

# MADISON SUFIS



## Fragrant Gold 2019 Fall Equinox A Note from Devi Tide

Dear Friends far and wide,

We are coming to a place where we feel like we can make choices rather than just be tossed around by life. Perhaps you are wondering ‘Will it make a difference if I plant a tree, or if I pray for a people or place in distress?’ This way of thinking is a break through of consciousness. It is here that we can begin to make a difference.

PVK: Our objective is awakening and awakening triggers off illumination. When the soul is awakened, you become a different person. Throw the light of illumination upon your problems.

Let the light of your interest show you where to move. Let your conscience (that small awareness inside you that knows) show you where to focus. For you it might be a desire to teach singing to children, and you will choose songs of hope. Or you might get into the habit of praying for those you love every day. Or call a friend to say how much they mean to you.

Perhaps you have passionate feelings about something. In the way of transformation let those feelings be a motivating energy. Focus/ concentrate/expect growth and change. We can have hope that the best possible future can blossom from the seeds of focus, concentration and prayer we sow. It is time to plant the seeds and nurture the seedlings with love and care.

Small steps, done regularly, make big effect.

May your life be blessed,  
Devi

(Continued on pages 4 and 5.)

## 3rd Friday Dances Return

September 16

In-person at the new  
Tai Chi Center and via Zoom

(see pg. 2)

## Continuing on Break

1st Friday Dances

Universal Worship Service

## Special Event 2023

In-person Retreat

with Tasnim and Saadi

March 30 -April 2, 2023

(see pg. 6)

### **Ziraat Lodge**

**Wednesday, September 14      Hybrid**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Rachel's Studio**

Ziraat uses a metaphor of agriculture to develop the mind and experience deep ecology. Don't come if you are not feeling well. Please contact either of us and a link will be emailed before this event.

Noor Rachel, Rachel.roang@gmail.com  
Gayatri, annaswegan@gmail.com

### **Dances of Universal Peace**

**3rd Friday, September 16      Hybrid**  
**7:00–9:00 p.m.      Long Dance Night**

#### **The new Tai Chi Center**

**1304 S. Midvale Blvd**

In person and via Zoom, we come together.

We ask that everyone in person be vaxed and boosted.

Please do a Covid self-test with a negative result on Friday.

This will help our community stay healthy. Masks are optional.

We look forward to being together again and may adapt Dances to generate a feeling of safety and ease.

[jamila@madisonsufis.org](mailto:jamila@madisonsufis.org)

608-338-0709

### **Healing Service**

**Sunday, September 18      via Zoom**  
**11:00 a.m.**      (Doors open at 10:45 a.m.)

You are welcome to join us for the Healing Service where we attune to the healing energy of the Divine Spirit. If you'd like to add someone's name to the healing list, please ask for his or her permission prior to contacting Gayatri. She would also be glad to send you a Zoom link to the service, if you'd like to join us.

Gayatri, annaswegan@gmail.com

### **Karima's Sunday Heart Gathering**

**Sunday, September 25      via Zoom**  
**11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Please join to honor *Autumn Equinox and the first eve of Rosha Shana-Jewish New Year*.

*Excerpts From Hannah Rosenthal service at Gates of Heaven.*

"Today we can count our blessings: The love we share with dear ones, The health and well being which are our portion. The great and little achievements that gladden our hearts. We can look back at any failures, and the agonies and heartaches that darken our world. May our intentions and prayers prepare us better to meet life with courage and inner strength.

We live at any moment with our total past. Every sunset we have ever seen has formed our sense of the beautiful. Every bar of music we have listened to is included in our response to the melody which now rings in our ears.

This is why it is so important that we be cautious in what we make of each day.

It will be with us always."

Please call Karima a week in advance if you are new to class.

608- 338-0709

### **Sufi Songs and Teachings**

**Wednesday- September 28**  
**7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.      Hybrid**

We continue this class for Mureeds on the 4th Wednesday. Please contact Jamila if you are interested in attending this class. We will return to meeting in person at the home of Cynthia Alima.

Info and a zoom link will be sent in advance of the class.

[Jamila Joy, jamila@madisonsufis.org](mailto:Jamila Joy, jamila@madisonsufis.org)



Dear Companions on the Path,

I hope you are having a splendid summer. If you are dealing with difficulties, I wish you ease, and relief soon.

Sartaj, Ravan, and I were in Turkiye for two weeks and were overwhelmed by the hospitality of our Inayatiyya family there. The beautiful retreat we experienced together was followed by a visit to the sacred sites of Bursa and Iznik, cities of fascinating historical significance.

Afterward we traveled to the Zenith Camp in the Swiss Alps and spent two weeks in suhbat, retreat, and zikr with friends from many parts of the world. During the first week we were blessed by the presence of Dr. Scherto Gill, an eminent philosopher whose method is Socratic Dialogue, with an emphasis on posing just the right questions. Meanwhile, and afterward, we were uplifted by the music of Ravan, Sinan, Fereshta, and Ruhiya, and by the mystique of the mountain and its many moods. It was a hot and dry time, but on the last day, during zikr, the sky quenched us with a thorough drenching punctuated by booming peals of thunder.

During a Universal Worship at the Camp, Hayat Buus and Latif Brinck were given the blessing to serve as joint Peshkars (Vice Presidents) of the Kinship Activity in Europe. Hayat hails from Denmark and Latif is from Chile. Hayat and Latif will be succeeding Halim Knobel, who has served with distinction as European Peshkar over a number of years. One of Halim's many meaningful accomplishments was the recent publication of Murshid's **Social Gathekas**. Please join me in expressing deep appreciation to Halim and a warm welcome to Hayat and Latif.

Ravan has now returned to the U.S. and Sartaj and I are in Suresnes, France, at Fazal Manzil, Murshid's home. The Ṭūbā class of the Suluk Academy has just had its final session, culminating in a moving graduation ceremony in the Oriental Room. Ṭūbā was supposed to be an entirely in-person class, but lockdowns compelled us instead to meet online for a stretch. It was a great pleasure being back together with the group for this concluding session, breathing the same air.

Fazal Manzil is currently under renovation. Major repairs are needed so that gatherings can take place again in compliance with city codes. Many ashigs and murids have generously contributed to the effort, and there is a team here — including Latifa, Qahira, Sahar-un-Nisa, and Majid — that has been working hard to bring about the renewal that is now well underway. The expectation is that Fazal Manzil, with its renovated Khankah meeting space and its new museum and library, will be ready to receive visitors and host gatherings next summer, God willing.

Being here now, and witnessing the revival of the building's history and traditions, is inspiring. May Murshid's home continue to flourish as our blessed "Heartquarters" for long years to come. I hope you will come and visit after the reopening.

As you know, another place of importance for our lineage, the Abode, is also in transition. More information about the current state of things can be expected from the Trustees before long. For now, let me simply observe that in times of change, when fears are high and rumors are swirling — when, as Kipling would say, all about you are losing their heads and blaming it on you — what glows most brightly is the faithfulness and consideration of one's sincere, stalwart, and sober-minded friends.

Regarding communication in the midst of complex situations, and in life in general (which always seems to tend toward complexity, at least in our day and age), Confucius put it well when he advised, "Listen much, keep silent when in doubt, and always take heed of the tongue; thou wilt make few mistakes."

Let me close with some good news. I am pleased to let you know that, following a period of reorganization, Suluk Press has strongly re-emerged under the leadership of Beatrice Upenieks. A handsome, updated edition of the definitive *Biography of Pir-o-Murshid Inayat Khan* is now in print, and more titles are just around the corner. Suluk Press' redesigned website definitely bears visiting and can be found [here](https://mailchi.mp/inayatiyya/the-zephyr-august-2022?e=a1b0ed6cb0). Shams may have thrown Rumi's books in the well, but he also inspired him to write a book that contains endless sacred truths. The right book at the right time can work wonders.

May a great blessing be inscribed for you in the Book of Life.

Yours ever,  
Pir Zia

## **Fragrant Gold 2019 Fall Equinox** (Continued)

### **Practices for this Quarter:**

#### **Personal Practices:**

#### **First loosen the ties that bind you-**

Here is a practice from Pir Zia:

Lift the head up with the back straight and release tension from the shoulders.

Say “Praise be to Thee”, lifting the weight of the world back and dropping it down off the shoulders. With that comes a sense of exaltation in the chest, the heart.

As the weight falls back and down, the heart rises forward and upward. The back is straight but without tension.

One feels as though the head is floating in the air and the spine hanging down directly like a marionette on strings.

#### **Now let yourself be transformed-**

From Pir Vilayat (a light practice):

Now imagine that you, the perfect, healthful you, is right before you, a light image in the color purple.

Let you, as you feel now, be sitting as you are, colored light blue.

As you sit, let the purple image slowly impose/merge itself on you, taking over the light blue one.

*Discover in you the same power that moves the universe.*  
~ Pir Vilayat

## **Fragrant Gold 2019 Fall Equinox** (Continued)

### **For the World:**

From the heads of the 6 activities of the Inayati Order worldwide (The Message Council)

### **Inayati Order Climate Statement**

*For the mystic, nature is bread and wine, the soul's nourishment.... Every leaf of the tree is a page in the holy book that contains divine revelation.*

– Hazrat Inayat Khan

One spirit animates all of creation, bringing forth the radiant splendor that is the web of life on Earth. Our lives are embedded in and sustained by this web. The very air we breathe embodies our interconnection and interdependence within Earth's living system.

As we awaken to the sacredness of creation, we discover that beneficence is our moral imperative.

The current ecological crisis caused by human activity is upending the natural world, and fomenting climate disruption at a scale that endangers the lives of millions of human beings and countless species and ecosystems world-wide, now and for future generations.

How can we renew and uphold our spiritual values, and live in accordance with them? How are we inspired to act at this time?

The sanctity of our Earthly home and our shared responsibility for its care compel us to adopt measures to immediately reduce harmful impacts. We call upon each of us, our extended communities, and those in spheres of power to:

- curtail use of fossil fuels, deforestation, use of hazardous chemicals, and all other practices that damage the web of life;
- make choices concerning consumption, diet, finance, agriculture, transport, housing and activism that focus on protecting and restoring the natural world.

## Gatherings offered by the Inayatiyya this fall. . .

**The Whorl & The World: A Conference of Animals  
w/ Zia Inayat Khan & Friends  
Seven Sundays, September 18th - October 30th, 2022**

**Creating a Beautiful Mind  
A Six-Week Daily Practice Series w/ Amida Cary & Jacob Miraj Ellenberg  
September 26th - November 4th, 2022**

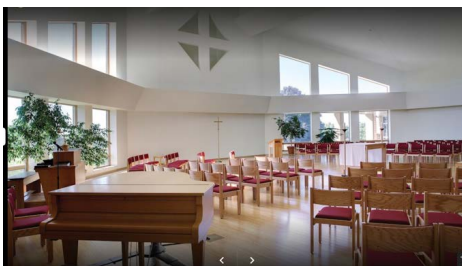
**Universal Worship Convocation 2022  
The Roslyn Center, Richmond, VA & Online  
September 29th - October 2nd**

Go to the link below for more information on the gatherings and to register.

<https://mailchi.mp/inayatiyya/the-zephyr-august-2022?e=a1b0ed6cb0>



**SAVE THE DATE  
TASNIM & SAADI RETREAT  
MADISON, WI  
HOLY WISDOM MONASTERY  
MARCH 30 – APRIL 2, 2023  
INFO:  
BASIR@MADISONSUFIS.COM**





September, 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Ziraat 6:30 pm  Rachel's studio outside if possible	15	16 Dances of Universal Peace  Hybrid 7:00-8:30 pm	17
18 Healing Service  via Zoom 11:00 am	19	20	21	22 Autumnal Equinox	23	24
25 Karina's Heart Gathering  via Zoom 11:00 am -12:30 pm  Rosh Hashanah begins at sunset	26	27 Rosh Hashanah ends at nightfall	28 Sufi Songs and Teachings  Hybrid 7:00-8:30 pm	29	30 Rumi's Birthday  1207	

## **Milwaukee Area Activities**

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### **Milwaukee Universal Worship Service**

First Sunday, September 4  
10:00 a.m.

Call Sara for info at 414-299-0218.

Love & Peace

### **Dances of Universal Peace** **Waukesha/Delavan WI Circle**

The **Third Thursday September 15**, an evening dance circle  
will be held beginning at **7:00 pm.**

We offer choice: meet and sing collectively,  
or join via virtual format.

**Yes, it's hybrid!!**

**In person at United Unitarian Universalist**  
**506 N. Washington Ave. Waukesha.**

This venue is encouraging all to be vaccinated  
and take additional precautions.

Registration not required although RSVP is helpful.  
No cost to participate.

Zoom link is available from Pranja Patti Kies  
pattiburncake@hotmail.com or (262) 642-9289

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