

Haidakhandi Universal Ashram Newsletter

Connect with the Ashram



Shop

February, 2015

www.babjiashram.org

Message from the President

Dear Friends,

When good people come together, good things, even miraculous things, begin to happen. Our trip to Florida was full of these happenings this year.

You can read about all of the wonderful events and gatherings further down in the newsletter, what I want to focus here on is the energy and miracles that took place on Treasure Island. When we travel to Sharda and Jeffrey's home the energy, which is already very high, seems to accelerate. I believe this is because we remain in one place for several days with daily fire ceremonies and do paduka pujas, sing aarti, and bhajans, and have satsang in their little temple which has been there for eight years and for 15 years if you add the years in their previous house. Energy in these sacred places grows with love and devotion so much so that it was hard to go out of the temple even though it was 2pm in the afternoon and we had not taken any food yet that day.

Our daily fire ceremonies on their deck overlooking the ocean are always sublime. Several new attendees joined us on Wednesday morning, Makar Sankrant. After the fire one gentleman burst into tears and shared that his eighteen-year-old daughter was dying in the hospital and had not been eating for days. He asked for our prayers and support. We heard from him the next day that she was eating again. A few days after that he reported that she was doing much better and even able to be of help to others in the hospital. Now, two weeks later she is out of the hospital!

The next morning, Jeffrey was taking their dog, Asha, on a walk on the beach. Asha went up to a woman that was trying to meditate between her tears. Her name is Kathleen and she had just received news from her doctor that her cancer had spread throughout her body and had been told she had not more than four months to live. Jeffrey invited her up to their house. She shared with



us and then joined in for a morning yoga class with Sofia, the morning paduka puja, aarati, and fire ceremony. All of this was brand new to her but she felt renewed in body and spirit by it all. This is what she wrote:



"My dear Ramloti, what a joy you all were to me! What blessings I received! It was all so so real, so amazing! Such healing love and grace I am forever grateful. I truly felt the divine in all of you. My husband finds it hard to believe I am so at peace and in God's Faith that I am healed in more ways than cancer! I want with all my heart to see you all again to bless you with the kindness you all blessed me with. God indeed sent me to you. Angels abound on this earth, sunrises and sunsets give us God moments every day and I promise God to do His Will for as long as I live. I give humble thanks to God and you for as long as I live. The red sari you gave me is so special to me, you have nooooo idea."

"Your messages of love and peace fill my brokenness to a depth of intensity that is new to me. My healing is on going! I believe with such a faith I am healed in so many levels. I thank God. Meeting you all was no accident. I touch your beautiful sari

you gave me with such respect and love I can't truly explain. The depth of gratitude I have for you all and all that happened to me at Jeffrey and Sharda's home and the beautiful temple is huge. You are forever in my heart, my soul, I feel so cemented to God and all things divine."

That evening was to be our last, so many of us went to dinner together before we dispersed to our homes in Washington DC, St. Louis, Denver, Crestone, Seattle, South America, and various places in Florida. We were a merry group of diners and our waitress took such good care of us. Toward the end, she asked us where we were all from. When she heard the wide geographical points, she asked how we knew each other. Dharmananda shared that we were part of the Babaji Family. She wanted to know more and when he shared she was shocked because she had just told her friend that morning that this new year she was committed to finding a spiritual path to follow. We connected her with the local Babaji folks and left her with cards and invitations to come to the Ashram in Crestone. Oh it is such a blessed world.

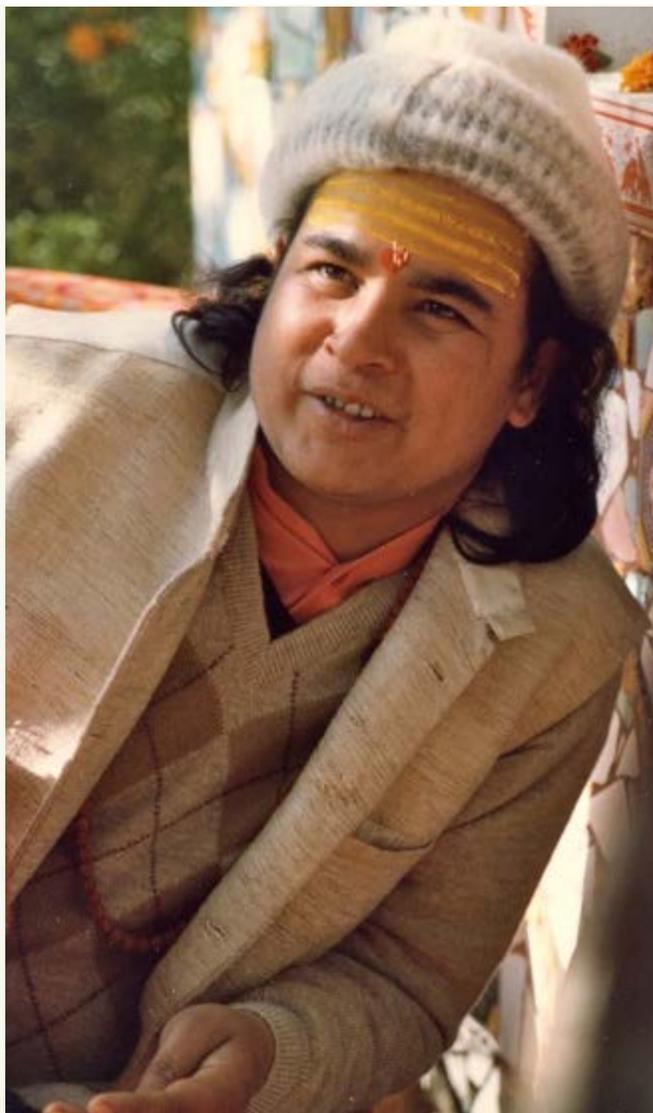
Finally I want to share some of what Sharda and Jeffrey wrote to me after our departure from their home:

"The house is still buzzing with so much divine nectar. The wonders of Baba's Taj (turban), continue for me. I cannot thank you enough for bringing it. Wearing it, I felt Baba melting into me. I had a huge family situation to deal with right after you left and I went to my old way to handle it. Then I felt Baba and my experience changed in my being and I instantly understood with compassion and forgave. My eyes have been opened differently and I truly feel a different person. Divine nectar is everywhere around me and within me."

"The energy of Baba gets stronger and stronger each year as you all visit. I would also like to say for me for the first time it felt and continues to feel as if I am in Haidakhan. I never thought I would have this feeling outside of Haidakhan. I could not imagine feeling Baba so strongly outside of India. But even now as I write you, over a week later, I feel Him sitting next to me, standing in front of me, even inside of me, darting around everywhere. As if when I reach out I feel Him solid but as yet cannot or do not see that form as solid. The energy next to me is denser in form than in other places.

"Ramloti, do you think Baba is coming back very soon to reveal Himself and play with us, or at least play with me about this. He seems to be saying, "Come and find me", to only find He is here already.

"The whole five days were like being in the Ashrams in India, so full of wonderful leelas. I felt Baba there so often. Playing with us, having fun. Especially in the morning when we went into the Temple, it was so joyous. We together, all of us, created something magical, happening. We, I think, allowed ourselves to share Babaji more deeply through each other, everyone of us playing our part. I experienced the huge gift of being together and I felt this is how His energy is reflected, felt on earth, through us, individually and more strongly as a group."





I am once again so grateful to be part of Shri Babaji's play in this world.

In Truth, Simplicity, and Love,
Ramloti

Ceremonies and Schedule

The full-moon fire ceremony this month is on Tuesday, February 3 and the new-moon fire ceremony is on Wednesday, February 18 (the fire that completes the all-night chanting for Shivaratri). The fire ceremonies begin at 10am and are followed by a meal. Please arrive a few minutes early, freshly bathed, in a long skirt or pants with shoulders covered, and having fasted from grains, cereals, meat, eggs, garlic and onions. Fruit, yogurt, nuts, veggies and tea or coffee are fine to eat before. Also, if you have a dietary need for something more hearty before our meal at 11:30 or so, please partake.

Our evening aarati is at 6pm and morning aarati is at 7am, with a paduka puja in Shri Babaji's kutir at 6:30am. Lunch is served at about 12:30pm, and we invite you to join us. (Call if you are a group or have special dietary needs.) The Maha Lakshmi Shop is open every day from 10am until 5pm.

If you would like to participate by sponsoring a fire ceremony or a bhandara (feast), we would like to send you a blessed item from the fire ceremony if you request. They are:

\$27 sponsorship - Copper, brass, nickel Om Namah Shivaya bracelet

\$54 sponsorship - Rudraksha, Rosewood, or Tulsi Mala

\$108 sponsorship - Rose Quartz Mala or a copper, silver, brass Om Haidakhandi bracelet



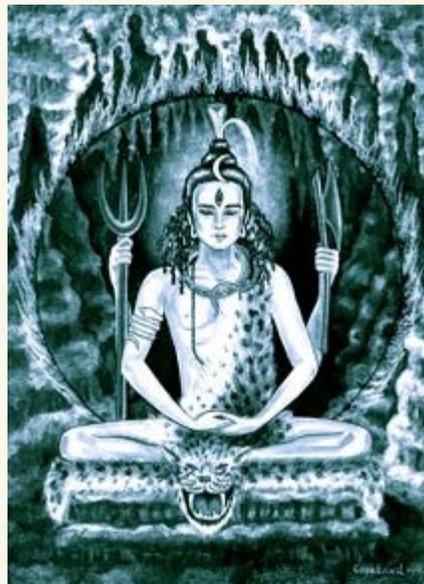
You can make the donation online by just [clicking here](#) or by calling 719-256-4108, or by emailing the Ashram at info@BabajiAshram.org. You may also send us a check made to HUA to: P.O. Box 9, Crestone, CO 81131. We are continually grateful for all of your support of the Ashram.

Join us for Maha Shivaratri - The Night of Lord Shiva All-night Chanting on Tuesday, February 17 and Fire Ceremony on Wednesday, February 18

This special night is just around the corner. We hope you can come. It is always amazing how the energy keeps us chanting, playing music, dancing and honoring Lord Shiva with pujas at 7pm, 10pm, 1am, and 4am. The whole night often flies by on Shivaratri. We will have aarati at 6pm followed by the first puja. We will begin our all-night chanting on Tuesday night at 10pm with the second puja and continue until 4am. We will then take a break until aarati at 7am, fire ceremony at 10am and a feast at about 11am.

Shivaratri is said to be the night that Lord Shiva's energy is most present on the earth. Join with many other folks on this auspicious occasion to praise Lord Shiva.

For more information or to make a reservation email us at info@babajiashram.org. Om Namah Shivaya!



Spring Navratri - Saturday, March 21 through Sunday, March 29

We are preparing at the Ashram for our wonderful Spring Navratri when we thank and honor the



Divine Mother for all She provides for us. We are fortunate to have two weekends for this year's Navratri since it begins on Saturday, March 21 and ends on Sunday, March 29, but the rooms for both Saturday nights will fill quickly. So call or email with your reservations soon. These nine days are so magical that it is no surprise that so many folks want to come from around the world to be with our beautiful Mother.

She just never stops giving to us. I remember one day asking our then 90-year-old Shastriji if the bed we had for Mother was big enough. He smiled so sweetly and said. "Oh Ramloti, it is only symbolic. If Mother ever slept even a second, the whole cosmos would stop."

Please join us for these divine days that are full of chanting, aarati, fire ceremony, readings, discourses and karma yoga. You may call us at 719-256-4108 or email us at info@babajashram.org. Haidakandweswari Mata Ki Jai!

Get Ready for the 7th Annual On-Line Auction April 25 to May 3!

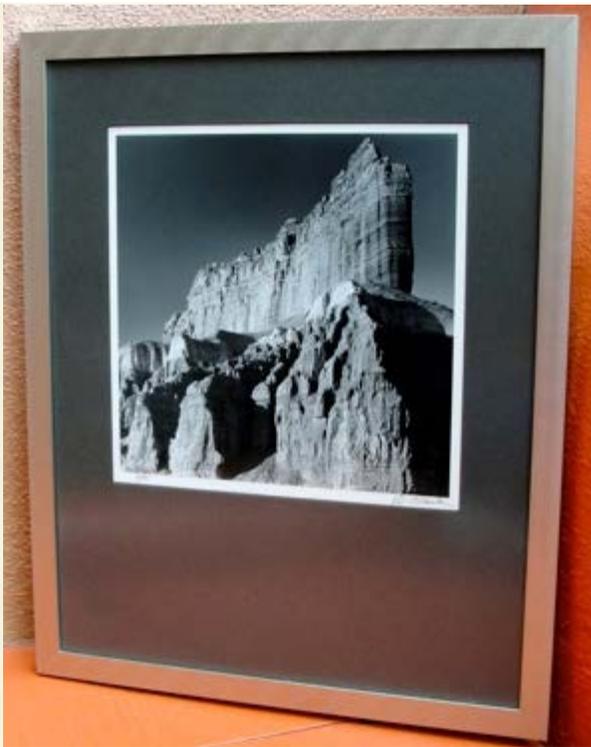
For the last six years the Ashram has raised a large amount of its yearly operating budget through this amazing on-line auction. We are tremendously grateful for all who have donated items, became sponsors, and bid on the items. Each person has been a part of the great success. It is such a fun way to support the Ashram.

The auction is set up and ready for viewing and we already have over 70 items and five sponsors. Just go to www.BiddingforGood.com/babajashram to see all the amazing and new items. There is a place on the website above for others to donate auction items or you can call Ramloti or Jessica at the Ashram at 719-256-4108. Every item makes a difference. You can also sign up to be one of the sponsors for the auction and your photo, logo, and link to your website will be on the auction page. Once again, you can also call us to do this.

When we work together, magical things happen. By Baba and Mother's grace and all of your support we have consistently raised about \$12,000 each year. Let's see if we can work together again and perhaps we can even do better this year. Maha Lakshmi Mata Ki Jai!

Here are some of the new, exciting items on this years auction. An artist proof from Rita Berault of Mother Saraswati; a hand-made pottery bowl by Crestone famous potter, Bertha Gotterup, and two mounted, matted, and framed fine prints from J.D. Marston.





Meet our Board Member, Rita Berault

In 1991 the Ashram here needed someone to take care of the Divine Mother while the regular pujari when to India, so I moved to the Ashram. I remained there for one year after which I got my own place in Crestone and have been here most of the time since. Several years ago I was asked to sit on the Ashram Board of Directors and I accepted. I have continued because I feel it is a way I can support the Ashram and its residents. I try to offer input that is helpful for the smooth running of it.

I am an artist and paint images of the Mother and other deities in mixed media. I show in several galleries in the area. I have also been graced to be the pujari here and I am so grateful. I love to dress and adorn the Mother and the other murtis several mornings a week. I live just down the hill from the Ashram and I am so happy to be involved.



Karma Yoga at the Ashram



This last month's karma yoga has been mostly snow removal, chopping wood, preparing for Navratri, and getting the on-line auction together. We are so grateful to all of those who can come help at the Ashram and to all of you that help make these projects possible by your financial donations. We ask each of you to look into your hearts and see what this Ashram means to you and to please donate as you are able. You may go to our website and [donate through PayPal](#) . (You can even set up a monthly tithe.) You can also send a check (made out to HUA) to P.O. Box 9, Crestone, CO 81131; or you can call us at 719-256-4108 with a credit card number. We want to thank you for your support, love and prayers.

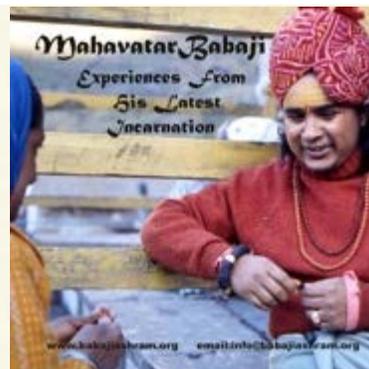
Recent Events

Screenings of:
“Mahavatar Babaji, Experiences from His Latest Incarnation”

We have had four major screenings now of the new DVD of Babaji devotees sharing their stories. All were wonderfully received, some had nearly fifty people in attendance. If you have not yet seen the clips on YouTube, here is the link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAU1dRW4K7I&feature=youtu.be>

We will put more up soon too. You can purchase the DVD or the download on the Maha Lakshmi Shop website at <http://mahalakshnishop.wazala.com/>



We also love to hear your feedback on the DVD as we plan to make more. Bhole Baba Ki Jai!

East Side of Florida Events



The Florida Tour was amazing again this year. Read the president's message for more stories about it. We had a wonderful chanting and slide evening in Delray Beach as well as a showing of the new DVD in Ft. Lauderdale. New and old friends were at both of these events and it is always a joy to come together in this way. Many thanks to Benicio and Denise for organizing these.



Moving up the coast a bit to Jupiter area, we had the celebration and inauguration of the new Havan Kund at Elaine and Tom Heroux's new home. This was full to the brim with people and enthusiasm, even the people golfing just behind their house seemed interested.



We then took Shri Babaji's Taj (turban) to bless Sari and Ayla's new home after the lunch at Elaine's. Their beloved husband and father and our very dear friend, Jim, passed away last summer, so moving on to a smaller home with less memories and maintenance was important for Sari and Alya. They are both doing well. Sari hosted us that evening at her center where we led some chanting and showed the DVD of devotees stories. It was well-attended and many people were inspired.



Our final program on that side of Florida was our yearly gathering at Sal and Sarena's Harmony House in Delray Beach. About thirty people joined us for puja, chandan, fire ceremony, aarati and chanting which ended in ecstatic dancing. The luncheon was divine, as always, after which we jumped in the car and the five of us headed over to the other side of Florida. Read below for that report.

West Side of Florida Events

The time on the West Coast of Florida was also a special treat. We did our yearly chanting and slide presentation at Sacred Lands in St. Petersburg and many people attended. What we noticed this year is that on top of the dancing and wonderful energy during the presentation, everyone wanted to linger afterwards asking questions. Some showed up for the ceremonies and Makar

Sankrant workshop the following days.



After paduka puja, aarati, fire ceremony, and brunch on Makar Sankrant, we had a workshop all afternoon at Jeffrey and Sharda's. We explored the experience of chanting, sharing how we were touched by it. Sofia Diaz led us in movement and processes to look at our inner fire and light. The workshop was well attended with folks coming from Georgia and all around Florida to attend. You can read about some of the miraculous experiences above in the President's message. The energy is always high and even the day was not as warm as we would have chosen, the afternoon plunge in the Gulf was wonderfully refreshing and renewing.



Here is what an attendee of Makar Sankrant workshop wrote.

"I was very happy to be at the ceremony for Babaji and I am still processing everything that happened into my soul and heart since it was the first time I ever experienced such a high because of spirituality.

"When I got home I had a message that I had lost my job even though taking the day off had been







Calendar for Events at the Ashram in 2015

February 3 - Full-moon fire ceremony at 10am followed by a meal.

February 17, 2015 - Shivaratri - All-night chanting followed by a fire ceremony at 10am on February 18 culminating in an Indian feast.

March 21 - 29, 2015 - Spring Navratri - Divine Mother Festival with daily fire ceremonies, pujas, discourses, reading, chanting and other ceremonies.

July 18 & 19, 2015 - Annual American Haidakhan Samaj Weekend and Meeting. Their new web address is www.babajisamaj.us

July 22 - 25, 2015 - Annual Family Week w/ concurrent Sofia Diaz Workshop.

July 31, 2015 - Guru Purnima Day with fire ceremony at 10am followed by a meal.

October 13 - 21, 2015 - Fall Navratri - Divine Mother Festival with daily fire ceremonies, pujas, discourses, reading, chanting and other ceremonies.

November 11, 2015 - Diwali, Festival of Lights.

Maha Lakshmi Shop Report

We have recently made beautiful refrigerator magnets with four different images of Mother and Shri Babaji. They are lovely and sell for only \$5. Here are the images, if you would like to purchase on line, just go to <http://mahalaksh Mishop.wazala.com/products/refrigerator-magnets/>



The Maha Lakshmi Shop is open every day. We can bless an item at Mother's feet for you if you ask. We are also happy to drop ship items for you to your loved ones. You may call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 and place your orders over the phone (every day from 10am until 5pm Mountain Time). We are happy to answer any questions. It is really nice to connect in this way. We take Visa, Mastercard or Discover.

The Shop is a major supporter of the Ashram, so we deeply appreciate your patronage.

Maha Lakshmi Mata Ki Jai!