

AWAITING A MIRACLE

DINI AVAZ Vol 2; No 3

The Editor,
Dini Avaz,
Bombay-1.
Dear Sir,

The lay-press some time back witnessed a long drawn-out controversy on Godmen and miracles. While some thought it was all a hoax, others vouched that it was the work of Godmen or 'Avatars'. Whatever it may be, this letter is not intended to hold a brief either for the, Godmen or their opponents.

However, one thing is certain: These 'acts' - you may call them miracles or what-you-like - have drawn to their authors or performers lakhs of followers. Even miracles, which more or less resemble tamashas are discussed in hushed tones of wonder. And among the followers may be numbered a legion of Parsis. One cannot entirely blame them. Trampled under difficulties and suffering from onslaught of diseases, these people would turn to anything for solace which would demonstrate some God-like power. For them, our religion is too complex and is mostly misunderstood. And to add to their misunderstanding, there are the so-called "progressives" and "reformists" who at every opportunity try to run down our good Religion, and all its disciplines and institutions.

Our Religion possesses the most powerful "Manthras". But the real practitioners of these ancient 'Manthra's (and 'tarikats') are conspicuous by their absence. What puzzles me is: Is there no 'Mobed' or 'Dastoor' in our community who can, apart from performing miracles, at least relieve the miseries

of people afflicted with disease? Is there no one so devout, who by dint of tarikat, manthras etc., give a concrete demonstration of the powers of our religion? Please note that this has not been said with a view to malign our priestly class but so that the lost faith in our religion can be restored. In the past, our religion is not without examples of miracles. Such miracles, we cannot perhaps expect to be performed again. But a beginning can be made. What is *your* opinion, Mr. Editor? I would like to know also the opinion of your readers. To me, it appears to be the best way to wean away those Parsis who have been misled to run after spurious miracle makers. Once again, I repeat, this has been written without malice to anybody or any class of persons.

-BEHRAM K. MISTRY.

[Power of 'Manthra' is a scientific phenomenon. It touches both the sciences-physical and *mystical*. There were, in the recent past, such 'Mobeds' who could demonstrate the effect of Manthra. They used to prescribe prayers or 'nirangs', the effect of which was amazing. Dastoorji Kukadaru was one of them. Today with an all round decline in all the good the humanity has, we just wonder whether such priests with spiritual powers and knowledge would ever be seen amongst us.

But there is a right moment for every event. Nature, like a panther, may seem to take a long time to jump, but when it does, it is a sudden and long jump. And at times, before taking

a jump it throws hints *of* its silent preparation.

And the hints are arriving. The late Ustad Saheb Baheramshah Shroff made his appearance suddenly and went away equally suddenly 50 years back. The miracle of his life viz. his contract with the Zoroastrian Saints and the incessant flow *of* the spring of Zoroastrian Mystic Knowledge he set percolating, is like coming events casting their shadows. Humanity is to become human again. All Religions which Ahura thought fit to be sent through human Prophets, are to flourish again. Civilization seemingly on the brink of disaster is to turn its face reverently to God, once again. And the Great Religion of Zarathushtra is to emanate Its Divine Music once again.

Before that, many calamities may fall on man of this earth. Let us pray that before the Good Time arrives, some Mobed Saheb may come to us and by demonstrating the power of 'Manthra' and 'Yasna' infuse in us the strength to face all calamities and the hope to see the humanity kneeling down to the Almighty.

Ustad Saheb Baheramsah had once said that there is a possibility of this happening . . . EDITOR]

A BIOLOGIST ON WORD_POWER

It is possible that words have a power by virtue of their own special frequencies? Can magic words and sacred formulas and chants in fact exert an influence that differs from other chosen at random? It seems so. With Jenny's discovery of word patterns I find myself looking with some discomfort and awe at St. John's ascertainment: "In the beginning was the word."

- Dr. L. Watson in 'Supernature' (1974)
