

Thur. 17th Feb '27.

This was a very busy day ~~from~~<sup>for</sup> all. Scenes of unusual animation began with the dawn. Baba to went over the Hill at eight o'clock sharp to begin the function of the day, but not finding all the mandali and final preparations ready there, He came back to the Makaan in an unpleasant mood.

The mandali however at once formed into a deputation and awaited on His Holiness with apologies for the inconvenience caused to Sri which they stated happened on account of pure misunderstanding since they were under the impression that the actual bathing and feasting would begin at nine o'clock.

To their great delight they succeeded in persuading Baba to excuse them and once again accompany them over the Hill. The bathing of the boys was begun at nine o'clock and lasted till 11 P.M. For an hour and a half during this period, Baba personally gave baths to a large number of the boys with the assistance of two members from the mandali, who were selected by turns now and then. At the last half an hour Baba ordered each of the mandali members to give baths to the remaining boys individually, adding that every member should bath atleast one boy all by himself. When bathing of the boys was finished with, the mandali were asked to take baths themselves with the remaining hot water. During this bathing, the smaller ~~but~~ boys were also served with meals following a bath. While at the end of it, when all the mandali had also finished taking a bath, exactly at 12 o'clock in the noon, Baba, mandali

and the bigger boys all sat jointly in the other side of the tank premises to take the specially prepared meals.

The dinner was very successful and full justice was paid to the tasty catables amongst an occasional song or "Shooloe" repetition sung by the mandali by turns. At one o'clock the function came to an end and all came back to the Mahan. While coming back from the Hill each of the mandali took as much as possible of the things from there and yet a considerable lot remained there to be brought down.

Here a breeze occurred, some members disobeyed Behramji in going back again to the Hill to bring back the remaining things. When this was reported to Shri by Behramji, Baba set out Himself towards the Hill, seeing this the members concerned apologized and pleaded misunderstanding as the cause of the reported disobedience.

Baba was eventually pacified and the mandali then ~~handed~~<sup>removed</sup> all the things themselves from the Hill.

By three o'clock this work was finished away with.

Thereafter all got busy in the preparations for the morrow's birthday celebrations. The chief work in this connection was the storing up of sufficient water.

All had to bear the burden of carrying water loads in 'Kavads' and more particularly in dragging the big water-cart. The cart-tank used to be filled to the brim and then dragged by ten or twelve of the mandali by turns and taken to the required places. Following this all began to assist the cooking department in preparing the special meals for themselves as well as the expected visitors in all for 200 persons. All worked with a will without giving any consideration to their positions or inclinations.

There was nothing like sleep or rest for anybody.

So much so that the midnight hour found them all, still as busy as the bee at their respective duties.

## The 33rd, Birth-day

Friday: 18th February 1927.

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The mandali continued working at their respective jobs till three o'clock in the morning, when all retired for a short nap. Within a couple of hours, by five o'clock, Incherabad once again began to buzz with life and animation. In spite of the previous tiring day the enthusiasm amongst the mandali was sufficient enough to make them leave their respective beds with hardly a couple of hours of sleep. And still for all that the mandali was in the best of spirits. The first thing that happened after all got up, was a record rush at the single little bath room near the well where all vied with each other in soon getting a bath. The morning was found to be unusually cold through a strong breeze that made almost all shiver with it. But the dawn soon smiled upon a gay scene. Almost all the buildings and premises were bright with different coloured bunting and flowers, and leaves, tastefully arranged about them the previous night. The specially decorated 'mandali' on the site of the previous Sai Darbar was very

prominent in this connection. At six o'clock sharp the first bell of the day began to peal off merrily calling to all to a special breakfast. The same consisted of rich 'Rava' (a sweet dish) and milk tea. The 'Rava' was distributed to the mandali by Baba with his own hands, and it was thus served to them thrice. Considering the mandali's unusual exertions since yesterday Baba also gave each of them two quinine pills as a prevention against cold and fever. After seven o'clock, visitors from the city and some of the surrounding villagers began to pour in at Incherabad. The morning train being a little today, the outstation visitors from Bombay and Poona side began to arrive after 8 A.M. By this time the preparations for giving a ceremonial bath to Shri were being made with a swing. In the meantime, a rumour began to spread up, that Gandhi who has been putting up in the Marwaris' bungalow which is just 2 1/2 miles from Incherabad since his arrival at Ahmednagar, was out for a walk towards the Incherabad side, and may perhaps pay a visit to Shri Baba! Many of the mandali went wild with joy at the possibility of having such a distinguished visitor amongst them on this auspicious occasion. But when Baba heard this rumour he once again repeated the often made remark, that Gandhi will never come here. However if he - Gandhi - did come, Shri assured the mandali, that he would break his vow of using the pen and explain Gandhi through writing to his full satisfaction the intellectual side of Truth and make him stay here in the mandali for one year. But Shri soon added, as it was, Gandhi was not destined to come to him inspite of being so very near to Incherabad. Still Vishnuo kept the slates

Handwritten text in Devanagari script, appearing to be a list or series of entries. The text is written in black ink on a light-colored background. The characters are somewhat cursive and difficult to read precisely, but appear to be a sequence of words or phrases.