



Master's News....

A year of severe stress

The year that has ended (2012) saw Master going through a life threatening illness. In July, Master's serious illness forced him to stay away from Tiruppur where his birthday celebrations were held. He called a special bhandara in Manapakkam on 15th August to announce his 'resignation' as President. He changed his decision in the presence of over twenty thousand abhyasis who had gathered at short notice and appointed Br. Kamlesh Patel as the Vice President to take over part of the administrative burden. From then on, his strength seemed to pick up ever so slowly.

In the last three months, Master seems to have made definite strides in regaining his health. Slowly, we have seen the withdrawal of the oxygen cylinder and the wheel chair being discarded. Now Master has been walking with his stick and the supporting arm of an aide, into the meditation hall, garlanding the photos of the masters. He travels in his car and uses the golf cart in the ashram. He has even started talking about resuming travel in India! In the meantime, groups of abhyasis have been continuously pouring into Manapakkam ashram and Master makes it a point to conduct satsanghs for them. He finds enough time and energy for administrative work and email correspondence.

After going to Gayathri, Master's recovery seems to have speeded up. He surprises abhyasis in the ashram by sudden visits to conduct satsanghs. His food intake has improved and his face no longer shows signs of pain although he seems to tire easily.

Not long ago, in Br Madhava's house, an abhyasi told Master, "Master, hereafter, you should have no more pain. You have suffered enough." Master brightened up and stretched his right hand and said, "Tatatsu" [Let it be so]. We wish and pray that the New Year will usher in a period of spring in Master's life and endow him with good health and happiness.



The New Year began for Master in Gayathri with him getting ready quite early and greeting his family and a few other abhyasis who were present. Master did everything early as he was eager to go to the ashram to meet all of his abhyasis. Master reached the ashram well ahead of time. There were around 7500 abhyasis in the ashram. A long line of abhyasis and children greeted Master as he entered the ashram and Master conducted the satsangh which lasted for one full hour. After satsangh, Master gave a speech touching upon the topic of Prejudice which means "Pre-Judging" and how prejudice happens because we judge others, but it is also prejudice when we judge ourselves "because when I judge myself, I have condemned myself to that judgment". He said, "Happiness is not the goal of human life. The goal of human life is evolution".

After the talk, Master went to the auditorium block. Even though he was tired, he met with several abhyasis, giving and receiving gifts, discussing Mission matters, naming babies, etc. Master had his lunch at the ashram and went back to Gayatri around 1 p.m. Again in the evening, he met with a group of abhyasis from France and Switzerland who were leaving that night. Master started talking about all the trips he had made to Europe.

Master was talking about "Babuji talks about ignorance to knowledge to again ignorance. What is the difference between these two ignorances? The first order of ignorance is where you know nothing and the second order is where you know everything and yet you know nothing. Knowledge is infinite. You can never exhaust knowledge."



**Rev. Babuji Maharaj's Birthday****Celebrations**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am very happy to inform you that Rev. Master has decided to celebrate Puja Babuji Maharaj's 114th Birth Anniversary at Diamond Jubilee Park, Shri Ram Chandra Mission Ashram, Tiruppur [Tamil Nadu] from 28th April 2013 to 1st May 2013. It will be an international celebration for abhyasis from all over the world.

Revered Master is inviting all abhyasis to participate in this grand celebration. All the necessary information for abhyasis is below.

Affectionately,
Kamlesh D. Patel

Venue

Shri Ram Chandra Mission
Diamond Jubilee Park
Pallavarayanpalayam
Off – Dharapuram Road
Tiruppur (TN), India

Celebration Dates

28th April to 1st May 2013

Registration

Registration will be open by 1st February 2013, and all abhyasis who plan to attend the celebrations are requested to register for the celebration in their respective centers as soon as possible. Early registration will be helpful in planning the infrastructure for the celebrations at the venue. Overseas abhyasis are requested to register online by clicking on this link: <http://www.sahajmarg.org/April-30-celebrations/2013/registration>

Accommodation**Venue**

General accommodation in tents will be available for all participants at the venue.

Accommodation**Hotel**

A list of hotels in Tiruppur is attached below in Annexure - 2. Abhyasis are requested to do bookings directly.

Dorm

A limited independent dormitory accommodation will also be available near the venue for which a separate communication will be issued soon.

Weather

The weather in Tiruppur during the period of the celebration will

Travel**Air**

The nearest airport is Coimbatore. The airport is very well connected from all parts of the country and various airlines are flying to this destination. Normally it would take one and a half hours by road to reach the venue from the Coimbatore airport.

Rail

The venue is about 12 kilometres from Tiruppur railway station. Tiruppur railway station is located between Erode and Coimbatore junction.

Volunteers

We require a significant number of volunteers to be present at the venue from now onwards. Some volunteers would be required to stay about ten days after the Celebrations for winding up operations, hence volunteers are requested to plan accordingly. Volunteers arriving at the venue may report to the volunteer desk or the ashram office. Volunteers from previous celebrations are encouraged to volunteer their services and also encourage other willing abhyasis to participate in volunteer work. Centers are requested to encourage abhyasis to participate in voluntary work. The list of volunteers with name of the centre, number of abhyasis (brothers and sisters separately), area of volunteer work, and approximate date of arrival and departure may be sent by email to 30april.helpdesk@srcm.org as this will enable the organizers to plan accordingly.

Travel Advisory**Health Safety**

With a measure to avoid serious health risks, it is advised that the following do not register for the celebration:

Abhyasis of age 75 or above who need special assistance, care and attention. Abhyasis with health problems who have been advised by their doctors not to travel.

Parents with children below two years of age

Parents with special children who are mentally challenged.

Abhyasis / children (irrespective of age) requiring constant medical care with support from guardians / attendants travelling with them.

This is considered for the safety of such abhyasis by avoiding any health risks because of the climatic conditions in April at Tiruppur and due to limited health care facilities available at the venue.

Communication

Shri Ram Chandra Mission

April 2013 Utsav

Rajadhani Building

10, College Road, 1st Cross

Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu - 641602

India

Phone: +91-421-4348999 Fax: +91-421-2247317

Email

Registration: 30april.registration@srcm.org

Transportation: 30april.transport@srcm.org

Other information: 30april.helpdesk@srcm.org

Website:

<http://www.sahajmarg.org/april-30-celebrations/2013>

Contains circulars and detailed information

List of Hotels in Tiruppur is available on web site.

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY

25th November 2012.

Commemorated at our Melbourne centre.

This year's UN Universal Children's Day attracted twenty-eight adults and children, with twelve children in that number which made it very memorable. The children made the presentation and they brought their understanding and points of view to the discussion. The presentation and discussion highlighted our need to attempt to change ourselves rather than expecting the world to change for us.

Following the presentation, a song written by the children was performed by the children and the words are recorded below.



Children of the world song

We... are the children

We... are the future

We... are the shining light

We make the future bright

We can change the world with love

Change it with happiness and Joy

Brothers and Sisters here we are

Together we put an end to wars

Lets break down the barrier walls

Make it a better place for all

Open our hearts and say a prayer

And hope for a world that's fair

..... **Children of the world, United we stand for peace**

We... are the children

We... are the future

We... are the shining light

We make the future bright

<https://soundcloud.com/vinimo/we-are-the-children>

“The only secret in Sahaj Marg practice to keep oneself free from all influences external to the self is to mentally cover oneself in a mantle of Master's Grace, i.e., you should imagine that Master's Grace is enveloping you completely and this will certainly prevent external disturbing influences from reaching you.”

*Taken from The Spider's Web, vol. 1,
chapter "Importance of Sadhana"
pp.188-9 -Rev. Chariji*

Being with him

I enjoyed my visit to India to see Master. It was such a precious time and place. I didn't get in to see Master personally. I did try, very hard, but it wasn't meant to be. I met him in my heart. Where he always is, no matter where I am. As I sat on his veranda outside, he was sitting inside the house and he was in my heart also. I have mainly worked on my own over the years and I felt he was letting me know that he is always with me where ever I am and when I go home he will still be with me. My visit was a magic time with Master and the abhyasis I was travelling with. We all were as one. Thank you for the chance to be included in the Echoes. I have enjoyed reliving my visit with Master, today.

Dianne Milburn, Adelaide, SA

Impressions from my visit to Master in Manapakkam

November 2012



I prepared for this week, knowing that it could be a valuable asset in my evolution if used properly. As suggested by my pre-
fect I took weekly sittings building up to the trip. I only had one expectation, if you could call it that: to make the most of the opportunity offered to me and be open

and receptive to everything that would come my way. I had the sure knowledge, or faith, that I would gain a lot.

That's exactly what happened. The week started with Master giving satsangh on Sunday morning and it felt like he was planting seeds, especially for our stay there, but of course the effects are still unfolding now, many months later. The sitting was so strong that it was hardly bearable towards the end. However, what made it bearable was the knowledge that Master would only push me as far as I could manage and that it was being done with the forceless force, pure and ultimate love.

That afternoon Br.Kamlesh gave the afternoon satsangh and it was another experience that opened doors to different dimensions. We had arrived just at the beginning of the Diwali festival, that's why there were special satsanghs that Sunday.

The rest of the week feels like a dream in my memory now. Meditation, prasad, socialising with my group from Donnybrook, other Australian abhyasis and making new friends. During this time it was very obvious to me how important every encounter, every conversation was. It felt like Master was orchestrating everything with perfect synchronicity and whatever I was working through internally at that time, was coming up all around me, providing me with the assets with which to resolve the task and move on. And on. And on....

On the very last day we had the great honour of meeting Master. This was my first time in India, at the ashram and my first physical encounter with Master. It came about really quickly, after waiting only a little while in front of the gate. We were let

in the house and the atmosphere there was very different. Then, when entering Master's room it seemed like entering another universe. He shook my hand and I can't remember any of the few words that were said. What I do recall and have felt like living again in many moments since, is the sensation I felt, physically and internally. When Master shook my hand I felt the centres of my palms and the soles of my feet, opening up, more ready to give and receive then ever before. This is one of many blessings bestowed upon me on this journey.

I got exactly what I needed, although I feel unable to comprehend the whole effect it had on me. One thing I know for sure, I am progressing, and this train is picking up speed (so it feels). And it wouldn't have been able without Master, his transmission, his support, his guidance and the other masters and human guides that have been there for me, too.

And I know that at the bottom of it all is my willingness to change that makes it possible to do so, my craving to move forward towards the goal of my life, the great union.

I feel so grateful for everything! Words fail to express it.

Andrea Fisher, Busselton, WA

"We must remember that everything we have in this world has come down from God. Our fellow beings are also His creation. He is the Master of everything and we are all His children, no matter if a few of them are specially entrusted to our charge. In this way we shall be relieved of the feelings of undue attachment. If this feeling becomes deep-rooted, one will be serving them with a sense of duty and at the same time be remembering the Great Master as well. This will finally develop into the habit of Constant Remembrance."

Taken from Constant Remembrance, Sahaj Marg Education Series, p. 49 -Rev. Babuji

Br. Prasanna Krishna to visit

We have some good news for all, our Regional in Charge Br. Prasanna Krishna has been given permission to visit Oceania between late March to early April this year. He is planning to visit Perth, Fiji, Sydney, Canberra, Albury, Melbourne, New Zealand and Brisbane and has sent a proposed schedule which is still to be finalised. Once finalised we will send out to all. Please make a huge effort to prepare yourself for Br. Prasanna's visit so we all can benefit to the full.

Centre News

General

Zonal in Charge for our SE zone

The Zonal in Charge for our SE zone, Victoria including Albury/Wodonga, Mohan Gopalakrishnan will be travelling abroad frequently for work and so is not available to continue with the role. Sudha Sharma has accepted the position and we thank Mohan for his work as ZIC whilst wishing Sudha all the best for her new responsibilities.

We also have a new prefect in Melbourne, Vikas Sharma, a new centre coordinator, Agresh Doshi and one Melbourne prefect Mahendra relocated to Canberra. We have been without a prefect in Canberra for some time. In Sydney we have a new prefect Venkata Murthy.

Ashram News

There are no updates for the ashram as Real Estate offices were closed during the Christmas /New Year period. Group meditation has commenced on Tuesday evenings at the ashram and some other activities are planned during the next quarter.



Sydney



Sydney Centre held a family picnic day at Patonga beach on the central coast, a delightful spot with wonderful picnic and swimming facilities. Fun and enjoyment was shared by all!

Sydney Centre new initiative

A new group for mothers with babies under two years is being formed to meet at ashram and starting 23rd February. Contact Marg Churton churton@yahoo.com.au for details.

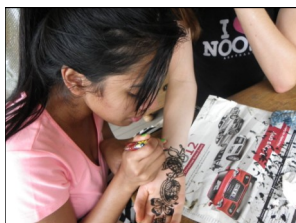
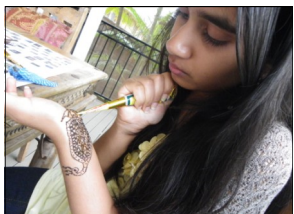


With the recent baby boom in Sydney, Santa just couldn't stay away! He came to give the children presents on the Sunday prior to Christmas and the children were delighted!

**Centre News cont.****Brisbane**

We started the year on a youthful note, getting together to explore skills with our body art using henna cones. To add to the fun we feasted on international fare.

This is what we came up with.

**Melbourne**

Our new initiative was some book review sessions, a similar activity to that conducted at CREST. There was a good attendance for these sessions and invariably abhyasis seemed to pick out those books which, when they read and reflected on them, gave them a deeper insight about their own condition.

New Zealand

Mary from Dunedin currently travels with work and is a welcome addition to all the centres she visits on her travels. One of our newest centres, Palmerston North now has five regular abhyasis.

Fiji

The year 2013 began rather bleakly for many in the western division as Tropical Cyclone Evan had left a trail of destruction on December 17. As people around picked up the pieces and various relief efforts were underway, abhyasis from Lautoka tried their best to come together and have regular satsanghs on Wednesday and Sundays with the 9 p.m. prayer.



As relief efforts slowed down abhyasis started planning the events for the year.

A group of twelve abhyasis gathered on the long weekend of 26-28th January in Nadi for a retreat. Sittings were conducted by prefects available as abhyasis arrived at a small hotel in Nadi on 26th and Sunday was devoted to the basic practice module on meditation. Seven new and restarted abhyasis said the day's event helped them with their understanding of the practice and to deepen their link with the Master. It also strengthened the bonds between abhyasis as the materials were translated into Fijian and Hindi. The day was intense and abhyasis spent some time swimming on the beach before dinner.





Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Venue	Contact
February			
2	Basant Rev Lalaji's Birthday	All centres	Centre coordinators
8	VBSE	Perth	sujatha.au@gmail.com
9	ATP	Perth	ramklulu@bigpond.net.au
16	ATP training	Albury, Victoria	sudhavikas@yahoo.com
16,17	Moree Visit by Qld preceptors	Moree, NSW	drkumargs@yahoo.com
22	VBSE	Perth	sujatha.au@gmail.com
23	ATP training	Melbourne, Victoria	sudhavikas@yahoo.com
23	ATP(repeat)	Perth	ramklulu@bigpond.net.au
23	Mothers' group	Bringelly Ashram, Sydney	m_churton@yahoo.com.au
23	Ashram Cleanup and individual sittings	Bringelly Ashram, Sydney	jajalvipul@gmail.com
23	Movie and dinner	Toowoomba, Qld	drk_uma_r@yahoo.com
21-24	Preceptor visit Noumea	New Caledonia	danasm2407@optusnet.com.au
24	ATP-Grounding in the Practice	Wellington, NZ	ravi.ravendran@gmail.com
March			
1-3	Retreat	Perth	skmenon.au@gmail.com
2	Refresher trg for GTP trainers	Bringelly Ashram, Sydney	ecrichton@optusnet.com.au
3	Monthly Gathering and ATP training	Brisbane, Qld	danasm@primusonline.com.au
3	Monthly Gathering	Sydney, NSW	jajalvipul@gmail.com
8	VBSE	Perth	sujatha.au@gmail.com
9	Ashram cleanup and individual sittings	Bringelly Ashram, Sydney	jajalvipul@gmail.com
16—17	ATP Spirituality and Diary Writing	Bringelly Ashram, Sydney	rajesh.rklal@gmail.com
17	Open Day	Toowoomba. Qld	drk_uma_r@yahoo.com
19	RIC visit	Lautoka/Labasa/Suva, Fiji	sashifj@yahoo.com
23	ATP	Perth	ramklulu@bigpond.net.au
23	Preceptor meeting	Bringelly ashram, Sydney	rajesh.rklal@gmail.com
24	Q & A session	Epping, Sydney	rajesh.rklal@gmail.com
30	Centre picnic	Bobbin Head Nat. Park	pandhi@hotmail.com
31	Full Sunday Gathering	Wellington, NZ	ravi.ravendran@gmail.com
**15th March -16th April; proposed visit by RIC Prasanna Krishna. Itinerary to be finalized			

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