

NOTES FOR VOLUNTEERS

'I want my lovers and workers to know that there is no greater "Baba Centre" than the heart of my lover. Those who truly love me are my Centres in the world. Let each "Baba-lover" wherever he or she may be, be a "Baba's Centre" personified, radiating the eternal message of Love Divine, living the life of love, sacrifice and honesty.'

Extract from **What Baba Means by Real Work**. Copyright 1954 Universal Spiritual League in America, Inc.

Avatar's Abode is a 99 acre spiritual retreat on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland, Australia, dedicated to Meher Baba. It is maintained largely by volunteers who, drawn by love for Meher Baba, help with projects and the maintenance of the property. At Avatar's Abode we strive to uphold the values of mutual respect, harmony and concord and behave in a way that Baba would wish us to behave, thereby maintaining a sense of His presence.

When you volunteer at Avatar's Abode, as well as having responsibilities, you also have the right to expect the following:

- A meeting with the coordinator of your area of interest to develop work tasks that match your skills and interests. Instructions will come from your coordinator.
- An orientation that includes information on relevant policies and procedures as well
 as clear guidelines or training on the tasks to be completed and lines of accountability
 and responsibility. A copy of the Avatar's Abode Workplace Health and Safety Policy
 is available on request.
- To feel welcome, safe and respected.
- A healthy work environment.
- Appropriate insurance cover.
- That your confidential and personal information is dealt with in accordance with the Privacy Act.

Volunteer responsibilities include the following:

- Treat others with respect and dignity.
- Work co-operatively with others.
- Report workplace hazards to your coordinator.
- Undertake relevant training.
- Adhere to the Avatar's Abode Trust's policies and procedures, as outlined by your coordinator.
- Abide by the relevant government laws.

If you have any concerns in relation to your role as a volunteer at Avatar's Abode, your first point of contact is your work coordinator. If for any reason you cannot speak with the coordinator, please contact the Avatar's Abode Workplace Health and Safety Officer, Denis Carmody, who is a member of the Avatar's Abode Trust.

Avatar's Abode Trust complies with relevant National and State legislation in relation to volunteers.

MY WISH

Meher Baba

The lover has to keep the wish of the Beloved. My wish for my lovers is as follows:

Do not shirk your responsibilities.

Attend faithfully to your worldly duties, but keep always at the back of your mind that all this is Baba's.

When you feel happy, think: "Baba wants me to be happy."

When you suffer, think: "Baba wants me to suffer."

Be resigned to every situation and think honestly and sincerely: "Baba has placed me in this situation."

With the understanding that Baba is in everyone, try to help and serve others.

I say with my Divine Authority to each and all that whosoever takes my name at the time of breathing his last comes to me; so do not forget to remember me in your last moments. Unless you start remembering me from now on, it will be difficult to remember me when your end approaches. You should start practising from now on. Even if you take my name only once every day, you will not forget to remember me in your dying moments.

GOD-MAN, p 320, C B Purdom 1971 © Meher Spiritual Center, Inc.