

**Meher Baba's New Life'**  
**From the Great Seclusion to Manonash:**  
**An In-Depth Review"**  
**(16<sup>th</sup> October 1949 to February 1952)**

A Seventeen-Session Course of Study  
Meher Center, September 2025 to May 2026

**Sessions and Topics**

**Session 1.** "An Overview of the New Life." (i) The significance of the New Life in Meher Baba's greater Avataric Career. (ii) A brief historical survey of the New Life from 1949 to 1952. (iii) Several Major New Life themes.

**Session 2.** "Early Adumbrations, and the Great Seclusion" (January–July 1949). (i) Some characteristic themes of the Old Life. (ii) Adumbrations of the New Life, from the beginning of 1949 through the work at Mount Abu. (iii) The Great Seclusion of June–July 1949. (iv) The role of ceremonial occasions in the New Life.

**Session 3.** "The August 1949 Meetings, and Preparations for the New Life" (August–October 1949). (i) The Meherabad meetings (15<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> August 1949). (ii) The meetings with the women (16<sup>th</sup> August 1949). (iii) The "Circular of Conditions" (31<sup>st</sup> August 1949). (iv) Preparations for departure (early October 1949). (v) The verbal dueling of Ghani and Khak Saheb.

**Session 4.** "Training and Labor in Belgaum" (October–November, 1949)." (i) The final preparations (in early October, 1949). (ii) Setting out: the journey from Meherabad to Belgaum. (iii) The labor phase in Belgaum. (iv) Stories from the early stages of the New Life. (v) "The Song of the New Life."

**Session 5.** "The Benares Interlude" (November, 1949). (i) The move from Belgaum to Benares. (ii) The Benares stay and the many outrageous requests. (iii) The visit to Sarnath. (iv) The four phases: the Labor, Begging, Langoti, and Gypsy Lives.

**Session 6.** "Wandering: The Begging, Langoti, and Gypsy Phases" (November–December, 1949). (i) The chronology and narrative of the journey from Benares to Dehra Dun, 12<sup>th</sup> December 1949 through 12<sup>th</sup> January 1950. (ii) The Begging Phase. (iii) The Gypsy Life. (iv) The New Life "strike" and other stories. (v) Utter impoverishment and the New Life hardships. (vi) The "vacuum period."

**Session 7.** "Manjri Mafi and the Three New Life Plans" (January 12 through March 1950). (i) The Manjri Mafi connection. (ii) The three plans. (iii) Living at Manjri Mafi. (iv) Baba's fifty-sixth birthday.

**Session 8.** “Meher Baba’s Work at the Kumbha Mela” (March–April, 1950). (i) Major thematic background no. 1: The Kumbha Mela. (ii) Major thematic background no. 2: Meher Baba’s work with the masts in the 1930s–40s. (iii) Meher Baba’s New Life work at the Kumbha Mela in Hardwar. (iv) Major conflicts and a new New Life plan. (v) Baba’s visit to Hardwar with the women.

### **Additional Session: Mid-Series Live Q&A**

**Session 9.** “Final Months in North India: A New Plan, the Labor Phase, and the New Life Ghee Business” (14<sup>th</sup> April through early June, 1950). (i) Conflicts involving the properties of Dr. Ghani and Sadashiv Patel. (ii) The stay in Manjri Mafi resumed (14<sup>th</sup> April through early May 1950). (iii) The New Plan. (iv) The Labor Phase in Delhi and the New Life Ghee business. (v) Closing out the stay in Delhi and the shift to south India (May–June 1950). (vi) An overview of the stay in North India.

**Session 10.** “The New Life Moves South to Satara” (June–July, 1950). (i) A survey of the thirty-four New Life Circulars. (ii) A review of the New Life diaries of Dr. Abdul Ghani (16<sup>th</sup> October 1949 through 21<sup>st</sup> January 1950) and Dr. Nilu (mid-January through 1<sup>st</sup> May 1950). (iii) An introduction to the Satara District. (iv) The stay in Satara. (v) The New Life on the women’s side.

**Session 11.** “The Meeting at Mahabaleshwar and Work with the Masts and Poor” (September–December, 1950). (i) Baba’s message of 11<sup>th</sup> September 1950. (ii) The meeting at Mahabaleshwar on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1950. (iii) Baba’s six-week whirlwind tour and His work with the masts and poor. (iv) Back in Mahabaleshwar for the Christmas season.

**Session 12.** “The Great One-Hundred-Day Seclusion and the Move from Mahabaleshwar to Hyderabad” (January–May, 1951). (i) Preparations for the move to Hyderabad and more work with the masts and poor. (ii) The one-hundred-day Mahabaleshwar seclusion begins: the first forty days. (iii) The second sixty-day phase of the Mahabaleshwar seclusion. (iv) A short period of rest in Hyderabad.

**Session 13.** “The Meeting at Hyderabad” (June, 1951). (i) Early arrivals: 20<sup>th</sup>–27<sup>th</sup> June. (ii) The main gathering of the seventy-five men, 27<sup>th</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> June. (iii) Baba’s “Declaration” with its “Corollary: What God Has Determined,” 28<sup>th</sup> June. (iv) Baba’s discourse on the mind, ego, and the paths to God. (v) Closing the meeting with the comic talent show.

**Session 14.** “The Inauguration of Manonash” (July–November 1951). (i) Preparations for Manonash. (ii) Seclusion in the Manonash Cave in Hyderabad. (iii) The journey from Hyderabad to Aurangabad. (iv) The significance of Khuldabad and Ellora.

**Session 15.** “The Culmination of Manonash” (8<sup>th</sup> November 1951 through 6<sup>th</sup> February 1952). (i) Manonash at Aurangabad. (ii) Baba’s work on Tembi (Seclusion Hill) and the shift to Meherazad. (iii) Baba pays respect to His departed ones. (iv) The final month of Manonash.

**Session 16.** “The Free Life” (February 1952 through April 1953). (i) Baba’s first Life Circular on Manonash. (ii) The three phases of the Free Life—the Complicated Free Life, the Full Free Life, and the Fiery Free Life. (iii) A brief review of the history of the three Free Lives, March 1952 through April 1953. (iv) Life Circular no. 9 (28<sup>th</sup> March 1953) and Baba’s messages on Freedom, Divine Love, the Purpose of Life, and Honesty. (v) “The Highest of the High” (7<sup>th</sup> September 1954).

**Session 17.** “Review and Summary”

**End of Series Additional Session: Live Q&A**

**NOTE:**       **There are two sessions planned for LIVE Q&A:**  
                  **First is planned mid-series after Session 8.**  
                  **Second is planned at the end of the series after Session 17.**