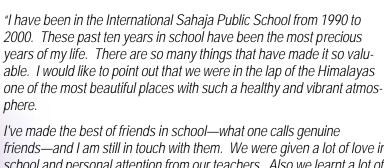


Jai Shri Mataji!

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friends—and I am still in touch with them. We were given a lot of love in school and personal attention from our teachers. Also we learnt a lot of morals and values which have helped me throughout. I've noticed this, because in college quite a few people are into drugs and heavy smoking; there was also a bit of peer pressure but I wasn't effected at all, I just wouldn't give in to them and then they started respecting me and to my surprise even decided to quit!

By being in an international atmosphere in school I've developed a keen interest in world affairs and traditional handicrafts too as we learnt various artistic things in school. Also an important contribution to keeping my life in balance was that we learnt meditation in school and I am still practising it. I've developed an open mind and keen interest in a lot of things because of all the values, art, adventure and love that was given to us as children. There is a lot I owe to the school and it goes beyond words."

(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)

STATE NEWS

from South Australia...

Leaders travel from around Australia to attend meeting in Sydney last weekend

On Australia Day weekend in January the leaders from all the States met in Burwood and I was privileged to be there to experience a most constructive meeting, the fruits of which are bound to take Australia into a new and deeper phase, whereby we will be better equipped to spread Sahaja Yoga in this country.

I felt that the divisions and negative projections that we have experienced in the past are now all history and we can now move forward as one united body to further our Holy Mother's work here. Many exciting new strategies were developed and we can all look forward to a great future in Sahaja Yoga in Australia.

We were also honoured to be present at the Yuva Shakti camp at Balmoral on two evenings to attend a wonderful meditation program and a delightful and very entertaining concert. Thanks to all the young people for a wonderful presentation. My gratitude also to the ladies at Burwood for looking after our Nabhis so well.

All praise and glory to Shri Mataji.

Maria Sandery Adelaide from New South Wales...

!!VIDEO AMNESTY!!

Cataloguing and digitising project in Sydney requires urgent return of all collective videos

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Aunties and Uncles, from all around Australia (especially NSW past and present—those who have moved interstate).

Now is the time to search your hearts, drawers, cupboards, bookshelves entertainment systems etc. etc.

A Yogi has offered to take on the huge task of logging and possibly digitising all the videos made of our Mother. This would mean that Sydney's videos and video library loans would all be on disc.

However, in order to achieve this we need to <u>locate and receive</u> all videos from the library no matter how deeply-cherished they may be!

There are up to two hundred videos unaccounted for, and some cannot be replaced. We need your help.

There will be a box kept in Burwood on the sideboard opposite the photocopier. All videos should be placed there. There will be no checking in the old books to see who had what and requesting large sums of gold, just a heart-felt "thank you" right now for doing the right thing.

If you have videos that you need to keep for programs etc. please call Helen Splarn on 02 4737 9796 or e-mail h.splarn@uws.edu.au to give her the details to be logged.

Thank you once again, from all Yogis present and to come!

Raymond Hampton Sydney

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

from India...

A heavenly scent at Ganapatipule

Lisa sat down on the red earth and looked up at the stage. She had really intended to meditate, but there was such a lot going on in the pandal that she preferred to look outwards, rather than inwards. The Yuva Shakti from Bombay was busy building numerous small fires and the stage was being decorated by yogis. It was Lisa's first time at the Sahaj marriages. The engagements the previous evening had been full of joy and vibrations and she wanted to experience the big day itself from the beginning right through to the end.

She could feel a cool breeze, and somehow the daylight changed briefly. Lisa blinked and looked out at the sky. It was clear and a brilliant blue. In a single point a few clouds were visible. Suddenly she felt a current of air near her left ear, as if something were flying past, followed by the strong scent of sandalwood and haldi. She looked round, ready to smile at the bride or bridegroom responsible, but none of the lucky couples were anywhere to be seen. Then it happened again: the current of air and the strong scent of sandalwood and haldi. In the meantime the pandal was filling up quickly. Everyone wanted to enjoy the coming vibrations, and there were very few places. Some of the women had put perfume on, but nobody smelled like the current of air. An old, Indian yogini sat next to Lisa and gave her a friendly smile. And again she felt the current by her left ear, followed by the scent. She turned round quickly, but she could see only three children, waiting for their mothers at the end of the row. Astonished, she looked towards the front again. "What is it, child?" asked the old Indian lady. "Oh, I keep feeling this draught and then a really strong scent, but there is no-one to be seen." The Indian woman laughed. "Those are the deities." She pointed up at the sky, where the clouds were to be seen. "They have left their vahanas (vehicles) parked up there and are coming down to watch the marriages." Lisa was speechless. The current of air she had felt was a deity going by? And that scent? Is that what a deity smells like? "In the photos we can sometimes see them as light. But today you have been able to feel and smell them. That is som ething very special." Lisa shut her eyes, she was completely filled with joy at the thought that she had been allowed to experience such a thing.

A cry of astonishment interrupted her joyful meditation. The Indian lady next to her was looking at her wide-eyed. "I have just felt it too." Lisa smiled at her and after a few moments' silence asked, "Sandalwood?" The Indian lady nodded slowly. "Yes, and haldi." Lisa nodded too. "Exactly." "Kya bhat hai."

from the TEV-newsletter: http://www.gotev.com/docHTML/newsletter.htm

Visit to Dharamshala a glimpse of Heaven

We have just returned from a magical experience in the Adi Kundalini which can't wait to be shared. Actually, it began up in the Sahasrara at the Sahaja School.

Somehow, from our homes in the deep maya of the West, the School sometimes seems like a primitive place that is perpetually difficult to access - a hard rock in our otherwise plush lives. Well, we've just been blessed with a glimpse of Divine Reality which revealed a wonderfully different view of that haven.

After several days of meditating and playing with the students and 108 percent Yogi staff up there, we could hardly tear our hearts away and leave. The atmosphere has become so inviting and lovely, it really felt like the center of the world - like Santa's Christmas workshop which supplies all human beings with happy blessings.

We heard that the reason Shri Mataji doesn't visit there, is because She would never want to come down from that place again - up there in Her heavenly kingdom of Sahasrara. The feeling is very similar to the Sahaja Medical Centre which feels like a little chunk of Heaven brought down onto the Earth. And when the Children collectively sang, or performed carefully prepared Sahaja Yoga public programs (an inter-class competition), we were flooded with the realisation that, yes, the world is definitely SAVED!

When these same doubtless soldiers of our Holy Mother's Love sweetly performed in Ganapatipule, the Vibrations were breathtaking! There was even a rush of Indian parents eagerly applying to send their loved-ones to the School.

We just watched the video this morning and, you wouldn't believe it, all the catches and heaviness disappeared instantly. There's something tremendous going on. No wonder Her Holiness Shri Mataji recently admitted that She is just waiting for the Sahaja Yogi children to grow up and bring everything in order!

Love,

Edward, Brigitte & Lincoln Saugstad Austria

HUMOUR

Capitalism, with cows as indicators

Traditional capitalism

- You have two cows.
- You sell one and buy a bull.
- Your herd multiplies, and the economy grows.
- You sell them and retire on the income.

American capitalism [or enro-capitalism]

- You have two cows.
- You sell three of them to your publicly-listed company, using letters of credit opened by your brother-in-law at the bank, then execute a debt/equity swap with an associated general offer so that you get all four cows back, with a tax exemption for five cows. The milk rights of the six cows are transferred via an intermediary to a Cayman Island company secretly owned by the majority shareholder who sells the rights to all seven cows back to your listed company. The annual report says the company owns eight cows, with an option on one more. Sell one cow to buy a new President of the United States, leaving you with nine cows. No balance sheet is provided with the release.
- The public buys your bull.

An Australian corporation

- You have two cows.
- You sell one, and force the other to produce the milk of four cows.
- You are surprised when the cow drops dead.

A French corporation

- You have two cows.
- You go on strike because you want 3 cows.

A Japanese corporation

- You have two cows.
- You redesign them so they are one-tenth the size of an ordinary cow and produce 20 times the milk.
- You then create clever cow cartoon images called *Cowkimon* and market them worldwide.

A German corporation

- You have two cows.
- You re-engineer them so they live for 100 years, eat once a month, and milk themselves.

A British corporation

- You have two cows.
- Both are mad.

An Italian corporation

- You have two cows, but you don't know where they are.
- You break for lunch.

A Russian corporation

- You have two cows.
- You count them and learn you have five cows.
- You count them again and learn you have 42 cows.
- You count them again and learn you have 12 cows.
- You stop counting cows and open another bottle of vodka.

A Swiss corporation

- You have 5000 cows, none of which belong to you.
- You charge others for storing them.

A Chinese corporation

- You have two cows.
- You have 300 people milking them.
- You claim full employment, high bovine productivity, and arrest the newsman who reported the numbers.

A New Zealand corporation

- You have two cows.
- The one on the left is kinda cute...

(contribution from Avinash Nichkawde)