

THE AUSTRALIAN STRATHFIELD

Sahaja Newsletter



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The Miser and the Angel of Death

A miser had accumulated, by effort, trade and lending, three hundred thousand dinars. He had lands and buildings, and all kinds of wealth.

He then decided that he would spend a year in enjoyment, living comfortably, and then decide as to what his future should be.

But, almost as soon as he had stopped amassing money, the Angel of Death appeared before him, to take his life away.

The miser tried, by every argument which he could muster, to dissuade the Angel, who seemed, however, adamant. Then the man said:

'Grant me but three more days, and I will give you one third of my possessions.'

The Angel refused, and pulled again at the miser's life, tugging to take it away.

Then the man said:

'If you will only allow me two more days on earth, I will give you two hundred thousand dinars from my store.'

But the Angel would not listen to him. And the Angel even refused to give the man a solitary extra day for all his three hundred thousand'pieces.

Then the miser said:

'Please, then, give me just time enough to write one little thing down.'

This time the Angel allowed him this single concession, and the man wrote, with his own blood:

'Man, make use of your life. I could buy not one hour for three hundred thousand dinars. Make sure that you realize the value of your time.'

Attar of Nishapur

The Way of the Sufi

IDRIES SHAH

Dear Yogis & Yognis.

Sahaja Yoga has been invited to do a programme for the local "Indian Cultural Society" here in Darwin. We are keen to do it professionally and to create an impression of a lasting nature. Can anyone help regarding topics, catch-phrases, quotable quotes they will relate to. Are there any English tapes (audio or video) that we can purchase (in a hurry) that will suit this application perfectly?

We have until Fri. 4th Aug only! Thank you in anticipation...

Linda Ph/Fax (089) 325099.

Doonside Fair.

Sahaja Yoga will have a 'Self Realization Tent' at the Doonside Fair this weekend. (last year many people received their Realization at this Fair.) Lots of help is needed to make this another successful year. For more info contact Ramsay St .. 798 4051

DOONSIDE FAIR
HILL END Rd
DOONSIDE

Sat. 29th July... 9am - 3pm.



The Mighty Mahaclean-up Reminder

last call for 'owners' separated from their 'things' to make speedy tracks (or phone calls) to Burwood to secure these items before they are relocated to the tip. Further details... Ring Burwood... now!



Concert : Saturday Night.

The Bhajans group is opening a concert presented by the South India Committee on 29th July (Sat.) at The Bankstown Town Hall. The rest of the performance is made up of various dance items including the Ramayana presented in Bharathanatyam style. The performance starts at 6.30pm EXACTLY and tickets are available at the door. \$12 + \$10.

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The Illawarra & Woollongong Collective
invites all Sahaja Yogis to a HAVAN
on 6 Aug. (commencing 11AM) at Joe &
Lorraine's Robertson property.
For directions call 048.851.069.

News from the Great Spirit Energy Festival

A big thank you to the musicians and all those who helped at our stall for a very successful weekend. Approximately 150 seekers received their realisation, the reward of seeing their beaming faces was wonderful and the organiser of the event thought our musicians were fantastic !!

A nearby stall holder , an iridologist, commented that he thought that the people who came to his stall must have been very tired as the pupils of their eyes were unusually dilated. We enlightened him to the knowledge that this was often associated with the rising of the kundalini and perhaps this was the real reason.

In addition to seekers from the North Shore, many seekers from the Central Coast, Hurstville and Parramatta areas also attended. For those yogis who were unable to attend the Festival please note that we will have a stand at the Crows Nest Fair which is to be held in late October. Last year this proved to be one of the most successful fairs of the season, so don't miss out on this terrific opportunity to participate in Shri Mataji's great work !

Jai Shri Mataji

The Blind Men and the Elephant

It was six men of Indostan
To learning much inclined,
Who went to see an Elephant
(though each of them were blind)
That each by observation
Might satisfy his mind.

The First approached the Elephant,
And happening to fall
Against his broad and sturdy side,
At once began to bawl:
"God bless me but the Elephant
Is very like a wall."

The Second, feeling of the tusk,
Cried, "Ho! What have we here
So very round and smooth and sharp?
To me 'tis mighty clear
This wonder of an Elephant
Is very like a spear!"

The third approached the animal,
And happening to take
The squirming trunk within his hands,
Thus boldly up and spake:
"I see," quoth he, "The Elephant
Is very like a snake!"

The Fourth reached out an eager hand,
And felt around the knee,
"What most this wondrous beast is like
Is mighty plain," quoth he; ..
"tis clear enough the Elephant
Is very like a tree!"

The Fifth who chanced to touch the ear,
Said: "E'en the blindest man
Can tell what this resembllest most;
Deny the fact who can,
This marvel of an Elephant
Is very like a fan!"

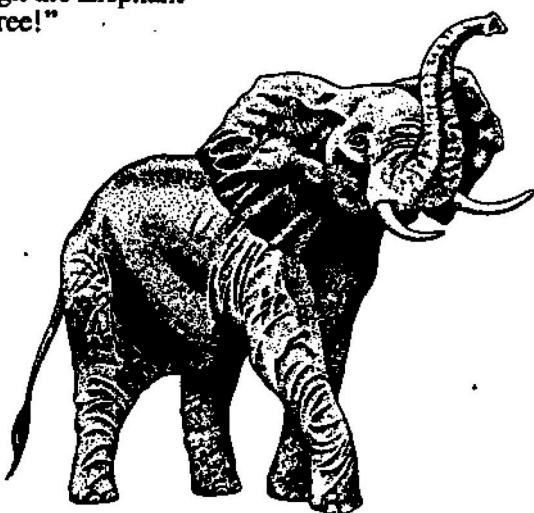
The Sixth no sooner had begun
About the beast to grope,
Than, seizing on the swinging tail
That fell within his scope,
"I see," quoth he, "the Elephant
is very like a rope!"

And so these men of Indostan
Disputed loud and long,
Each of his own opinion
Exceeding stiff and strong,
Though each was partly in the right,
And all were in the wrong!

Moral

So oft in theologic wars,
The disputants, I ween,
Rail on in utter ignorance
Of what each other mean,
And prate about an Elephant
Not one of them has seen!

John Godfrey Saxe (1816-1889)



Discipline

You are my children. How are people going to have respect for you, or for Me, if you have no discipline? The discipline has to come from 'within' yourself. The discipline of within is like the fragrance of a flower. It gives you complete freedom, and it gives freedom to others. You have to kill the greatest enemy within yourself—indiscipline and irresponsibility.

H. H. Shri Mataji

Report from Denmark

by Rasmus Holtberg

This letter is about how Sahaja Yoga recently started in Denmark. Denmark is one of the very last European countries to see Vishwa Nirmala Dharma established. This is a country where Dharma is quite bad because people have this attitude that "everything is allowed". It is quite like Holland in many ways. A characteristic attitude here is never to be really satisfied despite the high material level of living and the good standard of social security enjoyed by the Danes. Also Danish people tend to have big egos with a very rational-mental conception of life. These may be some of the reasons it took so long time for Sahaja Yoga to come to this country. On the other hand Sahaja Yoga ought to have a good chance here as there are many seekers and genuine dissatisfaction with the weak protestant church.

The realisation of Denmark was started by the sweet and energetic collectivities in Berlin and Hamburg, which are the closest to Denmark. According to one German yogi, Sri Mataji had asked the German Collective to "attack" Denmark! This was done in collaboration with a few Danish Yogis who got their realisation abroad. Finally, in the beginning of April this year the stage was set for the first public programs in Copenhagen, the capital.

Many yogis came up from Germany to help posterizing Copenhagen and to join the program. The town center and the area of "Nørrebro" where the meetings were to be held were "target zones" for our posters, and hundreds of posters were put up. Many people later said they had noticed our posters in all sort of different places.

The first programs were held on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd of April. Each day some 12-16 seekers had found their way to the "Blaagards Plads Medborgerhus". People got their realisation from videos with Shri Mataji's programmes in Berlin and Hamburg 1994, and most people could feel the cool breeze.

The saturday programme was a little bit strange: There was a Turkish wedding going on upstairs with loud music, testing our witness quality, we had great trouble with the video equipment and a few seekers were drinking beers during the program....! Luckily things worked out alright and quite a few of the seekers came back the following day.

On Sunday there was more time to attend to the seekers individually, so after self-realisation we had a long workshop session with the German yogis working on people. This turned out to have an amazing effect as people could feel vibrations much better this way. Also it ended with everybody chatting in small groups. This way the yogis really got a chance to communicate to the people in a personal way what is Sahaja Yoga, answer questions, and establishing friendships. Everybody could feel the heart opening up in this very warm and relaxed atmosphere.

One of the seekers is a young mother whose father is a Sahaja Yogi from Italy. She had seen our poster in the area where she lives. From the poster she immediately recognised the picture of Sri Mataji which she knew from visits to her father in Italy. She immediately wanted to get in contact with us - she had not before practised Sahaja Yoga but felt the need to start now. However, the sticker indicating where and when the meeting was held was missing from this poster (they sometimes fall off due to wind and rain). She desperately tried to locate us using the telephone directory and phoning the father in Italy but without result. She even phoned all the different Yoga-centers in town who told her that no such thing as Sahaja Yoga existed, but if she wanted to try their course....? Deeply frustrated, she contacted her sister, who had by then seen another poster and was able to tell where the meeting was held. Another seeker commented that he didn't understand why we (the Sahaja Yogis) had not come earlier to Denmark.

I think I can speak on behalf of everybody who was there that Sahaja Yoga got a very good and promising start in Denmark. We feel fortunate and blessed to have had the opportunity of being present while the seed sprouted. Afterwards we estimated that 21 Danes had got their realisation during the weekend - equalling the number of German yogis who had made the trip to Copenhagen to join this beautiful Sahaj-event.

During the next week two more meetings were held, also with German and Rumanian Yogis present to help and support. 10-14 people were present, some new and some "old". The impression was still as in the first weekend of good and very positive people, who are interested in knowing more about Sahaja Yoga, ask a lot of questions but who also like to talk a lot about themselves, reflecting the Danish Agnya.

Meetings are still running every Wednesday in a public place and most Sundays in our house (for people who have come before). Fewer people are turning up now, some 3-4 each time. This reflects that people only come once in a while, so it is not at all the same faces every week. New people keep coming and some seem to stay. We are surprised how good quality they are and that so many can feel vibrations already in the beginning. We feel very fortunate and grateful that Sahaja Yoga has established, and we keep wondering about the miracle that the Danes are coming to Sahaja Yoga! We also feel somehow the right number of people are coming to the programs, as we cannot have our attention on many more for the time being.

Everybody is more than welcome to come and visit us in "Sahaja Yoga Center Copenhagen" and maybe help with the programs. - We have room for guests in the house! JAI SHRI MATAJI!! Our address is:

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Toftebakkevej 15B TH
2500 Valby (Copenhagen)
Tel and fax (+45 for Denmark): 36 45 60 15 (home); 35 32 30 57 (Rasmus work);
40 60 44 63 (Dorte mobile).

Subject: News from Guru Puja

Dear Lene and Jeffrey

Just back from Guru Puja I hasten to write you, though I am sure it is impossible to communicate these fantastic vibrations!! Cabella was hot, so most of the day was spent joyfully by the river (and in the river!) and on the square drinking cappuccinos in the shade. You meet and talk to so many people from all over the world it's a major social event and you easily risk forgetting what's all about - Guru worship at the feet of our holy mother!

Also I meet with Finnish and Swedish yogis. We talked a lot about what to arrange for the Nordic countries, getting together some time - and the programmes in Norway starting very soon with the help from Holland.

There were music programmes Friday and Saturday nights with Shri Mataji present in person - until 5 o'clock in the morning. I didn't manage to stay awake the whole time, unfortunately. Baba Mama and Nirmal Sangita entertained both nights, there was a Rumanian Cavalli which enjoyed a lot of success and got a lot of money from happy dancing people. Also Nisrat Ali Khan played, and a ustar(??) player (I am not sure what the instrument is called) with his two sons. And then there was also Dorte singing arias from Cavalli and Norma - with amazing success!! The audience really loved it and so did Shri Mataji. Baba Mama who took over the stage after Dorte and the Bulgarian musicians said some incredible praise to her singing which I shall not try to repeat.

Guru Puja started around 9-10 pm on Sunday. I have to say that the attention was quite bad. Just before the Puja people were walking around in the hanger, talking, arranging things, organising some money businesses...also my attention was too poor, had pains in the back and so on.

I suddenly got busy as I had to go to the castle to pick up a Sari, which Denmark like all the other small countries was to present to Shri Mataji. All Ganesh had selected these saris.

Shri Mataji entered the Hanger to the tones of Cavalli Sung by Dorte. She talked about attention, intellect and heart, but I won't try to refer the details.

The Puja to Ganesh was really short, and after this the Guru Puja was performed by the leaders and by Shri Mataji's granddaughter. There were no children on the stage this time.

Waiting to present the Danish presents (a lamp and the sari) I talked to Lenes Rakhee Brother from Hong Kong. Always when I say I'm from Denmark people ask if I know this yogini in Australia...Shri Mataji asked about Sahaja Yoga

Denmark. She said it would not really start until she went there, and she went on to say she would find some time next season (next European Summer)!! I asked what is Denmark in the Virata, because we did not know before. She thought about it and said all the Nordic countries (Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland) is Hansall. The Puja went on until 6 am with gifts, Cavalli and a slide show.

On the car back to Hamburg we heard Music of Joy about 3 times and I really must congratulate Australia with this masterpiece, so deserving of its name! - and congratulate Jeff with the artwork!

JAI SHRI MATAJI!! Much love
Rasmus

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