

# The Blessing of The Animals

Laurent Weichberger, Arizona

Shared Earth Network sponsored a “Blessing of The Animals” on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> in Flagstaff Arizona. They asked “Faith Leaders” from the community to literally bless animals (pets) that the community brought to them. I was asked to be one of the faith leaders, representing the Meher Baba community. To me this is an expression (and manifestation), even in a small way, of Meher Baba’s statement, “I intend bringing together all religions and cults like beads on one string and revitalize them for individual and collective needs.” (*Lord Meher* p. 1554)

The Faith Leaders represented: Muslim, Christian Protestant, Christian Catholic, Jewish, and Meher Baba. When it came my turn to speak, I read out my prepared statement which I had written specifically for this special occasion:

Avatar Meher Baba, in his seminal book, *God Speaks*, has clearly explained that God, in addition to being the Creator of this glorious Creation, has also entered the Creation as the soul of all that lives. Through seven kingdoms of creation: stones and metals, vegetation, worms (including insects, reptiles and amphibians), fish, birds, animals and human beings, we are told that God evolves greater and greater consciousness. Thus Creation and evolution work together in harmony, paw in hand.

Every soul is on a spiritual journey, consciously or unconsciously, toward perfect awareness of the Self within, which is identical to God.

Thus we have God, originally infinitely unconscious, and that God enters the Creation, living and experiencing through a myriad of forms, all to gain greater and greater consciousness. It is the same God that eventually arrives at full and complete consciousness through the medium of the human form. As humans, all that remains of the spiritual journey is to achieve infinite Self-consciousness, with full awareness of our essential Divinity.

As Jesus Christ stated, “Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” – Gospel according to Matthew (5:48).

Meher Baba recognized the Divine message of all faiths, and honored Zoroastrian, Jewish, Vedantic-Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, Christian, Muslim, Sikh, and other faiths

as all leading towards One God.

With this as a basis, Meher Baba has made it abundantly clear that all that lives in the universe are a manifestation of Beloved God, and therefore most worthy of our love, deep respect, and compassion. In His *Universal Message* there is a section entitled “How To Love God,” which concludes with these words:

“If we understand and feel that the greatest act of devotion and worship to God is not to hurt or harm any of His Beings, we are loving God.

“To love God as He ought to be loved, we must live for God and die for God, knowing that the goal of life is to Love God, and find Him as our own Self.”

~ Meher Baba

After this brief introduction to Meher Baba I was asked to read out my blessing, which follows, for all the assembled animals. Then as each beloved pet was brought forth I gave it a shorter, and more personal blessing, by name.

## Blessing for the Animals

by Laurent Weichberger

**Oh beloved being,**

**Brought here today by your loving owner,**

**I bless you in the name of Avatar Meher Baba.**

**May all that you are given to experience,**

**In this beautiful animal form you have chosen,**

**Bring you ever closer to**

**The knowledge of who-you-really-are:**

**A divine being,**

**A soul of God’s Soul,**

**One with God in essence,**

**And part of the great web of existence**

**Manifesting to achieve Divine Knowledge.**

**May you receive today**

**God’s pure blessing,**

**And experience**

**God’s Divine Love,**

**Divine Grace,**

**Divine Peace, and**

**God’s most precious**

**Divine Presence.**

**And may this help you ever-onward**

**In your spiritual journey home**

**With the love of your compassionate master**

**As your guide.**

**Amen.**

Prior to the day of the event, I had sent all of what I planned to share at the blessing to Sherry Golden, one of the Shared Earth Network organizers. I received this heart warming response from her: “I love your message, and that it states so eloquently that all animals are on spiritual journeys. I feel this point is often lacking in Christian messages because of the Christian statement of man being created in God’s image. Thank you again for being a faith leader at the Blessing!”

On the Saturday of the event, it was cold, raining and extremely windy. Therefore, we had a lot of dogs, but only one cat, and amazingly two little prairie dogs in a cage. Alison Govi was with me, and after I shared about Meher Baba with the gathering, I asked her to read out the blessing which I had written. She in turn asked the entire gathering to say it out loud with her. Then, I was personally asked, by their young female owner, to bless the prairie dogs. Each owner chose their own blessors, so I also had about six or seven dog owners bring their beloved pets to me for a Baba-blessing. One of the dogs, Hope, was a three-legged dog from the Native American reservation. Then, I was wonderstruck when one little boy (about eight years old) brought his snake, tiger, and dinosaur to me! All three were stuffed animals he wanted me to bless, and they were so loved that the fabric was worn away and you could see the stuffing inside. I said a silent prayer to Baba for this boy to come closer to Him.

Lastly, I saw one couple come and they were sort of waiting around with their dog. Finally, Larry, the Catholic blesser approached them asking, “So, do you want me to bless your dog?” The male owner responded, “Well, my dog is an atheist!”

All in all, I feel honored that Meher Baba was included in this event, and thank you Baba for giving me this opportunity to spread Your message of Love and Truth.





*Laurent, and Alison Govi, with a three legged dog named Hope*



*Susie Brooks and her dog Camie who has been to every Blessing of the Animals at Federated Church so this was their 14th Blessing of the Animals*

# Blessing of the Animals



**Join us for this joyous celebration of God's creatures.  
All animals are welcome, and must be either on a leash or in a cage.**



*Laurent with Murphy, who lives with his companion Kathy*



*Photos by: Nathaniel Renn and Tish Bogan-Ozmun*



*This doggie was brought to me for a blessing and he was told to "drink in" and "soak up" this blessing, as he was a rescue dog*