



Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

January, 2004

Mission Statement:

We aspire to live the teachings of Haidakhan Baba, to hold this Ashram as His home, to serve humanity, and to be stewards and caretakers of the land.

Looking Ahead to a Full Year by Ramloti

As we begin this New Year, I wish to give thanks for the many blessings that Shri Babaji and the Divine Mother continue to bestow on this Ashram and on our lives. No small part of that blessing is all of you that give so much to the Ashram through your prayers, love, service, friendship, and support. On behalf of the Ashram Board of Directors, I would like to extend to all our gratitude and wishes for blessings, peace, and love in your lives and in the world this New Year.

One of the ways that we continue to support the growth of peace and love on this earth is by reaching out with Babaji's message. Here are the 2004 programs.

On January 11, Prem, Carol Huffman, and I will lead an evening of aarati, chanting, slides, and satsang in Delray Beach, FL at Sal and Serena Morello's (561-274-0883). The following evening we will do a similar program in Jupiter, FL. at Jim and Sari Terusa's (561-744-9123).

We will then travel to Treasure Island, FL. and meet up with Lok Nath on January 15, 16, 17, and 18 at Sharda and Jeffrey's resort for a Babaji Weekend of fire ceremonies, aaratis, chanting, slides, and satsang. They have several rental cottages for all of the devotees on the property; they fill up fast, so call them soon at 727-363-0800.

On Sunday, February 1, I will be in Fremont, CA (510-656-7520) for a fire ceremony, chanting, and bhandara. I will present an evening of slides and chanting in San Diego (858-509-3069), call for dates and time.



We will then all gather at the Ashram in Crestone on Saturday, February 14 to commemorate Shri Babaji's Mahasamadhi. This being the 20th year since Babaji left His body, we will have a specially large celebration with fire ceremony, bhandara, paduka puja, and late night chanting.

The following Thursday, February 19 we will celebrate Shivaratri with all night chanting and a fire ceremony the next morning at 10:08am followed by a bhandara.

Spring Navratri, the lovely Divine Mother Festival will be ten days this year. The dates are March 21 - 30. We hope you can join us for this time of prayer and ceremony to Ma.

Prem and I will lead a Midwest tour of fire ceremonies, chanting, aarati, slide shows, and satsang beginning in Memphis, TN (901-756-0285) on April 29 - May 1. We will then be in Columbia, MO on May 3 - 4 (573-499-0070) and will finish in Fairfield, IA on May 6 - 8 (641-472-9952).

We hope you can join us for these events.

Shri Shastriji

by Alok Banerjee



The Haidakhandi Samaj is today bereft of one of its most valued jewels as Shri Shastriji passed away on November 19 at the age of 97. Shastriji said of himself that he "followed Babaji like a shadow". He accompanied Babaji on His many journeys through India in his capacity as the Chief Priest performing the ritual of hundreds of fire ceremonies, inauguration of many temples, and reading and rendering the Devi Bhagavatam during the many, many Navratri celebrations.

In his own right, Shri Shastriji was an eminent scholar of Sanskrit and the Vedic Shastras of India, which was amply proved during his constant quotations from the Vedas. The Haidakhandi Samaj will always remain indebted to Shri Shastriji for the Haidakhandi literature single-handedly authored and contributed by him.

Navratri, Diwali,



Fall Navratri was lovely, as always with many folks joining in the ceremonies.

Here is a photo of some of the wonderful children honored on the last day.



Susie, Ramloti, & Cassandra at the Paduka Puja in

Delhi, India. It was Susie's (Ramloti's sister) and Ashram Board Member, Cassandra's first trips. They loved it and want to go back.

Tour Report

by Saradambe

What a blessing we experienced during the West Coast Tour in San Francisco, Berkeley and Fremont with Babaji's Padukas, Ramloti, Prem, and Lok Nath. It felt like we were all in the center of a hurricane of Divine Energy.



The beautiful aarartis, fire ceremonies, pujas, and satsang at all the locations were so powerful. Many of us had visions or other deep experiences. Babaji's and the Divine Mother's gentle, at times playful, and powerful presence could be felt strongly. How can you describe the PRESENCE of the GURU or the LIGHT that guides us into the magnificence of our true Self. No words possible. Just the unbelievable fact, Babaji was here!

& India by Ramloti



Diwali was so well attended that most of the people could not even sit down. It was very clear that the new kirtan hall is needed. The evening was very special with representatives from the Zen Buddhists, Shinji Shumeikai, and Shrove Chapel joining us and sharing their chants of peace and light. Hundreds of candles added to the awe of the evening.

Kirtan Hall Fund Raising Update

The response to our fund raising for the new kirtan hall has been gratifying and we definitely plan to begin construction in Spring. We have already purchased the straw bales and all the sub-contractors are in place. Our building fund now stands at \$120,000. We do feel confident that we will be able to raise the funds for the first phase of construction (\$172,000). We still have a long ways to go toward our goal for total completion of \$298,000.

There are many ways you can support this project. If you are able to volunteer your skills for a period of time this spring or summer, our contractor will put you on the crew. The skills needed range from general clean up

and moving straw bales to carpentry and other expertise. Every hour of karma yoga work saves the Ashram the money that would otherwise be paid to a hired laborer. Another way to support the project would be by donating funds to help support a karma yogi while he or she is working here. There is a place on the coupon for your donation as well as your pledge for a monthly donation.



Please think how great it will be to have a kirtan hall where we can all chant together in front of our lovely Divine Mother. There are so many times in the year when many of the people have to sit around toward the back of the temple or stand outside. Together we can do it!

It is time to update our mailing list. If you have a "T" on your mailing label, this will be your last newsletter, unless we hear from you. Please fill out the coupon below, call us at 866-686-4185, or email us at hua@amigo.net. If there is no letter on your mailing label, this is sent compliments of the American Haidakhan Samaj. Let us know if you would like to keep receiving it. Thank you.

Yes, I want to build the Kirtan Hall at the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

My donation for the Kirtan Hall Fund \$ _____ My monthly pledge for the Kirtan Hall \$ _____

My contribution to support a Karma Yogi \$ _____ I would like to be a karma yogi on the project _____

Donation to the Ashram General Fund \$ _____ I'd like to Sponsor a Fire Ceremony (\$108) _____

Credit Card #: _____ (Visa, MC, or Discover) Expiration Date: _____

Email me at _____ instead of sending me a hard copy of the newsletter.

Would you like to remain on the Ashram Mailing List? _____

Make checks payable to (HUA) Haidakhandi Universal Ashram and send to: HUA • PO Box 9 • Crestone, CO 81131

All donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your support.

Maha Lakshmi Shop by Annee Laird

We have so many beautiful new items in the shop with the recent arrival of goods from India. We now have linen/silk shawls in many colors (\$15 & \$25), beaded and mirrored saris (\$45), silver bracelets with gems (\$25), mirrored wall-hangings (\$40), multicolored cotton blouses (\$15), hand-beaded chunis (\$25), beaded hand bags (\$15), anklets (\$9), children's punjabi suits (\$25). We also have lovely, fresh supplies of our regular stock. Particularly gorgeous are the new heavily embroidered silk clothes (\$50 - \$60), silver earrings (\$18) and rings (\$17), silver om pendants (\$10), enameled bowls (\$6), and velvet sari tops (\$10). We also have four new CD's (\$18). Call us toll free at 866-686-4185 or email us at mls@amigo.net. Our website www.BabajiAshram.org has the catalogue in color!

Calendar for 2004

(Please note: Throughout the year we perform a large havan on every new-moon and full-moon.)

January 11	Aarati, slide show, and satsang in Delray Beach, FL at 7pm (561-274-0883)
January 12	Chanting, slide show, and satsang in Jupiter, FL at 7pm (561-744-9123)
January 15 - 18	Babaji Weekend on Treasure Island, FL (727-363-0800)
February 1	Fire Ceremony, chanting, and bhandara at Fremont, CA (510-656-7520)
February 14	Babaji's Maha Samadhi with fire ceremony, paduka puja, and bhandara
February 19	Shivaratri all night chanting and fire ceremony the following morning
March 21 - 30	Spring Navratri - Festival of the Divine Mother
April 29 - May 1	Fire Ceremony, aarati, and slide show, in Memphis, TN (901-756-0285)

Calendar for 2004 continued

May 3 - 4	Fire Ceremony, aarati, and slide show, in Columbia, MO (573-499-0070)
May 6 -8	Fire Ceremony, aarati, and slide show, in Fairfield, IA
July 2	Guru Purnima and 15th Anniversary of the Temple Opening
August 2 - 8	Children's Week, Fire Ceremony Workshop, American Samaj Meeting
October 14 - 22	Fall Navratri - Festival of the Divine Mother
November 12	Diwali - Festival of Lights



Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

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"In the world today, fire is bursting out on one side, while nectar flows on the other. You must decide if you choose fire or nectar. It is up to us to save ourselves and others."

Shri Babaji - April 7, 1983



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