
Guruprasad

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6:17

MANI: When we were in Guruprasad, and I was running around with a movie camera that's why, you see, I don't say, 'No' when you all want to take pictures, because I have done that to Baba quite a bit. So when my brother Beheram couldn't be with us in Guruprasad, he would be doing the filming, but of the scenes there where he couldn't be, where I could have an entree, I would have this camera and run about. But so, this was at the—I think it was a big occasion, darshan and they had all come, you know. I was trying to get other scenes and to help along with that thing. I was looking out of the window that Kaleshwar house, the Guruprasad one, I saw Bill LePage's two children, Michael and Jenny with the daughter of the Rouses, Robert and Lorna Rouse. The child's name is Rada, anyway Jenny, Michael and Rada were the children, and now this window was high up. I look out and I see them having a Coca-Cola from a bottle with a straw and I said, 'Wow!', that's something interesting! You know when I couldn't get Baba right now, I might just as well do some other thing, so I take a picture and they stand very still and look at me and I said, "Move, move, this is a movie camera, move!" [laughter].

So they move very seriously from side to side and perfect unison and it's on the film [laughter].

But here were His lovers, longing to be with Baba even for a few minutes, when staying in Pune the whole season, the 3 months, in the hope that Baba might call them once. Even at times when Baba said no one could you be here because, "I'm in seclusion. I am not going to call anybody." But of course He would. But they would just, you know, be on their toes waiting to be called, and here were the gardener's children, the caretaker's children, the Emperor-employed staff. The servant's children had a free access to Baba. For instance the caretaker's little two girls and a boy, so these children would come to Baba, this also comes in the film, but somehow it's not as full as I remember taking it.

So anyway, here is Baba at the dining table, here are the little children of the caretaker and Baba giving them something, some fruit, some toys, something, and they are so happy they have been longing for that every morning, and I thought it was because Baba gave them something, not so. The little one came one day with her doll and such a silly, simple little doll, that it could only in her eyes could it have been such a beautiful doll. But the way she held it, the way she loved that

doll, you know, that made you realize, oooh what a lovely doll. So this once when she came up to Baba's chair, she was I think three years old or two-and-a-half, so she gave the doll to Baba and Baba took it and Baba admired it, wow, look at that doll! Hmm, and then caressed her, kisses, wow! This is very wonderful and then gave it back to her. And she shook her head, she gave it back to Baba, she was saying I am giving this to You and this was her most prized precious possession of this child was her doll and she's giving that doll to Baba. And then again Baba played with it and this time Baba persuaded her that He had played with it, now she should keep it.

Now this time when we went to Guruprasad, we met this child, now a grown-up lady who was married, and she has a real doll now. She has a baby son she's so proud of and she came to Guruprasad to meet us. So, I reminded her I said, "Do you remember?" She said, "Yes." I said, "You see Baba has given you the doll, real life doll now."

Oh Baba would tell one of the caretakers—that means he would sweep the rooms and the veranda and clean the fountain, you see. Do you remember seeing marble fountain in Guruprasad gardens? So one was white where we could see from the dining table, Baba could see it. It had three marble basins: big, little smaller, and a little smaller on top, and it would be filled with this fresh water. So when the birds would come, we would see the birds, big and small, come and drink from the Rose basins. So one morning we are having breakfast, Baba could turn around and see the garden, and Baba said, "Does that man put water in the fountain basin?" "Oh yes, Baba! He does it every day. He is very particular, I must say." He has a bit little more tea and then He says, "He does it every day, does he?" "Oh yes, Baba!" This went on for some time till I am worried, why Baba is saying that? So I told the man, I said, "You know Baba is very pleased that you put the water every day—you do, don't you?" He said, "My God! I do, but today I forgot!"

So, look at Baba's concern for the little birds. He knew that there was no water in the fountain that morning, He knew how the birds would miss it, He knew how they long for it. We wouldn't have thought of it because you know we take it for granted. But not Baba, His concern for the littlest, these are the things that are good reminders for me. How can any of His lovers ever doubt that He has not got His nazar on them? He doesn't know, or neglecting or forgotten? No! Never that way. If He can look after this littlest of His beings, would he ever neglect His lovers, the ones whom He has given His love to and entrusted His very love to them?

[clock bell rings]

No, say No! But of course one can't help it. I sometimes also have a doubt whether [inaudible] is there.