

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.

*There is love, and then there is Love.
You love your family, but not your neighbor.
You love your parents, but not others' parents.
You love your religion, but not all religions --
some you even dislike.
You love your country, but not all countries.
This is not true but rather limited love.
Transformation of limited love into Divine Love
is the goal of spirituality.*

-Amma-

Amma's Madison Satsang will offer
IAM Training

IAM - Integrated Amrita Meditation Technique

will be offered in Madison:

Saturday, Oct. 3, 2008

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

at the Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court.

For more information call or e-mail Sharad at:

(608) 257-6229

iam.dayal@yahoo.com

For registration information logon to:

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>.

The 56th Birthday Celebrations of Amma

(27 Sep '09)

27 September 2009 — Amritapuri

Amma's 56th birthday celebrations took place in Amritapuri on 27 September 2009. Devotees had been arriving at Amritapuri for the past week in order to celebrate the auspicious occasion in Amma's presence. The programs took place in a tent erected just across the backwaters at Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham. The morning began with the conducting of Maha-Ganapati Homa. This was followed by the chanting of the Sri Lalita Sahasranama Archana for world peace and happiness. Afterwards Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri arrived at the program grounds, where he gave satsang. Amma arrived at the program grounds around 9.15, after taking a boat across the backwaters. Upon her arrival, Sri Guru Pada Puja was conducted by Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri. Amma was then garlanded by all of her senior sannyasins.



Amma delivered her annual birthday address. Amma said, “There are two important days in our life. The first is the day we are born. The second is the day we realise why we were born. But for many people this second day never comes. They live mechanically from the day they are born to the day they die. We will only be able to appreciate the beauty and magnitude of life when we realise its true purpose. Today, we are squandering our precious powers of thinking and discrimination on insignificant and impermanent things. Once we become caught in this cycle, it is very difficult to get out.” She also spoke about cultivating discrimination, the importance of compassion and the effects alcohol is having on modern society. Upon the conclusion of Amma’s address, the 2009 Amrita Keerti Puraskar was bestowed upon Prof. K.V. Dev for his meritorious contributions to spiritual-philosophical literature. The award was presented by last year’s Amrita Keerti Puraskar recipient, Prof. Vasudevan Potti. Next, the members of the Alappad Panchayat Karyogam offered purnakumbham to Amma to the playing of pancavadyam. As part of its Amrita Sree self-help group program, the Ashram distributed 32 new sewing machines to women forming an Amrita Self-Help Group in Wayanad. These were officially given away by K.C. Venugopal, MP, Alappuzha. Renowned tantric artist and editor-in-charge of Malayalam Manorama Weekly, K.A. Francis, offered a painting to Amma—titled, Matru Padam Lakshmi Padam.



Amma's birthday saw the release of a number of new publications—some by MAM and by outside publisher. Mathrubhumi Press released 'Amma Makkalodu' by Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi. The first copy was given to Vellapallai Nateshan, General Secretary of SNDP Union, by K. Gopala Krishnan, former Chief Editor of Mathrubhumi. MAM released three new books, plus a special Matruvani Birthday Supplement. The first book was Bhagavad-Gita: Garimayum Cila Santvanoktikalum by Swami Turiyamritananda Puri. The first copy was given to 2001 Amrita Keerti Puraskar Recipient Acarya Narendra Bhushan, by Prof. Vasudevan Potti. The second book was Swami Ramakrishnananda Puri's Atyantika Vijayam, a Malayalam translation of Ultimate Success. The first copy was given to K.C. Narayanan, Chief Editor of Bhasa Poshini, by P.K. Krishnadas, the Kerala State President of the Bhartiya Janata Party. A new English book by Swami Ramakrishnananda Puri, The Timeless Path, was also released. The first copy was given to C. Dinakaran by former MLA Rajan Babu. The first copy of the Matruvani Birthday Supplement was given to former central minister O. Rajagopal by Swami Pranavananda of Panmana Ashram. Next, 56 people from the local area took a formal pledge before Amma to spread awareness regarding the dangers of drugs and alcohol. This was followed by a mass marriage for impoverished 56 couples, conducted by Amma, for which the Ashram bore all expanses in terms of dress, gold ornaments and food, etc. Upon the conclusion of the marriages, Amma began giving darshan to one and all. Cultural programs were performed by students of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham and Amrita Vidyalayams.

A Story from Amritapuri

Premarupa (Kenna Del Sol), formerly of Madison, shared this wonderful story sent to University staff by an Assistant Dean at the Engineering College in Amritapuri. The reference to the "pandal" is to the vast roof covering put up for Amma's Birthday, which was again this year held on the college grounds.

Namah shivaya

I wanted to share with you all an interesting conversation I had with one of our First year ECE students this evening. His name is Anand. Some of you may be able to relate to it. I have heard innumerable such stories over the past 17 years since meeting Amma, but coming from our own student, related in such an innocent style, I had to share this with you.

I was walking along the grounds under the huge pandal this evening, when this boy came up to me. He wanted to know where the food serving counters are going to be for tomorrow's mega birthday event. I pointed out to him the possible places and asked him whether he was enjoying the event and whether he was glad he stayed back for the birthday, unlike many of his classmates who ran away home. He replied "Of course sir, this is so thrilling. I had heard of the earlier Amritavarsham event in 2003 The first time I met Amma was also in a very big event- the brahmasthanam festival in cochin 2006".

So I said "Oh, you met Amma in 2006?"

"Yes Sir" He replied " I met Amma in 2006, but have been a devotee since 2000 itself".

"Really?" I asked him "How come you were a devotee for 6 years without seeing Her?"

" The circumstances of my life were like that sir" he replied.

And then he proceeded to tell me his story:

"Sir, Amma saved my life " he continued. "I was extremely sick with a combined cerebral encephalitemeningitis. The doctors had given up hope and I was in a coma for several days I was initially down with a high fever .. My parents gave me some paracetamol thinking that it was a normal fever. But the fever continued, and they admitted me into the city hospital. The doctor there also could not diagnose what it was, and gave me some more paracetamol injections. My blood test showed an ESR count of 72! (the normal is supposed to be around 15, and if you have an infection it goes to 30 or so.. 72 is dangerously high!) But still the doctor couldn't diagnose what was wrong with me.

"Meanwhile I was getting delirious and slipping into a coma My parents had just heard of AIMS, started by Amma whom they had never met. The doctor in the city hospital recommended that they take me to AIMS, as it was a super specialty hospital, but he warned my parents that there was very little hope.

As a last resort, my desperate parents took me to AIMS. There there was one Dr.Subramaniam, and team who conducted some tests. He took some serum from my brain and spine, and came back with the worst possible diagnosis- I had both cerebral encephalitis and spinal meningitis. Both my brain and spine were almost gone, and there was very little hope. I was in a coma at that time.

He told my parents that there was literally no hope left, and that even if by some miracle, I survive, I would mostly end up being paralyzed or like a vegetable with no memory, speech, cognition etc.

He told my father that the only hope was Amma. Other than some miraculous intervention, there was no hope. My father , who up till that point, had never met Amma or heard much of Her, out of sheer desperation started praying to Her.

..... well, my fever started subsiding .and i started improving. My father would sit next to me and ask me questions "What is your mothers name? do you remember me ?" etc etc .. in an attempt to get through to me and try to see if I would return to my senses.

One day, he again asked me " What is your mother's name ".. to which i didnt reply .. then he asked me some more questions and again he asked me , trying one more time "What is your mothers name ?"

I suddenly replied "Gita ".... my father's eyes overflowed with tears of joy.. the doctor came running and told him that surely there was hope now... and I came back to normal....

For my parents and me, it is clear that it was Amma who saved my life.. After this , I have written 7 books and poems , he said."One of my books was appreciated by Dr.Adbul Kalaam, and another was recommended by the Indian society of letters".

Hearing this narrative from the student, I was quite stunned. He has come back from a coma, and written 7 books! And received a letter of appreciation from Dr.APJ!!

"Wow" I said.. Did you tell your classmates about this story of yours?", I asked him. He replied "yes sir,some appreciate it but some of them dismiss it as some luck or coincidence that i survived" .

I then asked him if I could share his story with other people, and he readily agreed.(Hence this email).

And then I asked him something to which his answer blew me away:

"Did you dedicate your books to Amma ?" I asked him.

To which he replied with a sweet smile :

"SIR, MY WHOLE LIFE IS DEDICATED TO HER!!!! ".

OM AMRITHESHWARYAI NAMAHA

-bala-

Upcoming Local Amma Events

*****Please note: October Lalitha Sahasranama chanting and Satsang meeting will be held at the home of Sarah and Leo Sirios**
Please see directions below.***

October 13, 5 pm (Tuesday) - Service at Community Meals Program (lasagnas needed).

October 18, 1 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 this worship. —Amma

October 18, 2 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.

Custom note: Our more traditional Hindu members prefer the offerings to be egg free.

For events in Milwaukee, contact AmmaMilwaukee@gmail.com

For events in Oakbrook , IL , contact bcnair3021@gmail.com

For events in Fairfield , Iowa , contact info@amma-fairfield.org

For events in downtown Chicago , contact rebeccaanderman@hotmail.com

Directions to Sarah and Leo's home
184 State St., Oregon WI (7 miles south of Madison)
(608) 698-9462
Beltline to Hwy 14 South
Travel 7 miles, go past 1st Oregon exit
Take 2nd exit to Oregon/Stoughton, Hwy 138
Turn right on Hwy 138/Janesville St.
Turn left on State St.
Brown stucco house is on left

Parking available in driveway or street

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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.