

July 5th 1997

My Spiritual Mother

What do you see in her deep brown eyes ?

I see love, compassion and forgiveness.

What do you hear when she talks so calmly ?

I hear music, harmony and laughter.

What can you see on her face when she smiles ?

I see amusement, wisdom and affection.

What do we know about Our Spiritual Mother, Shri

Mataji Nirmala Devi ?

We know that she is our spiritual mother.

And we know that we are all her children.

Let us all be peaceful and surrender to Mother.

Let mother's love help us realise ourselves.

By Pratiksha Mistri (age 12)

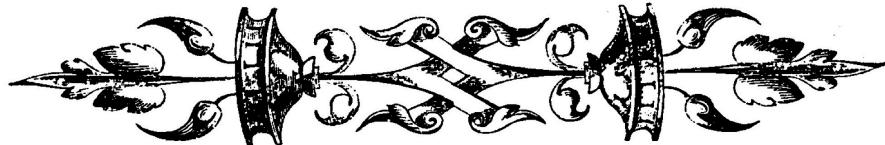
Spreading the Vibrations in Tasmania

June, 1997

Over the last couple of weeks, Sahaja Yoga has held two very successful stands at Spiritual Expos in Hobart and Launceston. Over 250 people got their Realisation, and hundreds more took leaflets. Although the Expos were held at the Casinos(!) and we were surrounded by Reiki and other "mixed spirituality" stalls, the vibrations were tremendous. Shri Mataji's photo and Her sari on the table poured out cool vibrations all day, and there were even queues waiting at times. People seemed very open and interested. Some other stall holders also came for their realisation. Most people felt the cool breeze, and many had strong experiences.

Catherine Bisgaard, our one resident yogi in Launceston, has been running programs on her own there for a year. She was delighted to have the support of several yogis from Sydney and Canberra who came to help. She's a very dynamic and dedicated yogini, and we thoroughly enjoyed our stay with her and the chance to help with opening up Tasmania.

In Launceston, twelve people have come back to follow up this week, and quite a few in Hobart have expressed interest, although there is no centre there at present. Later in the year there may be a weekend seminar in Hobart, and possibly another Spiritual Expo elsewhere. All yogis are warmly invited to come and participate. It's such a terrific experience to get out there and give realisation to lots of people - you feel really great, and the time flashes by; ten hours each day seemed like no time. We all enjoyed ourselves so much.



Jewelry with a difference

Hand made by Kim Pearce. All proceeds to Bhajan tour fund. Will be available in Brisbane on Guru Puja weekend.

Music of Joy concert

1st August 1997- 8pm -Petersham Town Hall. Tickets and posters available now. Want to get involved? (course you do!) Call Kim Pearce on 97997580. Be there.



GANESHA PUJA-CABELLA

Plans are well advanced for Ganesha Puja.

As you know the puja has been brought forward to the weekend of the 5-7 of September at Cabella in Italy.

A group booking has been made with Japan airlines for an attractively low fare of \$1850+taxes (@ total \$1925) leaving Sydney on Sunday 31st August.

To secure this fare we have to have at least 10 people in the group, leaving at the same time but able to return independently.

At present we have 5 definite starters. We need another five, minimum.

If you wish to be part of the enjoyment that is Ganesha Puja and secure the advantage of this fare (by comparison, Quantas flying to the same destination, Milan, is nearly \$600 more expensive) and travel down to Cabella in the bus we will hire-then you have to make a commitment now.

Let Fred Myer know (work-9939.1233, home-9456.5851)

Fred will be sending out a registration form, which we will need filled in, for both air travel and hotel booking purposes.

Everybody is most welcome to be a part of this great adventure and privilege of hosting one of the international pujas. Take advantage of the group travel or make your own arrangements to be in Cabella by Wednesday 3rd of September.

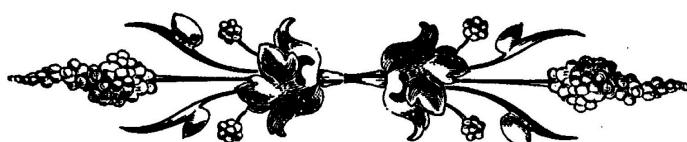
Michael.

INDEPENDENCE DAY 4TH OF JULY

President Thomas Jefferson

We hold these truths to be sacred and undeniable; that all men are created equal and independent, that from that equal creation they derive rights inherent and inalienable, among which are the preservation of life, and liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Original draft for the Declaration of Independence.



The Great Northern Seminar

July 5th - 6th

The Sahaja Yogis of the Central Coast, Newcastle, the Hunter Valley and the areas further afield wish to extend an invitation to all Yogis to attend a Sahaja Yoga Seminar organised for the weekend of July 5th through to 6th at the Pelaw Main Ashram.

It was felt that we all need to make more of an effort to help expand the vision of many of the recent members of the collective, and in a sense to become more dynamic in spreading our vibrations.. This would not only help establish those seekers who have recently come to Sahaja Yoga, but also help to bring us all closer together.

We would wish to invite all Yogis who wish to participate to please join us and so take advantage of the vibrations, and help boost the numbers . With everyone's support we are sure that the weekend will be a tremendous success.

Seminars such as such can be a significant event in the spiritual growth of seekers, especially those from smaller collectives. It provides them an invaluable opportunity to meet other Sahaja Yogis and to gain wider insight into the vision of Sahaja Yoga.

The Bhajans group have kindly consented to presenting a concert centre stage at Pelaw Main.

The weekend will begin with a 'Music of Joy 'concert, presented on Saturday July 5th commencing 7:00 pm. Everyone will be encouraged to bring their families to the concert as a means of giving them an experience of the joy which we all share together.

Those who wish to attend the concert are also invited to stay overnight, anyone who has visited Pelaw Main will recall that there is no shortage of room, or hospitality.

The more formal section of the seminar will commence at 10:00 am July 6th and conclude at 4:00 pm.

Those who wish to attend the seminar should contact Katherine or Jacqueline on (049) 37 5154.

Brisbane - Guru Puja

33 are booked on the bus -
we need another 15 people to fill her.
Ring Rakesh or Marcus 94983751
or
94992219

NEWS FROM CHINA

Dear Sahaj Yogis,

I was very happy to get the recent fax from Chris and hear about the exciting developments in Australia with the country property. The account of developments on the medical front is the most exciting of all. The legal hopscotch with the troublesome chap was also entertaining. In the universe of humanity, lawyers are the black holes! They will suck up all your money, but they are also useful for dealing with negativity.

Perhaps you heard in Sierra Leone a miracle happened recently. It was not so striking as the recent appearance of our Lady of Guadeloupe as a watermark on the stone floor of the subway in Mexico city, but it was equally amazing, and had a deeper sense of mystery since it seemed a human rather than divine miracle.

There was a sudden and largely unpopular military coup in Sierra Leone, leaving many of the locals exasperated. Rather than opposing the agitators, and furthering bloodshed, people simply refused to co-operate. Whole streets of shops closed and hundreds of people didn't go to work, bringing the entire nation to a stand still!

Ever since colonialism collapsed in Africa, countries have been taken and retaken by military juntas, until the phenomena seemed endemic and caused no more alarm than a psoriasis itch. No one had ever thought of opposing them by not fighting. What made it even more incredible was the speed and spontaneity of this peaceful action, leaving the aggressors at a loss. They had overrun the country but were left without a country to rule. Commentators were also at a loss as how such a simple but elaborate reaction had manifested. It was a powerful demonstration of what constitutes a real nation, a show of democracy at its most immediate level. My feeling in that this was just as much a miracle as Guadeloupe. What makes it even more exiting is that it happened through human beings rather than more malleable material like rocks and stones. You may recall that Sierra Leone was one of the first place in Africa where Sahaja Yoga was established. I feel quite proud to know it was an Australian, Peter Cordon who did the pioneering work there, and I still remember the video he showed us on his visit to Melbourne in 1988. To see that small band of

African Sahaj Yogis on the screen was quaintly revelatory. This is a strange expression, but one that seems apt for describing the way in which Sahaja Yoga often makes a start somewhere. When I saw the recent news reports I immediately felt that Sahaja Yoga's presence there had had a subtle influence. The newscasters seemed bemused that such a collective and peaceful demonstration of will could occur in strife-torn Africa, and could not come up with any explanation. It reminds me of the coup in Russia which collapsed without much of a struggle, but Shri Mataji Herself was there at that time. Only Sahaja Yogis were there in Sierra Leone. We have now witnessed on more than one occasion how Sahaja Yoga enhances the security and peace of a region.

These are the miracles of our age. Swayambhus and other natural miracles have occurred in other centuries and will continue that way. They are the manifest forms of God and God has full command of nature, but miracles through a large collective of human are extraordinary and seem particular to modern times. They are testimony to a higher level of consciousness and a closer co-operation of humans with the will of God. This is only by the grace of Shri Mataji.

It was once said that poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere. It is equally true that ignorance anywhere is threat to enlightenment everywhere. With the slow progress of things some people might wonder what

we can possibly achieve in China, and is the effort worthwhile at this stage. If you lived in China for any length of time you would see the almost blinding pace of growth and development. Poverty still exists in many places and there are many other problems. That is also true for many countries, even the United States to some extent. However, no country, not even the United States has the momentum of change to equal China. By the time the G7 group of countries is ready to treat China as an equal, China will already be ready to dominate the agenda. With the return of Hong Kong, China is already closer to that time than people think.

It is all the more alarming to think of such a China living in a spiritual vacuum. There has been talk in China of the renewal of a spiritual civilization. This is a mis-translation, a media virus that frequently breaks out in the English language press. It really means a stronger sense of ideology and worship of the motherland. Patriotism is one thing, but nationalism is another. I am still powerfully hopeful that Sahaja Yoga will bring some peace and security to this region.

Thanks to the efforts of all the yogis in Hong Kong, Sahaja Yoga is now well in place there. I hope nobody is thinking, "Well, we have a centre in China now," and complacently leaving it at that. China is greater in size and population than all of Europe, Eastern and Western, so we need to see it less as a country and more as a continent. We are now working towards

forming an Indian culture society since there are a handful of people here in Beijing with some knowledge of Indian music and dance. It only seems sensible to try and consolidate and work together. It will be low key, but I would like to see it facilitating visits by artists from India, or even Australia. Unfortunately, the Indian Government has an oblique policy of only sponsoring classical soloists for tours abroad. For an uninitiated audience this is deadly, and so, in many countries, Indian music is never successfully promoted. It would be wiser to send a bhajan or folk troupe as this music has universal appeal. As Sahaja Yogis know, only when this foundation is laid can an audience move on to appreciate the subtle vibrations of classical music. Music is also the easiest way to give realization and spread vibrations. Beijing is not the spiritual wasteland some might expect. It is actually quite light and I have seen that vibrations have a powerful and lasting effect so I know that this idea will get lasting results.

The cancellation of the Music of Joy tour is a set back in this area, but it doesn't deter me from persisting. I look forward to the day when we can organize a Music of Joy concert in Beijing because I feel it is tremendously important and the best way forward right now. Like with lawyers, we must also learn to work with bureaucrats. If you have the inclination please feel free to write.

Wishing you all good vibrations, Lyndon and Jayashree.

Why is the sea king of a hundred streams?
Because it lies below them.
Therefore it is the king of a hundred streams.

If the sage would guide the people, he must serve with humility.
If he would lead them, he must follow behind.
In this way when the sage rules, the people will not feel oppressed;
When he stands before them, they will not be harmed.
The whole world will support him and will not tire of him.

Because he does not compete,
He does not meet competition.

Log-Tsu