

## Adi Dev Brahma

Eighteenth January brings with it the sweet memories of Brahma Baba who, on this day, in the year 1969, left his mortal coil and took the angelic form as to work, side by side with Shiv Baba, for the spiritual rejuvenation of mankind without any physical and worldly bondage.

The year 1936-37 had proved a turning point in the life of Baba. Until then, he had been doing diamond and jewel business in Calcutta, Bombay, and Karachi and had also been worshipping Narayana, studying the Gita and attending religious congregations. But in the year 1936, when he was a little less than sixty years, he became more introverts, more withdrawn and more detached and practiced spiritual contemplation more devotedly.

### **Baba had divine visions and 'Surrendered' to God**

During this period, he had a number of divine visions. One of these was about the about the forthcoming destruction of the present Iron-aged world. Baba saw, in that vision, the world shaking badly because of severe earth-quakes, certain continents burning and going deep down under the water because of nuclear catastrophe and a lot of blood being spilt in India because of communal frenzy. Baba felt terrified and saddened. He then had a vision of the new, coming world order of *Satyuga* or Golden Age when there will be perfect law and order and love and unity and purity, peace and prosperity. Baba was ordained by the Divine to be His corporeal medium for re-establishment of Satyuga – the era of world peace. Baba willingly and immediately surrendered all his worldly belongings and his physical, mental and spiritual energies to God and, as corporeal medium to Shiva Baba, became the founding father of Brahma Kumaris Institution.

### **Prototype of a Dev and unlike the 'gurus'**

Baba was unlike the saints and founders-of-religions of the past and the *gurus* and 'god men' of the present. Incorporeal God Shiva had given him the name Prajapita Brahma because, through him the whole world was to be spiritually created. He was also known as Adi Dev because he was the prototype of a dev or god of the future, Golden-aged world. By practicing intense and loveful meditation, Baba had not only settled his karmic accounts and become completely enlightened, purified and divinised but he now had the rare privilege of working in union and unison with God Shiva from the realm of angels for the good of mankind.

### **Baba's contribution to understanding life and cosmos**

If we evaluate a person's life in terms of his noble actions and the service he did to the mankind, and if we assess a person's creativity and mental life by taking into account what ideas he contributed to the understanding of the cosmos in general and the human life in particular, or what he did towards enhancing the value of life and bringing peace to the strife-torn world, then Baba's life stands out supreme. Baba did so much in all these realms as none else has ever done. Shiva Baba, explained through him what was, heretofore, a deep, mystery. He gave many deepest facts of life. Man's understanding of the self, of God and of the Universe was never before as clear as he made it now, nor had the ideal of a virtuous and holy life been as clearly set unto mankind as Baba did it now. None had earlier been able to say anything final on the question of the form of the universe, the duration of the World Cycle, the origin and the end of the World History, the goal of human life, the nature of the self and its relationship with God, the source of Thought and the method of controlling or divinising it. Shiva Baba, through his corporeal medium – Brahma Baba – had touched on topics of eternal and the timeless interest and he made the pursuit of this knowledge worthwhile. Heretofore, only provisional theories had been offered by sages of the yore or thinkers of the present but Baba set on many new acts a seal of finality. He imparted definitive knowledge on those questions which had stirred the chord of curiosity in man. Now there remained no vagueness, doubt, mystery or ambiguity about them. Everything was as clear as a crystal.

## **Discovery of new continents of thought and islands of truth**

It is a rare fact of history that revelations of Baba have not only received the attention of common people but they have impinged on the learned people also. Their influence has overflowed into very much wider areas and indeed they have ramified beyond the field of scholarship into the field of science and the sphere of public affairs. What Baba explained is now being highly appreciated by physicists, astronomers, geologists, scholars of history, philosophy and aesthetics, medical practitioners, neurologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, jurists and eminent men of other disciplines? He has made a deep imprint on civilization and culture, nay; he has given it a new direction.

Anyone who studies impartially God's revelations made through Baba, he will reach the conclusion that his work led him to many new discoveries – discoveries of new continents of thought which were no less important than the discovery of America by Columbus or India by Vasco-de-Gamma. Baba's voyages into meditation and his sojourn in spiritual thought have given to man the knowledge of many new islands of truth. If we ask the question whether a man who has chosen to dedicate his life to the pursuit of knowledge *qua* knowledge and to ideas *qua* ideas, ever made an impact on the minds of the men in general, Baba's life would provide the answer that ideas do travel from the meditation hall of a Rajyogi over the wide world around.

But this should not give the impression that Baba was an ivory-tower thinker, philosopher or theoretician. No, he was practical without doubt. He first practiced and only then preached. He had no value for mere theories that were not practiced or that brought stationeries in life. He himself was so dynamic. He gave religion and spiritualism new dynamism and vigor.

### **Man of myriad qualities**

He was spontaneous and required no study or preparation for his lectures. He gave anecdotes and quoted practical instances to explain various philosophical or knotty points. His wealth of knowledge and understanding was truly amazing; it was seemingly inexhaustible. Solutions to problems occurred to him at the spur of the moment. He kept his audience deeply absorbed and interested. He was frank, witty and fearless. There were no taboos in his mind. The clear light of his reason swept away every doubt and ill-feeling. His anecdotes of 'The frogs croaking', 'The monkeys yelling', 'The sheep convention', etc. brought smiles or peels of laughter. He had the wonderful sense of good proportion that comes with good humour. He nudged more people into self-realisation and purification with a sweet smile, a healthy joke or a kind look than were ever forced in through gear and long-faced piety. He expressed himself fearlessly even on topics which another man would consider sensitive. He was unfazed by any event or happening so far as his daily discourse and meditation class was concerned.

### **An ideal godly student**

He was able to impart the words of profound wisdom – this despite the fact that he did not have much formal education. Perhaps, this proved an asset, for his mind received no indoctrination and false conditioning and had no vanity of being a highly educated man or a scholar. He always considered himself a student – a Godly student at that. He happily said: "Godly student life is the best." He was an ideal Godly student, for he followed God's teachings wholeheartedly and sincerely.

He was not like an orange-clad or saffron-dressed *guru*, selling a short-cut to *Mukti* or a recipe for meditation in Indian metropolis or in foreign countries by making jaunts in jumbo-jets. He did not believe in the philosophy of being tucked away in the bowels of the red wood forests, besides a stream, away from all. In fact, he disapproved all this and advised to be natural. He was a practical World Teacher. He knew that the salvation of an individual would not solve the problem, for the whole world is in agony and is crying in pain. He, therefore, worked for the purification of one and all.

### **He considered critics as friends**

Purity and Meditation, knowledge and virtue were his main lamps of life. He was an embodiment of tolerance, compassion and forgiveness. His opponents relentlessly tried to malign him but he never allowed hate to enter into his mind. He wished all people well and considered his critics to be his friends, for they drew his attention to certain points and thus kept him on the alert.

### **Baba's main lesson and message**

His main lesson is pithily expressed in his last discourse which he delivered on the night of 18<sup>th</sup> January, 1969. He asked man to become *Nirakari, Nirvikari and Nirahankari*, i.e. to establish himself in the truth that he is an incorporeal soul, and to be viceless and, above all, to give up all pride, ego and body-consciousness. He further asked to have loveful and conscious link with God, for that alone is capable of absolving the soul of all its rust of past moral deformities, and of eradicating all sorrows and sufferings.

Baba's message was the message of love, compassion and universal brotherhood of man, under the Fatherhood of God. His this method has brought real integration among people of different races, nationalities, castes and creeds and has given hope and peace to the agony-stricken world.

### **His formula for health**

The cardinal rule of health professed by him was: "Lead a pious and care-free life, firmly established in the belief in the non-violable law of Karma or the set plan of the world drama, be calm and contented, train yourself in the habit of meeting emergency with calmness, never giving way to brooding and worry, and it is very important that you avoid, as poisonous and suicidal, anger, fear, gluttony and sex-lust.

### **His method and aim of work**

Baba had proper blending of harmony and balance with functionality. He had a strong sense of direction. Whatever he did, he did methodically, resolutely and with a purpose. Type was his forte. Whatever he did was for the general welfare. There was no selfish motive behind it. Baba always wanted to give and to bless. He tried to bestow good luck on all by inspiring them to engage themselves into good action. He considered all as his spiritual children and always felt happy to see them rise as a teacher or father feels happy when his students or children rise in life.

### **The value he gave to Time**

He understood the value of time as no one else did. He often explained how this particular life, being last in the World Cycle, is valuable and how time, usefully spent in spiritual endeavor and in service of mankind can give us a happy future for twenty-five centuries. "Our present body", he said, "though born of sex-lust can be a very useful instrument for raising ourselves to be deities." He, therefore, advised one and all to take care of the body as God's property and as a trust and to do no evil, hear no evil and see no evil through it, for God will not give to man a thing for being misused. However, when it was time for doing Godly service, he counseled all not to say 'No', for Baba would help one with a healthy feeling if one would happily devote the self to service.

### **Flights into the spaceships of Godly remembrance**

Baba was a man of infinite charm. His words could achieve miracles greater than man's going into space or landing on the moon. He could inspire souls to counteract the forces of worldly attraction and also the pull of the body and to fly beyond space, mentally, into the Soul World. He called this as *Yad Ki Yatra* - Mind's pilgrimage into the world of God on the spaceship of intense love for and remembrance of God. The soul could do this easily though a moment before they had considered this 'impossible'. Baba did not believe in miracles nor did he consider the materialization of ashes or watches etc., by means of occult powers, a good thing. He called this '*pai-paise ki cheese*' – a worthless achievement, for it gave man no lasting benefit. He emphasised that unless

man purified the self by means of God's knowledge and loveful meditation, he could never attain any lasting and noble result.

### **He loved and used art for elevation of mankind**

Baba's aesthetic tastes and sense of appreciation were highly developed. He used music during meditation and interpreted songs to give a start and a touch of art to his discourses. He sometime said that the songs were the Gita. He appreciated poetry. In the early days the institution, he even composed some songs so as to be recited by the spiritual children. Yet he considered silence as superior to songs and, gradually, led the children into soundless stage. In fact, he had great love for all fine arts. He wanted these to be used for the elevation of souls. He understood how effective these could be in conveying godly message in an interesting way. He instructed for making good paintings of Godly knowledge – illustrations, charts and all. He pointed out that arts have the potentialities to raise man to spiritual heights and these have also the capability for bringing man's downfall. He, therefore, wanted man to see that, in the name of beauty, there was no vulgarity and that beauty was blended with goodness, that *Sundaram* was accompanied by a wish for Shivam.

### **A Pillar of strength and tower of Light**

Above all, he was the greatest Rajyogi of all times. Anyone who sat in his presence, experienced peace and withdrawal from the body. There was divine grace in his acts. He radiated vibrations of spiritual calmness. He had attained the mental quietude and constancy under situations of stress and in face of vicissitudes. He was noble-hearted and had become, by means of practice of intense meditation, a powerhouse from which a great multitude of men, women and children drew their spiritual strength.

In the strife-torn world, he brought peace to many homes, hopes to many dejected souls, spiritual strength to those who considered themselves too weak to attain worthy goals of purity, and he blessed many souls with the gift of self realisation and happiness. He is now doing this divine worked in the angelic form of *Avyakt Brahma*. He and Shiv Baba, who are in constant company, are together called *Bap-Dada*. If poet Rabindra Nath Tagore were alive today, he would pay his homage in these words:

*O Serene, O Free,  
In thine immeasurable mercy and goodness  
Wipe away all dark stains form the heart of the earth.  
Man's heart is anguished with the fever of unrest  
With the poison of self-seeking,  
With a thirst that knows no evil.  
Countries far and wide flaunt on their foreheads  
The blood-red mark of hatred,  
Touch them with thy right hand,  
Make them one in spirit,  
Bring harmony into their life,  
Bring rhythm of beauty.*

**Brahmakumaris Varta Article Bank**  
[www.bkvarta.com](http://www.bkvarta.com)