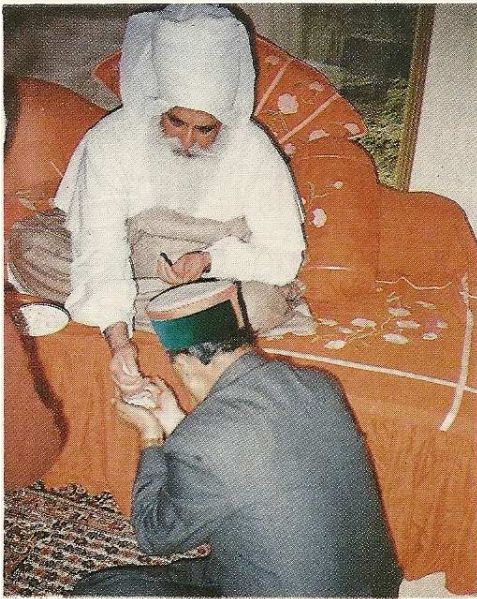


NEWS FROM GOBIND SADAN

Gobind Sadan, Gadaipur, via Mehrauli, New Delhi 110030, India

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Babaji gives prasad to Virbhadra Singh, Chief Minister, HP

All parties come to Babaji

In the midst of factional conflicts between political parties in India, His Holiness Baba Virsa Singh stands above the fracas as a beacon of peace and healing for all. Increasingly, leaders of all parties are coming to him for his guidance and blessings. Recent guests have included A. B. Vajpayee (ex-Prime Minister of India and leader of the BJP), Abhinash Jaswal (Secretary of the RSS), Narasimha Rao (previously leader of the Congress Party and Prime Minister of India), Virbhadra Singh (Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh), Dr. Karan Singh (MP, previously Union Minister and Ambassador to the U.S.A.), Mohammed Wamiq Rafiq Warsi (Leader of All India Muslim Minority), Prakash Singh Badal (Chief Minister of Punjab and leader of the Akali Dal party), Surjit Singh Barnala (ex-Chief Minister of Punjab and leader of Akali Party in Parliament), Sahib Singh Verma (Chief Minister of Delhi), Farooq Abdullah (Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir), Mayawati (Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and a leader of the BSP), and her archrival, Mulayam Singh Yadav (Union Defense Minister and president of the Samajwadi Party).

Babaji does not garland VIPs when they come to visit him. Rather, he speaks to them firmly about combining government and dharam (the

eternal essence of religion). For example, to Narasimha Rao, who is now daily reading Jaap Sahib and honoring Guru Granth Sahib, Babaji said, "Our government policies were traditionally based on dharam. If our country becomes truly righteous again, it will become very progressive and peaceful. How can it be made to shine? Only through human beings, not through angels. Through human beings come either peace or corruption. People in our country are very capable and intelligent. But why are they upset? They have left the shelter of the One who commands the cosmos."

Babaji explains why people who are political rivals all come to him: "Outwardly there are many parties, but in the House of God there is only one party. No matter who comes, be they farmers, lawn cutters, cooks, or rulers of the country, I see them all as human beings. The point is, 'What is the duty of a human being?' Dharam exists within everyone. The light of the soul is within us all. Love and truth dwell within each of us. We connect people with that inner love and truth, no matter from what national, social or political group they come. We do not tell them anything which will separate them from God and attach them to us. I speak to them of the words of God's messengers. After they come here, their thoughts and actions will probably change, for they are encountering the power of God. Night and day, people are being united with that Power which never despairs, and which will never disappoint them."

Science and visions of the cosmos

For two weeks, Babaji engaged in a series of extraordinary scientific discussions with Galina Vladimirova, Russian space scientist. She asked him questions relating to her institute's space research, and he described what he saw in his cosmic vision — about solar winds, the effects of comets, invisible particles, and the like. Babaji explained to Galina, "Consider the power of enlightened knowledge. The things that science is telling us after lengthy research were already revealed by the visionaries as they sat comfortably in meditation. They just closed their eyes and described what they saw. They did not have to spend money on research or use power from battery cells. They said that humans have many cells within the brain, and once these are developed, you can see everything that is happening above and below."

Our country's religious texts have already told us that some stars are so far away that it will take tens of millions of years for their rays to reach the earth. In meditation, Guru Nanak [the First Sikh Guru] once said, 'This sun that you see is not the only sun — there are tens of millions of such bodies. This moon that you see is not the only moon, there are tens of millions such bodies.' Now when a scientist reveals a research discovery, we feel that it is

something very new. Actually, it is very old knowledge. Scientists are proving what has already been revealed.

What is meditation? It is like concentrating on something, researching into it, looking deeply into it, until you reach a conclusion. Whether you are conducting scientific research or meditating and having visions, it is a matter of inner concentration.

The stronger and clearer your thought and the better you are able to focus it, the better scientist you will become. Likewise, the clearer your mind and the greater your power of concentration, the better dervish you will become. Worry, fear, and pressure should not enter, for they will torture your mind. In reality, what is meditation? Defence. It keeps out the bad and develops the good. The clearer a person's mind, the stronger it becomes for researching to great depth.

Both scientists and dervishes are studying the universe. The scientist studies its components; the dervish studies the One who made them. The dervish says, 'Through my enlightened vision I have seen the whole universe. I call it the Creation, for the Creator has produced it.' It is as if one person insists that a tree has branches, while another says that the tree has a trunk and speaks of the One who creates the branches. Both are correct, and neither discipline has reached its limits. Scientists have asserted that although they have discovered a great deal, there is more beyond what they have found or done. The dervish also declares, 'This field is so vast that I cannot explore it fully.' It is our duty to research and explore as much as possible, and to provide this information to the people.

Sometimes the scientist becomes worried and doubt sets in, for the parts of his research do not fit together. At that point, he needs the one with the store of enlightened knowledge to share this knowledge with him, to clear the obstruction in his mind when it has come to a standstill, and to help him move ahead. The scientist knows about the elements, but sometimes they may confuse him; inner spiritual knowledge will never confuse a person.

Although the research of the scientist and the dervish is related, unfortunately they have never collaborated. If the scientist and the dervish were to get together, human knowledge of the universe would increase. If they truly have a meeting of minds, the scientist will not doubt the knowledge of the dervish, and the dervish will respect the scientist's research. Then the scientist will start believing in God; the dervish already does so."

On Doomsday fears

The world is rife with predictions of an apocalypse as we approach the turn of the millenium. For instance, a group in Russia is trying to gather UFO researchers and astrologers to tell the people of the world that there will soon be dangerous cosmic influences from a "New Heavenly Body," so whole countries should be evacuated to the Ural Mountains in Siberia. When Babaji was invited to join this effort,

he sent a message to the organizers that they should stop frightening the populace with such talk. Babaji said to them, "It is true that the planets and stars have a strong influence on earthly events. India's ancient seers and astrologers have described these effects in great detail in their books. From the beginning, rays have been travelling through the cosmos, planets have been created and destroyed, earthquakes and floods have occurred, some species have become extinct and others have appeared, civilizations have risen and fallen. Good and bad things are continually occurring. Whatever will happen, will happen. But the world will not come to an end. Let God deal with what is in His scheme of things. You should just love God. God Himself will change things or provide safeguards, for we are all His family.

God creates diseases, and also medicines to cure the diseases. God creates destructive rays and also repairing rays. People are afraid of death, but they cannot see that a person who dies from cancer is freed, and that he is greeted with great rejoicing where he is reborn as a baby in his next life. Destructive effects do form in the cosmos, but other forces are also created and come together to counteract them. You have seen only one thing, but perhaps you have not seen many other cosmic processes which would save the world from what you have seen.

We have a saying in Punjabi: There is a bird which nests on the ground and sleeps with its legs in the air. Someone asked the bird, 'Why do you sleep with your legs toward the sky?' She answered, 'I think that if I lower my legs, the sky will fall down.' She was told, 'The sky is not going to fall. You can sleep in peace.'

After the great flood covered the earth, God made a commitment that He would never again destroy life on this planet. God said to Noah, "As long as earth lasts, sowing and reaping, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall cease no more." [Genesis 9]. God never goes back on His commitment.

There are always great dramas going on in the cosmos. Many things come into existence which cannot be seen with the naked eye. They are so numerous that they cannot be counted. Some come into existence very briefly and then die. If we are looking through a telescope, something may not yet have come into existence, but may do so just after we stop looking. What we saw may have been destructive, but what we did not see, which came afterward, might have a positive effect. Both forces may unite and the harmful effect will end. Things that we cannot see keep developing and dying out on their own, again and again.

There are certain tiny forms of matter which do not even last for one second, but they leave an influence. When their effect acts upon certain destructive elements, it turns them into something very good. The cosmos is an elaborate show in which nothing is what it appears to be. Just by seeing one aspect of it, you cannot understand the rest.

In vision, one sees certain worlds that seem about to be

destroyed by cosmic events. But it may appear so in that particular vision only. When one goes on looking, those very forces which one thought would be destructive instead turn into a barrier, and this barrier breaks the speed of other destructive whirlwinds. If you focused on them at one time, you would predict that those worlds would be annihilated. But the other waves may have an effect later.

Sometimes you see what looks like bombardments by particles that make holes in a planet's atmosphere. But if you again look a little later, you may see that the holes have been repaired. This is the way the cosmic show goes on. A person who sees the holes will predict that there will be a great heat wave because heat will pour through the holes unobstructed. But later those holes close because new rays come in. I've seen layers that I can only describe as being like the layers of rust on iron, which look like they will destroy the worlds below. But then other layers start moving in, and those rust-like layers are destroyed.

There are innumerable galaxies, not just this one in which we are living. I have seen that there are other worlds which are very, very big — much bigger than our planet. And there is something like a great pit in the cosmos which is so big that millions of earths like ours would fit into it.

There is a tremendous spectacle going on above. You have become frightened on seeing just a tiny part of that drama. There is so much more to be seen."

Wheat crop saved by grace

Weather patterns in North India have been very unusual this year, as Babaji had predicted. Heavy rains have occurred frequently in May and June, whereas normally this is a totally dry season. The rains have been a problem for farmers harvesting their wheat crop, for the grains must be kept dry. Seeing the danger as unseasonal clouds approached, Balwant Singh, Babaji's agricultural specialist, asked him to protect the 900 acres of standing wheat at Gobind Sadan's largest farm, Shiv Sadan. The next day, Guru Gobind Singh came to Babaji in vision and offered to grant a grace period without rain. "Will one month be enough to harvest the wheat?" he asked. Balwant Singh told Babaji, "With your grace, we will manage." Babaji said to him, "Then go and harvest the crop within a month without worry, for it will not be rained upon. Gurdev Singh [the farm manager] should pray three times each day at the havan [sacred fire]. One large sack of black oil seed should be offered each day for 30 days in the havan, and bananas, prasad, and coconut offered each morning."

Balwant Singh reports, "During that period it rained heavily many times in the areas surrounding Shiv Sadan — in Meerut, Garhmukteshwar, and Qila Parikshat Garh — but in our area it did not rain. It was an amazing thing: Wherever our harvesting was totally finished, it rained there only. For instance, the



Gurdev Singh and Galina Vladimirova in Shiv Sadan wheat

plot near the Ganges River was cut first. After the wheat was gathered, it rained there, but not at the area where we were processing the harvest.

One day, harvesting was going on in Tejpuri and Gurdev Singh forgot to do the noon prayer. Around 2:30 in the afternoon, clouds came up and it started sprinkling. Gurdev remembered that he had forgotten the prayer, and he raced to the havan to do it. After he prayed, the rain stopped.

Working around the clock with two combines, our people harvested all the wheat in 22 days. Even during the 5 days needed to load the wheat into trucks and carry it to market, there was no rain. The villages around our farm also benefitted. Maharaj always remembers them."

Prophets and the power of truth

To Vivien Redonsky, on her way to Israel, Babaji said, "Today it has become fashionable to say, 'We must help the poor.' But Moses actually helped them. He gave up everything that was to be his — kingdom, throne, marriage to the princess, all luxuries — in order to free the people from slavery. He truly left everything; it was not just a matter of speaking. Similarly, Jesus worked for the sake of the weaker people, and he was sent to the cross. Guru Gobind Singh sacrificed all the comforts of home and family in order to help the weak. At one point, he travelled barefooted in torn clothes in this mission. The Prophet Muhammad likewise sacrificed his family and faced great strife to oppose the immoral excesses of the rulers, but he brought freedom to the world.

Those who hold worldly power always oppose those who speak truth. The renunciation and love of those who have upheld the truth have been unimaginable. To side with the poor is not a piece of cake. When you confront an oppressor, he will raise a big sword against you, and you don't even have a knife. Jesus said, 'If someone slaps you on

one cheek, turn the other cheek.' The others had army, whips, and power; Jesus had nothing except truth. He told the rulers, 'You can kill a man with your power, but the kingdom of God can bring a man back to life.' They killed Jesus, but he rose from the dead. He had told the ruler, 'Your lamp will be extinguished, and my lamp will burn forever.' Guru Gobind Singh raised a sword of truth against injustice; the rulers' swords were backed by cruelty. The sword of truth shattered the sword of cruelty, just as glass is shattered by a stone.

Moses was a very great prophet, but the priests tried to distort his teachings. One sabbath day Jesus saw a crippled woman in great distress. He blessed her and healed her. The priests accused him, 'You've broken the law of Moses by working on the sabbath.' Jesus said, 'Do you obey the law which is written on stone or the law of compassion which is written on the heart? If your goat falls into a well and it is the sabbath, must the goat die or is it more essential to save the goat's life? Even Moses would say, "If a goat falls into a well on the sabbath, pull her out, save her life." The priests created a commotion by interpreting this story in their own way, telling people that Jesus said, 'I do not believe the law of Moses that is inscribed on stone.' But their real motive for denouncing Jesus was to decrease his influence on the people. Jesus himself said, 'I have not come to change a single word in the books written by my forefathers. I have come to unite you with their words.'

Then the priests put the idea in the people's minds that the prophesied Messiah was not this Jesus. They said, 'The Messiah referred to in the Torah is someone else.' But this was not true. Jesus was the Messiah who was prophesied in the Torah. Indeed, what was written about the Messiah in the Torah was one hundred percent true of the life of Jesus: It was written that Jesus would come, that he would be crucified, and that he would rise after three days. It all came to happen, because what was written in the scripture was written through vision.

Even today some people doubt that this Jesus is the prophesied Messiah. Many people have been influenced by the priests, and have forgotten the words of the prophets."

Caution to the United Religions

Several global initiatives are afoot to establish some permanent council of religious leaders which would consider world problems and offer religious solutions as a united front. Babaji is sceptical about such plans unless all those involved are truly dharmic. He recommends a more practical approach: Begin celebrating the holidays of each religion in every holy place. This method is already being practiced at Gobind Sadan, and people naturally develop appreciation for each of the prophets.

To one of these groups trying to organize an interfaith council, the United Religions Initiative, Babaji sent this message: "Your intentions are good, but I can definitely tell you beforehand that this method you have

adopted will not succeed. Big meetings will be held, and there will be a great conflagration. By contrast, when the prophets came, the paths on which they walked were healed. The trees by which they passed, the wind through which they passed were healed. People would gather around them, and that was their meeting. They had no buildings. Their roof was the sky; their bed was the earth. But the very earth was kissing their feet. The sky bowed before them, the wind kissed them, the flowers worshipped them with fragrances, and the stars worshipped them with lights.

If we truly act upon the message of the prophets, religion is already united. But if I offer my thoughts, and you give yours, there will always be a clash of thoughts.

We say that Jesus is God's only Son, that Jesus is the only messenger of God. When we are not ready to accept that others are also sons of God, that others have also come from the same place from whence Jesus has come, this is our fault. Jesus himself said that he belongs to the whole Creation and that his Father is Light.

It is not that worship started only when Jesus appeared. Worship had begun much earlier, but when Jesus came, God was speaking and healing through him especially. You can say that when a prophet comes, he is God's dearest son in the world at that time, and that God has specially selected him to give the message at that time. When he comes, he is the only messenger. In Prophet Mohammad's time, what he said was most authoritative. In Guru Gobind Singh's time, he was the only authentic messenger, even though there were also many learned people in that age. But you cannot say that a certain prophet is the only son and there will be no other. People forget God's message; the prophets come to remind them.

First develop faith in your own minds. Then develop religion within yourself. Develop inner courage. Talk to the One who is sitting within you. Then you will wonder, 'What religion must we unite? Dharam is already pervading in the trees. Dharam is moving within the oceans. There are not separate enlightened wisdoms.'

You want to collect leaders, but who is a leader? God has created only servants. If you collect a hundred people, one hundred will be blowing their own horns, playing their own tune. In that place, there will be many religions. If there are a hundred people, there will be a hundred voices.

There are no new religions. Prophet Mohammad said, 'I have not come to shift even a single word of my elders backward or forward.' When the prophets come, they refer to those who have already brought the message of God. Guru Nanak says, 'The remembrance of God is already described in the Vedas, but we are not listening. All holy scriptures, such as the Vedas, Puranas, Holy Qur'an, and my own scripture, all say the same: Without remembrance of God, all is false and useless. My scripture — the Guru Granth Sahib — proclaims, "They have all spoken correctly. We must believe them."