
TEA IN HAMIRPUR

Eruch Jessawala

Guruprasad, Pune, India

1969 Great Darshan

3:35

ERUCH: This reminds me by the way of chai, tea. When Baba paid a visit to the West in 1952. Soon after the Manonash period, the New Life period. Baba sent Pendu and Eruch to tour India, and do what? Well He said, "Tour India and just give name of Baba to people." I told Baba that, "Well I am not a speaker. I have never spoken to anybody." He says, "Go and just give the name of Baba." Well we had to obey Baba and we did go out and toured for about 4 months.

In one district, the district of Hamirpur in the North. We went there. It was beginning to have the warmth of Baba's love there. It was just a beginning. People, just about 50 of them had heard in the whole district, just 50 people had heard about Baba. We went there, we stayed at the places of those lovers there and there of course they offered us cold drinks in the morning. Cold drinks in the afternoon. We were used to having tea. So somehow or other we tried to bring in Baba because we had our selfish motive. So we said, "Well Baba drinks tea [general laughter]. Why don't you all prepare tea?" "Baba likes tea?" "Yes, Baba likes tea." "Does He drink tea?" I said, "Yes." So then we got a packet of tea from the market. There were no packets.

We went to the market to buy a packet of tea. No one knew what tea powder was. Mind you in India. It's a fact. [general laughter]. So then we went to a big city you see and got a packet of—not we, those who were the volunteers for us. They went there and got a packet of tea. They prepared tea for us. They did not know

how to prepare the tea for us. We showed them. They gave us cups of tea and they also enjoyed because Baba likes it. Then we left the place. After some years, was it some years or a couple of, or two years or one year Baba went back to that place for giving His darshan there. After His return. Somehow or other you see, some people from the interior they approached me and says, "Does Baba like bitter leaves? You call tea." I said, "Bitter leaves? Tea is a liquid." He says, "Liquid? We eat tea," he says.

[General laughter].

"How do you eat tea?" He said, "Well Baba likes tea, we eat tea." [general laughter]. I did not know what was in their mind. I was busy with Baba and someone just tells me that. I said, "What do you do?" He says, "We were told to boil tea leaves and throw the water out." [general laughter]. I was surprised. I said, "Who told you that? Baba never eats tea leaves. He drinks tea." [general laughter]. So then we had to give them a good lecture as to how to prepare tea. [general laughter]

Well such a thing you won't find at Ahmednagar when you go there and have your tea there in the afternoon at all.

[general laughter]