

Sahaja Yoga

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Australian Newsletter

Jai Shri Mataji!

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We thus call upon the Holy Sophia, the supernal mother of our souls, and celestial bride of our spirits: Daughter of Infinite Light, born of enlightened love; merciful and compassionate, embodiment of perfect wisdom; begotten in Eternity, beyond time and space. With what words shall we praise Thee, or with what thought comprehend Thy majesty? Utterance must profane Thee; Silence itself can but bear witness to Thee. How shall we extol Thee? In what shall we shadow forth Thy great glory among us?

And our Lady Sophia answers, saying: "Ye shall dance, sing, feast, make music and love, all in my praise. For mine is the ecstasy of the spirit, and mine also joy on earth. Let my worship be in the heart that rejoiceth. wherefore let there be beauty and strength, power and compassion, honour and humility, mirth and reverence within you, now and for evermore."

Amen

from the Gnostic Gospels



NATIONAL NEWS

Dear Sahaj Yogi Brothers & Sisters

I wish to convey Shri Mataji's love to everyone. Last night during the telephonic conversation she expressed her happiness with the growth of SY in Australia. She was very pleased with the purchase of Melbourne property. She said we should grow some flowers and some agriculture things there. She said *"Today (22nd) is a very auspicious day. It is the day of birth of Shri Ganesha. But I have postponed the puja for you"*.

With Shri Mataji's blessings things are moving along in a very positive way. We are at a stage where if we all desire, grow deep through meditation, dedication and commitment, spread Sahaja with total love and passion and help build the physical infrastructure for all the seekers and for us to enjoy collectivity we can feel blessed for being chosen to be part of this greatest inner revolution.

1. Ganesha Puja 2001. As of today only 14 Yogis will be representing Australia at the Ganesha Puja festival at Cabella on 21, 22 & 23 rd August 2001. I want to call upon everyone who can to join the expression of our love and devotion in the physical presence of Shri Mataji. I want to promise all those who have put all their heart, time and money to help take Sahaja Yoga Australia to new heights, the best time of their life as Sahaj Yogis with a great physical proximity to the Goddess. Please allow me to take pride in introducing you and your great contribution to Sahaj Yoga to Shri Mataji (even though She knows everyone on vibrations).

2. Ganesha Puja Contributions. I call upon all yogis to contribute \$108 each (if possible) to help host the Ganesha Puja. As you are aware all hosting countries share the total cost of organising which includes set up costs including backdrops, souvenirs, puja costs, Centrassi rent, Hosting countries Puja presents etc etc. The earlier you can send the money, the easier it will be for us. You can mark your cheques to "Life Eternal Trust National Promotions Account" or ring Reema Hampton to deposit directly into the account on 02 9498 6591. Please fax the deposit slip so that the receipt can be issued.

3. National Projects Contributions. There was a tremendous response to the call for suggested national projects contribution of \$1,000 each person last year. Lots of yogis responded to the call that was made with due approval from Shri Mataji. With a great sense of pride in our collective effort that I wish to report of all the projects that have become reality with the help of everyone. Our collectivity all around Australia has risen greatly to shoulder the responsibility and help each other. It was great to see how Perth, Brisbane, Melbourne and Canberra yogis have come forward with their brothers in NSW to help build history through Preschool and Balmoral. I pray to Shri Mataji

that our love and respect for each other grows and that we all become truly collective and that Sahaja yoga is established fully in Australia.

Please find below how the money was spent.

- (a) Wamuran sewage system \$12,000
- (b) 12 Clarence St Purchase (including stamp duty & loan repayments) \$150,000
- (c) Child care centre renovation \$60,000
- (d) Purchase of Melbourne property \$75,000
- (e) Principal repayment for Gidgie \$50,000
- (f) Balmoral development \$70,000

The amounts collected in Melbourne and Perth were retained for their local purchase. The above payments were also possible due to the rent from Burwood. We did have a separate savings for Balmoral which has run out now. It is expected that 12 Clarence St will be able to generate marginal surplus after meeting its debt repayment for the loan of about \$400,000.

The Perth collective as usual has shown why it has one of the best Nabhis in Australia. We are all eagerly awaiting for the new title to be registered after the subdivision so that Gidgegannup can be purchased in the name of National Trust.

From the purchase price of \$360,000 the collective has already reduced the principal by over \$50,000, besides making the regular repayments for the whole loan for last 2 years.

I again thank all those who have opened their heart and shown that their commitment to Sahaj is real. It is not the amount of money but the feeling of giving the best that one can is important. Every dollar will help create history, so I thank you once again.

4. Melbourne's Mega Move. Victorian collective has acquired what Shri Mataji described as *"Mahalakshmi's present to you"*. Shri Mataji at one stage while in America was prepared to send us money to help us. I am thankful to all the Melbourne yogis who have shown how generous they are because of which the purchase was made possible. Shri Mataji said *"This place will help establish Ganesha in Melbourne and will give a great momentum to the Victorian collective"*. Congratulations Rob and everyone.

5. Pending National Projects 2001. Funds will be required for the development of Balmoral property so that everyone can enjoy it fully with a new amenities block, new kitchen, play areas, Shri Mataji's cottage (remember Shri Mataji said She would come when the cottage is ready) and play areas for children and adults. Cost \$100,000

We have to renovate the bathrooms, toilets and redesign the whole of the back section of Burwood. With the increase in programs for new people in Burwood and for the large number of residents and visitors we have to take on this project as a top priority. This project has been put on shelf for years as it did not come up in priority list before. Cost \$45,000

Before we actually make the first-ever legal preschool operational and fulfill one of the long held desires of Shri Mataji, we still need funds for total transformation, furniture, equipments and working capital for business. Short-fall cost \$50,000.

Keeping the above three projects in mind which will mainly benefit the NSW collective I call upon all the members of NSW collective if they can once again help with a generous contribution. Like last year I will again try and lead by pledging \$10,000 for 2001. There were two yogis whose contributions were over \$15,000 last year. I am told both have enjoyed great prosperity last year. I hope there can be many, many more who can open their hearts and wallets so that all these projects can work and we all can enjoy it together. We can all stand tall and proud when Shri Mataji visits us.

6. Great Medical Results. I take this opportunity to congratulate Dr Ramesh Manocha for bringing Sahaj yoga to the brink of the main stream. It is now up to everyone to take up more responsibility in Sahaj to look after all the seekers, and to give them the best that Sahaj Yoga can offer. We have to show by our own living example as to how great Sahaj Yoga is. So let us all achieve that greatness while passing on Shri Mataji's love.

That's all from me, for now. I take this opportunity to thank and congratulate everyone in the collective for the great love and respect that we are developing for each other, for working selflessly at preschool and Balmoral without any expectation of monetary rewards, for generosity that would make us all proud and for the collective inner growth expressing its love for Shri Mataji through National Seminars and various Sahaj Projects.

Jai Shri Mataji

Avinash Nickkawde
Sydney

STATE NEWS

News from Queensland

Public Program at Chinchilla

Hello to you all!! The first Chinchilla program held on the August 1, 2001 was a great learning experience. On a stage set of a group of seven woman called the *Healthy Lifestyles Group*, two ladies received their self-realisation, two were interested but stopped when asking for the pure knowledge, one lady not showing signs of interest or a lack of interest, and two ladies that couldn't have gotten any flatter against the wall. However, some of them expressed their interest if programs were to be held on a regular basis - we are still working on a suitable location.

Since then there has been a letter written to the District Manager of the Northern Downs Health Services District by the Director of Nursing at the Chinchilla Hospital, requesting they take a closer look at natural therapies including aromatherapy, herbal medicines, vitamin supplements and their adverse affects when being used in conjunction with "chemical medicines", the correct dosages and correct treatment/essential oil etc. for the supposed illness. In this letter Sahaja Yoga was suggested as a natural therapy to be looked into, based on the data collected by Dr Ramesh Manocha and any other information available. Sahaja Yoga being the preference over most "relaxation techniques" due to the findings of Dr Manocha and the benefits of Sahaja Yoga as opposed to other forms of relaxation and meditation. The response has been of great interest, however, at the time the letter was written there was an acting District Manager and no decisions could be set in place before her return. Will keep you posted...

There has also been a public forum on *How to improve the local Health Services to the Community* held last Monday August 13, 2001. Once again natural therapies was the point to start at, with Sahaja Yoga and Dr Manocha's collection of data being suggested to benefit the Community as a whole. It seems as though from the forum and all topics raised there will be some sort of committee and/or public relations officer to link and inform the community of the Health Services programs and vice-versa.

That's all the news from the bush so far. Look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Love, Michelle and Justyn Holmes

News from NSW

Radio Program Raffle

Please buy your raffle tickets for the beautiful painting by Christine Driver, which is displayed on the notice board at Burwood along with the 2nd and 3rd prizes.

The raffle will be drawn on the Saturday night before Shri Ganesha Puja.

You can buy tickets from anyone on the radio team. Price is 2 tickets for \$10. Your contribution will go towards keeping the radio program on air.

Anna Chicos
Sydney

Share Accommodation Available on Central Coast

A yogini with three young boys needs another yogini with or without children to share home with her.

We will have own flat with kitchenette. Nice ocean breeze, beach walk and peaceful surroundings. \$100 per week including rent and electricity.

Call Rohini on 02 4381 1235

Birthdays!

Our very best wishes to all Australian Sahaj yogis whose birthday falls in the coming week. May they have many happy returns of their special day...

Rebecca Dixon
Pramod Rane
Dinesh Nagwekar
Nila Nagwekar
Russell Raggatt
Reijo Siren
Debbie Miller
Subhash More
Greta More

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

News from Russia

Discovering Realised Authors

Jai Shri Mataji! A few days ago I went to a bookshop and found one great book by Ralph Emerson. Vibrations were very strong and I bought it. This author is very, very great. The name of this book is *Moral Philosophy*, but I know he has several books extra. So, suddenly I've found a realized author, who lived in 19th century.

Here in Russia we check all books concerning spirituality (we can check all of them because of their little number and with the help of vibrational awareness), so we know some other realized authors. The question is: can we exchange this information? Maybe you have heard about some of them? Our list is:

K. Gibran
R. Maharshi
C.G. Jung
G. Gesse
C.S. Lewis
Lasarev (Russian one)
...and some others, who lived many centuries ago.

Do you know about others? Or have you heard that Shri Mataji said something about them? Please contact me if you have any information.

Best regards, *Maxim Belyanin*
maxim@sahajnews.mtu-net.ru

News from Indonesia

Jakarta Collective



This is a photo of the Jakarta Indonesia Sahaja collective taken after Guru Puja July 8, 2001 in Jakarta.

Salam dari kami semua.
Adriana, Jakarta

News from the USA

Washington Program Strategically Sited

Shri Mataji's public program on August 4th in Washington DC was held strategically in an interesting location, directly at the foot of the Washington Monument between the White House, the Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial and the Jefferson Memorial, all on the Washington Mall, lined with its many museums and galleries.

Three days before the event I had arrived in a minibus with the Brazilian shaktis. We distributed leaflets, which emitted strong vibrations. Shri Mataji had Her attention obviously on the program beforehand. These leaflets showed a miracle photo with the bold words *"The World Savior - Come and Discover the Destiny of Humanity"* with the idea to attract the curiosity of the seekers.

The tour website, www.theworldsavior.org, had received 40,000 hits as of Thursday August 2nd. The photo and the text were chosen by Shri Mataji, among the several suggestions offered. Shri Mataji, and not Sahaja Yoga, was in the foreground at the program and at the website.

Since postering is almost impossible in the conservative city of Washington, several troupes of yogis, armed with leaflets and flyers, efficiently distributed at the rush hours near the subway stations. Myself, I gave out about twenty thousand copies in a few days. At times, we were ten Colombians, six Brazilians and two Indians, of whom only four spoke English. This was no big problem, as we had no time to talk to the rushing commuters. Frequently we could feel vibrations flow from us to the receiver of our leaflets. Especially with the Latinos and the Blacks, I could feel an echo.

On the day of the program, Shri Mataji was interviewed for a Spanish television channel with reports being sent out periodically. Patricia Mays did the interview and the TV station simply taped it - as simple as that.

The public program took place in the open air, on the green meadows, with unfortunately less people than provided chairs - maybe several hundred altogether.

After a music presentation with bhajans and Stephen Day on sarod, Andrea Cousin delivered an incredible speech. It reminded me of the historical, fiery, moving speeches of Gandhi, as seen in some films. There was some more music and then Shri Mataji arrived. A letter from the Mayor of Washington was read.

After Realization, there were some questions. It was asked why did Shri Mataji chose this location for Her program and Shri Mataji answered, *"Because I am a big admirer of Abraham Lincoln."* She continued to praise him at

length. He was a saint and the greatness and meaning of the USA comes from him. *"Because of him, America has become so great,"* She said. He laid the foundation of the democracy, which is a wonderful, highly developed form of government. He achieved all this despite being married to a very difficult wife. From him the Americans also learned to recognize the subtle essence of things. A big quality of the Americans is their ability to be 'open minded', which can be dangerous at times. (In this, Shri Mataji echoed Her words from the Shri Krishna Puja talk, where She called the Americans 'collective without discrimination'.)

I felt the American national pride and I am sure the audience greatly enjoyed these words. With mention that Lincoln could not give Self Realization, Shri Mataji came back to the present. She was asked if the ideas of Sahaja Yoga can be incorporated in any existing religion. She said it can, but Sahaja Yoga is a new religion, a pure religion. It is not based on some books, but comes from the inside. It is also recognized as a religion in the United States.

An older Indian man said he knew the Vedas very well and asked several confused questions. He wanted to have a discussion with Shri Mataji, at which point She waved him off, saying he should let others speak as well.

Later on, She returned to the Vedas, saying many people read the Vedas, but still don't understand a thing. At the end, She quoted Kabir. *"If you read too much, you become stupid"*. The yogis were laughing inside, but the man who was supposed to hear this message had already left. In any case, we were all addressed. Shri Mataji emphasized the actual experience.

The Self Realization happened 'Albany-style', with shoes on feet and very short. Almost everybody raised their arms, saying they had felt the experience. Shri Mataji asked us to clap strongly at the next bhajan, *Ude Bai*, to intensify the vibrations. After that, Shri Mataji left and the bhajans continued for a while longer.

The yogis distributed a wonderful brochure indicating the eight follow-up programs in different parts of the city, including at the National Institutes of Health and two programs in Spanish.

Roland Bumberger
(translated by Eva Touzard)
Washington August 6

(Sahajajnews)

News from Africa

Coast of Ivory

The Ivory Coast a country located in West Africa. Abidjan is its economic capital.

Sahaja Yoga started in Ivory Coast in 1992, thanks to our brother Michel Ahouanmenou, the first realized soul there. He is now the leader of this collective - three thousand Sahaja Yogis.

Sahaj Yoga is spread out through the whole country. The national centre is located in Akouedo, city of Abidjan, where most activities take place. There are also other centres.

In the national centre, the activities take place every Saturday throughout the day. They include giving Realization, courses on the chakras, watching and listening to cassettes of Shri Mataji, periodic havans, local and international pujas and meditation.

Thus, we had Guru Puja on July 8th and Krishna Puja on July 29th in the national centre of Sahaja Yoga in Abidjan.

On Saturday July 7th, we had a seminar on the principle of the Guru through a speech of Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi. On Saturday July 28th, there was another seminar on the knowledge of the life of Shri Krishna and then a havan to our Divine Mother, so that She could destroy all the negativities of our planet at the start of Satya Yoga.

During these pujas and meditations, we were blessed by the cool vibrations of Shri Adi Shakti, through songs and dances performed at the end of pujas.

A course on the *Ramayana* was organized from July 29th to August 4th by the collective of the Ivory Coast. This was a course on the life of Shri Rama to solicit the assistance of our Divine Mother in Her aspect of Shri Rama, to help re-establish the right Heart of the Ivory Coast and of all its children. The week ended with a large puja to Shri Rama.

Public programs take place every week in Abidjan and the other cities. On July 28th, in Bouake, a city situated 450 kilometres from Abidjan, people attended a meeting and received their Realization to the surprise and joy of a very satisfied collective.

Innocent Ahoglele
(translated by Annie Calvas)
Abidjan, Ivory Coast, August 8

(Sahajnews)

News from the UK

Opportunity Rings

It was a normal summer holiday Wednesday and nothing special seemed like it was going to happen at seven in the evening.

The children were having dinner and bedtime was looming, when, all of a sudden, there was a ring at the door. A young girl stood there, canvassing for *Save the Earth* charity. Would I like to set up a gift aid for this charity?

"Well, actually, I already give to a regular charity. Would you like to information about my charity?"

"Yes please."

Off I went to find a leaflet, and to my surprise she said, "Oh! I went there on Saturday, to the Royal Albert Hall."

"Did you feel it?" I asked.

"Maybe, but I couldn't tell for sure. I couldn't make it to the follow up, unfortunately."

"Well, if you have a few minutes, please come in and I will help you feel it." And so, spontaneously she came in. I showed her into the living room (taking care to avoid the shoes, Lego, golf set, ironing) and we had a workshop. With no air conditioning or wind, on such a still evening, she definitely felt it! She asked for more information and unloaded more questions, which only a real seeker of truth could ask. One of the things she said was that she would have liked more information on the Saturday. And so I was able to give her more details and a booklet. After about twenty minutes - she was still supposed to be at work - she had to leave, but not without giving me a hug first. I'm hoping to see her again.

Who knows how many seekers come into our lives without our realizing it. Had I just closed the door and said, "No thank you," it would have been a different story.

Dear sisters, even though we don't always make it to meetings and have the chance to 'spread Sahaja Yoga' like others do, opportunities do come our way and it is a question of seizing the moment when we can. Keep a stash of leaflets by the door.

Let us pray that Mother guides all the seekers of truth to our doors for us to nurture and love.

Kate
London July 28

(Sahajnews)