

Here are some recollections of our Divine Mother's visit to US this year, from the Chicago and New York public programs and from the Shri Yogeshwara puja in New Jersey.

Our Divine Mother arrived in Washington DC on Thursday the 22nd of September at 3:30pm. Initially, Her plane was supposed to come directly to Chicago at around 3pm, but early in that afternoon we realized that it wouldn't have been possible for us to make all the preparations, and by Her kind grace we were all ready when She arrived in Chicago at 5:55 pm.

Shri Mataji gracefully received flowers from the about 30 yogis present at the airport as She came for the first time to bless the city of Chicago with a public program. At the airport there were yogis from Chicago (all of them Russians, as Sahaja Yoga was started here two years ago by two families of Russian Yogis), from Philadelphia, New York, Indiana, and Taiwan. Guido and Florentina were accompanying Shri Mataji on the flight from Milano.

On the way to the Intercontinental Hotel, Shri Mataji mentioned that She had visited Chicago once before, in 1975, when She only made a tour of the city trying to raise its vibrations. She remarked how different Chicago had become over the past 20 years, with all its skyscrapers and modern buildings. Also She talked very much about morality, how it has been degraded so much in the West, and how people like any stupid things they see in movies, how the movies have evolved in the wrong direction over time. Shri Mataji compared the classic cowboy movies from the 1960's with nowadays movies, saying that people were very decent at that time, and even the accent spoken now in the movies is difficult to understand.

In Her hotel suite, Shri Mataji received presents from several centers and worked incessantly on the yogis' problems, without resting over the night.

The next day there was the public program in Chicago, located in the Grand Ballroom of the same hotel. About 300-350 seekers attended and most of them got their realization. The evening was preceded and ended by many bhajans, some of them new Russian songs sung vigorously and joyously by our Russian brothers and sisters. Before coming to the hall, Shri Mataji had specifically requested all the yogis to sing, as She was there in Her vibratory form to listen to the devotional songs dedicated to the Queen of the Universe.

The talk was quite long and very special, and at the end the seekers formed long lines to have the great opportunity to meet Shri Mataji on the stage. As Chicago is very multicultural, Shri Mataji commented about the high quality of seekers from Russia, Bulgaria, Japan and other countries represented there. There was even a small incident with some Hare-Krishna leaders from Chicago who came on the stage at the beginning and the end to talk to Shri Mataji. Shri Mataji allowed them very graciously to come over and over again on the stage to meet Her at the end, and She compassionately tried to open their eyes about the falsehood and artificiality of their doctrine, as well as of their former fake teacher. They ultimately left, after giving Shri Mataji a book about Gita written by that false guru (which, to our amusement, Shri Mataji took and put it very nicely upside down on the little table besides Her).

Later on in the room, She made a lot of fun of these lost people who think they have the key to heaven, and taking the book showed us some horrible pictures of ascetics eaten up by ants, etc. that were in it. In every gesture, in every movement of the eyes, we could feel Her attention working on us and constantly purifying our chakras as we enjoyed Her humorous and extremely joyous mood. Shri Mataji didn't sleep that night either, incessantly absorbing and cleansing the negativity of Chicago, sometimes using candle flame and ajwan burning.

Saturday morning Shri Mataji left to Toronto, where, on an incredible schedule, She was going to have a public program the same night, leaving to the West Coast the next morning! At the Chicago airport, Shri Mataji had a long heart-to-heart talk with the yogis, especially with the Russian collective that had yogis from Ukraine, Uzbekistan and other Russian republics. From the plane flying above Chicago, Shri Mataji made a gesture to give a final clearout to all the negativity of Chicago, and said: "It's done."

The next programs were held in Vancouver and Los Angeles, where our Divine Mother spent most of the following week. She visited the LA ashram where She enjoyed the sight of LA from the window of the ashram that is located on a hill on the outskirts of the city. Here the yogis could see Her making a large sweeping gesture with Her hand across the lights of the city, literally wiping out all negativity!

On the morning of the 30th of September, between 6-7 am, the small collective of Indiana had the blessed opportunity to spend about 45 minutes with Shri Mataji on a stopover in Indianapolis (the capital of Indiana) on Her way from LA to New York. We told Shri Mataji about the flag of Indiana, which looks like a Kundalini-flame shooting up and opening into a Sahasrara connecting the seven chakras (like stars) all around it, everything in gold on a blue background. We asked Shri Mataji for Her blessings for starting Sahaja Yoga in Indianapolis and She gave a bandhan to the city.

We also had the opportunity to mention our Mosaic project and how it can be used as tool for spreading Sahaja Yoga through the Internet, and Shri Mataji made some enquiries and suggestions - for instance about the list with worldwide and nationwide centers. When asking about the language in which these documents are shared on the Internet, She said "Thank God it's not French".

Our Divine Mother was in a very joyous mood as She told us the story related by an English lady about London's most famous pub - "The hermit", where an old man who died was left there for a month and the stench and spiderwebs can still be found nowadays, making it, needless to say, the best to be among pubs.

Then She became serious and She said She cannot understand what is happening with the American seekers, why do they take such a long time in coming to Sahaja Yoga in large numbers, what is the difference between them and the Russians or East Europeans. She discussed many points that were going to be touched on the puja that was going to take place two days afterwards. She also talked again about the decline of morality in North and South America, about the horrible carnivals that are taking place there, how you can see all the muscles and anatomical details of these scantily dressed women in such a horrible way. We felt a strong clearout of all negativity that was attacking the Shri Ganesha principle.

As we were going to find out much later, Shri Mataji said that the land that She has bought in the New York area (one house in Yonkers with another one to be built in the form of a Muladhara chakra, and 114 acres of land in Albany where "Nirmal Nagari" - the city of Nirmala - will be formed soon), was to establish Shri Ganapati in America.

The puja took place on Sunday October 2nd, between two public programs (Saturday and Monday) in New York - one in Queens and the other one in Manhattan, that were filled with people (at the first one there were probably more than 800 people, at the second one, in smaller setting, there were probably about 300 people). Shri Mataji talked for a long time during the puja about the brain and Shri Krishna's qualities - it was one of the most amazing talks I've ever listened to. Then the 108 names of Shri Yogeshwara, newly sent from India, were read, as we worshipped Shri Adi Shakti in the form of the Lord of Yoga.

Shri Bhagavati Adi Shakti departed to Milan Tuesday evening, from the New York airport, leaving us all with the sense that a new era of spirituality is about to blossom now in America.

TO THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLECTIVES

I would very much like to take this opportunity to thank everyone I have met, who have made this year, my travels "downunder" so memorable.

My special thanks to Kerry and Mary in Brisbane; and all the Auckland Sahaja Yogis; Linda, Kevin and Peter in Darwin; the Cunningham family in Alice Springs; the Adelaide yogis (however briefly!!); the Someville ashramites in Melbourne; Esme and Aly in Sydney; but above all to Judy, John and Chris Dobbie together with Kim and Mahadevi at East Lindfield in Sydney, without whose help this year would certainly not have been possible.

I thank all of you from the very bottom of my heart and I hope to see you all again one day.

All my best wishes from Christine Ciles U.K.

JAI SHRI MATAJI!

Shri Mataji's Visit to Brazil - 94

On October 14 our Divine Mother blessed this country with Her holy presence. All the yogis were eagerly awaiting for this precious moment since the last visit in 92. The expectation became even stronger since last August when a planned visit was postponed to October.

The arrival of Shri Mataji in Rio de Janeiro gathered yogis from the whole country at the airport. There was some thrill and running when it was announced that the Mother would not come from the usual arrivals gate but from the departures gate upstairs! The change was made in order to make Shri Mataji's way shorter.

When the Adi Shakti appeared "shining like thousand suns" the yogis started to sing "Mataji, Mataji, your face shines..." and offered Her beautiful flowers. Many of them had tears of joy and love in their eyes. Even the Federal Police officers which were present there were touched and amazed by the beauty of that moment.

Later on, when Shri Mataji was on Her apartment with a marvelous view to the beaches of Ipanema and Leblon, the yogis gathered in the basement hall of the apart-hotel, meditating and singing bhajans. At some moment, She requested all of Her children to come to Her room! As a long line formed in the corridor the yogis would come one by one to the feet of the Mother to receive Her blessings and a present. A beautiful scene of reunion of the Mother with Her children!

The public program next day had an attendance of 1200 people. Shri Mataji arrived precisely when the musicians were singing Vishwavandita. Everyone in the Hall stood up spontaneously and started to clap at the rhythm of the bhajan. In Her talk, Shri Mataji emphasized the importance of becoming a saint in order to really understand and practice the spiritual knowledge. This can only happen through the awakening of the Kundalini inside each human being. After the realization meditation, virtually every one present in the Hall raised their hands to indicate that they had felt the Divine Breeze.

Next morning, on October 16, Shri Mataji traveled to Sao Paulo. This main business city of Brazil still did not have Sahaja Yoga stabilized on it and only very few yogis lived there. Shri Mataji had repeatedly stressed the importance of developing and stabilizing Sahaja Yoga in Sao Paulo for the full growth of Brazil and South America in spirituality. Even though the few yogis of Sao Paulo did their best in order to advertise the program of Shri Mataji, with the help of some brothers and sisters from Rio and Brasilia, it would be difficult to cover a huge city like Sao Paulo. Everyone, therefore, were delighted when they saw a nearly full hall with almost 500 people attending the program which was held on the evening of the same day when Shri Mataji arrived in Sao Paulo. Everybody present were very involved in the atmosphere of spirituality generated when the musicians started to sing beautiful bhajans. Shri Mataji this time stressed the importance of new people coming to Sahaja Yoga to continue attending the collective meditations after Her departure. She said that the halls should be full not only in Her presence but also in the weeks to come in the follow up programs.

In the evening, after the program, Shri Mataji received the yogis in Her apartment room and worked on some of them for a long time. She also cured the father of a local yogini who had lost most of the vision in one of his eyes and another man who felt a chronic pain on his waist due to a serious accident.

Early next morning, on the 17th., Shri Mataji traveled to Brasilia, the capital city of Brazil. There she was received at the airplane door, with honors of Minister of State, by the Mayor of Brasilia who gave Her the Keys of the City. This symbolic surrender of the authorities of Brazil to the Adi Shakti had a deep significance. Shri Mataji mentioned, later on, that the worshipping of the Devi was finally established in Brazil. It is worth mentioning that Government agencies gave a direct support to Shri Mataji's visit to Brazil: the Tourism Authority from the Municipality of Rio de Janeiro paid for Her accommodations as well as for the auditorium for the public program in Rio. Banco do Brasil, the official government bank paid for Her domestic flights. Shri Mataji was also received in a long audience by the Minister of Education of Brazil. They discussed economic and education

goals for developing countries and at the end, Shri Mataji got the support of the Minister for the project of building a Sahaja School in Brasilia! On the next day, a piece of land was donated by a local yogini for the construction of the project. This kind of official involvement will certainly have a very benevolent effect on the whole country.

From the airport, Shri Mataji went to a collective press meeting where She spoke about Sahaja Yoga, about Brazilian politics and about Herself.

In the evening there was a music program at the Brasilia ashram, where Shri Mataji was staying. On the beginning, it was announced that the Mother would stay for only about 15 minutes. As the program went on, She not only stayed for almost three hours but something unexpected happened: Shri Mataji asked to play an organ which was being used by the musicians! For two hours She played together with the stunned instrumentists as yogis from the whole country would sing in Her praise! Other highlights of the night were a song totally composed and sung by boys and girls from the Brasilia collective and Brazilian folklore songs whose lyrics were adapted in praise of the Divine Mother.

On the 18th., we had the public program in Brasilia which gathered 1100 people at the main theatre of the city. The audience, which included the Mayor was delighted when the musicians sang "Brasilia desha...", an adaptation of "Maharashtra Desha", calling the city to an awakening! On Her talk, Shri Mataji spoke about the absence of punishments in Sahaja Yoga and about forgiveness. She said however, that after people come to Sahaja Yoga this forgiveness goes up to a point where the person may be asked to leave Sahaja Yoga. At the end of the program almost everyone present raised their hands to express their feeling of the Divine Breeze.

On the next day, the 19th., Shri Mataji had an audience with a senator which was a former president of the Congress and went to see the piece of land which was donated for the construction of the Sahaja School. The rest of the day She spent talking to the yogis and looking at a multimedia Sahaja software which is being developed by a Brazilian yogi. At the end of the day She left for Buenos Aires to continue Her South American tour. When Shri Mataji was at the airplane door yogis from the whole country which crowded the airport observation deck showed a huge banner thanking Shri Mataji for everything She has given them. After some very touching "ki jay's" the Mother entered the airplane.

While already awaiting for the next visit of the Mother, everyone felt that after the blessings Shri Mataji granted to this country, Sahaja Yoga will grow fast and establish itself with whole strenght in Brazil.

Jai Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi !!!!!!!!!!!

Love, Eduardo