Silver Jubilee Release :

23rd March, 1989

A Short Historical Survey of MEHER DHAM

(IN THE VICINITY OF THE HIMALAYAS)



Avatar Meher Baba Dehra Dun Centre, 105, Rajpur Road (U.P.)—INDIA Pin: 248001

PRAYER dictated by MEHER BABA

at Dehra Dun

(and recited by Mandalı from 13-8-1953 to 2-9-1953)

O Parvardigar, Preserver and Protector of All.

You are without Beginning and without End.

Non-dual. beyond comparison; and none can measure You. You are without colour, without expression, without form. and without attributes.

You are unlimited and unfathomable, beyond imagination and conception; eternal and imperishable.

You are indivisible; and none can see You but with eyes Divine

You always were, You always are and You always will be: You are everywhere, You are in everything; and you are also beyond everywhere and beyond everything

You are in the firmament and in the depths; You are marifest and unmanifest; on all planes and beyond all planes

You are in the three worlds, and also beyond the three worlds:

You are imperceptible and independent.

You are the Creator, the Lord of Lords, the Knower of all minds and hearts; You are Omnipotent and Omnipresent.

You are Knowledge Infinite, Power Infinite, and Bliss Infinite.

You are the Ocean of Knowledge, All Knowing, Infinitely-Knowing; the Knower of the past, the present and the future; and You are Knowledge itself.

You are All-merciful and eternally benevolent.

You are the Soul of souis. the One with infinite attributes; You are the Trinity of Truth, Knowledge and Bliss: You are the Source of Truth; the Ocean of Love;

You are the Ancient One, the "Highest of the High" You are Prabhu and Parameshwar; You are the Beyond-God, and the Beyond-Beyond God also; You are Parabrahma, Paramatma; Ailah; Elahi; Yezdan; Ahuramazda; God Almighty; and God the Beloved.

You are named EZAD; i.e. the only One worthy of worship.

A Special Message

From : Eruch B. Jessawala c/o : Avatar Meher Baba King's Rd., Post Bag No. 31 <u>AHMEDNAGAR</u> 414 001 (M.S.)

To : Shri G.S.N. Moorty

DEDICATED TO THE SACRED MEMORY OF

- 1~ Late Bal Krishna Bakshi
- 2~ Late Meher Kanta Bakshi
- 3~ Late Baby Raj (wife of Seth Bal Gopal Das)
- 4~ Late Prakashwati Sharma
- 5~ Late Shatrughna Kumar
- 6~ Late Kishan Singh
- all of whom, have joined Beloved Baba after fulfilling their Mission of building Meher Dham.

with sister Mani and all Meherazad men and women mandali. We are glad to hear of the three day programme you are holding on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of March'89 to commemorate Beloved Baba's First Public Darshan at Dehra Dun on 23rd March 1953, and also to celebrate the Silver Jubilee Anniversary of Meher Dham.

We, the Meherazad mandali, salute the love of His lovers everywhere that glorifies the Highest of the High, Beloved Avatar Meher Baba.

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To : Shri G.S.N. Moorty Avatar Meher Baba Dehra Dun Centre "Meher Dham" 105, Rajpur Road, <u>DEHRA DUN</u> 248 001 (U.P.)

> Meherazad 1st March 1989

Our dear brother G.S.N. Moorty and all our dear brothers and sisters at Meher Dham,

> "Jai Meher Baba !" and loving greetings from the heart of Meherazad to all of you who will be gathering together at the heart of His home in Dehra Dun - Meher Dham.

I have just now received your letter of 23rd February 1989 and have happily shared its Baba-Full contents with sister Mani and all Meherazad men and women mandali. We are glad to hear of the three day programme you are holding on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of March'89 to commemorate Beloved Baba's First Public Darshan at Dehra Dun on 23rd March 1953, and also to celebrate the Silver Jubilee Anniversary of Meher Dham.

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May Beloved Avatar Meher Baba's Love-Blessings be on each of you to begin to live truly His Message of Love and Truth. May this grand occasion be a reminder to us all to renew our heart's pledge and imbuse into our very being the words of His Message-"The Highest of the High"-

> "....seek Me not to extricate you from your predicaments, but find Me in order to surrender yourself wholeheartedly to My Will....."

> "Never stretch out your hands to receive anything from Me, but hold them high in praise of Me whom you have approached as the Highest of the High".

Once again, all Meherazad men and women mandali join me in sending you all, His dear ones, our best wishes for a memorable Silver Jubilee celebration of the opening of "Meher Dham" and an unforgettable programme in commemoration of an unforgettable event, the First Public Darshan Programme of Beloved Avatar Meher Baba held in Dehra Dun on 23rd March 1953.

May this programme be a glorious opportunity to not only revive glorious memories, but to revive our desire to lay our very life at His Feet, while burying our desire for the fulfillment of desire!

AVATAR MEHER BABA KI JAI!

Your lovingly,

Divine Message Delivered at Dehra Dun By

MEHER BABA

(1st Nov. 1953)

I appreciate the faith, which has brought you here. I also appreciate your love and devotion. It has made me very happy.

I know and understand your difficulties and problems, sufferings and expectations. Not only the individuals, but the whole world is in the throes of suffering. When suffering comes, it comes according to the divinely established law of Karma. It must then be accepted with grace and fortitude. But it must be remembered that your actions are the cause of much of your suffering. Through wise action, it can be minimised. What humanity needs is spiritual wisdom; and for this, it must inevitably turn to the Perfect Masters and Avatars.

Suffering comes through ignorance or attachments to illusions. Most people play with illusions as children play with toys. If you get caught up the ephemeral in values, things of this world illusory and cling to little suffering is inevitable. Tt. is not easy for the become children to give up their toys. for they same victims of a habit, which they cannot undo. In the way. through millions of lives, you have got into the difficult for habit of playing with illusions; it is you to get disentangled from them.

For ages and ages, the Atma (Soul) has been seeing its own shadow and getting engrossed in the illusory world of forms. He gets addicted to the spectacle of

his own creation and desires to see it through cycles and cycles of creation. When the soul turns inwards and longs to have self-knowledge, it has become spiritually minded. But even there, this habit of wanting to see some spectacle persists for several lives. The soul wants to experience some Miracles or spectacular phenomena, or in more advanced stages, it wants to perform Miracles and manipulate phenomena. Even spiritually advanced persons find it difficult to outgrow this habit of playing with illusions. Persistent attachment to Miracles is only a further continuation of the habit of playing with illusion.

It is not Miracles, but understanding, which can bring you true freedom. If you have firm faith and unfaltering love for the God-man, your way to the Abiding Truth is clear and safe. Then you have no time to waste in playing with things that do not matter. Be ye guided by Love and Truth. This is the simple way that leads to God. Not by endless manoeuvering of alluring illusions, but by loyalty to the Unchangeable Truth, can ye hope to be established in Abiding Peace.

When I speak, it will be only one Divine Word; but it will be the Word of words or the Manifestation of Truth. This Word will have to be hearkened by the heart and not merely by the mind. It will go home to you and bring you the Awakening.

My Love and Blessings

4

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What Meher Baba says :-

I HAVE COME NOT TO TEACH, BUT TO A AWAKEN

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 OF LOVE FOR GOD.

THIS LOVE CAN BE PRACTICED BY ANY ONE, HIGH, LOW RICH, POOR, AND EVERY ONE OF EACH CASTE AND CREED CAN LOVE GOD.

THE ONE GOD WHQ RESIDES EQUALLY IN US ALL IS APPROACHABLE TO EVERY ONE THROUGH LOVE. SO I GIVE MY BLESSINGS THAT AT LEAST SOME OF YOU WOULD LOVE GOD AS HE IS TO BE LOVED.

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.

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.

THERE ARE TWO WAYS OF LOVING GOD. ONE IS TO LEAVE ALL AND EVERYTHING. THAT MEANS TO HAVE NOTHING OF YOUR OWN, NOT EVEN YOUR BODY.... TO RENOUNCE ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING. EVERYTHING MEANS NOT ONLY YOUR SURROUNDINGS BUT EVERYTHING INCLUDING YOURSELF.

THE SECOND IS SOMETHING GREAT. THERE YOU DON'T HAVE TO RENOUNCE ANYTHING. YOU CAN LEAD A 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 HAPPINESS. THAT IS THE SECOND WAY OF LOVING GOD.

I SHALL SOW THE SEED OF LOVE IN YOUR HEART

6

A Short Historical Survey of MEHER DHAM

MEHER DHAM-IT'S EARLY BACK-GROUND :

Abodes Among tens and thousands of names of and Ashrams. Mathas, Monastries, Centres, Circles and shrines that crowd the columns of history, the Name of MEHER DHAM (Dehra Dun) stands alone at the Altar of AVATARIC glory. Such a DHAM (Abode) is situated in the heart of Dehra Dun, quite a beautiful city named after Dronacharya, the ever-adorable Figure of Mahabharat Fame. Here the great Rishi practised severe penanæe (Tapasya) and obtained SIDDHI through the Divine Grace of Lord Shiva. It is also the birth-place of Immortal ASHWATTHAMA, AN EXCEPTIONAL HERO OF THE EPIC PERIOD.

More than 5000 years thereafter, in the middle of Twentieth Century, a wonderful ERA of the "ENDLESS NEW LIFE" was quietly inaugurated by Mownavatar Meher when the Spiritual SUN Baba at Dehra Dun. rose silently in the Himalayan sky to bless the people of the land with the BLISS of His FIRST PUBLIC DARSHAN on 23rd March, 1953 and in order to keep the happy memory of that SACRED OCCASION aglow, MEHER DHAM was constructed and established on 23rd 1964. March.

The spiritual importance of Dehra Dun, has considerably increased as the SAME ANCIENT ONE has dictated here, THE PARVARDIGAR PRAYER besides declaring HIS STATE OF BEING THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH. A Special

Message to this effect was also delivered by HIM (BABA) who indicated later on, that "DEHRA DUN WOULD SOON BECOME THE BRINDAVAN". To crown all this, THe Silent Master has so graciously chosen the place to reveal the SECRET OF REAL DARSHAN.

In this broad context, the most popular American Sufi leader Dr. Mackie who has deeply studied Baba's Message of THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH reflects upon the same as under:-

"Of all the messages by Meher Baba, THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH is the most powerful, dramatic and uncompromising. In fewer than 3000 words, Baba Meher painted a sweeping panorama of the full rabge of divinity. His simple, precise passages define the role of virtually every spiritual figure. Against this back-ground, Meher Baba gave the fullest and the most fundamental declaration of His Own role as the HIGHEST OF THE HIGH. He outlined the only way one can approach THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH and the only set of personal expectations which can be fulfilled in service to Him. He clarified the principles and qualities of life necessary for those who would love, serve and follow Him.".

"....Given in Dehra Dun (India) on Zoroaster's Birth Day on September 7, 1953 this brief Message expresses the culmination of Meher Baba's work".

TRUE FOUNDATION OF DIVINE LIFE:

The full-text of the Message, which is the TRUE FOUNDATION of Divine Life, is reproduced below :

The Highest of The High

Dehra Dun, India 7th September, 1953

Consciously or unconsciously, directly or indirectly, each and every creature, each and every human being in one form or the other-strives to assert individuality. But when eventually man consciously experiences that he is Infinite, Eternal and Indivisible then he is fully conscious of his individuality as God, and as such experiences Infinite Knowledge, Infinite Power and Infinite Bliss. Thus Man becomes God, and is recognized as a Perfect Master, Sadguru, or Kutub. To worship this Man is to worship God.

When God manifests on earth in the form of man and reveals His Divinity to mankind, He is recognized as the Avatar-the Messiah- the prophet. Thus God becomes Man.

And so Infinite God, age after age, throughout all cycles, wills through His Infinite Mercy to effect His presence amidst mankind by stooping down to human level in the human form , but His physical presence amidst mankind not being apprehended, Нe is looked upon as an ordinary man of the world. When He asserts. however. His Divinity on earth by proclaiming Himself the Avatar of the age, He is worshipped by some who accept Him as God; and glorified by a few who know him as God on Eatrth. But it invariably falls to the lot of the rest of humanity to condemn Him while He is physically in their midst.

Thus it is that God as man, proclaiming Himself as the Avatar, suffers Himself to be persecuted and tortured to be humiliated and condemned by humanity for whose sake His Infinite Love has made him stoop so low, in order that humanity by its very act of condemning God's manifestation in the form of Avatar should, however, indirectly, assert the existence of God in His Infinite Eternal state.

The Avatar is always one and the same, because God is always One and the Same, the Eternal, Indivisible Infinite One, who manifests Himself in the form of man as the Avatar, as the Messiah, as the Prophet, This as the Ancient One-the Highest of thee High. Eternally One and the Same Avatar repeats His manifestation from time to time in different cycles, adopting different human forms and different names, in different places, to reveal Truth in different garbs and different languages, in order to raise humanity from the pit of ignorance and help free it from the bondage of delusions.

Of the most recognized and much worshipped manifestations of God as Avatar, that of Zoroaster is the earliest-having been before Ram, Krishna, Buddha, Jesus and Mohammed. Thousands of years ago, he gave to the world the essence of Truth in the form of three fundamental precepts-Good Thoughts, Good Words and Good Deeds. These precepts were and are constantly unfolded to humanity in one form or another directly or indirectly in every cycle, by the Avatar the Age, as he leads humanity immperceptibly of towards the Truth. To put these precepts of Good Thoughts, Good Words and Good Deeds into practice is it is not as easily done as it would appear, though not impossible. But to live up to these precepts honestly and literally is as apparently impossible as it is to practice a living death in the midst of life.

In the world there are countless Sadhus, Mahatmas, Mahapurushas, Saints, Yogis and Walis, though the number of genuine ones is very, very limited. The few genuine ones are, according to their spiritual status, in a category of their own, which is neither on a level with the ordinary human being nor on a level with the state of the Highest of the High.

I am neither a Mahatma nor a Mahapurush, neither a Sadhu nor a Saint, neither a Yogi or a Wali. Those who approach me with the desire to gain wealth or to retain their possessions, those who seek through me relief from distress and suffering those who ask my help to fulfill and satisfy mundane desires, to them I once again declare that, as I am not a Sadhu a Saint or a Mahatma, Mahapurush or Yoqi, to seek these things through me is but to court utter disappointment, though only apparently; for eventually this disappointment is itself invariably instrumental in bringing about the complete transformation of mundane wants and desires.

The Sadhus, Saints, Yogis, Walis and such others who are on the via media, can and do perform miracles and satisfy the transient material needs of individuals who approach them for help and relief.

question therefore arises that if Ι The am not a Sadhu, not a Saint, not a Yogi, not a Mahapurusha nor a Wali, then what am Ι ? The natural assumption would be that I am either just an ordinary human being, or I am the Highest of the High. But one thing I say definitely, and that is that Ι can never be included amongst those having the intermediary status of the real Sadhus, Saints, Yogis and such others.

Now, if I am just an ordinary man, my capabilities and powers are limited - I am no better or different from an ordinary human being. If people take me as such then they should not expect any supernatural help from me in the form of miracles or spiritual guidance; and to approach me to fulfill their desires would also be absolutely futile.

On the other hand, 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.

If you truly in all faith accept your Baba as the Highest of the High, it behooves you to lay down your life at His feet, rather than to crave 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 Bliss they must relinquish ephemeral of treasure possessions. This desires for greater gain is still clinging behind their surrender. and as such the surrender: cannot be complete.

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. Yogis and Walis can give you what vou want; but I take away your wants and free vou from attachments and liberate you from the bondage of ignorance. I am the Onesto 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 the intellect to gauge me mor is it possible for my ways to be fathomed by the limited human mind.

I am not to be attained by those who, loving me. stand reverentially by in rapt admiration. I am not for those who ridicule me and point at me with contempt To have a crowd of tens of millions flocking around me is not what I an for. I am for the second few. who scattered amongst the crowd, silently and unostentatiously surrender their all - body, mind and possessions - to me. I am still more for those who, after surrendering their all, never give another thought to their surrender. They are all mine who are prepared to renounce even the very thought of their nenunciation and who, keeping constant vigil in the midst of intense

activity, await their turn to lay down their lives for the cause of Truth at a glance or sign from me. Those who have indomitable courage to face willingly and cheerfully the worst calamities, who have unshakable faith in me, eager to fulfill my slightest wish at the cost of their happiness and comfort, they indeed, truly love me.

From my point of view, far more blessed is the atheist who confidently discharges his worldly responsiblities, accepting them as his honorable duty, than the man who presumes he is a devout believer in God, yet shirks the responsibilities apportioned to him through Divine Law and runs after Sadhus, Saints and Yogis, seeking relief from the suffering which ultimately would have pronounced his eternal Liberation.

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

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. Pay heed and strive for freedom by experiencing ignorance in its true perspective. Be honest with yourself and God. One may fool the world and one's neighbours, but one can never escape from the knowledge of the Omniscient - such is the Divine Law.

I declare to all of you who approach me, and to those of you who desire to approach me. me accepting as the Highest of the High, that you must never come with the desire in your heart which craves wealth for 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 wholeheartedly to my Will. Cling to me not for worldly happiness and short lived comand thin. me. through thick forts. but adhere to sacrificing your own happiness and comforts at my feet. Let my happiness be your cheer and my comforts your rest. Do not ask me to bless you with qood job, а more diligently and honestly but desire to serve me without expectation of reward. Never beg of me to save your life or the lives of your dear ones. of but beq me to accept you and permit you to lay down your lives me. Never expect me to cure you of your bodily for afflictions but beseech me to cure you of your Ignorance. Never stretch out your hands to receive anything from me, but hold them high in praise of me whom you have approached as the Highest of the High.

If I am the Highest of the High, nothing is then impossible to me; and though I do not perform miracles to satisfy individual needs - the satisfaction of which would result in entangling the individual more and more into the net of ephemeral existence yet periods Ι manifest the at certain time and again Infinite Power in the form of miracles, but only for

the spiritual upliftment and benefit of humanity and all creatures.

However, miraculous experiences have often been experienced by individuals who love me and have unswerving faith in me, and these have been attributed to my nazar or Grace on them. But I want all to know that it does not befit my lovers to attribute such individual miraculous experiences to my state of the Highest of the High. If, I am the Highest of the High I am above these illusory plays of Maya in the course of the Divine Law. Therefore, whatever miraculous experiences are experienced by my lovers who recognize as such, or by those who love me unknowingly through other channels, they are but the outcome of their firm faith in me. Their unshakable faith often superown ceding the course of the play of Maya gives them those experiences which they call Miracles. Such experiences derived through firm Faith eventually do good and do not entangle the indivuduals who experience them into further and greater bindings of Illusion.

If 1 am the Highest of the High, then a wish of my Universal Will is sufficient to give, in an instant, God-Realization to one and all, and thus free every creature in creation from the shackles of Ignorance. But blessed is Knowledge that is gained through the experience of Ignorance, in accordance with the Divine Law. This Knowledge is made possible for you to attain in the midst of Ignorance by the guidance of Perfect Masters and, surrenderance to the Highest of the High.

Since the Message in toto carries an everlasting value, not a single line of the same should be omitted. Each sentence unfolds a specific meaning which produces positive thought currents and the hidden-vibrations are more intensely felt at soul's level in MEHER DHAM and its surrounding areas,, where the Modern AVATAR was mysteriously engaged in: doing HIS SPIRITUAL WORK. Apart from this, the most esoteric fact about the REALITY behind the physical form of BABA is also internally revealed at MEHER? DHAM to all those persons who are keenly receptive to IT.

THE IDEA OF 'MEHER DHAM' - IT'S ORIGIN :

The MEHER MELA of the year 1961 was going on: in full swing at Dehra Dun, where Pukarjee of Hamirpur. and Babu Ram Prasad of Nauranga came together and stayed at the CENTRE with Matajee Prakashwati and Brother Kishen Singh. By 26th March, 1961, all Babalovers from outstations had left for their respective places. But Pukarjee and Babu Ram Prasad had to stay back as they were to proceed to Jaipur next morning, in connection with Baba's statue, which was being carved there for MEHER DHAM at Nauranga. Their stay that night at the Centre and the discussion which Prakashwati had with them, infused a spontaneous enthusiasm in her mind and then for the first time the IDEA OF MEHER DHAM at Dehra Dun flashed in her heart. This IDEA was subsequently shared by Smt. Meher Kanta, Baby Raj and Sardarni Vir Inder Singh followed by members of Ladies' Sankirtan Group. Pukarjee, who was present at the meeting regarding the construction of MEHER DHAM, at Dehra Dun initially came forward with his humble contributon of Rs.11/followed by Babu Ram Prasad, Nauranga and others. The IDEA then got momentum and thus began Meher Dham Activity at Dehra Dun., in right earnest.

BABA-NAAM - JAP BY LADIES' SANKIRTAN PARTY :

Baba Naam Jap was started by all the ladies of the Sankirtan Party, Dehra Dun Centre at 22-Chakrata Road with the express intention of invoking Baba's Blessing as a first step towards achieving the sole object of completing the construction of MEHER DHAM as quickly as possible. The Naam-jap continued for forty days.

MEHER KANTA DONATES THE LAND :

To start with, one lady Baba-lover offered to donate a piece of land for the purpose but, unfortunately this offer took a reverse turn and did not materialise. Then came the other offer from Sardarni Vir Inder Singh and that also fizzled out as the same was found too small a plot. Smt. Prakashwati, who actually initiated the move, was deeply disappointed. At that time, Meher Kanta, wife of Bal Krishna Bakshi was also present but sitting silently, she would only observe all that was going on there about the plot of land. Perhaps Meher Kanta's silence had a deeper significance behind it and very lovingly she announced that she would donate a suitable plot of land for MEHER DHAM and that too, it was located the same in area where Avatar Meher Baba had actually stayed for sometime during the year 1953. Every one felt that it was all the DIVINE PLAN OF BABA ALONE.

Baba was promptly informed of the said announcement by Smt. Meher Kanta Bakshi and Baba sent the following Message :-

"... AS FOR MEHER DHAM, LET IT BE REAL MEHER DHAM FOR BABA WHERE HE CAN REST AND RELAX. HE IS PLEASED WITH HER LONGING AND HE HAS HIS 'NAZAR' FOR HER TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT..." In the meantime Sri Kishen Singh and Sri Bal Krishna Bakshi were directed by Baba to attend the Inaugural Function of MEHERSTHAN which was held on 28th Feb '63 at Kovvur on the banks of river Godavari in Andhra Pradesh. On his return from MEHERSTHAN, Bal Krishna Bakshi was so much over-whelmed with the idea of MEHER DHAM at Dehra Dun, that he was strongly determined to undertake and accomplish the whole PROJECT within a target period.

In the month of March, 1963 (the same year), the Annual MEHER MELA was organised as usual and the following Message from BABA was received :

> "ALL WHO WILL ASSEMBLE IN MY LOVE ON 23rd MARCH ARE BLESSED WITH BLESSINGS OF LOVE..MEHER BABA"

DEMARCATING THE PLOT OF LAND :

The most special feature of this MEHER MELA in 1963 was "Demarcating the Plot of land" at 105-Rajpur Road, Dehra Dun, for the construction of MEHER DHAM. Accordingly, Smt. Meher Kanta Bakshi stepped forward and marked the PLOT OF LAND WITH HER OWN HAND, by using lime-powder.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE :

The Foundation Stone of MEHER DHAM was laid by Sri M. Thirumala Rao (Ex-Lt. Governor of Vindhya Pradesh). After Baba's Arti, the base was **covered** with earth by Sri Thirumala Rao, then the best Band-Party played the most enchanting tune befitting the occasion. Just when the bricks were being placed in the FOUNDATION by Sri Thirumala Rao, there was a pleasant drizzle and slight shower from the Heavens above. A grand procession was then taken out from

MEHER DHAM to Dasehra grounds, in which thousands of people participated. A nicely decorated BABA-PORTRAIT was carried on an elephant during the procession. The opening of MEHER MELA was performed by Sri Sriprakash, (Ex-Governor of Bombay) by cutting an seven-coloured ribbon.

CONSTRUCTION WORK OF MEHER DHAM :

Once again it was Sri Bal Krishna Bakshi, who came forward with bubbling enthusiasm and brought forth the approved plan for the building which wass proposed to be constructed over the plot of land already donated by his wife Smt. Meher Kanta. In this connection, a letter was addressed by him for the first time, to Sri Adi K. Irani, Ahmednagar on 17.9.63, enclosing a plan of the building, giving the size of the main hall and other details relating to the construction of MEHER DHAM In this letter, he stated specifically that the financial liability for the MEHER DHAM was taken by his wife Meher Kanta on the clear understanding that 'no funds will be raised from anyone who is not a Baba Lover; same at the time, he mentioned that Smt. Baby Raj Seth (wife of Bal Gopal Das) who is also a Baba lover had volunteered to offer financial help towards the Construction Fund of Meher Dham'.

BABA'S STATUE FROM JAIPUR :

On 5.12.63, an order was placed on Shri Sohan Lal, an Artist at Jaipur, who had previously made Baba's statue as installed at Nauranga. The cost of the statue was given as Rs.6000/- But, with great difficulty, only Rs.3000/- could be collected from all the Baba-lovers at Dehra Dun. The financial position of the Centre was very critical. Just at this juncture, Bal Krishna Bakshi received an instruction from Baba as under : "Baba wants you to accept whatever money has been collected by ladies towards the cost of the statue and the balance amount may be paid by you on your mother's behalf. The momey thus offered shall be on your mother's account so that, she will have her due share of love in the installation of the statue at Meher Dham".

Sri Bal Krishna Bakshi at once complied with the above instruction from Baba and paid Rs.3000 in the name of his mother (Smt. Kapuri Devi) towards the cost of the statue.

VISIT TO AHMEDNAGAR BEFORE PROCEEDING TO JAIPUR :

Side by side with the construction work at MEHER DHAM, it was decided that Bal Krishna Bakshi and Prakashwati should proceed to Jaipur, in order to contact the Artist and settle several issues on the spot, regarding the Statue. It was however, thought necessary that before such a trip was made to Jaipur, the party should first go to Ahmednagar to discuss the details with Sri Adi K. Irani. But, due to some unavoidable circumstances, Bal Krishna Bakshi could not go. Hence, Prakashwati and Freni Narawala actually left for Ahmednagar on 21.12.63 arriving there on 23.12.63 (MEHERA MAI'S BIRTH DAY), Baba permitted both these ladies to attend Mehera Mai's Birth Dav celebration and after the function, BABA was requested to sanctify a marble slab by touching His Feet on it so that, the same could be fixed at the feet of Baba's statue in MEHR DHAM, Dehra Dun.

THE AVATAR STANDS ON THE MARBLE SLAB :

MEHER BABA-THE AVATAR OF THE AGE & THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH, WAS SO GRACIOUSLY PLEASED WITH HIS

21

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DEHRA DUN LOVERS THAT BABA, STOOD STRAIGHT ON THE SLAB AND EXERTING ALL HIS PRESSURE DOWNWARDS SAID:

"NOW I AM ALL GONE INTO IT".

RETURN OF THE PARTY TO DEHRA DUN :

After a successful visit of the party consisting of Prakashwati and Freni Narawala, to Ahmednagar and Jaipur, they returned to Dehra Dun, with the Divine Blessings from BABA as well as the marble slab sanctified by HIM. This gave a thrilling and joy inspiration to every BABA lover and worker at Dehra Dun and whilst all of them were headlong busy in doing their best for the OPENING FUNCTION OF MEHER DHAM, a very special Message from Baba was received to boost up their spirits :

This Message is dated 17.1.1964, which runs as follows:

"Baba says that the **se**ed of His work which you and Prakash had sown in Dehra Dun some years before and both of you were trying to give water and manure to it, is now fully germinated and has started to grow as a healthy plant. The growth of plant this will never be checked and it will give flower to sweet perfume to all for ages..."

(THis Message was received by Sri Kishan Singh, Secretary of Dehra Dun Centre.)

INAUGURATION OF MEHER DHAM AT DEHRA DUN :

Soon, the construction work of MEHER DHAM was completed as originally scheduled and statue Baba's was also ready for the installation at Meher Dham. All this was possible due to the untiring efforts of 'Bal Krishna Bakshi & his Parivar, with the active assistance and co-operation of Smt. Smt. Baby Raj,

Prakashati Sharma, Sri Kishen Singh, Sri Shatrughna Kumar and others.

Now, when BABA was informed about the OPENING of MEHER DHAM on 23rd March, 1964 he asked Bakshi to get the following two Messages inscribed on marble slabs which were to be displayed at the entry-gate of MEHER DHAM :

- 1. I BELONG TO NO RELIGION. MY RELIGION IS LOVE EVERY HEART IS MY TEMPLE. ALTHOUGH IT IS IN LOVE THAT YOU HAVE BUILT THIS HOUSE OF STONE, I AM ONLY IN IT WHEN YOUR HEART BRINGS ME THERE."
- 2. ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT CEREMONIES COVER ME BUT PURE WORSHIP REVEALS ME."

Sri Bal Krishna Bakshi & Sri Kishen Singh had further received a communication from Meherazad that "AS PER BABA'S INSTRUCTIONS, PUKAR WILL BE IN DEHRA DUN FROM THE BEGINNING OF MARCH (1964) AND SO HIS HELP COULD BE TAKEN AT THE TIME OF INSCRIBING THE SAID MESSAGES".

In addition, a very special Message from BABA was read out by Sri Sarosh K. Irani, at the time of unveiling Baba's statue at MEHER DHAM : The Message says,

> "GIVE MY LOVE TO ALL THOSE MOTHS (PATHANGO AND PATHINGION) WHO HAVE GATHERED TO BURN IN THE FLAME OF MEHER GLORY AND HAVING BURNT THEM-SELVES COMPLETELY, ARE ANXIOUS TO REACH MY DHAM (Abode).....MEHER BABA."

The inauguration of MEHER DHAM in the earlv morning of 23rd March, 1964 commenced with an address bv Smt. Viloo Irani. She cut the seven-coloured ribbon and opened MEHER DHAM to the public. Then followed a brief speech by Sri Sarosh K. Irani and the unweiling of Baba's statue. Sri Madhusudan entertained the audience with his new composition "Dehra Dun Chalo".

In the evening, a public meeting was held at Parade Ground. Yogi Shuddhananda Bharati, Sri Sarosh K. Irani and Dr. G.S.N. Moorty were the main speakers followed by Dr. C.D. Deshmukh, Dr. H.P. Bharucha, Sri A.C.S. Chari, Sri K.N. Nigam, Sri W.D. Kain, Sri Pukar, Sri Sripat Sahai, who also spoke on the occasion.

VISIT TO MEHER MAPI :

morning, the distinguished On the 24th visitors. alongwith local Baba-lovers paid a visit to Meher Mafi, at the far end of Dehra Dun where Baba stayed for a considerable period in 1950 during His New Life. Here Sri Amar Singh Saigal, M.P., Sri Sarosh K. Irani and Sri Lekh Raj Ulfat were the main speakers. Sarva Shri Madhusudan, Vishnuji, Rajani Kant Upadhaya and B. singh delighted the audience with devotional songs and poems.

JAGARAN AT MEHER DHAM:

On 24th night, JAGARAN (whole night's vigil) at MEHER DHAM commenced with Sankirtan by Madhusudan, Dr. C. D. Deshmukh and others followed by a dramatic performance "PREM LILA" of Avatar Meher Baba. A very inspiring Quawali programme by Shafkat Rahi & party took place that kept the audience spell-bound. The programme went on for the whole night until the morning of 25th March, 1964.

The following telegraphic message received from Beloved Baba was also read out on the occasion:-

"GIVE MY LOVE TO MY PREM BHIKKUS AND ASK THEM TO FILL THE PURSE OF THEIR HEARTS WITH THE TREASURES OF MY LOVE.... BABA."

Lastly, Sri Kishen Singh, in a very moving speech, specially thanked Sri Bal Krishna Bakshi, Smt. Meher Kanta and Smt. Baby Raj (Wife of Seth Bal Gopal Das) for their total surrender & service to Avatar Meher Baba, in whose name they have built MEHER DHAM and dedicated the same to the sacred Cause of Humanity.

The following Messages from BABA received by Sri Bal Krishna Bakshi and Smt. Meher Kanta Bakshi, from time to time speak for themselves;

> "BY CONSTRUCTING MEHER DHAM, YOU HAVE ESTABLI-SHED A UNIQUE IDEAL OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE AND BLESSED INDEED ARE YOU FOR HAVING GOT IT BUILT WHILE THE AVATAR IS STILL LIVING ON THE EARTH....

> "IT IS ALL DUE TO YOUR GOOD FORTUNE THAT YOU ARE GETTING AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN HIS AVATARIC ACTIVITIES. HISTORY WILL BEAR WITNESS TO THE WORK DONE BY YOU AND ALL OF YOU WILL FIND A PLACE IN MEHER DHAM.

> "YOU TRULY HAVE IMMORTALISED DUN DEHRA IN THE HISTORY OF THE PRESENT AVATARIC PERIOD AND FOR SEVERAL AGES TO COME, MEHER DHAM WILL REMAIN AS A CONSTANT IDEAL TO INSPIRE FUTURE GENERATIONS WITH THE LOVE OF ALL THOSE WHO ARE INTIMATELY CONNECTED WITH IT.

"BABA KNOWS HOW MUCH SACRIFICE HAS BEEN MADE BABY RAJ) BY THE TWO FAMILIES (MEHER KANTA & WHO HAVE PROVED THEIR LOVE FOR BABA. BABA ALSO KNOWS HOW OFTEN YOU ARE CONFRONTED WITH CRITICISM AND OPPOSITION AND ALSO THAT SOME PEOPLE ARE HARASSING YOU. BUT, BABA SAYS THAT YOU ARE THE BUILDERS OF MEHER DHAM AND THOSE WHO ARE CREATING OPPOSITION FOR YOU ARE REALLY WASHING AWAY YOUR DIRT."

SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS - 1989 :

MEHER DHAM has now attained the age of 25 years and as such it's Silver Jubilee is being duly celebrated today on 23rd March, 1989. On this most auspicious occasion, we are happy to mention that Dr. G.S.N. Moorty, M.A., Ph.D., who has come to stay with us permanently in Dehra Dun, at our request, will be looking after all the activities of MEHER DHAM including Library and publication work besides weekly lectures & talks on Sundays, in general. In order to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of MEHER DHAM (DEHRA DUN), Dr. G.S.N. Moorty has agreed to deliver a special series of 25 lectures on the life and philosophy of MEHER BABA during the SILVER JUBILEE PERIOD.



Supplement

A HIGHLY INSPIRING CHARTER OF WORSHIP WAS READ OUT TO AVATAR MEHER BABA AT MEHERAZAD IN FEB. 1963. ON HEARING IT, THE FAST MOVING FINGERS OF GOD SPELT OUT SAYING "WONDERFUL GO AHEAD WITH YOUR WORSHIP OF THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH KOVVUR AND ELSEWHERE ACCORDINGLY AT THE SAME WAS RECITED BY DOCTOR MOORTHY AT THE INAUGURAL FUNCTION OF MEHER DHAM HELD AT DEHRA DUN ON 23rd MARCH 1964. ONCE AGAIN, AFTER 25 YEARS, WE ARE HAPPILY INCLINED TO RE-PUBLISH IT (WHICH IS AS FRESH AS EVER BEFORE) FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR READERS.

Publishers

Worship of The Highest of The High

O! Beloved Lord Meher!

I too shall worship Thee.

- I shall build an Abode of Peace in Thy City of Silence.
- I shall sit in the Central Hall of Happiness for doing Thy worship.
- I shall sweep the floor with my 'soul' and keep the door open for all.
- I shall surcharge the whole atmosphere with the air of Thy affection.
- I shall decorate Thy Throne with all the grandeur of the solar-system.

I shall stitch all the planets into Thy Pillows.

- I shall pull-out the Milky Way from the Heavens and spread it on the ground as Thy Carpet.
- I shall enter the Hall of Happiness after taking a bath in the Sea of Thy Solitude.
- I shall preserve the Sacred Flame of Thy fire within the Frame-work of East-West-North-South.
- I shall bend the beautiful Rainbow over the God's eye-brow to reflectall the colours of Thy light.
- I shall invoke the Deity of Thy divine presence. I shall collect myself calmly in front of Thy Mercy

and keenly observe Thy tranquil movements.

- I shall pour out all the oceans to wash Thy Holy Feet. I shall empty all the rivers to sprinkle rose-water on Thy Face.
- I shall break the Himalayas in one blow and grind them into Thy sandal-paste.
- I shall fetch the Moon and fix it on Thy Forehead as an ever-shining 'Tilak'.
- I shall pluck all the twinkling stars and arrange them nicely in Thy Flower-pot.
- I shall dissolve all the five elements into Thy Panchamritam.
- I shall drown all the disturbances in the deepest depths of Thy stillness.

I shall compose the Song of my soul's "Longing of Love" for The Divine Beloved.

I shall sing that Song in tune with storms and all the clouds shall clap.

I shall call the seasons to play Thy harmony and thunders shall accompany.

I shall direct earthquakes to join in chorus and dance with me.

I shall drag all the mountains to fall in line with me and prostrate before Thee- The Highest of the High.

- I shall produce the Incense of all Scriptures to Perfume the entire space with the Fine fragrance of Thy thought.
- I shall 'act' against 'Maya' as a 'Hero' in the 'Drama' of this world, to humour thee.
- I shall inhale the spirit of Thy mystic nature and release the Cool Breeze of 'Bliss'.

I shall stand on the top-most point of Truth and announce Thy Ancient Glory, at the Peak of my Inner voice.

I shall loudly proclaim Thy Avatarhood in the bold Language of Roaring Water-falls.

I shall take the blue disc of the Sky on my palm and burn the sun as a camphor ball, to perform Thy arti.

I shall distribute the Prasad of Thy Grace to the whole mankind.

- I shall rise above all 'rites and rituals' and thus 'meditate'.
- I shall bury tthe Past, bleach the Present and brighten the future.
- I shall uproot all the trees of un-truth.

I shall shoot the 'mad dog' of 'desire'.

I shall kick away the couples of 'pride and prejudice'. I shall stab the 'inflated ego' with the sharpest dagger of detachment.

- I shall draw inspiration from the delightful springs of suffering.
- I shall get intoxicated with the 'wine of ecstacy' from the Fountains of Faith.
- I shall dig the 'grave' for death in the land of Thy eternity.
- I shall surrender all my pleasures at the Altar of "The pain of Thy separation".
- I shall weave all the wild winds of intellect into a vast network of wisdom.
- I shall smash all superstitions and crush all calamities.
- I shall flourish in frustration with nourishing hope.
- I shall spin the 'Thread of 'Spirituality' from the clean cotton of Thy cosmic consciousness.
- I shall extract sugar out of sorrows.
- I shall convert all tragedies into the creed of comedies.
- I shall reduce all dangers into dust.
- I shall seek solace in life at the bed-side of adversity.
- I shall control the terrible traffic of troubles and turmoils.
- I shall cut off the head of Hypocricy.
- I shall remove all the thorns on the path of progress and wander in the woods of Thy wonderful Mysteries.
- I shall throw all 'doubts' in Thy 'Dustbin'.
- I shall digest all mis-fortunes.
- I shall churn all miseries into the 'Nectar of -Knowledge'.
- I shall pat on the back of 'woes and worries' and lull them to sleep.
- I shall kill the cobra of 'self-comfort'.
- I shall annihilate the whole army of 'agonies'.

I shall strangle the throat of tortures.

I shall balance between the pairs of all opposites.
I shall soothe the wounds of humiliation by Thy touch.
I shall shake hands with insults and injuries.
I shall arrest the rush of my tears and turn them back to the source to make no show of - suffering.

- I shall refrain from riding on the blind horse of Science ever gallopping into unknown distances but shall rejoice to saddle 'Science' with 'Religion'-The religion of heart, so that the world shall be saved from a 'Heartless Science'.
- I shall wear the Crown of Renunciation studded with the Brightest jewel of Joy.
- I shall hold fast to "Thy daaman" till the very end; and I shall hide my face behind it to suck the Milk of immortality from the breasts of Thy Silent Beyond.
- I shall kiss the Rosy cheeks of Thy rising sun of 'Reality' with my parting lips of Day and Night.
- I shall smoothly suspend 'myself' in the soft-coils of Thy embrace and like Thy own little child, I shall continue to whisper slowly in Thine ears for at least 700 years: "DARLING"! SHALT THOU NOT ACCEPT THIS LIVING GARLAND OF 'ME' ?"
- I shall surely survive to see that time shall soon reveal Thy 'supreme reality', when Thou shall utter the only 'WORD' of Words and manifest Thy Glorious Divinity.
- I shall plunge into Thy great celestial silence for Samadhi;

AND, THUS MY LORD!

I shall worship thee!

Laboratory of Baba-Love

Go to the Lord's laboratory of LOVE.

Clean the table of mind from the crude dust of unfertile intellectuality.

Take the test tube of Truth.

Hold it firmly with HEART.

Wash it thoroughly with the Spirit of SELF-SACR-FICE.

Dissolve all dictionary words.

Add an ounce of Pure FAITH.

Stir it gently with the rod of REALITY.

Apply heat with the burning flame of LIFE.

Let the heat reach the boiling point of BABA'S Love.

You will soon observe that all the words have evaporated into vibrational - vapour, gas or speech, leaving only SOLID SILENCE at the bottom of the test tube of truth.

This is the SECRET SCIENCE of BABA Love.

- Acharya Moorty

THE REAL DARSHAN

DEHRA DUN - 1st Nov. 1953.

I am happy to be in your midst.

It is the deep love of some of my lovers in Dehra Dun that has drawn you all together today to have my darshan.

But to have my Real Darshan is not easy.

To see me at close quarters, to do obeisance to me, to offer me fruits and flowers, to bow down to me and then to return your homes can never mesn that you have had my darshan

Having seen me with your eyes you have still not seen me as I am You have not had even a glimpse of my true Being in spite of your having gone through the convention of so called 'darshan.'

To have my Real Darshan is to find me. The way to find me is to find your abode in me. And the only one and sure way to find your abode in me is to love me

To love me as I love you, you must become recipient of my grace. Only my grace can bestow the gift of Divine Love

To receive my grace, you must obey me wholeheartedly with the firm foundation of unshakable faith in me

And you can only obey me spontaneously as I want when you completely surrender yourselves to me so that my wish becomes your law and my love sustains your being.

Age after age, many aspire for such a surrender; but only very few really attempt to surrender themseives to me completly as I want.

He, who succeeds ultimately not only finds me, but becomes me and realises the aim of life.

My being in your midst today would serve its purpose even if one from this multitude has understood what I want you all to know,

I give my blessings to you all.

-MEHER BABA

Dehra Dun will soon become My Brindavan-Meher Baba

MEHER DHAM

(Avatar Meher Baba Dehra Dun Centre) 105, Rajpur Road, Dehra Dun-(U.P,) Phone: 26203

MEHER DHAM is open to all irrespective of Race, Religion. Caste, Colour. Creed, sect or sex. Separate accommodation facilities are available here throughout the year for any Baba-lover/Pilgrim coming from outstations.

DAILY Praver & Arati

WEEKLY Keertan & Satsang. (Every SUNDAY at Dham)

WEEKLY Keertan & Satsang (Every Monday at Meher Prasad).

WEEKLY LIBRARY DAY (Every Saturday)

Yearly Special Functions: Amar-Tithi Day BABA'S Birth Day Meher Mela Silence Day Highest of the High Day TIME

9 A. M.

11 A M. to 1-00 P.M.

4-30 P.M. to 6 30 P.M.

4-30 P M. to 6-30 P.M,

31st January 25th February 22nd, 23rd & 24th March 10th July 7th September

Acharya Moorty. Geeta Bhushan will deliver Weekly Lectures Both at Meher Dham & Meher Prasad.

All are Welcome.

A. K. Bakshi Founder President M. M. Kapoor

Secretary