

Thursday } " Education Is Essential "

2nd June '27 }

A large number of visitors came to see Baba as is usually the case every Thursday.

Dhakayphalkar went on leave today for his marriage which is to take place at Tralagore on the 6th inst, giving temporary charge of his duties to one Mr. Phadkay, a 'science' graduate teacher.

There was a general discussion amongst the mandali on 'education' at ten o'clock this morning in the Principal's office. Pandoba lead those who spoke against education while Gitay was the chief speaker amongst the pro-educationists. One of the chief complaints of the former was "education has spoilt the Indian family trades and traditions and thus brought about great misery amongst the masses..." While Gitay maintained "Education helps one to keep up one's trade and traditions more efficiently and in a better spirit..... even a Bhangi would be able to save much labour and trouble ~~if~~ in removing and cleaning refuse if he happens to be educated..." Winding up the debate Shri was pleased to convey through signs "Education however faulty and incompetent ~~was~~ is always better than ignorance. It is and does much good. If not always beneficial financially, education ~~to~~ brings about a lot of good mentally. It is a step further towards human advancement, betterment and progress. Under all circumstances and at any place I would repeat and declare that education is and does good. ~~It~~ A system may be defective, even bad, yet you must not blame the one for the other i.e. the education for the system....."

AVATAR MEHER BABA TRUST

Bhansabib provided his usual Thursday musical Bhajan treat to Shri and the mandali between four and five thirty in the evening after which Baba passed about an hour and a half in the Ashram amongst the little

ones. After sun-set the new 400 C.P. Petromax lamp was lighted for the first time at Ichhorabad amidst loud cheering of the boys and mandali who had assembled to witness the inauguration when coconuts were broken and the kernel distributed as sweets. ~~However~~ As very strong winds were blowing since early this morning Shri particularly warned Ravalib to look well after the new lamp adding one of his typical threats " If any accident happens to the lamp I will march out of Ichhorabad in an unknown direction "

All went to bed after the usual repetition of a story.

Friday }
3rd June '27 } The only event outside the daily routine today was Rustonji's visit to the D.S.P. in connection with the ~~Lotcha~~ case. Besides this matter the D.S.P. discussed spiritual subjects with him at great length evincing deep interest in Babu's activities and speeches and requested to be supplied with the latter for himself as well as for his friend, the son of Mr. Mathew Arnold who has recently come to India to study the spiritual questions particularly Buddhism.

Saturday } A Call to the Clouds.
4th June '27 } In the afternoon a meeting was called when Shri proposed to pay a flying visit to Aurangabad tomorrow. Discussions followed over the details of the visit and the members to accompany Him. While thus engaged Shri suddenly asked Adi to go out and ~~call~~ call out loudly to the clouds " Come rain, come. " Adi did so, but uttered the "call" rather in a low tone. Shri again signed at Adi to repeat the same loudly, and as soon as Adi shouted the words for the second time, to the surprise of all very strong winds began to blow and clouds began to gather overhead. The discussions about the proposed visit to Aurangabad

were resumed but save that of deciding to start at five o'clock in the morning nothing further was settled and the meeting was dispersed. Soon after Adi went away it began to rain heavily! holding the

Sunday 5th June } To Aurangabad.

1927 }

Inspite of the cool and wet morning

Baba came into the Makaan at exactly five o'clock and caused the mandali members who were still lying snugly in their respective beddings to tumble out one after the other. Baba and party then came to Khuroo Quarters at Ahmednagar ~~and~~ where a wholesome breakfast was provided to all. It was nearly seven o'clock when they left for Aurangabad, reaching there at fifteen past ten. The bus journey proved a pleasant spin save for a few minutes near the river Godavery which is about thirty miles from Ahmednagar.

As there is no ~~any~~ bridge or a causeway over this river the car had to cross the river bed full of sand and at places having knee deep water with the help of the mandali who had to push the car considerably. The halt was made at the local Govt Inspection bungalow. While some of the party went to buy food in the city the rest played a few games of cards with Baba. The supper was partaken of at eleven o'clock and after half an hour more it was decided to visit the Ellora caves near the village of Bhuladabad some fifteen miles from Aurangabad. There are nearly forty caves and temples carved out of solid rock in a line on this particular hill. The party however saw only one of them - the Kailas. But this is the best and the largest temple in the lot. From the tiny little carvings over the dome to the huge plinth of the temple which is running into hundreds of square feet, this mighty structure is comprised of one single rock throughout and ^{is} beautifully carved and

decorated as a piece of embroidery. A very interesting half an hour was passed by the party in going round this great temple.

Further away

The 'Great-Grand-Father'

On the way back to Aurangabad Baba agreed to stay in the village of Khuldabad and take tea at the place of a local resident known to Ramjoo. This village is well known as a place of pilgrimage of the Tschahmuddaus in the Deccan. Almost everywhere the tomb of a Saint is found to be in existence and many annual fairs take place here. It is a popular belief that no less than 1400 Saints grace this place besides the tomb of Aurangzeb which is also situated here. According to Baba the only Sadguru amongst all these Saints here is Hazrat Zar-Zari Buluksh who Shri was pleased to add is the Master of Hazrat Sai-Baba! Thus it was for the first time that anybody could know as to who was the Guru of Sai-Baba. The man at whose place Ramjoo took the party for tea was one of the attendants at Hazrat Zar-Zari Buluksh's tomb. In spite of a hut like place full of buzzing flies Baba took his seat there and remained as if at home for nearly half an hour or so.

Shri seemed to be in an excellent mood and explained many interesting points about the subtle universe and heaven and hell to the mandali in quite a new aspect. After tea was served to all, the man offered a jar of fresh Ghee for Baba which Shri returned to him 'saying' "keep it for your children" and also got five rupees paid to him.

After reaching back to Aurangabad before starting for Ahmednagar, the party had a spin round the city & Cantonment as a joyride as well as to select the site for a branch of Khan Sahib's garage which is shortly to be opened here. The site that Baba favoured as the best for the proposed new garage at a mere glance happened to be

the very place that Adi said they were already ~~of~~ thinking of acquiring it of! With the exception of a shower or two of rain the return spin to Ahmednagar was also a pleasant one.

The supper was taken at the Khurroo Quarters ~~and~~ after which at about eight o'clock in the night Shri Baba and party found themselves once again back at Pachherabad. The trip seems to be significant as it was undertaken by Shri in spite of having cold and pains in the body besides feeling indisposed generally as well as in view of the visit to Khuldabad, the stay and the 'disclosure' made there.