

Bhandara.

3rd April '25

A feast was given to the poor in honour of 'Ramnavmi'. About 5000 people belonging to all castes took advantage of the Dal-Bhet a vegetable dish and 'Shua' from the surrounding villages. In the afternoon at 3.30. wrestling matches were held when the champion parties were presented with turbans. The feature was greatly appreciated by the villagers. The day of entertainment and feasting terminated with a cinema show that was also arranged depicting the Life of Sant Jookaram to the great delight of the huge crowds that had assembled for the purpose.

Rescuing The Terrified!

13th April '25

Baba had decided to go to Bombay on a flying visit the following morning. However at about eight o'clock in the night a man named Piraji came to Baba in a very terrified condition saying he was one of those many people that were bitten by a mad dog that evening at Walki. It is a village on the north of Arunjan at a distance of about 5 miles where a very big bazar is held every week on Mondays.

Baba at once took the man personally in the hospital and asked the Doctor to do his best for him. After the first aid was given Baba instructed someone to take the injured man to the hospital in Nagar the following morning for further treatment.

Baba also cancelled his visit to Bombay and asked Rustomji to go to Walki next morning and bring all the victims of the dog bite found there for treatment!



## To Bombay,

14th April '25

As per instructions Pustoji went to Walli in search after the dog-bitten victims. But in spite of through enquiries none were found there. He was informed, that all the victims were outsiders, having come for the bazar, & had since, returned to their respective places.

So the only victim Piraji was duly sent to the hospital. Baba has issued instructions for an operation room to be added to the Hospital here specially for ~~eye~~ treating the diseases of the eyes, as Dr Kerkal also happens to be an eye-specialist. At 5 P.M. this evening Baba left for Bombay.

## Baba's Return.

18th April '25

Baba came back from Bombay this morning by the 7.30. train and reached Incherabad from the Ahmednagar station by a tonga. The tonga was stopped near the Hospital and the first thing Baba did on his arrival was to inspect the hospital, its patients and staff one by one. Then the school was visited where Baba personally enquired of most of the boys as to how they fared in his absence, and after meeting with the mandali members some of whom were embraced by him, Baba went for a wash.

## Kirtan.

19th April '25.

Being Sunday a Kirtan was held in the evening. Mr Damodar Hardas, the Kirtankari Bera, held the audience spell bound with his usual flowing speech, apt quotations, and dramatic delivery.

The subject, "The Importance of Saints", touched upon tonight, was also very entertaining.



However, as <sup>most of</sup> the Arunjon villagers were prominently absent in the Kirtan, Baba became very upset at the conclusion thereof; and ordered the temple to be dismantled there and then. The Pujari was instructed to continue his Pujas by the wooden board that was the only thing remained of the temple the same night! Baba also declared that the Arunjon villagers were <sup>to be</sup> strictly forbidden ~~not~~ to come to him hereafter, and only the outsiders were to be allowed to come for his Darshans.

Another addition was made in the mandali by the advent of a new 'recruit': B.S. Daman.

He came to Baba and declared that through various social reasons he was tired of the worldly life and wanted to experience Divinity. Baba asked him to remain here, & be under his instructions to the letter.

He having accepted to do as ordered, the first instruction given to him was to remain without food for seven days, that is to drink water only during this period and also keep himself at one place in the corner of the school room excepting when he ~~found~~ wanted to go out for necessities.

### Bathing The Boys.

20th April '25

Today Baba gave a wash to about 30 boys of the untouchable section of the school with his own hands. It took about 3 1/2 hours, as he bathed each boy from head to foot, ~~with soap~~ using soap liberally unassisted by anyone from the mandali.

During the bathing, some outsiders came for Baba's Darshan and while they bowed to him



Baba said "I am bathing 'untouchable boys', why do you bow at my feet?"

Mrs G. L. Power (native christian) was asked by Baba to read five pages ~~from~~ of the Bible daily before him, from today. One more addition took place in the <sup>population</sup> ~~school~~ with the engagement of a tailor by name Waman on the permanent staff of Queherabad. Baba got some clothes cut ~~was~~ under his personal supervision by the new tailor from the Khaki cloth he had brought from Bombay the other day for the school boys.

By now sports, such as cricket and foot-ball have been arranged for the boys. Baba took actual share in the game with them today. Consequent to Baba's searching enquiries and personal supervision on the boy's feeding and general conduct many of them were severely reprimanded too, for the lack of discipline and slight mistakes.

22nd April '25.

The parents and guardians, ~~of~~ especially of the 'untouchable' boys were called before Baba today, and they were asked either to take away their children or leave them completely to Baba whole heartedly so that they may be ~~a~~ educated without any hindrance or ~~any~~ ~~other~~ irregular attendance. They were explained all the conveniences provided for the ~~boys~~ boys at great cost and trouble. However the guardians and parents gave in their consents ~~was~~ very readily with one voice and said Baba's advent near Arugason was indeed a blessing for them. Baba reassured them that the boys will get a great uplift and it was for that very purpose that he had come to their village.