

Letters from Adi from *The Awakener Magazine Online*

*While we wait for the new MBCNC online newsletter to take form, we offer this interim summer newsletter, featuring letters from Adi K. Irani. Adi's letters were reprinted in *The Awakener Magazine (online)* Vol. 18, Number 1. All *Awakener Magazines* are available for viewing at <http://www.theawakenermagazine.org>.*

it is inevitable that whatever problem is solved by the miracle will eventually trouble one again — if not in this birth, in the next birth.

LETTERS FROM ADI

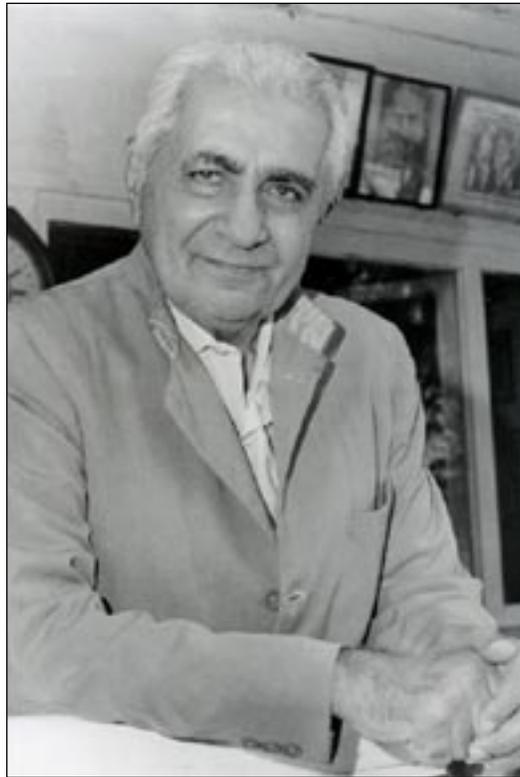
Dear _____:

I have received your letter of 19th Feb. I am happy to hear about your impending book about spiritual masters. Concerning whatever material you intend to print about Avatar Meher Baba, could you please send it to me well in advance of printing so I can proofread it for errors.

Regarding your question about the stone that rises when God's Name is chanted. I have heard that there is such a stone near Shivapur, which is 12 miles from Poona on the way to Satara on the Poona-Satara Road. I am informed that a certain name is chanted, and the people stand about touching the stone with their finger, and the stone rises. However, this stone has no connection with Avatar Meher Baba nor Sai Baba of Shirdi.

You are right about Meher Baba disclaiming about any miracles. The only true miracle is the awakening of the heart to God. An analogy might be useful to explain this. Imagine you see a friend who is dreaming and in his dream he thinks that he is crippled or suffering some distress. If you had the ability to enter the dream, would you perform a so-called miracle and restore his ability to walk or relieve whatever distress he had, or would you wake him up from the dream.

The miracles performed by others only perpetuate the dream. That is, if one's distress is relieved in the dream; there is less of a motive to wake up from the dream but



Adi K Irani

But once one is wakened from the dream, one is permanently free from all suffering Meher Baba doesn't bother to make one's dreams pleasant, but seeks the permanent emancipation of one from the illusion.

Regarding your question about the identity of the 5 Perfect Masters. I don't know who they are, however I will say one thing about them. Meher Baba said that during His advent which lasts over 100 years beyond the dropping of His body, the 5 Perfect Masters would not be publicly known. Therefore, although I can't tell you who the current 5 Perfect Masters are, I can tell you that for the next 100 years that anyone that becomes publicly known is definitely not a Perfect Master.

The time for the next 100 years is for the Advent of Avatar Meher Baba. As such it is His Name and Love that is meant by God to awaken humanity. Therefore the Perfect Masters, although they do

operate, will do so privately. Now is the time. for Meher Baba's Advent. When the force of His Advent fades after 100 years, then the Perfect Master will come forward to continue the work that was given them by none other than Meher Baba Himself.

I am looking forward to your book.

May Meher Baba bless you! Adi K. Irani

My dear _____

I received your letter of _____ Yes, when I visited with all of you in _____ I certainly enjoyed myself. I know you are all sincere in efforts to obey the Beloved.

N E W S L E T T E R

In your letter you ask advice about the meetings you have. I am sure by now you have seen the letter I wrote to _____ about drugs.

The first thing about Meher Baba gatherings is that they should specifically be about Avatar Meher Baba. Whether they are about His life or His messages makes no difference. Sometimes some Baba lovers in all sincerity will say that Baba is in everything, so why not study other paths as Baba is there? This is true; Baba is everywhere, but the point is where can I find Baba. It is practical to find Baba in gatherings about Him.

This question had come up during Baba's lifetime and He wanted gatherings to be about Him. Sometimes there can be discussions about the life of Perfect Masters or saints associated with Baba, but this should be kept to a minimum.

As far as decisions over practical matters: Baba has said that decisions should be made by democratic vote. The members of the group should elect the officers, and then those officers are empowered to make the decisions. No one has the right to make authoritarian decisions.

One very important thing is that anyone who is elected an officer or has any position at the Center, should do so only in an administrative capacity, and not in any spiritual capacity. There is no hierarchy in Baba's outward work. There is only Baba and His lovers. Everyone has an equal position. Baba has no chageman on earth. He communicates equally to all of His lovers in the heart.

Baba has not appointed anyone or any organization to represent Him in a spiritual sense. Certain centers and individuals have been given specific orders and responsibilities by the Beloved, but this is between Baba and that person or organization. No one has the right to impose anything on anyone else. Each heart is free to relate directly to the Beloved in his or her own way.

Naturally, as I wrote to the _____, no one taking drugs should be allowed at the meeting while they are under the influence of the drugs.

The best guide is the heart. Baba has said, "Think of things that you would not hesitate to think in My presence, speak words that you would not hesitate to speak in My presence, and do things that you will not hesitate to do in My presence."

Whenever His lovers gather together, Baba is there. Therefore, when you have Baba meetings, Baba is there. Act accordingly.

The purpose of meetings is to serve as a channel to awaken His Love. The meetings have no other purpose. The problem with traditional religions is that their gatherings start to assume a purpose of their own, rather than as mediums for awakening His Love. As long as some activity serves the purpose of awakening love, it has a value. But the moment it starts assuming importance of its own, it should be dropped.

For example, silence at a meeting. Keeping silent for a few moments can be useful to remember the Beloved, but there is no value in silence for silence's sake unless it is used to remember Him. Singing, plays, etc., all have a value as long as they point to Him.

There is the old story of a disciple asking his master where the moon is. The master points to the moon with his finger, and the ignorant disciple thinks the finger is the moon.

Likewise, so often His lovers tend to forget the purpose of His work. The purpose of Baba's messages was to awaken love in the heart of His lovers. So all activities should only continue as long as there is love in them; otherwise, they should be given up. Baba wants love in the hearts of His lovers.

Baba's medium is the heart, not organizations. No organizations, no groups should get established as to assume importance on its own. More important than all the archives, books, movies, is the heart of the one true lover of the Beloved. All of these outward activities have a value and should be taken care of, but not to the neglect of what is most important.

It is like the comparison between the heart and the feet. The feet have a place and are very useful but if one loses one's feet, one would still live. But if one loses one's heart, then one cannot live. Baba activities — like publishing, corporations, centers, etc., are like the feet. They have a value, but the feet cannot be compared to the heart.

If the world fell apart and disaster struck and all the books, movies, archives and centers disappeared that would not affect Avatar Meher Baba's Love. Beloved Baba uses all of these things, but does not need anything nor anyone. His work is independent.

During the New Life Baba said, "This New Life will live by itself eternally, even if there is no one to live it." So it is with all of Baba's work. Do the work, participate in the activities, but don't think that the work depends on anyone.

I remember during one of my visits to the West: An old-time Baba lover in reference to the apparent lack of response to her from Baba, said "What has Baba done?" It is like a cell of one's body, saying, "What have you done for me?"

Meher Baba is the Avatar, God personified. His Being permeates and sustains the entire illusion. The poet says, "One thing I could not understand. One secret I could not understand is that it is Meher Baba that gives me love, yet I am called the great Baba lover!"

Often, I have heard importance and appreciation for some work and activity being given to someone other than Baba. This doesn't mean you should not have Baba meetings because of concern about taking one's self or the actual meeting as more important than Baba.

N E W S L E T T E R

A Baba lover once asked the Beloved: "Suppose one feels that meditating by oneself is service. I like to visit the ... group but not all the time." Baba replied, "I would like you all to belong to certain groups. Why? Because you can cooperate and tell others about me and share your thoughts. You learn much more than when you remain by yourself. When you listen, exchange thoughts, prayers; my Presence is there. If you are talking to Me, having love for Me, then I am there. Is it all clear?"

The thing to do is to always keep Baba there at the meetings, remembering that the point is to be with Baba.

Please give my loving Jai Baba to all.

In your letter you asked for a general set of guidelines. Please feel free to ask me more specific questions, and I would be happy to respond to them.

As ever, Adi K. Irani

Dear _____

The important thing concerning your life is that you do whatever draws you closer to Baba. The details of one's profession and career are not so nearly important as maintaining and increasing the connection one has with Him in the abode of the heart.

Baba will be with you no matter what you study. Try your best to decide in your heart what Baba wants; then make a decision, and as long as you take His name with you, you will be doing the right thing.

No matter what you do, as long as you remember Baba, then you are doing the right thing

All the divisions you speak about exist in the mind only. The heart is only one. See from the heart, not the mind. It is the mind that wants to divide and separate. It is the heart that is one.

Through your constant remembrance of Him, His grace will allow to you to seek and experience everything as one, as parts of the whole unity of life.

In deciding not only what to take in school, but what personal relationships to develop in friends, and a life partner if you decide to get married, ask this question: Will this relationship help bring me closer to my heart's desire, Meher Baba? In deciding where to live, where to go for your vacations, in virtually every decision of your life, the criteria for such decision should be, will this action of mine bring me closer to Him, and will this please

him, or can I do something else which, although it isn't something I like, yet will please Him and will bring me closer to Him?

If you do this with the attitude of a child, looking to its parent to see what would be happy with, then Baba will guide you and His grace will be upon you.

Loving Jai Baba! Adi K. Irani

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Adi's Prayer

*Beloved Meher Baba, bless us all
so that in the stress and strain of our
daily life
and the fluctuations of our mind,
we learn to relax wholly and
wholeheartedly
and float on the ocean of Your love
and call for Your breath of joy,
Your breeze of compassion
and Your wind of strength
to flow into every fiber of our body,
every corner of our mind,
and every space of our heart
to cleanse us of all our impurity
and make us worthy of Your love,
of Your obedience,
of Your service
and, above all, Your pleasure.*

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COME TO THE ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING
THIS SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 4 PM

We need your thoughtful input to help shape the future of our evolving group. This is a time of change for us — come and give your ideas about how our meetings can open our hearts and enliven our lives.

We will soon have a new online newsletter. Do you have some ideas for the newsletter, or publishing skills to share? Is Baba nudging you to participate in this new growth phase of our Center? Come, and bring whatever skills you have to offer in the service of the Beloved.

After the meeting, you can stay and view the recently produced video on the talks and discourses of Upasni Maharaj, one of the five Perfect Masters of Meher Baba. It will be shown at 7 pm.

We may order some burritos from a local restaurant, so you can enjoy the evening in a triple bill of meeting, food, and video.

INTRODUCING: THE MBCNC
MONTHLY CALENDAR VIA E-MAIL

Our Board of Directors has decided to send out the MBCNC calendar of events via e-mail once a month. It will also be posted on our website: www.meherbabameherbaba.org.

“The monthly format gives us flexibility to make last-minute program additions and changes, says Board member Philip Karantzalis, who is in charge of the calendar. He welcomes your ideas for programs. E-mail him at cerrittocentercalendar@gmail.com

If you are on our e-mail list, you should have received our new June calendar in PDF format. The July calendar will be e-mailed soon.



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LOCAL MEETINGS

Lafayette - Sunday Afternoons

Monthly meeting at the home of Kirk and Marlene Allen. Please call to confirm. (925)-284-4066.

Los Gatos - Sunday Evenings - 8:00 PM

Arti, singing and readings at the home of Clint and Sharon Snyder. Call them at (408) 395-6865, or Hugh and Jean Macdonald at (650) 322-0886.

Petaluma/Santa Rosa - Sundays - 11:00 AM

Arti, readings and fellowship. Contact Hermann Loew, (707) 778-1195, or Ellen Van Allen, (707) 292-0016.

Sacramento - Monthly Meetings

Contact Jean and Michael Ross, (916) 359-2954 or Marilyn Buehler, (916) 925-4451 for details.

FOR ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER CHANGES:

e-mail: mbe3@sbcglobal.net call: (510) 525-4779
write: MBCNC 6923 Stockton Ave. El Cerrito, CA 94530

To receive e-mail updates from the Center,
send an e-mail to: elist@MeherBabaMeherBaba.org

Our Center's Web Site: Program information and more!
www.MeherBabaMeherBaba.org

THE TRUST

All who wish to share in the commitment laid down by Meher Baba through the Trust should contact Jack Mormon, P.O. Box 70383, Richmond, CA 94807-0383.

MEHER BABA INFORMATION

For introductory information about Avatar Meher Baba, e-mail MeherBabal@aol.com, or write to P.O. Box 1101, Berkeley, CA 94701. See our online catalog of books and other materials at www.MeherBabalInformation.org.

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