

2nd day, 50th week, Meher Year 74

This is the true account of Avatar Meher Baba's dropping His body, on 31st January 1969 according to the resident mandali.

The three years of intense work in seclusion had had an untold effect upon His body, and a faint reflection of this on us caused a deep depression among us. But beloved Baba warned us that this was disobeying His order to be always cheerful in His presence. And He quoted, as He had many times over the years, Hafiz's couplet: "Befitting a fortunate slave carry out every command of the Master without any question of why and what."

On 13th Oct, 1968 Baba told us that He would give His darshan to all His lovers all over the world from 10th April to 10th June 1969. Considering His physical condition we were apprehensive of His body standing such a strain. But He said, "It will be easy for me to give my lovers my darshan, so you are not to feel concerned about it. I will give darshan reclining and that will be no strain on my body. It will be different from all previous darshans and it will be the last in silence. Although I will be reclining I will be very strong. My physical condition now is because of my work, but by then my work will be complete and my exultation will be great. A very poor man winning a rich lottery can become so excited over his fortune that he collapses and dies. My fortune will be in my work being finished and in the knowledge of its certain results; but my exultation will not cause my collapse — it will be my glory."

Despite these assurances, Baba's health became worse. But the symptoms were completely confusing to the doctors we called from Poona and Bombay. His blood uria was so high that the doctors said usually an ordinary man in such a condition would go into a coma, but there was not even the least sign of mental confusion or the faintest trace of uremic odour. Similarly, when muscular spasms were occurring, when a specialist from Bombay examined Him,

he asked why he had been called, because there were no symptoms at all—Baba's condition was quite normal.

Outwardly, to our eyes, Baba's condition deteriorated still further, and we wanted to take Him to Poona so that further tests could be carried out, but He refused to go and warned us that we should not try and take Him against His wish. He said, "If you want me to drop my body now, then take me to Poona. My condition has no medical grounds at all; it is due purely to the strain of my work. Do not call the doctors again until I tell you." And so, helpless before His will, we had to obey His will.


Over the last days Baba's body manifested severe spasms, and He told us, "This is my crucifixion." Two days before He dropped His body He told us to call the doctors. The one from Poona came the next morning and said he could do nothing until further tests were done so that a definite diagnosis could be arrived at; and this could only be done if Baba went to Poona. Baba said to him, "My time has come."

The next day the doctor from Bombay came, and also one from Ahmednagar. By the time they arrived a great spasm shook His body, the pulse rate fell to nothing, and breathing ceased. This was at 12. 15. p. m. At 12 noon He had been joking with us about all the medicines He had been given.

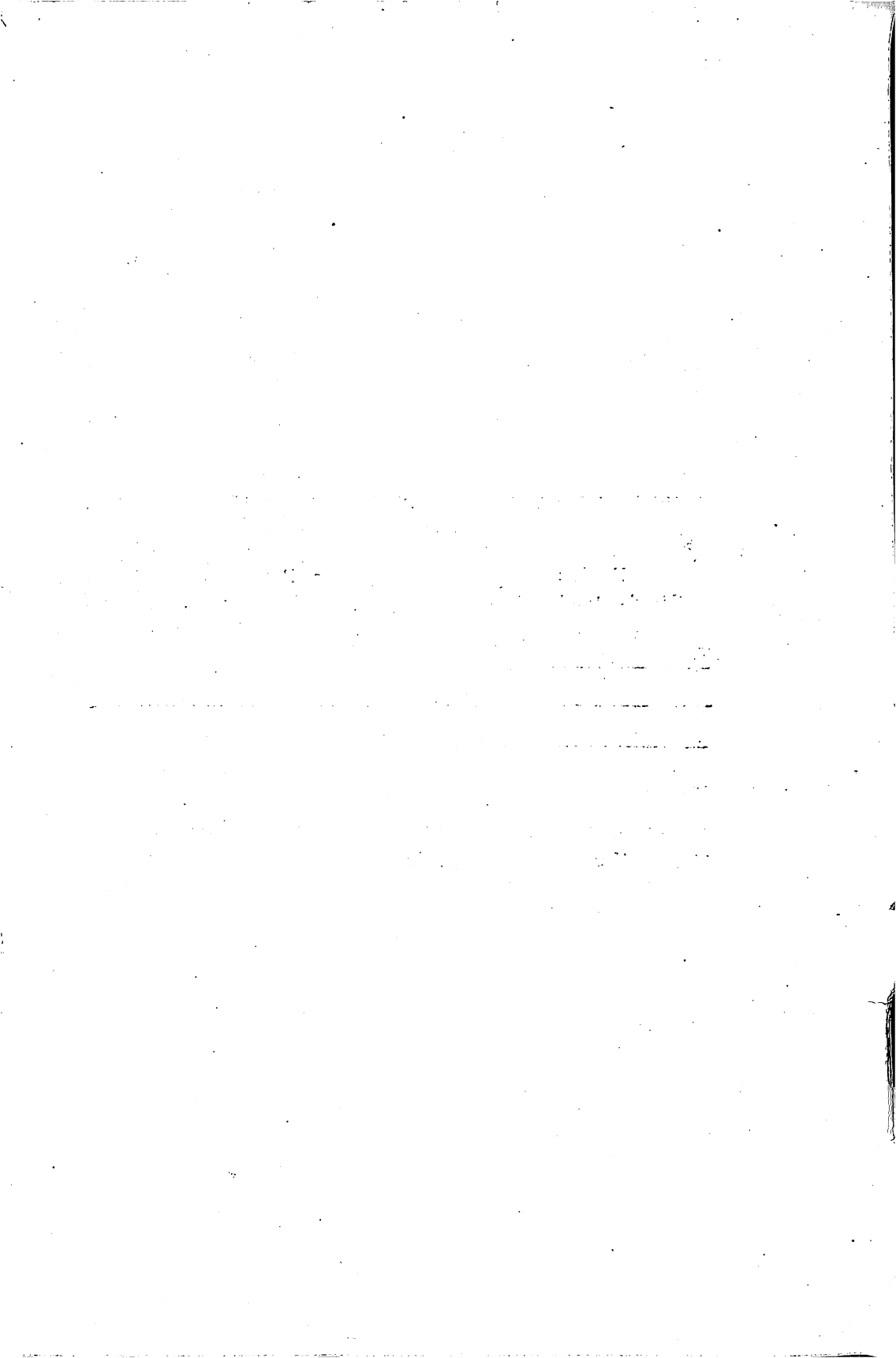
In the evening we brought His body to Meherabad. The sun was setting and the moon was rising as we placed it in the tomb for His lovers to take His darshan, fulfilling beloved Baba's word that He would give His darshan reclining.

5th Feb. 1969

KING'S ROAD,
AHMEDNAGAR
MAHARASHTRA
INDIA



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DISCIPLE & SECRETARY
AVATAR MEHER BABA



BOOK-POST

**From : Adi K. Irani, Meher Publications
King's Road, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra State, India**

To

Mohan Kamgar Sahakari Mudra-Mandir Ltd. Ahmednagar