

# Early Messages to the West

## Indian Mystic Arrives to Break 7-Year Silence

NEW YORK, May 20 (AP)—Shri Meher Baba, Indian mystic, has come to the land of talkies and loud speakers to break his seven years' silence.

He maintained his vow as he arrived on the steamer Bremen from England yesterday by answering a number of questions onto his English secretary, Quentin Tod. For such personal communication as he saw fit to make he was armed with a small blackboard, on which were painted letters of the alphabet and numerals.

With him he brought a 1000-word written statement. His secretary explained it was his message to America. In it Meher Baba proclaimed himself "one with the infinite source of everything."

"When I speak," the statement said, "my original message will be delivered to the world and it will have to be accepted."

Whether he will break his silence while at a retreat maintained by his followers at Harmon, N. Y., or wait until he reaches California, his ultimate destination in this country, was not made plain.

He had no comment to make on the Indo-British situation and it was explained for him that when Mahatma Gandhi sought his teachings, he told Gandhi to quit politics.

His followers explained that "super-consciousness" was bestowed upon Meher Baba when he was a youth by the kiss of a Parsee woman saint, Hazarat Babajan. After seven years another saint, Shri Sadgur Upasni, conferred "perfect sight" upon him and disciples began to flock to him. This is not Meher Baba's first visit to America. He was here last October.

"Meher Baba's 1931 Western tour was the first of thirteen during his lifetime, ten of them between 1931 and 1937. But the fertile period in the arena of public communication, that is, in the Avatar's work towards the conveyance of his message to the world through the various public media, took place between April 1932 and January 1935; and this present collection for the most part centers on that period.

For Baba's 1931 voyage to England and America passed largely "beneath the radar" in the sense that he avoided public meetings and contacts with the press, concentrating rather

on personal interviews and the establishment of links with disciples. During his round-the-globe tour from March to July of 1932, however, Meher Baba attracted all kinds of media attention, some of it sensationalist, and gave a series of major public addresses in which for the first time he presented himself and his

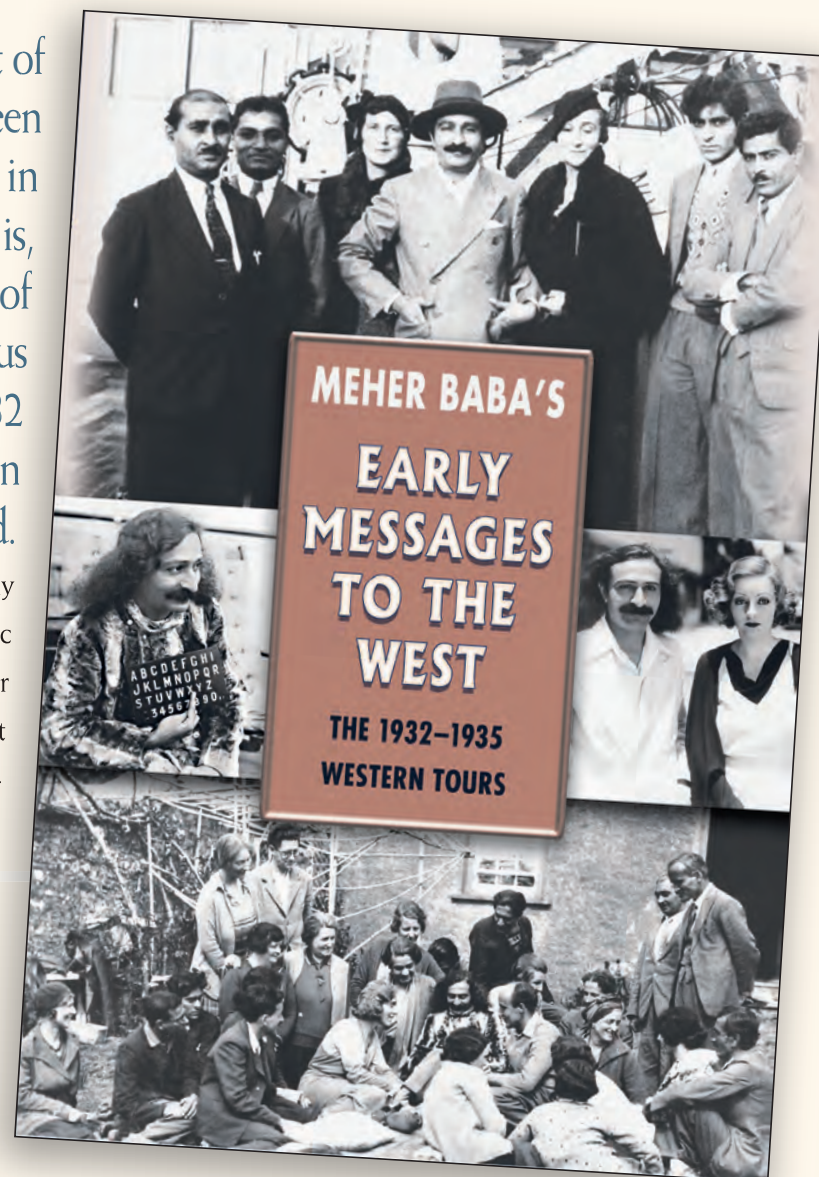


(ABOVE) DVD of talk given by Ward Parks at the Bookstore about *Early Messages to the West* is available.

(LEFT) Article from the *Fitchburg Sentinel* (Massachusetts), May 20, 1932.

(BELOW) Introduction to Part Four of *Early Messages to the West* from the book.

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## New Books, Music and DVDs

It's been a year particularly rich in new materials about Baba. For a more complete overview of new items in the bookstore check out the Sheriar Books website ([www.sheriarbooks.org](http://www.sheriarbooks.org)) under *What's New*, a periodically updated list of new additions. Here are a few of them.

### BOOKS

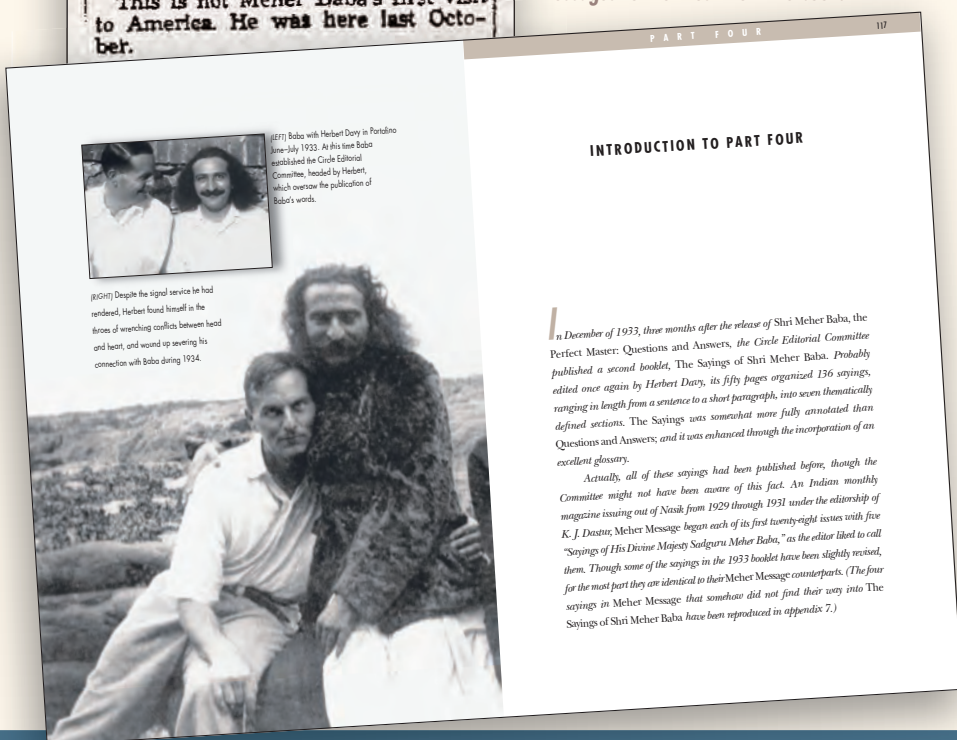
#### EARLY MESSAGES TO THE WEST: THE 1932-1935 WESTERN TOURS. (see above)

A 472-page, dynamic description of Baba's

tours of the west between 1932-35.

Includes an extensive collection of reproductions of newspaper and magazine articles about Baba from this period. Also includes a 17" x 22" foldout replica of the Film Master Chart conceived by Baba and drafted under His supervision, that was intended as a guide and roadmap in the creation of a Hollywood feature film to be entitled *How It All Happened* (see page 2). Illustrated with photographs, correspondence and charts. Twocolors. \$39.95.

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Sunday Graphic, May 14, 1933. When Meher Baba's Western disciples returned to their homelands after an unexpectedly brief stay in India, the press took interest, perhaps in expectation of a story of spiritual fraudulence and exploited gullibility. Photos of Delia DeLeon, Minta DeLeon, and Kitty Davy (the group's spokeswoman).

# Early Messages to the West

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mission to the Western world. Though the media hullabaloo soon subsided, during Baba's subsequent Western visits in the next year and a half his disciples, under his direct supervision, began to prepare literary materials with a view to presenting Baba's message through the print medium. The culmination of this phase seems to have arrived in 1934–35 when Baba visited America for the last time in that decade, ostensibly to participate in discussions with Hollywood filmmakers that aimed at the creation of a film depicting spiritual themes. Though the film work had an afterlife that continued on as late as his visit to Cannes in 1937, the

main thrust of Baba's energies from 1935 onward turned elsewhere—particularly towards his work with the masts and the training of his Western disciples in residence in his ashrams in India."

From the Introduction in Early Messages to the West

An article from the New York Times, May 20, 1932. The "printed statement" alluded to in the final two paragraphs is Meher Baba's "Message to Reporters and Press Representatives" (printed in full in the book).

(Right) Article from the Daily Gleaner (Kingston, Jamaica), March 29, 1932. An example of just one of an extraordinary number of newspapers carrying news about Baba's visit to the west.

## Meher Baba Plans Crusade In U. S.

### Spiritual Leader Leaves India For America To Establish Retreat at Harmon.

(By Air Mail to the Gleaner).  
BOMBAY, March 25.—Meher Baba, the Indian spiritual leader, whose disciples call him "The God-Man," left here to-day for a new crusade in America. He intends, he said, to break down all religious barriers, destroy America's materialism and amalgamate all creeds into a common element of love.  
For eight years Meher Baba has been observing a vow of silence, which he said he would break upon his arrival at Harmon, N.Y., where he plans to establish a spiritual retreat similar to Mahatma Gandhi's in India.  
Giving his first interview to an Associated Press correspondent by means of a blackboard, Meher Baba, who in the eyes of his followers has performed many miracles, said Gandhi had promised to come with him to the United States as soon as his political works has been finished a year hence.  
Many Indians regard Meher Baba as Gandhi's Duru, or spiritual adviser.

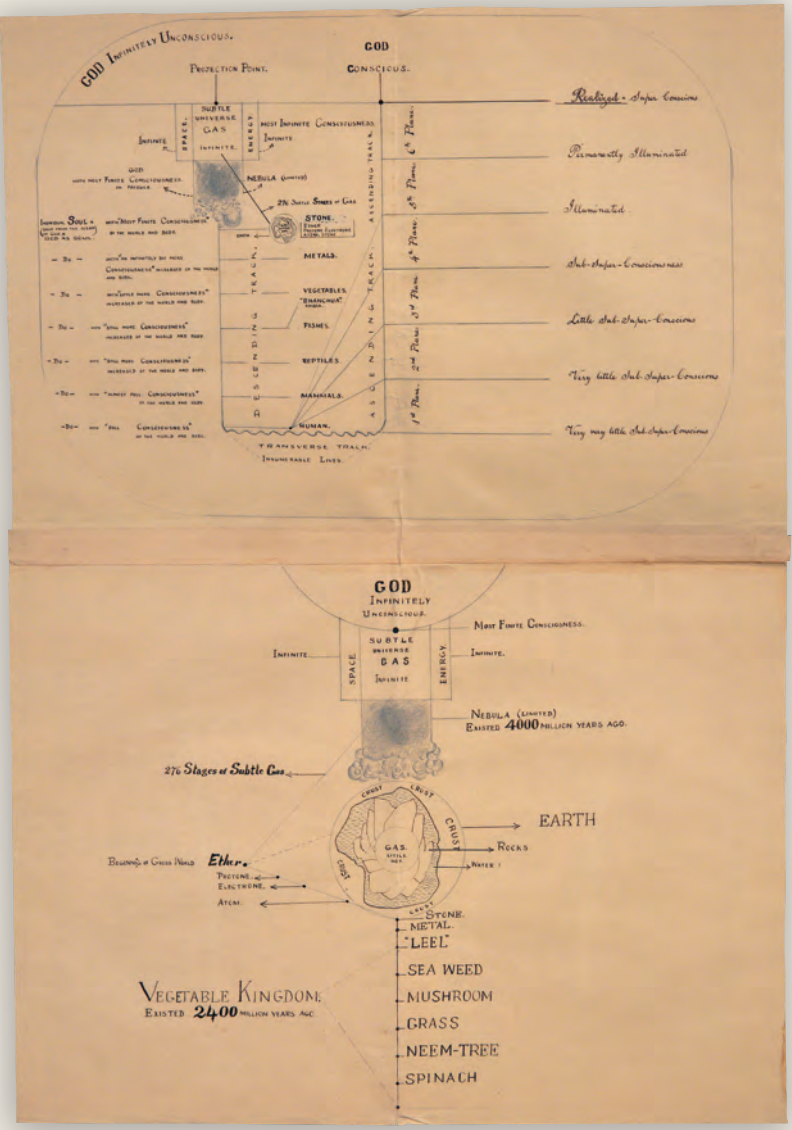
## An Explanation of the 1934 Film Master Chart

As described in Early Messages to the West:

"In May of 1934, as a part of his work in the film medium, and in preparation for his upcoming visit to the West, Meher Baba had his disciple Adi K. Irani (and perhaps others among his mandali) prepare what we are calling the "Film Master Chart." This chart serves specifically to illustrate the points Baba had been conveying in his dictations during that same period, as recorded in the document "Creation and Evolution" and incorporated into the text of *How It All Happened* in this book.

"Five feet wide and seven and a half feet high, the Film Master Chart divides into two sections, a top half and a bottom half. The top half displays the entire Divine Theme in a complexly developed form. The bottom half selects out and expands upon the earlier stages of this process, that is, the original creation through subtle gases, the emergence of rocks and minerals, and the origins of life in the vegetable kingdom."

A 17" x 22" replica of this chart is included in *Early Messages to the West*. Additional copies are available from Sheriar Books. It will cost \$10.



The Film Master Chart, depicting the processes of creation, evolution, reincarnation, spiritual advancement, and God-realization. Conceived by Meher Baba and drafted under his supervision by his mandali at Meherabad, May–June 1934, the chart was intended as a guide and roadmap in the creation of a Hollywood feature film to be entitled *How It All Happened*. The original 5' x 7½' chart is housed in the Trust Archives at Meherabad.

### WOULD REDEEM WORLD.

Meher Baba is a parsee (priest) of the Zoroastrian faith, and says he is both divine and human. He explained that he attained a super-conscious state from which he returned to carry out his mission of redeeming the world.

Discussing on his blackboard the miracles which he allegedly has performed, Meher Baba wrote:

"A person who becomes one with truth can accomplish anything."

Meher Baba said he expected to convert thousands of Americans from sin and by faith to heal the sick and help the halt.

"The only miracle for the perfect man to perform is to make others perfect too," he said. "I want to make Americans realize the infinite state which I myself enjoy."

### MET INDIAN SAINT.

The parsee said he first realized his mission on earth many years ago by coming in contact with Baba Jan, the Indian saint who died recently in Poona at the age of 130 years.

For nine months after meeting Baba Jan, Meher Baba said he lay in a state of coma, neither sleeping nor eating, and drinking only an occasional drop of water. It was after this, he said, he saw the divine light and realized his mission to the world. He said he had received overwhelming offers of money and land from Americans who believe in his teachings.

The doctrine of Zoroaster holds that at the beginning of things there existed two spirits, good and evil. The history of their conflict is the history of man, and in the soul of man is the object of the war.

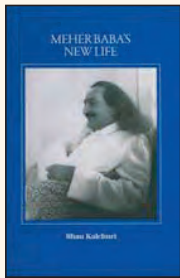
The parsees in and around Bombay have taken Zoroaster, a Persian prophet of ancient times, as their own, and have adopted the ancient religious usages of his faith, but their doctrine is a pure monotheism.



# New Books, Music and DVDs

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**MEHER BABA'S NEW LIFE.** A long-awaited book by Bhau Kalchuri about Baba's New Life; a 726-page comprehensive account of the extraordinary and often mystifying story of a period



of Meher Baba's life known as the New Life. Illustrated with photographs. Please check availability before ordering. \$50

**GROWING UP WITH GOD.** A highly popular, personal account by Sheela



Fenster paints a vivid, intimate portrait of life near Meher Baba, from the perspective of a child and teenager. 805-pages, illustrated with 146 color and black and white photographs. \$50

## FINDING GOD IN NORTH

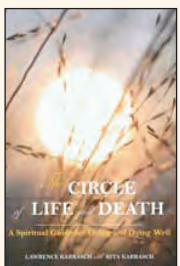
**CAROLINA.** An unusually intriguing compilation of "coming to Baba" stories of people who live or lived in North Carolina. These stories are accompanied by original and never-before published maps and photographs of Meher Baba's time in North Carolina. Compiled and edited by Randy Wasserstrom and Zuzanna Vee. 331-pages. \$24.99



**SEEKERS OF LOVE.** A valuable collection of stories with the unique perspective of Indian Baba lovers. The result of Amiya Kumar Hazra's desire to save the Baba stories for posterity of elderly lovers he knew. Amiya Kumar Hazra and Keith Gunn. 218-pages. \$12.50



**THE CIRCLE OF LIFE AND DEATH: A SPIRITUAL GUIDE FOR LIVING AND DYING WELL.** A well-received



collection about life after death from the world's great spiritual masters and teachers. Lawrence Karrassch with Rita Karrassch. 184-pages. \$16.95

## MUSIC

**LAST CHANTS** by Jim Meyer. A brand new album from Jim that spans reggae to blues to rock to his beautiful ballads. 15 wonderful songs. \$15



**A NEW LIFE** by Adrienne Shamszad.



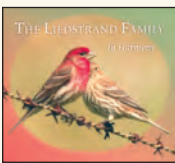
The songs on this long awaited CD have much longing and emotion and are sung with Adrienne's whole heart and soul. In addition to her own compositions, two songs from Brian Darnell are also included. 12 tracks. \$15

**ONE REAL FRIEND** by Jim Meyer. Now



available on CD this digitally-remastered recording of Jim's young voice on his first solo album in 1976 is ever-fresh, soothing the soul. Includes nine songs from Journeys of the Heart. Featuring the unforgettable "I Will Never Leave You." 21 tracks. \$15

**THE LIEDSTRAND FAMILY: IN HARMONY. A LIVELY COLLECTION OF SONGS FROM THE LIEDSTRAND FAMILY.** Includes the ever-beautiful "Begin



the Day," an instrumental of the American Arti on the mandolin and violin, an upbeat, Irish-sounding happy music with Grandpa on the fiddle playing with the rest of his family. 17 tracks. \$15

**MANDOLIN PARADISO** by Mark



Trichka. A refreshing compilation of exquisite mandolin pieces with great guitar and tabla accompaniment.

Includes versions of "Begin the Beguine" and "Gujerati Arti." 12 tracks. \$10

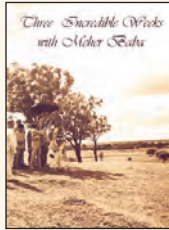
**EARLY MESSAGES TO THE WEST: A TALK BY WARD PARKS.**

An informative and stimulating talk by Ward Parks, the editor of *Early Messages to the West*, given at Sheriar Books, July 2009. 75 minutes. \$5



## DVDS

**THREE INCREDIBLE WEEKS** by Bob Frederick. Amazing film footage of the gathering in the spring of 1954 in India that has come to be known as the "Three Incredible Weeks." Narrated by Bill Le Page and Meherwan Jessawala. 92 minutes. \$20



**THE NEW LIFE: STORIES FROM MANI AND ERUCH.** Program 1. More footage from the Brustman Witness Series filmed at Meherazad in 1986. Mani and Eruch in Mandali Hall share some of their very special stories from this time of



"helplessness and hopelessness." 65 minutes. \$34.95.

**A LOVE FEAST GATHERING: THE 1958 MEHERABAD SAHAVAS.** The



story of the 1958 sahasas program held by Meher Baba for 1,000 of His Eastern lovers at Meherabad. Includes accounts by Meheru, Katie, Bhau, Jal and Dolly Dastoor, Hoshang Dadachanji, Meherwan Jessawala, Digumber Gadakar and others. Contains over 30 minutes of footage of Meher Baba. 1 hour. \$20

**AVATAR'S ABODE 1958:** Wonderful personal recollections of those who were



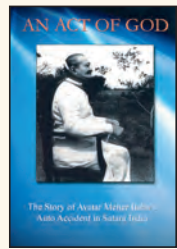
present during Baba's visit to Avatars Abode (Australia) in 1958. Captures the intense drama, challenges and joy of being with Him during this unique visit. 95 minutes. \$20

**REMEMBERING DARSHAN: APRIL-JUNE 1969.** According to Meher Baba's instructions Darshan was held between



April and June 1969 in Poona, India. Photographs documenting the event collected from attendees include pictures of Guru-prasad, Baba's House, the Poona Centre and the day trip to Meherabad and Meherazad. 17 minutes. \$12

**AN ACT OF GOD: THE STORY OF AVATAR MEHER BABA'S AUTO ACCIDENT IN SATARA, INDIA.** Created



for the 50th anniversary of Meher Baba's second automobile accident December 2, 1956 at Udtara, Maharashtra, India. The story of the events leading up to and including the accident by those who were there: Eruch Jessawala, Dr. Goher, Meheru, Meherwan Jessawala, Bhau and others. 2 hours. \$20

## CALENDARS

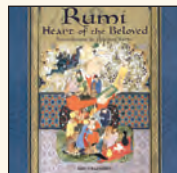
**2010 MEHER BABA CALENDAR.**



Another beautiful calendar containing finely reproduced photographs of Meher

Baba accompanied by thoughtfully chosen messages. \$12.50

**RUMI CALENDAR 2010: HEART OF THE BELOVED.** Translated by Coleman



Barks. Each month features a Rumi stanza paired with exquisite Persian miniatures. \$13.99

**RUMI CALENDAR 2010: THE ILLUMINATED RUMI.** Versions by



Michael Green. Stunning modern collages with a touch of the east bring these renderings of Rumi to life. \$13.99

**HAFIZ CALENDAR 2010.** Versions by



Daniel Ladinsky. Contains inspirational Hafiz quotes and original photo collage illuminations. \$13.99

## WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

**Drop in.** Browse the Internet on our Wi-Fi network, while sipping a free cup of coffee or tea.

**Or Call.** Discover items in the bookstore not available online, and you may catch wind of an in-store sale.



# Some Thoughts About Fund Raising in These Times

2009 has been a challenging year for many of us. Many in our community have struggled with unsettling economic difficulties while the tragic loss of Erico and the passing of Stephen Edelman, a long time Baba stalwart and Sheriar Foundation board member, have deepened our awareness that all happens according to His plan and that His plan is unfathomable.

As it happens, much of our work this year was concentrated on publishing *Early Messages To the West: 1932–1935 Western Tours*. The book brings together a number of Baba’s earliest messages to the West but it is also an in-depth study of Baba’s activities in the West during the period of His

first visits. It includes extensive facsimile reproductions of the extraordinary media coverage Baba inspired in those years. Set against the backdrop of a worldwide depression, many of Baba’s interactions with the media were connected to questions He answered concerning the root cause of economic misery and the impact He would have on transforming humanity. It is all the more fascinating to delve into this material at this particular moment of time.

That may all seem counter-intuitive as a train of thought for the part of this newsletter that is set aside for a fund raising appeal. We are also cognizant of the fact that this newsletter is arriving

later than usual. Nevertheless, we would be most appreciative of any level of financial support that you are able to give to Sheriar Foundation. Our work is made possible by the generosity of people like yourself and we are grateful to Baba for that ongoing affirmation.

Another central part of the work that Sheriar Foundation does is to be found at our web site [sheriarbooks.org](http://sheriarbooks.org). If you haven’t been to our web site in a while, you might enjoy visiting. You will find all kinds of new offerings as well as a broad selection of video, music and photographs that you can browse at your leisure. To our ongoing delight, our web site continues to attract visitors from all over the world, with more than

100 countries having visited to date. You can now also keep up with us on Facebook. Just go to the Sheriar Books page and become a Fan.

As a few final words about donations, we wish once again to remind those people who would like to make a donation in their will that you may bequeath a specific amount of money, a particular asset, or a percentage of your estate to Sheriar Foundation. Please be sure to secure appropriate professional guidance on any kind of planned giving you are considering.

We thank you for your interest in Sheriar Foundation and wish to tell you once again that donations of all sizes are tax deductible and much appreciated.

# A Variety of Ways of Staying in Touch

There are many ways to browse and keep in touch with Sheriar Books online ([www.sheriarbooks.org](http://www.sheriarbooks.org)).

**BROADCAST EMAILS.** As new items become available subscribers to our free Email Update service are alerted with electronic messages. Samples of a few broadcast emails sent this year are shown on the left.

**FACEBOOK.** Enter the bookstore’s Facebook page (Sheriar Books) for announcements of new books, music and DVDs. Read customers’ comments, see photos of “Friends of Sheriar,” and post and read reviews. Also catch announcements of bookstore events—very neat ways of interacting with the activities. Become a fan and our postings will come to you.

**WEBSITE.** Since September of last year people from 25 new countries visited Sheriar Books online. These include Antigua and Barbuda, Benin, Afghanistan, Angola, Costa Rica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libya, Malta, Maldives, Montenegro, Morocco, Nigeria, New Caledonia, Oman, Palestinian Territory, Paraguay, Qatar, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Uzbekistan, Venezuela and Zambia.

**NEWSLETTERS.** Informative newsletters

about Sheriar Foundation activities are published twice a year. In the spring the *Spring Update* includes announcements about planned future projects and a review of new items in Sheriar Books.

In the fall this newsletter, the *Sheriar Report*, presents a more comprehensive overview of the year’s activities of Sheriar Foundation. This usually includes a more expansive overview of Sheriar Books highlighting new publications, events and internet happenings.

Subscriptions to Newsletters and the Email Updates are free. You can sign up on our website ([www.sheriarbooks.org](http://www.sheriarbooks.org)), or call Laura in the bookstore, 843-272-1339, or email her at [laura@sheriarbooks.org](mailto:laura@sheriarbooks.org).



Mid-year newsletter

## Bookstore Talks Available Online

The intimate atmosphere of Bill Le Page's unique story-telling style is captured in a video of a talk he gave at Sheriar Books August 8th. Bill read passages from a selection of books he wrote about Baba.

On July 18th Ward Parks, the editor of *Early Messages to the West*, presented a comprehensive view of Baba's visits to the West from 1932–1935.

Both of these talks can be viewed online on the Bookstore website. Go to **Bookstore News** under **What's New**.

## SHERIAR FOUNDATION

was formed in 1989 as an independent, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation.

The purpose of the Foundation is to broaden awareness and deepen the appreciation of the spiritual values exemplified in the life and writings of Meher Baba.

