

## Appendix 1.

### Notes on the Citation of Sources

The essay entitled “Textual Sources, Philosophy, and Editorial Practice” that opens this Supplement provides a review of the sources and analogues that have been used in the compilation of the texts of Meher Baba’s words in Parts Two and Three of this book. While the focus in that essay is primarily on the relationship between these manuscripts and Meher Baba’s original dictation and thus on the value of this documentary source material in establishing a reliable text of Meher Baba’s words, this present Appendix will concern itself more with the manuscripts themselves, the form in which they come to us, the cataloguing of their contents, and the form of citation which we have established here.

This Appendix has three parts. Section A provides a brief listing (with titles and abbreviations) of the main manuscripts used as sources of text or background information for Baba’s words in this book. Section B provides a more detailed review of the original manuscripts that have served as primary sources either for the text or the historical backgrounds for “Creation and its Causes”; these include the three “Explanations” manuscripts, Ramjoo’s handwritten write-ups in pencil and green pen, and the diaries of Chanji and Chhagan. Section C provides a similar review of the manuscripts that have served as sources for the six discourse-articles; these include the drafts in Ramjoo’s handwriting and the typed copy.

For researchers who want to study the original source documents for themselves, by far the easiest channel of access is through the website of the Avatar Meher Baba Trust, where the manuscript material has been made available in digital facsimile, thanks to the generosity and cooperation of the library and archive collections in which these documents are housed.

## A. A BRIEF LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL SOURCE AND ANALOGUE MANUSCRIPTS

### **Sources for the text of “Creation and its Causes” (pp. 91–305):**

Explan/orig: “Explanations (Original).” This document comprises the top-sheet original typed copy of a text that descends to us in triplicate. Along with the other two copies (cited hereunder), it comprises one of the primary sources for “Creation and its Causes.” The manuscript was originally found in a black briefcase in the Rice Godown at Meherazad, as is narrated on p. 390. It is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives at Meherabad, Ahmednagar, India.

Explan/cc: “Explanations (First Carbon Copy).” This carbon copy of “Explanations (Original)” is, in the main part, the best of the three primary sources for “Creation and its Causes,” for reasons explained below. Most of its pages were found in the black leather briefcase in the Rice Godown, intermingled with the pages of Explan/orig; a few pages were found separately among the papers of Meherwan Jessawala. Explan/cc is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

Explan/FF: “Explanations (from the Filis Frederick Papers).” This the second carbon copy of “Explanations (Original)” largely lacks handwritten supplementation and the filling in of

lacunae, and thus it is the least valuable of the three primary sources for “Creation and its Causes.” The manuscript was found among the papers of Filis Frederick, which she had bequeathed to Christine and Chris Pearson of Mariposa, California. The Pearsons have donated it to the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

Ramjoo Pencil: “Ramjoo’s Explanations in Pencil.” This penciled manuscript comes to us in the handwriting of Ramjoo Abdulla. While passages track so closely to the text of “Explanations” as to establish some kind of genetic relationship beyond serious doubt, in its totality it stands as a separate literary work. Originally among the papers of Meherwan Jessawala, it is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

Ramjoo Green Pen: “Ramjoo’s Explanations in Green Pen.” This manuscript in green pen comes to us in the handwriting of Ramjoo Abdulla; only small sections of it exhibit close relationship with “Explanations.” Originally among the papers of Meherwan Jessawala, it is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

### **Sources and analogues for the figures in**

#### **“Creation and its Causes”:**

The primary sources for the figures in “Creation and its Causes” are the five manuscripts just described. Other versions of these diagrams can be found, however, in later published renderings of this literary content; and since this publication was carried out under Meher Baba’s oversight, the versions of diagrams that appear there have evidentiary value and have been drawn upon in the creation of the figures in this book. The three publications that come into play are: (1) the nine-article series entitled “God, Creator and Creation,” published in the *Meher Message* between

April and December, 1929; (2) Ramjoo Abdulla, *Shree Meher Baba: His Philosophy and Teachings* (1933); and (3) “Meher Baba—His Philosophy and Mysticism,” Dr. Abdul Ghani’s revision and expansion of Ramjoo’s *Philosophy and Teachings* (2 above), published in the *Meher Baba Journal* between November 1941 and August 1942. All of these publications have been discussed in the essay on “Textual Sources” earlier (pp. 398–403) and are listed in the bibliography.

But in addition, there are two manuscript sources generally belonging to this body of later material that have versions of these diagrams that have been consulted in the creation of the figures here. Those two sources are:

MM Draft Articles: “*Meher Message* Draft Articles from the Norina Matchabelli Archives.” This archive collection, in the personal keeping of Charles Haynes and Christopher Wilson, contains sixty-nine typed pages comprising final draft versions of articles published in the *Meher Message* (1929–31). Diagrams have been hand-drawn in pencil, or sometimes composed in a combination of typography and hand drawing, in spaces reserved for them in the typographic layout of these typed pages; these hand-drawn diagrams match their published counterparts in the *Meher Message* so closely as to suggest that they may have been the direct source. Since this archive collection has not yet been catalogued, its files are here cited by the page numbers that appear on the actual typed pages; thus “MM Draft Articles,” p. 15 refers to a page in the “God, Creator and Creation” article series that has been paginated with the number “15.” (In two cases where pages have been mis-numbered on the typed page, the numbering here corrects the mistake in pagination, with a footnote explaining the emendation.)

Ghani’s “Ten States of God”: “Chapter Two, The Ten States of God,” in an unpublished manuscript composed by Dr. Abdul Ghani

Munsiff in 1947–49 on the basis of the dictations of Meher Baba. This the second chapter in a fourteen-chapter book contains Ghani’s versions of many diagrams published earlier in the *Meher Message, Philosophy and Teachings*, and the *Meher Baba Journal*. Ghani’s versions usually follow their sources faithfully with little alteration. Manuscript evidence suggests that Ghani may have contemplating “Marefat of Haqiqat” (“Knowledge of the Truth”) as a title for the book. The manuscript is housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

### **Sources for the Six Discourse-Articles (pp. 307–55):**

Six Discourses: “Six Discourses from November-December 1927.”

The thirty-one pages of this typed manuscript contain complete drafts, variously titled, of all of the six articles of Part Three of this book (pp. 307–55). Because of inconsistencies in the pagination as described below, citations differentiate between what we call the “first series” and the “second series.” The first eight pages, then, are cited thus: “Six Discourses from November-December 1927,” first series, pp. 1–8. The remaining pages are cited in this form: “Six Discourses from November-December 1927,” second series, pp. 1–25. The manuscript was found among the papers of Filis Frederick, which she had bequeathed to Christine and Chris Pearson of Mariposa, California. The Pearsons have graciously donated it to the Archives of the Avatar Meher Baba Trust.

“Hazrat Babajan (handwritten).” This manuscript in black pen comes to us in the handwriting of Ramjoo Abdulla, where it is entitled “Hazrat Babajan.” Because of inconsistencies in pagination as detailed below, citations take the form “Hazrat Babajan (handwritten),” first series, pp. 1–6, and “Hazrat Babajan (handwritten),” second series, pp. 1–6. Its text tracks to the typed

text in “Six Discourses,” pp. 1–8, closely. Originally kept by Meherwan Jessawala in the Record Room at Meherazad, it is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

“On the Search for God and the Path of Love (handwritten).” This manuscript in black pen comes to us in the handwriting of Ramjoo Abdulla, where it is entitled “The Explanations Conveyed By Shree Baba On 25.11.27.” Its text tracks closely to the typed text in “Six Discourses,” pp. 1–3 and 5. Originally kept by Meherwan Jessawala in the Record Room at Meherazad, it is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

“Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten).” This manuscript in black pen comes to us in the handwriting of Ramjoo Abdulla, where it is entitled “Khwaja Hafiz!” Because of inconsistencies in pagination (as detailed below), citations take the form “Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten),” first series, pp. 1–4; “Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten),” second series, pp. 1–4; “Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten),” unnumbered pages, pp. 1–3. Its text tracks to the typed text in “Six Discourses,” pp. 5–8, closely. Originally kept by Meherwan Jessawala in the Record Room at Meherazad, it is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

“On Impulses, Sanskaras, the Circle, Prārabdh, and the Master (handwritten).” This manuscript in black pen comes to us in the handwriting of Ramjoo Abdulla, where it is entitled “The Explanations Conveyed by Shree Baba on 26/11/27.” Its text tracks closely to the typed text in “Six Discourses,” pp. 10–17. Originally kept by Meherwan Jessawala in the Record Room at Meherazad, it is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

“What Is Religion? (handwritten).” This manuscript in black pen comes to us in the handwriting of Ramjoo Abdulla, where it is entitled “What Is Religion? An Explanation Co[n]veyed by Shri Baba on the 4th December 1927.” Its text tracks to the typed text in “Six Discourses,” pp. 17–23, closely. Originally kept by Meherwan Jessawala in the Record Room at Meherazad, it is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

“What Is Tooriya Avasta? (handwritten).” This manuscript in black pen comes to us in the handwriting of Ramjoo Abdulla, where it is entitled “What Is Toorya Avasta?” Its text tracks to the typed text in “Six Discourses,” pp. 24–25, closely. Originally kept by Meherwan Jessawala in the Record Room at Meherazad, it is currently housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

### **Historical background source manuscripts:**

ChD: “Chanji’s Diaries.” The most important of these diaries of Framroze Dadachanji, Baba’s secretary, are ChD nos. 1–2, 19, and 23–34. (Details about these diaries can be found below.) Chanji’s diaries are housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

ComD: “The Combined Diary.” A compilation of the combined efforts of Padri (Faredoon N. Driver), Pawar (Gangaram L. Pawar), Pandoba (Pandurang S. Deshmukh), Nadirsha (Nadirsha N. Dastur), and Chanji (Framroze Dadachanji). Its two handwritten volumes, filling more than 750 pages, span the period from July 1924 through 31st August 1927. While this in its latest portions antedates “Creation and its Causes” by several months, ComD gives important information on the sources of “Hazrat Babajan” (pp. 308–19). The manuscript is housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives.

## B. FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT KEY MANUSCRIPT SOURCES USED IN THE EDITING OF "CREATION AND ITS CAUSES"

### The "Explanations" manuscripts

As discussed in the "Essay" earlier (pp. 390–94), the three manuscripts entitled on their title pages "Shree's Explanations on Creation and the Universe" have served as the primary source for the edited text of the thirty-four lectures called "Creation and its Causes" in this book. Two of these manuscripts were found in the Rice Godown at Meherazad shortly after Meher Baba dropped his body in 1969, and the third among the papers of Filis Frederick in Mariposa, California in the 2010s. Though we do not know with certainty, the probable compiler and editor of the text that we find in these manuscripts was Chanji, working on the basis of original notes (now lost) that he recorded during Baba's talks.

Such are the "Explanations" manuscripts described in broad strokes. Let us now examine them in detail.

The three manuscripts as we have them are largely complete, but not entirely so. All three sport a title page. All three lack the first page of the lecture of 5th/6th December 1927; as explained in the endnotes to that lecture, the contents of this missing page have been editorially reconstructed on the basis of a related passage in "Ramjoo's Explanations in Pencil." With this one exception, the top-sheet copy manuscript "Explanations (Original)" (Explan/orig) contains every other principal page presumably contained in the hypothetical prototype version of the thirty-four talks, that is, seventy-two distinct pages out of an original seventy-three; in addition, it features a second typed copy of one of the pages, three insert sheets with handwritten material, and a diagram on the verso side of one of the pages. The second manuscript, which is the carbon copy that we have named "Explanations (First Carbon Copy)" (Explan/cc), in the form in which Bal Natu found it in the Rice Godown, lacked ten pages from the original prototype. Seven of these were located, however, among Meherwan Jessawala's papers;



these seven pages—Explan/cc: 2-12-27, pp. 1–4 and Explan/cc: 4-12-27, pp. 1–3—are listed in the “Explanations (First Carbon Copy)” column of Table 8 below and treated without distinction throughout this book as a part of that manuscript copy. In the balance, then, Explan/cc is missing three pages of original typed text. The third manuscript, which we have named: “Explanations (from the Filis Frederick Papers)” (or Explan/FF), lacks eleven of the original pages; these include the first page of the lecture of 5/6-12-27 (missing in all three manuscripts) and all of the pages from the lectures of 7th through 11th December.

Table 8 below provides a listing of all of the pages from the three “Explanations” manuscripts; readers can find here the citation form for each of these pages that is used in the endnotes and other parts of the apparatus of this book.

TABLE 8. CATALOGUE OF THE  
THREE “EXPLANATIONS” MANUSCRIPTS

LECTURE DATE	PAGE No.	“EXPLANATIONS (ORIGINAL)”	“EXPLANATIONS (FIRST CARBON COPY)”	“EXPLANATIONS (FROM THE FILIS FREDERICK PAPERS)”
MANUSCRIPT TITLE PAGE		Explan/orig: Title Page A	Explan/cc: Title Page	Explan/FF: Title Page
2-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 2-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 2-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 2-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 2-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 2-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 2-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 2-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 2-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 2-12-27, p. 3
	4	Explan/orig: 2-12-27, p. 4	Explan/cc: 2-12-27, p. 4	Explan/FF: 2-12-27, p. 4
4-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 4-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 4-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 4-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 4-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 4-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 4-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 4-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 4-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 4-12-27, p. 3
	4	Explan/orig: 4-12-27, p. 4		Explan/FF: 4-12-27, p. 4
5/6-12-27	1			
	2	Explan/orig: 5/6-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 5/6-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 5/6-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 5/6-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 5/6-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 5/6-12-27, p. 3
	4	Explan/orig: 5/6-12-27, p. 4	Explan/cc: 5/6-12-27, p. 4	Explan/FF: 5/6-12-27, p. 4

TABLE 8 (CONTINUED)

7-12-27	1	Explan/orig draft A: 7-12-27, p. 1		
	1	Explan/orig draft B: 7-12-27, p. 1		
	2	Explan/orig: 7-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 7-12-27, p. 2	
	2 verso	Explan/orig: 7-12-27, p. 2 verso		
	3	Explan/orig: 7-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 7-12-27, p. 3	
	4	Explan/orig: 7-12-27, p. 4	Explan/cc: 7-12-27, p. 4	
8-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 8-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 8-12-27, p. 1	
	2	Explan/orig: 8-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 8-12-27, p. 2	
9-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 9-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 9-12-27, p. 1	
	unnumbered and undated insert page	Explan/orig: 9-12-27, p. 1 insert		
10-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 10-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 10-12-27, p. 1	
	unnumbered and undated insert page	Explan/orig: 10-12-27, p. 1 insert		
	2	Explan/orig: 10-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 10-12-27, p. 2	
	3	Explan/orig: 10-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 10-12-27, p. 3	
11-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 11-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 11-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 11-12-27, p. 1
	unnumbered and undated insert page	Explan/orig: 11-12-27, p. 1 insert		
12-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 12-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 12-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 12-12-27, p. 1
13-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 13-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 13-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 13-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 13-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 13-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 13-12-27, p. 2
14-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 14-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 14-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 14-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 14-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 14-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 14-12-27, p. 2
15-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 15-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 15-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 15-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 15-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 15-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 15-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 15-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 15-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 15-12-27, p. 3

TABLE 8 (CONTINUED)

16-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 16-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 16-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 16-12-27, p. 1
17-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 17-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 17-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 17-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 17-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 17-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 17-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 17-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 17-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 17-12-27, p. 3
	4	Explan/orig: 17-12-27, p. 4	Explan/cc: 17-12-27, p. 4	Explan/FF: 17-12-27, p. 4
18-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 18-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 18-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 18-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 18-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 18-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 18-12-27, p. 2
21-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 21-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 21-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 21-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 21-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 21-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 21-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 21-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 21-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 21-12-27, p. 3
23-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 23-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 23-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 23-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 23-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 23-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 23-12-27, p. 2
26-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 26-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 26-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 26-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 26-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 26-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 26-12-27, p. 2
27-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 27-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 27-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 27-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 27-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 27-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 27-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 27-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 27-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 27-12-27, p. 3
28-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 28-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 28-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 28-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 28-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 28-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 28-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 28-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 28-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 28-12-27, p. 3
29-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 29-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 29-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 29-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 29-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 29-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 29-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 29-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 29-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 29-12-27, p. 3
	4	Explan/orig: 29-12-27, p. 4	Explan/cc: 29-12-27, p. 4	Explan/FF: 29-12-27, p. 4

TABLE 8 (CONTINUED)

30-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 30-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 30-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 30-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 30-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 30-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 30-12-27, p. 2
	3	Explan/orig: 30-12-27, p. 3	Explan/cc: 30-12-27, p. 3	Explan/FF: 30-12-27, p. 3
31-12-27	1	Explan/orig: 31-12-27, p. 1	Explan/cc: 31-12-27, p. 1	Explan/FF: 31-12-27, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 31-12-27, p. 2	Explan/cc: 31-12-27, p. 2	Explan/FF: 31-12-27, p. 2
1-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 1-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 1-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 1-1-28, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 1-1-28, p. 2	Explan/cc: 1-1-28, p. 2	Explan/FF: 1-1-28, p. 2
2-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 2-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 2-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 2-1-28, p. 1
3-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 3-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 3-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 3-1-28, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 3-1-28, p. 2	Explan/cc: 3-1-28, p. 2	Explan/FF: 3-1-28, p. 2
4-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 4-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 4-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 4-1-28, p. 1
5-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 5-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 5-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 5-1-28, p. 1
6-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 6-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 6-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 6-1-28, p. 1
7-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 7-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 7-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 7-1-28, p. 1
10-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 10-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 10-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 10-1-28, p. 1
12-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 12-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 12-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 12-1-28, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 12-1-28, p. 2	Explan/cc: 12-1-28, p. 2	Explan/FF: 12-1-28, p. 2
13-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 13-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 13-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 13-1-28, p. 1
14-1-28	1	Explan/orig: 14-1-28, p. 1	Explan/cc: 14-1-28, p. 1	Explan/FF: 14-1-28, p. 1
	2	Explan/orig: 14-1-28, p. 2	Explan/cc: 14-1-28, p. 2	Explan/FF: 14-1-28, p. 2

Since these three manuscripts are all derived from a single act of typing, naturally they render identical texts, except in three areas of variation. First, certain pages have been damaged by white ants or suffer from imperfections in the carbon copying (as when words spill off the edge or bottom of a page or characters have been smudged). Second, in the case of both carbon-copy manuscripts, certain pages are missing which the top-sheet original contains; this information is detailed in Table 8 above. (In one exceptional case, two top-sheet original pages, Explan/orig draft A: 7-12-27, p. 1 and Explan/orig draft B: 7-12-27, p. 1, have been produced as verbatim duplicates through two separate acts of typing; no carbon copy of this page can be found in Explan/cc, which perhaps explains why the typist found it necessary to type this page over.) Third—and most importantly—the copies differ in the handwritten supplementation that fills certain of the lacunae, supplies marginalia, and in one instance (Explan/cc: 7-12-27, p. 2 verso) offers a diagram which occupies the verso side of the page. Another handwritten insert page, Explan/orig: 9-12-27, p. 1 insert, provides a particularly well-drafted version of a diagram that has appeared in inferior copies elsewhere. Often this handwritten supplementation fills in lacunae between typed parentheses with Gujarati words in the Gujarati script or else supplies diagrams to fill large gaps on the typed page. As was found in the case of the source manuscripts for *Tiffin Lectures*, in these “Explanations” manuscripts the handwritten supplementation flows most abundantly on the carbon copy—particularly the carbon copy found in the black briefcase (Explan/cc)—though one can find some of it in all three documents.

In addition to the primary typed pages in these three copies, two handwritten notes, interleaved between other pages in the two black briefcase copies (Explan/orig and Explan/cc), call for special mention.

Explan/orig: 10-12-27, p. 1 insert and Explan/orig: 11-12-27, p. 1 insert stand apart from all other pages in the “Explanations” manuscripts in that they come to us in Meher Baba’s own handwriting. The substance of Baba’s handwritten remarks has been incorporated (in paraphrase and sometimes expanded form) into the typed lectures; in the case of the manuscript page Explan/cc: 11-12-27, p. 1 (one of the source pages for the lecture of 11th December), certain elements in Baba’s handwritten note that have been left out of the typed text have been alluded to in the handwritten marginalia, as if to remind a subsequent editor to incorporate this material in a later draft. Since Meher Baba had desisted from all handwriting on 2nd January 1927, almost a year before giving these lectures to the boys, probably these notes had been handwritten by him in 1925 or 1926, kept safe by one of the mandali—most likely Chanji—and incorporated into the text of these two lectures at moments where they seemed appropriate. The fact that these handwritten pages of Baba’s appear to have been preserved and kept within the body of two of the “Explanations” manuscripts suggests that, for the mandali concerned, these particular manuscripts had a special value. (For purposes of our cataloguing system, these two sheets in Baba’s handwriting have been listed as members of the Explan/orig manuscript, even though the black briefcase in which they were found did not clearly sort between this manuscript and the carbon copy, Explan/cc.)

Taken collectively, the “Explanations” manuscripts present fairly complete copies of thirty-four lectures delivered by Baba between 2nd December 1927 and 14th January 1928. The first page of each lecture features, on its top line left, the place and date (in full form, e.g. “Meherabad, 27th. December 1927”) without a page number; pages after the first give the date in abbreviated form—e.g., “(28-12-27)”—



and a page number on the next line, in the form “-: 3 :”. Pagination occurs on a lecture-by-lecture basis; manuscript pages have not been hole-punched and give no indication of ever having been bound together by staple or paper clip. (The only exceptions here are the seven carbon copy pages from Meherwan Jessawala’s folder as enumerated above, all of which have been hole-punched on the left side of the page.) In all these details of formatting and collection the pages of the “Explanations” manuscripts are almost identical to a large bulk of the draft typed manuscripts that served as source for *Tiffin Lectures*, a fact suggesting that the physical production of all these manuscripts was accomplished under the same manuscript-production regime and very likely by the same person, perhaps Chanji. The fact that all three manuscripts have so many unfilled lacunae—a problem that particularly afflicts the diagrams—is puzzling, since in the most important carbon copy source for *Tiffin Lectures* almost all of these have been filled in; one would think that the mandali concerned would have wanted to leave in the records an “Explanations” manuscript in its completed form by filling in all the lacunae in the first carbon copy just as they had done for “Tiffin Lectures” a few months earlier. Perhaps indeed they produced another copy that is now lost to us. One hopes that more evidence will surface in the course of time.

### **Ramjoo’s handwritten drafts in pencil and green pen**

As noted in the “Essay” earlier, the manuscripts which we have entitled “Ramjoo’s Explanations in Pencil” and “Ramjoo’s Explanations in Green Pen” come to us from the papers of Meherwan Jessawala without title, date, or authorial byline. The handwriting, of course, is Ramjoo Abdulla’s. For reasons explained in the “Essay” (pp. 394–98), we think it probable that Ramjoo drafted both manuscripts on the basis of

Chanji's original notes (now lost) taken during the course of Baba's lecturing to the Meher Ashram boys in December-January of 1927–28.

“Ramjoo Pencil” has fifty-one pages of text written on both sides of the folio, until the last, which has writing on the recto side only. All of the pages have been double-hole-punched in the usual Indian manner for pages stored in binders. All of the pages have been accurately numbered in Arabic numerals, from 1 to 51. Most of the pages are filled with handwriting, with the exception of p. 26, which has only two lines, and p. 51, the last page, which ends after a single paragraph about a third of the page down. Though the text has been handwritten legibly and with a certain care, there are a fair number of cross-outs, some marginalia, and a bottom quarter of a page (p. 32) with what appear to be upside-down text-related memoranda written by Ramjoo to himself. The manuscript sports twenty diagrams, drawn with some care, and a number of tables and indented lists. In its totality, “Ramjoo's Explanations in Pencil” looks like an early draft towards an intended literary work. Nothing in its physical layout suggests that it is a fragment, although, as we noted in the “Essay,” it does not include content from the last two weeks of “Explanations,” and in its very final sentence on p. 51 it refers to topics to be discussed “tomorrow,” as if the discussion were to be continued.

The other manuscript, which we name “Ramjoo's Explanations in Green Pen,” has twenty-five numbered pages handwritten (on one side of the page only) in green pen, with a single verso page (p. 8 verso) providing a fairly simple diagram drawn in pencil. In addition to this one, the manuscript offers six other diagrams and several indented lists. Unlike “Ramjoo's Explanations in Pencil,” the form of which gives us no reason to suspect missing pages, “Ramjoo Green Pen” opens on p. 6 and runs through p. 30, which has been filled with handwriting down to



the very last line. Obviously “Ramjoo Green Pen” is a fragment, then, with pages demonstrably missing at the front and possibly at the end also, though we have no sure way of determining this. “Ramjoo Green Pen” appears to have been drafted as a handwritten document somewhat more carefully than “Ramjoo Pencil.” All of the pages are filled completely with handwriting except for p. 15, which contains only fourteen lines of text and which has been cut off below that, leaving only half a sheet of paper. The pagination has been carried out accurately, without page numbers skipped; cross-outs (in green pen or pencil) appear rarely, though Ramjoo does not seem to have hesitated when they were needed; and the manuscript has been annotated with small markings and corrections and marginalia in green pen and pencil—and two recto-side diagrams (in addition to the diagram on p. 8 verso) in pencil. In its totality “Ramjoo Green Pen” conveys the impression of a working draft, though perhaps somewhat more advanced than “Ramjoo Pencil.”

### **Chanji's Diaries**

Among the many diaries of Chanji's housed in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives in Meherabad, Ahmednagar, India, about fifteen are significantly relevant to the period of the Meher Ashram, from 1st May 1927 through January 1929. None of these diaries records the substantive content of any of Baba's lectures, though often they refer to them, sometimes identify lecture topics with a phrase or sentence, and provide other useful background information. Since these diaries have not yet been definitively catalogued and often contain insert pages of various types, irregularities in the digital scanning, and other anomalies, the following descriptions are approximate in certain details. The diary numbers (“ChD no. 1,” etc.) are those that have been assigned by the Trust's Archives department.

ChD no. 1: 17th November 1927 through 3rd February 1928. About seventy-five handwritten pages with handwritten entries for all but a few of the dates in this chronological span.

ChD no. 2: 10th May through 31st December 1928. Almost 230 diary pages, most of them substantially annotated in pencil.

ChD no. 19: 1st January through 3rd February 1927. Almost sixty lined notebook pages handwritten in pencil. Overlapping chronologically with ChD no. 1, this diary gives many fully and expansively narrated accounts.

ChD no. 23: 1st through 31st May 1927. Almost ninety pages handwritten in pencil, most of them on lined notebook pages but a few on other scraps of paper of various kinds.

ChD no. 24: 1st through 30th June 1927. Almost eighty pages handwritten in pencil, about fifty of them on assorted loose-leaf scraps of paper and thirty on lined notebook paper.

ChD no. 25: 1st through 31st July 1927. About fifty pages handwritten in pencil, most of them on assorted loose-leaf scraps of paper of various kinds.

ChD no. 26: 1st through 30th September 1927. Just over forty pages handwritten in pencil with entries for most of the days in the month.

ChD no. 27: 1st through 27th October 1927. About forty-five pages handwritten in pencil on small lined loose-leaf notebook paper.

ChD no. 28: 1st through 29th November 1927. About sixty-five pages handwritten in pencil on unlined loose-leaf notebook paper.

ChD no. 29: 1st through 31st August 1927. About thirty-five pages handwritten in pencil, most of them on loose-leaf lined notebook paper.

ChD no. 30: 1st through 6th, 17th, and 31st January 1928. Almost twenty pages handwritten in pencil on lined notebook paper. Overlapping chronologically with ChD no. 1, this diary gives many fully and expansively narrated accounts of the days that it covers.

ChD no. 31: 24th through 30th January 1928. Almost sixty pages handwritten in pencil on lined notebook paper. Overlapping chronologically with ChD no. 1, this diary gives many fully and expansively narrated accounts of the days that it covers.

ChD no. 32: 1st through 9th February 1928. About thirty pages handwritten in pencil on lined notebook paper. Overlapping chronologically with ChD no. 1 at the beginning of the month, this diary gives many fully and expansively narrated accounts of the days that it covers.

ChD no. 33: 16th through 23rd February 1928. About thirty pages handwritten in pencil on lined notebook paper. This diary provides full and expansively narrated accounts of the days that it covers.

ChD no. 34: 1st through 5th January 1929. About thirty pages handwritten in pencil on lined notebook paper. This diary provides full and expansively narrated accounts of the days that it covers.

## C. FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT KEY MANUSCRIPT SOURCES USED IN THE EDITING OF THE SIX DISCOURSE-ARTICLES

As discussed in the “Essay” (pp. 403–12), the six discourse-articles in Part Three of this book are based on two sources, one handwritten (in

the handwriting of Ramjoo Abdulla) and one typed. The “Essay” reviewed this material from the standpoint of origin and authorship; here we survey the manuscripts themselves.

Table 9 lists the six discourse-articles in Part Three of this book, the titles that this book has assigned to the typed and handwritten source manuscripts used in compiling these edited texts, and the titles that actually appear on the manuscripts themselves:

TABLE 9. MANUSCRIPT SOURCES FOR  
THE SIX DISCOURSE-ARTICLES

TITLE AND PAGE NUMBERS OF THE DISCOURSE-ARTICLES IN THIS BOOK	FORM OF CITATION AS GIVEN IN THIS BOOK		TITLE OF EACH DISCOURSE-ARTICLE AS GIVEN WITHIN THE MANUSCRIPT ITSELF	
	Handwritten manuscript	Typed manuscript	Handwritten manuscript	Typed manuscript
"Hazrat Babajan," pp. 308–19	"Hazrat Babajan (handwritten)," first series, pp. 1–6, and second series, pp. 1–6	"Six Discourses from November-December 1927," first series, pp. 1–6	"Hazrat Babajan"	"Hazrat Babajan"
"On the Search for God and the Path of Love (Explanations Conveyed by Shri Baba on 25th November 1927)," pp. 320–25	"On the Search for God and the Path of Love (handwritten)," pp. 1–5	"Six Discourses from November-December 1927," second series, pp. 1–3 and 5	"The Explanations Conveyed By Shree Baba on 25. 11. 27"	"Shri Baba's Explanation Conveyed on 25-11-27"
"On Khwaja Hafiz (Conveyed by Shri Baba on 29th–29th November 1927)," pp. 326–32	"Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten)," first series, pp. 1–4; "Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten)," second series, pp. 1–4; Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten)," unnumbered pages, pp. 1–3	"Six Discourses from November-December 1927," second series, pp. 5–6	"Khwaja Hafiz"	"Explanation on Khwaja Hafiz Conveyed on 25-11-27"
"On Impulses, Sanskaras, the Circle, Prarabdh, and the Master (Explanations given by Shri Baba on 26th November 1927)," pp. 333–43	"On Impulses, Sanskaras, the Circle, Prarabdh, and the Master (handwritten)," pp. 1–14	"Six Discourses from November-December 1927," second series, pp. 10–17	"The Explanations Conveyed by Shree Baba on 26/11/27"	"Explanation on 'Impressions' (Sanskaras) Given by Shri Baba on 26th Nov., 1927"
"What Is Religion?" pp. 344–52	"What Is Religion? (handwritten)," pp. 1–13	"Six Discourses from November-December 1927," second series, pp. 17–23	"What Is Religion? An Explanation conveyed by Shri Baba on the 4th December 1927"	"What is Religion?"
"What Is Turiya Avastha?" pp. 353–55	"What Is Turiya Avasta? (handwritten)," pp. 1–4	"Six Discourses from November-December 1927," second series, pp. 24–25	"What Is Turiya Avasta?"	"What Is Turiya Avasta?"

Here we provide a fuller description of the physical manuscripts.

**The six handwritten manuscripts:** All six have been handwritten in black pen, mostly on plain, unlined, loose-leaf, double-hole-punched sheets of paper, and usually front and back (recto and verso) sides both. We list these handwritten manuscripts below under the titles which we have assigned to them:

1. “Hazrat Babajan (handwritten),” twelve pages total. The opening pages have been accurately paginated, usually in pencil, 1 through 6; but after p. 6 the pagination starts over and repeats the same series, 1 through 6. In citations, this problem has been handled through the incorporation of the phrases “first series” and “second series,” as in “Hazrat Babajan (handwritten),” first series, pp. 1–6, and “Hazrat Babajan (handwritten),” second series, pp. 1–6.
2. “On the Search for God and the Path of Love (handwritten),” five pages, the first four filling the recto and verso sides of folios and the fifth page the recto side only, with the verso overleaf blank.
3. “Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten),” comprising eleven pages altogether, as detailed below. The relationship between the disparate materials collected in this bundle would be unclear if we did not have the typed copy, which renders the entire article coherently and clearly. The first three pages of the handwritten manuscript are paginated, 1 through 3, with some handwritten notes on the (unpaginated) verso side to page 3; then the pagination starts over in a second series, pp. 1–4; and after this there follow three unnumbered pages with couplets from poetry seemingly attributed to Rumi and Hafez (the “Rumi” couplets,

though they name him, do not appear actually to be his). In citations, these various clusters of pages are referenced thus: the first group of four pages bears the designation “Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten),” first series, pp. 1–4; the next four pages are “Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten),” second series, pp. 1–4; and the last three pages are called “Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten),” unnumbered pages, pp. 1–3.

The disordered form of this manuscript seems to attest to a work in progress. The endnotes to the article in this book engage particular textual problems; but in overview, the different sections of this handwritten manuscript can be described thus.

The first three handwritten pages, accurately paginated 1 through 3, convey the impression of having originally been intended as a complete article. After the prose exposition of pp. 1–2, p. 3 renders the five Hafez couplets, each of them first in Persian transliterated into the Roman alphabet, and below that, an English gloss; the unpaginated overleaf (which we have designated as p. 4) is blank except for two penciled notes written vertically on the page, the one (on the left) top to bottom and the other (on the right) bottom to top.

On the page after this, the writing resumes in a new paginated sequence, pp. 1–4; the last of these pages contains only a single line of text which closes with a colon. It seems that the five Hafez couplets were intended for the space after the colon; perhaps they were not written here because Ramjoo had already written them earlier, on p. 3 of the first series.

The next page, handwritten in black ink on loose-leaf lined paper, renders five couplets attributed (erroneously) to Rumi; in each case the Persian couplet has been written first in the

Gujarati script, and below, again in the Gujarati script, an interpretive gloss. The verso side of this page has been left blank. The next page in our sequence, “Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten),” unnumbered pages, p. 2, conveys the impression of a title page, with the centered handwritten title—

Five couplets of “Hafiz”

&

Five Couplets of “Roum”

With Gujarati translation



The final page in the “unnumbered pages” series once again gives the five couplets of Hafez, each couplet first rendered in its Persian text but in the Gujarati script, and below that, a brief, interpretive Gujarati gloss.

4. “On Impulses, Sanskaras, the Circle, Prārabdh, and the Master (handwritten),” fourteen pages, all paginated accurately. This long discourse-article has been sectionalized, each section headed by a section title centered on the page. The first section, “Sanskaras,” runs from p. 1 down to near the bottom of p. 2; the next section, “Impulses,” runs from p. 2 to the middle of p. 5; the third section, “Sanskars,” from p. 5 to the middle of p. 8; “The Circle & the Prarabdhs,” from p. 8 through p. 12; and the last section, “The Master,” fills pp. 13–14. Nothing in the form of the manuscript casts doubt on what is said at the head of the first page, that all of this content represents “The Explanation Conveyed by Shree Baba on 26/11/27.”
5. “What Is Religion? (handwritten),” thirteen pages, of which the first twelve are paginated, and the last stands as an independent

title page, repeating some of the information at the head of p. 1. As explained in the “Essay,” the opening pages of this article read like another version of the lecture Baba gave to the boys on 4th December (pp. 102–10), although the second half of the article narrates a long illustrative story that does not appear in the “Explanations” version.

6. “What Is Tooriya Avasta? (handwritten),” four unlined pages, all of which belong to a single large sheet of paper folded at the center. Though the title stands at the head of the article on p. 1, the very bottom of the last page informs us, in a bracketed byline:

{ As  
Explained by Shri Baba  
On 10th December 1927. }

On the third page, five or six lines have been crossed out, and just above that, a symbol inserted —  — signifying that textual material needs to be interpolated there. This content, comprising eight handwritten lines, has been handwritten on p. 4, between the last paragraph of the article’s main text and the byline, and headed by another handwritten copy of the same symbol: .

**The typed manuscript, here entitled “Six Discourses from November–December 1927.”** The thirty-one typed pages that comprise this manuscript have all been neatly typed on the recto sides of pages only with very few cross-outs and corrections. The document contains complete versions of all six of the discourse-articles, all of them presented on the typed page in a common format and layout. All of the pages are paginated, although with certain inconsistencies. The first eight pages, comprising the article entitled “Hazrat Babajan,” are accurately



paginated 1 through 8; but the next page after that starts again on p. 1, and over the course of the five remaining articles the pagination runs through p. 25. Two numbers have been skipped over, however—p. 4 and p. 9. In the first instance, the numbering “4” has been omitted without any notice; but at the bottom of p. 8 we find the following typed comment: “(Page No. 9 is mistakenly left out and instead it is written No. 10).” In neither case, however, has any of the discourse text been omitted; the uncompleted sentence at the bottom of p. 3 flows without interruption over to the top of p. 5, and p. 8 concludes an article, with a new article beginning at the top of p. 10. The typed text for all six discourse-articles matches that of the handwritten manuscripts closely.

Because of the reduplication of page numbers for the first eight pages, citations differentiate through the word “series.” Citations for the first eight pages of the “Hazrat Babajan” article take the form “Six Discourses from November-December 1927,” first series, pp. 1–8; after this, citations take the form “Six Discourses from November-December 1927,” second series, pp. 1–25.

The manuscript as a whole has no title, but each of the six discourse-articles has been entitled, as specified in Table 9 above. The long article bearing the typed title “Explanation on ‘Impressions’ (Sanskaras) Given by Shri Baba on 26th Nov., 1927” has been broken into sections with exactly the same section titles as we found in the handwritten manuscript (as described under item 4 above). While typography almost always fills the complete page from top to bottom, at two points one article concludes and the next article begins on the same typed page; this reinforces the implication that the six articles were conceived as comprising a single series.

Apart from cataloguing annotations by Filis Frederick, the manuscript is almost completely free of handwriting, with notable exceptions in the case of the two diagrams. In the first of these,

rendered in this book as Figure 40 (see p. 321), typed words have been supplemented with geometric elements handwritten in black pen; in the second, Figure 41 (see p. 344), the entire diagram has been handwritten in black pen, without any typography whatsoever.

D. MANUSCRIPT SOURCE DESIGNATIONS  
IN THE TRUST ARCHIVES

Some of the manuscript source designations and abbreviations used in the annotation system for this book (see pp. 440–46) differ from the names given to these sources as catalogued in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives in Ahmednagar, India. As an aid to those who would like to access these Trust archival files, Table 10 cross-references designations in these two systems in cases where the names differ.

TABLE 10.  
MANUSCRIPT SOURCE DESIGNATIONS IN THIS BOOK  
CROSS-REFERENCED WITH THE ORIGINAL FILE TITLES  
AND ORIGINAL ITEM TITLES OF DOCUMENTS FROM THE  
AVATAR MEHER BABA TRUST ARCHIVES

MANUSCRIPT SOURCE IDENTIFIED BY ORIGINAL DOCUMENT TITLE AND ORIGINAL FILE TITLE IN THE TRUST ARCHIVES	MANUSCRIPT SOURCE DESIGNATION IN THE ANNOTATION SYSTEM OF THIS BOOK
Item Title: Shree's Explanation on Creation & Universe December 1927 – January 1928, Original Manuscript	"Explanations (Original)"
Item Title: Shree's Explanation on Creation & Universe December 1927 – January 1928, Copy of Original Manuscript. And seven pages in: Item Title: Shree's Explanations on Creation & Universe December 1927 – January 1928; File: Shree's Explanation by Ramjoochai	"Explanations (First Carbon Copy)"

TABLE 10 (CONTINUED)

Item Title: Baba's Explanations From: 212/27 To: 121. '28; File: Baba's Explanations 1927	"Explanations (from the Filis Frederick Papers)"
Untitled (in pencil); File: Shree's Explanation by Ramjoochai	"Ramjoo's Explanations in Pencil"
Untitled (in ink); File: Shree's Explanation by Ramjoochai	"Ramjoo's Explanations in Green Pen"
Item Title: Hazrat Babajan; File: Shree's Explanation by Ramjoochai	"Hazrat Babajan (handwritten)"
Item Title: Khwaja Hafiz; File: Shree's Explanation by Ramjoochai	"Khwaja Hafiz (handwritten)"
Item Title: The Explanations Conveyed by Shree Baba On 25.11.27; File: Shree's Explanation by Ramjoochai	"On the Search for God and the Path of Love (handwritten)"
Item Title: The Explanations Conveyed By Shree Baba on 26/11/27; File: Shree's Explanation by Ramjoochai	"On Impulses, Sanskaras, the Circle, Prārābhdh, and the Master (handwritten)"
Item Title: What Is Religion? An Explanation Conveyed by Shri Baba 1927; File: Shree's Explanation by Ramjoochai	"What Is Religion? (handwritten)"
Item Title: What Is Tooriya Avasta?; File: Shree's Explanation by Ramjoochai	"What Is Tooriya Avasta? (handwritten)"
Item Title: Some Spiritual Explanations by Shri Baba Nov. — Dec. 1927; File: 7 Some Spiritual Explanations Nov-Dec 1927	"Six Discourses from November-December 1927"
Item Title: Chapter II, Ten States of God; File: Dr. Ghunni's God Speaks	"Chapter Two, The Ten States of God," in a fourteen-chapter book that the author, Dr. Abdul Ghani Munsiff, probably meant to be entitled "Marefat of Haqiqat" ("Knowledge of the Truth")