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*a place of pilgrimage for all time*  
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Dear Baba Family,

We are writing to share some important news with you concerning a number of upcoming changes that will have a significant impact on the Center for many years to come.

While Meher Baba has imbued His Center with a sense of timelessness, we all live within the challenges of an everchanging world. One of those changes is that many key staff members who have served the Center with enormous dedication and grace over a very long period of time will be retiring in the coming years. As these extraordinary individuals move on, the Center will be looking for new staff to step into their shoes and to help the Center grow in new ways.

Additionally, the board has been reflecting deeply on the purposes of the Center organization as laid out in the charter given by Baba, purposes which extend beyond the Center's 500 acres. From that reflection, we have affirmed that the primary focus of the Center organization has been, is, and should remain, on maintaining the Center retreat for His lovers and for those who want to know more about Him. A core part of this commitment is the creation of a master plan to make certain future development of the Meher Spiritual Center preserves its unique atmosphere as a place of pilgrimage for all time.

The board has also concluded that it is time for the Center organization to more fully commit to addressing four other key purposes that are called for in the charter. These purposes are as follows:

- Providing service to those in need
- Disseminating information about Meher Baba
- Providing leadership in the Meher Baba community
- Strengthening relationships with key external groups and expanding the organization's contribution to the broader community

To engage in a meaningful way with these four purposes will call for an expanded role of leadership, one that goes beyond that which we have asked of our current administrator and staff. In that regard, the board has decided to create a new position, that of executive director for Meher Spiritual Center, Inc.

As we seek candidates for this position, the most important qualification will be their full dedication to the purposes of Meher Spiritual Center, Inc. as laid down by Baba. We will also be looking for a candidate who possesses excellent leadership, communication and management skills. The qualities of service, humility, and responsibility that Baba indicated were the watchwords of the spiritual life will also be essential. An in-depth position description can be found on the Center's website [www.mehercenter.org /pastandpresent/planning-and-support.html](http://www.mehercenter.org/pastandpresent/planning-and-support.html), including instructions for how to apply.

After reviewing the position description, if you are interested in being considered for the position of executive director, we encourage you to apply. Or, if there are others who you believe would be a good candidate, please make them aware of the opportunity and encourage them to apply. A search committee has been established to help the board in screening candidates.

We anticipate hiring someone for this role by the end of 2017. Therefore, all applicants are asked to submit their applications by May 15, 2017.

As we move forward with this process, we trust wholly in His loving guidance and know that the Center will always be His, a place He has given to humanity for all time.

With much love in Baba,



Ann Edelman, Presiding Officer

On behalf of the Meher Spiritual Center, Inc. Board of Directors

*Anna Lena Phillips Bell, Adi Blum, Buz Connor, Ann Edelman, Bruce Felknor, Annie Hall, Linda Hansen, Meherwan Irani, Barbara Plews, Daniel Stone, Jo Taylor, and Michael Tych*

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**MEHER SPIRITUAL CENTER**

10200 NORTH KINGS HIGHWAY, MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29572 ~ 843-272-5777

email: [Dilruba@MeherCenter.org](mailto:Dilruba@MeherCenter.org) ~ [www.MeherCenter.org](http://www.MeherCenter.org)