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15th October, 1936

Lakshman Govind Munge, Petition writer, aged 72, 43, Main Road, Nasik says:

I went to Baba over 46 years ago. I had relations (now dead) at Shirdi viz., Vamanrao Rangnath Vizapurkar and his brother Sakharam. I was a clerk under the Senior Mamlatdar, Chidambar Keshav Gadgil. That Mamlatdar went to see Baba, (as also Nana Saheb Nimonkar) and I accompanied

him. They took darsan of Baba. I followed suit. Yet I wondered how Baba was being worshipped by Hindus. When I was in this mental state, Baba told Mr. Gadgil "Give me my Karkya, my Udbattipoodi and my one rupee". This request for my rupee etc., at once arrested my attention. The previous night just before retiring to rest, when we three (I, Gadgil and Nana Nimonkar) were alone in our night's resting place, Gadgil set apart some dates (Kharka), one rupee, and a packet of scented sticks (udbatti) saying these have to be given to the saint. Baba's calling offer these showed clairvoyance or omniscience (Antargnan). These were given to Baba and he accepted them. Then Nana Saheb Nimonkar voluntarily offered a ten rupee note to Baba. Baba declined the gift, however, saying "I am a fakir. I will not take this." Baba at once disposed of the above articles. The rupee was given to the oilmonger for supplying oil to light the mosque. The sticks were burnt and the dates were distributed to all. These facts were very striking and I felt that Baba's worship was proper.

I visited Baba in 1890 when I was aged 26. Sai Baba was then at the Maruti Temple at Rahata. I had gone to Rahata in order to get the help of my maternal aunt's husband at Rahata. My marriage was settled. But I had to get jewels to deck the bride with. I thought my uncle would help me in that and so went to Rahata. There finding Baba at the temple, I approached him. Baba welcomed me with these words "Come Child, I was thinking of you yesterday", and asked me to shampoo his leg. I did. Then he took up a mango and gave it to me to eat. I ate it. It was so very sweet. Then Baba asked me questions.

Baba: "What for have you come?"

I: "My marriage is settled. I have no jewels. I have come to borrow jewels".

Baba: "Who is whose? Who gives? Who receives? None will give timely help. If you require Rs.1,000 or 2,000 (worth of ornaments) receive it from me".

I was looking at Baba as he sat robed in a sack cloth and holding a mere tin for his only utensil. "How will he give me all this?" Was the thought that occurred to me. I went then to the house of my relation i.e. maternal aunt's husband

and explained my need. He said that he had no jewels. I returned in a cheerless mood, as I felt that the marriage must fall through for the time being for want of jewels, and must be put off. Just at that juncture, a friend came to me and I told him of the exact situation. He at once came to my rescue and by his introduction or intercession, a Gujarati Sowcar at Sinner lent me some anklets, a nose screw and he took out 30 tolas of gold which were converted into jewels in one day, which also were lent to me (on interest). So Baba through this friend and the Gujarati fulfilled his promise and the marriage was duly celebrated without any postponement. After this event, I paid my yearly visits to Baba. For some years I was getting children but they died after a very short life. In 1912 I went and cried before Baba about this misfortune of mine, and prayed that he would give me one son blessed with longevity. Baba said to me, "Why do you ask me for one? I will give you two". I have accordingly got now 2 sons (aged 13 and 10) and 2 daughters (aged 27 and 18). I worship Baba's picture at home, and pray to it. My prayers are granted. Here is an instance.

I had a guest and his daughter staying with me. The daughter fell ill. The case took a serious turn. She lost consciousness. Her life was despaired of. I took Baba's Photo and Baba's udhi and placed the former at her head and applied the latter to her face and body at night. In the morning, consciousness was restored and the mother vowed to pay 10 rupees to Baba and that was paid.