

## Time-line of Meher Baba's Live

- 1894 Merwan Sheriar Irani born to Sheriar Mundigar Irani and Shireen – Sasoon Hospital, Poona
- 1903 entered **Poona Camp English School** – attended for 5 years – won awards in sports – sang prayers in the morning in a melodious voice enjoyed by the neighbors
- 1904 **Navjot** at age ten
- 1909 began attending St. Vincent high school – started Cosmopolitan Club for boys of different religions – enjoyed poetry of Sir Walter Scott, William Shakespeare, William Wordsworth and Percy Bysshe Shelley – Merwan writing poetry in English, Persian, Farsi, Urdu, Hindi and Gurarati under the name of **Huma**
- 1911 graduated **St. Vincent High School** – began attending Deccan College – formed theatre troupe with school-mates
- 1912 first experienced divine effulgence – began to feel inner urge and sensed some difference in himself
- 1913 **Hazrat Babajan** called Merwan as he rode his bicycle home from Deccan College. She embraced him and he was drawn to her “as steel to a magnet.” He began to visit her every night, sit with her, massage her feet, talk with her.
- 1914 Babajan kissed Merwan and he lost all consciousness of the three bodies and the three worlds. He went home after she kissed him and that night he became conscious only of being the Ocean of Consciousness. For three days he lay on his bed completely unconscious of the illusory world, his eyes vacant
- For nine months he did not eat or sleep but moved around automatically. He experienced the state of eternal bliss and the five masters continued to pull him back to ordinary consciousness. The struggle was excruciating agony and he would knock his head on the stone in his room to relieve the intense inner pain
- In this time of wandering about automatically he would go off on trips where he found the masters who were pulling on his consciousness.
- 1915 April visits **Narayan Maharaj**, converse in private then visits **Tajudin Baba** who calls out “Parvadigar  
December sent by Babajan to Shirdi to meet Sai Baba. From there he was directed by **Sai Baba** inwardly to go to the Kandoba temple nearby and was greeted with the rock of **Upasni Maharaj** who was staying in the temple. Meherwan spent time coming to Maharaj and then going home to Poona and then returning to Maharaj.
- 1916 In Poona he sat nightly with Babajan , going once a month to Sai Baba and training with Maharaj.

1917 Merwan's brother got him a job with a traveling theatrical company; his father later employed him in his toddy shop.

He was under Maharaj's active guidance for seven years as he struggled to return to normal human consciousness while still experiencing continuously his super-consciousness

1918 With his first disciple, Behramji opens a **toddy shop in Kasba Peth** area; builds temple to Upasni Maharaj; a number of others begin to attach themselves to him and call him Merwan Seth

1921 July to December  
He spent **six months at Sakori** (the new seat of Maharaj) continuously with Maharaj; Maharaj declares Merwan as Sadguru and then as Avatar, directs selected ones of his disciples to attach themselves now to Merwan.

1922 January to May  
He returned to Poona and stayed in the **Jhopdi** (10X6 foot hut) on Ferguson Rd. where many of his old friends would come join him to sing and talk of God. He visited Kasba Peth every Thursday. It was here that Sayid Saheb began calling him **Meher Baba**; he was 28

May: leaves with 45 followers (22 Hindus, 12 Muslims, 11 Zoroastrians) to walk to Bombay – set up **Manzil-e-Meem**

Hazrt Gilori Shah goes to Arangaon village and insists his disciples agree to bury him on the spot where he draws a circle on the ground.

1923 March: closes Manzil-e-Meem after 10 months; moves to Kushru Quarters (Gulmai's family residence) in Ahmednagar; May: takes followers 6 miles south to repair abandoned military camp – 13 followers agree to stay with him under more austere demanding conditions

May - November: takes 11 followers on austere tour to Agra, Karachi, Quetta, Ahmedabad, Gujarat followed by 62 mile walk to Navsari.

November: wanders incognito with Gustaji and Behramji fasting severely; returns to Poona and then to Bombay Irani Mansions #24

1924 February: takes 8 followers to Persia but cuts tour short due to illness and returns to India; takes a few disciples to Nepal but are refused entry; sends disciples home and wanders alone for some days

March: with core mandali settle at **Meherabad**; initiates gamela yoga hard labor phase.

**Mehera**, her mother Daulat, and two other women join the group as cloistered nuns in the old post office building; Col. Irani begins propaganda against Baba.

June – December: goes with core men disciples to Bombay, Karachi, Quetta then to Madras, Ooty, Calcutta, Hardwar, Rishikesh, Baroda, Goa, etc. bowing to 5,000 pilgrims and lepers.

1925 January: return to Meherabad; resident mandali grows to 40; Thursdays and holidays public darshans. March: open hospital and dispensary at Meherabad as well as hermitage for lepers and destitute; **opens co-ed primary school** with free education, food, clothes for children of all religions and castes, mostly Harijans.

July 9 at 8:30 pm he announces:

“I am now going. From tomorrow I will not speak for one and a half years. All of you must take care of your health, and remember, when any of you go out of the Makan during the night to attend to your needs, always carry a lantern with you. Beware of snakes; I will do anything to help you in other difficulties, but I will not help you if you are bitten by a snake.”

### **July 10 begins silence**

July: staying in his Jhopdi at Meherabad; wrote in his “book” daily at the beginning of his silence. October shifts to “table cabin” under neem tree by the road; continues writing in book and giving darshan to visitors in front of the cabin.

November 19 lights **dhuni fire** in response to villagers’ plea for rain – 15 hours of rain ensues; beginning of monthly lighting of dhuni fire on the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Sai Darbar hall built near post office to accommodate large crowds coming weekly for darshan; Marathi arati sung in his praise.

1926 composes **Bujave Nar Gujarati arati** – both Gujarati and Marathi arati’s sung

Around 500 people living at Meherabad; a few dozen dedicated mandali living under Baba’s strict orders. Mandali worked in school, hospital as well as being involved in games and sports.

March Baba moves into box cabin in Sai Darbar hall; May begins two-month stay in water tank room on the hill.

October Baba dismantles Meherabad and **relocates to Lonavla**; makes arrangements for needs of those living under his care at Meherabad; November returns to Meherabad and rebuilds; starts **Hazrat Babajan school for boys**.

1927 Stops writing; begins using **alphabet board**. May opens **Meher Ashram** for boys and shifts it to Meherabad hill; October 170 boys enrolled (14 from Persia); women mandali living in enclosed compound on the hill. December starts staying in crypt room

1928 January love outburst sweeps through Meher Ashram; Baba forms **Prem Ashram** for advanced meditation and retreat. Baba remains in crypt room until end of February; fasts until end of April.

March: sends Rustom to UK to bring boys from the west for the Prem Ashram; can’t bring any boys but meets **Meredith and Margaret Starr**.

April: Hazrat Babajan comes to Meherabad, meets Baba and school boys at the railroad tracks.

- June-Nov.: **Toka** – entire Meherabad colony and schools shifted to Toka. July: Meredith and Margaret Starr come for 6 months. November: Toka ashram dismantled; most boys sent home; most mandali sent elsewhere; Baba and core Prem Ashram boys and mandali return to Meherabad Hill.
- 1929 12-day walking tour of a few cities in the region – Baba in crypt working with Prem Ashram boys for five months – May and July-August two bus tours (Hardwar, Rishikesh, Kashmir)
- Sept: with 18 mandali by steamship to Persia – Qom, Isfahan, Yezd – return by bus through desert
- Nov: move to **Nasik**
- 1930 March: mass darshans in South – Madras, Mysore, Nilgiri Hills, Bijapr, Sholapur – May: 2 week fast in **Panchgani cave in Tiger Valley**
- two month trip to Kashmir – Nasik – Lonavla (giving darshan) – new “Panchgani cave” in Meherabad hill – meets Paul Brunton
- 1931 June: with 5 Mandali to Persia incognito – working at great mosque at Meshed
- Sept: **sails from Karachi to England** with Rustom, Chanji and Ali on SS Rajputana–meets with Gandhi who is en route to Round Table Conference –three weeks meeting new disciples – from England to Constantaniople, Milan, Genoa and then to New York – **Harmon on Hudson** (one month-3 weeks) followed by 1 week in New York – attracts hundreds of disciples including first close western mandala – returns to India early 1932
- Sept. 21: Hazrat Babajan drops the body – reported to be 125 years old
- 1932 March: **first world tour**: returns to England – **“Message to the West”** (“like beads on one string”) – interviewed / newsreel film – {Sheriarji dies} – to Paris, Lugano, New York – **“Message to America”** (“America has Tremendous Energy”) - Chicago, Hollywood (Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, Tulula Bankhead, etc – promised breaking of silence in Hollywood Bowl), then to Shanghi, Nanking, Singapore, Bombay.
- After 24 hours in Bombay giving instructions to close Mandali returns to Europe – Marseilles – Venice (gondola & St.Mark’s square), Assisi (seclusion in cave of St. Francis), Milan, Paris, London, Egypt, Sri Lanka and returned to India
- 1933 **first western disciples to India** – April: ten western disciples (9 women & Quintin Todd) called to India – proposed 6-month tour cut to 3-week tour of north India and they are sent back
- July: 5<sup>th</sup> visit to the West – select western disciples in Portofino – 6<sup>th</sup> visit Sept: London – Oct. month in Spain- returned to India
- 1934 7<sup>th</sup> visit to West – Paris, London, Zurich (Fallenfluh)  
8<sup>th</sup> visit to West & 2<sup>nd</sup> world tour: London, New York, Hollywood (began work on film project in Hollywood – Vollmoeller, Mercedes DeCosta, Garrett Fort )

For some time women mandali in seclusion at Meherabad raising and caring for various birds, bunnies and other animals (“the zoo”)

- 1935 January 1935 left Los Angeles to Vancouver, Hawaii, Yokohama, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Colombo and return to India– moves ashram from Meherabad to Nasik – Baba recovering from health collapse from cold winter in the west – working with Eastern disciples / writing to Western disciples
- 1936 Begins **Rahuri ashram** for mast and mad (8 months until April 1937)– October: 9<sup>th</sup> visit to the West (London, Zurich, Paris) – Dec. **Nasik Ashram - 20 western disciples**
- 1937 After 7 months at Nasik sends Western disciples to France to prepare for his visit to Cannes with select men and women mandali and Muhammad mast – July 31 sailed for **Cannes with six of the women mandali** (first time bringing them to the west) 10<sup>th</sup> visit to west– motor trip to Paris (apartment of Alfredo and Consuelo Sides) -Paris World Fair Baba circled by car without going inside – November returned to India – **western women join ashram on the hill** – Kitty, Norina, Rano– 4 months later Elizabeth and Nonny joined
- 1937-1949 WWII / India partition / Baba and select mandali (Baidul, Kaka, Eruch, Vishnu baggage & Chagan cooking), on **intensive mast tours** – 80,000 miles to contact 20,000 masts (most “ordinary”) – Wayfarers published 1948 – intervals of fast and seclusion
- 1938 Dec.- 1941 Dec. **Blue Bus Tours** – up to 30 women disciples from East & West – tours focused on Baba contacting masts located by men mandali – between tours Kitty, Elizabeth, Norina, Rano, Nadine, Irene, Margaret living on Meherabad Hill with Mehera, Mani, Naja, Khorshed, Mansari, Masi, Valu, Gulmai - Meher Baba Journal with discourses from Baba, edited & published by Elizabeth from India
- 1939 Mast ashram Bangalore
- 1939 – 1947: **Mast ashrams** – Baba planned and supervised seven main mast ashrams and these were maintained at different places such as Ajmer, Jabalpur, Bangalore, Meherabad, Ranchi, Mahableshtar and Satara.
- 1940 Baba holds 7-day birthday celebrations in honor of Upasani Maharaj (longest birthday celebrations ever held by Baba and mandali)
- 1941 Elizabeth, Norina , and Nadine sent to West to **find site for Baba’s Center in the West** – October: Baba’s last meeting with Upasani Maharaj – December: Maharaj drops the body – Baba and mandali at Kumbha Mela Allahabad touching feet of 7,000 sadhus in one day
- 1942 wartime travel for contact with masts – seclusions – giving lists of instructions to followers to participate in his work
- 1943 Shireen dies Feb. 25 – March public darshans at Sholapur, Barsi, and Akkalkot as many as 50,000 at some darshans – Oct. visit Calcutta during terrible famine – feeding program – Baba incognito, fed about 325 middle class who had fallen on hard

times – from a private room he handed out the food to each – handed out 10,000 blessed chapatis to poor in the streets

- 1944-1949 Baba and some men & women mandali spending time at Pimpalgaon
- 1944 intensive mast trips during the war – early June Baba makes Margaret to throw Gesu the pet cat out in the rain (Allies had been delaying invasion of France due to bad weather – they launched D-Day June 6) – Kaikobad and his family to move to Meherabad – public darshans in various places – meetings called for various ones for various purposes
- 1945 Hyderabad contacting masts – continues giving darshans and calling meetings
- 1947 January fasting and seclusion at Meherabad – Kaikobad’s cabin for 40 days surrounded by tata fence - Ali Shah brought to work with Baba daily – shifts to Pimpalgaon for last half of fast/seclusion – December again toured Hydrabad contacting masts – returned and went into seclusion seclusion on Tembi Hill in two huts with Ali Shah
- 1948 **Allahabad Kumbha Mela** Baba touches feet of 4,000 sadhus in one morning (7 advanced)
- 1949 June 22-July 31 **Great Seclusion** in Blue Bus set up at Meherabad – Aug. begins talking about “New Life” – Oct. 16 **start of New Life** – training period at Benares – new life in full starts Dec. 12 with caravan of animals heading north from Sarnath
- 1950 New Life travels: Haridwar, Motichur, Rishikesh, Calcutta, Gudur, and Hyderabad – in Rishikesh contacting sadhus, saints, mahatmas in their places – Baba referred to only as “Elder Brother”
- 1951 Feb. **100 days seclusion** in Mahableshtar – Aug. start of four months **Manonash phase** of New Life – hill cave near Hyderabad then in two cabins on Seclusion Hill – then cabins moved down to Meherazad – Nov. at Khuldabad dictates **Prayer of Repentance** – Baba emerges from seclusion Feb. 1952
- 1952 Free Life period – move permanently to **Meherazad** at Pimpalgaon – April **first visit to Meher Center** on the Lakes with 5 men mandali and 6 women mandali – **May 24 auto accident** in Prague, Oklahoma – recover at Myrtle Beach– “complicated free life up to July 10 – to New York: Sufism Re-oriented charter set up – Nov. returned to India – Nov. 15 start of “**fiery free life**” – travels to 36 towns and remote hamlets giving darshan, washing feet of the poor
- 1953 **Dehera Dun in seclusion** from Feb. 16 for the rest of the year – intense universal work – composed **Master’s Prayer** – Sept. 7 declaration he is Avatar in “**Highest of the High**” discourse – first issue of Awakener journal
- 1954 Jan. to Andhra Pradesh – mass darshans – February to Hamirpur – Feb. 9 at Mahewa, birthplace of Keshav Nigam, all-night sahasas - at 1am Feb. 10 Baba spells out on alphabet board: “**Avatar Meher Baba Ki Jai**” – assembled villagers begin shouting the acclaim in waves of adoration – Madras darshan for 150,000 – tour of South India until March 24 – September Meherabad **Three Incredible Weeks** – Oct. 7 gave up alphabet board began using finger signs

- 1955 Jan. 9 ends 40 day fast – begins travels giving mass darshans around India – Nov.-Dec. **Sahavas programs** at Meherabad for invited devotees – 4 groups divided by language groups
- 1956 Jan. 8-day darshan at Sakori for Godavari Mai – July to Europe (Switzerland, Paris, London) – then to New York and **second visit to Meher Center** on the Lakes in Myrtle Beach – continues on to San Francisco, Meher Mount – **first trip to Australia**, Avatar's Abode – Sept. God Speaks published – Dec. 2 **second auto accident** near Satara
- 1957 Feb. touches feet of 800 poor at Meherazad – visits Sakori and Poona giving darshan to thousands
- 1958 Feb. **Sahavas program for Eastern Lovers** at Meherabad – May: **Sahavas for Western lovers** at Myrtle Beach Meher Center - June to **Australia Avatar's Abode – (last trip to the West)** – July 10 Meherabad gives **Universal Message** – from July began seclusions that lasted on and off for 10 years until the end of his life – July 14 four and a half months “**total seclusion**” with all communication and contact cut off, correspondence banned – resident mandali kept separate and restricted – selected mandali participated in first 40 days intense period with fast , repetition of God's name and other orders – works in seclusion with selected masts and Kaikobad – suffered numerous health problems – sends circular to all lovers asking them to reply by Nov. 20 if they are prepared to place full trust in him – concluded seclusion with 21 day fast – nearly 30,000 replies to circular received by end November from around the world – to Guruprasad December
- 1959 Jan. Guruprasad meeting with lovers, visitors, bhajan programs – Baba's bedroom moved downstairs at Meherazad – March visits Bombay, darshan to hundreds – returns to Poona – begins staying at **Guruprasad** for part of the year from this time –May-July period of special work (asked all to be resigned to his wish and not cause irritation) – August to Meherazad – begins period of crucial work with Kaikobad – Aug. 25 “**Beloved God**” **prayer dictated** – persistent health problems – Sept. for 40 days working with poor but no one outside was to know (“most important period of my Avataric work”) – resident mandali at particular times repeating God's and prayers, and fasting– no one permitted to leave Meherazad and no outsider to come in – circular sent to lovers: Universal work to continue Nov.-Dec. (opportunities for lovers to participate with periods of fast, silence) – seclusion conclude Dec.24 – washed feet of Lepers – Mehera's birthday celebrated
- 1960 Darshan Jan. 4 Ahmednagar Kushru quarters (almost 1,000 from all over came) – **continued health problems** – Feb. Birthday celebrated elaborately around India but simply at Meherazad – March: Darshan Kushru quarters (8,500 attended) – go to Guruprasad for 3-month stay (regular darshans and discourses, visitors & groups come from around India & region, visiting homes, offices, institutions in Poona, poor programs) – Maharani Shantadevi regular visitor – May 20 Nilkanthwala mast brought from Rishikesh (worked with Baba 5 days) – June 5-6 darshan to 10,000 at Guruprasad, Baba bows to 160 poor, then to 150 poor and lepers at Ahmednagar – June 20 leave for Meherazad (stop at Bund gardens to see lovers gathered there) – July 1 starts 6-month seclusion – working with Kaikobad – Nilkanthwala brought briefly – **repeated periods of fasting** – discourses to resident mandali – increased health problems – Dec: sent orders to lovers around the world to repeat God's and fast once during 21 days Dec 26- Jan 15

- 1961 Feb: circular sent: **seclusion continues** “irrespective of where Baba is located” – no visitors/correspondence allowed – March to Poona/Guruprasad – allows lovers to come once during 2-week period for one hour only – otherwise all visitors banned – May 7 gave darshan to 300 children in Guruprasad – May 15 gave open darshan – Aug. 7 returned to Meherazad – circular indicated seclusion would continue, visitors and correspondence still banned – Sept. 14 gave feast and darshan to Arangaon villagers at Meherabad followed by singing program by Ahmednagar bhajan group – Sept. 24 small group of 70 Ahmednagar lovers invited to Meherazad for one hour – Oct. 1 a few persons from Ahmednagar called for qawaal program – Nov. 12 young 16 year old girl from Ahmednagar Baba group gave singing program, Baba liked her very much – Nov. 25-Dec. 5 Nilkanthwala mast brought to work with Baba
- 1962 continued health problems – Feb. 11-22 Don Stevens comes to discuss “God Speaks” publication – toured places associated with Baba’s work – took film of locations and of Baba – Meher Dham established in Hamirpur – Meher Hall dedicated in Bombay – ground breaking for Poona Baba Center – various plays and music programs in different places – March 31 with men & women mandali to Poona Guruprasad – April meetings called to discuss planning for East-West gathering – Mohammad mast brought for 5 days – music programs during stay at Guruprasad with various ones invited to attend – ban on visitors and correspondence continues – Baba gave discourses on occasion to those present – May 5 planning group for East-West gathering called – continued health problems – July 8 return to Meherazad – Aug. 26 meeting called for final arrangements for East West gathering – during the year Baba dictated discourses for new collection “The Everything and the Nothing” – Aug. Baba dictates lines for poem “You Alone Exist” for Bhau to complete – Sept. instructions sent out to those attending East-West gathering – health problems begin to include severe muscle spasms when resting – continued to dictate discourses and see to daily matters and planning for November gathering – Oct. 23 leave for Guruprasad – Oct 27-Nov. **East West Gathering** – Nov. 10 return to Meherazad
- 1963 Baba asked that his birthday not be celebrated anywhere in the world – Feb. 28 opening of Meherasthan at Kovvur – Baba and Eastern mandali only to Guruprasad (he said western lovers had received special opportunities of his presence during the East-West Gathering) – from April lovers could visit Guruprasad only on Sundays (no seeking interviews or advice) – June return to Meherazad – Baba’s health deteriorating – Nov. 17 called Poona Center workers to Meherazad for meeting about conflicts over differences – Baba mela at Nauranga, Hamirpur-Baba sent Sarosh and Viloo to take his embrace to his lovers at the mela-the two witnessed the tremendous response to Baba’s love even without his physical presence
- 1964 March opening of Meher Dham in Dehera Dun (Sarosh and Viloo again sent to represent Baba) – Baba and select mandali to Guruprasad April-June – circular sent in February indicated no darshan, no one to visit Poona to see him, none should approach or seek permission to approach, no cables, letters, telegrams – began using wheel chair sent by Dr. Kenmore while at Guruprasad – June 1 leaving Poona for Meherazad called lovers to Guruprasad for his company before leaving – Madhasudan sang for Baba – devotees lined the drive on both sides as Baba’s car drove out – continued seclusion at Meherazad – not visiting Meherabad since 1962 – came to mandali hall for about 2 hours in the mornings and 2 hours in the afternoon – health problems increase – October letter to Allen Cohen with first message against drugs – November Pukar inaugurates Meherpuri colony in Hamirpur - Baba sends Barucha and Dhakephalkar



from Bombay group to represent him and carry his love to the event – Baba had told them “if you want to see me and witness my love, go to Hamirpur, I will be there.”  
Bombay group overwhelmed with Baba’s love at the mela

- 1965 Dr. Ginde repeated trips to treat Baba – March 30 leave for Guruprasad – May 1-6: week-long Mass darshan Guruprasad, Poona - 6,000 lovers attended - “Now I cannot embrace you so I allow you to bow down to my love for you” – mandali allowed to bow down – last major appearance– July 1 return to Meherazad – from August carried in lift chair to mandali hall for only one hour once a day in the morning – Sep. 4 canceled December sahasas for Western lovers due to pressures of universal work and deteriorating world situation affecting Baba’s health (extreme pain in neck and hip) – no disturbance, no darshan for anyone until Nov. 1967 – cancelled 40-day darshan tour planned for Feb. 1966 – Nov. Robert Dryfus arrives - Baba gives Dryfus, Cohen, and Chapman the task of spreading his message against drugs to the youth of America
- 1966 Seclusion – April to Guruprasad – Ahmednagar lovers not allowed to stand on road and greet Baba’s car as it passed through – access at Guruprasad severely restricted–only a select few for a few minutes – Bombay lovers did not come this year – July 1 left Poona for Meherazad – correspondence with American lovers promoting his “no drugs” message in the media and universities – From August no visitors allowed at Meherazad until end of 1967 – Nov. signs posted in Hindi, Marathi, English: “Avatar Meher Baba has stopped seeing anyone or giving darshan to anyone – Baba’s seclusion includes his not leaving Meherazad”
- 1967 April 1 – July 1 with mandali to Guruprasad – signs about not seeing anyone or giving darshan posted at Guruprasad – only those specifically called for his work will be seen – Poona lovers allowed to send food to Baba and mandali at Guruprasad
- 1968 Seclusion extended until March – **seclusion ended; exclusion begun** – July 30 “my work is done; it is completed 100 percent to my satisfaction . . .” – December 22-23 celebrations of Mehera’s birthday, Dara & Amrit engagement and wedding, Navjot ceremony for 3 children from Baba families (**last film of Baba**, last time close lovers gather to be with Baba)
- 1969 January 31 “Avatar Meher Baba dropped his physical body at 12 noon 31st January at Meherazad to live eternally in the hearts of all his lovers.” – April 10 to June 10 Last Darshan