

Shawnee Pilgrimage.

Its not often one thinks about heading off overseas twice in a couple of months; so when Sri Mother asked if I would be at the USA national Puja, the whole idea was suddenly thrust into my attention. "why not, I thought? Ive got some 61000 bonus miles with Continental, perhaps it might be possible after all.... No sooner had I acknowledged it as a possibility, when an avalanche of urgent things to do, requiring Sri Mothers approval and in one case her signature, descended like a ton of bricks.

So I went...and what an amazing 10 days it was! I left Sydney on the wednesday afternoon and 17 hours later arrived in LA, magically, 15 minutes before I left Sydney! Arriving at the hotel where Sri Mother and all the yogis were staying, I staggered in around five thirty pm. "Would you like to see Mother now? they asked... Would I? Of course I would; so dumping my bag, in I went. I was hardly in the door, when Sri Mother looked up beaming and said "we were just talking about you...will you do the introductory talk this evening?? Well what do you say? "Of course "I said and Sri Mother then advised me to have some rest, before going to the venue in just under 2 hours time! REST! my mind was racing (in a sluggish manner.... 17 hours of flying does not exactly stimulate the neurones.) Well all to quickly the time arrived...Dave Dunphy was to introduce me, so we set off with instructions as to how to get there. Unfortunately the instructions turned out to be back to front! the result, a wonderful tour of the surrounding suburbs before arriving half an hour late!!!! "wow I thought what a start, keeping over 500 people waiting". But on we went and what I said, I will never know! After the introduction Sri Mother arrived and produced another bombshell... I found I had to comment on 30 miracle photos which I had never seen! as a result I had no idea what order they were in or whether I had ever seen them before! But Sri Mother knew; and she was wonderful, she kept prompting me, which made the whole thing quite easy. the last in the series was the famous the 4 photos taken on the ferry going to Capri, with the reference points of the bench and patrick Hughs head.. however Patrick was sitting on the floor right beside me and I was a little uncertain just how to describe his head, which is very important in this series....I'm not quite sure what was said but suddenly, without thinking I heard myself saying "and he's here tonight right here beside me!" poor Patrick he did a wonderful rendition of a chameleon trying to look like a piece of the floor....not easy for someone of his build! Then Debu CHAUDHARI played for 20 minutes and Sri Mother then gave one of those amazingly broad talks that seemed to cover every possible subject. Almost the entire audience got their realization and Sri Mother seemed very pleased. Afterwards we all went back to the hotel and I blearily stole away at 6am the next morning to fly to New York. ON arriving in Newark I caught the

shuttle across to Kennedy Airport and prepared to wait for Sri Mother's arrival later in the evening. Soon some of the yogis started to appear and the time passed very quickly. Sri Mother arrived to the usual joyous reception and we were soon all back at New Rochelle crashed out all over the house India style catching up on much needed sleep.

The following day every one started to leave for the Puja site. As there was a follow up programme in Manhattan that evening, we decided that the slides of evolution would be most appropriate, so two of us went to Manhattan. There were just over thirty people there, which was good as this was the third programme since Sri Mother's public programme at the beginning of the month. After packing up and a change of cars, we finally arrived at Shawnee. It was around midnight and was surprised to find every body up as Sri Mother had not yet arrived....she arrived about half an hour later.

It was a great place, a sort of country club, nestling by river, in a valley whose sides were covered with trees, which were showing the first signs of autumn. After breakfast we wandered about a bit and then got ready for the Puja.

It was a vishnu Maya Puja and Sri Mother spoke alot about the left visshudi. I don't recall all that she said, but I suddenly realised that we have got into the habit of associating the left vissudi with some thing negative! this is not so!

After the Puja Sri Mother was given some presents, which included a, shall we say, Lincolneske exchange between

Sri Mother and Gregoire!! After the Puja there was a four hour break in which we had a snack and then dinner at 9pm. After dinner there was an entertainment programme. First Debu Chaudhari played and what a performance! Hopefully there is a tape, which will be well worth getting. This was followed by a smorgasboard of local talent! The highlights included a delightful song by Brian Wells, who is in the states for six months, two very good dances and a particularly striking performance by a girl who has been studying mime...all this punctuated by a plethora of songs...it almost rained guitars! Needless to say we headed for bed around 5.30am!!!

Next morning was sunday and Sri Mother was due to leave for London. Every one packed up and left around noon. I still had some business to finish with Sri Mother, so I returned to New Rochelle. Slowly the whole tour was winding down and I could sense that well known anticlimatic atmosphere so familiar when Sri Mother is about to leave Australia, one can hardly believe it is over: and so in ones and twos we headed for the airport to make our farewells. But there was still one little drama to play out, Sri Mother's departures from airports are so often the scene of dramas and in this case a vital briefcase had got left behind!!! Sri Mother was already late and there was a possibility she might not go.... So it was with relief that for once I could stand back from the fray and when Sri Mother decided she would go, I faded from the scene.

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October 8, 1992.

Our dearest brothers and sisters.....Jai Shri Mataji!

Salutations from the doorway to China!

We thank you all for your letters, calls and both subtle and financial support and in turn wish you all Shri Mother's blessings at this time of Navaratri.

As you may have seen from our last "Hong Kong report", By our Divine Mother's Grace we have just secured a new ashram in Hong Kong. Your new home is very spacious by HK standards and features an entry hall opening onto a hugh combined dining (green Chinese 8x10 rug), lounge (pink Chinese 8x10) and Meditation (grey rug) room. The Meditation room has full length concertina glass doors and curtains so it can be divided off separately. Our 3 big bedrooms and 2 bathrooms open off the lounge, and the kitchen and dedicated ajwan loo and camphor room are out the back. The front of our top (12th) floor ashram looks out over a Buddhist school built in traditional style to a green hill and the front road is used to walk the horses down to the Happy Valley racetrack from their stables.

Currently we have 5 "Gwallos" living here : Pavan and Deborah, Alex, Werner (xAustria and Taiwan) and Dallas Lynch who is Sue-Ellen's brother from Wollongong. Alex is just starting a project management job in Macau which promises to lead on to major projects. Werner is teaching violin and Dallas is holding down 2 jobs in preparation for India tour. Pavan's work is also shaping up well. Of course we have been super busy getting the place ready, moving and simultaneously running programs. John and Narelle are refurbishing their place as well as holding beginners programs there and looking after young Jason who is here for his school holidays. We are all well of course and enjoying life to the maximum during Navaratri together.

Whilst our programs at home have been good with as many as 21 people in a night, we have also seen the real start of HK Chinese Sahaja Yoga with their first programs conducted for them by Chinese Sahaja Yogis in Cantonese. This is greatly joy giving and the real reason we are here. David Wong has been conducting these after we letter box dropped an estate with 10,000 flyers featuring "Chakra Chan." About 20 new people came and about 14 have settled after 4 weeks. Right next door to our Chinese program are the Lamas who are busy generating lots of heat and droning mantras that sound suspiciously like 'gimey your money.' Actually the stories of tantrism we've heard are bad and the subtle damage and hold they have on some seekers is serious. Navaratri has been intense and no doubt the Devi is working it out. JAI JAI Shri Durga Mai!

I have to admit, I'm getting old! When Sri Mother passed into the departure area, I suddenly felt very tired...but my sister Paula from Long Island came to my rescue and whisked me away for a day of doing nothing except walk on the beach and chat...Thank you Paula, you're a sister indeed! Tuesday I went to New Jersey and we did yet another slide show there. Early next morning it was up and away to L A

I always feel very at home in LA and so I began to unwind and prepare for the journey home. There was to be one more programme and that was it!!

Climbing aboard the plane, I reflected on my hectic week and felt highly satisfied that I had gone...We all should do more of it. We need to circulate, it stops us getting parochial. There are many opportunities for Sahaja yogis in Australia and in deed all around the Pacific rim to interact more with each other. There is Sri Mother's tour of Australia and South East Asia, and there are her visits to North and South America ...

Its so nice to be home; but I cant help reflecting on Sri Mother's parting words to me at New Rochelle; "I can't tell you how happy I am that you are here!"

It has become very clear to me, that she wants and needs us to circulate more...even amongst ourselves. After all, we are all one big family and we need each others support.

Jai sri Mataji.
stephan

One quick story.

The landlord's niece got access to the ashram after we said we'd take it 'as is' and we had put our Mother's photo there whilst a lot of replastering was to be done. (This was done finally all at their expense thanks to the Grace of Maha Maya even though we had originally agreed to redecorate in exchange for one month's rent) This lady was an extreme right sider and she decided to help herself to some curtains and furniture left by the previous tenant before we moved in. Well, she then got a Nabhi infection that took her out of business and into hospital for 12 days as well as serious drama with her rich uncle including having to make payment for the replastering which cost 1/2 a month's rent!

Many other blessings have been apparent during our time establishing the Ashram including a good big gas oven stove supplied, delivered and installed for just Aus \$100. Of course the biggest blessing has been the new Sahaja Yogis and there will be some (5?) Chinese Sahaja Yogis we hope going on tour from here this year, as well as some more from Taiwan, and we will all travel together xHK.

Well this is the first letter that Pavan has typed on his new Mac and its taken some time. Any budding typists looking to relocate? Sorry for not writing earlier. We all miss you and wish to thank you again for your gracious support.

In Mother's Unending Love we are

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