

**BRIEF LIFE SKETCH
AND MESSAGES OF**



AVATAR MEHER BABA

English Series No: 1

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BRIEF LIFE SKETCH OF AVATAR MEHER BABA

Merwan Sheriar Irani, known as Meher Baba, was born in Pune, India, on February 25, 1894 to 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 Pune. In 1913, while still in College, a momentous event occured in his life — the meeting of Hazrat Babajan of Pune, one of the five Perfect Masters of the age. In January 1914, Babajan unveiled the divinity in him 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. Sai Baba on seeing him uttered 'O Parvardigar' (which means God, Almighty) and internally directed him to Upasni Maharaj of Sakori. During the next seven years Upasni 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 began 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 and 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 on Kiel Mountain, 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 lepers 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.**

MESSAGES OF AVATAR MEHER BABA *THE 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', 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 *avatic* 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 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.¹

Meher Baba

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 ourselves 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 life is to Love God, and find Him as our own self.²

Meher Baba

THE SEVEN REALITIES

*Existence, Love, Sacrifice, Renunciation,
Knowledge, Control, and Surrender.*

I give 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 in so-called sinner. This knowledge requires you to help all equally as circumstances demand without expectation of reward; 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; and 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 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

FOOT NOTES

1. C. B. Purdom, *The God-Man* (Myrtle Beach, SC : Sheriar Press, 1971), pp. 343-344.

2. Meher Baba, *The Path of Love*, edited by Filis Frederick, 2nd ptg. (Hermosa Beach, CA : The Awakener Press, 1986), p. 109.

3. Meher Baba, *Discourses*, 7th rev. ed. (Myrtle Beach, SC : Sheriar Press, 1987), pp. 1-2.

The Holy Tomb-Shrine of AVATAR MEHER BABA

The holy Tomb-Shrine of Avatar Meher Baba is at MEHERABAD, 8 Kms. from Ahmednagar in Maharashtra, on Dhond-Manmad Railway Line. The Tomb is open for Public Darshan everyday from 7.00 A.M. to 7.45 P.M. The Amartithi of Avatar Meher Baba is observed every year on 31st January at Meherabad. Thousands of Baba lovers from all over India and abroad gather here in loving remembrance on this day, to pay their homage to the Avatar of the Age.



After seventy years this place will be a place of great privilege and pilgrimage....to whose Samadhi (Tomb) will flock one day, from all over the world, all the lovers of God, philosophers and worshippers to pay their homage !

Meher Baba

MEHER ASRAMAM MADRAS

Meher Asramam – Temple of Silence is a unique place dedicated to Mownavatar Meher Baba. This sacred place offers a rare opportunity to worship the Mownavatar in silence. This place is charged with Baba's LOVE. In 1930 Baba had planted a sappling of peepul here. In 1947, He gave public Darshan, sitting under this tree. Those who visit this sacred tree, will feel the presence of Avatar Meher Baba here.

Address :

3, Brahmin Street,
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Phone : 4851369.



The universe is my ashram, and every heart is my house ...

Meher Baba

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V. Sita Ramayya
Managing Trustee
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