

AVATAR MEHER BABA TRUST  
King's Road, P O AHMEDNAGAR  
(MAHARASHTRA) INDIA

In The Interior Of -

~~In Central~~ - India!

# Moradabad!

Starting from Lucknow at 1.30 P.M. the party reached Moradabad the same evening at 6 o'clock (18th Aug:). Immediately the party was out for a ramble in the city in search after Sadhus! One was found in a Mandir near the river. Baba <sup>& party</sup> bowed to him when he applied 'Bhabooti' (ash) on the foreheads of all including Baba! While returning back to the station an apparently mad man was marked to be sitting under a Guin tree in the near vicinity of the Ry station. Upon enquiries being made it was found out that he was sitting there since the last four years under the <sup>only</sup> shelter of the Guin tree throughout all climates and seasons irrespective of cold, rain, or heat! The party approached him. The surroundings were found to be in a dirty and stinking condition so he was said to pass stools on his hand and then throw the refuse away over his head nearby. Baba went near him and asked him if he would like to eat anything. He said he would like to eat Kulfi (Ice-cream) which was said to be his favourite food and at times took pounds of it. Baba fed him to his satisfaction with his own hands. Rs/- were given to a hotel keeper nearby to feed him afterwards whenever he desired. He was told to be a Mast (one who is drowned in Divinity) by Baba. The night was passed on the Moradabad ~~from~~ Ry station platform by the party and the next day they started for Bhopal.

They had to change at Lucknow but Padri was asked to continue the journey towards Kashi to receive Patel there and bring him at Baroda where the rest was also to follow after ~~Bhopal~~ visiting Bhopal.

The next change was made at Ghansi and after that Bhopal was reached in the afternoon (20th Aug:)

### Bhopal.

Adi came and joined the Baba the following day at Bhopal where the party as usual had a round in the city looking after Sadhus. In the evening the party started from Bhopal for Rutlam. Behramji was sent direct to Baroda in advance to arrange for a restful stay of the party there, as Baba's health was by now a physical wreck and ~~was~~ necessitated a complete rest which was decided to be taken at Baroda.

### Rutlam.

On the 22nd August the party came to Rutlam at 8 P.M. The following morning an extensive tramp was undertaken in Rutlam also. But the same day the party started for Baroda.

### Baroda!

Reaching Baroda, Padri and Sadaschiv Patel joined the party while Adi proceeded direct by the same train for Ahmednagar under Baba's instructions.

They repaired to the Gujarat Hindu Lodge in Suraji Gunj where Behramji had already for their stay.

Here to the great relief Baba declared that ~~was~~ after visiting Mount Abu as the last place the tour will be ended and they would settle once again at Anjourn! The following day for the ~~first~~<sup>2nd</sup> time the party was out for sight seeing. The Baroda Museum and the Maharaja's palace were amongst the best that the party saw here. Discussing with Patel the prospect of making a permanent stay

on Simvaghad Fort near Poona with the remaining few of the Mandali, Baba said it was an ideal place to pass a secluded life besides having a salubrious climate, ~~abundant~~ <sup>convenient</sup> water supply and lastly in Babajan's 'territory' being near to Poona.

During these off hand remarks Baba conveyed to Patel also the favourite theme that he was not a Baba etc.

## Ujjain!

Instead of taking rest at Baroda to recoup his shattered health ~~Baba decided~~ as pre-arranged, Baba decided to start for Ujjain after passing only one night there and thus came to Ujjain on the 25th at 1 P.M. After taking meals the party started for the usual ramble. While passing along the banks of the River Harbada many Sadhus and lepers were encountered. Baba distributed two coppers ~~to each~~ and bowed to each of them. At the Mandir a place of pilgrimage on the Harbada, Patel was made to take a bath and undergo his religious ceremonies. Near the Mandir two peculiar Sadhus were marked to be living under a small shed ~~just opposite to it~~ by the tank. One of them was a leper. His eyes were merely big balls of red flesh and his fingers all cramped up. Baba took some money and went to him for his usual Samaspars. But after putting the money near him, when Baba was just going to put his head on the Sadhu's feet the latter quickly withdrew his feet and exclaimed "Humph" and so Baba only bowed and returned towards where the

Mandali were standing at a little distance. Baba said the Sadhu was in a fair stage of Spiritual advancement. Before the party left the place the ugly looking man was heard to sing when it was found that he had a very sweet and melodious voice in contrast to his ~~deformed~~ deformed physical appearance!

## Mortaka!

Leaving Ujjain the same evening at 4 P.M. the party reached Mortaka at ten o'clock in the night.

The night was passed <sup>by</sup> sleeping on <sup>the</sup> Ry station platform. The next morning <sup>(26th)</sup> they ~~left~~ started by bullock carts for Anakeshwar a place of pilgrimage at a distance of about 10 miles from Mortaka. Padri however was left on at Mortaka as he had begun to ~~have dysentery~~ suffer from dysentery but in spite of his greatly pulled down health Baba accompanied the rest and travelled the ~~a~~ long distance in a bullock cart. <sup>At Anakeshwar</sup> Baba came across a Bengali Pandit known as Girmalanand Swami and recognised by the villagers as a Mahatma. During the time Baba talked with him <sup>in English</sup> Patel was instructed to have a "Snan" bath in the sacred river nearby. Many other Sadhus were encountered too, whom Baba made Namastars and bowing here. The party came back to Mortaka and started for Baroda again the same night at 10 P.M. At a way side station nearing Baroda (the next day 27th) a mohomeddan tried to enter the compartment occupied by the party <sup>when</sup> ~~he was tried~~ Padri tried to obstruct him, the ~~to~~ apparent lover of Opium chanced to have a glimpse

of Babe's features and thereupon began to insist an entry atleast to see Babe & said:

میان کو ملنے تو دو کیا ملنے ہی نہیں دینگے

then addressing Babe he said ہاتھ میں ہاتھ تو ملاؤ

He was allowed in, and Babe talked with him for a long time. When asked for his opinion about the Paraghad hills, he praised and praised in a very humorous language and style in his opinion intoxicating. However ~~at~~ while joking about Paraghad Babe seriously decided to visit the hills instead of Mount Abu and then end the tour.

## Baroda Again!

At 8 P.M. (on the 27th) the party once again came to Baroda and took to the same Hindoo Lodge, but Patel was asked by Babe to proceed to Poona by the same train. The following day - Thursday the 28th - the party started from Baroda at 4 P.M. and came at the foot of the hills by 9 P.M. In spite of ~~being~~ having more than one lantern with them which they carried throughout the tour it was not lighted as Gustadji said they could move about by the light carried by a fellow passenger. But the latter walked away briskly ~~to~~ being familiar with the surroundings leaving the party fumbling in the dark. Padri got a nasty fall and a painful injury to his leg as a result. However a local mohomeddan Police officer helped the mandali considerably and ~~at~~ conducted them to a Dharmashala.

The party was asked to keep indoors in the ~~night~~ dead of night as beasts of prey frequently visited

the immediate locality.

## Paragadh Hills!

The following morning i.e. Friday the 29th August the party got up at 6 in the morning and within half an hour they started climbing the hill.

Owing to the steep gradient of the path the climb was found to be very laborious. It was quite a feat on <sup>the</sup> part of Baba in accompanying the rest of the party as he still suffered with dysentery and pains in the stomach which only subsided a little whenever he halted for a time. Quite in contrary to the Nilgiri Hills the party could get excellent tea enroute and that too twice! The three miles of upward walking brought them at the summit at about 10. A.M. There is a temple here dedicated to Kali Mata which attracts thousands of pilgrims every year in the fair days. Even in the ordinary times about 30 to 40 people come there daily for pilgrimage. There is also a mohomeddan Saint Sajjan Shah Wali's tomb situated just immediately above the Emander. At both the places the party paid their respects and after that sat for a while viewing the delightful scenery with the romantic fort of Paragadh lying in ruins in the back ground.

Here again the question of staying at Sivangadh near Poona was discussed by Baba. Specially the prospect of a calm and beautiful atmosphere which compared well with the ~~the~~ existing surroundings of Paragadh appealed to most of the party. After taking some more rest the party started climbing down, reaching the ground level at 12 P.M. After taking meals here the party returned back to Paroda the same evening.

by 9 P.M. and put up for the third time in the same Hindoo Lodge there.

The following day Baba again broached about the same subject of his not being a Baba etc which started at some of the party showing signs of being fed <sup>up</sup> with the existing atmosphere. He said "As I have got no stuff in me so is the same case with my gurus Babajan and Incharaj.

Incharaj is not ~~even~~ even a Sant then what of a Sadguru" When asked as to why he spoke thus about Babajan & Incharaj, Baba said "The law made me say so and the same thing about you all too, whatever you do, Law makes you do that"

Bombay!

From Baroda the party came to Bombay and made a long halt there at Vajifdar's place for days together, yet the prospect of a final stay was still on the "shelf"