## **BABA ENJOYS PARODY OF HIMSELF**

## Mani S. Irani

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MANI: The funniest record is when they did a parody of Baba Himself giving darshan. So to Baba it was so delightful to watch Himself, "So that's what I do, huh? So this is how it is," Sort of. Here is Baba sitting in that hall which is chock-full with His lovers and Baba's here on His chair and Rustom and Sohrab come from the side door. Sohrab is dressed as Baba. He is actually got on Baba's sadra which he borrowe, and his scarves like this. And Rustom had on Eruch's coat. Actually took Eruch's coat, because he was Eruch.

So Baba comes in leaning on Eruch's arm and then He comes and sits and then some of the others come. They place their little babies in Baba's lap. They bow down or they garland it. And then Eruch interpreting means Rustom interpreting. All this was done and Baba, Baba was like a child looking at Himself. He just couldn't believe.

He thought it was so funny He was laughing so hard without sound that tears were going down His cheeks. He fumbled for a handkerchief you know. And wiped His eyes and you have a picture of that. Somebody took a picture of Baba wiping His eyes. Wiping the tears of laughter from His eyes because it. Everybody thought it was funny but Baba, I mean [inaudible] [Mani laughing].

To see Baba enjoy a joke or enjoy something amusing, it was more than, more than any laughter or sound that you hear from anyone. You could really say Baba laughed. You can really say. I often say, I would say Baba chuckled and yet what makes me say that? There was no sound of laughter or the chuckle. But it was so lighted up. So real that it lighted up everything else around it. It made that joke or that incident so much brighter than it was. And it remains with us till now. That's the same way Baba's physical presence was like that.

Yes, everything was illusion, everything is that. But Baba even being in illusion, reality even in the form of illusion, because He is who He is, it lighted up everything. You know it's extraordinary the enjoyment caused to us by the silliest thing. As I say we had nothing but we enjoyed everything. Now we have everything but He doesn't allow us to enjoy [Mani laughs] anything. But just His presence. Recall a little walk, a little picnic. Of course also when Baba gave some of us hell. Something that we had done not right, even that had a fragrance, a weight, a context. It's not empty. Nothing was empty. Everything was full because Baba's kindness is full. And I'm only talking of His physical presence. Now of course we experience that fullness as you all experience it and that's also beautiful.