

The Future Avatar.

After the dinner, for sometime Baba played marbles with Dhakay and Tranekar. In the course of the game Sri conveyed a very suggestive ~~hint~~ hint:

"A very great Avatar is shortly coming to the world. He

is now playing the marbles." Following the game of marbles Shri played Giti Danda with all the mandali for a long time maintaining an upper hand in the play to the end. In the evening after having tea Shri and party left the Patil's place for Bhansahib's Wada. So far the Patil had succeeded in keeping Shri undisturbed but on reaching the bus quite a crowd was found waiting for His Darshan. This time Baba did not show any hesitation in allowing the eager crowd His Darshans and also conveyed His great satisfaction and appreciation with the hospitality of the Patil.

The Life - A Game of Cards.

Before reaching Bhansahib's Wada Shri asked for the bus to be stopped and sent for the Patil. In the meantime Baba conveyed "The life and existence throughout its course until God-Realization is but a mere game of cards. When you are playing cards, you get pleased and disappointed over success or loss, become excited and concerned at critical stages of the game, but the moment you once again get busy in the ordinary affairs of life you forget all about the game of cards and all its pleasures, disappointments, concerns and anxieties. Similar is the case with the God-Realized. For them the very life and existence in the world is a mere game of cards. The worldly success or loss, pleasure or pain is no more permanent and significant than you feel over a game of cards." By this time the Patil joined the party and was explained the above words of Shri. Mr. Borker spoke very highly of the Patil before Baba and dwelt on his good nature and bent of mind towards spirituality upon which Shri added through signs "I know all this. He is a good devotee and that is why I accepted his invitation and came all this way to his place..... such ^{simple} devotees are

more dear to me than the so-called rich and influential people who are but the "sin-gods". At Bhanu Sahib's place Shri sat for some time in his little hut and accepted water-melons etc offered as refreshment and at about five in the evening started for the returning journey, arriving Maherabad within half an hour more.

Once again Shri allowed a lengthy private interview to Baboo and Paaly. Besides his proposed intention of enjoying a holiday for himself, Baba had provided a good change to Baboo through this trip to Shendi when one remembers the great mental agitation of the latter!

Another Hint for the Future.

At night in the course of some general discussions between Shri and the mandali, it transpired that the Arangan people generally spoke ill of the ~~the~~ Trumati Patel who lives with the mandali, and taunt & pier him for partaking of the food cooked by a non-hindoo. Baba reassured the Patel not to worry about these village people and their prejudices and fanaticisms adding "One day I will make these very people dine with you and eat the food prepared by those who are considered as untouchables in your community....."

Saturday } ~~28th May '27~~
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The Promised Shower.

At five this evening terrific wind-storms began, spreading volumes of fine dust all over Maherabad. Soon after clouds gathered up and within fifteen minutes it began to rain hard. The very welcome shower continued for nearly twenty minutes changing the dry and dusty atmosphere into a very cool and pleasant one and thus Padri got what he wanted under the threat of breaking up Shri's ~~Shri's~~ Shrovi. (vide 296)

Wednesday }
1st June '27 }

Persian Lessons Commenced.

The parcel of new Persian books from Bombay was opened this morning when Shri personally sorted them out along with the old ones already brought into the Ashram by Rustamji. The latter was also appointed to teach Persian grammar three hours every week to the school boys concerned. Similarly Rawsahib was instructed to coach the boys in Persian text for one hour every day. As a further example of how deeply Shri takes interest in even the minor affairs here, ~~Changji was assigned by Baba~~ the need of an office boy for the Principal's office did not escape his attention and Shankarnath was duly fixed up for this work.

A Village Wedding.

Baba and mandali were invited by Valubai to attend the marriage celebration of her daughter. At the appointed time the party was conducted to the village in the shape of a procession with a noisy music heading the same. The glasses and plates that each of the mandali carried in their hands for the dinner lent a peculiar show to the typical procession. The personal care and kindness with which Shri's party was met with by the host and attended to, left nothing to be desired but the place itself selected for the function reminded all of the "black hole of Calcutta" since it had but a single door & window for all the ~~hundreds~~ people there to breathe through in such a hot time of the day of the hottest part of the season. However the novelty of the dishes served including macaroni in mango juice elicited full justice from the guests as soon as the Asti was finished. Before returning from the gay function in the course of stray remarks Shri conveyed "Valubai's devotion and love for me alone compelled me to come here and participate in this function today". Again in the

afternoon all the mandali and the boys were treated to tea and jilebis in the Meher Ashram.

Happy While Suffering!

Mr. Sath's family was amongst the visitors to Baba and remained for about three hours in Shri's company.

During the conversation that Baba had with them on various subjects through his usual gestures Shri also conveyed:

" Babajan has lost two of Her last fingers by allowing them to be eaten up by ^{insects} worms. At the time when Her fingers were so affected as to get small insects about them some of these latter used to fall down unintentionally out of the finger wounds. But instead of getting the insects out far short of taking any treatment for the terrible wounds, She used to pick up the fallen insects and replace them again into the wounds! And thus deliberately suffered unimaginable agonies finally losing the two affected fingers but without in the least minding the horrible pain nor the irrevocable loss of the two ~~finger~~ precious fingers. I am also at present having a deep wound inside my mouth which at times pains very severely but I don't mind it at all. Saints are always happy even when they are suffering acutely in one way or the other....." These words were particularly addressed to one Mr. Jasawala who was amongst the family members and is a very sincere devotee.

It rained once again this evening fulfilling Padri's request to the letter. As a result the ~~was~~ night was very cool throughout while strong winds roared and rushed all about Meherabad as if trying to sweep out the temporary structures in the colony.

Ranjoo joined the mandali this afternoon after enjoying ten days leave at home.