

Warning from Baba

TO

HIS LOVERS

**JUNE
1957**

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According to Meher Baba's instructions a group of Baba lovers from Bombay, Poona and Mandali members — about forty seven in number — assembled in Guru Prasad Poona by 8 o'clock on the morning of 19th May, 1957. Later, on 2nd June 1957, another group of lovers from Surat, Bajwa and Navsari was also allowed to be in the presence of Beloved Beba, at 8 in the morning at Botanical Gardens, Kirkee. Given under is an account of these two meetings.

Baba with His usual radiant smile and with a little assistace of two persons on both the sides walked slowly to the meeting hall. He had by now left using either crutches or sticks.

Baba enquired whether all had slept well the previous night. Those who could not sleep well were instructed not to doze during the session. He said, "As for Me, I had no sleep, for I had to do some important spiritual work. From the time of the accident I have been suffering severe physical pains. Tell Me, from My face, how you find Me now." Most of the members replied that Beloved Baba's face appeared as smiling and cheerful as ever.

After a pause Baba continued, "You have been called here, but now it is a question for Me why have I called you and what should I convey to you !" There was a ripple of laughter at this remark.

In the first meeting Baba asked all the Poona workers to stand up and enquired about those absent who were not called for the meeting. Then he instructed that those who were not called be taken over to Guru Prasad at 2 o'clock afternoon of the same day. Immediately after an embrace from Baba they should leave.

About the injuries sustained by Himself Baba said, "The fractured bone is getting well set. In the surgeon's opinion — who happens to be a Colonel — My progress is unexpectedly rapid. He told Me that even a stout, young soldier would have required at least six months to recover to this extent !" One of the lovers requested Baba to take care of His body. Baba replied, "I have to come again and again in flesh and blood to bear the sufferings of humanity."

After preliminary 'talk' started the work for which the meeting was convened. Baba said, "I want to tell you one important thing which each of you must remember well. It is a fact that I am the Lord of the Universe. I am omnipresent. Now the time is fast approaching and I clearly see the 'dark cloud' hovering. I see its picture. By this I am not referring to the recent motor accident that has already come to pass. The 'humiliation' that I was referring to since long is within sight. During that phase of My life there is every possibility that I may slip off your hands.

"Now let Me first explain what I mean by humiliation. Suppose you are loved by some one very dearly for several years and, one day when you happen to meet him, he suddenly begins to abuse you, kick you

and spit on your face; in the context of your previous relations with him, your plight becomes an example of humiliation. In the same way, if some persons, who have previously adored Me and raised Me up to the skies in adoration for years, suddenly turn against Me and express extreme disdain for Me by throwing Me in filth, will be another example of humiliation.

“I will also give you an example of *circumstances* under which this kind of a thing can happen. You are worshipping Me for so many years. Suppose, you suddenly find Me, eating rubbish and roaming about naked in the streets, behaving like a mad person, what will be your reaction to this behaviour of Mine ? I do not want any one of you to think or say that Baba is going to become mad ! On the contrary, I have come to make the whole world mad after God and Truth !

“Only the Avatar, whenever He lives amidst mankind has to undergo humiliation. When there are five Perfect Masters, who are God personified and who control and look after the affairs of the universe, what need is there for them to precipitate the Incarnation of God on earth ? They bring Him down to shoulder the sufferings of humanity. The five Perfect Masters are not as much scandalised or humiliated as the Avatar is. I have been made to take this human form by the five Perfect Masters of this age to bear the Cross and to undergo humiliation.

“You have read in the Gospels wherein Christ had said to His Apostles, ‘you will deny Me’. This did happen when Peter the chief Apostle denied Jesus. The

thing is that during the phase of humiliation the circumstances will so array themselves that you won't be aware when My 'daman' has slipped off your hands. At that time, you may even feel justified in leaving Me.

"But if you feel that this should not happen, there is one remedy. You should grasp well, all what I say, and understandingly act up to it. You should also tell all what you hear today to those who are not present. In short, I clearly see the 'dark cloud'. I do not wish to make a mere mention of the 'drak cloud' without any reason; but this is My loving warning to you so that My 'daman' may not slip off your hands !

"Today I also wish to tell you about some other important points. I will start with the topic of saints. These days this point is often brought to My notice from the letters I receive from My lovers. Some write 'Baba, you often enter into seclusion for long periods. Very rarely we get an opportunity to have your sahavas. We are not even permitted to have your darshan for months together ! This often makes us feel inclined to visit saints and be in their company.' They also ask Me whether they should follow certain instructions given by the saints.

"A few days back a wife of one of My devotees wrote to Me that a certain person who called himself a saint, told her that he was ordered by Me to guard their house and that he loved Me very much. Apart from the truth of his statement the point which struck Me is that if such things were to continue anybody would approach My

devotees and may even demand hundreds of rupees in My name, and thus may easily deceive them. To say whether a saint is real or an imitation one is My right alone and not yours."

At this point some one intervened, 'Baba, we go to saints, because we have a feeling that You are in every one.' To this Beloved Baba replied, "I am also in a thief and a murderer; then what is it that prevents you to respect and to worship them? If you were really to see Me everywhere as I am, there would not arise any need for you to go to saints, or even to come, to Me, to pay your respects".

"I have been saying all the time, age after age, that when I, the Ancient One, assume this human form, there are many false prophets who claim themselves as Avatars. For instance, a week before I received a letter from U. P., a devotee writes that there are two persons in his town, and each proclaims himself as the Avatar of the age. This created a great deal of confusion in his mind. Also, in one of the towns in Northern India, there is one social worker who claims, and has a genuine feeling for his claim, that he is the Avatar.

"I am telling you all these things in detail for it is My right alone to say so as all of them are My children. As far as you are concerned you should neither criticise nor indulge in backbiting. If you speak ill of a real saint, it will be harmful for you. You will create dreadful (sanskaric) bindings. You should avoid scandalising even the so-called mahatmas who call themselves saints, because it is not possible for you to be certain

whether they are real or not. The presumptuous saints outwardly act like real saints. You will not be able to differentiate between them, just in the same way, as you would not be able to differentiate between the Masts and the mad persons. Yet what a world of difference lies in their inner states !

“Coming back to the point of real saints, I would like you to know that to become a saint is not a child's play. The very word saint when commonly used or is made applicable to any one creates a lot of misunderstanding. I will tell you something that will clear off the misunderstandings regarding saints.

“There are two types of saints : (1) Real saints and (2) Imitation saints. Just as an ordinary person, cannot distinguish between a real and an imitation pearl, you cannot distinguish between a real saint and an imitation saint. I, alone like a jeweller can make out the difference.

“Particularly in India, we find a lot of imitation saints; and this is due to the superficial study of the Vedanta. By studying Vedanta one can say, ‘I am God’; Sadgurus also say, ‘I am God’. Imitation saints also say the same thing, but with the help of Vedanta. Real saints need no such help; they say what they experience. There are also some who after reading Vedanta realize that they have no such experience, but they still say, ‘I am God’. This is hypocrisy. Also there are some imitation saints who, after reading Vedanta, have a genuine feeling and say, ‘I am God’, though in reality they do not have any conscious experience.

"If any one confers greatness on you and begins to worship you, and garlands you, you know yourself that you do not deserve the same. At the outset you are tempted to accept this greatness which makes you feel happy. But your conscience will be constantly pricking you and you will be always in a state of anxiety about future developments. You will be frequently in a fix either to accept or reject the greatness which is thrust on you.

"Once you accept this conferred greatness it goes very difficult for you to get out of the situation. After a time, the pricks of conscience even cease troubling you for you get used to them. Then it becomes an addiction and you cannot do without it. You then pose as a real saint. This posing will cause you to take additional innumerable births; so why pose as a saint, without inner experience ?

"As for myself I say, 'I am the Hightest of the High,' Had I not been the Ancient One I would have encouraged you to visit the so-called saints. I would have even praised them and they too would have praised Me in return. Thus a clique would get formed that would promote mutual praise to dupe the public.

"If anyone of you meet an imitation saint or an imitation Avatar, what would he say to you ? He would say the same thing as I do. If you tell him that Baba is the Avatar, he may even say, 'I am the real one, and that Baba is a fraud' ! When anyone approaches an imitation saint and is attracted by the outward atmosphere which he creates around him and, if owing to his faith

in the imitation saint he gets experiences, he is likely to attribute them to that imitation saint. This creates confusion.

“Now I will tell you about an incident. During my recent visit to America, a gentleman, who has been staying in America for a long time, remained by my side during some of My programmes and particularly when the films and photographs were taken. This gentleman has studied and intellectually grasped what I have ‘said’ but misused it. From one of the letters from U. S. A. I hear that this gentleman has started telling people that he is Baba’s representative. Those who know Me for so many years are not affected; but the new lovers, though educated, are very much impressed and flock around him. Just see, how even the Westerners are misled !

“What is the remedy for this ? I will tell it now. It will be very useful only if you grasp it thoroughly. If all of you are convinced that Baba is the Avatar, God Incarnate, the question of confusion does not arise at all. In this case, just hold fast to my ‘daman,’ and close all doors for confusion and conflict to enter your minds. If you are not convinced, leave Me. Seek some one else. But if you try to stick to Me with a wavering mind, without being convinced of My Divinity, you would be just like a nut caught in the crusher.

“I will also tell you a few instances of those who pay too much attention to Masts, though they have been connected with Me for so many years. One of them went to the extent of drinking wine whenever offered by a Mast ! The other one used to carry a certain Mast on His shoulders to his home and serve him daily. Had I

not warned them in time they would have got themselves involved seriously. When God Himself has descended on the Earth and you have the fortune to come in personal contact with Him, why run after His children, the Masters and the Saints ?

“ In U. P. and the Punjab, there are Saints of both types, real and imitation. There, men put up a big show of spirituality by performing ‘homa-havan’, ‘bhajan-kirtan’, ‘yadna-yaga’, ‘arti-puja’ etc. From external appearances one cannot make out who is a real saint and who is an imitation one. Anyone is easily impressed by the so-called outward spiritual atmosphere. You do not find such things here with Me. On the other hand, you find Me sitting amongst you, sometimes cutting jokes and letting you laugh, The Real Path is totally different from the conventional ‘bhajan-kirtan’ ‘homa-havan’, ‘sadra-kushti’, ‘namaz-naza’ etc. On the contrary, when one gets entangled in these rituals and ceremonies, one gets off the Real Path.

“ When I tell you these things and ask you not to visit other saints, perhaps some of you may think, ‘Is Baba feeling jealous of others?’ But I being one without a second, have no rival to Me; I am matchless. I being the One Reality, the question of rivalry does not arise at all. If at all I am to be jealous, I will have to be jealous of My Own Self.

“ When a man sees an ant moving on the ground, will he ever feel jealous of it ? Both the ant and the man move on a level on the ground; but there is a world of difference in their consciousness. The ant can never

understand the intricacies of this machine-age. The ant, the ordinary man and Myself move on the same land, but there is as much difference between the consciousness of an ordinary man and that of Me as there is between the consciousness of an ant and that of an ordinary man. Even in the animal kingdom, there is vast difference between the consciousness of an ant and an elephant? Has the elephant ever purposely walked over ant feeling jealous of it?

“ One of my devotees expressed an ardent desire to see a particular Mast of Bombay, while a few others appear much concerned about the claim made by one who asserts that he is the Avatar of the age. This makes Me think why you, of all the persons who regard Me as the Highest of the High, should run after other personalities? ”

In this connection, Baba referred to and got read out an extract from one of the letters wherein He had said : ‘ No one is to be blamed. It is no one’s fault. It was the Original Whim and the Original Urge of God that has started this Divine Game which He also can enjoy at His own cost.’

Baba continued, “ I do not mean that there are no real Saints in India.” Here Baba mentioned a few well-known saints of India. “ There are,” Baba said, “ also some real Saints unknown to the masses. Compared with the known Saints, these hidden Saints are far more advanced. In this respect I, however, want to tell you with authority that both the hidden and the known saints have not realised the Self. Do not be misled by

the use of certain words and phrases. If anyone addresses you as 'Dear Self' do not be under the impression that he has achieved the goal of Realisation.

"The sum and substance of this long 'talk' is that you either hold fast My 'daman' only, or leave Me altogether. Do not make any compromise. However, you are free in order to pay homage to visit the shrines of My five Perfect Masters—Sai Baba, Upasani Maharaj, Babajan, Tajuddin Baba and Narayan Maharaj. Out of My five Perfect Masters, four do not have any representatives. Only Upasani Maharaj has a representative. She is Godavari Mai. She has a very pure heart and there is no equal to her in this respect. You can go to Sakori and pay your respects to her. She is very dear to Me. She loves Me very much. She is My beloved 'Yashoda.' This does not mean that My five Perfect Masters do not each have a Chargeman and a Circle. Invariably, without any exception, every Perfect Master must necessarily hand over His charge to one whom He makes as perfect as Himself is. Such an one is called the Chargeman of the Perfect Master.

"Do not visit other places or Saints as you cannot distinguish between a real Saint and an imitation one. I also want that you do not either criticise or scandalise any one. If you happen to meet Saints, real or imitation by chance, you may pay respects to them, but do not run after them. If you have full faith in Me, stick to Me; otherwise leave Me now altogether."

After this Baba put a question, "Who will hold my 'daman' whole-heartedly to the end?" All those present

raised their hands to express their whole-hearted willingness.

At this juncture one of the lovers said, "Baba, I tell others that you are The Avatar, but to be honest, I have no such conviction though I crave it very much." Beloved Baba asked him, "Have you come across any one greater than Myself?"

"No." replied the lover. "Then why worry" continued Baba, "try to love Me more and more. But remember one thing: never tell others what you do not feel yourself. Tell others, only what you honestly take Me to be. I am anything and everything that one can honestly believe."

The lover further said, "some how or other my heart cannot accept the idea of Parmatma becoming and living as man on earth, I believe in Krishna but only as an Aunsh (Part) of Parmatma. However if like Arjuna, I am blessed with Vishwarup Darashan - I feel I will get the necessary conviction."

Hearing this Baba smiled and said, "It was nothing short of weakness on My part as Krishna, to have convinced Arjuna by exposing My identity as Parmatma through Vishwarup Darshan."

"By itself" Baba continued "any experience small or great, ultimately amounts to zero when compared with God Realisation. Some lovers in the West, who regard Me as God Incarnate, write to Me about their rare experiences, but those too have no real importance. Although it is heartening to have experiences, it is very

dangerous to attach too much importance to them and to indulge in them."

Before the members dispersed for tea, Baba remarked, "Have I not said, in clear words what I had to say? I am sure that the points in question have been made sufficiently clear to you."

A devotee from Bombay expressed a wish to offer rupees one thousand at Baba's feet. He lovingly placed this amount before Baba. Baba decided to use this money for His work with the poor.*

There were also some who spontaneously offered what little they could give. Baba directed that this amount be sent for a newly opened Centre and remarked, "Baba does not like to give money and expect work for Him in return. This is ridiculous. However, I am giving this money as 'Prasad'. Do not expect any more from Baba for His work."

In the course of discussion He humorously remarked, "It is a fact that it is easier for My lovers to give their heads than to give money!" About the attendance at the Centres Baba said, "If five hundred attend the meeting it is well and good. If you try your utmost and people do not come, do not lose heart. Even if there are five persons present at the meeting, take it I will be there."

Baba further said, "Recently I heard that among some of My workers there has developed a considerable differ-

* Accordingly, on 9th June, '57, 200 children below fifteen years, from the poor families were brought to Baba. Baba bowed down to each one of them and gave each a packet of sweets and a piece of cloth as Prasad.

ence of opinion. Better you do not work for Me than develop such an attitude. I will appreciate your competitive spirit only in your surrender to Me and love for Me. To get yourself divided while doing My work shakes the very foundation of that work. That will defeat its own end. It is the height of hypocrisy to say, 'I alone can do Baba's work.'

Those concerned were given the opportunity to give vent to their feelings and express their thoughts freely. "When you get divided," Baba explained "I and my work are set aside. You open a Centre to spread Brotherhood but first see for yourselves how you behave among the group! If you cannot work together with concord, why open new Centres for Me? If you want to further My Cause, there is no escape but to become like dust in My work. There cannot be any compromise, Each of My lovers must become like dust. Then people of their own accord will flock around him and his own life will radiate My message of Love to others.

"I do not object to having Centres. There, lovers of Baba can meet and exchange their ideas and feeling of love for Me. But there should be concord. There must be a spirit of giving in. Today we must fix something—whether to have Centres or to dissolve them. The only solution is to become like dust in My work.

"But what do you understand by becoming like dust? How will you become like dust? If you could but do what I ask you to do, what else could you be but like dust? It is extremely difficult for you to do what I ask you to do. It is only possible when your heart is kindled with love for Me. If you cannot love Me as I ought to be loved, at

least try to hold fast to My 'daman'. I will help you. Dust never complains even though we walk over it, trample upon it or use it in any way we like. If any number of calamities befall you and still you keep a smiling face, this may lead you to become like dust. You can become like dust only if you possess the highest type of love for Me. Becoming dust-like is the only link that would bring you together."

Referring to the older members of the group, Baba said, "As one grows old one is possessed by a peculiar spirit of expectation. He feels that the youngsters are purposely ignoring him or even hating him. My great expectation about you all young and old is that you should not entertain any expectation at all. Let the Centres newly created by you all be your school. Remember that every one has his own peculiar way of expressing his love for Me; so try to behave like brothers. Let there be concord among yourselves. Try to accommodate one another. For the present continue My work at the Centres as best as you can till the forthcoming Sahavas Congregation to be held in Jan-Feb, '58.

"In the congregation I will set definite principles. Those who want to follow Me will have to abide by these principles. For the coming Sahavas programme, lovers will be coming from the various parts of the world. It will be the most important phase of My Incarnation. During the period of Sahavas Congregation I shall work with full force. At that time I will lay down certain definite principles and they will be of real and lasting value. I intend to destroy the bindings of all superfluous ceremonies. The times when Jesus and Krishna lived

were different; the present time is altogether different. I have to tell the people according to the needs of the time.

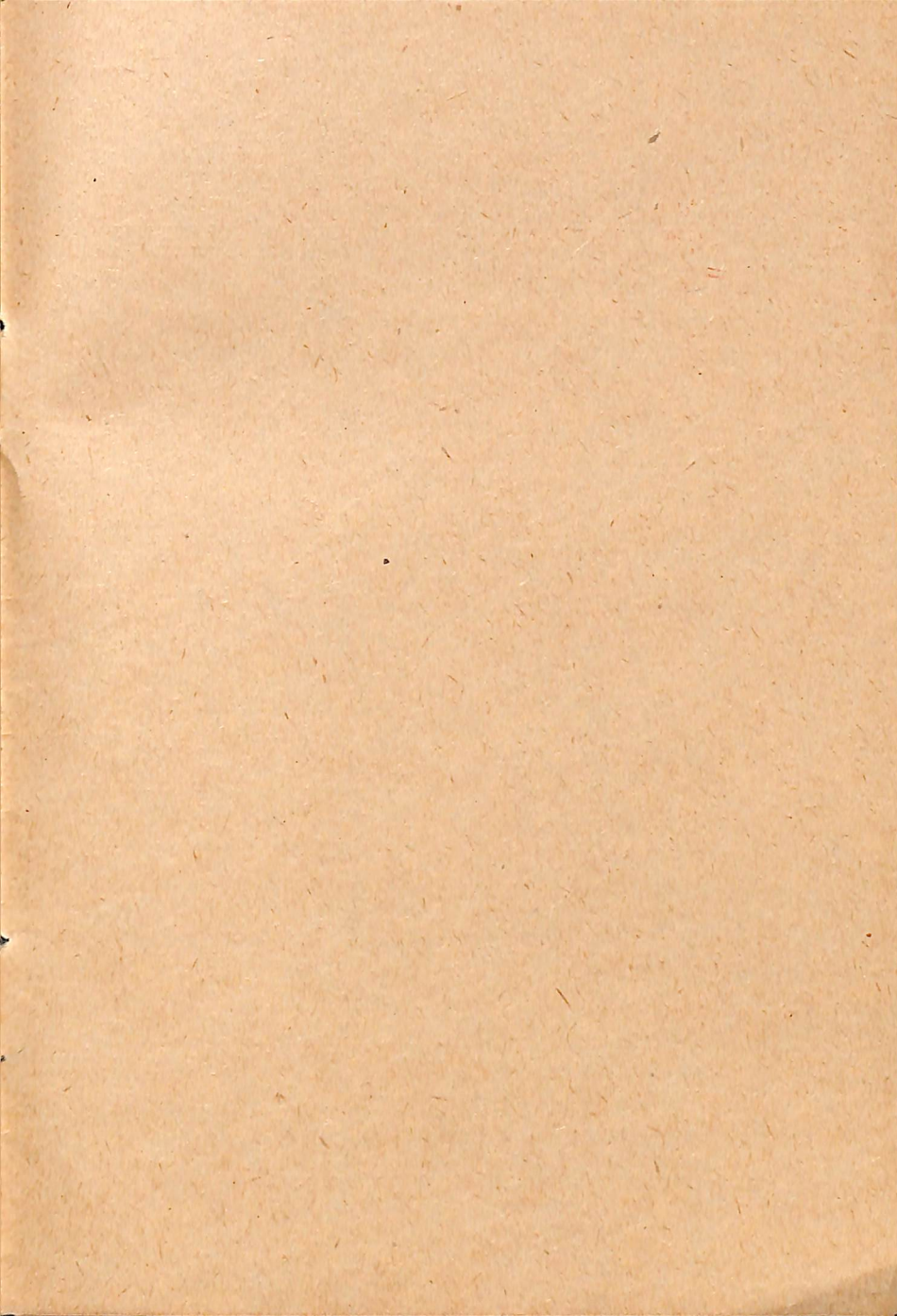
“ In the present atom-age, material progress has nearly reached its zenith, and this is but the shadow of the internal progress in realm of Spirituality.

“ In the Congregation I will tell you something very original. After this there will be no more programme of its kind. Do you know why I did assume this human form ? During the Sahavas Congregation, the purpose of this Incarnation will take shape. Even if you are indisposed or have some very important work do not fail to attend the Congregation of Jan-Feb ' 58.”

Baba further told that He had decided to cancel His forthcoming darshan tour, in U. P., Andhra and other places as published previously. He said, “ I do not wish that a mere picnic atmosphere should prevail in the Congregation. To make all arrangements to My satisfaction, I need time. The Mandali who stay near Me require sufficient time to make the necessary arrangement for all those attending the Congregation, including the Westerners. That is not an easy job; so I have to cancel the proposed darshan tour.”

In the end, Baba lovingly stressed again the following points. He said, “ It is a fact that I am God. I am the Highest of the High. I wish that those who raised their hands should hold fast to My ‘daman’ for good.

“ There is no need for My lovers to visit other saints. Stick to Me even during the phase of ‘humiliation’. Spread My message of Love to all and become like dust in Baba’s work.”



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To

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