

# Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

May, 2003

## *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.*

## Upcoming Summer Events by Ramloti

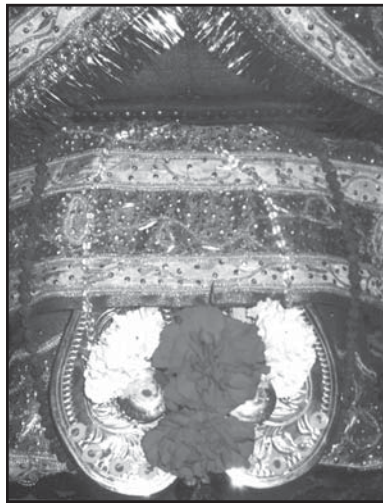
Summer is a wonderful time to visit the Ashram. The larger festivities begin with Guru Purnima, the day to honor your teacher, on Sunday, July 13. We will begin at 9:45am with a Paduka Puja and a fire ceremony at 10:08am followed by a feast.

Our next big gathering will be Children's Week and the Fire Ceremony Workshop. These two events run concurrently from Sunday afternoon, July 27, until Saturday, August 2. This makes it possible for parents of children five years and above to take part in the fire ceremony workshop.

Children's Week is a time specifically structured so that families can share a week at the Ashram in a very child-friendly way. Each day there are children karma yoga projects, art activities, chanting sessions, group meetings, and field trips to the hot springs swimming pool, hiking, and horseback riding. This year we will also have the opportunity to participate in a Children's Peace Journey with neighboring spiritual groups and traditions.

The Fire Ceremony Workshop will explore the sacred fire as it influences our lives and

our spiritual practice. It will give the participant the knowledge to conduct a small personal fire ceremony at his or her home. The facilitators of the workshop will be Ram Dass (JD Marston), Lok Nath, and Ramloti. All spent substantial time with Babaji and have lived with the fire ceremony for many years. We will also have leaders of other spiritual traditions speak about sacred fire. The suggested donation for the fire ceremony workshop is \$108 and there are scholarships available.



*Babaji's Padukas (Sandals)*

On Saturday and Sunday, August 2 and 3, the Ashram will host the Annual American Haidakhand Samaj meeting. The weekend will be full of aratis, chanting, satsang, and culminate with a large fire ceremony and feast on Sunday morning. The actual meeting will be held from 10am until 1pm on Saturday. This is a great time to share your ideas about spreading the message of Shri Babaji throughout the country.

The suggested donation for staying at the Ashram is \$135 per week for adults and there is no charge for children. Please read the website about staying at the Ashram and call or email us to reserve a space.

# Recent Events & Festivals by Ramloti

Amidst our prayers and concerns for the welfare of the world, we have continued offering the Ashram as a gathering place for prayer and ceremony to the Divine.

On February 14, we commemorated Babaji's Maha Samadhi, the day He left His body nineteen years ago. The temple was filled to capacity as we began the paduka puja (washing of Babaji's sandals). The aarati and chanting that followed were deep and full of devotion for our beloved Babaji.

In March we celebrated Shivaratri with all night chanting and a fire ceremony the next morning. The temple was full with many drummers, harmonium players, percussion players, and chanters, making it easy to stay up chanting all night.

Even heavy snow did not keep devotees of Shiva away on this special night!

Spring Navratri was celebrated at the Ashram in early April. This time is set aside to thank the Divine Mother for all of Her bounty and grace She bestows on us. The weather was mostly warm and lovely with over 100 people participating in the last day's festivities. The 35 children honored



*Mother with two of Her Navratri helpers*

were truly divine in their innocence, politeness, and gratitude. The generosity of many of the local community members and long-distance participants that organized, cooked, served, and cleaned up made me realize that Babaji's adesh to build

ashrams where many people can learn to live and work together is becoming a reality.

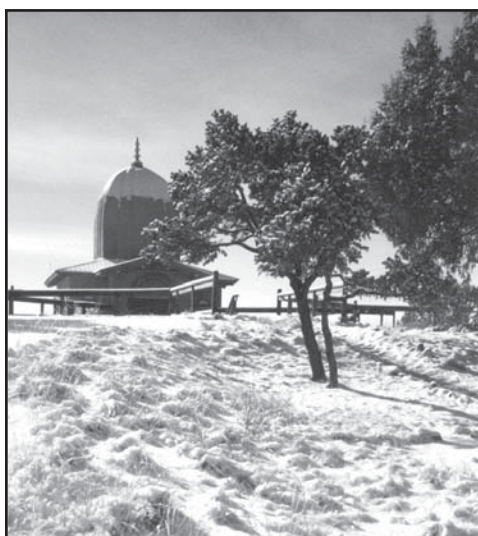
# Winter at the Ashram by Annelou Perrenoud

You may have heard the Ashram described as a Pilgrimage Center. It is true that with an ever-increasing number of drop-in visitors, many of them Indian nationals who like to receive darshan from Mother Lakshmi, we deserve this new definition.

But the original purpose of HUA has not changed. We still offer Babaji devotees a chance to practice living in truth, simplicity, and love and to experience a lifestyle based on devotion and karma yoga.

Visiting the Ashram for special occasions is very inspiring, but spending longer periods of time, especially during the quiet

winter months, can also be highly rewarding. With less visitors, the atmosphere is more intimate and family-like. There is the great silence, of course, and the closeness to nature--more pronounced in the winter when we are



dependent on the sun for warmth. With early night fall, we're exposed to the glorious spectacle of the stars, so rarely seen near cities. And the sunsets can be breathtaking. When it snows, it is a most glorious sight, and even sweeping the paths can be fun. So, if you've been tempted to join us as a karma yogi, we invite you to come anytime, even in the winter.

# A Raffle to Fund the Kirtan Hall

When we were building the dormitory, several generous devotees came forward to offer items for a raffle. Once again we have three exciting prizes to offer in a raffle, this time to fund the kirtan hall. Tickets are only \$10 each, 12 for \$108, and 120 for \$1008. The drawing will take place at the Annual Samaj meeting in August and winners need not be present. The prizes are:

A six-hundred dollar shopping spree from Streit Exotics Designs website, [www.streitexotics.com](http://www.streitexotics.com) which specializes in unique, luxurious silk bedding and home accents made from original, exclusive silks.

A week of lodging between Sept. 1 and Dec. 22 at Whispers, a peaceful and charming hideaway nestled on the calm waters of Treasure Island. You can watch the pelicans, dolphins, and herons play as you lounge next to the pool in the wonderful Florida



*The model of the temple and new kirtan hall*

sunshine. The one bedroom cottage can sleep up to four people. Look at [www.whispersresort.com](http://www.whispersresort.com) for more details.

A 20x24 color giclee print of your choice from the website of J.D. Marston ([www.jdmarston.com](http://www.jdmarston.com)) valued at \$780. The print comes archivally mounted and matted to a finished size of 31x34. J.D., aka Ram Dass, is an Ansel Adams award winning photographer and has recently been inducted into *Who's Who in American Art*.

Just fill out the coupon below with the amount and we will send you the tickets. It is a fun way to help build the kirtan hall and a wonderful way to add beauty to your life.

We now have nearly \$105,000 in the kirtan hall account. With an estimate of \$298,000,

every ticket is very important toward reaching that goal. Thank's to all of you.

## Newsletter on the Net

Our newsletter is now available in a PDF file on our website. Would you prefer to receive an email notice each time one is published rather than receiving a hard copy in the mail?

Please fill in the information on the coupon below and we will email you.

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for raffle tickets at \$10 each (12 for \$108 or 120 for \$1008) to build the Kirtan Hall

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

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

Send me an email at \_\_\_\_\_ that the newsletter is on the web instead of a hard copy.

*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

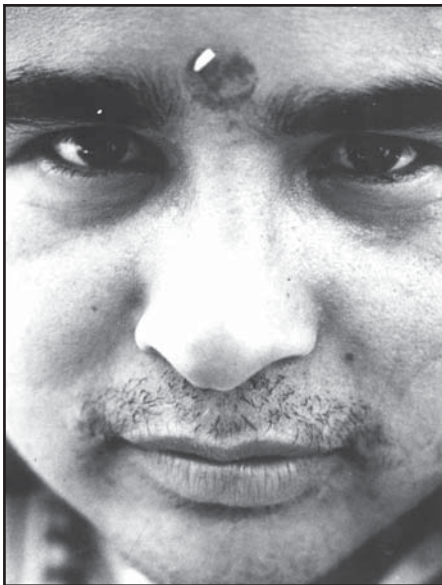
Our new shipment from India is on its way and due to arrive the middle of May. We are expecting 40 large crates of brass murtis, dollaks (drums), malas, perfumes, books, and marble murtis. This will be our first time to stock marble murtis. We will have 9 inch murtis of Haidakhandeshvari (the Divine Mother of Haidakhan) and Ganesh. They are beautiful and are made by the same murti maker in Jaipur that made our exquisite murti here in the temple. We are also receiving many new brass murtis with lovely new finishes.

We have just ordered a new CD from Goma due to arrive the middle of May. It is called the *Ocean of Devotion* and has the following chants on it: Om Namah Shivaya, Hey Shiva Shankara, Bolo Bolo Sab Mila Bolo, Jaya Mata Kali, Om Namah Shivaya, Oh Ma Ambe Ma, Om Kar Guruji, Mother Mantra, and the Peace Mantra. The price of the CD is \$18. Please call us with orders or questions toll free at 866-686-4185 or email us at [mls@amigo.net](mailto:mls@amigo.net). And remember that our website [www.BabajiAshram.org](http://www.BabajiAshram.org) has the catalogue in color!

## Calendar for 2003

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

July 13	Guru Purnima Day with Paduka Puja, fire ceremony, and bhandara.
July 27 - Aug. 2	Children's Week and Workshop on the Sacred Fire Ceremony
Aug. 2 & 3	American Haidakhan Samaj Annual Meeting
Sept. 26 - Oct. 4	Fall Navratri - Festival of the Divine Mother
October 25	Diwali - Festival of Lights



## Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

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toll free - 866-686-4185

[www.BabajiAshram.org](http://www.BabajiAshram.org)

[hua@amigo.net](mailto:hua@amigo.net)

*“When human beings come into this world, they forget their duty and they fall into the attachment of maya and into the concepts of “me” and “mine” and so they forget God.”*

*Shri Babaji - February 2, 1983*



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