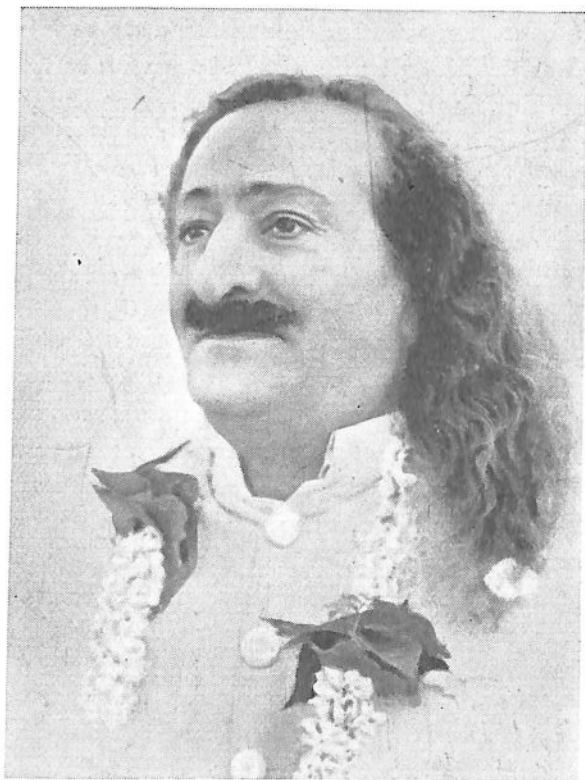


68th Birthday of
AVATAR MEHER BABA
AND
Opening of the "Meher Hall" of
AVATAR MEHER BABA BOMBAY CENTRE
25th February 1962.



"On this Anniversary of My Birthday I give you My Blessings for the deathday of your false selves and for the Birthday in Me of your ONE TRUE SELF.

—Meher Baba—

Address presented to Her Highness Maharani Shantadevi Gaekwar of Baroda on the occasion of the opening of the new hall (Meher Hall) for Avatar Meher Baba Bombay Centre at Navyug Nivas, Opp. Minerva Cinema, Lamington Road, Bombay 7, on 25th February, 1962.

Your Highness,

It is indeed a matter of immense joy and satisfaction to us all to welcome you to this Meher Hall, the creation of which is a modest attempt on the part of Baba lovers in Bombay. Bombay Baba lovers, the Chairman and the members of the Reception Committee welcome you with heartfelt sentiment of grateful thanks for this noble gesture of yours to have come down from such a long distance, inspite of your manifold state duties and engagements.

It was during the Sahavas of 1955 at Meherabad an idea came to the mind of a couple of Baba lovers to have a centre in Bombay where they could gather, talk and discourse on Beloved Baba and sing devotional songs specially composed in His praise. Not long afterwards a beginning was made in a flat belonging to a Baba lover in Central Building, Dhobitalao, Bombay, where fortnightly meetings were held on Sundays from 5-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m. This gave us an opportunity to celebrate Beloved Baba's Birthdays in big public Halls and the first of such a celebration was held on His 62nd Birthday at Foreign Languages Hall, Opp. Rajabai Tower, Fort, Bombay, on 25th February 1956. It

was a success and encouraged us to continue celebration of Beloved Baba's all future Birthdays on a grand scale. Not content with this we later on decided to celebrate His unique Silence Anniversaries and the first of such 34th Anniversary was celebrated at Blavatsky Lodge and similarly it is continued and will be continued every year as are His Birthdays. On all such occasions, suitable Brochures are printed and distributed free of charge. In the beginning of 1961 an idea came to the mind of some of Baba lovers that for the spread of Beloved Baba's Message of Love and Truth in an organised manner and amongst the large number of people, a separate independent Hall in a cosmopolitan town like Bombay, was necessary. We therefore sought Beloved Baba's permission in May 1961 when He was at Guruprasad, Poona, to proceed with our plans. Not only generously He gave us His permission but gave us every encouragement and blessed the scheme. As a result we are happy to state, Your Highness, that this Centre Hall has come into being within a very short time by the effort and perseverance of some of the Baba lovers and with the Grace of Beloved Baba. For our growing needs, apart from financial aid from Baba lovers in Bombay, we sorely need men and women with faith, character and love for Baba to help us actively in this God-given task.

While once again expressing our deep appreciation and thanks to your Highness for having so kindly consented to do the opening of the "Meher Hall" of the Avatar Meher Baba Bombay Centre, where anyone, irrespective of religion and nationality can become

member, and to preside over the Birthday Celebration function, we pray that your Highness may be blessed with good health to guide and encourage us by your own worthy example of love and service to Baba.

We remain, your Highness,
 The President and Members of
 Avatar Meher Baba Bombay Centre
 and
 The Chairman and Members of
 the Reception Committee.

Meher Baba's Universal Message

I have come not to teach but to awaken. Understand therefore that I lay down no precepts.

Throughout eternity I have laid down principles and precepts, but mankind has ignored them. Man's inability to live God's words makes the Avatar's teaching a mockery. Instead of practising the compassion He taught, man has waged crusades in His name. Instead of living the humility, purity and truth of His words, man has given way to hatred, greed and violence.

Because man has been deaf to the principles and precepts laid down by God in the past, in this present Avataric Form I observe Silence. You have asked for and been given enough words—it is now time to live them. To get nearer and nearer to God you have to get

further and further away from "I", "My", "Me" and "Mine." You have not to renounce anything but your own self. It is as simple as that, though found to be almost impossible. It is possible for you to renounce your limited self by My Grace. I have come to release that Grace.

I repeat, I lay down no precepts. When I release the tide of Truth which I have come to give, men's daily lives will be the living precept. The words I have not spoken will come to life in them.

I veil Myself from man by his own curtain of ignorance, and manifest My Glory to a few. My present Avataric Form is the last Incarnation of this cycle of time, hence My Manifestation will be the greatest. When I break My Silence, the impact of My Love will be universal and all life in creation will know, feel and receive of it. It will help every individual to break himself free from his own bondage in his own way. I am the Divine Beloved who loves you more than you can ever love yourself. The breaking of My Silence will help you to help yourself in knowing your real Self.

All this world confusion and chaos was inevitable and no one is to blame. What had to happen has happened; and what has to happen will happen. There was and is no way out except through My coming in your midst. I had to come, and I have come. I am the Ancient One.

Meherabad—

10th July 1958.

God Alone Is

Infinite consciousness is infinite. Thus it can never lessen at any point in time or space. Infinite consciousness, being infinite, includes every aspect of consciousness. Unconsciousness is one of the aspects of infinite consciousness. Thus infinite consciousness includes unconsciousness. It sustains, covers, pierces through, and provides an end to, unconsciousness—which flows from and is consumed by infinite consciousness.

In order to assert infinite consciousness unequivocally, I declare that I have infinite consciousness; and I can do this most emphatically because I *am* infinite consciousness. I am everything and I am beyond, beyond everything.

I am ever conscious that I am in you, while you are never conscious that I am in you. Daily I support you and share your consciousness. Now I want you to uphold Me and share My consciousness one day.

Man being unconscious of actually possessing the never-ending continuously conscious experience that God is everything and *all else* is nothing, for him "everything" is everything : Air is. Water is. Fire is. Earth is. Light is. Darkness is. Stone is. Iron is. Vegetation is. Insect is. Fish is. Bird is. Beast is. Man is. Good is. Bad is. Pain is. Pleasure is—and thus there is no end to what all else is, until he arrives at "nothing is" and instantaneously he realizes "God Is".

It is not easy for man to accept and keep on accepting under all circumstances that God is. Even after his firm acceptance that God is, it is supremely difficult though not impossible for him to realize what he has firmly accepted. And realization means that instead of being fully conscious that he is man, man becomes fully conscious that he is God, was God, has always been God and will ever remain God.

Knowingly or unknowingly, man is ever seeking the Goal, which is to realize his true Self. The very nearest and innermost to man is his Soul, but the fun of it is that he feels far, far away from It. There appears no end to his journeys towards the Goal through the numberless highways and by-ways of life and death, although in fact there is no distance at all to cover. Having achieved full consciousness as man, he has already arrived at his destination, and now possesses the capacity to become fully conscious of his Soul. Still he is unable to realize this divine destiny because his consciousness remains completely focussed on his perverted, limited, finite self - the Mind - which ironically has been the medium of achieving consciousness.

Before he can know who he is, man has to unlearn the mass of illusory knowledge he has burdened himself with on the interminable journey from unconsciousness to consciousness. It is only through love that you can begin to unlearn, thus eventually putting an end to all that you do not know. God-love penetrates all illusion, while no amount of illusion can penetrate God love. Start learning to love God by beginning to

love those whom you cannot. You will find that in serving others you are serving yourself. The more you remember others with kindness and generosity, the less you remember yourself; and the less you remember yourself the more you forget yourself. And when you completely forget yourself, you find Me as the Source of all Love.

Give up parrotry in all its aspects. Start practising whatever you truly feel to be true and justly to be just. Do not make a show of your faith and beliefs. You have not to give up your religion, but to give up clinging to the outer husk of mere ritual and ceremonies. To get to the fundamental core of Truth underlying all religions, reach beyond religion.

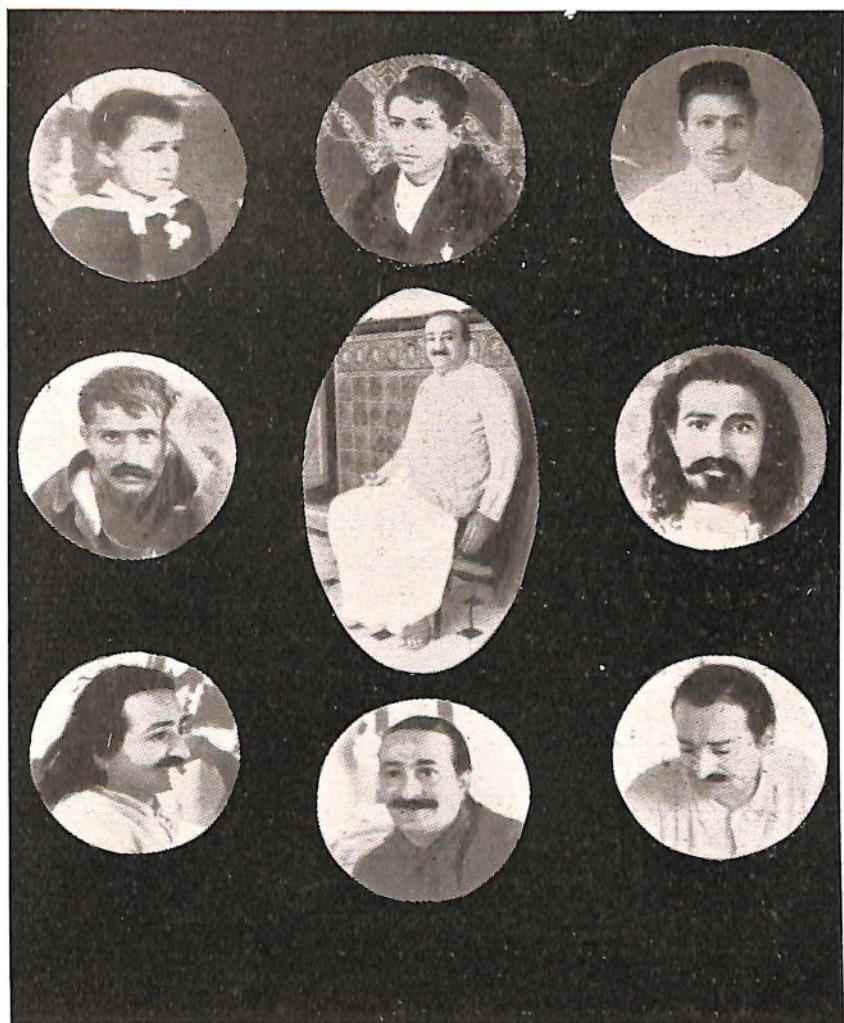
Through endless time God's greatest gift is continuously given in silence. But when mankind becomes completely deaf to the thunder of His Silence, God incarnates as Man. The Unlimited assumes the Limited, to shake Maya-drugged humanity to a consciousness of its true destiny and to give a spiritual push to the world by His physical Presence on earth. He uses the Body for His universal work, to be discarded in final sacrifice as soon as it has served Its purpose.

God has come again and again in various Forms, has spoken again and again in different words and different languages the Same one Truth—but how many are there that live upto it? Instead of making Truth the vital breath of his life, man compromises by making over and over again a mechanical religion of it—as a handy staff to lean on in times of adversity, as a soothing balm for his conscience or as a tradition to

be followed in the footsteps of the past. Man's inability to live God's words, makes them a mockery. How many Christians follow Christ's teaching "to turn the other cheek" or "to love thy neighbour as thyself"? How many Muslims follow Mohammed's precept "to hold God above everything else"? How many Hindus "bear the torch of righteousness at all cost"? How many Buddhists live the "life of pure compassion" expounded by Buddha? How many Zoroastrians 'think truly, speak truly, act truly'? God's Truth cannot be ignored; and thus by mankind's ignorance and weakness a tremendous adverse reaction is produced—and the world finds itself in a cauldron of suffering through wars, hate, conflicting ideologies, and nature's rebellion in the form of floods, famines, earthquakes, and other disasters. Ultimately when the apex is reached, God manifests anew in human form to guide mankind to the destruction of its self-created evil, that it may be re-established in the Divine Truth.

My Silence and the imminent breaking of My Silence is to save mankind from the monumental forces of ignorance, and to fulfil the divine Plan of universal unity. The breaking of My Silence will reveal to man the universal oneness of God, which will bring about the universal brotherhood of man. My Silence had to be. The breaking of My Silence has to be—soon.

—Meher Baba



From left to right

1st row - (1)	Showing	Meher	Baba	when	5	years	of age
(2)	"	"	"	"	13	"	"
(3)	"	"	"	"	19	"	"
2nd row - (1)	"	Meher	Baba	"	28	"	"
(3)	"	"	"	"	31	"	"
3rd row - (1)	"	Meher	Baba	"	41	"	"
(2)	"	"	"	"	42	"	"
(3)	"	"	"	"	47	"	"
Centre Photo Showing				Meher Baba	"	66	"

This Brochure is published in commemoration of the 68th Birthday Celebration of Avatar Meher Baba and the opening of the new centre hall (Meher Hall) for Avatar Meher Baba Bombay Centre at Navyug Nivas, Lamington Road, Bombay 7.



For any information as regards Meher Baba, His discourses and free literature please contact the following :—

1. Meher Publications, King's Road, Ahmed-nagar.

2. Avatar Meher Baba Bombay Centre, "Meher Hall", Navyug Nivas, Opp. Minerva Cinema, Lamington Road, Bombay 7.