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## PERFECT MASTERS

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### Mani Irani

Mandali Hall. Meherazad, India

July 21, 1990

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**PILGRIM 1:** Did you ever meet any of the other Perfect Masters?

**MANI:** Yes. I met Narayan Maharaj. I'm very happy my mother took me to Khedagaon, along with Sadashiv Patil, who was the, one of the oldest Baba disciples in Pune. So his mother-in-law, was close. You see, they lived where the toddy shop was. So my mother was associated with them, and sometimes she would take me in a tonga and we would go over to visit them. This, our visit was arranged for Gajabai, her name was, Gajabai, my mother and myself. To go to Khedagaon and it was very heart warming. A beautiful place. There's a lot of atmosphere there. It was, I'm talking, mind you. And stone buildings with arches as far as I can remember. Anyway, stone pillars and stone verandas and—

So I remember standing in this, there was a big hall. And in the hall was a swing, with brass chain holding up the swing. A broad swing like a divan, you know, we have it in our homes. And there was a silk mattress on it, with covers and very beautifully decorated. And we were about 30 of us, [clock chimes] waiting for darshan of Narayan Maharaj. Other strangers and we three. So we were there, and suddenly there was a stir. He's coming, he's arrived. And there we saw Narayan Maharaj walk in. There was such joy, such youth, such light. He was a small figure, but really unusual. Very—then I found that about Babajan, and of course Baba. The sun Himself. But it was so lovely to see that. And he came, joined hands, and he looked around to all of us, to the gathering. And then he stopped, gazing at mother, and he said, "Mother, you have come." Ohh, it meant a lot to mother. He recognized, sometimes my son doesn't recognize me. But you know Narayan Maharaj—[general laughter]

So, and then when we sat, and then she sat. First he sat on the other swing. Then everybody was told to sit. But there's a little girl who came and garlanded him. A girl about my age, and she garlanded him. So he turned to me, you see, how he's letting us know. By doing that he's letting us know, I know, that you all have come from Meher Baba. You're His mother and now he turns to me and says, "I too have a little sister, you know." But I found later that it was a cousin. Cousin sisters, in Hindus you also call cousin, sister, who came and garlanded him. And then like Baba, he had the post next to him. Some letters were there. And they were obviously in Marathi. And a minute later, he again looks at me and calls me to him. So I come, and he said, "Read this." Now it's a letter in Marathi, it is not printed. I

have not learnt Marathi, but it's similar to Gujarati. I know the Gujarati script and I know of course, I know the language. But to read a handwritten letter in like an [inaudible], it's totally different from a type. But by Baba's grace, I was able to read it. He was so pleased. He said to me, "You will always come first."

I was so happy. My first thought was, Baba wanted me to come first in class, that's all I could think of. If I did, then He would allow me to stay with Him for always. But later I thought maybe it'll help us in more than that. Maybe it's in love for Baba, whatever it is. It was a very lovely visit.

I didn't see— Sai Baba dropped his body before I was born, few months before I was born. Tajuddin Baba I never saw. Tajuddin Baba's very much closely associated with Eruch's family in Nagpur. Because that's his seat. All of them in Maharashtra. But one day, I tell you something funny happened. I had a dream. That's the last thing I'm going to tell. I had a dream, because now that we're up on the perfect masters today.

**PILGRIM 2:** Did you meet Upasani Maharaj too?

**MANI:** Upasani Maharaj, yes. Oh yes! I was told that when I was three years old, I was sitting on his lap and he fed me on my birthday some rava. Vishnu Master told me. Of course, I don't remember. I have a picture of myself, and my uncle and aunt in Sakori. But I don't remember. But when I was eleven, I remembered. I mean I saw him. I saw Upasani Maharaj when I was eleven years old. He had come to Pune. He had come to Sadashiv Patil, the people I was talking about a minute ago. In their home. And mother and I sat in a tonga and went for his darshan. He was by himself in this room, which could be half the hall, up to where Radya and Devana are. And we were seated in the corner, in gunny sacks and plain. And I was startled because, I didn't know he was so fair complexioned like my father. I didn't know he was fair complexioned. But he was seated in that favorite posture of his. And he looked up like this at me. But that was typical of him, I was told. So I just went and bowed, and you know, took darshan by placing my hands near his feet and then— so again, again he looked like that. But then I realized, that was the time that he looked so much like my father. My father at a certain age, not long before he passed away. When he had to be carried on a chair in to the bathroom for baths and things, my father I mean. So, seated on a chair with, only covered here, my father I mean. I've seen him like that and then I saw Upasani Maharaj's picture very much like that. And I said, "Hey memo, when did you take a picture of father? Bobo?" She said, "That's not Bobo, that's Upasani Maharaj". Such a similarity. But the complexion you can't tell in pictures you know. That's the trouble. But he was very [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 3:** Are you going to tell the story about Tajuddin Baba?

**PILGRIMS:** [in unison] Your dream, you had a dream?

**MANI:** No. I never saw him.

**PILGRIM 3:** You had a dream about something?

**MANI:** Yeah. what was it?

**PILGRIM 1:** Not about Tajuddin Baba. It was —

**MANI:** No, but what was it?

**PILGRIM 1:** You said now that we are on the masters—

**MANI:** Oh, yes, yes. I of all people, I mean for me all the perfect masters are in Baba. Baba is, as I said, number ten. He includes all the numbers. All the numbers don't include ten, but Baba is all-in-all. We don't—we have found Him who is all. The store house and the sun, and we don't have to then— But still, as a respect for His, this thing— But I couldn't care less where the perfect masters are now, you know. Meaning no disrespect, but you know. I never even thought of it, but in my dream, Baba comes and says, He's standing before me, right, clear thing. He said, "Hey, you know where the five perfect masters are?" I said, "No, I don't. Don't know where the five perfect masters are?" So, then He comes in front of me and says, "Wait, I'll show you, okay, I'll show you where they are." I said, "Okay, fine."

So now He comes and stands beside me. When He was talking with me, He was in front of me, now He comes and stands—so I don't see Him. But I see His arm extended, I see His hand, you know. He said to me, I said, "No, I don't know where they are," and Baba said, "They are in deep monastery." I suppose it means that they are inactive. They are not in activity, but they are in deep monastery. I've never know that [inaudible] put for months deeply. So, "Come, I'll show you, I'll show you." So then He comes by my side, and I see this hand, every time He moves His hand and shows us, you know. And He says, "Look, there's one." And I see very, very high mountains. You know, with a lot of snow and things in it. And I know at once, that one of them— this is the Himalayas. This is me here. I said, He said, "See". I don't see the person, I mean I see the place, where they are, but then they are in deep monastery. I said, "Yeah." But that's it. Okay, now, now, now, see, see. So then it wipes out, it's like this—and then again, I see Baba's hand, going like that with a finger pointing at—and then, which is the next one? Ah, then I see something, I may get the consecutive thing different. The pyramids, was that the pyramids. And He says, "See, see, here." So, what is that, Africa?

**PILGRIMS:** Egypt.

**PILGRIM 4:** In Africa?

**MANI:** Got that one wrong. [general laughter]

**PILGRIM 4:** That's in Africa.

**MANI:** But anyway, my geography has always been hopeless. So, is it? Oh, I said, [inaudible]. I seemed to know, I seemed to understand. So, Baba was very satisfied. Then the third time when He comes around, I see a little mountain, with snow only at the top. And I know it's Japan. And I said, "Is it?" Yeah. And then He says the fourth one is a sheer mountain. No snow, but you know rock, like stone. Absolutely sheer and way up there, I could see something there. Something, a house, construction, something. And I know it's Greece, and Baba said, "There." And the fifth one, I don't remember. [general laughter] I got up and I said, "Oh, I got to remember, I got to remember." No, I don't— and then I said to Baba, "Baba why me? You should have given this dream to Hoshang Bharucha." [Pilgrims laughing] Always very keen to know about the perfect masters. Or to Aloba or somebody, why me?

**PILGRIM 5:** Is this a recent dream now?

**MANI:** And then He came two days later. So very fresh, I was able to tell.