

# Sahaja Yoga

1st December, 2000



## Australian Newsletter

***Jai Shri Mataji!***

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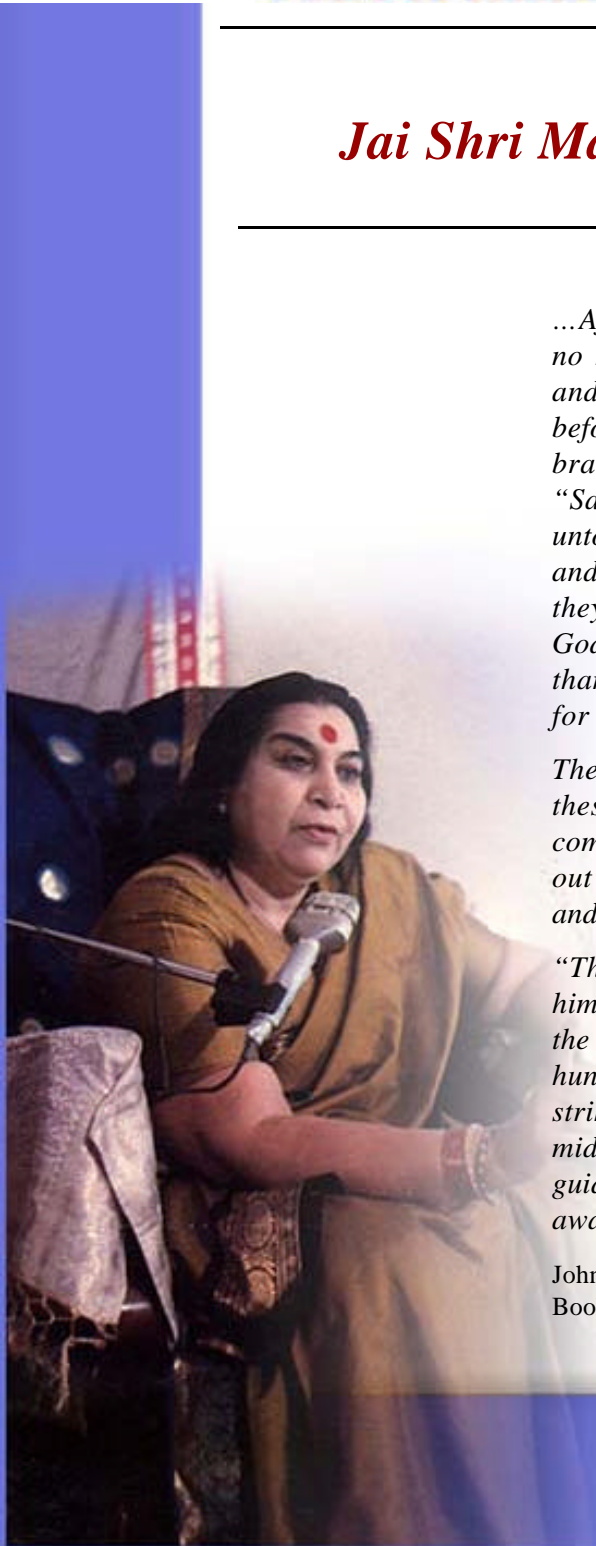
Publication Deadline each Tuesday

*...After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to God who sits upon the throne and unto the Lamb!" And all the angels stood round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to God for ever and ever! Amen."*

*Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and whence have they come?" And he said to me "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."*

*"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night within his temple; and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes..."*

John of Patmos  
Book of Revelations



# STATE NEWS

## News from Western Australia

### ABC features Paul Cox

Last week's *Arts Show* on ABC TV featured film director, Paul Cox and his new film, *Innocence*, which will be showing at the Perth International Arts Festival early next year. The film has won a string of awards including Best Film at the St Tropez, Vlissingen and Montreal Film Festivals. It also won the People's Choice Award at Montreal.

During the *Arts Show* interview Cox was asked whether he had lost his "innocence", to which Cox regrettably answered, "yes". However, he did add that he sometimes regained it, a time that afforded him a momentary "light" of ingenuity and creativeness.

The ABC program also focussed on a yet-to-be-released film about a priest's attempt to establish a church on a leper colony somewhere in Hawaii. The film's Belgian backers were in dispute with Cox over the final cut and his incorporation into the film of important roles for the real-life lepers. Cox was sacked twice during filming, describing the effort to maintain creative control as a bit of a war. This is one film where there is probably "a director's cut" and a "producer's cut" and a distinct possibility that the film will never be released.

Cox recently turned down an offer to produce a major film with a mega-budget, deriding the film industry for

turning an art form into a consumer commodity.

*Chris Szydlowski*

*Editor's note:*

*Our readers may be interested to learn that when Shri Mataji visited Australia with Sir CP Shrivastava in 1995 for the Australian release of Sir CP's book, she suggested that a film should be made (for commercial release) on the life of Lal Bahadur Shastri, and that Paul Cox would be her choice as director. She requested a meeting with him to discuss the possibility.*

## Birthdays!

*Our very best wishes to...*

Tatiana Hewitson

Alfred Hewitt

Claire Pisani

Lisa Barron

Annette Scott

Paul Henwood

Alison Lockyer

Peter Corpe

Gulshan Fisher

Rajashree Smiley

Helena Campbell

Dianne Dellow

Richard Magers

## News from NSW

### Northern Country Tour

1-2 December 2000

Departing Friday evening, returning Saturday night.

Patrick Murphy is making all arrangements for the upcoming country trip to Armidale and Tamworth, but we are still in need of a car plus drivers for the tour.

*For information, please call Patrick Murphy on 0412 667 709.*

Jai Shri Ganesha Sakshat Shri Mataji  
Nirmala Devi Namoh Namaha!!

## Manly Programs Ceasing

After two and a half successful years the Manly Programs have come to an end.

*If anyone has any further inquiries regarding this area please contact Katy Cartmel.*

## Terracotta for Sale

Burwood Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December and  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Perfect for Christmas presents!

*Enquiries phone*

*Heather Sattarshetty 9747 2820*

## Sahaja Yoga Emotional Intelligence Study

A new research project is starting which is aimed at assessing the emotional intelligence of Sahaja Yogis. At least 100 volunteers are needed to fill out a large questionnaire that will be mailed to you. All answers are kept completely anonymous.

If you are interested please phone Dr Ramesh Manocha on 02 9382 6628 and leave your name, mailing address and contact number. Don't forget to mention "Sahaja Yoga emotional intelligence study"

*Ramesh Manocha*

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### India Tour to Include New Year's Eve in Kalwe

The Sahaja Yogis of India eagerly await your visit to India to be with Param Puja Shri Mataji in Ganapatipule for our annual seminar.

In addition Param Puja Shri Mataji has very generously and graciously allowed us to perform Her Puja in Mumbai at Kalwe on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2000.

The yogis of Mumbai cordially invite all our brothers and sisters from all over the world to come to Kalwe, Mumbai to be at the Lotus Feet of Param Puja Shri Mataji for New Year Puja and thereafter see in the new year 2001 together.

All arrangements will be made for your transfer from Ganapatipule on December 30th to Kalwe to stay the night of the 30th and 31st and/or until your outward flights from Mumbai. Kindly inform your likely flight details immediately.

For all inward and outward travel through Mumbai, accommodation and transfer arrangements will be made, including transfer to and from Ganapatipule. Numbers should be given to us now and full details (including names, sex, passport type and number, flight numbers and arrival and departure details) as soon as possible.

**Those flying out of Mumbai:** Departure flights from Mumbai should

be after 31st December 2000, that is on 1st January 2001.

**Those flying out of Delhi:** Will only be able to do so after January 3rd late morning, as train bookings will be made departing Mumbai January 1st, provided information is provided to us as to how many seats are required to travel from Bombay to Delhi.

Please email to Surender Vasudeva, Lyn Vasudeva, RD Magdum on: [lvasudeva@vsnl.com](mailto:lvasudeva@vsnl.com), [lynvasudeva@yahoo.com](mailto:lynvasudeva@yahoo.com), [srm2@vsnl.com](mailto:srm2@vsnl.com) or fax to: 91 22 514 8939, 91 22 889 5777. They will keep Mr. Nalgirkar and I informed.

Looking forward to meeting in India,  
Best wishes, *Rajesh Shah*

Mumbai November 10th SahajNet

## GENERAL NEWS

### Beyond Kali Yuga in a rush-hour train, Sydney

A yogini was coming home from work in a packed Sydney Train. A very noisy, very abusive, very drunk man entered the compartment and sat next to her. He glanced around the typically multicultural mixture of people you find in Sydney.

With heavy expletives he blurted "aren't there any Australians here?" fixing his eyes on a quiet Indian man. He continued his abuse and swearing "Go back to your country. The Olympics are over". The Indian man stood up and left the area.

Triumphantly he fixed his gaze on this gentle yogini, "Are you Australian?. Who are you? Are you two together?" (linking her with a male complete stranger!).

Our yogini simply went up to Sahasrara and stayed up there, not saying a thing. When there was no reaction he quietened down considerably and stopped abusing everybody else. He glanced back at her several times, finally saying "I can't make her out – must be on drugs or something". If only he knew the truth!

Jai Shri Mataji!

*David Sharp, Sydney*

### A Piece from a Child's Letter from Dharamshala

"And Mummy and Daddy I really do love it here in the School. Whenever you just look at Shri Mataji's photo, it seems like I am in Her lap and She's talking to me". As we read this we both fell silent and felt such joy and blessings for our family, and deep gratitude to Shri Mataji. We asked ourselves why we worry about these children when they are so close to Shri Mataji.

When we first took her up to this beautiful school in the Himalayas, we had told her that it would soon be time for us to say goodbye. When this time came, the tears came too... Suddenly I simply said to her "Do you know why you are lucky? You are going to the very best school in the world. I wish I could go there, but I can't, I'm not allowed. It's specially for all the Sahaja Yoga children, to become beautiful yogis to held Shri Mataji.

*David Sharp, Sydney*

### To Realise Heaven on Earth

*Ben Okri, a Nigerian-born Booker Prize winning novelist, has written a remarkable book.. Astonishing the Gods is a fantastical tale of spiritual seeking, of Self Realization and of the perfected society.*

*From the pages of Astonishing the Gods...*



"The universities were places for self-protection, places for the highest education in life. Everyone taught everyone else. All were teachers, all were students. The sages listened more than they talked; and when they talked it was to ask questions that would engage endless generations in profound and perpetual discovery.

"The universities and the academies were also places where people sat and meditated and absorbed knowledge from the silence. Research was a permanent activity, and all were researchers and appliers of the fruit of research. The purpose was to discover the hidden unifying laws of all things, to deepen the spirit, to make more profound the sensitivities of the individual to the universe, and to become more creative.

"Love was the most important subject in the universities. Entire faculties were devoted to the art of living. The civilization was dedicated to a simple goal, the perfection of the

spirit and the mastery of life....

"He was surprised to know, in a flash, without being told, that banks were places where people deposited or withdrew thoughts of well-being, thoughts of wealth, thoughts of serenity. When people were ill they went to their banks. When healthy, they went to the hospitals.

"The hospitals were places of laughter, amusement, and recreation. They were houses of joy. The doctors and nurses were masters of the art of humour, and they all had to be artists of one kind or another.

"It was a unique feature of the place, but the hospitals had their facades painted by the great masters of art. They were some of the most beautiful and harmonious buildings in the city. Merely looking at them lifted the spirits.

"The masters of the land believed that sickness should be cured before it became sickness. The healthy were therefore presumed sick. Healing was always needed, and was considered a necessary part of daily life, healing was always accompanied by the gentlest music. When healing was required the sick ones lingered in the presence of the great paintings, and sat in wards where masterpieces of healing composition played just below the level of hearing. Outdoor activity, sculpting, story-telling, poetry, and laughter were the most preferred forms of treatment. Contemplation of the sea and of the people's origins and their destiny was considered the greatest cure for sickness before it became sickness.

"The inhabitants of that land, who

were the hardest workers in the universe, were seldom ill. When they were ill at all it was in order to regenerate their dreams and visions.

"They went to the hospitals to improve their art of breathing. They went for stillness. They went there to remember their beginnings and to keep in mind their ever-elusive destination. Hospitals were places where the laws of the universe were applied. Individuals, mostly, healed themselves....

"The air was very warm and it smelt of old stones. It smelt also of marble, of the serenity that comes after centuries of turbulence, and curiously, also, of fragrant earth. He sensed that a divine mother ruled the night of the city. Her warm presence was both protective and enduring....

"And on a niche beside the palace gate, in purest stone, very small and humble, and yet encompassing the land with divinity, was the quiet figure of the great mother.

"She was the lady of the mighty gate, protector of the land and its night....

"He was also there on the great day when all the people, freshly risen from the ocean bed, gathered on the occasion of the great covenant, the momentous event of the consecration of their master dream. It was the day of the most beautiful rituals. It was the day when the people promised to the heavens that out of their agony they would make a wonderful destiny. With the sweetest and most solemn vows, they pledged to create civilization of light and justice. They

pledged to initiate on the Earth the first universal civilization where love and wisdom would be as food and air.

"On that great day a marvellous sign came upon the people. As the rituals were coming to an end, there was an extraordinary flash of light in the sky. Then the heavens, as if in a mysterious annunciation, revealed their splendour and their luminous glories. And when the people freshly arisen from the ocean bed looked upwards, they saw a fabulous sight. They saw themselves mirrored in heaven. They saw the shining doubles of themselves, clothed in the miraculous light of perfection.

"To realize a little of heaven on Earth, that was the glory of their promise...."

*Ben Okri, 'Astonishing the Gods' (London: Phoenix House, 1995)*

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