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## MESSAGE AND SPONGE

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Mandali Hall, Meherazad, India

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4:27

**ERUCH:** And from long time Baba didn't have His bath or anything of the sort. The last years. He wouldn't want to have bath or anything of the sort. So then He wouldn't listen to the women also. So then when the women, then naturally they would pass a word onto me saying that, "Eruch, do something because." It's not that His body would stink or His clothes you see, nothing of the sort. Beautiful fragrance would come out every time you see. Nothing of the sort. And not a fragrance or a perfume or anything of the sort but that body was like a child's body, you know? Have you had that feeling of a child's body? Like that.

So, but then doctors were more particular about His pores. The body needs rubbing you see. The pores. The pores because skin forms there. And unless and until there is rubbing of the skin the pores do not become, what do you call, open you see. Naturally it should perspire. Perspiration should ooze out of the pores to keep the body clean. The internal things.

So I would just tell Baba and then beg of Him and just in a nice way we'd tell them stories about the mast and how He did that and how He coaxed and all that. So somehow or other you see we fixed a regime that well every alternate day Baba would give me some time to massage His body and to, what do you call? What do you call that you see? What is the word for it? Sponge His body with water you see. So He, so naturally exactly at the time I

would remind Him. I would be there all the time naturally. There were. And the time would be there so I would start without reminding Him I would start preparations. Because if I were to remind Him immediately He would say, "Well, we'll see it from the next day," you see.

So it was no use. I did do that in the beginning. So then I said it's no use now. What we should do is to just start the work without reminding Him. So Goher would join me and we. No sooner you see the time would be there because He had fixed the time Himself in the beginning. So as soon as the. On the quiet you see I will take the wet sponge and put it on His body and start the. Baba would say, "What are you doing?" I said, "Baba it's time now for your sponge." And then do it you see. [general laughter]

So likewise, first I would start the massage. Massaging His body with oil or anything of the sort and all and He would feel very rested and all that. I was good in doing that you see. Sometimes I would make Him go sleep also with that massage. He would do it here. There was a couch over here. Here also He would lie down. Sometimes in the afternoon when there was no work. Or there. But then this, this was too much for Him you see. This sponging, He didn't like. So well I used to tell Goher that my brother would send eau de cologne. What do you call this? What is that other thing? Forget the name also. What's that you put in water? Lavender

water, you see. So that. I will put lavender there you see and in the water and then sponge the whole body and make it fresh. He would look very rose-like you see with that.

So one day He said, the way I would coax you see. First He said, first I began with this you see, "Baba your soles. You just see your soles how fresh they were and now they are thick with leather you see. Now the skin has turned into leather. It's not nice. You must have some sort of. Soles must also breathe you see. And without rubbing how can they breathe?" So I started with the soles first you see. First day. And then I came as far as the ankles on the same day. Then the next day soles and ankles and the thighs and loins you see. And then the waist. So He says, "You have learned the [inaudible]. You are following the same tactics that I did with the masts." He remarked. I said, "Yes well we learned from you what to do all the time."