

Sun. 13th March '27. M. HITAYA

As usual of late, Baba passed all the day seated near the Dhoni. There were the usual Sunday visitors to Baba in the morning. Another draft review of the Gachr-Ashram was prepared for some other papers, in which according to Baba's previous instructions, sufficient stress was laid upon Spiritual training. Still Baba insisted upon considerable changes to be made in it, particularly where His own praise was mentioned 'saying' "I or my activities should not thus be advertised".

In the afternoon the mandali enjoyed a treat of Milk tea, Pura-poles and Bhajias at Bapoo Brahmia's place, which the devotee had arranged for Sri and party in jubilation of the birth of a son to him. Again late till night Baba and mandali sat talking different subjects <sup>out</sup> in the bright moon lit night. Many in the mandali found the silvery cool atmosphere to be unusually peaceful and soothing.

All took to beds at eleven o'clock.

Mon. 14th March '27.

Again Baba passed the whole day sitting over the Dhoni seat, but for the single visit to the ghopdi in the morning. At two o'clock in the afternoon a meeting of the mandali was held, when Sri discussed with them the reported madness of Krishna-Gurte the supposed New World Teacher, and the ~~so~~ atrocities committed in Persia to Zoroastrians in the latest Kaiser-I-Hind paper. Baba once again repeated that this so-called World Teacher will soon pass away out of his mortal coil and thus foil the pet-plans of the Theosophists himself.

At night when the mandali were seated near

Baba at the Dhoomi and 'Hafiz' was read to them by Ardeshir, they witnessed a very unpleasant ~~sized~~ incident. The dog 'Madari' suddenly ran across a fully loaded and fast going motor lorry on the road and got dashed against one of the rear wheels. Some of the mandali at once ran towards him but it was found stone dead! It died an instantaneous death without as much as uttering a single cry of pain. All were much grieved at the pitiable sight particularly since the animal was a ~~pet~~ 'universal' pet at Ficherabad. It had originally come from Sakori and was a brave animal and watchful animal. It had some strange peculiarities about him too. Whenever the bell rang for the Mandali to get together in the Mahan, Madari was the first to be present there. Then again every night at the Arti time it never failed in being present over the verandha during the sacred repetitions. Last of all ~~it~~ was his regular attendance near Shri's seat where he used to remain almost through out the day and nights. Baba remarked that it was a lucky animal, he died without any pain, without even a single cry, an instantaneous death and that too near the Sacred Dhoomi while 'Hafiz' was being read! Shri then ordered a pit to be dug out at the very spot ~~where~~ from where a burst tree had been uprooted that very morning, root and branch. The tree had been uprooted for burning it in the "Holi" fire but it also provided an excellent grave for Madari. The corpse was then solemnly buried in the presence of Baba and the whole mandali, after which all retired for the night.

Tues. 15<sup>th</sup> March '27.

Some of the mandali reported that of late, they don't get sleep soon at night. At this Baba proposed that a game of *Ata Palis* be played tonight in the moon-light, so that the refreshing exertion will soon give them all a good sleep afterwards. But from early in the evening heavy winds began to blow and eventually there was a strong down-pour of rains at night. Consequently the proposed game was never played yet the cool atmosphere after the raining, soon put the mandali in sound sleep.

Wed. 16<sup>th</sup> March '27.

About ten or fifteen <sup>days</sup> ago a young "Sanyasin" ascetic had come to see Baba with a desire to be pushed into the spiritual line. Baba promised to do that for him provided he stayed under <sup>a</sup> lime tree in the colony ~~for~~ as long as Baba asked him to do so. He agreed to it and accordingly was staying under one of the lime trees here since then.

Today however he came to hear some chance remarks of ~~the~~ some of the mandali as to how difficult was the spiritual line, and that although it was nearly five years that they were with Baba, they had not even had a smell of Truth so far. The young aspirant apparantly lost courage at these words and beat a quick retreat from Gherabad today!

In the evening two more Sanyasins arrived, who were out on a pilgrimage and said had already visited Haridwar and Rameshawari. They were given food and shelter and asked to stay here for a few days.



Thur. 17<sup>th</sup> March '27.

## The 'Holi' Holiday.

The school was closed today. There were a good many visitors to Baba and because of the holiday, considerable sweets and fruits were brought by many of them as presents. The mandali was thus provided with assorted eatables throughout the day. In the evening, after the supper, the big birch tree that had been up-rooted the other day was cut up and made into a big heap and then lighted as the usual "Holi" fire. The next item in the programme of the day was a game of Ala Patā out in the moonlight and then milk tea to all. But unluckily many in the mandali displayed no spirit or enthusiasm for the game. At this Baba lost his cheerful mood and immediately ordered the whole programme to be cancelled. "All that you do, do with your might" seems to be Baba's chief motto; be it wether work or play. He never likes half-heartedness. Behramji was then taken to task for advocating the plan of Ala Patā and tea at night and Baba further conveyed to him that henceforth he should mind his own duty that of looking after the mandali and their food and nothing else. The rest of the mandali was all unceremoniously dismissed away from Shree's presence. However within fifteen minutes Baba became his old Self again. The mandali was recalled and asked to finish up the programme. A very lively and enthusiastic game of Ala Patā was then played for some hours. The milk tea was also served to all and at eleven o'clock all went to bed.