
Farmer's Wife Gets a Peek at Baba

Mani S. Irani

Mandali Hall, Meherazad, India

August 16, 1980

7:08

MANI: Not incidence and episode but something that very personal which has meant more to us than this highlight the darshans which is of course where these stories come up from so we can tell that for us after the darshan when Baba would be bit tired and say, "Oh, a long day now!"

You know, quickly, someone would rush to get warm water so Baba washes His hands, Baba is changing His sadra, in the meantime [inaudible] is seeing if the rice is hot so she can bring what for lunch.

"What book are you going to read?" He would tell me. And then I would also think in a back like a... I still remember, Baba would wear the lovely pink coat for darshan. The coat I remember loving the most in my memory are the coats, the grey coat, the near white silk coat. I still remember when we would play, He had taken a fancy for it and He wouldn't have it changed but it would be time enough for us to turn the cuff off.

[inaudible] "Baba, this sadra? New sadra?" "No, where's my old one?" But Baba said, " [inaudible] that's the one I want."

All the time like when Baba would come from the women's side to the men's side, I even think as Eruch was saying, He plays the game of unknowingly. He does not know, neither He asks, but then He always played the game so confidently and He also.

ERUCH: He has the [inaudible] of the Ancient One, He uses the word unknowingly not knowingly. [sound of pilgrims laughing].

MANI: Now that's how it was done. So, [inaudible] casual event was [inaudible] of Baba, I'll tell you about that.

Now these little things, He gives Himself away. I would say they were tricks that He gave Himself away more like, why He could always stay behind the disguise, "Look at me, very small intimate compassionate things."

For instance, Baba would come over from the women's side to the Mandali Hall on His lift chair, the chair that you see here, right. And so four of the men mandali carried Baba in the chair. Or Baba would give opportunity to the servants, the gardeners and the [inaudible], they would bring Baba over. Now, while he was in seclusion at that time, means nobody came and saw Baba or had darshan. Even the [inaudible].

But then there is a woman, I can't describe, who lives down at the end of the road who had a hut here, also had another place inside of the [inaudible]. She was very clear hearted person, you know, very nice, very simple, her devotion is like clear water.

She was living there. And she said to me [foreign language]. I told her nobody is seeing Baba. [inaudible] and I said, "Look, stay in there and I was [inaudible] at the door. When I tell Rano [inaudible] I was down in that cottage, that's where my little table used to be which I would call an open air office where all the family messages were typed.

On that day, I just come over knowing now Baba would be brought there by the men, I came over to the cottage to start to work. She met me there, I said, "Now you stay here, Baba will pass by, to the men's Mandali Hall. As He passes by, you have a glimpse of Him, that's all I can promise."

Now it was early morning, usual time when Baba came over to the Mandali Hall. And there was a cool breeze blowing. And Baba at times would pull His scarf over His nose, like that or His face, like that. But that day He had, and He sometimes would wrap His scarf right over His head, you know, like a cover, like this, while they were bringing Him back home.

When I was that side, I saw that bringing Baba sitting in that lift chair, Baba is coming over. He has His scarf right over His head and I said, "Uh huh! What can I do?" Although she can tell if it's Baba and we are right at the spot of darshan even if she cannot see His face.

Now Baba was looking straight here particularly from His scarf. The distance when He would pass her, the farmer's wife could see Him was just a few feet. Just when He came to pass, [inaudible] past the area where the farmer's wife couldn't see Him anymore, round came the cover.

In fact He knew she was there. Her longing to see Him was so much that the Lord, Baba Himself just lifted the cover from His face, so she could get some, she could have the longing just to see Him. Once she couldn't see Him down came the cover on His face.

Same thing happened another time. They were bringing Baba over on the lift chair, from the verandah there to the men's side, to the Mandali Hall and you see, in the center of the garden they love the flowers, there's had an oval what we call the oval. Which has [inaudible] the flowers and it has a hedge, where, on the other side, inside the hedge, inside it were the flowers had been planted but there has been no [inaudible]. No flowers have come up yet.

But then we've been watching the new stems grow and we knew that in time it will all flower. So when Baba's lift chair came over this side [inaudible] and that's the path, so you pass by that oval as you come.

So there's Baba, going on the chair and we were watching, I was just.[inaudible]. Suddenly Baba made a very casual gesture and He said, "Nice flower!" Flower, this is Baba's gesture for flower because of the fragrance. So he just said, He pointed to the hedge and said, "Nice flower." [inaudible] I said, "Nice flower." [inaudible] not a single flower! [inaudible].