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## 19. Their Lives with Meher Baba

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### Eruch Jessawala

Mandali Hall, Meherazad, India

Undated 1970's

45:44

**ERUCH:** Too much of well, thought, taking Him for granted is that He will be with us all the time, well, what's the hurry about it or anything? Nothing matters.

You know there is a feeling, see when you have somebody who's your elder under whose protection or shade or whatever you call it, with you, whatever. You are there, you see, you have taken refuge there and we take it for granted, it's there all the time. So there's nothing that will provoke any, there is no interrogation. I can't explain it beyond that. You all understand what I mean?

**PILGRIM 1:** Of course [inaudible] or what not.

**ERUCH:** He used to provoke that way, He used to create that atmosphere, otherwise on our own there was no such thing.

**PILGRIM 1:** Yeah, our thinking is an operation.

**ERUCH:** Yes, that is there. [Eruch laughs]

**PILGRIM 1:** Did Baba say anything about when He could expect that we would, that there would be some kind of a spiritual revolution [inaudible]. And would it be during our lifetime or would it be in a few hundred years or it doesn't even matter, make any difference. I mean it does to me personally, but you know possibly other people don't [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 2:** What's a spiritual revolution?

**PILGRIM 1:** I don't know, I just know that if I ask somebody, everybody starts snickering, like it's so funny.

**ERUCH:** Now don't cry now.

**PILGRIM 1:** I'm not crying. I'll save that for Thursday. [pilgrims laugh].

**PILGRIM 2:** What's a spiritual revolution?

**PILGRIM 1:** Well, OK Baba said that first the East would lead the West and then the West would lead the East.

**ERUCH:** Where did He say that?

**PILGRIM 1:** In spirituality. I don't know.

**ERUCH:** Both are blind, you see.

**PILGRIM 1:** And the West, there would be a very strong spiritual change in America. And what I want to know is can we expect the turmoil in our lifetime, or did He say anything about that?

**ERUCH:** Yes, He did say, yeah yeah.

**PILGRIM 1:** What did He say?

**ERUCH:** Will you please call Bal Natu?

**PILGRIM 1:** What? I mean we just said that Baba liked to provoke questions, so He's

provoking me, you know. I mean I'm sort of in a bad mood today.

**ERUCH:** No, don't do it. Don't overdo it. In the last [inaudible]. [foreign language].

**PILGRIM 1:** No I just don't like it when I ask a question, it's "ho, ho, ho", I'm so funny.

**BAL NATU:** [foreign language].

**ERUCH:** [foreign language]. And what about that book that I gave you? He said that it was kept here to be read out, some passage he has found.

**PILGRIM 1:** This is the last question I'll ask.

**PILGRIM 3:** This is not the time.

**ERUCH:** Why do you take it upon yourself? [inaudible]

**PILGRIM 1:** I don't know. [inaudible]

**ERUCH:** [inaudible] you've been a sport for so long.

**PILGRIM 1:** I'm trying to play the buffoon.

**ERUCH:** That's good. I have to say today I've found a partner.

**PILGRIM 1:** [pilgrims laugh] To play the buffoon or not to play the buffoon?

**ERUCH:** No, to play the buffoon.

**PILGRIM 1:** Oh ok, well, I'll play. Onward and onward.

**ERUCH:** It's a great blessing, you know. Baba has said, "To be a buffoon in His cause." You need.

**PILGRIM 1:** You mean the fall guy, you know?

**ERUCH:** Yes?

**PILGRIM 1:** To be the fall guy.

**ERUCH:** Whatever you call it. But you have to be.

**PILGRIM 1:** No, a lot of times the people, the reason people laugh is because they are self-conscious and embarrassed themselves so then they laugh at someone else .

**ERUCH:** How does it become conscious? Buffoon is never conscious about his buffoonness.

**PILGRIM 1:** Well, this particular one is. This is the Western buffoon. [pilgrims laugh] Something we had to learn, you know, you know to get attention and what not.

**ERUCH:** Whatever it is.

**PILGRIM 1:** It becomes second nature.

**ERUCH:** But what was the plot I heard that you all had hatched a plot today for today? Something like that.

**PILGRIM 1:** Well it's something. [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** [inaudible], what's the matter with you? [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 1:** [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** So they were insisting upon that.

**PILGRIM 1:** [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** Kebbe?

**PILGRIM 4:** Yes.

**PILGRIM 1:** [inaudible]. Anything for you two.

**PILGRIM 5:** [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 1:** What is the plot? There better be a plot.

**PILGRIM 5:** No, I just had a [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 1:** Personally, [inaudible]. We have no heart and we have to make that [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 5:** [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 1:** [pilgrims laugh]. That was a personal reminder why [inaudible] can happen to us.

**ERUCH:** Hmm, what's that? Yeah. Here's an answer to.

**PILGRIM 4:** Yeah, ok.

**ERUCH:** Listen, [inaudible], this is for you. It's a exclusive interview for you.

**PILGRIM 3:** [inaudible] that one, it's good. Now we recognise everyone by the microphones [pilgrims laugh] [inaudible] Louise's tape recorder, that's my microphone that we use.

**PILGRIM 3:** The last interview of the day and this was in Myrtle Beach, must be 1953?

**ERUCH:** 1953.

**PILGRIM 3:** Was with Toni Roothbert who stayed at Briarcliffe Acres. He referred to impending world catastrophe which seemed inevitable to him. He also expressed his concern about the unspiritual attitude of the younger generation.

Baba explained, "America now leads the material side of the world and yet has such potential that she can lead the world spiritually, if awakened. Awakening is love for God in the form of Jesus, God crucified. And God will do it. He can do it. And now the time is near, very near, when the spiritual upliftment has to take place. America is destined to lead the world spiritually.

Truth never fails, and lovers of God will soon triumph. In this country at present, unfortunately, the youth is not taught spirituality. Youth is not even given ethical education. But be sure that these very youths who know not of God, but know only to eat, drink, be merry and do lustful actions, will soon get the shock of their lives and know that loving God is life, real life, the goal of life."

**PILGRIM 6:** You know though this is amazing, but according to a NewsWeek Magazine study and another story too that I saw, I couldn't believe more than half of the adults in America are born-again Christians.

**PILGRIM 7:** At least 40%.

**ERUCH:** Good.

**PILGRIM 6:** I think it's very encouraging and yet, born-again Christians [inaudible]

they're saved and the other people are going to hell, that's the drawback but.

**ERUCH:** But that's the beginning of the revival. [crosstalk]

**PILGRIM 7:** So in other words [inaudible] nothing to Christianity [inaudible]?

**ERUCH:** It's just, no, it's not Christianity or anything of that sort. What is Christianity?

**PILGRIM 7:** [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** Yeah, I understand what you mean but it's not, you can't label it only to Christianity, you see. General action will be revival, you see. Christians of course, want to consider themselves to be reborn Christians, Muslims would want to consider themselves to be reborn Mohammedans and so forth. Zoroastrians, there will be a general revival.

**PILGRIM 3:** Mani said something about or maybe it was you, I've not read that before that, that ]?

**ERUCH:** I think so.

**PILGRIM 3:** And what Baba said, "Awakening comes when people come to love God in the form of Jesus." Then said, "Or God crucified."

So apparently, you had said or Mani had said, "That wasn't meant to mean, come to love Jesus but come to love Christ means the God Man, the Avatar. This awakening comes through them." So, He said Jesus, because it was a Christian context that person had. God in the form of Jesus.

**ERUCH:** No, she has not heard that, the first part. God crucified, Jesus crucified. [crosstalk].[inaudible].

**PILGRIM 3:** So this is the last interview of the day with Toni Roothbert, who stayed at Briarcliffe Acres. He referred to the impending world catastrophe which seemed inevitable to him. He also expressed his concern about the unspiritual attitude of the younger generation.

Baba explained, "America now leads the material side of the world and yet has such potential that she can lead the world spiritually, if awakened. Awakening is love for God in the form of Jesus, or God crucified. And God will do it. He can do it."

**PILGRIM 8:** [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** Is this the last interview, mind you and soon after that there is.

**PILGRIM 3:** And then Baba was involved in His crucifixion.

**PILGRIM 8:** So this is an interview given by Baba to a Christian Minister or [inaudible]?

**PILGRIM 3:** No, He used to give [inaudible] so that happened during the last interview, last interview of the day. [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 8:** So is this a Christian Minister?

**ERUCH:** It is said so, we don't know, we have to enquire. Is there anybody from Myrtle Beach here? We should have asked Ralph, you see.

**ERUCH:** Ralph, [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 9:** Who's Toni Roothbert?

**PILGRIM 8:** But if Baba spoke in that way, it must have been a Christian.

**PILGRIM 3:** The point was that awakening is love for Baba in the form of Jesus. Means, doesn't mean that He only wants all people of the world to love only the form of Jesus, obviously He then says, that is God crucified. In other words, love for the God Man. Awakening is love for God in the form of the God Man.

**PILGRIM 1:** So you know we can expect there's going to be a mostly some kind of a Christian revival on a smaller scale there will be awakening of love for Baba. And then maybe in the future there will be a mass, in the far distant future you know. What comes first? The awakening and then the calamity or the calamity and then the awakening?

**PILGRIM 3:** Awakening

**PILGRIM 1:** But afterwards, then after the calamity then will there be, you think, a period of some time before there will be an awakening or did Baba say anything about that?

**ERUCH:** No, we'll have to wait. We'll have to go through the calamity and then we will see about the revival. You have to experience that, whether. Naturally it takes time, little time is taken, it's not immediately after that. That even it becomes spontaneous with the calamity that we naturally are so startled and so frightened that we are likely to seek help.

**PILGRIM 1:** Is there anything that Baba said [crosstalk]?

**ERUCH:** Cry out to the Lord, whosoever He be.

**PILGRIM 1:** Is there anything that Baba would say especially to Westerners and Americans since we are supposed to be leading the world in spirituality that He would expect of us or that He said that, you know, any words of sort of, guidance or what not, as to what we need to do?

**PILGRIM 3:** Right here in these "Baba Pearls".

**ERUCH:** Well, that's why the [crosstalk].

**PILGRIM 1:** I mean is this specifically on like what Americans are supposed to do, with all this catastrophe and leading the world in spirituality?

**PILGRIM 3:** This may not satisfy that question. So if Eruch has some response to that in particular about what Westerners should do, and so on.

**PILGRIM 1:** What is our responsibility or duty or what not?

**PILGRIM 3:** [inaudible] Winter Spring Awakening, 1958, it's in "Baba Pearls".

"I want you to make me your constant companion. Think of me more than you think of your own self. The only message I could give and have been giving is, love God and you will find that your own self is nothing but God.

God cannot be feared. God cannot be discussed. God cannot be argued about. God cannot be explained. God cannot be

understood. God can only be lived by losing ourselves in Him through love.

I am one of you, one with you and one in you and we are all one. To realise this oneness, love God wholeheartedly and honestly. Sacrifice everything at the altar of this supreme love and You will realise the Beloved within you. Trust God completely and He will solve all your difficulties. Faithfully leave everything to Him and He will see to everything. Love God sincerely and He will reveal Himself to you. This love needs no ceremonies and show. Your heart must love so that even your mind is not aware of it.

There can be no greater folly than for the wayfarers to pour all over the pros and cons of this way or that instead of remaining concentrated upon and concerned with one's own onward march along the path that one happens to be on.

One road may be steep, another full of potholes, the third torn with raging rivers. Similarly one man may walk best, another may be a good runner, the third a fine swimmer, yet in each case the things that should really count are the destination and the actual progress that each individual makes.

Why should one who can run like a hare come in the way of another who's more likely to succeed only with the speed of a snail? The fact is, that God alone is real, and everything is in God. We are all one with Him, but owing to our ignorance we feel ourselves separate from God.

We always were. What was before us? We? Before we? We. We. We! Only when we get knowledge we know what this means, then instantly everything is absolutely

clear in the twinkling of an eye, but such a flash of being is even quicker than the twinkling of an eye.

There's no question therefore of becoming God since we are already God and so on the other hand we have to cease to be God since we are already God. In order to do that we have to get more and more away from God through prayers, fasting etc as otherwise, what can God do for God?"

**PILGRIM 8:** We ourselves are God. [inaudible] Isn't that a mystery?

**PILGRIM 3:** Just reading, just reading.

"The duty of the Master is first of all to release and free you from all."

**ERUCH:** What Baba is saying is that, "You've missed the mark."

Baba says, "You are already God so don't try to be God." That is there, you are already God, don't try to become God. You can't become, you are already God, that's what He's saying. So then what happens is you are fasting this and that and all that becomes ridiculous, you see. For that sake, with that heart wanting to become.

**PILGRIM 3:** "That is why knowledge cannot come to one and all individuals because we are all God and God being in everyone, who is to give and to whom? Only when God is perfectly individualised as most perfect gyan or most perfect [inaudible]. "

**ERUCH:** Knowledge.

**PILGRIM 3:** "Knowledge, can He impart knowledge to other individuals."

**ERUCH:** [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 3:** To other individuals. "The duty of the Master is first of all to release and free you from the venomous clutches of maya and then to give you the experience of this realisation.

Once you have surrendered yourself to the Master, He has to do His duty to you, He cannot escape that. It is only your unbounded love and unswerving faith that is required thereafter. And that will encourage Him in His duties toward you. So take your Master to be God and with as much love and faith, surrender and serve Him and you will be saved."

Those are just some special [inaudible] "Baba Pearls".

**PILGRIM 9:** [inaudible]

**PILGRIM 10:** What do you mean? [pilgrims laugh].

**PILGRIM 1:** Did Baba have any, you know, did He ever say anything about what would be our duty or He would expect from us in the West? Anything like that?

**ERUCH:** Whether they be West or East, you see, it's just the same. For Baba it won't be any direction.

**PILGRIM 1:** Sort of [inaudible] the general message and see what happens.

**ERUCH:** General message?

**PILGRIM 1:** The things that Rick was saying [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 3:** [inaudible] just reading Baba.

**PILGRIM 1:** Right [inaudible]. In other words [crosstalk].

**ERUCH:** There is no such thing as special method for the West and special method for the East.

**PILGRIM 1:** I'm not talking about method, Eruch, I'm talking about what is expected amongst us, we are to lead the East in spirituality. Did Baba say anything especially about what's going to happen?

**ERUCH:** What Baba means by leading the East in spirituality is that spirituality will wane in the East and there will be an uprising in the West. This goes on, you see, procession of changes that take place frequently and constantly. Now that the East seems to be evolved at the height of spirituality, so that is waning gradually so naturally the West is having the height of spirituality.

What He means is that. You have to take it literally but at the same time take the spirit behind it. It's not rising means [inaudible] declining means just ebbing like that. Nothing of that sort, there's no such thing like that. The awakening will begin with within oneself, regarding, with regard to the faith, love, conviction.

**PILGRIM 1:** Is it possible that you manifest [inaudible] possible?

**ERUCH:** Not lifetime, instantly. It is possible.

**PILGRIM 1:** Possible, right?

**ERUCH:** It is possible, it is, it is, it is, possible. Erma, one minute. Yeah?

**PILGRIM 1:** Yes. Probable?

**ERUCH:** Probable, yes, it is. The next instant if we are bent upon it, you see. [inaudible] we throw words in air.

He says that He's so eager, so eager to unveil Himself but are you prepared to unveil Him?

He's eager, He's getting suffocated, He's being strangulated, when He does, when He does get that [clock chimes], all these things come out within from us. Is it [inaudible] will He be the force, will He be seen by us and all that. It's His strangulation within that cries out this. And He says, I'm so, so eager, on the contrary I am over eager, over anxious that you all should reveal that now that.

Yeah, what is the story that you have to say?

**PILGRIM 11:** You know I don't know how, you know, that's the way I, that's the way it is right now with my mind I believe that, that I. I don't know, it seems to me what I would like to be able to feel that, you know, what He is to the degree that I could express that to other people when I explore, because I need to. Is that expecting a lot?

**ERUCH:** No

**PILGRIM 11:** No?

**ERUCH:** It's good. You all these years were having that concept that Baba, you are believing Baba, you are believing Baba, says Baba is my God, of course not. Now then, it all of a sudden strikes you that it is much more than that. So what you would wish to have, that feeling, that surge of

feeling within you, that will make you and embolden you to say that, "Not only Baba is my God but is your God and your God and your God" and so on. You follow?

So you want to expand the field of who Baba is and there's no question of any expectancy. On the contrary you should have that but don't expect to have a surge of feeling within you. Just leave it to Baba, just be there, just leave it. Allow Him to be with you, all that is needed is remember Him, remember Him.

When you spank your children, remember Him, when you caress your children, remember Him and if you really wish to pour out your love on your children, kid yourself that you are loving Baba, you are spanking Baba, you are trying to take care of Baba but in the best way.

That is, I should say, your, the crowning glory of married life when Baba gives the gift of children and we take care of them as if, well we are taking care of Him. If you can do that and all the feelings and everything will follow suit, will come automatically, all that you want now, expect to have that feeling and all that, that will follow suit. Have the children, take care of them, not take care of your, what's the name of your children?

**PILGRIM 11:** Lara, Marie, Steven and [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** Yeah and each one, you see, is like taking care of Baba. Take them, see them, train them, discipline them and all that stuff. Finding some excuse to remember Him a little more, a little more. And these are great excuses, you know, these four kids of yours. Yeah, so that's how you can do that. Find excuse to



remember Him, little more, more and more.

**PILGRIM 11:** You think of knowing that Baba is [inaudible] something that grows [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** Grows, grows, yeah, yeah.

**PILGRIM 11:** Who knows?

**ERUCH:** If you ask me do I know and If I am fair to myself and to the world and to my God, I will say, I don't know.

**PILGRIM 11:** No, but you know that He [crosstalk].

**ERUCH:** It's just like that as your mind says that, that also I feel within, some, there is some, some gadget in me that makes me feel something, He is that He is, you see. But If you go to ask me point blank, do I know? I'd say, no, I don't know Him.

Baba's, it is a great solace and comfort because He says how will you know me unless you become me? You follow? That's a comfort, I say. Not that it's a drawback or anything of this sort but I have to become Him, by His grace, one day I will become Him and I will know Him. "Unless you become me, how will you know me?", He says.

I can say that I know you because you have been here for so many days. Suppose if you had stayed with me for 40 years or he is with you. How long you are married now?

**PILGRIM 11:** 14 years.

**ERUCH:** 14 years you both are there, living together and all that. Do you know him? Does he know you?

**PILGRIM 11:** No.

**ERUCH:** Little bit, yeah. His ways, her way, his ways, what he would want to say, the voice is familiar, sometimes the smile is familiar and all that but do you really know? Unless you become him you can't.

But one, with human beings it's impossible, that with, that with relationship, between man and God there is the possibility of becoming. In all probability you become and then you know yourself. Become what? Your own self. Means you get the realisation of yourself, that's becoming your true self.

**PILGRIM 8:** [Inaudible].

**ERUCH:** Pardon?

**PILGRIM 8:** The noise.

**ERUCH:** The noise is good. It detracts, you see, concentration. Too much concentration is not good too. It's overpowering and it's cooler that you, yeah. Otherwise if Louise and Gary when they start concentrating on what's happening, it becomes very hard.

**PILGRIM 1:** Eruch.

**ERUCH:** Yeah, it's very hard then. Let this distraction be there. See how selfish I am in anything. There's nobody in the world who is not selfish. [crosstalk].

**PILGRIM 8:** Eruch, few more topics [inaudible]. [pilgrims laugh]

**PILGRIM 1:** Eruch, Is there any way we can speed up the process? You know you were talking about before? [inaudible]. [crosstalk].

**PILGRIM 8:** That's it Louise.

**PILGRIM 1:** I'm sorry but I'm gonna be myself, I'm not gonna try and please other people because if you try and please people you end up being pudding.

**PILGRIM 9:** Before we get into the discussion can you give Baba's story about that man who [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** What did you ask me first? Who asked me first?

**PILGRIM 9:** I don't know. Erma.

**ERUCH:** Where is Erma then you have to get Erma then. Otherwise what will happen? [inaudible] Baba, you know my plight [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 9:** Yeah, because [inaudible] you could be spending time [inaudible] plane ticket [inaudible] Baba.

**ERUCH:** See.

**PILGRIM 10:** [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** He doesn't bargain with me.

**PILGRIM 10:** Yeah, understood the exposure.

**ERUCH:** Yeah.

**PILGRIM 10:** And I understood that I'm [inaudible] [pilgrim laughs]

**ERUCH:** Of Him. He is so much us. All that He wants is that you become mine and see how much I am there.

**PILGRIM 1:** Where is Erma?

**ERUCH:** Where is she? Is she coming? [inaudible]

**PILGRIM 10:** [inaudible]

**ERUCH:** She was not the one Baba had seen otherwise.

**PILGRIM 7:** There was only Laura and Peter.

**PILGRIM 1:** Must have been Peter.

**ERUCH:** That's right.

**PILGRIM 8:** Who was the one? [crosstalk]

**PILGRIM 9:** [inaudible]

**ERUCH:** Yeah, [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 9:** [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** It wasn't [inaudible] [Eruch laughs], half an hour ago, that's all. [crosstalk]

**PILGRIM 1:** What was it? Why are you here?

**PILGRIM 9:** [inaudible] Let that be, you know.

**ERUCH:** All right, let it be, let us first see this now. The thing is that it's good question because it reminded me of an episode that took place years ago.

At the time of the Blue Bus, all women were there and Baba Himself, and I was the one who was driving this Blue Bus those days. Well, it so happened that because it was overcrowded there was no room for any other mandali.

We were staying in, at a place called Mathura, it's a big city. It's famous for Lord Krishna's life and what do you call, stories and birthplace and all that is, it's all connected with the advent of Lord Krishna, Mathura. It's a big city in India. It has a big temple dedicated to the Lord, appreciating His memories. And it's very ordinary and all that.

So when we are in that city and Baba would want the women who had come there, you see from all over the country, so we are stopping now at a place called Mathura and Baba wants that some sightseeing be done.

So, all other sightseeings are there but then this temple is a very particular temple where Baba wanted them to see this temple at the time of Lord Krishna's stories, murals depicting Lord Krishna's leela, the game, divine game and all that.

So Baba wanted Mehera, Mani and others to see that particularly. He sent me in advance to inform the authorities, it's a big organisation there, so inform the authorities that well, there will be a group of men and women but there is only one man who will be escorting the women there. And while, and the women are, they are leading a sort of a life of a recluse and they don't want to be disturbed by men [clock chimes] and there's no need for any guide to guide them through the temple and therefore nobody should follow. No

adult should follow the group of women that are there.

So the management started asking for more information, who are they and from where are they and then I had to say they are from America and England and this and.

"What? Is that? What sort of life they are leading? They are women? And what do you mean by recluse?"

I said, "Well, they are following a great Master and naturally they don't mingle with men and this and that." And all that rap as Gary would say it, you know.

So I did impress upon the management and the management did agree, well there won't be anybody. He called the Chief Priest, then there are other assistant Priests and the Pujaris and all that, they were there in the office, he says, "Look, the next day, this man will come, he has a big party there and the elder." "Brother", I said, "My brother is there who is permitted to be with them."

So, I said, "Nobody should follow." Fine, so he said, "Ok, what time will you all come?" I said, "About say, 9 o'clock in the morning we'll be there."

Naturally, Baba was very happy. And then Baba said that, "If they insist that we must have a guide and all that, well, there are some, these monuments, these places where they insist upon having a guide." So Baba told me that time, [inaudible].

**PILGRIM 9:** [inaudible].

**ERUCH:** So if they insist, then you can go to the extent of saying that, "All right if

there is a child below 13 years of age then he will be permitted to show them." So and they did, which I forgot to tell you, they did ask us, "What about the guide and who will show and how will your elder brother know about it?" and all that.

I said, "All right in that case, is there any child who can guide them for telling, tell them some little stories and things."

"Yes, we have. My son is there, he will take you."

"How old is he?" So then, he says, "He's 11 years old." I said, "That will be fine." So the child was, so then he said, "I will get the child the next day."

So I told Baba about it and Baba was very happy and because Baba is very particular about showing this place to the women, [inaudible], Mathura.

**PILGRIM 9:** When?

**ERUCH:** Roughly 1939-40, 1940. So we drove the bus there and parked. And the temple is on a height, you see, as high as this. [inaudible] the steps and then the temple is there.

Now what happened is that I parked the bus there and no sooner I parked there, huge [inaudible] going at that time, all the women of different nationalities are getting down and society [inaudible] people there. So they all come and they are there. And I recognised the Priests and all that, two or three who were there in the office so they exchanged pleasantries with me.

I said, "These are the women from the place that I said and where is the guide?"

So then they called this child and I said, "You will show them?" All in vernacular language. He said, "Yeah, I'll show them." "You know all the places?" He said, "Yes."

So I introduced the child to Baba, Baba loved that child, Baba caressed the child and all, fine.

And then I said to them, "Now you all need not follow them, just keep to your places, there is no rush, you are not to follow them, you know that." I requested them. "Yeah, we know."

But there was one scoundrel, you see amongst them, a Priest. So he wouldn't pay heed to all this I'm saying, so he all the time went following them. I didn't know because I wasn't permitted to go.

I told them, "See I am not doing it because I am not supposed to mingle with them and I will be here." And he said, "Yeah, don't worry, nobody will go, the child will take."

And I was satisfied, Baba was satisfied and Baba also heard it, knowing that I have arranged that way and everything was fine and I was waiting there and chatting with some people like that.

At that time Baba had asked me to always have a warm coat, great coat on me, on my body and I had. Whether it'll be sun, Mathura sun or [inaudible] yeah. And yeah, but I always used to have that long coat, great coat, woolen. And I looked at fierce also at the time.

I was sitting there and chatting with those other people there, "Who are these people? Are they from cinema? These are actresses?" I said, "Yeah, they are. I used to

give all these little yarns, you see, just play with them." [pilgrims laugh]. So, in a different way, then I will put in a word, put in a this, "Yeah, we all are actors and actresses in this play and all."

So what happened is, after half an hour or so, that time, I see, I hear somebody running, what do I see? The sight was that I see Baba, holding a Priest, a strong person, holding him and pushing and pushing and pushing and throwing him down the staircase, steps and all that. Just push him down. Baba says, "Catch hold of him and don't allow him to come, he's just following all of us here and disturbing us." [pilgrims laugh].

I know, [inaudible] then of course I started doing that rap as Gary calls it, "Do you know who we are?" and all that.

**PILGRIM 9:** He does have a schtick. [pilgrims laugh].

**ERUCH:** So then finished. Says, "But I didn't do it." "Didn't you? Do you mean to say that my elder brother did that without any reason and cause? Why did you do it?"

He says, "I was just curious to see."

"What sort of curiosity? I don't want anybody to follow them."

So he just remained [inaudible] and then they returned and Baba comes to me and says, "Tell him, this is not the way of a Priest. That once they have given their word they shouldn't have gone back on their word. Is this priesthood?" And this, that and so forth and He went on and on. And then let him go.

So what Baba told us is that He was not curious to see what's happening there but he was curious to see the faces of these damsels. He didn't like it and that's why He got so upset that He just took him, got him out of the temple, threw him out, it's a big place, very big area. He must have come, I don't know from which corner He must have dragged him. [Eruch laughs].

**PILGRIM 9:** When was this, what year was this?

**ERUCH:** [inaudible]. And he came over and grumbled.

**PILGRIM 9:** Did Baba [inaudible]?

**ERUCH:** Yeah, He said that he was all the time pestering, he was all the time mingling with women and all that and gazing at women's faces and all that. He had the innocence of a person who was just curious, otherwise Baba wouldn't care.

Because there are people in the world, you see, in the country Baba's born, taken the women everywhere. Never, never did this. I have never heard this. Long time I have seen Hindus in this sort of mood in public temples.

There was one other episode that comes to my mind. He expressed that mood, but He chose in a different way which surprised me too. And that was, it was in the year 1938, I had just come to Baba, Baba called me and I was with Him at that time.

And now daily duty was to be with Him, lead Him up the Hill, take Him, just escort Him and then bring Him down. I had to sit at the verandah, look here, as soon as He comes, just out of the gate of Hill, I had to

run there and receive Him and bring Him back.

Now this was, say dusk time, it was now time for Him to go up the Hill, return, retire, so I had to take Him up before the sundown. He went as far as where the dhuni is, where the dhuni is now, you know, it was not a built platform at that time, just that.

That is the situation. There, Padri came out from the Tin Shed where, I don't know if you all have noticed, there's an engine room we call. So there he came out seeing Baba, by the way. [inaudible] Jai Baba, there was no Jai Baba at that time. Stand like that, just that. A couple of words Baba would want to convey to Padri for the next day.

Pendu comes, he is following us. Pendu was the manager, you know this old man, Pendu, was the manager. So he follows Baba and there is little talk going on about the next day or something about the milk to be taken more or this or that, I don't know, I don't remember. Baba is dictating the board, I am interpreting the board and it goes on like that.

So we are there and Baba stands there. And then He has to say something more, Padri and Pendu are there, so Baba is saying, dictating on the board and all of a sudden while dictating, He looks at, from the Hill and He tells me, "Who's that person going?"

He changes His mood all of a sudden, becomes very stern, "Who's that going there?" He's a man, this was the sign for a man [inaudible]. "How can he go there because it's a forbidden area for men?"

Nobody, no men are allowed there. He says, "Go there, go immediately, give him a tight slap for going there." You see, the gestures were, run there, [inaudible], slap him tight and drag him down to me, this was the other.

So naturally I was a newcomer and the Lord has given the order now, the slave has to, he takes pride in executing the order. And you should see the speed with which I ran before he could go and then I ran, I could run at that time, I was not old, I was very young. [inaudible].

Just before he was about to enter the gate I caught hold of him. Gave him such a tight slap, he was stunned. I said, "How dare you come here? Who are you?"

He says, "I have come for Meher Baba's darshan." "Is this the place for Meher Baba's darshan? You have to go down. Don't you see the board here? Not permitted. You are prohibited from entering here."

"See that I thought Meher Baba lives here."

I said, "No thinking, come on, get out come on!"

And I dragged him down, poor fellow, he was a gentleman, well dressed person. And at that time I was just becoming more and more fluffy, you know. I was very proud and all that, that this is the first time that Baba gave me some order and I have carried it out to the nth degree and all that without any reservation. Yeah.