

From Nadirshaw's (Chaujis) Diary.

Mon. 19. 7. 26.

A Gruesome Tragedy!

In the morning we had a meeting to hear a case against one of our Dharmashala residents, who was accused of trying to induce a young woman (also the resident of the Dharmashala) to go with him to Nagor. The charge was proved with proper witnesses and searching cross-examinations when Baba ordered the local Police-Patels to take him to Nagor and hand him over to the Police. The latter handcuffed the man and began to take him away as per the orders.

However after the two had gone a little distance they were called back and after due warnings the trembling culprit was pardoned away by Baba. As usual in the evening from 7 to 8 P.M. Mr Angal explained the Purans to all, after that we had a little music. Following this the Circle-Committee sat for an hour discussing some proposals. At about 9 P.M. news reached at the colony that a murder was committed on the road to Nagor about a mile off. It was

The news seemed at first incredible yet Baba at once sent a party of the mandali post-haste to the spot to render assistance as at the most it was supposed that it might prove a casual scuffle of some way-farers with robbers. Consequently the party when they came upon the scene they were not at all prepared for the scene of gruesome

sight. Just a mile away from Meherabad at the spot known as Kala-Wada they actually came across a wanton and dastardly murder. In all there were three persons lying about in the nullah. One of them was beyond the reach of any help as it seems he died instantly with an apparent slash of some sharp instrument or blade.

The other two who seemed to have some life through the faint groans uttered by them were however no better to look at.

One of these had actually a portion of his brain protruding out of his fractured skull! While the ugly blood marks and pieces of raw flesh were literally strewn about the place! It was a terrible atmosphere of ~~death and~~ death and destruction. Rustamji who was one of the party at the sight of the horror took very prompt steps. He at once repaired to the Ry station and after informing the Police brought in a Gharry to the spot of the murder. The Arugam village Patel who was also with them was left to look after the dead body pending the arrival of Police while the rest returned back to Meherabad with the two wounded persons whom they brought to the Hospital in the Gharry that Rustamji had specially got from the station for that very purpose.

At the sight of those battered and bruised persons drenched all over

with blood quite stir was created at Meherabad
Baba once ordered the Doctor and those
of the mandali in charge of the hospital to
take prompt and useful action in the
matter. The wounded were soon put on
beds and the injuries were all dressed and
attended wherever possible under the
circumstances. Some of the Police officers
also came to Meherabad late in the night
to look up the wounded and particular
thanked Rustamji for his prompt action and
useful activity in the matter

Tuesday, 28th July '26

The D. S. P. himself came to Meherabad
after inspecting the actual spot and took
away the wounded in a motor-lorry to the
Hospital at Ahmednagar. After that 8 A.M.
Baba called a general meeting of the mandali
when after some discussions some were
appointed as watch-men at night, to remain
alert and watchful throughout the night &
then sleep ^{not} throughout the day. After that
the usual routine was begun again and
all took to their respective duties and activities.

At 4. P.M. we had tea and Baba gave
us a fine explanation on dead-bodies which
considerably cleared away the horrible impression
of last night that were so long flitting before
the eyes of all. Baba also greatly appreciated
the leading share taken by Rustamji in
reaching relief so promptly to the injured

and attending to the other needful actions
such as informing the Police and bringing
the Gharry etc without losing his presence
of mind.