

Fri. 8th May '25.

Amongst the crowds that had come to see Baba yesterday, one ~~had solicited~~ was found to be in a depressed and disgusted mood with the world at large. He asked for internal awakening from Baba who in return, told him to lie down under a mim tree nearby and remain without water and food until further orders. Finding him sticking to the instruction to the letter, Baba called him ~~near~~ and after advising ~~to~~ something sent him away. The day however proved a hot one. The first thing in the morning, Baba was heard to be complaining of getting no sleep over-night and having fever and double phenomena.

After some time Baba's elder brother Janshiji came from Poore, and hardly they had talked for sometime that Baba suddenly caught hold of a cane and severely slashed him with the same.

Then in the evening Rustajji and Gustadji had some hard words between themselves. Upon hearing the same Baba ordered the whole mandali to clear away from the premises (The eastern portion of the Post Office, the latter, proper being occupied by the ladies) and asked everyone to remove every and each thing in the Mandap which has recently been stretched up to celebrate Mahareji's birthday. To add to the chaos, there was a shower of rain, making the prospect of sleeping in the Mandap made of ~~giving~~ cloth all the more uncomfortable consequent to the cold bleak winds that began to blow with a ~~vengeance~~, thereafter. Before all retired for sleeping, Baba made thorough enquiries of the boys and the mandali about the bedding. Those who had insufficient coverings were provided with more, by Baba who also asked all to take of the cold winds.

9th Sat. May 25.

Owing to improper shelter from the wind-storms peculiar to Arangam the mandali got up very early this morning. After enquiring as how they slept and felt, Baba asked all to finish with taking tea and milk quickly and to be ready for a game of *Aha Pata*. The game was heartily indulged in by all including Baba himself for about an hour and a half. Today, some of the mandali were ^{also} allowed to join Baba in giving bats to the school boys for the first time. In the afternoon Baba gave some very interesting explanations on divine subjects.

Amongst the many interesting features arranged for Maharej's Birthday tomorrow, includes a cinema show for the large number of people expected to come together. However the mandali and the boys had the ~~special~~ pleasure of already witnessing a show, depicting the mythology of Rhasmasoor and Mohini this evening.

After the Cinema show a party of Indian Christians including one Mr C. Gaikwad came to see Baba and with his permission chanted a few religious songs. At their request Baba promised them help for a Church building.

Shri Kpusni Maharaj's Birthday!

10th Sun. May 25.

Days and days had been spent in arranging the celebration of the day of days, the birthday of Maharej. A huge Mandap has been stretched just near the school for the ceremonies, being profusely decorated with many coloured bunting, flowers, leaves and ~~red~~ decorations. A big area

on the other side is temporarily sheltered, for cooking food for the public who have been invited through handbills etc without restriction, to any particular caste or creed.

While, all over the school, hospital & Ghopoli, a network of coloured bunting and flags has been spread up. ~~The school has been very well decorated~~

While sitting in the new school premises just completed, amongst the mandali and many visitors who had come for the occasion, Baba talked on cheerfully with all. Mr. Randas - one of the visitors - was advised to go to Tipoo-Baba daily in ~~Bombay~~. The latter replied he was already doing so, and asked Baba the difference between a Maste, a Mezzot and a Sadguru. This provided for a intellectual treat for the mandali, as Baba gave very interesting explanations on the subject. Thereafter a game of Ata-Palas was played by all for sometime.

By eight o'clock, number of people began to pour in at Deherabad from all directions. The subsequent events and scenes if described in details would take pages to write. As early as 8 in the morning the feeding was ordered to be begun. The plain feast of Dal-Bhat and vegetables was marked to be eaten with a great relish by people coming from the surrounding villages. It was a medley of Old & young, men & women children & babies ~~were~~ pushing, shouting, singing and some were dancing. The feeding was continued without any restrictions upto five in the evening. Those who took food could be counted in thousands. Besides the feeding programme, there was no lack of Bhajans, Purans & Kirtans and every where a ~~swarm~~ swarming and surging crowd of enthusiasts. In the big Mandir Hari Ds. Patel began his dramatic Kirtan in the afternoon, ~~as narrating the life of Sri Tukaram & Sri Krishna in his~~

usual interesting style. While Sar Angel began his learned discourse on Purans before another huge congregation near the school ~~building~~ premises and at the same time besides the two functions going on a inspiring Bhajan was being held near Baba's Ghopdi. In addition to all this, individual Bhajan parties were scattered here and there trying their utmost in keeping ~~with~~ pace with the great din and animation going on all round. Baba kept on going here & there, keeping an eye on ~~all~~ the all the arrangements, specially the feeding department.

The Bhajan near the Ghopdi was very spirited as it was under the personal direction and guidance of two ascetics, wellknown in the district, Balaram Bua and Tolanjan Bua. The former lives at Ahmednagar and depends on begging for his and his family's ~~maintenance~~ maintenance although he is said to ~~be~~ the chief manager of feedings ~~done~~ ~~sent~~ (Bhandares) given to the poor near the Malt and temple where he puts up. While the latter is said to have gone to Pandharpur rolling all the way from Ahmednagar to Pandharpur and hence known as 'Tolanjan Bua'. The Tal ringers, about 30 to 40, were also their own followers and hence a perfect rhyming of sound and movement was observed. When Baba came and sat near the Ghopdi facing the Bhajan karsis, it was as if a fuel was added to the fire ^{more} their enthusiasm and very soon Balaram Bua began to dance to the rhyme of the Bhajan in a state of overpowered feelings. At the end of the Bhajan when these two ascetics bowed on Baba's feet they were garlanded with his own hands and then sent away in a tonga.

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Besides these Bhajans and Kirtans, the Addercham
of Sonavla ~~was~~ also entertained Baba for sometime with
some choice Urdu and Persian Ghazals.

The formal birthday ceremony was observed with due
rituals punctually at a sunset. Thereafter the Untouch-
ables of Arangam started a big procession from the village
towards Meherabad. For days together the laborers etc of
this village had also worked hard in bringing out this
highly successful display of their devotion today.

A ~~beautiful~~ beautiful "Dola" something like a huge
palanquin was carried on the shoulders of the enthusiastic
villagers, containing Baba's photo, headed by Dashes, Dafas,
Lefin and a party of Band. Some fire works were also
now & then displayed brilliantly before the procession.

The last ^{item on the} programme ~~was~~ proved to be successful
to be really entertaining. The open air Cinema show
depicting the Life of Sant Satchobai created quite a
sensation. There was a tremendous rush of the
poor villagers to take full advantage of the "magic of the
screen" ~~and~~ and it was feared that some children
or weak persons would come to grief in the mad
stampede hence it was stopped in the middle
^{its performance} of the show. The audience was informed that the
remaining portion of the show will be continued the
~~next day~~. It was nearly midnight before the
great hustle bustle and noise and din subsided.

In addition to ~~the~~ the heavy and crowded
programme, Baba had, also, to undergo the great-
trouble of giving Darshans and interviews to thousands
of people today.