
BABA TOUCHED PHOTOS

Mani S. Irani

Mandali Hall, Meherazad, India

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MANI: You know with Baba, when His feet were washed with water, that water we would keep, and Baba lovers, mostly Indians at that time, I mean they just wanted to touch it, or keep that little bit of Baba's. And then look what Baba does; washes his hands in a whole river, goes and puts his feet into the ocean. I mean all that is Baba's water, that is all that is blessed water.

One time when Baba was touching each photo of His own, Baba tasked me and my brother Behram on His pictures being made and sent to the West, and distributed there. Now I realize that these were also links, cables, contacts. And not only that, He would show so much interest that when the photos were ready, He'd want to see them, and who were they for. So I would read out the list, and He'd touch them. So I would write on the back of each picture, and read out and Baba would touch it. So just in 1968 maybe, that time when Baba wasn't so well but He was still coming to the hall, maybe six to nine - early, I forget now.

Anyway it was a period where Baba wasn't well and yet came to the Mandali Hall here. He was seated on this chair, and the men before Him. And I came over with a box of photos through that door and stood there, and I looked hesitant. I didn't want to bother Baba to have to touch these pictures.

But He immediately noticed and made me come and said, "Yes, what is it?" I said, "Oh Baba, these photos to be touched, but it's all right Baba you're not well." He said, "No, bring, bring."

So instead of taking out each picture, I just held out the box to Him, the whole box full of photos, big size. And Baba just put His hand on it. So He didn't insist that each should be rubbed, He just put His hand out. And I turned around just to go away and suddenly I had a thought, 'Is it all right that I am writing to the person receiving the photo that Baba has touched each picture as I used to? I mean, is that right? Would that not be truth because Baba just put His hand on the top picture?'

So I turned around again, I said, "Baba it's all right isn't it? If I tell so and so that you touched all the pictures?" Baba said, "Of course." He looked surprised and said, "Come here."

So I came back. By that time the box of pictures was covered. So Baba put a finger, a fingertip, on the box and said, "If I do that, it touches each picture that's in there, plus the space that's between the picture and the floor, plus deep down."

That, that made me realize the immensity of Baba's giving. The immeasurable

magnitude of Baba's giving. So we — we say, "Baba did this and Baba did that," because we only see this and we only see that. And so that is all we can say, naturally. All that we cannot see is so tremendous. When He said the box of photos, that to me didn't apply just to the photos, I realized. All is blessed. His blessings I think just cover the whole earth and beyond it. Makes me think of the grace before meals that you say. I love those little things.

I have a little book and it says one landlady was standing up and saying, "Lord, pour thy grace in measures small, bless it more than cover all."

So His blessing more than covers all.