

AVATAR MEHER BABA'S
Seventy-Second Birthday Celebrations
On the 25th February 1966



*"I am God - God the Beyond
and God in human form*

—Meher Baba

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INTRODUCTION

It takes billions and trillions of years for gas to solidify into nebulae and appear as Universe which ultimately resolves into vapour and a big zero. On an analogy it should have taken much longer time for the Divine Love to solidify and manifest itself in the world. But God in his mercy appears and reappears on the surface of the earth in shorter cycles of time. This is by His own promise in Bhagwatgita and all scriptures.

The manifestation of eternal Divine Love has taken birth in the shape of Meher Baba, the silent Perfect Master (Mauni Avatar) of the age. He is living today in a hut on a hill top in Ahmednagar, the historical city of Maharashtra State. He will be 72 years old on the 25th February, 1966. He has not spoken a word with his mouth for the last 40 years. His mighty silence is dynamic and speaks as nothing else does—it sings **Sama Veda**.

Avatar Meher Baba is a contagious perennial smile of unfaded beds of primroses that adorn the Divine abode of the Arch Angel in Heaven. The

beauty and charm of the morning Sun, a moonlit night, a cluster of pearls, a spring of resplendent water, a snow decked cliff, a starry vault fades away in comparison to the beauty and wonder of Avatar Meher Baba.

Baba inspires confidence, hope fearlessness and above all love in all those who approach him. It is said we receive (from Nature) but what we give. Same is not true of Baba. We receive from Him what we have not and cannot, therefore, give. He visibly fills the void, the gap and the missing links in us. We realise in a matter of seconds in His presence that He loves us more than we have ever loved ourselves. His love resembles the gentle breeze from the grove of sandalwood trees by the side of the Ganges in Himalayan heights. It is true that many a double tongued adders also bask in the benign and all pervading sunshine of the Master. Since the Master does not deny his blessings even to them, will he deny it to others who are guileless and good ? Certainly not.

What is required is contact with Avatar Meher Baba. That done, one will be the beacon light to others. No sermons, no arguments and no penance

is needed. He who is within is seen without in flesh and blood. Having seen Him, there is nothing else worth seeing.

The gauntlet is thrown down. Let anybody take the challenge and try. Let him go to Avatar Meher Baba and return unaffected. Even if he be tinsel or a lump of sordid earth, he will return converted into a lump of radiant crimson gold. His heart will smile like a bud of rose. My friend, kindly try one step—the rest is done. Bow unto Him for he is worthy of worship.

Avatar Meher Baba belongs to no religion. All religions belong to him. He does not ask one to renounce one's religion or mode of worship. He does not ask one to give him anything except one's love. He does not ask one to renounce anything except one's ego. In return He is out to give what one never deserves.

NEW DELHI

25th February, 1966

T. N. DHAR

Avatar Meher Baba's Special Message for the 72nd Birthday.

“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.”

25th February 1966

MEHER BABA

Biographical Sketch of Avatar Meher Baba

Merwan S. Irani, known as Meher Baba, was born in Poona in 1894, of Persian Parents. His father, Sheriar Irani was a real seeker of God and a great Sufi. In 1914 while Meher Baba was still in College, a momentous event occurred in His life, the meeting with an ancient woman, Hazrat Babajan a Perfect Master of her time, who made Him aware of His High Spiritual Destiny and at the same time gave Him God-Realization. After some time, Merwan lead a sort of itinerant life and came into contact with many perfect Masters and in particular Sai Baba of Shirdi, Sadguru Upasani Maharaj of Sakori, Narayan Maharaj of Khedgaon and Hazrat Tajuddin Baba of Nagpur.

It was however Upasani Maharaj, who during the next seven years, gave Him Divine knowledge and control of the seven planes of consciousness. In 1921, Avatar Meher Baba's spiritual mission began when He drew together His first close disciples, training them in arduous spiritual tasks and self-discipline.

During the following two years, Avatar Meher Baba wrote an account of the Divine Experience. This book has not been read by anyone and it will be published only after His World Manifestation, Upon completing the manuscript, He laid down His pen and has not written a line since, except His signature when necessary.

On 10th July 1925, Avatar Meher Baba began to observe silence, which He has continued to this day. Many spiritual discourses and messages have been dictated through the medium of his Alphabet board.

Since October 1954, however, Avatar Meher Baba has discontinued the use of His Alphabet board also, reducing all communications to hand gestures unique to Himself. The major part of His book, "God Speaks" which outlines the whole scheme of creation and its purpose, was laboriously dictated in this manner.

Avatar Meher Baba frequently retires into seclusion and observes long fasts. These periods of seclusion are periods of spiritual working on the inner planes for the good of all humanity. Alternating with the periods of seclusion, Avatar Meher Baba leads a life of dynamic activity.

Avatar Meher Baba has also taken special interest in contacting and personally serving those who are known as "Masts," or God-intoxicated persons, immersed in bliss and unconscious of the body. For this work, He has journeyed many thousands of miles throughout India.

Meher Baba has visited other countries (that is, United Kingdom, Europe, America, Australia, China, Japan, Iran etc.) eleven times and He has encircled the Globe five times for the purpose of his mission of awakening.

Avatar Meher Baba's aim is to awaken the Divinity in everyman and guide him to His goal which is Love.

**Seventy two Rays from the Sun of
Truth (AVATAR MEHER BABA)**

1. Keep your faces turned towards the Sun of Truth and your shadow of individualized Maya will be behind you ; and though still existent, will have no power on you But if you turn your backs to the Sun, your shadows will be before you and you will be following them.
2. The prayer God hears is the prayer of heart.
3. My message to all is "Love God". Love means suffering and pain for oneself, and happiness for others.
4. The greatest law of God is Love, which holds the Key to all problems.
5. God is not to be preached but is to be lived.
6. Don't run away from the world; run away from your own lower self Don't renounce the world; renounce your own lower self.
7. If you have rock-like faith in God and flame like love for Him, nothing in this world affects you.
8. The purpose of life is to realise God within

Ourselves. This can be done even whilst attending to our wordly duties.

9. When the mind sees the self there is illumination.

10. Seek me not to extricate yourself from predicaments, but find me in order to surrender yourself whole-heartedly to my will.

11. I am the One so many seek and so few find. No amount of intellect can fathom Me. No amount of austerity can attain Me. Only when one loves me and loses One's self in me, am I found.

12. The aim of life and the real Goal of all creation is to achieve true self-consciousness.

13. Of all sufferings, mental suffering is the most acute.

14. God loves most those who suffer most.

15. The book of the heart holds the Key to the mystery of life.

16. Be angry with none but your weakness.

17. Hate none but your lustful self.

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

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

20. Real living is dying for God.

21. One who dies for God lives for ever.
22. God cannot be theorised, God cannot be discussed, God cannot be argued about. God cannot be explained, God cannot be understood, God can only be lived by losing ourselves in Him through love.
23. 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.
24. Human love is for the many in the One and Divine love is for the One in the many.
25. Wars do not arise merely to secure material adjustment; they are often the product of uncritical identification with the narrow interests, which, through association, come to be included in the part of the world which is regarded as 'Mine'.
26. The disease of selfishness in mankind will need a cure, which is not only universal in its application but is drastic in nature.
27. The moment you try to understand God rather than love Him you begin to misunderstand Him and your ignorance feeds your ego.
28. Do not search for God outside of you, God

can only be found within you, for His only abode is the heart.

29. God exists. If you are convinced of God's existence then it rests with you to seek Him, to see Him and to realize Him.

30. Absolute honesty is essential in One's search for God.

31. Do not seek material pleasure and you will find the spiritual treasure.

32. The Avatar is beyond limits of function; His power and the effects of his power are boundless.

33. My word of words will touch the hearts of all mankind and spontaneously this divine touch will instil in man the feeling of oneness of all fellow beings.

34. If we understand that the greatest act of devotion towards God is not to harm any of His beings, we are loving God.

35. To know reality is to become it. It is nearest to you—for, in fact, it is you.

36. The gift of love is a rare gift of God, and rarely is one capable of receiving it.

37. God is infinitely more vital to your existence than your breath which is your very life.

38. He who has eyes but does not see,
He who has ears but does not hear,
He who has a tongue but does not speak,
He can see Me as I should be seen, and can
Know Me as I should be known.

39. 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.

40. Only intense love for me can bring you to obey
Me as I want, you to do.

41. Do not act outwardly what you are not
inwardly. Be absolutely honest, God is infinite
Honesty.

42. 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.

43. According to the Law that governs the Uni-
verse, all suffering is your labour of love to unveil
your Real Self.

44. You should not pretend to be what you are
not.

45. If you want God, you must want God alone.

46. Merely intellectual understanding does not

bring God nearer to you. It is love, not questioning, that will bring God to you.

47. I am the root of everyone and everything. An infinite number of branches spread out from Me. I work through, and suffer in and for, each one of you.

48. Duality implies separateness. Separateness causes fear. Fear makes worry.

49. I alone am Real and my will governs the cosmic illusion. It is the truth when I say that the waves do not roll and the leaves do not move without my will.

50. 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.

51. Think of Me more and more, and all your worries will disappear into the nothing they really are. My will works out to awaken you to this.

52. The Infinite alone exists and is Real; the finite is passing and false.

53. Give up all forms or 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.

54. To get to the fundamental core of Truth underlying all religions, reach beyond religion.
55. Ultimately, when the tide of suffering is at its flood, God manifests anew in human form to guide mankind to the destruction of its self-created evil and re-establish it in the way of Truth.
56. In this form of flesh and blood I am that same Ancient One who alone is eternally worshipped and ignored, ever remembered and forgotten.
57. 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.
58. Only those who are one with God can take you beyond the bounds of the Law and give you the experience of the Freedom-which is the Truth.
59. God has three Infinite aspects; Knowledge, Power, Bliss. It is from these that man derives his three finite aspects of mind, energy, matter.
60. Purposelessness is of Reality; to have a purpose is to be lost in falseness.
61. Love alone is devoid of all purpose and a spark of Divine Love sets fire to all purposes.
62. The Avatar draws upon Himself the uni-

versal suffering, but He is sustained under the stupendous burden by His infinite Bliss and His infinite sense, of humour.

63. The Avatar is the Axis or Pivot of the universe, the pin of the grinding-stones of evolution, and so has a responsibility towards everyone and everything.

64. At each moment in time He is able to fulfil singly and together the innumerable aspects of His universal duty because His actions are in no way constrained by time and distance and the here and now of the senses,

65. An ordinary physical action of the Avatar releases immense forces in the inner planes and so becomes the starting point for a chain of working, the repercussions and overtones of which are manifest at all levels and are universal in range and effect.

66. The Avatar does not as a rule interfere with the working out of human destinies.

67. The avataric whim is also part of the divine Destiny.

68. Whether men soar to outer space or dive to the bottom of the deepest ocean they will find themselves as they are, unchanged, because they

will not have forgotten themselves nor remembered to exercise the charity of forgiveness.

69. God is Indivisible One, and is indivisibly in each one and everything.

70. When the bubble of ignorance bursts the self realizes its oneness with the indivisible Self.

71. I am God personified. You who have the chance of being in my living presence are fortunate and blessed.

72. To love God one should think of God, long for God and suffer the fire of separation until one's longing reaches its utmost limits, and God the Beloved comes to the lover and his thirst is quenched in union with God.

—MEHER BABA

These 72 rays have been taken from the sayings of Avatar Meher Baba through the courtesy of Shri Adi K. Irani, Meher Publications, King's Road, Ahmednagar (Maharashtra State).

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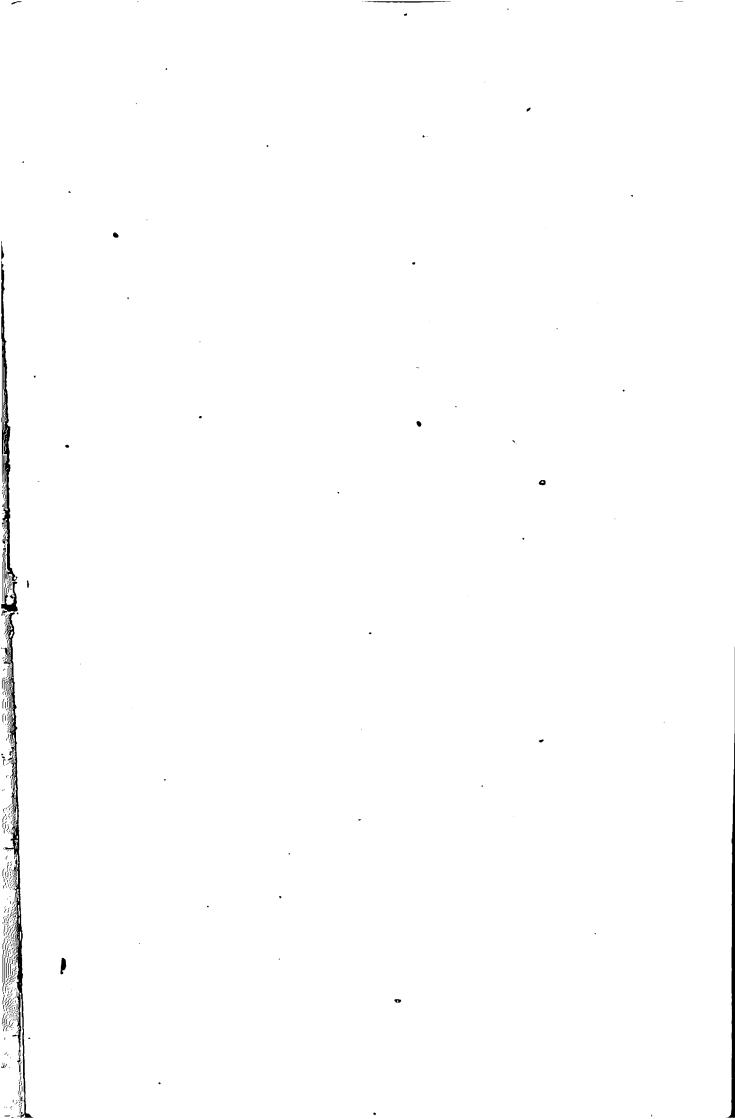
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