**PREFACE**

**STORIES AND SIMILES NARRATED BY AVATAR MEHER BABA AND HIS DISCIPLES**

Comphrending the experiences of subtle or mental planes are not possible at gross level of understanding unless one has reached that level of consciousness. In can only be imagined or had faint idea through stories and similes. For example, formless God can be compared with shoreless ocean and worldly illusion as dream. Meher Baba during course of His explanations on various spiritual aspects narrated many stories and similes to make us understand the facts to some extent.

Inspiring stories and similes make one to understand the spiritual facts easily and quickly. One can easily derive the gist of the stories and similes from the title itself although the gist is also given at the end of each story and simile.

Apart from Baba’s narration, His close disciples also brought out many inspiring stories on spiritual aspects written in their books under different titles.

There would be thousands of spiritual and moral stories available in many books and on internet, but this compilation is limited to the narration given by Meher Baba and His close disciples only.

Reading of spiritual scriptures of Sadguru and Avatar is best compared as food for thought by Meher Baba. Reading of spiritual literature is also a kind of meditation which can bring one to the threshold of God but cannot make one enter in the house of God for which love, obedience and surrenderance are needed. Meher Baba attached less importance to reading compared to love for God, but did not discard reading; rather to many of His intellectual lovers, He asked them to read God Speaks and Discourses. He also said that those intellectuals are luckier who having read My renderings had come to Me. It is because, for many, intellect acts as hurdle and they find it difficult to believe in spirituality or God.

I hope, readers may find it interesting and it may enhance their taste of reading to receive Meher Baba’s grace of love.

B. kumar

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