

Sahaja Yoga

17th January, 2003



Australian Newsletter

Jai Shri Mataji!

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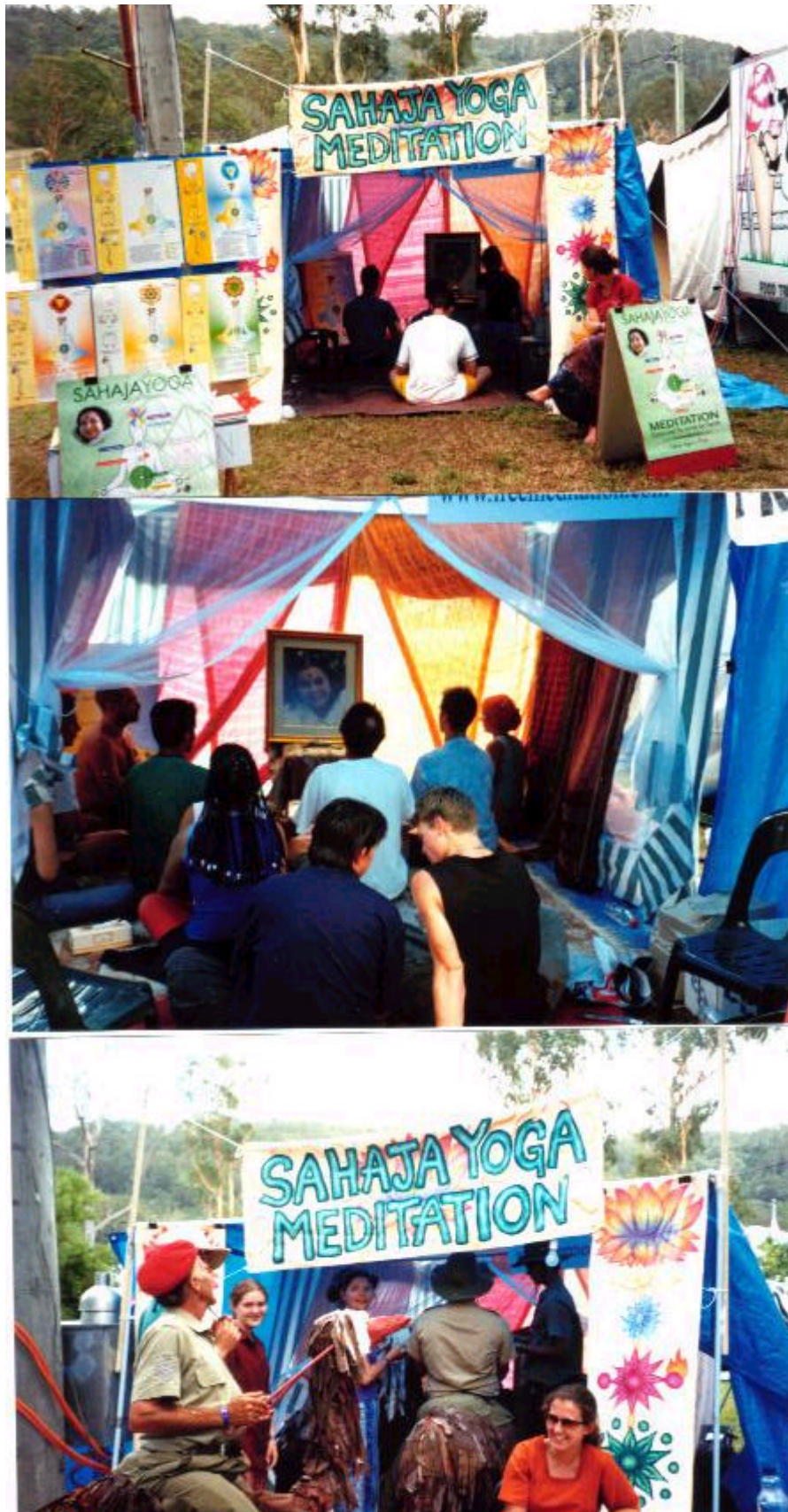
"I had to return to finish my schooling in Australia. I have always been envious of my sister who went to ISPS for much longer. I was at my happiest there, where I was accepted and loved for who I was.

Here I feel tremendous pressure to conform to the superficial standards kids have here. I can resist, because of my time at the school, although I was there when quite young, it showed me other standards and what fun can be had in simpler things. It also taught me a great understanding of all people and to abhor racism in all forms. These things come from inside my heart."

(This is another of the beautiful testimonials received from ex-pupils of the International Sahaja Yoga School at Dharamshala in India. More will be published in future editions)



Sahaja Yoga comes to Woodford...



STATE NEWS

from NSW...

This is a poem describing the experience of a group of Yuva Shakti who went to the Annual Woodford Folk Festival in Queensland from December 26 to January 01. We set up a Sahaja Yoga stall and had heaps of fun.

*Jai Shri Mataji
Sean Daly*

Sydney Yuva Shakti travel to Woodford Folk Festival

From the 26th December
We had one week to remember
A group of Yuvas went to Woodford for a stay.
There was a festival in town
Folks came from miles around
They were looking for something special to light their way.

With an inkling in their heart
They would find a brand new start...
A spark of love that could burn as eternal flame.
There were seekers and well-wishers
Feeling tense and superficial
At the end they could all learn about life's game.

First we set about the stall:
We bulldog-clipped up a few walls
Lots of colour and some charts so all could know...
A few saris draped around
Some canvas for the ground
And our altar with our Mother out on show.

There was plenty there to do
Music and street shows: all new
A program full of distractions and interactions every hour.
They had poetry and plays
There was Dancing and displays
And in amongst it: a piece of Heaven, shining power.

A vortex formed around our tent
Of vibrations, Heaven sent
Attracting those who sought the truth about their life.
It was subtle, yet so strong
That ALL who came along
Felt the cool breeze, peace and love of the Divine.

They wandered in, not knowing why
And floated out on a new high
Feeling something in their heart, before unknown
The hardest of hard men
Wandered out with glowing grins
The seeds of light were being gently, softly sown.

Seekers received the Divine flame
Not knowing how or why they came
Different reasons and coincidences lead them there.
Hidden, masked and in disguise
They wandered in with curious eyes
Even men on emus were awakened, newly aware.

The calmness in fresh eyes
And the genuine surprise
Left all who sat in witness with a smile
Something special was on the rise
A Love nurturing and wise
Our Mother was truly flowing in tremendous style.

Next year we plan for a return
To give more seekers their turn
At the experience that will surely change their life.
They will all float on a cloud
And make our Mother proud
As they discover the eternal depth and truth in life.

The week was a special treat
Negativity suffered a huge defeat
In the final count over 500 got realisation
Strength and quality were the key
To our Mother: Jai Shri Mataji
It was a time of real joy and inspiration.

from the Sydney Yuva Shakti

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

from India...

Recollection of New Year Festivities at Vaitarna

The New Year Puja on 31.12.2002

This year the new year Puja was celebrated at Vaitarna (100 Km from Mumbai towards Nasik) where the new Music Academy has been built.

Shri Mataji came to the Academy at Vaitarna directly from Ganapatipule. This was quite spontaneous. On the way from Ganapatipule by train, Mother decided to get down at Panvel in the outskirts of Mumbai and came straight to the academy on 30th night itself. Earlier it was planned that she would come from Mumbai on 31st.

The academy building is a ground+ first floor structure in the shape of a C. The entrance of the building and the permanent stage structure are opposite to each other. Along the length of the C are the classrooms on the ground floor, and on the first floor are the rooms for the students of the academy. Mother was staying in the ground floor itself next to the entrance of the building besides the classrooms. The classrooms open out to an open ground with the stage on the left side. So you can imagine that the arrangements for sitting were just outside mother's room.

Mother came for the Puja at around 7.30 pm and gave a short speech. She talked in Marathi, Hindi and a little in English. As she had some cough she was speaking softly and also the mike system was not at its best. She stressed that our life should become *Sangeethmay* (musical) and we should be free from Ego. We should not fight for small reasons amongst each other. This is all we could recollect and let us pray they get out the audio cassette of this speech.

The Devi Puja too was short. There was first the Ganesh Puja, by washing of our holy Mother's lotus feet with water by the leaders. Then they beautifully decorated the Devi's feet with the Swastika and Kumkum. Then the beautiful *Devi Alankar* and finally the *Aarti*. The vibrations were very strong.

This was followed by the offering of gifts to our Holy Mother by all the Yogis & Yoginis from around the world. One present, which was quite novel, was from the collectivity from Vaitarna (the local centre). They presented the harmonium, which Our Holy Mother had herself played during her visit in 1985 to Vaitarna. The Puja got over at around 10.30pm. Mother stayed back in the academy for the night for the next day's inauguration program. The at-

mosphere was most beautiful and the sky was open and very clear. There were countless stars so beautifully decorating the sky. This was a welcome sight from the heavily-polluted Sky around Mumbai. The temperature also became very cold and the locals of Vaitarna were saying that it has never got so cold during the past so many years.

The Inauguration of the Academy on 1.1.2003

The inauguration Program of the Shri PK Salve Kala Prasthan started at around 8.00 pm. The Yogis and Yoginis had all assembled by around 6.00 pm and were experiencing tremendous vibrations while in meditation. First Our Holy Mother along with Sir CP and Kalpana Didi went to the entrance of the building. Here Sir CP unveiled the statue of Shri PK Salve (Mother's father) and Baba Mama. This was accompanied with very beautiful fireworks, which filled the sky with light and filled our hearts with joy. Also we had a running commentary of the proceedings from the stage by Mr Pradhan. Then Shri Mataji cut a ribbon, tied at the entrance of one of the classrooms. In this classroom all the musical instruments had been placed. This symbolically was the opening of the academy at Vaitarna.

Then our Holy Mother, Sir CP and Kalpana Didi came on to the stage. We had a brief introduction of the proceedings by Mr Pradhan and then he called upon Sir CP to say a few words. Sir CP gave a short but most dignified and loving talk about the two great personalities, Shri PK Salve and Baba mama. He said Shri PK Salve was one of the most remarkable personalities he had seen in his life. He said this was not because of the soft corner that he had for him as he was his father-in-law but as he was truly a great person. He said that Shri PK Salve was one of the most leading lawyers in this country during his time and was very well-off. He used to wear very costly suits made from England. But on the call from Gandhiji for the country he gave all these up, not just for showing off or with some motive of rewards, but truly dedicated himself for the country and fought for the country's independence and in the process went to jail several times and had to undergo hardships. Even after independence, if he wanted he could have become the chief minister easily or a cabinet minister easily but he was not for power as he was an extremely humble man. He worked very hard for setting the constitution of India.

Sir CP also said that Shri PK Salve was also a great lover of our Indian Classical Music and he used to patronize a lot of Musicians during his time. It was his dream that this music should be spread all across and now it had come true.

Finally Sir CP said that most importantly it was Shri PK Salve who was the first to recognize Shri Mataji and knew about the great work she was going to do. About Baba Mama he said that it was he who truly brought music into Sahaja yoga. We all know how important music is to Sahaja yoga and in this Baba mama has played a great role

he said. Also he was very dedicated to his sister and had recognized who she was.

Then Shri Mataji talked for a good part of an hour about her Father and her Brother. First she spoke in Marathi then Hindi and English. Mother was looking very beautiful in a blue Silk Saree, a colour associated with Shri Krishna, which was so appropriate for the occasion of the inauguration of the academy. She spoke very lovingly about her Father. She said it was true he was the first to recognize her and used to always ask her how she would do such a momentous task. He also used to tell her mother about Shri Mataji. Once her mother had got very shaken when her father was being taken to jail. Then her father had told her mother that "why are you afraid - don't you know who is with you?" referring to Shri Mataji. He was, she said, a very humble man and a great connoisseur of Indian classical Music. However he used to also warn her about the most difficult problem of Ego. She says she now realized this that why were these persons who could sing even a little well get so much of Ego for what? Her father used to warn her about how the Maharastrians were very egoistical. She said in India itself the ego is a big problem. Not that it was less in foreign countries but here we need to get over this ego.

So she said this divine Indian music is very important and not the musicians. And this should spread all over the world. Hence this academy was a dream of her father and it is required to spread Sahaja Yoga all across the world through Indian Music.

About Baba mama also she spoke very lovingly saying his contribution to music also has been very great. He too like her father was very humble and very jovial. Also he had recognized her and after that he never used to stay in the house where she used to stay and never used her car and was always respectful. There were many things which she said about both of them but it would be difficult to write all of them down. The speech was very loving and full of humour. Hope we all can get the tape of this talk also.

Then there was long and very beautiful musical evening. First we had a vocal recital by the Principal of the Academy Dr Shrikhande. He is a very scholarly person and is a leading faculty in the University of Kurukshetra for Music and Dance. He also is an accomplished vocalists and has sung in many of the leading classical Music festivals in India. He first rendered a classical in *Rag Vathaspathi*, a Carnatic music rag in Hindustani style. The wordings of the song he used were about Rag and Taal coming from Shri Saraswati, which was so apt for the occasion. It was a wonderful performance. He also sang a bhajan on Goddess Durga.

Then Dr Subramaniam sang a medley of many of Shri Baba Mama's compositions. This was a beautiful reminder of his great contribution to Sahaja yoga. Then Kal-

pana Didi asked him to sing Mother's composition, *Ma teri jay ho*. Then we had a performance on the synthesizer and Harmonium by Dhananjay Dhumal. It was very beautiful.

Then we had a Sarod performance by an Israeli Yogi in Rag Durga. Mother was very pleased with his performance. Finally we had Zarina Daruwala on the Sarod with Pt Vaibhav Nageshkar on the tabla. They gave a very soothing performance in *Rag Darbari*, *Rag Jaijaiwanti* and ended with *Rag Ahir Bhairav*. Mother then called for the mike and praised Zarina for her performance and thanked her for coming all the way to such a far-fetched place to perform.

By the time it was over it was around 4.00 am. So we had a beautiful inauguration of the Academy. The academy was to start from the next day itself. Jai Shri Mataji.

*Prasad Rao
Brazil*

NATIONAL NEWS

Australian Sahaja Video Distribution

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*Regards
Rob Henshaw*