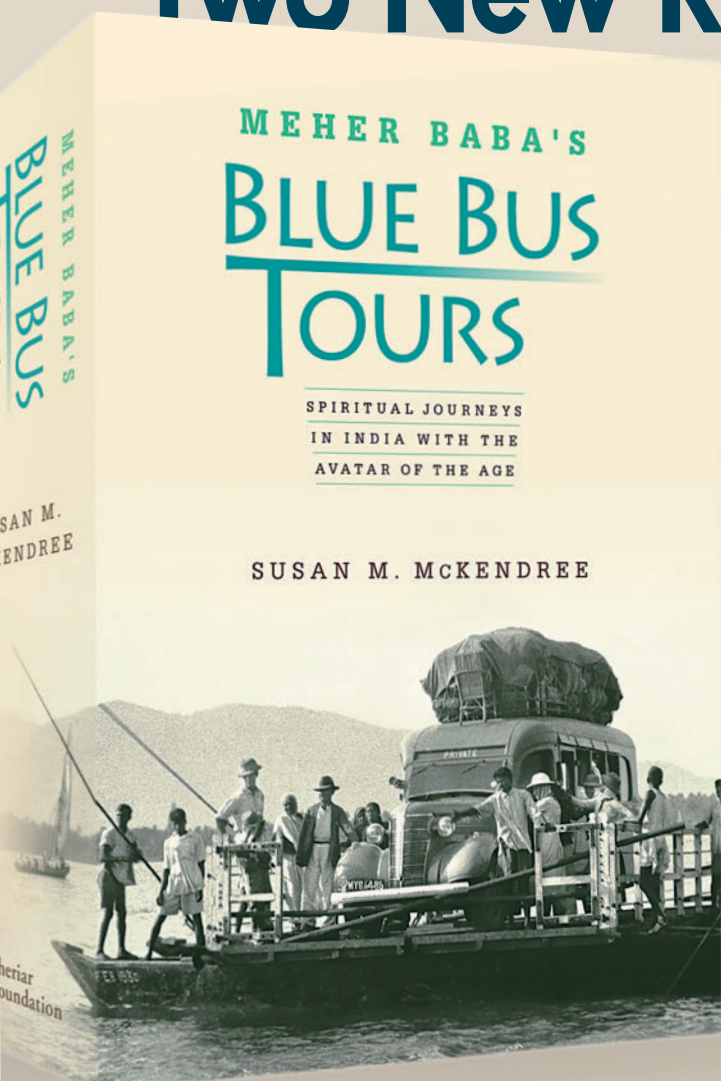
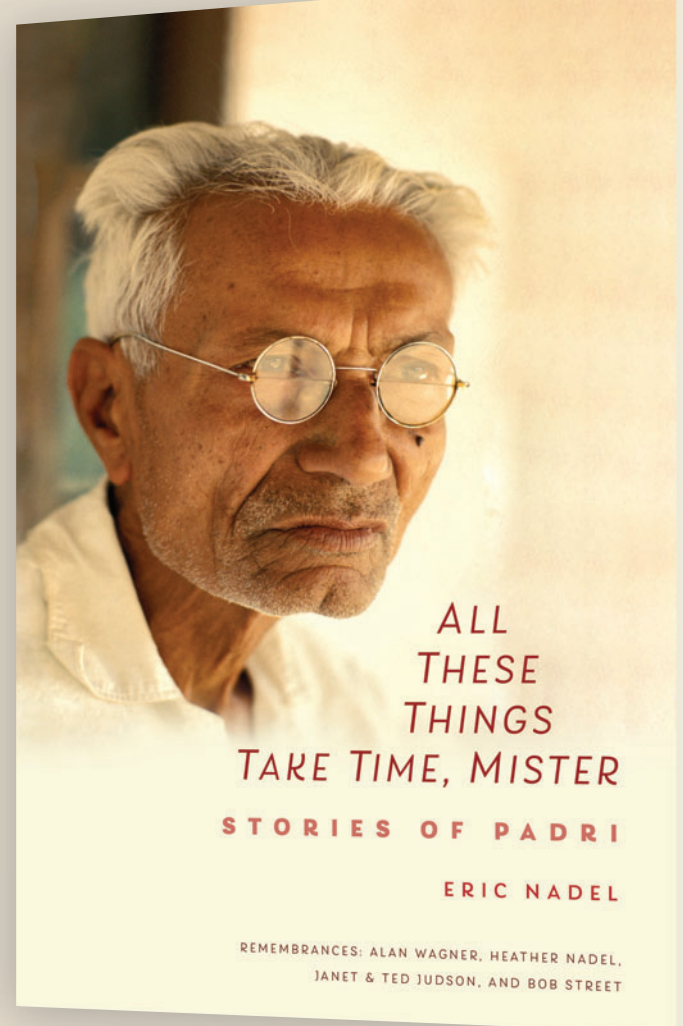


# Two New Releases. Now Available



Sheriar Foundation is delighted to announce the publication of two books about Meher Baba—*Meher Baba's Blue Bus Tours*, an in-depth account of Baba's four journeys across the Indian subcontinent during the late 1930s and early 1940s with His close Eastern and Western women mandali; and *All These Things Take Time, Mister: Stories of Padri* by Eric Nadel, a collection of deeply personal stories about Padri.



## Meher Baba's Blue Bus Tours: Spiritual Journeys in India with the Avatar of the Age



The Blue Bus packed to the gills

Including never-before-seen photographs from the newly digitized Elizabeth Chapin Patterson Photo Archive, *Meher Baba's Blue Bus Tours* is a meticulously researched chronicle of Baba's travels throughout India with His Western and Eastern women disciples. Beginning in December 1938 and ending in November 1941, Baba and the women made four journeys in a small bus that was painted blue,

hence the name "Blue Bus Tours."

Eruch Jessawala, Meher Baba's long-time disciple and interpreter, once said in an interview: "The women were the custodians of the Blue Bus stories." The author beautifully weaves the voices of the women who accompanied Baba—Mehera, Mani, Elizabeth Patterson, Kitty Davy, Margaret Craske, Rano Gayley, and more—with memories and observations by Meherwan Jessawala and Dr. Donkin to offer a behind-the-scenes look at the experience of living and traveling with a Spiritual Master.

Continued on page 2

## All These Things Take Time, Mister: Stories of Padri



Meher Baba in Bangalore, 1940, one of a series of photos capturing Baba's gestures taken by Padri

Padri, one of the mandali who had been with Meher Baba since the 1920s, was in charge of Meherabad when a small group of Westerners, including Eric (nicknamed "Erico") Nadel, settled there.

In Heather Nadel's words, "These sixteen stories by Erico contain observations of Padri from 1976, when Erico began to live at Meherabad, until Padri passed away in 1982. They are a part of a book that Erico intended to write about Padri, which was unfinished when Erico himself passed away in 2009.

Erico envisioned the stories as "a series of observations of Padri as a man during the time that we lived with him. And lived with him we did, at Lower Meherabad, for six years, from 1976 until 1982 when Padri suddenly passed away.

"Quite independently, in 2018 a group of us who lived with Padri in the same years that Erico writes about met to tape our memories of him. These informal

Continued on page 3



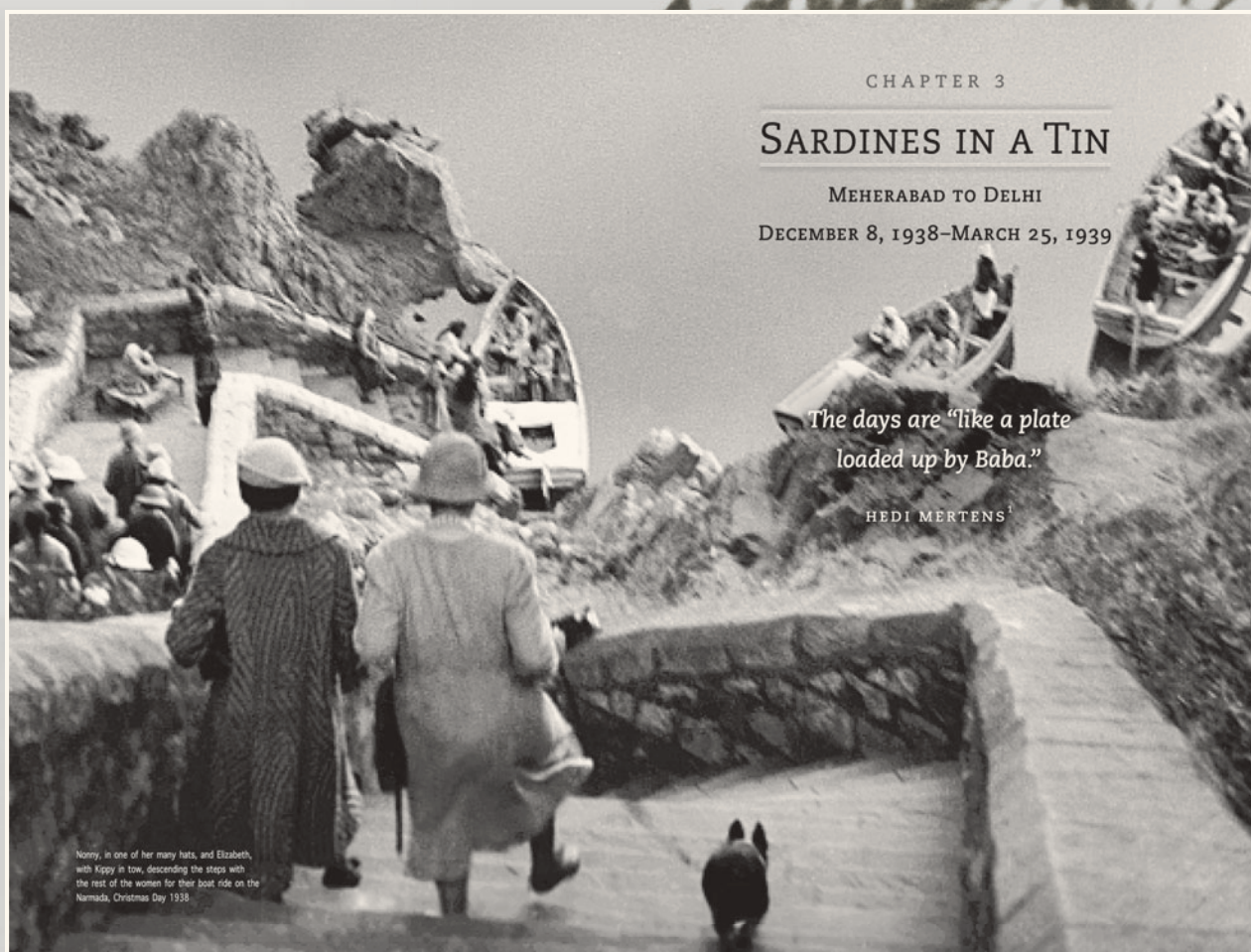
# Meher Baba's Blue Bus Tours

Continued from page 1

Extensive excerpts from diaries kept during the tours by Baba's sister Mani, Chanji, and William Donkin, as well as illuminating documentation from the substantial Adi K. Irani Collection in the Avatar Meher Baba Trust Archives, provide rare insight into the many adventures and challenges that occurred during the Blue Bus Tours.

Discourses given by Meher Baba in real time—on the road, in a museum, crossing a river—reveal the intense close companionship and spiritual training these journeys represented.

*Meher Baba's Blue Bus Tours* by Susan M. McKendree is an 848-page paperback, illustrated with over 100 photographs, maps, and letters, available from Sheriar Books for \$45.



CHAPTER 3  
SARDINES IN A TIN  
MEHERABAD TO DELHI  
DECEMBER 8, 1938–MARCH 25, 1939

The days are "like a plate loaded up by Baba."

HEDI MERTENS<sup>1</sup>

Nonny, in one of her many hats, and Elizabeth, with Kippy in tow, descending the steps with the rest of the women for their boat ride on the Narmada, Christmas Day 1938

PHOTO COURTESY OF MEHER NAZAR PUBLICATIONS

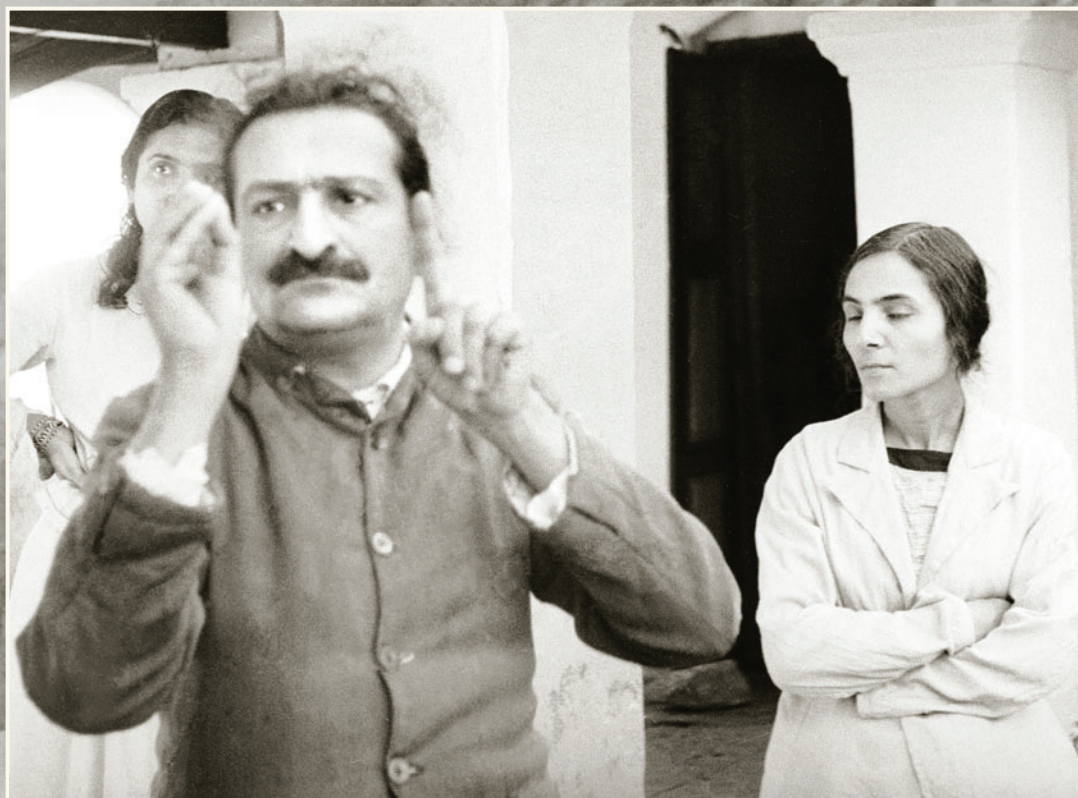


PHOTO COURTESY OF MIA COLLECTION



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEHER NAZAR PUBLICATIONS

LEFT: Nonny seated in a *dolee* (handmade seat made from sticks roped together), Taragarh Hill, February 18, 1939

TOP RIGHT: Chapter Three opening page. Nonny, in one of her many hats, and Elizabeth, with Kippy in tow, descending the steps with the rest of the women for their boat ride on the Narmada, Christmas Day 1938.

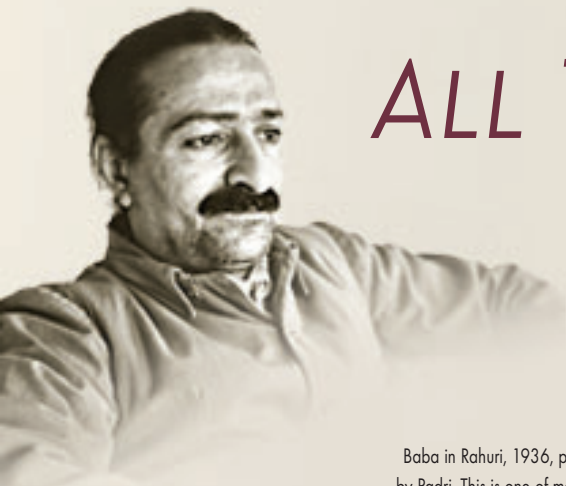
CENTER RIGHT: Baba appearing to deliver a hot lecture as Khorshed and Mehera stand by

BOTTOM RIGHT: Baba with Delia, Minta, Margaret and Mabel, April 20, 1933, during their visit to Harvan village in Kashmir. Even here the women are all wearing their fashionable hats.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EEP PHOTO ARCHIVE



# ALL THESE THINGS TAKE TIME, MISTER



Baba in Rahuri, 1936, photograph by Padri. This is one of many classic photos Padri took of Baba over the years.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MSI COLLECTION

## Excerpt from "Alchemy," by Eric Nadel

In the early 1970s, an exuberant group of pilgrims awoke at the end of their stay to discover a notice posted on their quarters in Padri's fair hand: "Keep Out: Only Lunatiks Allowed." The same source supplied a name board for the "Savages' Kitchen" when some of the residents set up a communal kitchen in an old cowshed about 1977.

But the message my spirit inscribed above his kitchen door was: "Enter here for a World of Wonders, the Alchemist's Workshop." Every morning that I possibly could—at least 300 days out of the year—at some time between 5:20 and 6:30 a.m., exploding with anticipation, I tapped lightly on the door, paused, and entered. I cannot really describe the marvels I found within, but "alchemy" covers a lot of it.

Continued from page 1

conversations, which give more context to that amazing time, are also included here.<sup>11\*</sup>

The early Meherabad group included Ted Judson, Janet Podmore (she and Ted later married), Alan Wagner, and Heather and Eric Nadel. Bob Street, who lived in town at that time, joined in sharing remembrances of their experiences with Padri.

\* From the Introduction by Heather Nadel in *All These Things Take Time, Mister: Stories of Padri* by Eric Nadel.



Padri and Eric at Meherabad in the 1970s

The book conveys some of the impact, the atmosphere, and the lessons that Meher Baba, gave these self-described "raw recruits" through His well-seasoned disciple Padri.

*All These Things Take Time, Mister: Stories of Padri* by Eric Nadel is a 178-page paperback,

illustrated with 50 photographs and letters, available from Sheriar Books for \$18.



Padri relaxing at Meherabad in his favorite chair

PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK MORRISON

## NEWLY AVAILABLE IN 2020

### 2021 Avatar Meher Baba Calendar



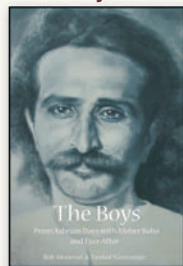
Another exquisite and informative calendar to relish month by month. Contains finely reproduced photographs of Meher Baba accompanied by thoughtfully chosen messages and events from Baba's life. **\$13.50**

### Inviting His Grace



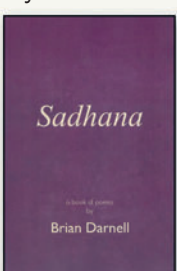
This little gem of a book is jammed pack full of Baba's love, His words, and the words of the mandali, all on the topic of Grace. Sprinkled with gorgeous, crisp photos of Baba and Mehera. **\$8.00**

### The Boys: Prem Ashram Days with Meher Baba and Ever After



by Bob Mossman & Farshid Namiranian  
An in-depth study of the lives of three of the boys who attended the Meher Ashram in Meherabad in 1927. **\$25**

### Sadhana: A Book of Poems



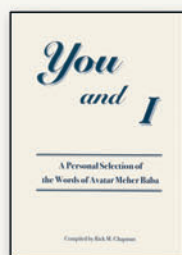
by Brian Darnell  
A collection of almost 400 inspirational and contemplative poems about love, the way of attainment, and the Divine beloved. Brian Darnell is the author of three other collections of spiritual poetry. **\$19.95**

### The Illuminated Rumi 2021 Calendar



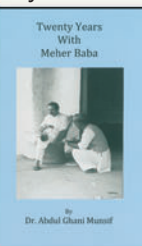
by Coleman Barks & Michael Green  
A wall calendar interweaving art and poetry—a magnificent meeting of ancient tradition and modern interpretation that uniquely captures the spiritual wealth of Rumi's teachings. **\$14.99**

### You and I: A Personal Selection of Words of Avatar Meher Baba



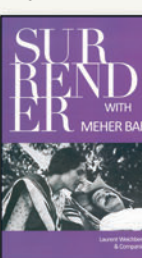
compiled by Rick M. Chapman  
A collection of direct and intimate quotations by Meher Baba that concisely and with great potency summarize Who He is and what He expects from His lovers. **\$18.95**

### Twenty Years with Meher Baba



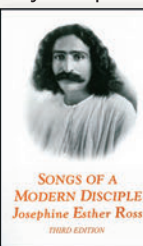
by Dr. Abdul Ghani Munsif  
This precious booklet is back in print after forty-five years. The beginning part of the book includes stories about Dr. Ghani from his time with Meher Baba, which give a good introduction to this early mandali member who died in 1951. **\$12**

### Surrender with Meher Baba



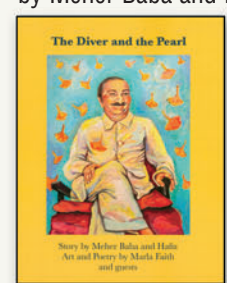
by Laurent Weichberger & Companions  
With his skillful inquiry, Laurent shows how Meher Baba wades into the waters of surrender with full confidence that over time the spiritual aspirant will recognize both the difficulty and the inherent value in taking steps toward surrender. **\$19.95**

### Songs of a Modern Disciple



by Josephine Ester Ross  
Josephine Ross met Meher Baba on His first trip to America in November of 1931 at Harmon-on-Hudson, just before her 24<sup>th</sup> birthday. She was one of those who immediately recognized Baba as the Christ. **\$12**

### The Diver and the Pearl. Story



by Meher Baba and Hafiz. Art and Poetry by Marla Faith and guests.  
This book tells and celebrates Meher Baba's parable of the Pearl Diver, through mystical art and poetry. **\$29.95**

PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC TERPIMAN



# 2020 is almost over. Eternity goes on forever.

As it's been for most of you and most of the world, 2020 is unlike any year we've been through before. In March, out of consideration for the safety of our people and of our customers, we closed the Sheriar Bookstore. It has remained closed since then, although we recently opened it up for curbside orders. We have continued to fill web orders throughout the year and will continue to do so. Closing our physical bookstore has naturally been disruptive for us in many ways and we greatly look forward to being able to see our friends again in person in the store.

On the other hand, this has been a year of intense activity in our publishing efforts. As presented in this

newsletter, we have just recently released Susan McKendree's epic, superlative presentation of *Meher Baba's Blue Bus Tours*, as well as a posthumously published collection of Eric Nadel's stories of his times at Meherabad, which also includes more current remembrances of some of the Westerners who were fortunate enough to have been there during that same period of time in the 1970s.

Our publishing work can only go on with the generous financial support of donations. If you would like to help us recoup some of our publishing costs on these two books, your help would be especially timely this year. Naturally, we are nowhere close to our

normal level of bookstore sales so, really, donations of any kind in support of Sheriar Foundation's work would be of special value to us.

Donations are tax-deductible and are always deeply appreciated. It means a lot to us to know that we have the support of our Baba family. Many of you often add a donation to an online order and that always puts a smile on our faces.

As another financial reminder, please remember that you can include Sheriar Foundation as a beneficiary in your will. This will also help us do our work in the years to come. And let's all hope that 2021 is a better one for everyone.

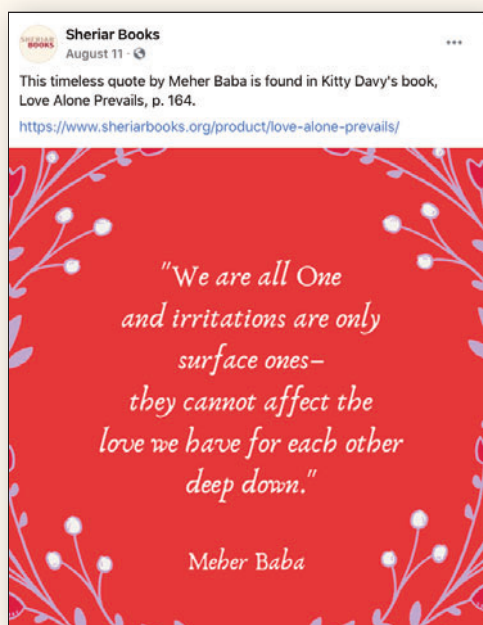
## A Great Way to Stay in Touch

With our physical bookstore closed until we feel it is safe for all concerned, a great way to stay connected with Sheriar Foundation is to follow Sheriar Books on Facebook. The posts shown here are some of our favorites from this year. Many of our posts include beautiful photos and quotes by Meher Baba that you may be inspired to share on your own page or with friends. Some posts announce events we're having

online while our bookstore is closed to in-person visitors. Every month we post our Pick of the Month that you can link to on our website. Sometimes it's an exciting new book; other times it's an older classic you may have overlooked.

This year, while we haven't been able to welcome our friends the way we usually do, we've been working on increasing the frequency of our Facebook posts. You'll be seeing an

expanded visual range and more content connected to memorable dates from the life of Meher Baba and the lives of his close ones. We've had fun creating all this new content and have already started sharing more often, so please take a fresh look. We hope you'll find more reasons than ever to come back often. And we can't wait to see you again in our sweet little store whenever the time is right.



**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.

