

Prajapita Brahma

The Corporeal Founding Father

The so-called mysterious world that we live in is also a wonderful world. Some Wonderful things happen in it. And the most mysteriously wonderful thing happened in the year 1936. There was a very successful diamond dealer named Lekhraj Khubchand Kirpalani (15 December 1876 – 18 January 1969), also known as Dada Lekhraj. **He was pious, religious, simple, intelligent and royal.**

Lovingly called Brahma Baba, born into a humble home as Lekhraj Kripalani in the 1880s, was the son of a village schoolmaster. Dada Lekhraj was brought up within the disciplines of the Hindu tradition. After different jobs, he entered the jewellery business, later earning a considerable fortune as a diamond trader. He was the father of five children and a leader within his local community, known especially for his philanthropy. In 1936, around the time when most people at his age started to plan their retirement, he actually entered into the most active and fascinating phase of his life. After a series of deep spiritual experiences and visions, **he felt an extremely strong pull to give up his business** and dedicate his time, energy and wealth to laying the foundations of what later would become the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University.

Between 1937 and 1938, he formed a **Managing Committee of eight young women** and surrendered all his property and assets to a Trust administered by them.

In spite of the incredible social upheavals which were going on in pre-Partition India, these people came together, initially in Hyderabad and a year later they moved to Karachi. With time, a simple and clear body of knowledge about the nature of the soul, God and time became revealed. In 1950 (two years after Partition), the group moved to its present location in Mount Abu, India. Until then, these nearly 400 individuals lived as a self-sufficient community, devoting their time to intense spiritual study, meditation and self-transformation.

He was **an excellent, illustrious and exemplary person** whose every sense-organ was an instrument of genuine service. He had totally given himself to God, the Holiest among the holy masters, keeping absolutely nothing of his private property or possession. **He did not own any material assets but he was one who made everyone his own by the magic touch of purity, peace, spirituality and service.** His benign eyes were like the powerful lenses of a slide-projector that projected before the people, whom he invariably called his “sweet and beloved children”, the glimpses of paradise and the soul world or ‘paramdham’; his lotus lips curled and expanded to eloquently impart with the lyrical divine knowledge that so enchanted the minds of listeners that they were filled with unforgettable supersensuous joy. His hands were always raised with the act of giving

something out of profound love. They were always extended to offer help and spiritual friendship or to shower divine grace. **The words, he uttered, were so charged with the power of purity and peace that they recharged the weakened** or the downed 'batteries' of the mind of those who listened to him.

Many years have passed since Brahma Baba's series of visions in 1936. The lifestyle revolution he began has inspired millions to empower themselves and create hope for the future. The **life skills that Brahma Baba taught have stood the test of time**. The young women that he put to the forefront, now in their nineties or have left their mortal coil, have become beacons of love, peace and wisdom.

Even now, having become one with Shiv Baba, **he continues to play his part in an angelic form**. We salute Brahma Baba for his unique role in the uplift of humanity. How can we ever repay the debt we owe to the man who became next only to God? A visit to the Tower of Peace, erected in Madhuban in the loving memory of Brahma Baba gives us the feeling of Baba guiding our spiritual path or 'purusharth' with his love and sustenance.

Incorporeal God Shiva chose him to be His corporeal medium to deliver His Versions to the vicious world so as to change it into a pious, pure and virtuous society. Did he stop dealing in diamonds? No. **He simply shifted from material to spiritual diamonds. Diamonds of Godly knowledge!**

After guiding the creation of many Brahma Kumaris centres throughout India, he left his mortal coil and gained the angelic stage. **The Tower of Peace in Pandav Bhawan, Mt. Abu** (also called Madhuban meaning Forest of Honey) campus is a tribute to the invincible spirit of this ordinary human being who achieved greatness by rising to the challenge of the deeper truths of life. Dada Lekhraj was renamed Prajapita Brahma, who surrendered to His will and served the sorrow - ridden humanity in his new role till he left his mortal coil on 18th January, 1969.