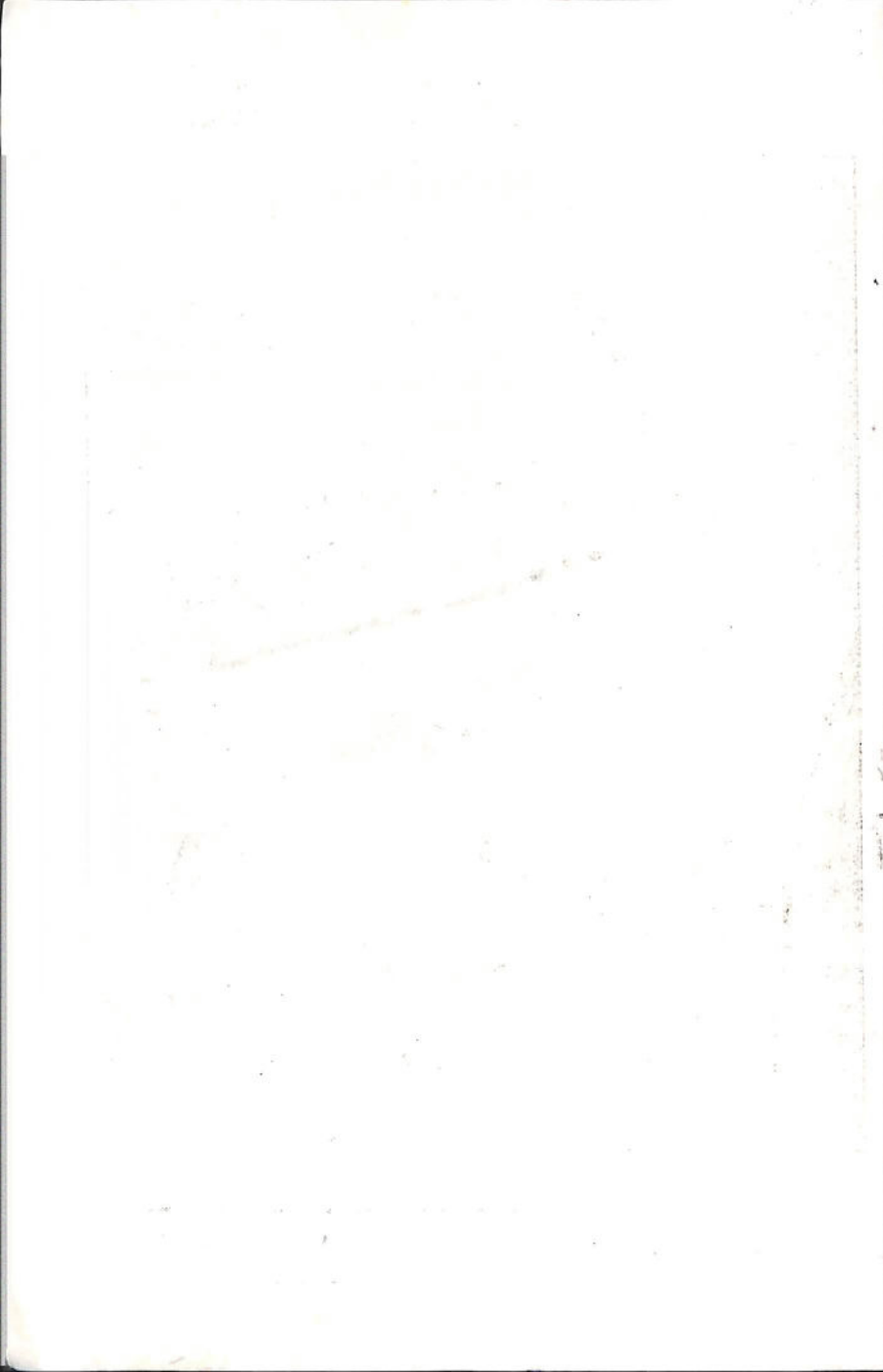


Avatar Meher Baba



"I have come not to teach but to awaken"

Meher Baba



Avatar Meher Baba & His Priceless Teachings

Meher Baba's Early Life.

Merwan Sheriar Irani, now known as Avatar Meher Baba, was born in Poona at about 5 A. M. on the 25th Feb. 1894. His mundane and Persian parents were Sheriarji Irani (father) and Shrinbanoo (mother). As a student he used to take keen interest in literature, poetry, music and sport.

Meher Baba's Unmani State.

While Merwan was taking his collegiate course in the Deccan College of Poona at the age of 19, he was contacted by a great Sadguru (Perfect Master) Hazrath Babajan. As a result of her kiss on his forehead he became God-Realised. Consequent of this Divine Experience, his normal life was suddenly changed and he lost all normal world - consciousness.

Meher Baba's Super Perfect State.

By an irresistible inner force Merwan was drawn to the great Perfect Master, Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi who openly and loudly accosted Him as the "Parvardigar" (The Saviour of the World). From there Merwan was directed to Upasani Maharaj, another great Sadguru, the foremost disciple of Sri Sai Baba. It took nearly seven years for Maharaj to restore Merwan to normal world - consciousness completely so as to have the knowledge of creation, its functions and its purpose while maintaining simultaneously

the Divine Consciousness of *Satchitanand State* as awakened by Sri Babajan. Ever since, an inconceivable burden of saving humanity has been placed on Merwan through the previous Divine Plan. From 1921 Merwan has become known as *Meher Baba*. Then Upasani Maharaj declared Him as the Ancient One and the Avatar of the age and entrusted Him with His Spiritual Key making Him His next Charge-man. He then directed His chief followers like late Gustadjee, Mrs Gulmai, Yesvant Rao and Behramjee etc., to follow Meher Baba, serve Him faithfully and stick to Him at all costs for their own immediate spiritual advancement.

Meher Baba's World Travels.

After being thus awakened to the Divine Consciousness by Hazarat Babajan, the Divine Power by Sri Sai Baba and Divine Knowledge by Sri Upasani Maharaj, Meher Baba has begun to select His own disciples all over the World from all ranks and creeds for His great future Spiritual work. He established ashramams and travelled far and wide. He even visited Western countries several times. His latest air trips in May 1956 and June 1958 to America and Australia respectively were in response to the very ardent wishes of His innumerable Western devotees. He has encircled the Globe a number of times, awakening souls in bondage from the illusion of Maya and leading them to the Unity of all life and their mission in life to reach God. He has stimulated in all His contacts the love of man and the love for God.

and has implanted a longing in them to know themselves and to reach the Ultimate Goal of Self-Realisation through His most powerful dynamic Grace of Divine Love. Every unbiased genuine seeker cannot but admit that Meher Baba is *Perfection Personified* and *Love Incarnate* transmitting Grace, kindling Love and bestowing illumination to the whole world.

Meher Baba's Avatar-hood.

Meher Baba is continuously and consciously enjoying *Oneness* with all life, for He is no other than His Own Universal Self pervading all other selves and as such, there is no room for even a vestige of otherness in Him. He is also consciously enjoying *the Eternal Bliss* without a moment's break and bears all vicarious suffering, which burden He has so graciously shouldered for the redemption of the whole universe on account of His Infinite Love in response to the call of the Five Perfect Masters of His time.

Besides, He has the unique Power to adapt Himself to any level of humanity with Perfect Poise to help one and all spiritually.

(1) As the God-man (*Avatar*), He is eternally conscious of being Infinite and Finite simultaneously. (2) He, as God and man, sees Himself simultaneously in every-thing and in everyone. (3) He also experiences Himself as everything and everything in Himself. Thus He is the Illusion Himself which has emanated from Him. He experiences that He is

the Creator, Enjoyer, Preserver and Destroyer of all illusion which is the outcome of His Original Whim. He is thus conscious that, by residing in illusion, He works in illusion, but at the same time He is beyond illusion. In fact, as a result of His Descent as the Avatar, God becomes everything in illusion out of His Infinite Mercy to redeem everyone on all levels and on all planes.

Meher Baba with Divine Honesty and with Divine Authority openly declares that He is the Ancient One and the Avatar of all ages, that He, as the Avatar, is always the One and the Same now, before and ever after and His Descent has always been effected by the existing Five Sadgurus of the times. Therefore we find that He is the One in all and One with all (the Lord and the servant) and the One with everything. He is working on all levels with His Universal Mind simultaneously for the uplift of the whole universe through His Divine Basic triune nature of Infinite Knowledge, Power and Love and through His Perfect Mastery in Servitude. We thus find in Him both aspects of Perfect Divinity and Perfect Humility beautifully and magnificently blended beyond all imagination in this Highest Embodied Perfection.

The life in Meher Baba's Ashramam.

His followers belong to all important religions and creeds all over the world. They are given superb training in moral discipline, patience, equanimity, humility, purity, courage, kindness and generosity with love for God, through love for mankind and spiritual understanding.

Meher Baba works intently and incessantly. He makes His disciples work hard and condemns all complacent attitude, dishonesty and hypocrisy. He attacks their weaknesses mercilessly to eliminate all self-interest and egoistic tendencies in them but encourages all their good points to strengthen their higher life. He awakens them from torpor and ignorance to activity and right understanding.

His Meherabad Ashramam lying about six miles off Ahmednagar always reflects love, service, sacrifice, simplicity, purity, activity, serenity, order, discipline endurance, detachment. obedience and surrenderance.

The Significance of Meher Baba's Dynamic Silence.

For His universal work He has commenced silence from 10th July 1925 and ever since He has been observing Silence to save man from the clutches of ignorance by appealing to his heart directly through inner communion without neglecting the language of looks, gestures and touch.

Strictly speaking, things that are real are always given and received in silence. His silence emanates from the very comprehensive and spontaneous freedom of the spirit, which obviously refuses to be barricaded by articulate words that cannot amply ventilate the fulness of the heart.

His silence plainly reveals the ineffectiveness, on an unwilling humanity, of all previous precepts, and principles given by the past Masters time and again

in words and so many words to make them spiritual. The reason is clear. Man has become deaf to spiritual teaching on account of his selfishness which has now reached its zenith. The hopeless callousness of the present scientific age, engrossed in competitive and colossal avidity for material power and ever mounting egoistic vanity, not knowing the limitations of the human brain, has brought incalculable world-wide misery and suffering. This self-interest has thus hampered the outgrowth of natural spontaneous freedom of the spirit suppressing all outpourings of the heart. It has thus created separateness, division, diversity and manyness, instead of oneness leading the world to the verge of chaos and destruction. This impending global destruction can be prevented only by global integration. This is possible only by the most powerful silent work of the Avatar. So Meher Baba, the present Avatar, has all along maintained till now this dynamic Silence with the set purpose of saving humanity with silence only.

His Silence therefore reveals the Divine Voice within, which is the voice of Self-Existent, Self-Effulgent, Eternal, Immortal, Infinite Brahman. His prolonged dynamic Silence is therefore intended for the silent transformation of the ever-mounting mundane consciousness of the noisy and selfish world into higher spiritual consciousness of love, peace, harmony, co-operation, service, honesty and the selflessness of universal brotherhood. In this way His great significant Silence speaks volumes, as it is incoceivably dynamic doing immense good to all humanity.

That momentous day of breaking this great long Silence by Meher Baba is very very fast approaching. Then as a result of its inconceivable tremendous impact, the Will of God will assert Itself so powerfully on a global scale that the era of unfoldment of Satyayuga and the consequent spiritual revival of universal brotherhood will be definitely and gloriously ushered in to the great delight of all mankind. At the time of breaking this Silence, those, who are in tune with Him, will undoubtedly be benefitted according to the degree of their love, faith, stead-fastness and merit, when He presses the button of His Spiritual Dynamo. May we all be the recipients of His Divine Grace !

Meher Baba's Literary Achievements.

Baba wrote for two years His wonderful memoirs, a priceless gift to mankind, consisting of many hidden secrets expounding the whole evolution of the first man. This has not been published so far.

Afterwards He has given up writing too and does not touch money except while serving the poor and doing the Mast work.

He gave out several instructions, important messages, discourses, dissertations, sermons and declarations with the help of an English alphabet board through His Holy Fingers.

His unique invaluable and monumental dictation, "God Speaks", is His greatest masterpiece, outlining the whole Divine theme of creation and its purpose and depicting the mighty oceanic sweep of the soul's evolutionary journey from its descent from Over-Soul till

its merger in God, occasionally reaching Super Perfection.

His recent Work, "Listen, Humanity", depicts the mechanics of creation expounding the enduring philosophy of the Life Eternal, elaborating the intimate phases of the creative religious life, the supreme importance of death and a description of sleep and wakefulness, slavery and freedom, love and obedience and God, with special emphasis on the dynamics of the discarnate life. The whole thing is expressed wonderfully, interspersed with great humour and pathos.

Baba's latest dictation, "*Life at its Best*", is an ideal synopsis of His Bhagavad Prasangam, dealing with the various aspects of God, the Divine Master, the disciple, the self, the ego and its bindings, the goal of God-Realisation with several messages including some activities of Baba. To a true aspirant, this little sacred book is really a test book, but to a saint it is a book of illumination, while to a real lover of God it is a source of Infinite Bliss.

Even His great vehicle of Alphabet-Board, which awakened millions of souls groping in darkness, was discarded by Him on 7th October 1954 for specific reasons. Fortunately, however, He makes Himself wonderfully explicable by signs and gestures with the help of His intimate disciples who live very close to Him. His recent discourses on 'Obedience', "Split I", "Opium addict", His final universal message, "God alone is" etc., have all come out from His super eloquent gestures without taxing the hearer

in the least. This procedure was witnessed by all His Sahavasis in February 1958 and by the special invitees in July 1958 at Meherabad after which Baba has gone into profound and undisturbed seclusion at Meherabad till the end of November 58, occasionally indulging in His favourite Mast work (i.e. work with God intoxicated souls).

Meher Baba's Various Activities.

Meher Baba's life is full of fasts, great seclusions hurricane tours, occasional interviews, darshans and the uplift of the poor. But His chief outstanding work is His work with the Masts and advanced souls. It is inconceivably unique and was never apparently visible in this way in all the previous Avataric periods. He has contacted all over India more than twenty thousand apparently mad but God-intoxicated souls even in very unfavourable and trying conditions of time, weather and difficult situations from the year 1938 in order to make them His dynamic tools for His universal work, after helping them substantially to get attuned to Him.

Meher Baba's Great Weapon of Love.

The truth which Baba inculcates appeals to all sincere people of every creed through His dynamic weapon of Love, for It does not give them any scope for the play of uninspired imagination or false intellectual understanding.

Meher Baba's Mission (Individual and collective).

Meher Baba does not ask anyone to leave the world but encourages him or her to face boldly all

realities of this world directly with an inward sense of detachment and makes him or her gain the experience of the world for understanding its spiritual aspect. At the same time He definitely helps the individual to live a detached life doing duty for duty's sake leaving all results to God cheerfully with love for everything. In fact Meher Baba wants that the daily normal life should be a continuous spiritual exercise to understand Truth, so as to be finally assimilated in the Life Divine. He does not advise anyone to change his or her religion but declares that every religion is nothing but one form of revelation of God and that man's religion should be the means and daily guide to direct his life God-ward. What He wants is purity in thought word and deed, self-denial, mind-control and ego-annihilation. He is not particular about one's religion or faith. The way, one leads a life of internal purity detachment and selflessness, is all important to Meher Baba.

He tells openly that all materialism, culture and science should only be the means to the end of God-Realisation. He has come not to teach but to awaken real love and proper understanding. He has come not to establish any religion but to bring all religions and creeds into one harmonious unit, linked together by the unity of all life, through the medium of His Supreme Love, like the beads on one string. He revitalizes religion with Divine Bliss, Power and Knowledge for individual and collective needs. His is the religion of the Heart not of the intellect which is often the repository of doubt, pride and self-interest. He does

not ask any non-believer to change his convictions but invites him to search in all true humility the truth of things through introspection, selfless service, and purity and obey the only God that resides in his heart in spite of himself. He makes everyone who responds to His call to love God and love mankind. He exhorts everyone to think less of himself and more of others and serve others kindly and generously even at the cost of his own happiness. Meher Baba helps His bhaktas to lead a pure, loving, simple and active life of selfless service, sacrifice and meditation. He helps them also to face ordeals cheerfully with a brave and balanced mind while living in the world and thereby to forget their little selves completely.

Unity of All Life.

There is no drive to artificial collectivity in His Mission. It is only the positive religion of Love that awakens in all humanity the fundamental integrated unassailable and inviolable unity of all life, despite several ideological differences. This irresistible impact releases enormous understanding in all His contacts. Thus Meher Baba is paving the way for Universal Brother-hood not through mere words but through His very acts of Love, radiating His Divine Grace to enliven the heart and to illumine the head, so that man gives up every vestige of his little (false) self of attachment, desire, pride, prejudice, fear and jealousy. He encourages all men to serve humanity kindly and generously without seeking any reward or comfort or anything in return whatsoever.

Meher Baba's Power.

Meher Baba's Work with all His contacts is always done in silence. He releases their inherent and latent energies for creative purposes not by mere argument, but by drawing people to His Divine presence through various methods such as thought, look, touch, embrace etc., thereby transforming their whole vision and being. He changes the heart (1) through His Personal Example of Love, Self-lessness, Sacrifice, Humility, Honesty, Simplicity and Purity. And

(2) through His colossal Dynamic Power, which He continuously radiates, kindling spontaneous Love and bestowing illumination on all His contacts in several ways according to their capacity, merits, temperament and environment. In short, He imparts light in silence and in action. We want at present only a personal example to copy and actual experience to gain, but not mere words and intellectual gymnastics. Meher Baba has been doing exactly that, unfailingly and powerfully, on a global scale in a miraculous manner.

Meher Baba's Knowledge.

Meher Baba is the Master of One Knowledge which is the Knowledge of God, Who is the Source of all kinds of knowledge.

The Priceless Contact with Meher Baba.

But the pity is that Meher Baba does not let Himself be seen often. It is indeed a unique privilege to meet Him in flesh and blood. Only the humble

the poor, the despairing, the truly repentent sinners and seekers after truth, with one-pointed devotion and earnest search can aspire for His August Darshan. They eventually recognise Him and discover for themselves what Meher Baba actually is. The self-satisfied intellectuals, the proud and the power-intoxicated individuals can never understand His unfathomable Divine Depths. In His presence Truth emanates and is known immediately. Power is transmitted. Then His authority is established without argument. He appeals directly to the core of the heart and awakens real love.

Let our efforts be therefore sincere and ardent to contact this Great Divine Personality, the Avatar of all avatars.

May we all be benefitted by His Infinite Grace through His living Dynamic Presence by our constant meditation on Him! May we all seek His August Darshan and live up to His sacred instructions to ensure a new glorious life of abiding Peace, dynamic Harmony, immortal Sweetness, incorruptible Purity, creative Love and infinite Understanding.

Dr. T. Dhanapathy Rao,

L. M. & S.,

Correspondent,

Meher Mandali, (Andhra)

KAKINADA.

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