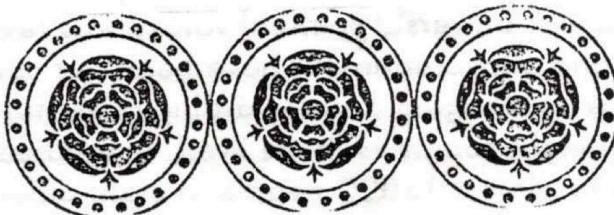




Australian Sahaja Newsletter

May 2nd
1998

Contributions: Heather Sattarshetty
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Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Sahaj World !
Jai Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi!

We, the Sahaja Yogis of Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Israel, Slovakia and Slovenia have invited Her Holiness Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi to celebrate Holy Sahasrara Puja with us, and Our Beloved Mother has fixed the 10th of May, 1998.

It is a great honour and pleasure for us to invite you all cordially on behalf of Her Holiness Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi to join us in Cabella Ligure, Italy.

Her Holiness Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi invites you all to arrive in Cabella as early as May 8th, because the entertainment programm of the Sahasrara Weekend will start on friday evening with a miraculous musical program performed by the cream of Indian musicians.

The total expenses will be 121,- Pound Sterling including music arrangements and Cabella fond.

We pray that, by the grace of our Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi, we may all rise above the obstacles which seem to be in our way, and all come together in worship of Her Lotus Feet on this Holy Occasion.



"....As soon as the Sahasrara was opened, the whole atmosphere was filled with tremendous Chaitanya and there was tremendous light in the sky, and the whole thing came on the Earth as if a torrential rain or a waterfall with such tremendous force as if I was unaware and got stupefied.

The happening was so tremendous and so unexpected that I was stunned and got totally silent at the grandeur.

I saw the Primordial Kundalini rising like a big furnace and the furnace was very silent but a burning appearance it had, as if you heat up metal and it has many colours.

In the same way the Kundalini showed up as a furnace, like a tunnel, as you see these plants you have for coal burning that create electricity and it stretched like a telescope and came out one after another. Shoot! Shoot! Shoot! Just like that.

And the Deities came and sat on their seats, golden seats and then they lifted the whole of the head like a big dome and opened it, and then this torrential rain completely drenched me.

I started seeing all that and got lost in the joy. It was like an artist seeing his own creation and I felt the joy of great fulfilment.

After coming out of this beautiful experience, I looked around and saw human beings so blind and I became absolutely silent, and I desired that I should get the cups to fill the nectar, not all stones...."

H. H. Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi



MASSAGE YOUR CARES AWAY

Saturday, 16th May ...the radio programme team will be hosting a head massage session to cool down all those burning agnyas around Sydney, so bring along your bottles of hair oil and towels.

...and tomorrows radio programme topic will be...vibrations, and Music of Joy with didgeridoo...

Sahaja Yoga in Indonesia ("Tanah Air" - ~~land~~^{land} and water)

from John Fisher

Sri Mataji has intervened in a singular way in Indonesia. Fred Meyer, Robert Hutcheons and Robert Felix (an Indonesian yogi) ran programs here in Jakarta for some time and gave realisation but things did not seem to develop much from there. However, the Divine had other plans.

A group of people who got their realisation from the initial programs got together and for the last nine months have been running meditations in the office of one of them, Ibu Sinta (Indonesian rendering of Sita). There are 6-8 regulars and perhaps as many again who come less frequently. The strength of their seeking is remarkable and they are just beginning to understand what Sahaja is. It's a nice beginning.

But that's not all. When I returned to Indonesia from Australia three weeks ago, I learnt Ibu Sinta decided on her own accord to set aside two very large rooms for Sahaja Yoga in her office permanently - with a separate entrance so they can be used at any time. Then she furnished them with beautiful furniture. So now we are running classes on Wednesdays where the jaded old yogi teacher (Fisher) is prepared to be constantly amazed by the energy and commitment of his new Indonesian brothers and sisters. (I often have to restrain my smiling lest they think I'm away with the fairies.) And there's more.

On the way home from the program one of the Yogis asked if they could meet Sri Mataji. She might come if the collective is established, I replied - or if we ran a large public program. We can do that he said - I'll speak to Sinta about it. I picked my chin up off the floor and quickly said that I couldn't say Shri Mataji would be able to come but we could run the program anyway. We should write to Her and let Her know of the progress here, he said. Why didn't I think of that?! There is also the possibility of using one of the Yogi's beach houses for havans.

Think that's enough? Not on your life. On this Sunday we will be running the first fully collective puja in Indonesia - with around 10-12 participants. Sahasrara Puja as a matter of fact. Funny how things work out when you're not looking.

So Sri Mataji's grace is beginning to be manifested in Indonesia very quickly. There are over 200 million people in this great country (the largest Muslim country on earth - with significant Christian, Buddhist, Hindu minorities) and what an opportunity to be an instrument of the Divine. What the western press overlook is the pure grace and friendliness (or "rama" in Indonesian) of the people of Indonesia. And with a start like this, who can tell the day or hour?

There's a small fact I shouldn't neglect to mention. Nell Riches recently took to Cabella a gift (a beautifully carved statue of Rama and Sita) from Indonesia for Birthday Puja. Shri Mataji praised its beauty and asked how Indonesia was working out ...

Jai Sri Sinta Rama Sri Adi Guru Sri Adi Shakti Namoh Namah

THE INTERNET CONNECTION

To my dear Brothers and Sisters

By our divine Mother's grace we are able to give realization over the internet - please join me, those who have connection to the internet to spread Sahaja Yoga through cyberspace.

I would like to share with you my experience in doing such pleasurable 'work'. About 12 months ago I felt a compulsion to be connected to the rest of the world via the internet. I live in a small isolated country town in Western Australia and am the only one practicing Sahaja Yoga here at present. (There are a lot of realized souls though). In August 1997 this small town finally could provide a local ISP (Internet Service Provider) prior to this costs were prohibitive.

To be honest I believe my compulsion to be connected to the internet was to speak with people who thought on a deeper level. In using various chat programs I found people were drawn to me or I to them and always interests are mentioned. Some I have sent to the Sahaja Yoga sites on the 'net' and others who have a voice program a guided meditation has been conducted over the waves - the vibrations have been fantastic and each of us feeling the cool breeze - for me it is always a pouring out of the palms and a cool wash over my entire being - others too feel this experience or the cool breeze from the top of the head. What I have found is that these people are very strong seekers just waiting for their connection. I too have used the phone when the voice program has not been available at the other end. The voice program I use is NetMeeting and if anyone can suggest a better program please do so as I find this one sometimes breaks up after a while. It is important to have full duplexing so one can speak like as on the phone (not like on a 2 way radio). All you need is a voice modem and a mic.

If anyone has further suggestions or would like to contact me please do at the address below.

I thank Shri Mataji for supplying the tools for us to use to spread Sahaja Yoga. This 'work' is so pleasurable and gives me so much joy...please try it - Mother will send the seekers to you. Jai Shri Mataji!

PS It is interesting to note that before I went to Delhi in March 98 my computer's sound card shorted out and I was unable to use it at all. When I returned I was still having trouble with not being able to hear people on the other end. As soon as I started to write this article everything started to work. There are so many people out there seeking....I had four in the first couple of hours of being reconnected so please spread Sahaja Yoga this way it is very rewarding.

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EXMOUTH 6707
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Australia



Gillian, here is something for the newsletter, a little more professional!!

We had the great privilege to participate in the Easter Puja held last week in Istanbul, as one of the hosting countries, Iran. It was a magical weekend, the Turkish collectivity being so dynamic, sweet and thoughtful and everything organised so well.

Shree Mataji arrived on Friday 17th in the afternoon to be welcomed by a sea of faces and flowers. One of the SYs had organised a police escort and so Shree Mataji arrived in style. I was stationed at the hotel to receive Her with a Sahaja Yogini from the other hosting countries Greece and Turkey. She was radiant when She arrived, talking about how much love She had felt from everyone, just so much love.

There were about 650 SYs present for the Puja, most of them from the Eastern Block countries which are easy accessible by bus. There were nearly 200 Romanians (with Anna ex Potts in amongst them!!).

The music programme began with Bhajans and the serious business started after the arrival of Shree Mataji. We had Turkish and Greek dance and songs, Romanian Bharatnatyam, Greek poetry and Iranian theatre. We finally wound up at around 2.30am. Shree Mataji praised the Turkish Yogis for such good organisation and we all went off to sleep feeling happy with ourselves.

During that same day Shree Mataji had given a television interview. The interviewer knew all about Her and very directly asked Her what She could do to help the country and that it would be a good idea if She stayed on and then things would become alright.

The following day the Sahaja Yogis performed havan and we then prepared everything for Puja. Shree Mataji's talk was extremely profound, with two main themes. One was aimed at "leadership" but I think each one of us could see the description of our own egos in it. She spoke at length about domination, anger and making people afraid - obviously that we should not have any of these faults.

Secondly She spoke with a lot of emotion about Lord Jesus. At one point Her voice changed, got slower and slower. It was like She had left us and gone into profound meditation and there were just remnants of Her voice remaining.

Afterwards She explained that it happens everytime She has to speak about Lord Jesus. The Puja was quite short, but very profound with excellent bhajans sung by the Turks, Greeks and Romanians. Following the long line of gifts and the distribution of mountains of prasad - turkish delight and lots of other regional goodies, Shree Mataji prepared to take Her leave.

We managed to sing two songs, a Turkish bhajan and Mataji Rouhe Allah, the Iranian Qawaali, and then She was gone, carried back to Her car in a chair carried by Yogis from the organising countries. The Yogis then continued on celebrating and danced into the early hours of the morning to Greek, Turkish and Iranian traditional music, played wonderfully by the Yogis on their traditional instruments.

The following evening was the public programme, attended by nearly 1000

people. Since Mataji spoke beautifully about Islam and the Koran.

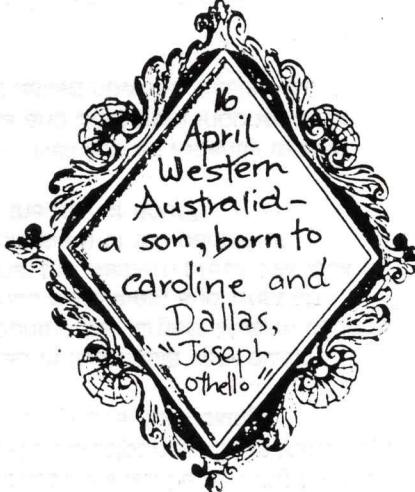
This talk is so full of love and diplomacy, an excellent example for all of us on how to speak to Muslims about Sahaja Yoga. They all got their realisation in a matter of seconds, Shree Mataji was thrilled, and promised that She would come back and see them all next year. Shree Mataji sat for over a half an hour, shaking hands and saying hello, said that the people were very good.

The Turkish organised follow-up programmes everynight since and there are around 200 attending each follow-up with about 15 brand new people at each programme. Unfortunately I had to leave on the morning after the Public programme but Majid stayed for the follow-ups and things are going very well.

On the following Friday Shree Mataji met with the Patriarch of the Orthodox Church who lives in Istanbul. I am told it went very well and he took and felt his realisation. So great things are happening in Turkey. Shree Mataji left Turkey on Saturday the 25th to go to Cabella where Sahasrara Puja will be celebrated.

And so came to a close a truly wonderful visit to Turkey, a country full of love and promise, and a wonderful stepping stone for Sahaja Yoga into the Islamic and Orthodox world.

Pragnya



From: sahajnet@halcyon.com (Mark Mays) Thu 16:20 30/4/98

Subject: SahajNet e-mail list

Jai Shri Mataji!

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I would like to inform you of some new procedures for adding, changing or deleting yogis from the SahajNet e-mail list. Starting May 1, each country leader or a yogi they designate will update the mail list for their country, which will be forwarded to me in a "cut and paste" format. I will no longer be accepting individual requests for adding or changing yogis on the e-mail list *unless* you are deleting your account, in which case please send the delete request to both myself and your country e-mail representative.

This change in procedure will allow me to spend more time sending out broadcast messages in a timely manner and should speed up the additions and changes to the e-mail list considerably without any additional work for all of you - you just send the request to someone in your country instead of me. Also, in the past some e-mails of a more sensitive nature were not sent out at all, whereas now they are being sent to the country representatives for a more "secure" distribution. Hopefully these changes will increase both the speed and the amount of information that arrives in your part of the world.

Thank you all so much for your cooperation and understanding in this matter and hope this e-mail finds you all swimming in an ocean of joy!

Kind Regards From Your Brother Mark

Australians: For additions and changes to the e-mail list please contact:

John Dobbie, 02 9416 2373, fax 02 9416 1202, esis@tpgi.com.au

Subject: TEV

Dear Brother / Sister,

After performances of "The Imaginary Invalid" at Ganapatipule and at Guru Puja in Cabella 97 in the presence of Her Holiness Shri Mataji, few Sahaja Yogis and Yognis have not seen, heard or read about "Theatre of Eternal Values" by now. With this letter we would like to inform you of the reasons TEV was founded, our plans for 1998/99 and give a brief report of our activities since the company's birth in 1996. (The last chance to see "The Imaginary Invalid" will be in Vienna at Theater AKZENT on 25-26-27-28 of May. At Her Birthday Puja in Delhi this year we received Shri Mataji's approval for a new production, Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Rehearsals will begin in Austria in June.) We hope the following report and reviews will show the impact TEV has had in the places we have visited, particularly with non Sahaj Yogis.

Shri Mataji, the "Maha" Patron of the performing arts. Firstly the company owes its inspiration and existence to Shri Mataji. Her vision of a professional theatre company dedicated to the expression of universal spiritual values was revealed to us in Cabella in 95. Her loving attention and encouragement have been our constant source of strength and inspiration during this challenging and rewarding adventure. The members of the company who come from eight countries, have lived, meditated and worked together for two years and played to almost 12000 people in eight different countries. The challenges that would normally have made it impossible to go on have been overcome by the generous support, hospitality and voluntary work of our brothers and sisters in Belgium at the beginning, and subsequently in the many countries we have visited. Donations towards production and touring costs have also been crucial.

Shri Mataji's "Dream" come true In Bombay (Jan 97) and again at the Guru Puja performance in Cabella, Shri Mataji said that Theatre of Eternal Values was one of her dreams come true. She praised the level of professional accomplishment and creativity aswell as the dedication of the artists. She also said that TEV would become bigger than we could imagine. Before our departure to the Edinburgh Festival last August, She authorised us to publicly acknowledge her as our spiritual Guide. This, she explained, is the protocol normally followed before a performance in India. She also suggested we sing her mantra and Jerusalem. Needless to say, the whole company rejoiced at this honour. We did this as follows: as the audience took their seats in the auditorium they would see our Mother's illuminated picture on stage. When they were all settled in their seats, a member of the company went on stage to announce that the company wished to dedicate the performance they were about to see to Her Holiness Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi, whose untiring work towards global peace, and the integration of races, religions and cultures through Sahaja Yoga, had inspired our work. Our mainly non-sahaj audiences applauded this introduction on more than one occasion. Backstage, the light still shining on her photo, we sang the mantras and Jerusalem. It was one of the best moments of the whole performance and charged the atmosphere with vibrations.

The "Value" of TEV. Shri Mataji said in Bombay that theatre would have died without Theatre of Eternal Values. (Perhaps a theatre founded on Dharmic principles was necessary on a subtle level?). On a statistical level, at least, an estimated 12000 people have seen the performances. More than 70% were not Yogis and most were young people. Many school children in Austria wrote to us saying that they had felt something

special they had never experienced before which could not be described in words! The Ministry of Education in Austria, the culture department of Vienna and the European Commission representatives who saw the play subsequently invited us to several meetings (although financial support has been minimal). The TV and press have all been positive and given us excellent exposure. TEV UK. have successfully received a government grant to develop its Theatre in Education program for schools. They are working on a play to promote racial and religious tolerance and respect among pupils in secondary schools.

TEV and money It was on Shri Mataji's insistence that the actors and crew received all the ticket money from performances in Ganapatipule and Delhi, adding that we deserved far more than this. In Europe most of the contributions and donations were just enough to cover travel and production costs. But in the end it was thanks to the excellent promotion and management skills of the Austrians that a month's salary was distributed to all members of the company in October '97. The members of TEV have made their personal contribution since the company began. But now their means have been stretched to the maximum. Theatre of Eternal Values needs financial support. in order to continue.

Therefor, the last point is really an appeal for logistical and financial support. It will be clear to anyone that if we are to maintain and raise the level of our work, it cannot be done part-time in the evenings and weekends because everyone lives in different countries. The minimum time required for rehearsals to achieve a professional standard of work, is six or eight weeks. We need to raise £10,000 by May 1998 to make the scenery and costumes which can last the wear-and-tear of touring; for travel, administration and promotion expenses. Having a budget in advance will give us the security of being able to cover the minimum expenses. Other needs are vehicles: a large van or lorry for the transporting the set and a small bus or passenger vans for up to 16 members of the company.

Ways to participate: Funding i.) Start a TEV fund in your country with a person responsible for the appeal. This person's job is also to keep everyone informed about TEV. Regular bulletins and press reviews can be published in the national or local Sahaj Newsletters together with (if possible) the bank account co-ordinates they can transfer money to. Pre-addressed bank deposit forms have been distributed in Belgium and Austria.

Bank connection in Austria: acc. 02783883800 Mag. S. Kirchbaumer Creditanstalt, bank-code 11000

ii.) Bring contributions to Sahasrara Puja in May, or at earliest opportunity and give to Martin and Sita Kirchbaumer from Austria who are responsible for co-ordination and administration.

How to bring T.E.V. to your country? Contact: Martin and Sita Kirchbaumer, T.E.V. Austria , A-2763 Pernitz, Feichtenbach 22,

tel./fax: 0043 (0)2632 72408. e-mail: martin.kirchbaumer@kabelnet.at TEV on the WEB (home page): http://members. kabsi. at /TEV/

Actors, dancers, singers or musicians wanting to join contact: Victor Vertunni T.E.V. Italy, Via S. Lantini, 8 27058 Voghera Italy tel./fax: 0039 (0)383 43589