

MADISON



Dear friends,

The upcoming retreat with Saadi and Tasnim
The Light that Shines in the Darkness

scheduled for March 30-April 2, 2023
in Madison, Wisconsin has been cancelled.

All payments will be refunded.

Saadi has experienced unanticipated complications in his recovery from hip surgery. He has tried every angle possible to make his trip to the US work, but has come to realize that he simply will not be able to travel at this time. All three of the US events have been cancelled.

For those who wish to support Saadi, he welcomes your prayers. His wife Natalia asks this:

Every time you think of him, imagine him in light, or more exactly see the LIQUID LIGHT pouring into him, and especially into the area of his right hip.

This light is PURIFYING, and it is HEALING. For those of you who think of yourselves as not being able to visualize (although you totally can)) just THINK LIGHT.

Perhaps something new will arise from this loss and if so, we will surely let you know.

Peace and Blessings,
Basir for the Madison Sufis

P.S. if you have questions for me, please use
basir@madisonsufis.com email address.

Phone messages can be left at 608-338-0709

Dances of Universal Peace

Tai Chi Center
1304 S. Midvale Blvd

7:00–9:00 p.m.

1st Friday, March 3

3rd Friday, March 17 *

* Long Dance Night

Dancing the Aramaic Lord's Prayer

Good Friday, April 7th

7:00–9:00 p.m.

Venue TBD

The Aramaic translation and movements of the prayer are the work of Murshid Saadi,

Stay Tuned for more info.

Jamaila, jamila@madisonsufis.com

March Activities

Ziraat Lodge

Wednesday, March 8

4:30 p.m.

via Zoom

Ziraat uses a metaphor of agriculture to develop the mind and experience deep ecology.

Noor Rachel, Rachel.roang@gmail.com

Gayatri, annaswegan@gmail.com

Spring Universal Worship Service Spring

Sunday, March 12

via Zoom

11:00 a.m. - note the time change

Please join us for a celebratory Universal Worship . We will be singing our way to Spring. The time changes Sunday morning, so lets gather at 11:00 am (which will feel like 10:00 am)

Universal Worship is a wonderful service which celebrates the world Religions as One message. We will still be on zoom, so it won't be quite as fun being able to hear everyone.. but you can mute your mike and sing along to your hearts content. We invite you to have a Gayan reading ready to share.

Rachel.roang@gmail.com

Healing Service

Sunday, March 19 via Zoom

11:00 a.m. (Doors open at 10:45 a.m.)

You are invited to join Noor Rachel for the Healing Service, a sacred attunement to the Divine Spirit of Healing established over a century ago by Pir-o-Murshid Inayat Khan. We shall take this time together to offer healing, blessing, ease and solace to those in need through prayer and silence.

If you'd like to add someone's name to the healing list, be sure to ask for his or her permission prior to contacting Noor Rachel or Gayatri. You may also request a Zoom link to the service from either of the conductors.

Noor Rachel, rachel.roang@gmail.com

Jamaila, jamila@madisonsufis.com

Sufi Songs and Teachings

Wednesday- March 22

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Hybrid

This class for Mureeds continues on the 4th Wednesday. Class will be held in person at the home of Cynthia Alima. You are welcome to attend in person if you have taken a rapid Covid test on the day of class and the result are negative.

Please contact Jamila if you are interested in attending this class. She may have Covid tests available if you arrive 20 minutes before we start.

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

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

Karima's Sunday Heart Gathering

Sunday, March 26

via Zoom

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Come join for welcoming in the **Spring Equinox!** Our time together will be on contemplation of new life and what seeds we are planting.

Come join and share what you are wanting to plant in your heart at this time and inspirations of what is calling to your beautiful being.

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

Karima, 608- 338-0709

We see that the time for nature to awake is the spring. It is asleep all winter and it awakes in the spring.

There is a time for the sea, when the wind blows and brings good tidings, as if it awakes from sleep; then the waves rise.

All this shows struggle, it shows that something has touched it and makes it uneasy, restless; it makes it want liberation, release.

Every atom, every object, every condition and every living being has a time of awakening.

Hazrat Inayat

Introduction to the Emerald Contemplations

How do we practice chivalry toward the natural world in which we are interwoven? In the same way that a herald seeks a moral relationship with fellow humans by reflecting on the Iron, Copper, Silver and Golden Rules, as Emerald apprentices we can enhance our moral relationship with the myriad forms of life around us by reflecting on the Emerald Contemplations. No ten thoughts, even those carefully culled, can encompass the fullness of our relations with the natural world. May these contemplations be an orienting compass for exploring your own living experience of Nature, within and without.

Contemplation involves setting aside thoughts and preconceptions and opening to direct experience, including our visceral and emotional responses. Opening one's heart to the beauty and wonder of Nature kindles intuition and insight and leads to gratitude and moments of delight.

These contemplations are appearing at a time when Nature is being routinely plundered, polluted, and destroyed. This reality compels us to refresh our relationship with the natural world through love and awakened conscience. We each have a role to play in restoring balance in the human relationship with Nature. Please allow these contemplations to enter you through your breath, your thoughts, your feelings, your senses as seed thoughts reminding us of the precious gifts of Nature and invigorating our commitment to protect and restore them.

To receive an Emerald apprentice ordination, please contact the Knighthood of Purity Vice President at knighthood@inayatiyya.org.

Recite and reflect upon each Contemplation once a day, starting with the first, over a forty-day period. During the day be aware of your behavior in relation to that Contemplation. It takes 400 days to complete the practice. Upon completion, the Emerald apprentice will be invited to a ceremony to be recognized as a Guardian of Nature.

My conscientious self:

Sense the presence of Nature in each breath.

Know yourself as a tendril of the living Earth.

Listen to the sacred voice of Nature within and without.

Open to the beauty and wonder that Nature inspires.

Offer respect and gratitude for Nature's bountiful gifts.

Draw strength from the Earth, give kindness in return.

Honor all the inhabitants of Earth as kin.

Consider how your choices affect the future of the whole web of life.

Strive to protect and restore the natural world.

Delight in the sun, the rain, the trees, the creatures, the soil, the breeze.

It is easy to look at the world today and wonder how one person can possibly help the Whole move through the process of transformation we are experiencing.

I'd like to give you some simple things you can do.

If you practice one of these things regularly you will help to diminish the strife in the world.

If you practice two of these things regularly, you will be joining in with the large number of people who are turning the flow of life to a new direction.

If you do all three of these things regularly, you will become a beacon of lightness, transformation and healing.

***Before doing anything,
link in with the Source of All –
whether you call this Life, the Universe, Nature, God
– let your self connect.***

The Divine Light Illuminates my life's path.
I live, move, and have my being in God (the Divine/Universe/Love/Nature etc).

- 1) Watch your thoughts. If a thought about the world comes up, assume that this is the way the Divine is asking you to help the situation or person. Assume you have an inner 'phone line', always connected to the Source of Healing, and ask that this that just came to your mind, be healed or transformed or helped. Then assume that you have been answered and go on to the next thing in your life.
- 2) Watch your feeling heart. If you find that something has struck your heart deeply, assume that which has struck you deeply has asked for someone to notice – to care. Assume you have an inner 'phone line', always connected to the Source of Healing, and ask that this thing that just touched your heart be healed. Then, as if those ones were in the room with you, say aloud to them that you have heard and have prayed for them/asked for help. Send love and lightness. It is helping. Then go on to the next thing in your life.
- 3) Notice what comes to you that needs change. If something comes to you - assume you are always connected to the Source of Healing. Imagine that the situation is different. See it clearly in the new way, as if the new way is made of light. Then let the new way superimpose itself on the old, and take over. Give thanks and then go on to the next thing in your life as if it is done.

Important:

Remember that you are not doing the healing when you are linked in to the Divine Source. Trust.

After doing any of the three things above, you must move your mind and heart on to something else, as if the problem is over. Don't dwell.

If something comes to your mind, heart or experience again, do the process again. Then go on. If you find yourself obsessing or worrying if it helped, stop the practice and ask for help for yourself, to grow in faith. Be passionate in your asking. Then go on in your life. Trust that it is working.

Check out other E-Casses at <http://sufihealingorder.org/resources/library/e-classes/>



March, 2023

The Zephyr February 2023

Dear Companions on the Path,

May this find you well. I am writing to you on my phone from a picturesque room on the top floor of Naulakha—otherwise known as Maulabakhsh House—the house in Baroda in which Murshid grew up. With me here is Pirani Sartaj, close by are many family members, and across the courtyard are our Inayati guests, Tarana, Shams Al Haqq, and Ruhiya. As I write, I can hear Tarana singing Murshid's songs from the Minqar-i Musiqar.

We've been in India for more than a week now. Our first days were spent in Delhi, visiting the tombs of the saints and poets, and searching for—and indeed finding!—writings of the great Delhiite Sufi theologian Shah Waliullah, whose Sata'at and Lama'at I mentioned in a recent Zephyr. I experienced great serenity at Shah Waliullah's grave, which is inconspicuously situated in a little-frequented cemetery in Old Delhi. There was also an exquisite atmosphere at the tomb of Bibi Fatima Sam, the lady saint for whom Khwaja Nizamuddin Awliya had so much affection and esteem. When someone inaptly asked Khwaja Nizamuddin whether as a woman she could rightly be considered a saint, Khwaja Nizamuddin pointedly replied, "If a tiger leaps out at you from the brush, do you ask, 'Is it a male tiger or a female tiger!'"

Murshid's resting place, or Dargah, is where it is because the land was offered by the then-custodian of Khwaja Nizamuddin's shrine, Murshid's friend and admirer Khwaja Hasan Nizami. This year's anniversary program, or Urs, lasted three days. On the third day, February 5th, we carried an embroidered sheet from the tomb of Khwaja Nizamuddin to the tomb of Murshid, where we recited prayers and listened to ecstatic music. Throughout the three days, music of a very exalted kind was pervasive, and the sounds of several instruments—violin, sitar, vina, rabab, santur, tabla, pakhavaj, tambura, and voice—together wove a tapestry of rhythms and tones as bright and fragrant as the golden sheet we carried through the urban village. You can [find more pictures here](#).

Another splendid highlight of the Urs was the lively and impressive presentation made by students of the Hope Project, the initiative established by my father in the 1970s to help impoverished people in the district to meet their needs and find a promising path forward in life. The Hope Project has become a model for similar projects throughout India and beyond, and for good reason. One can see with one's own eyes how the Hope Project is creatively answering great needs, and in doing so transforming the circumstances and outlooks of individuals and families over multiple generations. For more information about the Hope Project and how you can get involved—as I did nearly thirty years ago when I worked there for a year as a volunteer—[please click here](#).

What moved me most of all during this year's Urs was the consecration of two new maqams, or shrines, within the complex: the first dedicated to Murshid's Murshid, Sayyid Abu Hashim Madani, and the second dedicated to Murshid's daughter Pirzadi-Shahida Noor-un-nisa. This expansion of the Dargah was made possible thanks to the ongoing support of the Murshid Mohammed Ali Khan Foundation and the indefatigable efforts of Dr. Farida Ali, who looks after Murshid's Dargah, and Syed Mustafa Kaleemi, who looks after Sayyid Abu Hashim Madani's Dargah in Hyderabad. The two new memorials contain relics (tabarrukat) of Sayyid Abu Hashim and Pirzadi Noor respectively. Soon after visiting her father's grave following his sudden departure from the world, Noor composed the "Song to the Madzub," in which she expresses her earnest longing to find rest at the feet of her father. With the dedication of the new maqam, in a powerfully symbolic fashion Noor's wish has been fulfilled.

In this world, happiness and sadness are rarely far apart. In the midst of these blessed days of pilgrimage we received the news yesterday of the terrible earthquake that wreaked such utter and unimaginable destruction in Turkey and Syria. The pain and grief is simply beyond reckoning. In our meditation sessions in the Birth Room we are lifting up heartfelt prayers. At certain moments one is given a glimpse of the mobilization of the angels and spirit guides in great numbers who are tending to the transitioning souls and the shattered hearts of those they have left behind. As truly horrific as the tragedy is, just behind the curtain one is able to witness an enormous outpouring of love and light from the depths of existence, meeting what has happened with a care (inayat) beyond all limits. May we who still live in these bodies of matter ally ourselves with the invisible ones who are responding to the need, and offer what help we can, both spiritually and materially. Below please find information as to how those affected may be helped.

Yours ever,
Pir Zia

As of February 14th, the death toll in Turkiye and Syria has surpassed 40,000. We continue to pray for the situation. If you wish to donate money to support relief efforts, [here is a list of organizations that we have put together](#) in consultation with friends and the team at [Closer Than You Think](#).

Pir Shabda's February 2023 Message

March, 2023

Dearest Family,

Greetings of the Heart as the days are gradually getting longer here in the Northern Hemisphere!

We had a beautiful retreat in Costa Rica, which is also a heaven for birds. Now I am getting ready for many events in a row.

We start with the [Sufi Sesshin](#), March 5-10, then [Murshid Wali Ali's Memorial Celebration](#), March 12. Next is India with our Living Wisdom Council putting on an event at the Golden Temple in Amritsar on and around World Water Day, leaving March 16 and returning March 27. Lastly a journey to Colombia April 1 - 15, for the [Atlantida Eco-village Retreat](#).

Sweetly, our in person monthly [Zikr Circle](#) is growing with some 40 zakirs attending in February. Our next gathering is March 2nd with the new start time of 7:30 pm, before all my travels begin.

May your practice be deep and steady, your ability to weather all the changes in life be resilient and your realization and service grow daily.

Much love,

Shabda

Text and Commentary to Study

This month we begin reading Hazrat Inayat Khan's ***Gatheka on Mental Purification*** with commentaries by Murshid Samuel Lewis and Murshid Moineddin Jablonski

Read and contemplate Chapter 1, pages 1-14

[Click here](#) to download the document

[Mental Purification Commentary](#)

Memorial Celebration for Murshid Wali Ali Meyer

*Saturday, March 12th
1:00 - 3:00 pm (CDT)*

Ruhaniat will do their best to broadcast this event via Zoom

For more info and Zoom link go to:

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Murshid-Wali-Ali-Memorial-March-12th.html?soid=1120499716705&aid=U-rujlrC60c>



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
<p style="text-align: center;">Ramadan March 22 to April 21 During this time, Muslims observe a holy month of fasting, prayer, reflection and community.</p>					Dances of Universal Peace Tai Chi Center Hybrid 7:00-8:30 pm	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			Ziraat 4:30 pm via Zoom			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Universal Worship Service Note Special Time: 11:00 am Daylight Savings Begins Set clocks forward		Ramadan			Dances of Universal Peace Tai Chi Center Hybrid 7:00-8:30 pm	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Healing Service via Zoom 11:00 am	Spring Equinox		Sufi Songs and Teachings Hybrid 7:00-8:30 pm Hybrid Ramadan begins in the evening			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday Heart Gathering via Zoom 11:00 am						

Milwaukee Area Activities

Milwaukee Universal Worship Service

Exception for this month:
Milwaukee UW
First Sunay, March 5th.

10:00 a.m.

Call Sara for info at 414-299-0218.

Happy Winter!

Dances of Universal Peace Waukesha/Delavan WI Circle

Note the change to **Thursday** evening

Hybrid on March 16th at 7 p.m. CT

We will concentrate on the theme **Vulnerability**

506 N. Washington in Waukesha

Through spiritual practices, chants and movement, we will hold those across our planet who are in pain, and vow to do what we can to no longer be the cause of difficulties for others.

Families and friends of any age are welcome.
All words and steps are taught.

All are welcome to step into our circle!
Registration is not required although RSVP is helpful.
No cost; free will offering accepted.

Zoom link/info available from Prajna Patti Kies
pattiburncake@hotmail.com or call (not text) 262 642-9289.

Madison Sufis
PO Box 46463
Madison, WI 53744-6463