

Fri. 1st April '27.

There was nothing particular today save stray discussions between Shri and the mandali on general ~~matters~~ topics, some story repetitions by Dhake and a little storm in the tea-pot! The latter was the result of the night watchman's misunderstanding. It so happened that at about 9 P.M. a passer-by began to cry "run run" (चुटो-चुटो) probably asking his companions to follow him quickly. The night watchman apprehending an attack by the robbers gave out the alarm, and out rushed the mandali headed by Shri Himself to reach relief at the supposed scene of affray towards the station side. After going for a certain distance the mistake was found out and so the party returned back and retired for the night.

Sat. 2/4/27.

The school was closed for a half a day today, because of the Hindoo ~~the~~ New Year holiday according to their old calendar. 'Chanji repeated some stories tonight before Baba and mandali prior to retirement for sleep.

Sun 3/4/27. Hazrat Babajan's Early Life!

The Hindoo New Year holiday according to the new ~~old~~ Hindoo calendar was observed today. All the school boys and the mandali ~~came~~ ^{got} together at Baba's Dhoni in the morning.

The various eatables and cooked dishes that had been brought as Parasads by many of Baba's Hindoo disciples of the village and the city were first distributed by Shri amongst

the school boys and then between the mandali.

Following this distribution, a special "Arati," "Pati Purnya" ceremonies and prayers were duly performed by all at nine thirty o'clock. Then at 10 P.M. Baba and mandali started for the city to visit Kaka's place, ~~there~~ and participate in the celebrations of the day, there, according to the programme already fixed previously.

The party was divided into two groups. Baba and a few went by the Hudson touring car, while the rest got stuffed into a big lorry. ~~It was nearly~~ As soon as they reached Kaka's place, Baba asked for the dinner. Upon being informed that it was not ready yet, He asked tea to be provided to all there and then.

But of course at that odd hour tea in readiness was out of question too, and when Shri was told this, the "storm" was up with "vengeance"! Baba suddenly worked himself into a very angry mood and even prepared to return back at Facherabad at once. However the repeated entreaties and apologies of Kaka and his other family members succeeded in persuading Baba to cool down and agree to stay for dinner. Within half an hour the tea was made ready, and served to all liberally. By this time a number of persons from the adjoining houses and other parts of the city had assembled about Baba to pay their respects, and ladies were prominent in the group. Baba was pleased to convey a silent "lecture" mainly touching the "Duty of a Woman" for about an hour till all sat for the dinner at twelve o'clock. In the course of this silent discourse Shri shed a new light on Hazrat Babajan's early life, which was so long quite a mystery to the mandali at large, the details perhaps being only known

to Baba and Babajan Herself. According to these revelations, Hazrat Babajan is the daughter of one of the then responsible and chief Ministers of the Amir of Afghanistan at Kabul! In her teens She was exceptionally beautiful. From Her very childhood She had a natural inclination towards spirituality and the realization of Truth. With the growing age this inclination turned into a deep rooted desire for things other than mere materialism. Consequently this brilliant, beautiful and promising young lady at the very threshold of Her glorious youth was a confirmed non-materialist.

Things of the world, however attractive and bewitching could not create any impressions upon Babajan. In short Maya = Doonya with all her powerful implements of lust, greed and anger was quite helpless against This future Power House of Spirituality even at that early age. When Babajan was hardly fifteen years of age Her guardians began to arrange for Her marriage on a grand scale.

But being disinclined towards involving Herself in the family affairs, She at this juncture made bold to leave the family shelter, and so far as it concerned Her family She disappeared into the thin air!

For fifty years thereafter She led a

life of complete resignation and renunciation! Her only aim was to find the One who would reach Her to Her Ideal. After wandering

from place to place for fifty long years. She at least came across Her Master, and became God-Realized at the age of about Sixty Five!

After being God-Realized Babajan lived for some time at..... in the Punjab.

During this stay many people began to respect Her as a Saint and some even worshipped Her.

This worshipping and the occasional remarks of Babajan, declaring Herself to be God, naturally upset the mohomeddaws of the place for whom it was nothing but blasphemy $\frac{3}{2}$ according to the common interpretations of the Islamic teachings. Some of the most fanatic amongst them, certain Baluchis of a local military regiment, were so infuriated that they could think nothing short of a 'living grave' as a punishment for Babajan's such unconventional but true remarks. They did not stop with a mental resolve, but one dark night actually succeeded in burying up Babajan alive! It was through Her own super-natural powers i.e. a miracle, that Babajan safely emerged out of that grave but soon left the place and came towards Bombay.

(Her movements, and coming to Poona since then, are well-known and recorded elsewhere) After the lapse of many years, during the last great war a Punjab regiment was transferred at Poona, and it so happened that the same Baluchis who thought they had ^{done} to death Babajan were amongst it. Their wonder and amazement could well be imagined when they came face to face with Babajan at Char-Bawdi at Poona! But this time their fanaticism was turned into great devotion, and so long as the

regiment remained stationed at Poona, its members frequently came to pay their respects to Babajan. Their rush was so great that special facilities were granted to them by their superior officers in enabling them to come and see the Person whom they had once thought proper to murder in cold blood! (Afterwards this whole regiment was killed to the last man in war in the Dardanelles.) Continuing the narrative Baba then dwelt upon the life lead by Babajan since coming to Poona and laid particular emphasis as to how in spite of her very advanced age she is defying nature with a vengeance, that is sitting for so many years under the mere shelter of a lime tree through the intense cold, scorching heat, and torrential rains of the different seasons of the year. Concluding the narration Shri conveyed "The moral, that you ladies have to draw, out of this, is always to aspire for the Real, the Spiritual Advancement. Marriages and other festivities may appear nice and inducive, but these are all material and hence liable to be destroyed sooner or later, ending into Nothing. Even after marriage aspire only for the Spiritual Advancement!"