

Sahaja Yoga

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Australian Newsletter

Jai Shri Mataji!

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*God loves to see in me, not his servant,
but himself who serves all.*

Rabindranath Tagore

STATE NEWS

from Victoria...

- Collective gift for Ganesha Puja
- New phone arrangements at Hiawatha

Dear Victorian Collective

Since we are one of the host countries for Ganesha Puja in Cabella, we have the opportunity to offer a gift from the Victorian Collective to Sri Mataji. Previously an Australian gift to Sri Mataji was a string of South Sea Pearls which She had requested to be presented. Attached is a photo of a pair of South Sea Pearl ear-rings set in 18 carat gold which will be our gift, to humbly demonstrate our adoration and gratitude to the Adi Shakti for everything She has done for us. Kami will carry this and the Lakshmi gift of Australian essential oils to Cabella, and hopefully will get the chance to present our gifts to Sri Mataji.

Richard & Eileen Robbins have donated a new telephone for use at Hiawatha. This is a phone that will allow the use of phone card vouchers to pay for calls. A super-saver phone card voucher is available from post offices and other Telstra outlets. It allows a code to be entered into the phone before a call is made and all costs are deducted from the caller's pre-paid voucher. It is important for everybody to be aware that the phones at Hiawatha are on a business plan and as a result all calls on a weekend are at a higher call rate than during business hours. To reduce our phone costs could anybody who feels that they are likely to use the phone at either the Lodge or the Cottage please consider buying a phone card voucher.

We would all like to wish Kami great success on her first trip to see Sri Mataji. All our hearts go with her, as we all would love to be going with her.

Colin Berry

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

from the Netherlands...

The miracle of Sahaja Yoga in a Netherlands prison

After reading the story of Yogi Temba Spirit who got his realization in prison (New York Newsletter, May 2003) the desire arose to spread Sahaja Yoga at my work in Prison Vught, the Netherlands. I would like to share the joy of this experience with you, but because of privacy reasons the real names and certain details cannot be mentioned in this story. The unit-department that I work at consists of 12 prisoners.

Having this desire of giving realization to the boys from PI Vught but not knowing how or where to start, I surrendered it all to Mother. Two days later, in the first week of June 2003, Mother helped me in giving Sahaja Yoga leaflets with Mother's picture on it to two boys: Andre and Nico. They both positioned Mother's picture on the wall above their head and the next morning each one had their own experience:

- Andre who could never sleep and always took medicine several times at night had now fallen asleep and did not once ask for medicine. Mother let him sleep so deep that even the wake-up call could not wake him and the guards had to shake his bed in the morning.
- Nico had a lot of catches and some conflicts with his religion: Who is Shri Mataji? Is she a prophet? That's impossible, Mohammed is the last prophet. Does Sahaja Yoga believe in Mohammed, Allah and Jihad? Despite our answers - Shri Mataji is a loving Mother and not a prophet, Mohammed is a prophet, Sahaja Yogis meditate upon Allah, Jihad is the inner sacred transformation from bad to good within a person - he still felt like he would betray his religion if he would take to Sahaja Yoga.

In the next days Andre kept Mother's picture with him: during the day as he was sitting at his desk he put Mother's picture on the desktop and at night he put Mother's picture on the sill next to his pillow. And yes he felt Mother's vibrations: he slept very well, started having dreams and even stopped smoking within one month.

These positive changes of Andre made the other boys curious, but as you know prisoners are mostly tough guys who think that they have a reputation to keep up, so they pretended not be interested. However, one Saturday evening while I was having a little chat with the boys suddenly they changed the subject from football into Yoga, Meditation and Spirituality. But still they were very careful in

choosing their words. After this chat as I was about to put the boys into their cells, Gregory whispered in a very discrete way: "Ward, can I have one of those things?" meaning a leaflet. That same night he positioned Mother's picture on the wall above his head and the next morning he said that he had such a strange dream.

Mother made it clear to me that the great days of giving realization were very near.

In the third week of July 2003, on a sunny Sunday morning, the boys asked me if we could do a special outdoor-activity like football or just taking more fresh air. "Yes" I said, "Today we will do something special in the garden: Yoga & Meditation". For a minute there was a complete silence since none of these tough guys had expected such a proposal. Then Andre, Gregory and Hank agreed and within a few more minutes Jay, Pete and Ron also joined in. While sitting in the garden Jay said: "Ward, it's a bit scary, but I will still stay". So, on July 20th 2003, right there in the garden of PI Vught, by Mother's grace realization was given to 6 souls. They all felt the Divine vibrations and at night when going to sleep they thanked me to which I responded: "I did nothing, thank Shri Mataji, She is the doer". They all positioned Mother's picture on the wall above their head and went to sleep.

In the following days the realized souls asked me: "So, now we have come to Yoga, but how to go on? What should we do now? How to meditate? Can you show us how to meditate?". Hank had even gone to the library in search for Yoga lecture. But I told him that he didn't need those books and gave him a stencil "Sahaja Yoga Week 1" in which the self realization exercise is described. As it was lunch time Hank took the stencil to the lunchroom and after lunch he said: "Ward, I have already read the whole stencil, now I know how to do the 9 steps myself" meaning the Self realization exercise. Then they asked me to collectively do the Self realization exercise again since they enjoyed it so much.

The joy of the realized souls drew Achmed's attention and in that same week he said: "Ward, every time you come here I feel something and it makes me so peaceful inside". Obviously Achmed's Kundalini was ready to be awakened and no wonder that he joined the next collective meeting. Mother blessed this 7th soul in a special way: as soon as Achmed sat down he began staring at Mother's picture and said: "Hey Ward, She is showing me images of my son and my brother". Achmed got his realization very easily. After the meditation he got his own leaflet and while walking to his cell, he kept on staring at Mother's picture in his hand, saying: "No need for me to try and find out if She is telling the truth, She knows everything, Whatever She says is the truth". He also positioned Mother's picture on the wall above his head and after almost one hour Achmed ran out of his cell with his eyes wide opened, saying: "Mother laughed at me, She knows what crime I commit-

ted, She even knows how I committed the crime.

So within 10 days Mother raised the Kundalini of 7 souls who come from different parts of the world and different religions.

Ever since Mother has granted us in having collective meetings every week. The director gave permission to use the silence room, sometimes we might use the video room and as long as the sun keeps shining we may also meditate in the garden. Some of the boys take foot soaks every night and hopefully the others will follow. They enjoy the video *Experiments with Truth* so much, especially Part 3 in which Mother gives the self realization. In fact, on their request, they have done this exercise three times collectively. One day prisoners from other departments saw us sitting in the garden and asked my colleagues what we were doing to which my colleagues responded: "They are meditating and if you are interested we will see if we can arrange something for you". Some colleagues suggest that it would be nice to have Sahaja Yoga spread in their units as well and they will ask their unit directors for permission.

By Mother's grace it should become possible to spread Sahaja Yoga not only to the boys but to the colleagues as well. And with the help of the Sahaja Yogis it will all be accomplished.

Regards,

Edwin

from Indonesia...

***Sahaja Yoga Roadshow:
first stop Denpasar, Bali***

By Sri Mataji's grace, over the weekend of 6-7 September, the Sahaja Yogis of Jakarta and Bali held the fourth series of annual Sahaja Yoga programs in Bali's capital, Denpasar. The programs went smoothly and attracted a large crowd of seekers.

The hall hired for the public program was located in the centre of the city on top of the *Tragia* department store. It has a capacity of 350 people and was completely full with seekers. The vibrations were good, the seekers receptive to the presentation and they received their realisation. The following day about 170 of the newly realised souls attended a follow up program and expressed a great deal of enthusiasm. The Jakarta yogis took some photos of the programs which will be sent to *SWAN* for publication. On 12 September the Bali yogis are to present a program for the staff of a local hotel which is owned by relatives of a Sahaja Yogi.

As a first stop in the roadshow 350 people receiving realisation was a good outcome – a similar level of interest as we found in the past three years in Denpasar. It meant that at this single program one in every thousand people in Denpasar attended the program – equivalent to getting 3000 people at a program in Sydney. Congratulations to the yogis of Indonesia on a fine start to doing Sri Mataji's work in this beautiful country.

Sahaja Yogis from other parts of Indonesia and Australia have now been helping the Balinese yogis establish Sahaja Yoga in Bali through visits for the past four years – helping run public programs, follow up programs and pujas and havans. We have had a consistently strong response to public programs and thousands of Balinese have received their realisation. However, given the range of other so-called "spiritual" movements in Bali, it has been difficult to establish more than a small group of dedicated yogis.

Mr Nyoman Suwidana has agreed to be Bali Sahaja Yoga's leader and is keen to build up the collective in Denpasar before moving to spread Sahaja Yoga and news of Sri Mataji's advent to Bali's many villages and hamlets. If you are visiting Bali on business or holidays please look up this dedicated group which meditates on Sundays at the Denpasar Arts Centre (the same venue as the first large programs in Bali).

With Sri Mataji's blessings, over the next month the Indonesian Sahaja Yogis will be holding a series of programs across the island of Java where 120 million Indonesians live, including holding the first ever programs in Surabaya (Indonesia's second city of 4 million) and Solo (a culturally

important city and where a small group of Islamic fundamentalists has got a toe-hold). Please remember to keep your enlightened attention on the Sahaja Yoga roadshow in Java and on Bali's efforts to further establish Sahaja Yoga there. And stay tuned for more reports of the Java programs ...

Adriana Phiong (Indonesia Leader/Coordinator)

John Fisher (Canberra)