its social, political,

economical, religious and racial aspects, providing opportunities for an all round development of human personality in cultural, educational and spiritual sense.

Meher Baba began observing silence on 10th July 1925 and maintained it until he dropped his body on the 31st January, 1969. His many discourses and messages including the major book "GOD SPEAKS" were dictated by means of alphabet board. From 7th October 1954 he discontinued the use of the board and reduced all communications to hand gestures unique in expressiveness and understandable to those lived around him. Meher Baba travelled to the Western world many times, first in 1931, when he contacted his early western disciples. His last visit to the West and tour around the world was in 1958, when he and his disciples stayed at the Centre established for his work at Myrtle Beach S.C. in America and at Avatar's Abode, Woombye, Queensland in Australia.

In India thousands came seeking his darshan and blessing. On certain occasions not less than hundred thousand came to pay their obeisance to him. Many from all over the world journeyed to spend a few days, even a single day or even an hour in his presence.

An important part of Meher Baba's work through the years was to personally contact those known in India as "Masts". These are advanced pilgrims on the spiritual path who have become spiritually intoxicated from the direct awareness of God. For this work he travelled many thousands of miles to remote places throughout India and Ceylon. Through these contacts and his work with them Meher Baba not only gave his healing touch to the entire humanity, but had also released the innate forces of nature from such advanced souls, who were so to say units of spiritual channel of regeneration of the good and the sublime in man. Besides, that qualities of energy and awareness, which had been used and enjoyed by only a few advanced souls, were made available for humanity.

Other vital work was the washing the feet of the leppers and the poor; distribution of grain, cloth and money to the destitutes; bathing the children of the so-called untouchables, washing their clothes and cleaning their latrines. The change of outlook in man towards lepers, poor and the untouchables and the effort to emeliorate their conditions are attributable to the above work of the Avatar in our time.

Meher Baba has asserted that he is the same Ancient one, come again to redeem man from his bondage of ignorance and to guide him to realize his true self, which is GOD. He is acknowledged by many followers all over the world as the Avatar of the Age in the light of the proclamation made by him on 7th September 1953 at Dehra Dun, the title of which is "The Highest of the High" Those who have been drawn into the orbit of his love know that Meher Baba is that rare one among the perfect ones who appears whenever a world crisis is at its height and whose role is to set the world on a new direction, in a new age. From 25th February 1894 until 31st January 1969 the Saviour of mankind again walked on this earth.

Meher Baba dropped His body on 31st January 1969, to live in the hearts of His lovers.

Meher Baba has said : **"I HAD TO COME, AND I HAVE COME. I AM THE ANCIENT ONE"**.

Meher Baba's Tomb shrine (Samadhi) at Meherabad (Ahmednagar) has become a place of Pilgrimage for his followers all over the world. Every year on His Amartithi, which falls on 31st

January, thousands of Baba lovers from all over India and abroad gather here in all solemnity to pay their homage to the Avatar of the age.

**FAREWELL MESSAGE GIVEN BY AVATAR
MEHĒR BABA IN APRIL 1947 TO HIS LOVERS
AT MADRAS.**

* * *

To the disciples and devotees of Madras and surroundings, My Message to them can befittingly be epitomized in one supremely sweet word 'LOVE'.

Love, as you all know, is dynamic in action and contagious in effect. It is only the spiritually alive and enlightened who can appreciably feel or experience the true significance of the ancient adage "Love begets love", which is so cheaply bandied about by religious preachers and moral philosophers.

In the world of to-day—particularly India — it has become quite a fashion to sermonize on

the sacred word 'Love' — a subterfuge which barely hides the ulterior motive and meaning. It makes a world of difference when the Incarnation of Love utters that word. It at once springs into life, action — spiritual and dynamic.

Love means suffering and pain for oneself and happiness for others. To the giver, it is suffering without malice or hatred. To the receiver, it is a blessing without obligation.

I am always with you still I have been very happy for these few days that you have been with me. You may feel that I am now going away, but you should never find that I have gone away. It is for you to hold on to me now and for ever. On my part, I and My Love will never leave you here or hereafter.

May you be aware of it deeper and deeper from day to day!

My Blessings to you all !!

— Meher Baba.

GENERAL MESSAGE GIVEN BY AVATAR MEHER BABA IN APRIL 1947 AT MADRAS.

* * *

What is wrong with the world to-day and with India in particular? Such and allied questions are bound to arise in thinking minds, but the answers are not altogether honest and straight.

The diagnosis given and the remedies adopted have all been biased and one-sided : the whole situation stands hopelessly vague and undetermined.

The Crux of the situation lies in the correct understanding and re-interpreting of the ancient word 'religion'.

The west has very little of religion and whenever we hear of it, it is subserviant to politics or at best a handmaid of life material.

The East is suffering from an over-dose of religion and consequently it is desperately hankering for a material antidote thereto. Religion in the West is synonymous with scientific progress which is destructive in its manifestation. In the

East and particularly in India, religion, instead of establishing the Kingdom of God on earth, has gone underground in the guise of crude ceremonies, rude rituals and dead dogmas. Instead of engendering the seeds of peace and plenty, the underdriven religion tries to shoot out communalism, fanaticism, nationalism and patriotism, which have become bye words for leadership and greatness, suffering and sanctity. In short, religion as a living force, has become obsolete.

The urgent need of to-day to resuscitate religion is to dig it out of its narrow and dark hidings and coverings and let the spirit of man shine out once again in its pristine glory.

The most practical thing to do in the world is to be spiritually-minded. It needs no special time, place or circumstances. It is not necessarily concerned with anything out of the way of anyone's daily life and day to day routine. It is never too late or too early to be spiritual.

It is just a simple question of having a right attitude of the mind towards lasting values, changing circumstances, avoidable eventualities and a sense of the inevitable.

Spirituality is neither restricted to nor it can be restricted by anyone or anything anywhere at any time. It covers all life for all time, yet it can very easily be achieved with selfless service and pure love that knows no bondages and seeks no boundaries.

A mighty surge of this Spirituality is about to sweep over the world. My blessings to you all.

— Meher Baba.

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 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 receive of 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

10.7.1958

HOW TO LOVE GOD

To love God in the most practical way is to love our fellow beings. If we feel for others in the same way as we feel for our own dear ones, we love God.

If, instead of seeing faults in others, we look within ourselves, we are loving God.

If, instead of robbing others to help ourselves, we rob ourselves to help others, we are loving God.

If we suffer in the sufferings of others and feel happy in the happiness of others, we are loving God.

If, instead of worrying over our own misfortunes, we think of ourselves as more fortunate than many many others, we are loving God.

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

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.

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

— Meher Baba

THE SEVEN REALITIES

Meher Baba gives no importance to creed, dogma, caste or the performance of religious ceremonies and rites, but to the UNDERSTANDING of the following seven Realities :

1. The only REAL EXISTENCE is that of the one and only God who is the Self in every (finite) self.
2. The only REAL LOVE is the Love for this Infinity (God), which arouses an intense longing to see, know and become one with its Truth (God).
3. The only REAL SACRIFICE is that in which, in pursuance of this love, all things — body, mind, position, welfare and even life itself — are sacrificed.
4. The only REAL RENUNCIATION is that which abandons, even in the midst of worldly duties, all selfish thoughts and desires.
5. The only REAL KNOWLEDGE is the knowledge that God is the inner dweller

in good people and in so called bad, in saint and so-called sinner. This knowledge requires you to help all equally as circumstances demand without expectation of reward, and when compelled to take part in a dispute, to act without the slightest trace of enmity or hatred; to try to make others happy with brotherly or sisterly feeling for each one; to harm no one in thought, word or deed, not even those who harm you.

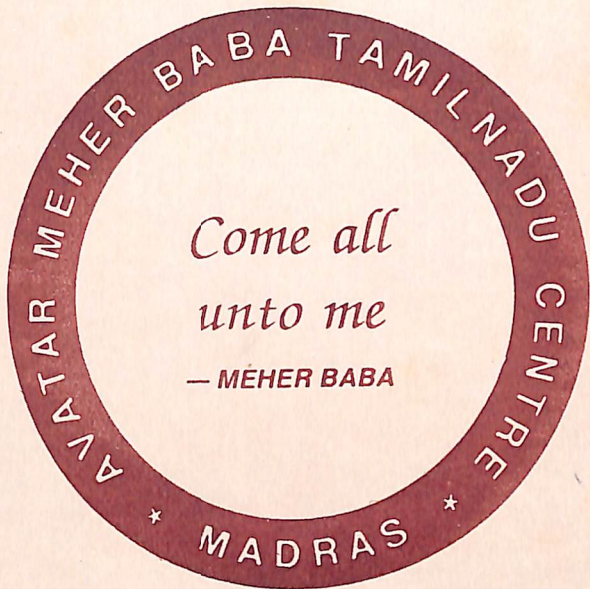
6. The only REAL CONTROL is the discipline of the senses to abstain from indulgence in low desires, which alone ensures absolute purity of character.
7. The only REAL SURRENDER is that in which the poise is undisturbed by any adverse circumstance, and the individual, amidst every kind of hardship, is resigned with perfect calm to the will of God.

— Meher Baba

Avatar Meher Baba Tamilnadu Centre has been registered as a Public Trust (No. 104/88). The main object of this Trust is to disseminate the information on the Life and Messages of Avatar Meher Baba, besides other charitable activities. Weekly Prayer meetings are held on every Sunday from 4.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Donations to this Trust are exempted from Income Tax Vide L. No. 1146 - III (97) / 88 dt. 30.9.88 of Commissioner of Income Tax, Madras.





*Come all
unto me*

— MEHER BABA