DREAMING OF BABA RECLINING

Mani Irani

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MANI: I think be interested hearing this dream I had of Baba.

PILGRIM 1: The last time also you mentioned but I don't [inaudible] after leaving that. The last visit you mentioned that.

MANI: Yes, I said. You see a few days before Baba dropped his body, he asked me, we were in the room, we were in his room, we women, we're talking of that time, of Meherazad.

Baba was in his room and Mehera, myself and the other women, Goher, Meheru. There were Naja, Rano and Baba suddenly turned to me and said, "Have you had any dream"?

Now I liked dreams. Irani's are great at having dreams [general muted laughter] and I said, "No Baba, not recently". In fact for some time I hadn't had dreams and I felt very disappointed that I couldn't produce...I didn't have a dream ready to relate to him. Then I said, "But there's an older one can I tell you that?"; and he said yes so, I told him an older one.

Then just sometime elapsed, how many days before that I don't know but it was after mid-January, that I know.

PILGRIM 2: [inaudible]

MANI: No, it was much later than that because, shortly after that I had a dream. It was not 31st January, 29th January night I had a dream and I told Mehera the dream next morning at breakfast. That is the 30th January.

You see Baba's condition, physical or health wise was everyday a little varied. It didn't tally with any concept of doctors and medication or any...as he always said, "Reaction in my body is always from My work, all with the burden of My work". Anyway, we were used to that and Baba would one day be good and next day he would be much worse. So, when I told Mehera the dream she said, "Don't tell him today", I said, "No, no Mehera". We know in a few days he'll be fine and strong and then that's right. I didn't know that wouldn't come. I didn't know, but this was a dream, was really for us. Baba gave it to...made for us, for Mehera and myself.

In the dream Baba is, Baba was reclining on the bed. Is it alright to continue?

PILGRIM 2: Yeah, yeah.

MANI: Baba was reclining on his bed and he had a big Turkish towel covering him, like this. Not length wise but so that it covered his face, his hand and up

till here, it covered. I still remember seeing the tassels. The tassels that are on a towel on both sides. Mehera was standing beside him. I was at the foot of the bed, standing at the foot of the bed and I know what Baba's saying. It was very clear to me. I couldn't tell you now exactly, was it a voice, was it words, but Baba told me, He said, "I'm now going to say something, in gestures, you read my gestures and you interpret them for Mehera".

Now I was very often reading Baba's gestures, reading the board and so it didn't seem unnatural that Baba should ask me to do that. Of course, Mehera could too, but in this dream, Baba said you read and you tell her. Very seldom in my dreams Baba talks, but we spoke with Baba in Gujrati. Now this was conveyed to me. Whether I heard it in words or, but it was clearer than speech.

So there's Baba, reclining on the bed, the towel [clock chimes] covering most of him up to here, and his hands were covered too. When he said that he brought his hands out from under the towel and he started doing the gestures and I seemed to know exactly what he was saying though it wasn't a voice and I said, "Mehera, Baba says that although you see him covered up, it's only a mock thing. It's not a real thing. Take your hair. It's not for real, it's for", how would you say it...

PILGRIM 3: Make believe?

MANI: "It's a make-believe thing, it's not for real. You think I'm covered up but I'm not." And that's about all. [pilgrim laughing]. So, when I woke up and I, at breakfast while the men were with Baba and we couldn't go, we were hurriedly having a cup of tea to run to Baba again, and I said "Mehera, Mehera you remember Baba asked me for a dream the other day, well I got"...[pilgrims laughing]. She said "Yes". "Yes yes listen. Yeah but just listen."

And I quickly told her the dream. She said "Don't tell him now", I said "No, not today, we wouldn't be".