

## From "The Prophet"

THEN a Priestess said, Speak to us of Prayer.

And he answered, saying:

You pray in your distress and in your need; would that you might pray also in the fullness of your joy and in your days of abundance.

For what is prayer but the expansion of yourself into the living ether?

And if it is for your comfort to pour your darkness into space, it is also for your delight to pour forth the dawning of your heart.

And if you cannot but weep when your soul summons you to prayer, she should spur you again and yet again, though weeping, until you shall come laughing.

When you pray you rise to meet in the air those who are praying at that very hour, and whom save in prayer you may not meet.

Therefore let your visit to that temple invisible be for naught but ecstasy and sweet communion.

For if you should enter the temple for no other purpose than asking you shall not receive:

And if you should enter into it to humble yourself you shall not be lifted:

Or even if you should enter into it to beg for the good of others you shall not be heard.

It is enough that you enter the temple invisible.

I cannot teach you how to pray in words.

God listens not to your words save when He Himself utters them through your lips.

And I cannot teach you the prayer of the seas and the forests and the mountains.

But you who are born of the mountains and the forests and the seas can find their prayer in your heart,

And if you but listen in the stillness of the night you shall hear them saying in silence:

Our God, who art our winged self, it is thy will in us that willet.

'It is thy desire in us that desireth.

'It is thy urge in us that would turn our nights, which are thine, into days, which are thine also.

'We cannot ask thee for aught, for thou knowest our needs before they are born in us:

'Thou art our need; and in giving us more of thyself thou givest us all.'

## The Second Skin

This one is not

The Sita of Ramayana

Nor from Ayodhya

She is Sita from Chapel Street

Hounslow Middlesex sick with

Chronic heart disease

When the nurse asked her to change

Into something more comfortable

Sita replied

This is the most comfortable thing

Next to my skin I have

The sari is my second skin

I would like to die wearing it

It is my *palchan* my identity

Her husband standing nearby

Smiled happily and told the nurse

My dear

Not very long ago

But certainly long before you were born

Some strange Englishmen went to

India

They wanted to turn Indians into

Dark coloured Brits

But they miserably failed

You know why

Because the Sitas of India

Like this one

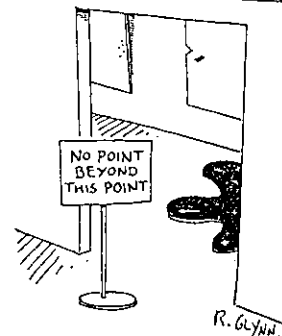
Never discarded

Their second skin.

Satyendra Srivastava

THE SPECTATOR 21 March 1992

CONTEMPORARY  
ART COLLECTION



R. Glynn

Homebush

## Sahaja Newsletter

3rd April 1992

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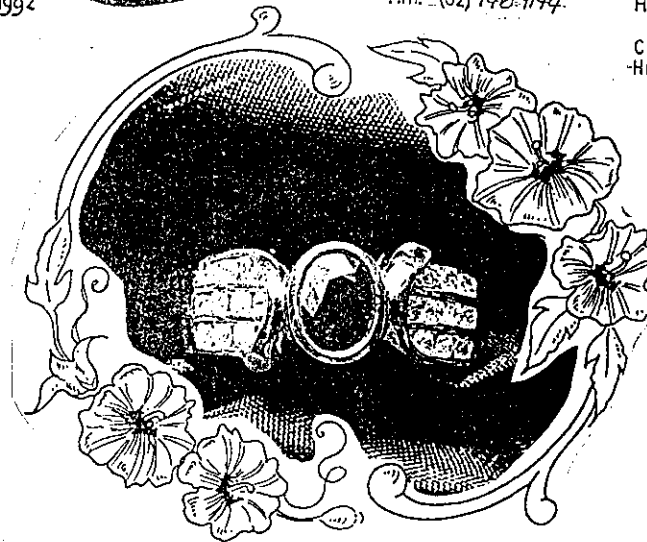
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Shri Mataji's gift from Australia.  
Recently purchased in H.K., the ring  
has a ruby with 10 diamonds either side.



## Sayings of Shri Mataji

## On Love

Try to love each other—in Dedication; because you're all my children, created out of my love. In the womb of my love you all have resided. From my heart I've given you these blessings. A 'deep' love should exist. Selfishness has no place in Sahaja Yoga. Misery has no place in Sahaja Yoga.

You must have a heart as your Mother has. Pulsating with love, with Compassion, with Joy, with Happiness, with Giving. That should be the attitude. Not rationality. Nothing. It is to feel. Feeling for the pains of others. Feeling for their longing and feeling for their aspirations. Just feel within yourself, 'is there Desire to be the Whole', to be the Ocean itself is so fulfilling.

All that is sustaining, all that is nurturing, all that is ennobling comes from this sense of love, which is within us very much developed, but within others also who are not yet realised.



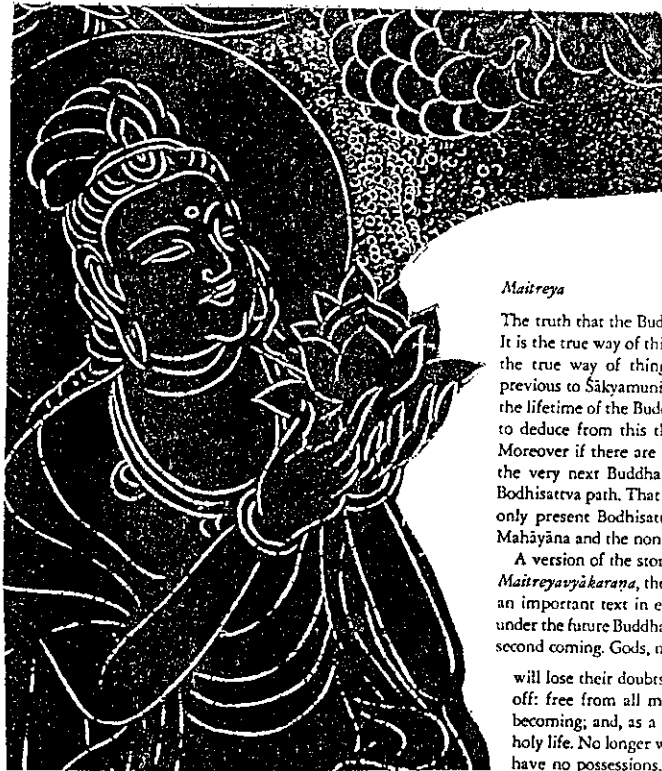
Todd Steinward will be spending  
Easter time at Ayres Rock & Alice  
Springs.

Enjoy yourself Todd!



A man never discloses his own character so  
clearly as when he describes another's.

— Jean Paul Richter



Maitreya

The truth that the Buddha discovered and taught was not unique to him. It is the true way of things, and 'whether Tathāgatas arise or do not arise the true way of things remains'. The idea that there were Buddhas previous to Śākyamuni must have originated fairly early, perhaps during the lifetime of the Buddha himself, and it is scarcely a dramatic inference to deduce from this that there will be further Buddhas in the future. Moreover if there are future Buddhas then the being who is to become the very next Buddha must already exist and be far advanced on his Bodhisattva path. That being is Maitreya (Pāli: Metteyya). Maitreya is the only present Bodhisattva with a 'celestial' status accepted by both the Mahāyāna and the non-Mahāyāna traditions.

A version of the story of Maitreya is contained in a Sanskrit work, the *Maitreyavyākaraṇa*, the *Prophecy of Maitreya*, which seems to have been an important text in establishing the Mahāyāna cult of Maitreya.<sup>12</sup> Life under the future Buddha Maitreya represents the Buddhist millennium, the second coming. Gods, men, and other beings will worship Maitreya and

will lose their doubts; and the torrents of their cravings will be cut off: free from all misery they will manage to cross the ocean of becoming; and, as a result of Maitreya's teachings, they will lead a holy life. No longer will they regard anything as their own, they will have no possessions, no gold or silver, no home, no relatives! But they will lead the holy life of chastity under Maitreya's guidance. They will have torn the net of the passions, they will manage to enter into the trances, and theirs will be an abundance of joy and happiness; for they will lead a holy life under Maitreya's guidance.

(Trans. in Conze 1959: 241)

In Asian art Bodhisattvas are generally portrayed as princes or princesses, with rich jewellery and robes, for they are indeed consecrated to succeed the Buddha as *dharmarāja*, Kings of the Doctrine. An exception to this is the fat, roly-poly 'Laughing Buddha' who is found in so many Western homes. He too is a Chinese form of Maitreya.<sup>13</sup> As in Central Asia, the Chinese cave sanctuaries also have a number of images of Maitreya. At Tun-huang, for example, there are large painted clay statues instantly identifiable by their 'Western' sitting posture.<sup>14</sup> There is also an impressive painting on silk from Tun-huang (ninth/tenth centuries) in the British Museum, depicting the delights of the world when Maitreya appears as a Buddha. The king and queen can be seen with shaved heads, renouncing the world to become enlightened under Maitreya's tutelage. Wedding feasts, ploughing, and reaping are old, pre-Buddhist devices for indicating a true age of plenty, the golden age of the past which is yet to come anew.<sup>15</sup>

In art Maitreya is frequently portrayed not in the traditional lotus posture but rather seated on a throne in Western fashion. Depiction of Maitreya in his palace in the middle of Tūṣita may well have preceded historically the representation of the Pure Lands. In Central Asia there are many images and paintings of Maitreya surviving, placed particularly in the space above the door of a shrine, facing the main figure. Maitreya often carries a vase.

WHO is the  
Maitreya?

Throughout Asia, our Divine Mother has helped seekers with a Buddhist background to achieve their Self - Realisation by asking them to ask Her the question...

"Are you the Maitreya?"

Shri Mataji, Her Advent foretold by all the great religions, takes Her disciples through doubtless awareness, beyond cravings and across the ocean of becoming to live a Holy Life.

She has explained that Maitreya means the three Mothers.

So...

WHO is the  
Maitreya?

The Spanish Villa ~ North Mead

The new tenants have<sup>been</sup> in for a week. Presently programmes are being held externally on Tuesdays & Thursdays for newcomers. As the new yogis establish themselves, evening programmes at the Ashram will be arranged.

Peter, Asha, Aris, Rajeshri, Pam, Andrew, Michelle, the possum & the funnel-web spiders are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Lyndon & Jaishree from Melbourne.

Address: 19 Caprera Rd, North Mead → 686-1919

Programmes: Tuesday & Thursday 7.45pm, YWCA, Parramatta opp. Westfield.



.. A PEEP INTO MOTHER'S JEWEL BOX ...

On the way to the Newcastle campsite of Shivaratri Puja recently, Mary, Gulshan & Sue witnessed an amazing colour display in the sky. There were vivid colours of pink, yellow, green & blue in a huge "brushstroke" shape that remained visible for at least an hour. Big black rain clouds passed in front of it several times but always moved on to reveal the splash of colour. At one point a cloud moved across the sun and a huge coloured bhandan encircled it. The vibrations were powerful & photographs were taken to share the experience with other yogis later.

The photos are back but unfortunately the colours have not shown up. But... a Shiva linga & Shri Mataji's face are clearly shown on many of the photos!!



MORE NEWS FROM THE VIDEO LIBRARY....

The team behind the video library would like to thank Charles and Lyn Tirralonga for the great work they have done in giving the video covers a face lift. The new covers look very nice. Thank you.

Also we have had 3 people come forward to take a tape each week and write a report on it for our new information system. More volunteers would be gratefully appreciated.

Over and out!!!