THEIR LIVES WITH BABA, 1 of 2

Eruch Jessawala, Mani S. Irani, Bhau Kalchuri Mandali Hall, Meherazad, India November 22, 1975 30:36

GIL: Were they representative of the people in this circle?

ERUCH: I know nothing about that because I wasn't there with Him at the time. And all that I. Another thing is Gil that I haven't read any Baba literature to give you any information through books. Whenever people ask me certain question only, I can answer them only when I have witnessed personally and directly from Baba. Otherwise I haven't had the time to read or go through any Baba literature.

GIL: He says He was there before. At the time of Jesus.

ERUCH: He has? Who?

GIL: Baba said that.

ERUCH: Who was before? Baba was there at the time of Jesus?

GIL: Yes.

ERUCH: As Jesus you mean.

GIL: Right, as Jesus.

ERUCH: Yeah. Maybe right.

GIL: I was wondering if you had maybe any further comments from Baba on that.

ERUCH: Personally I haven't heard. Have you heard anything about it? The St. Mark's Cathedral there? [inaudible]

GIL: And also there were the, Baba was at Benares at the time of Jesus. I was wondering if He had said anything to you or any of your friends about.

ERUCH: Yes. He said about His visits to Benares. Yeah, Benares and then His visit to the Tibetan regions. His visits to Kashmir side and wanderings in India.

GIL: Was this before He was given [inaudible] by John the Baptist or afterwards? Was this during His wanderings in [inaudible][crosstalk].

ERUCH: Baba didn't clarify that, but what I find you see and gathered from the different hints that He gave was, it was after the crucifixion.

GIL: Do you have any idea how long He was alive after the crucifixion?

ERUCH: No. Not the number of years, no. But He was for quite a long time in body. That's what I have gathered. His body was brought to India, that He said. But then Ithe other day I was telling Baba people over here that knowing, having lived with Baba in this advent for so many year, it's His trait you see to be most natural. He wouldn't want His body, lifeless body to be carried all that distance you see. He's so natural in all respects that He-if He had expressed a wish to be in India or to wander all these regions you see or His body to be carried, it is that His body would be carried on an ass or on camels or walk the distance and all that. He wouldn't want His lifeless body to be carried all the distance you see. That's what I gather.

GIL: At the last He was buried in Kashmir?

ERUCH: Yes. That has been told to us by Baba quite often.

GIL: Did He ever say that some of the close ones to Him now were specific characters at that time? Or did He ever say so and so was the same soul in a different..

ERUCH: No. But it was not the same. I don't know about that but then the offices held by so and so and so and so you see resemble the offices held by, at the time when He was Jesus or when He was Mohammad and so forth like that.

GIL: So there are distinct offices in the circle?

ERUCH: Yeah. So the offices are always the same you see. Whenever you go to any secretariat or any big office you know they have the same posts there. Men change, the souls change. Once you realize your identity with your true self, naturally the purpose is served, the goal is attained. So once you realize, this is what I have gathered, you can't come back. Unless and until you have not realized and then you come back by His special grace. That's a different thing which we all strive for you see. Once we have lived with Him, we wouldn't want to be emancipated or we wouldn't want to have the fruit of realization. We would love to have Him by our side. Time and again when He would come in different advents. So if that is His case then well. But we don't know. We have no idea about it. We have no. We can't even imagine such a thing. We don't know.

But He has referred to the offices that are always there like that. There is the Judas, there is the one who is the holder of the purse. There's a one who's a scribe, one who is a critic and all sorts of posts are always there. One who is an expert cook you see. Yeah. One who attends on Him.

GIL: One who does what on Him?

ERUCH: Attends. Would you like to know? There was a question that was asked by Ivy Duce once to me. With regarding her book that she was writing. About the offices held by His close ones. So well was there any reference ever made by Baba? So I replied to her. Would like to read, hear that letter?

GIL: Yes, yes.

PILGRIM 2: Is this the book that she just published?

ERUCH: Yes.

GIL: "How a Master Works". Mani?

ERUCH: Mani. Rosy and Max are here. Mani?

MANI: Ha, coming.

ERUCH: Messages [inaudible]. Alright what is the other question?

GIL: About Judas. What did Baba? Well the idea among some Christians is that Judas is in Spain [inaudible][crosstalk]

MANI: [inaudible][foreign]

ERUCH: No. It's not that.

GIL: Right.

ERUCH: No. Judas is very great you see. He has to play his role. According to what I have gathered from Baba is that he is as close to Him as Peter was to Jesus you see. Anytime, whenever any realised soul, human soul is officiating as Judas, it is His will. That's how it is. To precipitate.

GIL: He has that office.

ERUCH: Yeah. That's his office what can he do? He has been given the role. Just as when there's a villain on the stage you see. Is he a real villain? He plays the part. And he plays the part so well that the spectators or the audience who hear him you see, they abhor his presence there on the stage also because he plays the part so well. So the credit goes to the villain who plays the part. Although he's not a villain. Likewise Judas you see, he had to play the part so he plays his part. There's nothing wrong with that. You might wonder you see that if Baba were to order us to slap Him or to beat Him with shoes or to spit on Him. Naturally it doesn't. For a lover of Baba you see, such a thought is very distressing. How could a person beat him like that with shoes? But we had to do it. We had to play our part. You follow?

MANI: [inaudible] slap.

ERUCH: Yeah. We did slap Him with shoes.

Now Mani you said that when people gather over here you'd like to talk to them something? Before we go deeper into all these things you want to tell them about East-West news bulletin and other things?

MANI: Yes. East-West News Exchange. [inaudible] by Sheriar Press. We're told the subscription is dropping low. And why we are keen that all should have it is because anything we have to say, we usually do it through, invariably through East-West News Exchange. And it's only a dollar a year I gather. This 4 copies. One gets all the news, one keeps in touch. And like for instance we had just put in. We also send it to the Berkeley newsletter. And that's very faithfully brought out too. But the East-West News Exchange, we would like it kept up and it's very difficult for them to keep up. They're doing it really at a loss. And it's a beautiful little thing. And for instance now when we had said about. Like it was last time, lower Meherabad will be closed from between 15th March to 15th June, when it's our real summer. That's our summer from 15th March to 15th June.

And it's very terribly hot and we're also you know having, what do you call it, summer rest in the sense that we're recuperating because apart from that it's so terribly hot no matter how much one can say, "Oh but we are from Florida and we have the same summer there", it's not the same. And we are unable to give of ourselves as we would like to because you'll come with so much love, you'll spend so much money to be here. And we would like you all to make the most of your stay here.

So things like that, we send out in the East-West News Exchange. And many people don't know about it. We got a message from a very close one in Atlanta saying, to Mehera, "We'll be seeing you in May." So we had to rush a letter. If for instance he had been subscribing to East-West News Exchange, the Californians usually have the Berkeley newsletter which gives but otherwise others don't. So that was one of the things. What was the other thing?

ERUCH: What was it?

MANI: What [crosstalk]

ERUCH: Did you hear about the Peg-Andy's program now?

MANI: Yes.

ERUCH: You heard?

MANI: By the 15th of December.

ERUCH: Yeah, yeah.

MANI: And then we're so happy to know she can sit up and as I was telling them how wonderfully they stood the test. All this is an experience of Baba's life.

ERUCH: But for me it's doing Baba's work there you there in the hospital. Which we really, which we thought that it is there. The day, the moment I saw her there at Villoo's place and I said, "Peggy you are now enlisted for a very important work there in the hospital in India." And this is how it was.

MANI: It's really was like a little Darshan. I mean we were talking about Baba and Baba's presence was so strong. And in fact I, Mehera and I tried so that if we move away maybe she would close her eyes and rest a while. Not at all. She was giving.

Giving of herself. Even right there when she had a broken hip.

ERUCH: Doctors have been told about Baba there by her. And yeah. They come in the [inaudible]

MANI: Pegs [laughing]. Peggy Andy have been very special always and I can see why now.

ERUCH: What else that you have to inform them?

MANI: No I haven't got to inform them anything. I just wanted to hear if you want a story or something.

ERUCH: Right. So this is the letter that now we revert to our theme about. I have replied to a letter from Ivy Duce. So it says, it's 10th August 1970? Is it three?

GIL: Three.

ERUCH: Means two years have passed by. I feel as if it is just this year only she had asked for it.

"My Dear Ivy,

I regret I cannot help you in answering your queries for Beloved Baba had not given even an indication about the special offices held by the first 12. At least He did not give any indication in my presence or hearing. If you don't quote me, my far flung guess on the issue can be as follows. From purely earthly point of view when God becomes man to be among men, to make His presence, His being, His love, His compassion more tangible to mankind, companion number one is there to love and be loved.

These are the different offices of the 12 around Him. The first twelve.

GIL: The beloved. She is the beloved.

ERUCH: To love and be loved. That's how I have gathered. Then the second- is to uphold His humorous trait. Like a court jester around Him. Third- is singer to please His heart a musician is there. Fourth- to guard His person, a watchman. Five- to attend to His personal needs, an attendant. Six- to see to cooking and serving Him and His companions. Sevento manage the household, a manager. Eight - a treasurer, keeper of purse. Nine- a physician friend who sees to His physical well-being. Ten- a scribe, one who writes. Eleven- messenger, to carry His messages to and fro. Twelve- a critic. That's how it is.

MANI: A critic, critic?

ERUCH: Yeah.

GIL: Judas was the critic?

ERUCH: Yeah. He wanted to precipitate you see the final stage that Jesus always would say that about His, you see having to die and then there will be His resurrection and all that. So he wanted it. The world should know about his Beloved. All the more. He being an ordinary wanderer from street to street or from one city to another. That didn't carry much weight in Judas' heart you see about Jesus. That which Jesus should manifest you see and let the world know who He is. So he wanted to precipitate that little incident there you see.

So he was very critical about the whole thing. And somehow or other through any hook or crook that was his office. What could he do? His sanskaras were such that he had to precipitate such an incident. And to us worldly-minded people and who read the story and the history we feel that he was the traitor.

GIL: But these twelve did not include for instance, Mehera as the beloved of the Beloved.

ERUCH: Yeah.

GIL: And this is not part of the twelve?

ERUCH: No they are not part of the twelve.

MANI: What's not part of the twelve?

ERUCH: The two appendages. This is what Baba said, yeah. I do not possess any manuscript regarding mass darshan hours. That is another question that she asked. I do remember having written a summary of it. I do not have a single copy of it. That's all. This is.

MANI: Apart from our playing the part, the offices given. Offices ordained for each. Also to my way of thinking, to my understanding of being with Baba all this time is that we, everything is for Baba's work. His work came first and Baba always said. And we or anything that Baba worked with, being used, material means. He used tangible channels, instruments and each represented something, an instrument. Because He was working not just for the few around Him but for the many. First like when He would say the first circle or the ripple. When you throw a stone in a pond there is that first circle in the ripple. Then there is the second and then there is the third and then there is and it just goes on.

So up to, including the whole universe [clock chimes] that's what He works for.

And each in a way is an instrument, a medium, something. So each represented something. Each represented. So Mehera represents something, each of the mandali represented, through which Baba would do His work. Even animals represented something. Even birds. Because we knew that it was very important when we had some birds that Baba had brought and we were told to look after them, that Baba was working. Some work through those. Through the birds for some work of His. Because if one of the birds flew off by accident, Baba would really be upset and then in the end would have the whole batch of birds sent away and a new batch brought. So in short it all represents. We are representing some aspect of His work through which He worked not just for us but for all.

Like we said when Baba gave help to the poor in Pimpalgaon village for instance. Say Baba specified He wanted fifty poor people to be brought for Him to wash their feet and give them grain, give them clothing, give them money, which is the only time Baba touched money. When it was handed over to Him to hand over to the poor. Went through His hands to the hands of the needy. And when Baba did that it wasn't like just helping them. Just for that much. I mean missionaries do that. The rich probably can do that. Tremendous number of organisations all over the world have set up who are trying to help assuage the poverty and all that. Baba wasn't helping just those few people at that time. How long would that grain last them? How long would those clothes last them? But through the giving to a few, He was giving to the masses.

He was giving not only materially, He was giving His blessing spiritually. He was not.

It may not even be evident at the time manifest, it may be He's giving a seed for it to fructify later. So that in that way I mean it was not only offices and roles but also represent some aspect of His work each one. We didn't know, He didn't tell us what. Except that we knew that Mehera was the first. To my mind she could represent the world. If Baba says she is His beloved. To God, God's beloved is creation.

And so He was very, very, you know she was taken care of, protected much more than any of us. But that is my way of saying but each one represented some instrument through which Baba did a certain aspect of work.

ERUCH: Now I've called Bhau over here Gil because He is the one who has gone through all the records of the past up to date. So maybe your question might be answered by him.

GIL: About St. Marks?

ERUCH: Yeah.

GIL: Baba was at St. Marks Church in Venice, Cathedral in Venice. And as I recall the story He said He had been there at the time of Jesus. When He was Jesus. And He said that the number of the pillars and the columns in the Piazza there represented what were tallied with His great circle. His 121.

ERUCH: 22

GIL: 122. And I'm wondering if you can recall any comments of Baba's about His time there as Jesus and also about the construction of His great circle? Like you've said that there are 12.

BHAU: 12 of 10 circles.

ERUCH: 112 members, 10 circles.

BHAU: 10 circles. In each circle.

GIL: In each circle there's a similar office?

ERUCH: No, no. this is the close ones. But this is my guess. What I said.

BHAU: About circle of course there are different things you know. And very lately when Baba was dictating this, certain points for the new book, He gave me certain things which I think that they are quite new and you don't find in any other book. And all circle just like you know 122, so He said that the circle is there and when Avatar comes, of course He has to create His own circle. Because there is no link. But there are different offices. Now 122 and He told me that they get liberation or realization within 100 years.

Now what happens that each one just like you are here you know. You are connected with her. You are connected with me. You are connected with so many and those so many are connected with so many. And those so many are connected with so many. That means you are connected with the whole universe directly or indirectly. Now what happens? You are a member of the circle. Now Baba works through you. Now when you get realisation what happens? Suppose you know you are connected with her say by 50 million sanskaras. So when impressions, when you are liberated, you get realization. Suppose that means all those impressions are wiped out. Now you are connected with her by 50 million impressions. So what happens. Automatically these 50 million

impressions which connect you with her, they are wiped out.

Then she's also connected with others. So those 50 million impressions which connect her with so many, they are also wiped out. In this way, if you get realization that means whole universe gets a benefit. You follow?

GIL: Yes, yes, yes.

BHAU: So when these 122, they are realized that means the whole universe is benefitted by them.

ERUCH: And amongst Indian mythology and of course the tradition is that when one in a family realizes God, seven generations of them are liberated. That's how the tradition is.

MANI: Baba [foreign]

ERUCH: It is here. It's a long tradition that comes from ancient times. One realization in the house means redemption for seven generations.

MANI: Of that.

ERUCH: Of that particular individualized soul. You see. That's how it is.

BHAU: They are thickly connected you know. And when one gets realization that means automatically they get the benefit. Because when your impressions are wiped out that means those who are connected with you by some number of impressions, they are automatically wiped out.

ERUCH: Right. So then what about your. Any reference to that St. Marks's Cathedral and columns?

BHAU: Of course I don't remember. Because at that time Baba did not emphasize much about it. He just gave me.

ERUCH: Casually He hinted mostly.

BHAU: Yeah.

GIL: He didn't say about His time there at the time of Jesus?

BHAU: Only thing which you told just now, He mentioned like this. Otherwise He did not give much explanation about it.

ERUCH: No elaboration.

PILGRIM 4: [Crosstalk] Was travelling in Italy. When during His life as Jesus? When He travelled [inaudible]

GIL: St. Marks wasn't there.

PILGRIM 4: No, no I mean when He said He was on the spot where St. Marks was.

BHAU: He would just make some remark. That's all and He did not [crosstalk] [inaudible]

ERUCH: And at the time you see His presence was with us. Was the most important thing. In His presence nobody wanted to ask anything. His presence was so overwhelming as I always say that these queries never arose in our minds. To be more emphatic about any remark that He would say. We just heard, that's all. And if anybody records they were recorded. If not they just went out in thin air.

MANI: You see what kind of disciples Baba selected, we didn't ask. Now I wish so many times, "Oh I wish I had asked that."

Mehera said, "Why didn't we ask Baba that? I said, "I don't know." And then Rano says, "Probably if we did, Baba would have said you know, "I've got a headache, ask me some other time." [general laughter]. Or He wouldn't have kept us with Him for so long.

ERUCH: Yes, so often [general laughter] [crosstalk]

MANI: For His work some were here and,

ERUCH: No, that is true what she says is whenever [crosstalk]. Even if we got a whim to ask Him, He would say, "Don't give me a headache" [general laughter] [crosstalk]

MANI: "This fellow always asks questions. Gives Me such a headache. What's the time?" [general laughter]

ERUCH: Yeah.

MANI: And if someone who were really very much concentrating on Baba and waiting for you know saying the significance in this or that or asking questions. Very gently, before we would know it, it all happened. In the beginning we were so many more. Baba would say that you know. Baba would send them to some other place or do my work there or. He called us broken down furniture but then once He said that's exactly what I want. "That's how I want it."

And when as Rano would say, when He would call us, "Oh I don't know how I stand you all. I don't know how I put up with you all around Me? You're nothing but just broken down furniture." She'd feel very happy. We would all feel you know, "Aah, that's alright." But when He started calling us pearls, what pearls you were. Us meaning you know Rano was saying that. And, "What you'll are doing for Me even I couldn't have done for My Master." [general laughter] And then she would get uncomfortable and Kitty would squirm and say, "Now what's coming?" [general laughter].

Because there's going to be something on obedience, something very difficult they would have to say yes to. Because they were pearls. [Inaudible] which meant separation from Baba. And Rano would do this and Baba would go on you know. As she would say, butter. And then it would come. Like in the New Life. When they had to part.

ERUCH: Because they were gems you see Baba told them to lead the old life so to say. Instead of going with Him on New Life. And they were both tutors in Bombay. You know that?

MANI: That's a beautiful story. [crosstalk]

ERUCH: Kitty and Rano [Eruch laughs] Left in the old life to teach.

MANI: [inaudible] Really very good story.

ERUCH: What other question? Martha do you know anything about St. Marks? No.

GIL: I can't think of any right now. I'll get back.

ERUCH: Yeah. But you told.

BHAU: Most important work when He comes as Avatar is to prepare the circle. That is the most important work He says that I do. Most important work.

GIL: Were there any people among His close ones in this incarnation which He identified with being people you know before incarnation saying of them so and so oh I remember we were together at the time of Ram and you were this and that or for instance I've read that Pukar was, he was Hanuman or something like that?

BHAU: Not actually that one but you know Baba would just call that, "He's my Hanuman. When I was Ram he was Hanuman." But actually not the same.

ERUCH: It is not the same.

GIL: It is not the same.

ERUCH: It is just.

GIL: The character.

ERUCH: Yeah. By way of the, yeah. Symbolic [crosstalk]

MANI: And Baba would sometimes say very casually a propos of something. Not declare you know. Not sort of say you were this or that. But if some question came up for instance He told me that I was a man in my last incarnation and that's here. This is the sign. This means mustache. And I'll be a man in my next one, once more.