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## BABA STATUE IN MEHERSTHAN

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**Eruch Jessawala**

Mandali Hall, Meherazad, India

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07:59

**PILGRIM 1:** Eruch.

**ERUCH:** Yes sir.

**PILGRIM 1:** I was reading Francis Brabazon's East West Gathering this morning and that in Guruprasad in 1962, it seems Baba spent a lot of time talking about His lovers growing up and doing His work.

And He was talking about, you know, making statues for Him, creating buildings for Him, [Eruch laughs], spreading His message in this manner and I was struck by how much Baba warned the people to be sure that they were doing this for Him with correct hearts, otherwise. [crosstalk] at all.

**ERUCH:** It's all a waste. Yeah, Yeah. He cannot be housed in a temple, He says, unless, you bring Him there in your heart at the time of worship. No amount of creating statues or buildings and temples, house Him. It is you who are to bring Him in your heart. Then, it is worthwhile.

So, in spite of it all, there were ashrams built [sound of clock chiming]. There are, there are many Centres in Andhra and North India, South India and East & West. Buildings are built, full-size statues are there.

So, first when it started, you see. Baba refused all this. He says, "I have come here

to do away with all rites, rituals and ceremonies of all world religions. So time and again I have been telling you all and you all have been thinking, because of your love for me you think of creating that which I do not want, is that your love for me?"

So then, but one day, it so happened, there have been advocates also, you see. You are an advocate?

**PILGRIM 2:** Yeah, Yeah.

**ERUCH:** So what happened is, there was another advocate called Ramalinga, T. Ramalinga Shastri. I don't know whether you have read anything, yeah. So He sent a long petition to Baba, of course, saying that, "Baba, we would, we are so enthused about the aspect of having God in human form at this time in our midst and we would create an edifice of our love. Permit us to build a big building and house your full-life size statue in that."

So Baba made me write a letter. And of course I had signed the name, I have to sign the name. So I wrote a letter expressing all the same things. So then, that fellow thought, that advocate thought, that I was the one who is putting the spoke in this.

So he wrote me a nasty letter, you see, long thing, you know. And saying, "You people who have lived with Him and you

have no idea as to how we feel, how our heart yearns to have Him and you even deprive us of having a stone image of Him!" You see, [Eruch laughs] lot of things, you see, he wrote. All the letters are there. They are in print, mind you. They only brought out that souvenir at the time.

So all this was going on. So again Baba said, Baba laughed of course. He says, you write another letter. Saying that this is Baba wants, Baba has warned us and this and that. By the time my letter reaches, a delegation of about a dozen of them came to Baba here. They couldn't get that letter in their hand. They must have read it later on.

So when they came, they were very vehement about it. They want to spend, and then they want to do something, their hearts yearn to express their love. Why a damper has to be put on their expression of love and all that? So they are petitioning and cajoling Baba. And Baba wants to, even Baba told them, "No, no, this is not the way to please me. My pleasure is quite different. Your love can be expressed in accepting my pleasure. That is the expression of your love."

And so forth. But man is man. Mind, mind, this mind. Naturally Baba being silent, I had to interpret, I had to put emphasis on this. So they would get so upset. It's you who are always coming in the way, you see and all that.

I am saying, "I am just repeating what Baba said." You know while emphasis had to be put when He, His expressions would say like that. "No, Baba doesn't want it that way."

Say, "Who are you to say that way? We are talking to Baba, why do you interpret like that?"

Eventually, Baba says, "All right, you want to have your way, have it. On one condition."

"Yes Baba, what is it? We'll try to obey everything that you say."

He says, "Yeah, on one condition. If you, when you install my statue in that particular spot, all around my statue it should be inscribed in stone, not painted." Not painted because painting will be white washed or colour washed or anything. "It should be inscribed on blocks of stone, big stones. The things, the messages that I want to give you today." And He dictated the messages. Beautiful messages are there. Have you read them?

**PILGRIM 2:** No.

**ERUCH:** Want to read them?

**PILGRIM 2 :** Yeah.

**ERUCH:** You have thirst, you go, you want to get water from there, milk you want to take or anything that you want to take, your vessel is so full that nothing can contain in it unless you turn it upside down and go with an empty vessel. So how will you empty it?

Then again you'll come that yes, He has given us that. You read this loudly. These are the messages He has asked us.

**PILGRIM 1:** "Tear the curtain of set ceremonies and rituals and you will find that I am the worshipped, the worship and the worshipper."

**ERUCH:** He wants us to tear the curtain.

**PILGRIM 2:** Yeah, Yeah.

**ERUCH:** It is, we create the curtain, you see by our rites, rituals. Yeah.

**PILGRIM 2:** "To clothe simple worship with the garment of ceremonies and rituals is to expose me to the cold winds of ignorance. To faithfully love Godman, is to truly worship God. To find me here in Mehersthan, search the depths of your heart. Mehersthan has been built for me with love, that I may only be found here by my lover who brings me here in his heart."

**ERUCH:** See that it is all right, you want to build it with your love.

**PILGRIM 2:** I, I, understood.

**ERUCH:** Yeah, this is what I am saying.

**PILGRIM 1:** "As the heart is, so is the house. As the eye is, so is the image within the house. The heart of man has always been the ancient temple for the worship of the Ancient one. Nothing can house the Ancient one that does not house love."

**ERUCH:** These are the messages that has to be inscribed.

**PILGRIM 2:** Great.

**ERUCH:** You see this is the building. All this is. That is Mehersthan, as you call this. See all this is Mehersthan.

**PILGRIM 2:** Where is it?

**ERUCH:** Kovvur, near Rajahmah on the banks of River Rajahmundry where Baba gave public darshan.

**PILGRIM 3:** Is Mehersthan the name of the statue?

**ERUCH:** Mehersthan, means. No, [Eruch laughs] you haven't seen the picture of Mehersthan?

**PILGRIM 3:** No.

**ERUCH:** I'll get it. This is the full-size statue in bronze.

**PILGRIM 3:** Is this in Andhra?

**ERUCH:** Yeah.