

KG-129A

Eruch Jessawala

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Content

[Eruch's focus shifts to a woman pilgrim] With your harmonium you will be here? You are from Europe? [she says not] And how about your headache? As long as the head is there, you must be having the headache. Dr. Street didn't treat it properly? It will run its course. So what need is there to take medicine? [Bobby rejoins that medicine helps it to run faster.]

[Eruch asks a young man] How did you happen to come to Baba?

"A friend of mine sent a book, Listen Humanity, but 6 months before that I had decided to come to India, because I was interested in Eastern Thought. Same friend took me to Myrtle Beach."

Eruch comments, "Friend indeed. What's his name?"

"Alex Lubish. He's trying to get his life path set."

[Eruch asks another who says he was learning about Meher Baba in his native Germany.]

[Whole talk follows this vein for a while. Eruch talks about Baba likers, Baba followers who become disciples, but that's too dry, so they call themselves Baba lovers. They don't know why they come here over and over, but they are drawn. Eruch asks Reg Paffle how many times he has come and Reg says 6 or 7.]

We have to exercise our freedom to become His slaves.

This is His office, His hall, and we came here every day except when He did His Universal Work in seclusion. I was in here one day, and went out for some water. I was talking to someone outside, and Baba was calling me, which he did with His clap. I said I would come, but it took me five more minutes.

Baba said this much to us, and time and again brought home to us: "You all take this occasion for granted, but after I pass away there will be many more coming from other parts of the world and each one will be my gem, and the tide of them will be so great, the number of them will be so great, that they will thrust you out of the room."

Around 10 AM of the day when He passed away, there was the board and it was brought, and Baba said to put it on that cupboard. Eruch feels that is for us to live up to the lines on the board.

On the board three couplets of the poet Hafiz were written:

- 1) "Befitting a fortunate slave, carry out every command of the Master, without any question of why and what."
- 2) "About what you hear from the Master, never say it is wrong, because my dear, the fault lies in your own incapacity of understand Him."
- 3) "I am the slave of the Master who has released me from ignorance; whatever my Master does is of the highest benefit to all concerned."

There was Dr. Peterson from Australia. He was in charge here, and I think he is in Ahmedabad, and he is so blessed to have come in close contact of Baba. He came here quite a lot in Baba's time, and then he left and Dr. Brieseman came after that, and Dr. Brieseman was there at the time, as was Dr. Grant. Donkin was here. Dr. Ginde was the top neurosurgeon of the day, and he came here, and Dr. Irani, a lady doctor, was here at that time. Soon after a western person got ill, was at Booth Hospital, and contacted Dr. Brieseman who told him that he had been present at the time of Baba's passing away. Dr. Brieseman even wrote a book called, "I saw God pass away."

When Baba's body was removed, it was moved in an ambulance to Meherabad. Baba had told us to inter his body in Meherabad, and Donkin sent for Booth Hospital's ambulance. The stretcher used was the one from the ambulance. Body remained on the stretcher, which was actually needed by the hospital, so the mandali wrote to Dr. Brieseman and asked if they could keep the stretcher, and replace it with a new one (the replacement one would have to come from England).

Brieseman's reply letter said, "Have no fear. The ambulance is no longer road-worthy after having carried the body of Meher Baba."

Pictures of those days are here with us, and you can view them. Meherabad is open the full year, but here closes for the summer.

Brieseman and Peterson were with the Salvation Army.

Eruch asks one pilgrim where he will go for the summer, since he has signaled his intention to remain in India. Pilgrim says he will go to Nepal, and Eruch encourages him not to use drugs while on the road, telling him it was bad for him. The pilgrim doesn't say

that he won't, but tells Eruch that there is social pressure to use drugs in the circles in which he will be traveling.

Eruch affirms Baba's instruction to sightsee, if at all, on the way to His court, but to go straight home back.

Another one says he was at the Rajneesh ashram before he came to Meherazad, which he found very odd. "Very seductive," the boy says. Did Rajneesh come for Baba's darshan? Eruch said he came to see Baba but Baba was in seclusion and so R went to Ahmednagar Centre instead. Eruch explains that R was a professor and he had colleagues who were Baba lovers [AK Hazra, Gokaran Shrivastava, Professor Rathore, and one other -- same college had as a professor the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi at the same time].

Rajneesh has not seen Baba.

[Question about living and serving.]

Eruch says, "It's wrong to say that Baba wants us to serve Him. 'If you want to love Me and serve Me, serve yourselves.'"

Pilgrim is confused about the relationship of work, compromising ideals, and the spiritual life.

Eruch says he knows nothing about that. He's just a wayfarer himself. Try to transcend, avoid the difficulties. Be in it but not of it. How to see that your linen is not soiled, when you are in the world. When the rainy season is there your tidy clothes get soiled as a bus splashes you.

[There's an extended simile here, about life as walking down a lane in the rainy season. Buses come by, cars come by, and the spray of standing water that they create as they go past soils your linen, messes up your pants, etc. and Eruch says life is like that, you have to avoid the spray if you want to stay clean.]

Eruch tells the pilgrim to become natural, naked in the metaphor. Or, don't try to negotiate the highways with the heavy traffic, and be a recluse. Boy says it seems like an escape to leave life and Eruch agrees.

"Very rarely I have gotten dirty. At least I take a little diversion. I do not confront it, it's not an escape but it is trying to avoid. I see the bus passing through that pool, and I become aware that had I been there I'd look like a ghoul now. Become aware of such pools, become aware of such traffic, become one-pointed, keep Him in our minds, have constant company with Him. If you wish to get out of this whole mess at the earliest, keep constant company with the One who is there to help you. You have to befriend a guide properly. If you befriend Him properly, He'll take you for free, even feed you at the houses of His friends."

[Eruch gives the sign of the true guide. Very beautiful.]

Many people set themselves to serve. Instead of rendering selfless service, they become self-centered. "I have done so much for others." Allow the idea that you are serving others to die. Baba used to say, 'You all want to serve me. Serve yourself first, see that your self is not fattened.'"

Francis: "Whatever you are doing, give it your full attention, even if it is trivial. Have 100% concentration on the work, get so involved in the work that you lose yourself. Even if the job you are doing is as trivial as changing the month of the calendar, concentrate on the work."

Eruch: "This is the time to serve but forget yourself. How will you do it? Concentrate to such a degree that you think of yourself less. Get yourself so involved that there is no opportunity to think of yourself. This is very difficult. Only the Perfect Masters can do it, but we can try. At the back of your mind, in your heart, keep Baba with you, and that will be a very good help to you.

Here is someone who had met Baba (welcoming an Indian Baba lover).