

67TH BIRTHDAY
OF
AVATAR MEHER BABA
25 - 2 - 1961



I belong to no religion. Every religion belongs to Me. My personal religion is My being the Ancient Infinite One, and the religion I impart to all is Love for God, which is the Truth of all religions.

—MEHER BABA—

On the occasion of Avatar Meher Baba's sixtyseventh Birthday we present in quotes the following Garland of Love and Homage offered to Him in spontaneous recognition of His Godhood. These "flowers" were offered by some of the 'MASTS' or "God-absorbed ones" on the spiritual path whom Meher Baba contacted during His extensive tours in India and Pakistan. Although Meher Baba took pains to personally visit these men of God, He invariably remained incognito when visiting and serving them; hence when they bore witness to His spiritual greatness it was without any external knowledge of Meher Baba's identity.

These quotes are from "The Wayfarers", a book giving an account of a specific phase of Meher Baba's work, with God intoxicated souls, written by Dr. William Donkin in 1948.

29th July 1929 - Gurdatsingh an advanced Sikh pilgrim of Kulyan, Kashmir, pointing to Baba said, "He is a Master; He is a real Master and His grace has been bestowed upon me." "May I be sacrificed in the dust under His feet!"

April 1934 – Keshawanandji Maharaj, an advanced pilgrim of Rishikesh seeing the photograph of Baba given to him through his attendant by Pleader, one of Baba's disciples, called him and said that normally he never lets anyone come near him but seeing the photo and knowing the Divinity of Meher Baba, he had to call him near because, Meher Baba was the Master of the universe, and bore the burden of the whole creation upon His shoulders.

28th January 1939 – A 'Mast' of the third plane at Brindaban (near Mathura) on seeing Baba and a group of lady disciples arriving at the famous Brindaban temple, which is closely associated with the legends of Krishna's life, began dancing and playing his flute, shouted, "Look, the Lord Krishna and His Gopees have come."

March 1939 – Khala Masi, a high Mastani of Seoni, on seeing Baba said, "You are the ocean; give me a few drops from it to drink."

March 1939 – Gulab Baba, a sixth plane 'mast' of Ellichpur, on seeing Baba, told Kaka, "He (Baba) is God Himself." A few moments later when Baba asked Gulab Baba to sit beside Him, he protested to Kaka saying, "I am not fit to sit beside Him."

March 1941-Chatti Baba, the sixth plane 'mast' of Negapatam, whilst he was in Quetta, said, "there will be so great a calamity in the world that no one can imagine it; even brother will kill brother and there will be great tribulation; then all the world will think of my big brother (Baba); at that time He (Baba) will draw aside the veil, and all will pay obeisance to Him."

9th October 1941 - Gokhle Baba, a sixth plane mast of Ismailpur when contacted by Meher Baba for the first time, lovingly looked at Him and said, "God has come."

26th October 1941 - An Initiate Pilgrim of Panchgani on meeting Baba on the road, said, "you are the God Vishnu's Avatar (incarnation); pray, grant me the boon of a Master's word, for me to remember and repeat." A few minutes later, he said, "My work is done. No one here knows you; I have seen you and recognised you as the true Avatar of Vishnu. Pray, you remember me also." Baba told him through one of the Mandali, "I know all; that is why I came to see you here now." The man then folded his hands and bowing said, "My life's desire is fulfilled; Hail, God Vishnu!"

1942 - A good Pathan 'mast' of Bombay when approached by Kaka with a view to taking

him to Baba at Lonavala, said, "what should I come for, since your soul and mine are with him (Meher Baba)?" He then added, "the key to the whole world is in His (Baba's) hand, and all countries, do as he directs."

March 1942 – Sakhi Baba, a good 'mast' of Bahraich when he saw Baba, put dancing bells on his ankles and danced, sang and cried out, "God has come to give His darshan."

1943 – Bundle Shah, a sixth plane 'mast' of Poona, who was being taken to Meher Baba at Mahabaleshwar by one of Baba's disciples, by a coincidence came across a photo of Baba between the leaves of an exercise book that had been handed to him in response to a request for some paper. This photo had no superscription or title to show whose picture it was. On the back of this photo Bundle Shah wrote out a long string of numbers connected by plus and minus signs, ending up with $= 7 =$ God. He then pointed to this word God, and reversing the photo and pointing to the figure of Baba, he said, "God is equal to Meher Baba."

Mahomed, a 'mast' of Ratnagiri one of Meher Baba's "five favourites" always calls Baba "Dada." He has said many things about

Baba of which the most striking are, "Dada is God," "Dada is Master." "Everything depends on Dada's will." "Because Dada is there, the world is there." "Dada is the Master of mercy."

20th August 1944 - Subhan Mattu, a good mast of Srinagar, Kashmir, when he was brought before Baba, rolled on the ground and cried out, "He is God."

November 1944 - Mian Saheb, a very advanced mast of Ajanta, embraced Baba and weeping aloud, cried out, "Khud be Khud azad budi; Khud gireftar amadi." Meaning, "you became free, and then allowed yourself to be bound." This is a reference to Meher Baba, who having become one with God, came back to the world of his own free will, for the sake of mankind.

12th Oct. 1946 - Pir Fazl Shah, an adept pilgrim of Kotah said to Baba, "No one until you came has touched my heart with the arrow of Divine Love. You have power to destroy and flood the whole world. No one fully knows the limits of your greatness; you are the Spiritual authority of the time. and if I were to die I would take another body to be close to you."

14th Oct. 1946 - Brahmanandji Mast, an adept pilgrim of Muttra touched Baba's feet and said, "Behold, how devoted love draws the Lord Krishna to me; the perfect Master is here."

14th Oct. 1946-Azim Khan Baba, a high mast of Muttra, when he contacted Baba, said, "You are Allah; You have brought forth the creation, and once in thousand years You come down to see the play of what You have created."

January 1947 - Bhorwala Baba, an adept pilgrim of Bhor, on seeing Baba, said, "Meher Baba has in him the whole universe ; He is the Master of everyone, and He is within every disciple. He is this world, that which is above it, and below it; He is in me and in everyone. He is the saint of saints. He is Tajuddin Baba. In one glance He sees the whole Continent of India."

And lastly, the following words of Hazrat Babajan - the Kutub of the Age - form the heart or centre of the above "Garland".

"My beloved Meher ! My son ! Some day the whole world will call out 'Meher'. All the trees will cry out 'Meher', 'Meher', and all the birds will sing 'Meher'."

On an earlier occasion (in January 1914). pointing her finger at Baba, she declared, " This child of mine will create a great sensation in the world and do immense good to humanity."

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