

**Meher Baba** (born **Merwan Sheriar Irani**; 25 February 1894 – 31 January 1969) was an [Indian](#) spiritual master who said he was the [Avatar](#), God in human form.

Merwan Sheriar Irani was born in 1894 in [Pune](#), India to [Irani Zoroastrian](#) parents. His spiritual transformation began when he was 19 years old and lasted for seven years. During this time he contacted five spiritual teachers before beginning his own mission and gathering his own disciples in early 1922, at the age of 27.

From 10 July 1925 to the end of his life, Meher Baba maintained silence, communicating by means of an alphabet board or by unique hand gestures. With his [mandali](#) (circle of disciples), he spent long periods in seclusion, during which time he often fasted. He also traveled widely, held public gatherings and engaged in works of charity with [lepers](#) and the poor.

In 1931, Meher Baba made the first of many visits to the West, where he attracted followers. Throughout most of the 1940s, Meher Baba worked with a category of spiritual aspirants called [masts](#), whom he said are entranced or spellbound by internal spiritual experiences. Starting in 1949, along with selected *mandali*, he traveled incognito about India in an enigmatic and still largely unexplained period he called the "[New Life](#)".

After being injured as a passenger in two serious automobile accidents, one in the United States in 1952 and one in India in 1956, his ability to walk became severely limited. In 1962, he invited his Western followers to India for a mass [darshan](#) called "The East–West Gathering". Concerned by an increasing use of [LSD](#) and other [psychedelic drugs](#), in 1966 Baba stated that they did not convey real benefits. Despite deteriorating health, he continued what he called his "Universal Work", which included fasting and seclusion, until his death on 31 January 1969. His [samadhi](#) (shrine/tomb) in [Meherabad](#), India, has become a place of international pilgrimage.

Meher Baba gave numerous teachings on the cause and purpose of life, including teaching [reincarnation](#) and that the phenomenal world is an illusion. He taught that the Universe is imagination, that God is what really exists, and that each soul is really God passing through imagination to realize individually His own divinity. In addition he gave practical advice for the aspirant who wishes to attain God-realization and thereby escape the wheel of births and deaths. He also taught about the concept of [Perfect Masters](#), the [Avatar](#), and those on the various stages of the spiritual path that he called [involution](#). His most important teachings are recorded in his principal books [Discourses](#) and [God Speaks](#).

His legacy includes the Avatar Meher Baba Charitable Trust he established in India, a handful of centers for information and pilgrimage, as well as an influence on pop-culture artists and the introduction of common expressions such as "Don't Worry, Be Happy." Meher Baba's silence has remained a mysterious issue as much among his followers as with the rest of the world.

[From wikipedia]

MORE IS YET TO COME