THE YEAR 1936: MARKED IN THE BIBLE?

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his is to share with the esteemed readers that Knowledge the imparted by the Brahma Kumaris is not just someone's guesswork, but is highly authentic which finds support even from the Bible. Many Bible scholars knew about the significance of the year 1936, but they thought their calculation might have gone wrong. They never knew that it has happened with the BKs, all incognito. I came to know this because I have worked with a Bible Research Organization for about 20 years.

The year 1936 was a pivotal year for the *Brahma Kumaris*, because this was the year in which our Heavenly God Father Shiva blessed Brahma Baba with a vision of how and when this old world (hell) would be replaced with a new world (heaven).

Interestingly, Adventists, one of the dominant sections of the Christianity, from their study of the Bible, had been expecting something similar to happen on the world scene early in the first half of the 20th century. For example, Jehovah's Witnesses (founded in the year 1876) believed 1914 as the year in which this world would enter into its last Days and God would plant the seed for the New World. Let us see how they arrived at that year.

The Bible declares that history passes through 4 stages, symbolized by 4 metals which are declining in quality-gold, brass, copper and iron-and God would destroy the Iron Age when it is at its darkest period and bring in Golden Age again. (Daniel 2:31-44) Another vision gave a little more detail. It showed God's rule as being symbolized by a tree; then it was being cut (meaning absence of God's rule for a period); and then it was shown as sprouting again after "seven times." (Daniel 4:10-16). Jesus called this period as "the times of the nations." (Luke 21:24) ["Times of the nations"] means the period of history in which people live by fleshly tendencies or in bodyconsciousness which is characterized by "every kind of impurity," and "greed." – Ephesians 4:17-19]

How long is "seven times"? Other parts of the Bible say "seven times" is 2520 years. (Revelation 12:6, 14: Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6). And from where will the 'seven times' start and where will it end? Jehovah's Witnesses believed "seven times" would begin, according to their calculation, from 607 BC, when Jerusalem (where there was supposedly a theocracy) fell to the Babylonians. From 607 BC to 1 BC is 606 years. Since there is no zero year, from 1 BC to 1914 AD is 1914 years. Thus, 606 years + 1914 years = 2,520 years. ("Chronology" in Insight on the Scriptures, published by Jehovah's Witnesses).

However, the world did not witness anything positive taking place in the year 1914, but instead witnessed a World War (1914-1918), which ended sowing seeds for a Second World War (1939-1945). Hence the first half of the 20th century saw the beginning of the climax of

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moral decline–a time that would attract God's attention for His incarnation, as promised in Gita 4:7.

From what has been experienced, we can say that God's incarnation was in a different sense. He did not take birth from any woman's womb. Rather God Almighty simply borrowed physical frame of a worthy person. In the year 1936, God, the Supreme Soul, entered into the body of a 60-year old spiritual magnet named Dada Lekh Raj, gave him six visions, one of which showed how this old world would be transformed into Golden Age, and then commissioned him to herald this good news to the whole world. God renamed him, by his character, as Brahma (great mind, the one who treats God as his Father and others as his brothers and sisters) and called those who got adopted by Him through the medium of Brahma as Brahma Kumaris Brahma and Kumars. (Compare Mathew 21:43; 23:9) And from 1936 onward, God has been teaching them Golden-Aged life, using His medium.

In other words, God, the Supreme Seed, has been appearing at regular intervals. Through His teachings, He laid foundation of a new tree. This is in conformity with what we observe in the natureout of the old tree comes the foundation of the new tree. Those who are the leaves of the old tree, the souls of Iron Age (Kaliyug), experience transformation and become the foundation for the Golden-Aged tree, or the New World. This comes about through developing a great mind, or bringing about a change in consciousness-from being body-consciousness to soulconsciousness, and then a change in sanskaras (the unique personality traits). Interestingly, Jewish and other Christian scholars had been saying Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians in the year 586 BC (not in 607 BC).

If one goes by the year 586 BC, he is really in for a surprise! Adding 585 years of BC and 1935 years of AD make 2520 years. That means God's planting of the seed of the Golden Aged tree would happen after the year 1935. And it did happen in the very next year, in 1936, as shown in the first paragraph!

Interestingly, The Bible provides more information on the identity of Golden-Aged people. They will renounce all kinds of lust (Mathew 25:1-13) and will have their headquarters on a mount where they will receive spiritual feeding program from their Heavenly Father. –Isaiah 2:2-4.

Anyone who knows about the Brahma Kumaris will readily realize that they live a life of purity; and their headquarters is situated on a literal mount (Mount Abu, Rajasthan, India) where people come from 'all the nations stream'. (Isaiah 2:2). A group of around 20,000 to 30,000 people from all over the world come here on rotation, stay and take advance spiritual feeding program. And FIGURATIVELY also, these people are on an exalted mountain because of their high moral standards and purity. (Compare Psalm 73:1; Mathew 5:8, 9). The prophecy also speaks of their practice of non-violence as another identifying mark. (Isaiah 2:4). They neither kill any being nor support killing as they follow a strict vegetarian diet cooked in loving remembrance of God. -Genesis 1:29; Matthew 9:13; Contrast Philippians 3:19.

The people with keen insight have been benefiting from these spiritual minded people called Brahma Kumaris. They know that the present world is like an old tree that must give way to the new. So, on one hand, they see the decayed old tree that is no longer able to continue, and on the other the foundation of the new tree already being laid by the Supreme. The destruction of the old world tree occurs in different ways. It goes through great upheaval due to natural calamities-earthquakes, floods, and great violence in nature. The animosity amongst human beings leads to anarchy and civil strife, signs of which are already apparent. Even the socalled developed countries are witnessing frequent unrest due to their mishandling of economic policies and their huge debt of unimaginable proportion. At the end of the world-cycle, the tree will be finally destroyed with the power of all the stock-piles of arms that man has manufactured. Once the old tree is destroyed, the new sapling, which has already been sown, begins to bloom. A recreation, a new world, a Golden age, a new tree, begins again. -Compare Genesis 1:27-31; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1.

FAR FROM THE MADDENING CROWD - B.K. NEENA, E. Delhi

Through the hut of my forehead, I find an inner calm, tranquillity, safeguarding me From the illusion and delusion of MAYA ahead

I reside and revel within the hut, Feel the ripples of the invincible MAYA here and there... Be it wrath, ego, angst or furore Thereby, I invoke God for support and succour

Sometimes I flounder and falter Do reckon, I am still a Godly student, A spiritual warrior...on the altar

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When the going gets tough, With the aplomb and stoic dignity I embark upon my forward journey; Unmindful of the mundane tidings, Barbs and sting of foes or friends alike In the entire tourney

As long as I have the testimony From my beloved SHIV BABA – the Almighty Authority, To vouch for my deeds, Do not have to worry about bouquets Or brickbats indeed

The fleeting scenes, the perilous fate, the meandering trails The miasma of life's sorrows and woes, Juxtaposed with the joys and goodies of life;

I entreat SHIV BABA, when lonely, lost and forlorn, For I know, one step of courage And His thousands, going ahead along

Drinking the nectar called Murli Every day, every night I make BABA my constant companion Denouncing and renouncing every opinion.

As a detached observer, I view every scene of life, With equipoise–unruffled, unfazed, easy and geared Nothing more than paper tiger, The storms of MAYA then appear Assuaging of course my fears.