

DECLARATIONS

OF

 **IVINITY**

BY

AVATAR

MEHER BABA

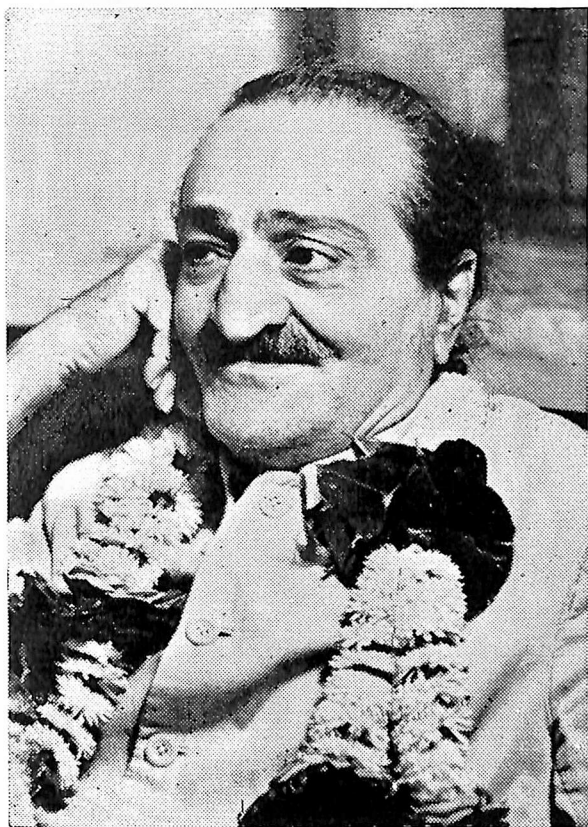


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**“I am the Ancient One,
come to redeem the modern world. ”**

– Meher Baba



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THE SPRING-TIDE OF CREATION

Avataric periods are like the spring-tide of creation. They bring a new release of power, a new awakening of consciousness, a new experience of life – not merely for a few, but for all. Qualities of energy and awareness, which had been used and enjoyed by only a few advanced souls, are made available for all humanity. Life, as a whole, is stepped up to a higher level of consciousness, is geared to a new rate of energy. The transition from sensation to reason was one such step; the transition from reason to intuition will be another.

This new influx of the creative impulse takes, through the medium of a divine personality, an Incarnation of God in a special sense – an Avatar. This Avatar was the first individual soul to emerge from the evolutionary process as a Sadguru, and He is the only Avatar Who has ever manifested or will ever manifest. Through Him, God first completed the journey from unconscious divinity to conscious divinity, first unconsciously became man in order consciously to become God. Through Him, periodically, God consciously becomes man for the liberation of mankind.

THE OCCURRENCE OF THE AVATAR

The Avatar appears in different forms, under different names, at different times, in different parts of the world. As His appearance always coincides with the spiritual birth of man, so the period immediately preceding His manifestation is always one in which humanity suffers from the pangs of the approaching birth. Man seems more than ever enslaved by desire, more than ever driven by greed, held by fear, swept by anger. The strong dominate the weak; the rich oppress the poor; large masses of people are exploited for the benefit of the few who are in power. The individual, who finds no peace or rest, seeks to forget himself in excitement. Immorality increases, crime flourishes, religion is ridiculed. Corruption spreads throughout the social order. Class and national hatreds are aroused and fostered. Wars break out. Humanity grows desperate. There seems to be no possibility of stemming the tide of destruction.

At this moment the Avatar appears.

Being the total manifestation of God in human form, He is like a gauge against which man can measure what he is and what he may become. He tries the standard of human values by interpreting them in terms of divinely human life.

AVATAR AND HUMANITY

The Avatar awakens contemporary humanity to a realization of its true spiritual nature, gives liberation to those who are ready, and quickens the life of the spirit in His time.

He is interested in everything, but not concerned about anything. The slightest mishap may command His sympathy; the greatest tragedy will not upset Him. He is beyond the alternations of pain and pleasure, desire and satisfaction, rest and struggle, life and death. To Him, they are equally illusions which He has transcended, but by which others are bound, and from which He has come to free them. He uses every circumstance as a means to lead others towards Realization.

For posterity is left the stimulating power of His divinely human example, the nobility of a life supremely lived, of a love unmixed with desire, of a power unused except for others, of a peace untroubled by ambition, of a knowledge undimmed by illusion. He has demonstrated the possibility of a divine life for all humanity, of a heavenly life on earth. Those who have the necessary courage and integrity can follow when they will.

AVATAR AND RELIGION

At the time of the manifestation of an Avatar, the force of the general spiritual push is so tremendous that it creates quite a new awakening of consciousness. This, combined with the teachings and activities of the Avatar on the physical plane during the life in which He manifests Himself, is given outward form by His followers who call it a new religion.

As the force of the spiritual push gradually weakens with the lapse of time, spirituality also recedes until it almost sinks into insignificance. Religion, or rather, the outward form of it, becomes like a dry crust, ready to crumble at any moment, and world conditions reach a climax.

It is at this critical juncture that the Avatar appears and manifests on the physical plane to give once again the spiritual push to the world. The force of this spiritual push is again adopted as a new, outward, religious form, according to the existing circumstances.

This is why religions have apparently different forms, owing to different times and circumstances in which they were established; though in essence, they are the one and the same ideal of life taught over and over again by the one and the same Divinity who appeared and manifested on earth at different times and under different circumstances.

· VEILING THE DIVINE INCARNATION

If and when the Avatar takes an Incarnation in the human form, He brings upon Himself a veil; and this veil has to be removed by some Master or Masters.

The veil with which the Avatar descends in the human form is placed upon Him by the five Perfect Masters who bring Him down from His formless being. In the Avataric periods, the five Perfect Masters always put this veil upon the Infinite Consciousness of the Avatar, because if He were to be brought without such a veil into the world of forms, the existing balance between reality and illusion would be profoundly disturbed. However, when the five Masters think that the moment is ripe, they remove this veil which they have placed on the Avataric consciousness. From that moment the Avatar consciously starts His role as the Avatar.

The incarnation of the Avatar does not take place unless it is precipitated by the five Perfect Masters of the cycle. In all of His incarnations except the first, even the Avatar needs a Master in order to come into His own eternal and Infinite Consciousness.

THE LINK AND THE LAW

GOD is absolutely independent, and the universe is entirely dependent upon God. Yet when the Perfect Masters effect the descent of God on earth as the Avatar, they make Reality and illusion interdependent, each upon the other. And thus it is that His Infinite Mercy and Unbounded Love are eternally drawn upon by those who are immersed in illusion.

Between God and the Universe, infinite Mercy and unbounded Love act as a prominent link which is eternally made use of by Men who become God, (Sadgurus, Perfect Masters or Qutubs), and by God who becomes Man (Avatar, Christ or Rasool), and so the Universe becomes the eternal playmate of God. Through this prominent link the Avatar not only established life in His Divine Play, but also established Law in illusion. And, this Law being established by the God-Man or Avatar is the Law of the Law-less Infinite and it is eternally Real and at the same time illusory. It is this Law that governs the universe; all its 'ups and downs', construction and devastation are guided by this Law.

At the Cyclic period, God's independent Absoluteness is made to work upon this Law by the God-Man as God's Will, and this means that anything and everything that the Avatar wills is ordained by God.

AVATAR IN EVERY SENSE

When I say I am the AVATAR, there are a few who feel happy, some who feel shocked and many who hearing me claim this would take me for a hypocrite, a fraud, a supreme egoist or just mad. If I were to say that every one of you is an Avatar, a few would be tickled, and many would consider it a blasphemy or a joke. The fact that God being One, Indivisible and equally in us all, we can be nought else but one, is too much for the duality-conscious mind to accept. Yet each of us is what the other is. I know I am the Avatar in every sense of the word, and that each one of you is an Avatar in one sense or the other.

It is an unalterable and universally recognised fact since time immemorial that God knows everything, God does everything, and that nothing happens but by the Will of God. Therefore, it is God Who makes me say I am the Avatar, and that each one of you is an Avatar. Again, it is He Who is tickled through some, and through others is shocked. It is God who acts and God Who reacts. It is He Who scoffs and He Who responds. He is the Creator, the Producer, the Actor and the Audience in His Own Divine Play.

THE FIVE PERFECT MASTERS

What I am, what I was and what I will be as the Ancient One, is always due to the five Perfect Masters of the Age. During the Avataric periods the five Perfect Masters make God incarnate as man.

Sai Baba, Upasani Maharaj, Babajan, Tajuddin Baba and Narayan Maharaj are the five Perfect Masters of this Age for me.

Of these five, Upasani Maharaj and Babajan directly played the main roles. Babajan in less than a millionth of a second made me realize, (My Ancient State) that I am God and in the period of seven years, Upasani Maharaj gave me the knowledge that I am the Avatar, the Ancient One, (established me in that State).

Sai Baba made me assert this time what I am.

Babajan made me feel what I am.

Upasani Maharaj made me know what I am.

Babajan gave me Divine Bliss.

Sai Baba gave me Divine Power.

Upasani Maharaj gave me Divine Knowledge.

I am Infinite Power, Knowledge and Bliss.

I am the Ancient One, come to redeem the modern world.

TWO ASPECTS OF DIVINITY

There are always two aspects of Divinity, perpetually and eternally active in the affairs of the world. The destructive aspect of Divinity as expressed in Persian means 'Self Glorification' and the constructive aspect of Divinity is called 'Self-Beatitude'.

The aspect of 'Self--Glorification' by God when it gets palpably active, entails suffering and destruction on a colossal scale. The aspect of Divine 'Self--Beatitude' when it asserts itself, brings in its wake peace and plenty.

In the aspect of 'Self--Glorification,' Divinity repels itself through its own creation and in the aspect of 'Self--Beatitude', Divinity attracts or loves itself, through its own creation. The former is a negative method and the latter is a positive method and both these methods ultimately are instruments of Divine Wisdom, to rouse humanity to its Divine heritage, which is 'Self--Realization'. These aspects assert themselves in cyclic waves and they affect humanity individually and collectively but the intensity and force is directly in proportion to each other.

Now, the destructive phase is about to weaken and the aspect of 'Divine Beatitude' is nearly due to come to the fore; and to invite humanity to avail itself of this Blessedness to come is My Divine Mission.

AVATAR'S CALL

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

“ COME ALL UNTO ME ”

Although, because of the veil of illusion, this Call of the Ancient One may appear as a voice in the wilderness, its echo and re-echo nevertheless pervades through time and space, to rouse at first a few, and eventually millions, from their slumber of ignorance. And in the midst of illusion, as the voice behind all voices, it awakens humanity, to bear witness to the Manifestation of God amidst mankind.

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

THE VOICE OF REALITY

The time is come, and I bid all, 'Come unto Me.'

This time-honoured call of mine thrills the hearts of those who have patiently endured all in their love for God, loving God only for love of God. There are those who fear and shudder at its reverberations, and would flee or resist. And there are yet others who, baffled, fail to understand why the Highest of the High, who is All-sufficient, need necessarily give this Call to humanity.

Irrespective of doubts and convictions, and for the Infinite Love I bear for one and all, I continue to come as the Avatar, to be judged time and again by humanity in its ignorance, in order to help man distinguish the Real from the false.

Invariably muffled in the cloak of the infinitely true humility of the Ancient One, the Divine Call is at first little heeded, until, in its Infinite strength it spreads in volume to reverberate and keep on reverberating in countless hearts as the Voice of Reality.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

Age after age history repeats itself when men and women, in their ignorance, limitations and pride, sit in judgment over the God-incarnated Man who declares his Godhood, and condemn Him for uttering the truths they cannot understand. He is indifferent to abuse and persecution, for in His true compassion He understands, in His continual experience of Reality He knows, and in His Infinite Mercy He forgives.

God is all. God knows all, and God does all. When the Avatar proclaims He is the Ancient One, it is God Who proclaims His manifestation on earth. When man utters for or against the Avatarhood it is God who speaks through him. It is God alone who declares Himself through the Avatar and mankind.

I tell you all with my Divine authority, that you and I are not "WE", but "ONE". You unconsciously feel my Avatarhood within you; I consciously feel in you what each of you feel. Thus every one of us is Avatar, in the sense that everyone and everything is everyone and everything, at the same time, and for all time.

THE STOOPING DOWN

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, He 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 earth. 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.

HOW TO 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 or worldly gain but only with the fervent longing to give me 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 short-lived comforts, but adhere to me through thick and thin, 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 a good job, but desire to serve me more diligently and honestly without expectation of reward. Never beg of me to save your life or the lives of your dear ones, but beg of me to accept you and permit you to lay down your lives for me. Never expect me to cure you of your bodily 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.

THE SEED OF TRUE KNOWLEDGE

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, 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 realise that which I want you to know NOW. To save yourself from further entanglement in the maze of illusion 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.

MY TRUE LOVERS

I am not to be attained by those who, loving me, stand reverently 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 am for.

I am for the selected 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 renunciation 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 fulfil my slightest wish at the cost of their happiness and comfort, they indeed, truly love me.

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.

AVATAR AND ILLUSION

Age after age the Avatar comes amidst mankind to maintain his own creation of illusion, thereby also awakening the humanity to awareness of it. The framework of illusion is always one and the same, but the designs in illusion are innumerable and ever changing.

My advent is not to destroy illusion because illusion, as it is, is absolutely nothing. I come to make you become aware of the nothingness of illusion. Through you I automatically maintain illusion, which is nothing but the shadow of my Infinite Self, and through me you automatically discard illusion when you are made aware of its falseness.

My manifestation as the Avatar of the time will be of short duration. This short period will in quick succession, cover my humiliation, the breaking of my silence, my glorification, and my violent physical end. Everlastingly with all the Divine Bliss within me, I eternally suffer for one and all - thus I am crucified eternally and continually for all.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF DIVINE SILENCE

I have come not to teach but to awaken. Understand therefore that I lay down no precepts.

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.

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 into your midst. I had to come, and I have come.

I am the Ancient One.

AVATAR AND HIS ONLY MESSAGE

It is possible through love for man to become God. And when God becomes man, it is due to His love for His beings.

If people were to ask me, "Have you seen God?", I would reply, "What else is there to see?"

If they were to ask me, "Are you God?", I would reply, "What else could I be?"

If they were to ask me, "Are you Avatar?", I would say, "Why else have I taken this human form?"

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

And, the only message I could give, and have ever been giving is - Love me as I want you to, and you will find that your own Self is nothing but God.

I AM THE ONE

I am the very same Ancient One, in flesh and blood, who is eternally worshipped and neglected, always remembered and forgotten; I am that Eternal One, whose Past is worshipped and remembered; whose Present is neglected and forgotten; whose Future is always much desired and longed for.

* * *

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.

* * *

This booklet is compiled from various Discourses and Messages of Avatar Meher Baba to commemorate His 37th year of Silence.

Avatar Meher Baba Poona Centre

