

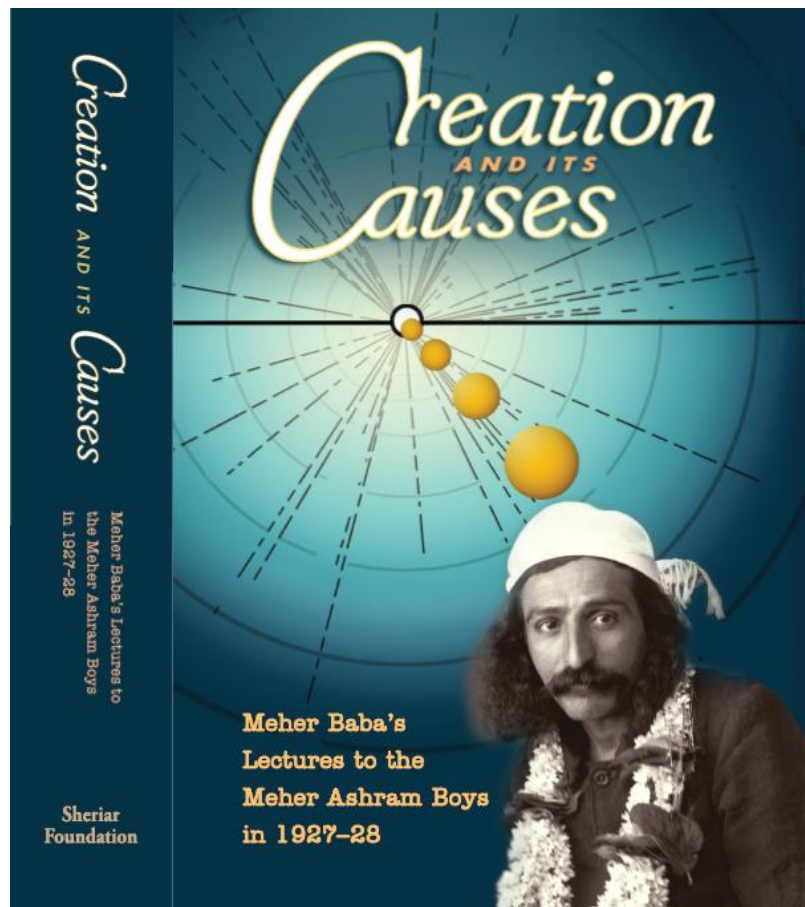
***Creation and its Causes:***  
**Meher Baba's Revelations to the Meher Ashram Boys in 1927–28**  
**on Creation Cosmology and the Spiritual Path**

TIME: Mondays, 22<sup>nd</sup> April through 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

PLACE: Avatar's Abode Bookstore

SUBJECT: *Creation and its Causes*, a new compilation of Meher Baba's discourses and lectures, published for the first time in August 2022

PRESENTER: Ward Parks, editor of *Creation and its Causes*



**Description of the subject:** Over a six-week period in December–January 1927–28, speaking each evening before about a hundred teenage schoolboys of the Meher Ashram boarding school gathered in the West Tank Room or outside the Crypt Cabin on the crown of Meherabad Hill, Meher Baba delivered a series of thirty-four lectures sequenced much in the character of a college course. In these talks, Baba unveiled before these fortunate youngsters a strange, vivid, poetical, and highly esoteric account of creation cosmology and the spiritual path unlike anything that He gave before or ever gave after.

In an opening sequence Baba explained creation cosmology, whose central narrative highlighted the clashing of *prāṇ* and *ākāsh*, movement and space. This clash erupted in and gave birth to a universe of light globes and shadows and reflections, oceans and waves and drops and bubbles, which Baba interpreted in terms of the interactions of Knowledge and Ignorance. After a truly mystifying group of three lectures on planetary ranges, light globes, and the worlds, moons, and suns which come out of them, Baba went on to provide an account of the evolution of form and consciousness, with the five “turns” and four elements as special highlights. Finally, over the culminating two or three weeks, Baba depicted the inner worlds and involutory path in ways that you will not find in *God Speaks* and *Discourses*. At the center of Baba's vision here is the relation between the planes and the **skies** or *āsmāns*, each of which Baba described vividly and identified by its Persian name.

While these talks were remarkable enough in themselves, no one would have anticipated the effect that they produced. The boys went mad with love! Midway through the lecture sequence, the entire student body suddenly began to weep uncontrollably for hours and days at a time. Over the weeks that followed, several among them were precipitated into the experience of the inner planes of consciousness. The great stories and dramas that flowed from this will be familiar to readers of Ramjoo Abdulla's history of the Prem Ashram, *Sobs and Throbs* (1929).

All of this is presented and recounted in *Creation and its Causes*, a new major book edited under the auspices of the Avatar Meher Baba Trust and published by Sheriar Foundation. Along with Baba's talks to the Meher Ashram boys, the book includes six discourses that Baba gave to the mandali during this period, as well as a history of His work with the various schools—the Hazrat Babajan school, the Hazrat Babajan High school, the Meher Ashram, and the Prem Ashram—between 1925 and 1929.

**Format:** The morning sessions will proceed partly through lecture and Powerpoint presentation by Ward Parks and partly through question-and-answer and discussion among the attendees. The presentations will not presume prior knowledge of the book, although, naturally, participants will gain more if they are able to read it.

### Schedule and Topics

<b>April 22<sup>nd</sup>,</b> Monday, 10:00– 11:30 a.m.	<b>Session 1.</b> “A Short History of Meher Baba's Work with the Schools at Meherabad, 1925–29.”	<b>Topic A.</b> The establishment of Meherabad and the creation of the Hazrat Babajan School (1925–26). <b>Topic B.</b> The Hazrat Babajan High School and the Meher Ashram (1926–1927). <b>Topic C.</b> The “love-craze” and the emergence of the Prem Ashram (November–January 1927–28). <b>Topic D.</b> The drama of Ali (1928). <b>Topic E.</b> The Toka Ashram (June–November 1928). <b>Topic F.</b> The closing of the Meher Ashram and the end of the early Meherabad period (January 1929).
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<p><b>April 29<sup>th</sup>,</b> Monday 10:00– 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Session 2.</b> “Creation Cosmology and the Role of Prāṇ and Ākāsh”</p>	<p><b>Topic A.</b> Counting the universes.  <b>Topic B.</b> The four levels of truth, and the nature of an Avataric dispensation.  <b>Topic C.</b> Two metaphoric systems: (a) Oceans, waves, wave-bubbles, drops, and drop-bubbles; (b) light globes, shadows and reflections.  <b>Topic D.</b> Prāṇ and ākāsh as the original dichotomy.  <b>Topic E.</b> The “Whim” vs. prāṇ and ākāsh: Meher Baba’s two creation narratives.  <b>Topic F.</b> The emergence and interrelation of the opposites: prāṇ and ākāsh, knowing and ignorance, light and shadow, the gross and the subtle, fullness and emptiness, etc.</p>
<p><b>May 6<sup>th</sup>,</b> Monday, 10:00– 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Session 3.</b> “Several Principles of Cosmic Architecture and Cosmic Evolution”</p>	<p><b>Topic A.</b> The states of sound sleep, dream, and wakefulness; the number 7; the straight and the circular.  <b>Topic B.</b> The metaphysics of the human eye.  <b>Topic C.</b> Mystical astronomy: three worlds, seven suns, and the processional of the planets.  <b>Topic D.</b> The kingdoms of evolution, the five turns, and the ubiquity of the human form.  <b>Topic E.</b> Sanskaras and the widening compass of consciousness through the course of evolution.  <b>Topic F.</b> The role of the four elements: earth, water, air, and fire.</p>
<p><b>May 13<sup>th</sup>,</b> Monday, 10:00– 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Session 4.</b> “The Planes, and the ‘Skies’ (or <i>Āsmāns</i>)”</p>	<p><b>Topic A.</b> Evolution and involution as correlated opposite movements.  <b>Topic B.</b> The “skies” or <i>āsmāns</i> as a new revelation.  <b>Topic C.</b> A one-by-one review of the seven skies.</p>
<p><b>May 20<sup>th</sup>,</b> Monday, 10:00– 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>“The Inner Topographies of the Spiritual World”</p>	<p><b>Topic A.</b> The seven modes of knowing.  <b>Topic B.</b> The seven (or eight) degrees of bliss.  <b>Topic C.</b> Subtle physiology: mapping the planes and āsmāns on the human frame.  <b>Topic D.</b> Meher Baba’s mystery analogy: the allegory of the palace.  <b>Topic E.</b> Movements and waves, the descent of prāṇ, the bubbling of ākāsh at the boundary of the gross, and the architecture of the inner worlds.</p>

A summary of the book: *Creation and its Causes: Meher Baba's Lectures to the Meher Ashram Boys in 1927–28*, was published by Sheriar Foundation, Myrtle Beach in August 2022. The book's primary text has three sections. Part One, "A Short History of the Meher and Prem Ashrams" (pp. 1–90), reviews Meher Baba's work with a series of schools at Meherabad between 1925 and 1929. Part Two, "Creation and its Causes: Lectures to the Meher Ashram Boys" (pp. 91–305), renders Meher Baba's thirty-four lectures given almost every evening, first in the West Tank Room and later through a window in the Crypt Cabin on the crown of Meherabad Hill, between 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1927 and 14<sup>th</sup> January 1928. These thirty-four talks comprise the heart and core of this book. Part Three, "Six Discourse-Articles Based on Explanations Given by Meher Baba to the Mandali in November–December 1927" (pp. 307–55), publishes further discourse content from this same period never seen before.