BABA VISITS REFORM SCHOOL

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PILGRIM 1: That reminds me in that movie of Baba that there's a little part of it where He's at the Guest House and He gets this real mischievous look on His face and He says, "I'm the universal thief."

ERUCH: Yeah.

PILGRIM 1: And everybody looks like what? And He says, "Yes I steal hearts."

ERUCH: Where is it? What album is that?

PILGRIM 1: It's a movie but I read in a book the dialogue that went along at the same time with that movie. [Inaudible] can see Him.

PILGRIM 2: In Myrtle Beach?

PILGRIM 1: Yeah in Myrtle Beach.

ERUCH: This reminds me about somebody inviting Baba to the remand home. Do you'll have remand homes in the States?

PILGRIM 3: What's a remand home?

ERUCH: For the delinquent children.

PILGRIM 4: Yes. Reform school.

ERUCH: Reform school yeah. So while Baba was in Pune somehow or the other well the Headmaster or the Principal of the reform school thought that it would be best to. For these children or such type of

children to have some, somebody like Baba you know to be there paying visit and whatever the message that He will give will of course seep through and it will reform the children more than what they can do you see. Yeah.

So somehow or other he comes to Baba and very apologetically naturally. First of all he cannot speak out and then he says. Baba says, "Yeah what is it? What do you want?" He says, "I would like to invite you to our remand home. Is it possible for your visit there?" So He says, "I'll love to be there." So a day is fixed and all that. And he's very happy, the headmaster. And naturally he has made arrangements to receive Baba. All the staff there and all the children are there and well clothed and all that sort of thing. Quite a few are real riff raffs over there you see [pilgrims laughing]. They are there yeah.

And of course the headmaster in all expectancy receives Baba, that well whatever the message Baba would give will go home to these children and there will be lot of reformation through His message and His presence and His touch. So each one is made to come to Baba and all the darshan program is there and then the headmaster. Of course there's some music there and all that. And the headmaster requests Baba that give them some message that will be nice for these children.

So Baba says, "What can I give? Can I give any message to my old friends?" And the master looked very askance, "What does He mean by that?" And He addresses the children He says, "Do you'll realise that I am one of you? I have also that nasty habit of stealing and I'm a Master you see."

Says, "What's the matter with Meher Baba? What is He trying to say?" And all. And He Baba goes round you see that how adept He is in stealing and this and that and He liked it right from the beginning. And not now. For many, many ages now that He is in the habit and He has become adept in this and all that sort of thing. "And do you all? Is anybody here who has been remanded here for stealing and all that?" So many hands came up [pilgrims laughing]. And there's a nice rapport between the boys and the Ancient One you know. They feel very at home with Him you see. And He says, "Yeah, you all should also become adept in stealing," [Eruch laughs] And all that. "And you have been remanded because you are not good stealers you see [general laughter]." And it goes on and on. And the master looks you see what's the matter? He has been called [inaudible].

But He said, "Well you all will learn one day the way to steal as I have learnt and I am now teaching others to do the same thing." And then He goes on what real stealing is. That He is. He's also blamed you see. And it is the love of humanity that

remands Him over here. And He has to come here and be closeted here in this form. "I am the one who is known as the stealer of hearts. And that stealing is the best. You'll can also do that you see. This petty stealing has no meaning in it." And then of course He went on bringing home to them that they should give up such habits. Even the thought of it all that. Because there's some greater sublime. Greater and sublime stealing that can be done by your way of life and all that sort of.

Then the master felt very happy about it. There's a message there. There's a message. We have got it. The message is there in our records. They felt then there was some sense in inviting Meher Baba there [general laughter].

PILGRIM 2: It reminds of the one story. There was a lady who would drink too much.

ERUCH: Yeah came to Baba yeah. They both enjoyed there you see. Exchanged their notes and all that and all about intoxication [general laughter].

That is the beauty of Baba you know. He comes down to each one's level and makes one feel related to Him you see. Yeah He's so close to me because of what I am He is and He is that too.