

---

## HIS LIFE WITH BABA (2 of 6)

---

### Eruch Jessawala

Mandali Hall, Meherazad, India

November 22, 1975

30:49

**ERUCH:** People. Each one would feel that He is paying particular attention to that particular one. That was one thing.

**RANO:** I can give you an example of Baba's indifference. For a while when Baba was staying at Guruprasad, I and Naja Baba's cousin, were staying in Eruch's family's house. Bindra House in Pune. And Baba was very fond of Eruch's mother and all. He would come very often to the house and see her for a little while. So Naja and I would be there also. One day Baba came, embraced everybody and when He came near me He walked passed me [Eruch laughs] as if I was non-existent. And I thought, "What have I done?" I couldn't think of anything I'd done to displease Baba. Just as if I wasn't there. So I thought very much but I couldn't imagine why Baba was doing that. Then Baba left the house.

After some time, another day He came again to the Bindra House. He again embraced everybody. Again when He came near me He just went by as if I was non-existent. And I really felt very bad. I said, "Baba's doing this all the time. And I couldn't think of anything that I had done that would displease Him that way." But I had to live with this. So I had to work out why is Baba doing this? Then I came up with a solution that the more Baba ignored me, the more conscious Baba was of my presence. Because I mean Baba would have to make Himself ignore me to you

know make me feel like that. So as long as Baba was conscious of my presence, then I didn't mind any more. I felt quite happy.

But up to that time I really felt too bad in thinking that I mean I had displeased Baba in some way. But Baba was just, as Eruch was saying. The more he ignored me the more I was, you know reaching out to Baba feeling what is this? What have I done? I must have displeased Him in some way. But when I felt that Baba actually had to you know make an effort to ignore me. That is what made Him conscious of my presence. And then I didn't mind it. [pilgrims laughing]

And I have told a Baba lover about it. You know Rhoda?

**ERUCH:** No. Ah yes, tell that.

**RANO:** Rhoda Dubash and her husband from Pakistan [Eruch laughs]. They loved Baba very much. And it happened that this time in the Mandali hall there at Guruprasad. Baba gave a lot of attention to Adi, her husband and ignored Rhoda completely. Just like me as if non-existent. She was feeling it very much. Then one day she came to Bindra House and she was crying, "I don't know why Baba just ignores me. Of course I'm happy that He gives Adi so much attention but He just doesn't even think I'm there or notice that I'm there. And I feel it very much."

So then I said, "Well I'll give you my experience of that for what it's worth." I told her what Baba had done with me. "Oh," She said, "I'm so glad you told me. Now I won't mind how much Baba ignores me." [Eruch and Rano laughing]. After that I mean she was quite happy there in Guruprasad and then Baba didn't, from that time on Baba didn't ignore her.

**ERUCH:** But once you know the secret then of course the game is lost.

**RANO:** Yes. [general laughter].

**ERUCH:** No but exceptionally very loving. That's how I came to know who He is. No amount of His telling that He is the Ancient One or He is the God Man or my being by His side or anything of the sort never drove in this, what do you call, conviction that He is what He says. Anybody can say anything you see. But only through these attributes which I found shining out of Him. Reflected off Him you see, they are the attributes of the One who is in the beyond you see. Not any ordinary human being or extraordinary human being or somebody great or a great leader or anything of the sort that could give out these.

His love, His compassion, His charities, His silence in doing all these things was so tremendous, was so much Infinite you see that no ordinary human being or any individual being could give that out. His love could go. Anybody's love can go to a certain extent you see. Anybody's love, any extraordinary man's love could reach to a certain extent. But His was beyond. That made my mind accept the fact that He is that. Because He has the, He possesses the attributes of the God. He was not only silent of His speech. His silence was also of His acts you see.

About conviction and faith, did I tell you that story about that? It's a very interesting story. Very interesting and touching episode. Of the close ones in the early '20's. Didn't I tell you that last week? You'll were here last week?

**PILGRIMS:** [crosstalk][inaudible]

**ERUCH:** Maybe, it might be last month, who knows?

So what happened is that I'm telling you of this incident which gives, which defines perfectly the difference between conviction and faith. You follow now? You get it? No, you haven't heard that? You'll should know this. Record this. This is very important.

So it is in the early 20's it so happened when Baba had come to Meherabad and settled there with. Before going to Toka. So one day He of course, Baba and His men you see were engaged in a different type of yoga as He used to call you know. You know what yoga somebody came there when Baba came and the followers were there and they were all busy you see and Baba had asked them to renovate all the old barracks that were there, military barracks and they used to labour like any ordinary labourer over there. So some yogi comes at that time in the early 20's and he watches Baba working there and His men there.

So he introduces himself to Baba saying that he is yogi of this district and all that. And so Baba says, "Very happy to see you." Baba was talking at the time. In Marathi he must have said and all that. So then he says, "May I know what type of yoga you teach your disciples?" So He says, "Sure, I teach them ghamela yoga."

Ghamela means steel buckets you know that carry mud. You know anything when the building is dilapidated then you want to tear it down then all the debris is to be thrown somewhere. And cement and mortar and all to be brought in. You know you carry? Here in India they carry it in these steel buckets, what do you call basins, pans. That's known as ghamela.

He says, "I teach my men ghamela yoga." So that was the time you see when there was. People had come to know of Baba. That some saintly personage has come over here around and all that. And it was summertime. So one farmer comes there imploring Him to help him. Farmer had come from a long distance from a different village you see. So he comes there and says, "We have heard that you have come and your presence over here is a blessing to us all. Please bless me because I have put in the last farthing in digging a well in my farm and I have no more money now. And I have nothing. I have even mortgaged the farm. Now I have nothing left and the water is not there. Please bless me with water. Do something for me. Otherwise we are all ruined. Already ruined and if there's no water means nothing. Nothing left of us."

So Baba of course said to him, "Try your level best to go 5 more feet. Dig there in the same well 5 more feet." And the man left with great joy that well 5 feet I can dig myself you see. I need not employ any labour or anything of the sort. I can do that now. So he went. No sooner the man left.

Here He blesses a man with going in 5 more feet and you'll get water He said, assured him. Here at Meherabad there was scarcity of water all the time. You know that, it's a perennial scarcity of water. All the time. So it so happened that Adi's

brother had asked Him in the beginning that, "Baba let there be water here. We should have water so that we can flourish and all that. Meherabad becomes Abad," means flourished. So Baba says, "Dig." He pointed out somewhere. They dug and failure. Another place, failure.

Well they continued with that. Accepted the fact, there's no water. Now what happened is that this was very well known that Baba had shown the water and there is no water. Follow? That was in the mind of His disciples. Now Baba took advantage of that little thorn that was in the mind of His disciples. So He says to them, who were all around when the man had come. He says, "Now look, what have we done now? That farmer from a distant village has come and I have blessed him with water. But suppose if water doesn't come out of the well? What will he think? What rumour he will spread all around? That here is a bogus person. He's a fake. It will be terrible thing then for us. I shouldn't have said that. I shouldn't have promised him that." And He would go on harping you see all the time.

It's a very good example mind you. Very good story. So well it went on for days together like that. That He shouldn't have said this and what will happen? Then we'll have to leave the place. We'll be driven out of the place. And what will happen? After some time, after a fortnight or so. One morning that same old man comes with a garland and with little sweets and his children and his wife and all a procession comes here. And they prostrate before Baba and they're all, they're very happy. In a very joyous mood they come and they pay their regard and reverence and respect and obeisance whatever you want to call, call. And Baba says, "What's the matter? What happened?"

Said, "Baba true to your word and blessing we got plenty of water. And not at five feet deep. Just two feet and we got it." Baba says, "I'm very happy to hear that." And Baba tells the other disciples you see, "See, see his faith gave him water you see." The man after a while, half an hour or so he left, praising Baba.

Then Baba turns to the disciples and says, "It's good that that fellow found water. It is his faith that gave him the water. You see?" And hearing this Adi's brother you know Rustom, elder brother. He was of a fiery temperament. So he says, "What do you imply by this? We have come to you leaving the whole world. We lead a dedicated life now and you think that we don't have any faith in you?" And he got so furious about the whole thing you see. And the other disciples also were burnt up. Hearing this that this stranger, stranger that has come now and Baba says that because his faith was there, therefore he got water. What? Didn't we have any faith in you?

**PILGRIM 2:** They hadn't succeeded in getting any water in the well [crosstalk].

**ERUCH:** Meherabad yes. Because of lack of faith. This is what the mandali implied. That Baba said that his faith got him water in a well. Whereas here they dug twice and they couldn't get any water. That that means they were lacking in faith [clock chimes]. And they were furious about the whole thing. So Baba says, "Don't you'll get upset. You'll do not know how blessed you all are that I have graced you with conviction which has nothing to do with faith. This man, had he not found water, faith can vacillate. If he had not found water he would have said, oh that fellow was a bogus person. But he found water because of his faith. So he was elated and

very happy and praised Me and left. You who have been living with Me have been graced by conviction you see. And because of your conviction, whether your faith got you water or kept your well dry, you didn't care. You caught hold of Me. So your conviction is My grace. Whereas faith is yours. If you were [inaudible], well faith can be destroyed, faith can come back and all sorts of things are there with little miracles like this. But conviction once you have, nothing can stand in its way. So how blessed you all are." Then they calmed down. That's where Baba gives a little, it's like a little definition of what is faith and what is conviction.

**KAREN:** Can it help faith, getting water? The water is not there anyway.

**ERUCH:** It can do anything. Faith can move mountains.

**KAREN:** [inaudible]

**ERUCH:** Your faith puts, what do you call, water in it na? Water in the well.

**KAREN:** I don't see that.

**ERUCH:** You don't see that.

**PILGRIM 3:** That's to do with your mind doesn't it? Mind creates everything, whatever you crave for.

**ERUCH:** Mind over matter it is.

**PILGRIM 3:** Yeah.

**KAREN:** But what conviction means? [crosstalk]

**PILGRIM 4:** Go beyond [inaudible].

**KAREN:** [inaudible]

**ERUCH:** How can your faith bring water you see?

**KAREN:** In a well?

**ERUCH:** No, no, no. Yeah. That is how it is.

**PILGRIM 4:** Maybe she means that the well was there anyway.

**KAREN:** And you know water was there anyway and they just happened to find it. And so he was lucky.

**ERUCH:** He was lucky, very true.

**KAREN:** This is how I see it but is that the way you should look at it?

**ERUCH:** No, it is not that that's how you should look at it. Because there are other sides to it. A geologist. Now you want to hear the other side?

**KAREN:** Okay.

**ERUCH:** Okay. [laughing] While we were struggling here for water and that huge well that we had dug at Meherabad now recently. Means when James Cox came over here he got a rig from some long place, that Wadala. Missionary people you see they got. And he went deep and deep and deeper and deeper. Nothing happened. You know Wadala? When you were sick we passed through that missionary town there? From there the rig guy was called you see. So it so happened that these people who came over there, who wanted to help us also. They found that we were disappointed, they were disappointed. There was no water. There was water struck but all of a sudden you see there was a spout of water, spouting. A

fountain of it and all of a sudden it subsided. Nowhere it was found.

Now what's to be done now? So well they said, "Don't be disappointed, don't be dull." They just tried to comfort us and all that. We were disappointed in the sense that well we spent money and poor James Cox had gone such a long distance in the summer heat. He was moving out here and there on cycle and this and that. Nothing was happening there. So we were distressed in the sense that well it's loves labour no doubt, but if it had borne some fruit we would have been better. It would have been better. We would have been happier. Now comes your answer. Answer to your query.

So these geologists said that, "There are certain chances you see of getting water if we dynamite the whole inside you see and create an earthquake." So we said, "What do you mean by that?" They said, "There is a system where we put dynamite that hole inside and then create a rupture inside the rocks there and maybe water might flow in from some veins you see." So that's the technical side. Technicalities are there. But what they told us is the answer to your query.

They said a funny incident took place. Somewhere in the village where they had gone there to bore and when the bore they found little water over there. Then what happened, round that bore a farmer started digging. Because these bore holes are trial holes. To find out whether there is any water inside. So when the water was found the farmer was very happy about it. And he started digging. So the farmers they are not rich people so they engage their own family to dig. They themselves do that. And they were digging it. And they went to a certain depth and they also blasted it and

all that. Because of the rocks they have to blast the rocks to get the debris out and all that. In one of the blasting what happened the vein got lost you see. It took another turn and that it again became dry.

This man had gone, put in such labour. He went to such extent to get water so that he can farm his own land. He was so disappointed. So disappointed that all in his desperation what he did. This is the story these geologists are telling, mind you. Men of science. So what he did, there was a hut, big hut there. Nice farm hut there. So in his desperation what he did is that there was nothing left now. They had become penniless through all these things. They were trying to find water and they thought in expectation for one season. Next season they didn't even attend the farm. And there was no other way out.

So it was summertime. So what they did is, they got desperate. That farmer got desperate with his family they put all that you see wood inside the, they filled the well with that. They dismantled the hut, they put all the wood inside it and set fire to the whole thing and said this is the end of our lives. We leave this town, leave this district and go elsewhere. And they did go. This is just through desperation now. So what happened is that the heat cracked some rocks inside you see. And on the fourth day, it so happened that all that debris and all that wood that was still unburnt and all that started floating. The well got so filled up with such strong stream there that found its way through some crack in the rock that people from that village went in search of the family, brought them back over here and says here is water for you in the well [general laughter].

So now had there been water what would have happened? That was the question of faith. Now there was no water now. What had happened was that this little faith thing you see, desperation brought water now. So just as desperation can bring water, it's not unnatural. It is there, water is always there. Likewise faith can also bring there you see. But it needs some push. Faith means what? It needs some help from somebody whom you revere. Should I go further or not? You are in desperation, you'll leave. He was also in desperation. He would have left the place. But here because Baba said, alright go in for five feet more. It was just an encouragement for him to do it. Water is there always you see. So that encouragement He gave. But it is his faith that made him dig for two. Because water was there. It was his faith that made him dig.

Suppose if he had no faith. water is there and had he not dug there wouldn't have been water. So that's why it is said that his faith gave him the water. Because his faith made him dig further, you follow? Now you get it? Scientific minded person. [general laughter].

**KAREN:** No it's just one of these days that I can't think you know.

**ERUCH:** Properly.

**KAREN:** Like I used to.

**ERUCH:** Yeah. Now you can't think [crosstalk]. Look at the blame that she puts on us you see [general laughter]. When she came here she could think well she says and now she can't think well.

**KAREN:** Yeah.

**MANI:** It's definitely annoying [general laughter]

**KAREN:** I do not think that I understood that much even before but I just said yes, yes.

**ERUCH:** But don't. I don't want you to say yes, yes.

**KAREN:** I know but I did before [crosstalk]

**ERUCH:** I had first day told you, "Never say yes, yes to anything." You should ask. That's good that you asked. I love it. I like your questions Karen. Don't we say after they leave Rano? Yeah. Always I ask them to ask questions and you are the one who always stands there to ask me questions. I like it.

**KAREN:** [inaudible] last time I was here I would keep silent. Then I went home and I had all these questions. It's like.

**ERUCH:** So then ask.

**KAREN:** Yeah.

**ERUCH:** Whatever I can answer I will tell you. When I don't know the answer I will say I don't know it. So I don't lose anything. There is no prestige involved here with me. If I know it I will say that yes it is so. If I don't know I will say no, I don't know. So I don't mind anybody asking any question. I can share, whatever I know I will share it with you. So this is how it is. That faith does give it. It can move mountains also. There's that fine story about Shireen and Farhad you know. It's a famous thing.

That Farhad fell in love with the empress of his kingdom. He was an ordinary quarry

man you see, Farhad. You know that story of Farhad and Shireen?

**PILGRIM 5:** I don't, no.

**ERUCH:** It happened in Persia you see. So one day, you know these people they don't. The women don't show their faces to men you see and especially the empress and the princesses of course they are well guarded and all that sort of thing. But it so happened, being a labourer one day he confronts the beauty of the empress and he falls in love with the empress. An ordinary person. How is it possible now? What to do with the flow of his love for her? So he got mad. Because he had really fallen in love with the empress Shireen. Wherever he went, he turned his face he saw the face of that woman. What can he do? He turned anywhere and he saw Shireen and he got so mad after it. All the time he would utter Shireen, Shireen, Shireen, Shireen, Shireen. People started saying that he has gone mad. And they ridiculed him.

The news reached the emperor. What to do now? It's very embarrassing for the emperor and for the empress. For a commoner to fall in love with the empress means [Eruch laughs] what? What to do now? So one of the wise guys over there you know, they suggested a little solution. And he says, "Well, let us harness his madness. And there is no water over here and Shireen likes to have flow of water near her palace you see. So tell him there is a big river there some miles and miles away so if he can harness the water of that river and get it across the range of mountains there and get to the palace a canal, well then the emperor would think of parting with his empress for him." And this news reached him. And he started his work [pilgrims laughing].

**PILGRIM 6:** Like a [inaudible]

**ERUCH:** Yeah, yeah.

**PILGRIM 6:** [Inaudible]

**ERUCH:** And history has recorded mind you. It's not a fable. And he got the stream near the palace.

**PILGRIM 6:** What [inaudible] is he?

**ERUCH:** And he could do. He did a miracle there, physically. He got it and they were frightened. Now what to do? They were now more embarrassed than before. So then the same wise guy comes to the rescue of the emperor and says, "Well he has done no doubt, he has done a wonderful job and he deserves all credit and all that but that doesn't mean that you should part with your empress now." Says, "But how can I go back on my word as an emperor?" He says, "No but these are commoners you see. They have their love craze and all that." "So what is to be done?" He says, "Nothing. He will forget about it. What we will do is just spread rumour you see that she is ill and that she has died."

So then they started. Now within a week there would have been a canal passing by the palace gate you see. He had come so close. So they started spreading a rumour you see. Do you know? Not to him. But in his hearing people would say, "Do you know king is very sad. Shireen is ill." Next day, "She's very ill." Third day, "Serious." Fifth day, "She died." When he heard this he put that pickaxe on his head and died there.

So he had faith in his love so he could bring water there to the palace gate. But there was no water there Karen. No natural

spring. If he had dug he can't get water there [Eruch laughs]. But his faith brought that water.

Now another story about how faith gives a treasure to a person. Do you know that story? He had faith in his dream. There is a story about a certain person, industrious person. Tried his best to earn wealth, a little. Means make both ends meet and to have something spare for him and his family. But then luck was against him. So he didn't know what to do. So he prayed to the Lord to help him to get some treasure. So well his prayers were answered. Because he had faith in his prayers.

So how were his prayers answered? He saw a dream. What was in his dream? He's directed in his dream to go to Rome. From Egypt he was sent to Rome. Go to Rome, here is a. He sees in a dream a certain street and when he goes to the street then he's led to a certain alley and there he reaches the place there. And there if he were to dig, he would find a treasure. And that dream started repeating. Once, twice he thought it was a dream. Dream. What is there from Egypt to go to Rome in those days means what? No. Then he developed faith in his dream. So then he had faith in his dream which made him leave Egypt to Rome.

So he goes to Rome. Did you hear this story before from me? No. So then when he goes to Rome, there is an upheaval there. There are riots over there you see. And what happens is there he's caught in a melee there. And there are people who are being flogged and are driven out. And the constabulary is there at work and all that. He went and he's caught there as a stranger, he is the cause of inciting public feelings or something. He's a stranger over



there. Caught and brought to the police station there.

The police now, the chief of the police now is interrogating him in the night. Says, "What brought you over here?" He says, "I am only a humble person. I live with all my faith you see in the Lord and I don't want to interfere with any politics or anything. I have nothing to do." "Then what brought you here?" He says, "It's my dream that brought me here." "Why?" So he tells his story. That how he was after finding a treasure and how a certain dream was haunting him.

So this police chief, scoffing at him and he says, "If I were to place faith in dream, I would have gone to Egypt. Because past one month I am having a dream. That I should go to Egypt and get more treasure. Do you mean to say that if you were to see dreams you get treasures? So you know what dream I got?" And then he's describing his dream now to this ordinary person who has gone to Rome. And you know what he describes?

The same street where he lived. Nearby alley there. The same hut in which he used to live is described in the dream by that police officer. And he says, "There I am told to dig under that particular pillar that is there that supports the." He is just. He's astonished, amazed you see. That's my own house. So he was given a good thrashing and he was sent back you see [pilgrims laughing]. "Get out from this country, get out."

So he goes. He kept faith in his dream. His dream gave him all the suffering but eventually he was rewarded in his own house. So he says, "What is there in that? Faith you see. The treasure was where he got it. But because of his faith he was

driven from one country to another country, got into this sad plight and then he returned and he got the treasure. Because of faith. Not because the treasure was there.