

THE AUSTRALIAN SIR RATHBUN

Sahaja Newsletter

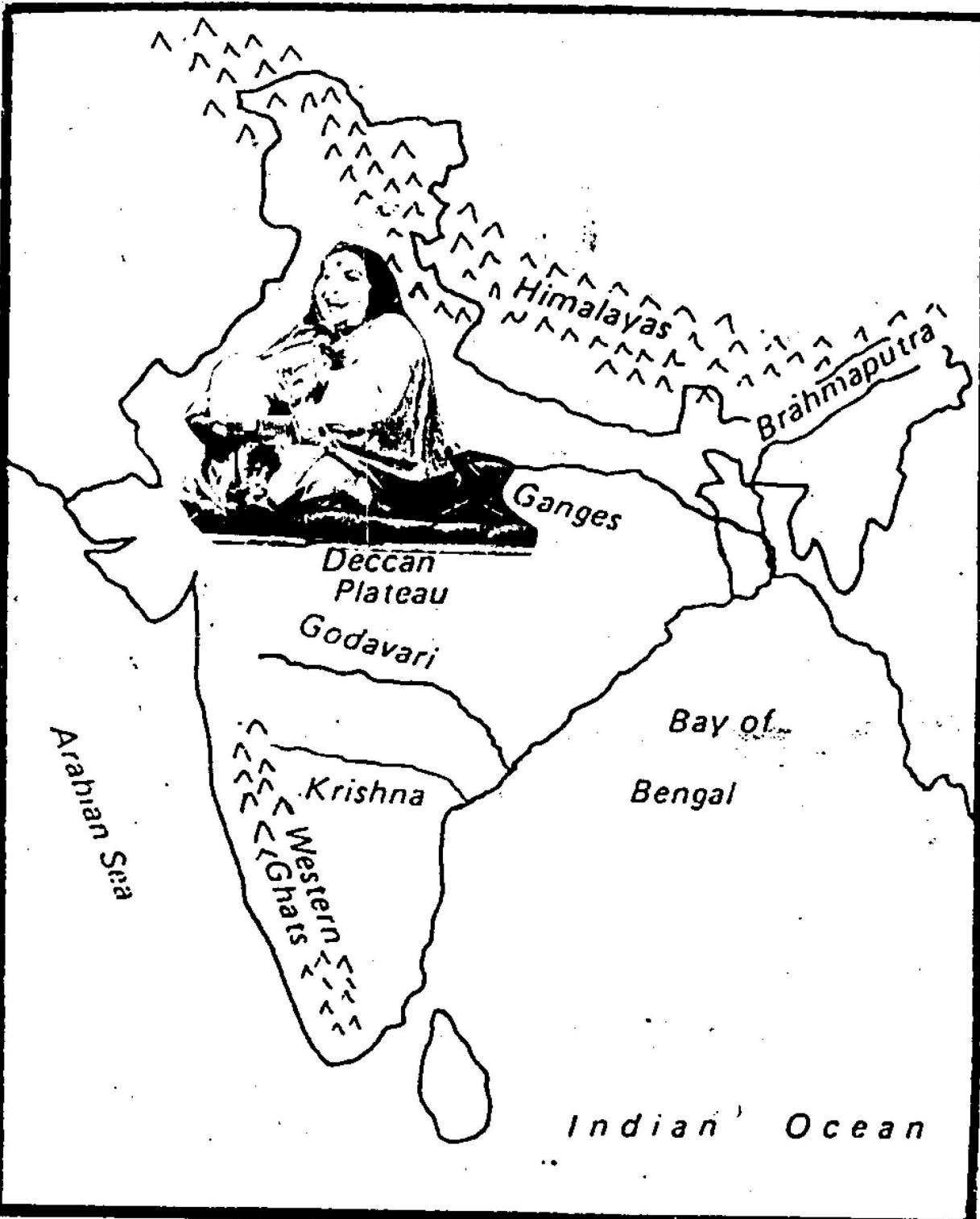


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CANBERRA NEWSLETTER

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Summary of a telephone conversation about Shri Mataji's public programs in Tunisia - between two sisters - one living in France the other in Canberra.

This was the 1st time Shri Mataji went to Tunisia. She was invited and well received by the government there.

Between a 100 to 200 people received their realisation at the programs. Shri Mataji explained to them that Mohammed, Christ and Moses were incarnations. So there was no need to fight. Shri Mataji went on to say that it was the Sahaja Yogis who discovered that She was Divine.

To give them realisation Shri Mother asked only that they put their hands towards Her. (She didn't even blow in the microphone or tell them to put hands on their chakras). When they could feel the Divine vibrations She said that this was Rhu (word for cool breeze in the Muslim religion).

Shri Mataji also said that Tunis has always been protected because 3 great saints lived in Tunisia. And there are 3 hills around Tunis on each of which these saints are buried.

The European yogis who were there said that it was so strong that tears were coming in their eyes. They could also speak with Tunisian people and saw how deep they were and not as superficial as us.





NEWS FROM INDIA!



Everybody in the main group is now safely installed at the Nizamudin scout camp in Delhi.

They have attended two public programmes so far.

At the first one there were 4000 people and at the second a whopping 15000!!!

Every one is well and really enjoying themselves. Yogis from all over the world are still arriving. It seems that the tour will remain at the camp until the 8th...So they will get a good settling in period...Going out to the various venues and then returning to base.

A nice touch for Australian collectivity was the delay in the departure on the 25th Nov. from Melbourne.....this meant the airline put them up in Bangkok, as they missed their connecting flight. This in turn meant that the West Australians "caught them up" in Bangkok. Janine Sreshthaputra met them all and took them to a lare temple, then on to the famous Bangkok waterways (The Tongs - or is it The Pongs?). She also managed to get them to the Sunday local programme; then off to the Airport, where they all flew into Delhi together. A wonderful time was had by all and it meant one less group for our Indian brothers to meet in Delhi....They really are so good. We always seem to arrive around 2.30 A.M. All Sri Mataji's belongings arrived safely. No mention of any customs or airplanes doing rolls or loop the loops!!



S Y D N E Y N E W



STOP PRESS News from the M.B.S. Festival

After a slow start on the first morning, people are now lining up to get their Realisation. They are really anxious to feel it as they can see people coming out smiling and happy and a crowd of people waiting their turn. It's just wonderful to be there, fulfilling Sri Mataji's first charge to Sahaj yogis. The festival finishes this Sunday.

Ryde Fair

The fair was organised by Royal Rehabilitation Centre Sydney at Ryde. This was the first such fair held by Sahaj in this area and it was a quite interesting new venture.

Though only one seeker got self-realisation, but there was a quite good response specifically from the staff members who seems to be quite impressed.

Our musical team created a tremendous joy and left a great impression on the participants. Many many thanks to our brothers and sisters Andrew, Chris, Gillian, Gorman, Sita Ram, and Rakesh.

From : Inderjeet Cheema

1 December 1994

Campsie Fair

This fair was mainly dominated by the Church activities. Due to transport strike not many people were able to reach the fair. Around 10 seekers got their self-realisation.



IT IS LIKE GLEBE FAIR.
PLEASE COME ALONG
PH 798 4051.

The GOOD BOOK

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Self-discipline | 6. Courage |
| 2. Compassion | 7. Perseverance |
| 3. Responsibility | 8. Honesty |
| 4. Friendship | 9. Loyalty |
| 5. Work | 10. Faith |

In response to declining values in the US, *The Book of Virtues* aims to build character by moulding morals. But as Bill Bennett's best-selling bible heads here, how relevant is it to Australian youth? Education editor MARK SCOTT reports.

BILL Bennett believes virtues need a revival. His line is that if parents read their kids more great stories — the kind with characters who are virtuous and full of integrity, courage and good character — we wouldn't be as worried about kids on the streets running out of control.

Bennett's new book — soon to hit shelves in Australia — is a guidebook for parents who want to raise moral children; it is also aimed at a surprising number of adults looking for a bit of grounding themselves.

Bennett was Education Secretary to Ronald Reagan and George Bush's drug tsar, and is now a figurehead in America's right-wing establishment; you'd expect him to have appeal with the "family values" set. But *The Book of Virtues* has struck a remarkable bipartisan nerve in the US. It is enjoying its 48th week on *The New York Times* bestseller list, with 1.8 million copies in print.

Bennett calls it a "how-to book for moral literacy", full of poems, essays and stories recounting the exploits from history and literature of those who were good — and those not so good, who got what was coming to them.

Dr Victor Storm, a leading Sydney child and adolescent psychiatrist, says he isn't surprised at the success of the book in the US, and suggests concern about values is also strong here.

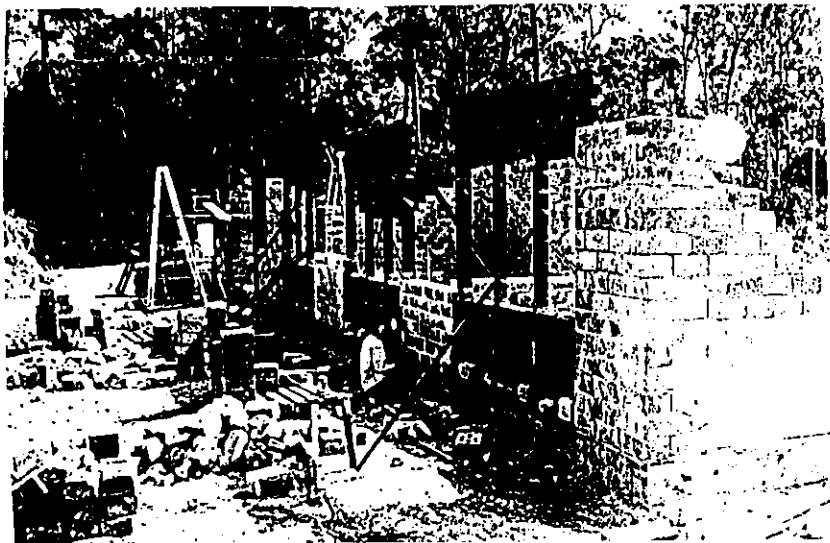
"In the US, there is a significant hankering for the past. A sense that something in society is unfolding, and a belief that things were better before," Storm says.

"In Australia, it doesn't have as much to do with images of the past. But values are still very important to people. We want to live in a more co-operative and cohesive way and hold values consistent with supporting that."

Every chapter in Bennett's book addresses a principle of good — starting with tales for young children and advancing to demanding essays by Emerson, stories by Tolstoy, poetry by Longfellow and Platonic dialogues.

In an increasingly pluralistic world, Bennett has promoted virtues as a tool to help unify society, stepping beyond discussion of alternative value systems which can be so divisive. Bennett's list of virtues can appeal to otherwise opposing camps: the liberals and conservatives,uppies and new-agers, Jews and Arabs and Catholics. They can be non-denominational and multicultural.

REMEMBER THESE PICTURES OF WAMURAN !!!
Work goes on apace.....look at it now !!!!!



NEWS FROM WOLLONGONG / ILLAWARRA COLLECTIVE

DURING THE SECOND WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER A GROUP FROM THE COLLECTIVE WERE THE WELCOME GUESTS OF OUR CANBERRA BROTHERS AND SISTERS AT "TILDA" THEIR ASHRAM IN THE COUNTRYSIDE NEAR CANBERRA.

WE ARRIVED AROUND LUNCHTIME ON SATURDAY AND DURING THE AFTERNOON MORE YOGIS AND YOGINIS FROM OTHER PARTS OF CANBERRA CAME TO MEET US. TEA AND CAKES FLOWED AND WE TALKED AND ATE AND ATE AND TALKED... GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER ALL THE TIME.

THE MEN AND BOYS PLAYED CRICKET AND AT DUSK WE CELEBRATED JOHN'S BIRTHDAY WITH A WONDERFUL FEAST ON THE LAWN. IT WAS VERY PLEASANT AND THERE WAS A GREAT FEELING OF "GEMÜTLICHKEIT" AS WE SAT CHATTING UNDER THE NIGHT SKY. WE PRESENTED THE CANBERRA COLLECTIVE WITH A BEAUTIFUL CERAMIC PLATTER MADE BY ONE OF THE WOLLONGONG YOGINIS. THIS ENJOYABLE EVENING ENDED WITH MEDITATION.

ON SUNDAY MORNING AFTER MEDITATION WE SANG BHAJANS WHICH THE WOLLONGONG BOYS REQUESTED IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR TALENTS WHICH THEY HAD PRACTISED AT THE BURWOOD SINGING CLASSES.

FINALLY OUR HOSTS PROVIDED A SUMPTUOUS BARBECUE TO WIND UP THE WEEKEND. THIS OF COURSE PROVIDED AN EVEN GREATER OPPORTUNITY TO TALK AND DISCUSS EVERY SUBJECT UNDER THE SUN BEFORE WE LEFT TO TRAVEL HOME.

IT WAS A REALLY WONDERFUL WEEKEND AND IT SERVED TO INCREASE THE DEPTH OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS AND STRENGTHEN THE BONDS OF COLLECTIVITY IN A MOST PLEASUREABLE WAY.

WE SHOULD ALL TRY TO DO MORE OF THIS KIND OF THING WHENEVER WE CAN.

THANK YOU JOHN FISHER AND ALL THE CANBERRA PEOPLE, IT WAS GRAND.

LET US HOPE WE CAN ORGANISE A RECIPROCAL VISIT SOON.

YOURS WITH LOVE FROM THE
WOLLONGONG COLLECTIVE
SAI SHRI MATAJI.

JOE GRIFFITH.

