

T2U
17th May '27. }
TATVA

Shri paid a surprise visit ~~at~~ early this morning at five thirty in the Akhara and thus caused all the sleeping-saws there to tumble out of their snug beddings simultaneously. Then considering the long summer days and the early rising of the sun all were instructed to get up daily the same time i.e. at five thirty instead of at six o'clock.

The meeting of the school teachers and workers duly came off at the appointed hour at eight this morning and the following matters were decided after prolonged discussions:

1. In view of the different castes and creeds of boys that are already in the Akhara it is advisable to have a common language as a medium of instruction in the School.
And so after the 4th English and onwards the English language is to be the common medium of instruction here.
2. Only ^{the} Persian and ^{the} Sanskrit are to be taught as second-languages
3. For the 'Optional' in the ~~the~~ School Leaving Exam all students must take "English General" as Optional
4. In the classes below the 4th English the medium of instruction to be in Gujarati, Marathi and Urdu vernaculars.

And according to these resolutions a Gujarati class was arranged, as so long the Marathi was the only vernacular medium of instruction here, and Padri was appointed as a teacher for this new class.

Consequently all the time-tables had to be changed but through Baba's insistence the work that

appeared would take a whole day was all finished up quite properly by two o'clock in the afternoon.

Visit To Rahuri.

According to the invitation that Shri had accepted to attend the marriage ceremony of one of His devotee's brother at Rahuri, Baba left Meherabad with a party of about six or seven members from the mandali at 4.30.0'clock in the Chevrolet lorry that Adi had specially brought for this purpose. At first Baba sat inside with all the screens down in a reclining position. After a few miles He seemed to be very uncomfortable and as it was stopped for sometime in the way and the mandali somehow arranged sufficient room for Baba to lie down. But even this arrangement did not satisfy Baba. Just as Dongargason was passed (15 miles from Meherabad) the car was stopped for the second time. This time Shri preferred to sit by Adi on the front seat and so again the screens and extra Purdahs had to be all rearranged as Baba preferred to have as little air as possible. However the rest of the fifteen miles were covered up without any further stoppages and the party ~~was~~ arrived at Rahuri at six thirty o'clock.

With the help of one of the many village boys that had swarmed about the car, the party came to the place of the host. A special seat was found to be ready for Shri on the verandah of a house. At seven o'clock the

Arti was recited before Baba by the mandali, the host and his relations and many of the villagers with great devotion. After this all were treated with tea and light refreshment by the host who seemed to be over-joyed at finding Baba having actually come to his place at a distance of thirty miles. The local ^{the} Doctor happened to be Shaky's brother-in-law so ^{in the meanwhile} the former went there with Baba's permission and arranged for supper for the whole mandali. The obliging Doctor at once came to Baba and after paying his respects offered a formal invitation to Shri for supper which was readily accepted. Then while sitting at the open seat on the veranda in the calm atmosphere of rural surroundings and when the stars were just beginning to peep out from the grey clouds, Baba conveyed a fine explanation on the heavenly bodies to the mandali. One of the remarks conveyed "that every star though appearing a mere sparkling dot was not ~~only~~ a world but a mighty sun with a solar system like our own. The planets were just like our earth in many respects. It was merely through the immeasurable distance that is between us and these that they appear so small. Our own earth th is ~~but~~ a mere bright dot for those who see it from the planets....

..... * Chaitanya (Consciousness) began with matter and energy, but at first there was more matter and less energy and then energy began to increase gradually....." ~~was another remark~~

Sometime after this explanation the bridal procession arrived amidst the ~~set~~ usual din and

noise of mixed music and tom-toms. Baba witnessed ^{all} the following ceremonies attentively and after blessing the new couple and allowing Darshans to hundreds of people assembled there came to the Doctor's place. Within the short time at his disposal, the gentleman seemed to have left no stone unturned in providing a fine reception and comfort to the unexpected guests. Even a bright petrolax lamp was blazing on merrily in the house flooding it with clear white light. As soon as the party reached his house, the Doctor and relations respectfully conducted Baba and all inside where arrangements for a ~~nice~~ ^{hot} wash-up were ready. All having finished washing their hands and faces, were taken to the dining hall and served with varied tasty dishes. The service was typically on Brahmin lines and even the ladies of the house were hospitable enough in ~~serving out~~ personally serving out the fine dishes liberally and promptly to all those sitting for the meals. It was a regular feast and the mandali paid ample justice to it.

Shri too very much appreciated the food as well as the sincerity with which it had been offered and served. Nearly at about nine thirty Baba and party bade farewell to the very hospitable Doctor and left Rahuri.

The return spin of thirty miles proved very pleasant in the ~~of~~ soft and silvery moonlight, some of the mandali occasionally bursting out in one of the popular tunes, singing

the Master's praise. At eleven in the night the party came back at Meherabad. Shri rested for a while in the office and then signed all to go to sleep soon and set out Himself to inspect the cooking work going on in connection with the public feast that is to be given here tomorrow in honour of Shri Upasani Maharaja's birthday. After satisfying Himself that all the arrangements for the morrow's festival were being carried out properly and passing signs of encouragement and cheer to those on the night duty Shri too retired for the night. The party working in the kitchen remained awake and busy the whole of the night.