

# Amma Madison Satsang Newsletter: March 2009

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Aum Amriteshwaryai Namah

## Welcome to the monthly newsletter of Amma's Madison Satsang

Dedicated to Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi, also called "Ammachi", "Amma", "Holy Mother" and "Amma".

Her mission in life is to awaken the Infinite Divine Power within everyone and lead humanity along the right path of selfless service and love for others.

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*Children, only if you give up your egoistic mind  
will it be possible to know your real nature.  
Otherwise, you will become prey to the rat of desires.  
If one rat enters into a field,  
it will destroy the entire crop.  
Likewise, one desire is enough.  
It will disfigure the beauty of the Self.*

-Amma-

## Amma is a promise

(22 Feb '09)

21 Feb, Tanur, Kerala - Bharata Yatra 2009

Amma held a one-day programme in Tanur. It was Amma's first visit here, and the large grounds were filled to

overflowing—people had begun coming at 7:00 am to ensure they got a good seat for the evening programme. Onlookers could be seen spilling over into the yards of all the neighbouring houses and the neighbouring temple grounds. In the spirit of the festival atmosphere, the neighbours opened their houses and facilities to the devotees. Even before Amma's arrival, folk dancers performed many traditional art forms in the grounds itself. Breakfast, lunch, dinner and again breakfast the following morning was served free to all who attended the programme. Amma took the stage at 6:30 pm. Invited guests included renowned writers Akkitham Achutan Namboodiri and Srikumaran Thampi and C. Radhakrishnan. The famous Kerala poet Akkitham Achyutan Namboodiri declared that the word Amma no longer holds meaning in Malayalam alone, but in all the languages of the world, as Amma renews the concept of the universal mother in the global consciousness.

Renowned film music lyricist Srikumaran Thampi reflected on how someone like himself who has been an avid student of science and was known as a progressive thinker had become Amma's devotee—he said that whenever he is asked about this, he replies that Amma is the greatest progressive thinker he has ever met, that she teaches a progress which neither science nor literature, cinema nor politics can possibly impart. He declared that Amma's life itself is an expression of this progress. "Amma is a promise - that the tears of the suffering shall be wiped and seeds of peace and truth sown in their hearts" Tampi reiterated.

Meanwhile, the great Kerala writer C. Radhakrishnan, compared Amma to the sun in her capacity to shower love and compassion endlessly and without expectation. "Amma alone is capable of giving such unconditional love. The meaning of the word Amma (Mother) encompasses both Mother and Guru. Amma is the one in whom we see the fulness of both. Mata Amritanandamayi Devi is the very embodiment of these qualities. Wherever there is sorrow Amma reaches out, giving love out of a store of love that remains undiminished even after encompassing the whole world." The District Collector distributed cheques to hundreds of smiling new recipients of Vidyamritam scholarships. Srikumaran Thampi helped to hand over sewing machines to new recipients of Amma's AmritaSree economic development programme.

After the function, Amma gave satsang and led the crowd in bhajans. Throughout her talk, Amma stressed the importance of adhering to values in one's life. Amma commented that without values, human beings become just like machines. At the conclusion of her satsang, Amma asked the crowd to reflect on how to minimize their environmental footprint. She told them to avoid using paper cups and to try their best to carpool. She also suggested that everyone could plant a vegetable garden in their own homes, and use the earnings from the sale of these vegetables to help those in need. Amma's darshan itself went on all night and late into the following morning. Earlier Amma had announced that for some with later tokens it would be a long night, and invited the crowd to eat the free dinner being served to one and all, and to rest in the nearby Amrita Vidyalayam school while awaiting their turn for Amma's darshan. As this news is posted, Amma is still giving darshan. The sun rose on a new day to find Amma doing what she has done every day of her life—embracing, comforting and inspiring humankind.

## Amma Receives Peace Award

(28 Feb '09)

14 February 2009, Kozhikode



Amma was presented with Junior Chamber International's highest honor, the 'Shanti Swaroop' peace award. Amma was presented the award by Vallabh Das, Chairman of the Junior Chamber International Peace Award Foundation. The citation was read aloud by the president of JCI Calicut Chapter, Jaygopal Chandrasekharan. In his speech, Jaygopal Chandrasekharan said that Amma was selected for the award because she championed the causes of peace, love, spiritual freedom and justice among humanity amidst strife over caste, creed, color, language and gender.

Accepting the award Amma said "As far as Amma is concerned Her children are her award. Amma accepts the award as a symbol of the dedication and love of the Jaycees towards Amma. Amma wants to rededicate this to her beloved children. But the true award to Amma would be if all of her children would make some space in their hearts, have some compassion for those who are suffering in the world. If that were possible we could make this earth into heaven." Santosh Kumar (JCI's national vice-president) and Jayadhir (zone president) were also present on the occasion.

## Amma's Madison Satsang will offer IAM Training

IAM - Integrated Amrita Meditation Technique

will be offered in Madison:

Saturday, April 15, 2009

8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

at the Friends Meeting House at 1704 Roberts Court.

For more information call or e-mail Sharad at:

(608) 257-6229

[iam.dayal@yahoo.com](mailto:iam.dayal@yahoo.com)

For registration information logon to:

[www.ammamadison.org/iam.html](http://www.ammamadison.org/iam.html)

The IAM - Integrated Amrita Meditation Technique® is a powerful way to reconnect with our real center, our inner Self, and thereby experience true joy and peace in life. Born out of Amma's deep resolve for our spiritual enhancement, this technique, when practiced with dedication, is designed to bring about integration in our lives - an integration of body, mind, intellect and heart.

For details please see <http://www.amma.org/events/iam.html>.

## Upcoming Local Amma Events

*(All events are at Madhu and Sajan's home unless otherwise specified.  
Directions are at the end of this calendar.)*

**March 10, 5:00 pm (Tuesday)** - Service at Community Meals Program (lasagnas needed).

**March 15, 1:00 pm (Sunday)** - Chanting of Lalitha Sahasranama (1000 Names of the Goddess). You are welcome to join this practice whether or not you stay for the meeting that follows. You are also welcome to attend even if you are not familiar with the practice. It provides a wonderful atmosphere in which to meditate. We have a few spare chanting books in various languages (English, Telugu, Tamil, Hindi and Kannada) if you want to

join.

*"This worship will bring prosperity to the home and peace to the world. It will be an atonement for sins committed. One will gain strength, longevity and good health. Every nerve in our body will be vitalized by the Thousand Names of Sri Lalitha. The atmosphere will be purified. Mother is making a resolve that the effects of undesirable planetary conjunctions, evil forces and other negative energies will be counteracted by the worship." —Amma*

**March 15, 2:00 pm (Sunday)** - Monthly satsang meeting. Includes Amma's teachings, Amma's bhajans (devotional songs), arati (waving light before Amma's picture) and a vegetarian potluck. First timers are welcome to come and enjoy the meal without feeling obligated to bring anything.

**March 16, 6:30 pm (Monday)** - Service at Grace Church Homeless Shelter. \*\*Please respond to this e-mail if you plan to attend.\*\*

*Custom notes: Please label dishes that contain wheat or peanut products.*

*Our more traditional Hindu members prefer offerings to be egg free.*

For events in Milwaukee, contact [AmmaMilwaukee@gmail.com](mailto:AmmaMilwaukee@gmail.com)

For events in Oakbrook , IL , contact [bcnair3021@gmail.com](mailto:bcnair3021@gmail.com)

For events in Fairfield , Iowa , contact [info@amma-fairfield.org](mailto:info@amma-fairfield.org)

For events in downtown Chicago , contact [rebeccaanderman@hotmail.com](mailto:rebeccaanderman@hotmail.com)

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Directions to Madhu and Sajan's home  
2 Willowbrook Ct. (608 848-5033)  
Verona Road to Hwy PD ( McKee Road )  
Right onto Hwy PD  
Left at first light onto Nesbitt Road  
Continue straight through the 4-way stop at Maple Grove Road , onto Cross Country Road

First right — a very short block — onto Ambleside  
Corner of Willowbrook Court

Please park on Ambleside or in our hosts' driveway,  
so as to avoid over-parking the Willowbrook cul de sac.

*Please share these announcements with anyone not on our list who might be interested.*

*In order to protect the nonprofit status of Amma's organizations,*

*Amma Satsang mailing lists are used solely for the humanitarian activities of Sri Mata Amritanandamayi.*

*To unsubscribe from this list, please reply with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.*

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