

Sahaja Yoga

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Australian Newsletter

Jai Shri Mataji!

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Publication deadline for contributions
is midnight each Tuesday

*I am the Invisible One within the All...
I am immeasurable, ineffable, yet whenever I wish,
I shall reveal myself of my own accord.
I am the head of the All.
I exist before the All, and I am the All,
Since I exist in everyone.*

*I am a Voice speaking softly.
I exist from the first.
I dwell within the Silence...
And it is the hidden Voice that dwells within me,
Within the incomprehensible, immeasurable Thought,
Within the immeasurable Silence.*

Trimorphic Protennoia



STATE NEWS

News from Queensland

New People's Seminar

A seminar for new people (i.e. people who have been coming to programs for a while) will take place at Wamuran on Sunday 17th February from 10:30am to 2:30pm.

A buffet lunch will be provided at a cost of \$5 per person. The focus will be on depth of meditation, the basic principles etc.

Postering

On the weekend of 23rd-24th February, it is planned to start a postering campaign of Toowoomba, Dalby, Warwick and Ipswich for the forthcoming programs which will take place on 2nd-3rd March.

Flyers will be created and distributed on the weekend prior. Business cards have been ordered and a new box of handouts has arrived from Sydney.

Country Tours

On the weekend of 2nd-3rd March programs will take place in Toowoomba, Dalby, Warwick and Ipswich following our postering bombardment of the previous weekend.

Programme will be as follows:

- **Toowoomba 2nd March at 10:00am**
at Dr Price's room, 6 Little Street, Toowoomba
(at rear of Town Hall – seats 90+).
- **Dalby 2nd March at 2:00pm**
at the Meeting Room, Dalby Town Council Building.

Accommodation for tour participants at the Spring Creek Caravan Park, Saturday evening with BBQ and stay over.

- **Warwick 3rd March at 10:00am** at the Warwick Library.
- **Ipswich** (details to be advised)

We need to construct some kind of profile which we will all be happy with. Ideas and suggestions will be most welcome. It is intended to run a monthly program in these four centres, so volunteers to support these events are needed.

Peter Hewitson
Wamuran

News from NSW

Qantas will stop flying to India after 30th March!

MEDIA RELEASE:

QANTAS WITHDRAWS SERVICES TO INDIA

SYDNEY, 6 February 2002: Qantas Airways announced today that it would withdraw all services to India from 31 March 2002 and also defer the delivery of three Airbus A330 aircraft.

Qantas currently operates five return services each week between Sydney and Mumbai via Singapore.

Qantas Chief Financial Officer Peter Gregg said the decision to withdraw services to India followed a comprehensive review of the airline's international network.

"We continually scrutinise every route in the Qantas network to ensure we are managing our operations efficiently," Mr Gregg said. "This process has been particularly important following the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 and the consequent action in Afghanistan.

"The decision to withdraw services to India follows the reduction of flights to Rome, Johannesburg, Bangkok, Manila and Buenos Aires."

Mr Gregg said "the withdrawal of services to India would allow Qantas to transfer Boeing 767s from international to domestic operations."

Meeting to Discuss

Alternative Travel Arrangements

A meeting of Dharamsala parents is being called at Burwood after this week's Friday night program to discuss our options with relation to the children's one-year tickets.

We have asked our agent to stop the issue of the tickets if at all possible so we can decide on a different carrier. The options are either *Singapore* or *Malaysian*, depending on seat availability.

Can any adults who have booked with the group, and who planned to return after the 31st March, please contact Mr Ram as soon as possible to discuss their options.

Our agent has made an urgent request to you to please ask everyone who has only paid a deposit to pay the remaining balance immediately. The balance of the payment was due by 29th Jan 2002, but so far many have not yet paid for their tickets.

Maha Shivaratri Puja Dakshina 108 UK Pounds

Monday 11th February is the nominated date for the transfer of Puja Dakshina money for Mahashivaratri. Everyone travelling will need to transfer the money by close of business next Monday. The monies will then be transferred to England.

The payment for Birthday Puja will be paid separately: an amount of US Dollars \$250, and needs to be taken in US currency to India and paid in Delhi.

All attending Maha Shivaratri Puja will need to deposit \$310 (the current Australian Dollar equivalent for 108 Pounds) into the following account:

Account: Life Eternal Trust NSW
Account No: 221 767 344
BSB: 2-245
Bank: ANZ Burwood, 212 Burwood Rd
Burwood NSW 2134

This can be done at any branch of the ANZ, or using electronic banking over the Internet.

Once a deposit is made, a copy of the deposit slip with your name clearly written upon it should be faxed to Andrew Jones (who is coordinating the collection of the Puja Dakshina money) on (02) 9688 4055, or an electronic transfer receipt can be Emailed to Andrew at the following address:

jonesclan108@hotmail.com

You should also call Andrew on (02) 4567 8030, or Wed-Fri on (02) 9688 4444 to confirm his receipt of your deposit.

One total amount for all Australians will then be transferred to England, together with a list of names.

Current Proposed Itinerary:

13th March 1330hrs QF123

Group departure from Sydney

13th March 2215hrs

Arrival at Mumbai. Group will be met at the airport and travel by bus directly to Pune

14th, 15th, 16th & 17th March

Mahashivaratri Puja in Pune

18th March

Travel to Mumbai

19th March

Overnight Rajtani (18 hour) Express to Delhi (2nd Class AC sleeper)

20th March

Arrival Delhi, travel to Camp

21st 22nd & 23rd March

Birthday Puja

24th March

Public Program.

School children and parents travel to Dharamsala

25th, 26th March

Dharamsala

27th March

Travel from Dharamsala to Delhi

28th March

Overnight Rajtani (18 hour) Express to Mumbai (2nd Class AC sleeper)

29th March

Arrival at Mumbai

29th March 2350hrs QF124

Group Departure from Mumbai

30th March 1930hrs

Arrival in Sydney

Sincerely,

Chris Kyriacou, Sydney

BIRTHDAYS!

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

Bel Henshaw
Kate Henashaw
Dorothy Horn
Mahesh Mehta

Jason Cula
Edna Alexander
Joanne Richards
Caroline Henwood
Coralie Jessop
Kim Laird

Spontaneous Catering for 800 Doctors

We have been able to secure another event from the Royal Hospital for Women (Natural Therapies Unit). Catering Day is Sat. 16th February 2002 at the Clancy Auditorium, University of New South Wales.

All those wishing to help should call Katherine Tollfree 4937 5154 for the co-ordination of volunteers.

The code for this event is formal catering and the "staff/volunteers" have to be in peak performance, wearing black skirts/pants, clean black shoes & white-collared tops (no polos). Aprons will be provided. Hair must be back and out of your face.

We have been booked for an anticipated minimum of 800 doctors. We will need to roll out our best performance to date in order to get really good reports. From this we will possibly secure a few more events for us to raise more funds.

All the reports we have received after the last two events have been excellent. There were a couple of logistical issues that we have to address in the lead-up and during the event, but they are being dealt with by arranging a different layout for the delivery of the catering at lunch and breaks.

Please remember that we are doing Shri Mataji's work in our collective effort and the fruits of that effort. We are not there to give the doctors their realisation whilst they are trying to have their lunch or morning tea. Usually we have a booth there where people can be given individual attention to further this great work, and accordingly we must avoid making this a lounge area for yogis. The doctors must feel they are being treated with the same professional respect as they would from any other exhibitor.

All reports from the yogis on the two previous events are that they had an excellent time based on the work done and they received great feedback from the delegates.

Any parents of young children who wish to help on the day and need to have their children looked after: we may be able to organize a day for the kids. This would be facilitated by assistance from parents or Yuva Shakti to allow those parents who would like to take the opportunity to help. Anybody who would like to volunteer to help look after other children on the Saturday should call Katherine on 4937 5154.

Any parents of young children who wish to help on the day of preparation at Burwood should register their children at the pre-school, and *Spontaneous Catering* will cover this cost. If they are too young for the school can we please have some volunteers to help organize activities for the younger kids at Burwood. The presence of some of the

Mums is crucial to this day of preparation. You can call Rob Hutcheon 0414 555 102 if you need to, but as Katherine is gathering all the information and co-ordinating this complex operation, it is better that you phone her direct on 4937 5154.

Thanking you for your time and support.

Rob Hutcheon, Sydney

One-Off Change to Sahaja Yoga Radio Program

Sahaja Yoga will not be broadcasting a radio program on Sunday, 17 March due to special Irish (St Patrick's Day) and Persian (their New Year) broadcasts on that day, as well as the many SY travel preparations occurring on that weekend.

In exchange for giving up our time slot to those two User Groups on that day, Sahaja Yoga will be broadcasting a 2-hour Radio Special on a Sunday down the track, the date yet to be determined. Stay tuned for details.

Liallyn Fitzpatrick, Sydney

Penrith Workshop a Great Success

Last Sunday we held a workshop in Penrith. The area between Burwood and the Blue Mountains is relatively uncharted territory for Sahaja Yoga, so it was with great trepidation that we decided to hold a workshop. To our delight we had about 100 responses to our ads and 63 people registered. On the day 58 turned up! It was a wonderful sight to see people queueing out of the door to register.

We also offered childcare. This was a great success. Families could have a day out together and the kids got the vibrations too! Pam and Claire did a brilliant job of providing everything that was needed and the kids had a wonderful day.

Matthew gave a heartwarming talk and much laughter was heard from the audience. They watched a tape of Shri Mataji and were guided through their realisation experience. The workshop in the morning left everyone feeling the cool breeze and asking genuine deep questions.

We then adjourned for lunch, where many Yogis were again approached with questions and keen interest by all those who attended. Many thanks to Anna and Celeste who never left the kitchen all day and produced a sumptuous lunch and full-on party for the kids.

In the afternoon *Music of Joy* worked their magic and everyone responded with enthusiastic applauding. The music really did lift everyone into another realm. Many people commented that the different cultural roots of the music was great and it gave them an understanding that the experience of Sahaja Yoga and their realisation crosses all boundaries of race, religion and cultures. Someone said "I really loved the music and could have listened for hours, but is it supposed to make you cry?" Someone else said they could feel their kundalini responding to the music in different ways with each song. All were moved.

We then had a short, guided meditation and told people they were free to leave. Instead of leaving they all settled in with a cup of tea to talk about their experiences with the Sahaja Yogis there (all Sahaja Yogis had black name tags so the new people knew who they could approach to ask questions). People stayed for about another 40 minutes talking and laughing. Any questions that were asked were answered quietly in a one-on-one situation.

When we moved to Penrith we weren't sure how to begin to hold programs. We couldn't have managed without the support of the Lidcombe ashram, the Blue Mountains, Pam and Andrew and *Music of Joy*, so personally we would like to say "thank you very much".

Now we would like to ask one more favour!!! We are holding follow-up programs at the South Penrith Neighbourhood Centre on Monday evenings 7.30 to 9.00pm and Thursday afternoons 1.00 to 2.30pm. As we (Helen and I) will be travelling overseas next week we are looking for some volunteers to keep the momentum going. The more people that can help, the less will have to be done. Please let us know on 4737 9796 or speak to us on Friday. We are only half an hour away!!!

Again, many thanks to all the Yogis that attended the workshop. The new people commented on what a great day it was and more than half expressed a desire to continue. Your love, enthusiasm and collectivity made the day.

Roger and Helen Splarn
Sydney

DID YOU KNOW...

Some more Facts about India

Q. Who is the co-founder of Sun Microsystems?

A. Vinod Khosla.

Q. Who is the creator of Pentium chip (needs no introduction as 90% of the today's computers run on it)?

A. Vinod Dahm

Q. Who is the third richest man on the world?

A. According to the latest report in *Fortune Magazine*, it is Aziz Premji, who is the CEO of *Wipro Industries*. The Sultan of Brunei is at 6th position now.

Q. Who is the founder and creator of Hotmail (Hotmail is world's No.1 web-based email program)?

A. Sabeer Bhatia

Q. Who is the president of AT & T-Bell Labs (AT & T-Bell Labs is the creator of program languages such as C, C++ and Unix, to name a few)?

A. Arun Netravalli

Q. Who is the GM of Hewlett Packard?

A. Rajiv Gupta

Q. Who is the new MTD (Microsoft Testing Director) of Windows 2000, responsible to iron out all initial problems?

A. Sanjay Tejwrika

Q. Who are the Chief Executives of CitiBank, Mckensey & Stanchart?

A. Victor Menezes, Rajat Gupta, and Rana Talwar.

We Indians are the wealthiest among all ethnic groups in America, even faring better than the whites and the natives.

There are 3.22 millions of Indians in USA (1.5% of population). YET:

38% of doctors in USA are Indians.

12% scientists in USA are Indians.

36% of NASA scientists are Indians.

34% of Microsoft employees are Indians.

28% of IBM employees are Indians.

17% of INTEL scientists are Indians.

13% of XEROX employees are Indians.

Balraj Singh, Sydney, Australia

The Passing of a Dear Brother

It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of John Cula last Saturday. I was fortunate to be able to spend time with him two weeks previously and had a very deep conversation with him about what he was going through. I shared with him an experience I had when my mother died. Shri Mataji said to me that death was like a time when you need to change your clothes. They're worn out so you get new ones. When the body is worn out you can take a re-birth and come back with renewed energy and enthusiasm. Your spirit is eternal and continues on. This seemed to give John some comfort but he was sad that he was running out of time and very conscious that he was dying. He was very happy that he had been able to see two new grandchildren into the world and said that this was the greatest blessing.

I met John in 1990 on my first trip to Hong Kong when Shri Mataji was on an Asia wide tour. She had decided not to have a public program in Hong Kong but had asked us all to stay an extra week and arrange a program. John had been very helpful in finding us a venue and letting us use his photocopier and office, with a bit of encouragement from Narelle. It was on this trip that Shri Mataji suggested I move to Hong Kong, and it was only through John's help that I was able to come. We ended up staying with John for almost two years in his office-come-flat in the heart of Wanchai, in a very busy and noisy part of Hong Kong. John was always willing to help and do his bit for Shaja Yoga that became an important part of his life. It was through his generous love and support that Sahaja Yoga was established in Hong Kong and without his help we couldn't have started off.

John became part of our family and he really enjoyed the children and the company. Having lived a bachelor's life for some time it must have been a shock to his quiet and simple routine, but he never complained. Weekly programs were held in his flat, which had become the first Hong Kong ashram.

We all had a lot of fun and met some very interesting people. John was a true seeker who had been through many experiences before gaining his self-realization. He once said to me that if he had not found Sahaja Yoga then he was sure he wouldn't have survived. He never lost his faith in the divine and was always optimistic. He had a very deep love for Shri Mataji and was a very devoted Sahaja Yogi. He was the first one to offer help if needed and was very supportive for the collective in Hong Kong. People had great respect for him as an uncle or father figure and for his practical and down-to-earth advice.

Despite all the odds and suffering, John remained remarkably positive right up to the end. He really had a difficult journey but he never lost faith in Shri Mataji and the people he loved.

We will miss him in the physical but know that he will always be with us in our hearts and minds, and that his spirit will continue the journey. In life there is death and in death there is life.

Jai Shri Mataji.

Alex Henshaw, Sydney

*Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting;
The Soul that rises with us, our life's star,
Hath had elsewhere its setting,
And cometh from afar;
Not in entire forgetfulness,
And not in utter nakedness,
But in trailing clouds of glory do we come
From God, who is our home...*

William Wordsworth