

Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

Ashram Mission Statement

We aspire to live the Teachings of Haidakhan Baba, to share the Love of Babaji and the Divine Mother with others, to hold this Ashram as Their Home, to serve humanity, and to be stewards and caretakers of the land.

February, 2008

Dear Friends of the Ashram,

What has been most outstanding in my mind this month is the beauty of our Babaji community all



around the world. It is really so special to have family every where and that is how it has been. Moti Ma from Germany was a joy to have with us for three weeks, our phone calls to Shri Muniraji in India an inspiration, the support of all the folks setting up stops for us on the upcoming east coast tour gratifying and the love and warmth of all of our hosts on the west coast tour has been mind blowing. Read on for comments from many of our tour members about the trip, as well as many great photos.

We also had a wonderful children's program last month, with more programs to come throughout the year. One of our devotees in Denver organized an innovative fund-raiser with a yoga workshop, fire ceremony, chanting, and lunch. Read on to see photos and read reports of both of these programs.

In February, we begin a three week tour of the Eastern US. We sure hope you can join us for one of these high-energy evenings. Please let friends in the area know about them too. These tours are made possible by the generosity of our devotees around the country who will host us and organize the

events and by the [American Haidakhan Samaj](#) and the Ashram. Read below for the latest information.

On February 14 we will commemorate Shri Babaji's Mahasamadhi with a paduka puja at 5:30pm

before the evening aarati. There will be another children's program on February 16. It is never too early to announce that we will celebrate Shivaratri with all night chanting on Thursday, March 6 from 10pm to 4am. This is always such a high and blissful night.

Our evening aarati will remain at 6pm through the winter months. Morning aarati will continue to be at 7am. This month our new-moon fire ceremony is on Wednesday, February 6 and the full-moon fire ceremony is on Wednesday, February 20. All fire ceremonies begin at 10:08am and are followed by a meal. If you would like to participate by sponsoring a fire, we would like to send you a blessed item from the ceremony. They are:

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

\$54 sponsorship - Sandalwood Mala

\$108 sponsorship - Rudraksha or Crystal-Rudraksha Mala

You can make the donation on line by just [clicking here](#) or call 719-256-4108 or e-mail the Ashram at info@BabajiAshram.org or send us a check at P.O. Box 9, Crestone, CO 81131. We are continually grateful for all of your support.

In truth and love, Ramloti

Bal Gokulam (Children's Program) - Feb. 16

Our next children's program, Bal Gokulam, will be on Saturday, February 16 from 10am until noon followed by a potluck lunch. This month the focus will be on Maha Lakshmi. The children will hear stories about Her, learn chants to Her, and finish with a puja to Her. They will also share how Maha Lakshmi is present and supporting in their lives.

For more information on our program or if you would like to bring a dish for the next potluck lunch please contact Cindy 719-256-5007 or Shila 719-256-4477. Bal Gokulam is on Saturdays from 10-12 am and is followed by a potluck lunch. The dates for the year are:



January 12th

February 16

March 15

April 26

May 17

June 14

July 12

August 9

September 13

October 18

November 15

December 20

Upcoming Eastern Tour



We are very excited about the upcoming Eastern tour sponsored by the [American Haidakhan Samaj](#) and the Ashram. The members of the touring group are: Jason Almendarez (Jai Shankar) on percussion from Houston, TX; Ramloti on harmonium and vocals from the Ashram; Kailash on harmonium, dollak, and vocals from Crestone, CO; Prakash on dollak and percussion from Santa Fe, NM; and Frances Frischkorn on percussion and vocals from Colorado College; We will be doing a high-energy tour of kirtan, dancing, and Babaji slides called *Alive with the Divine*. Below see the dates, locations, and contacts. Call us at 719-256-4108 for more information and info.

Downloadable pdf flyers and the schedule are below, (For PDF direct download to your computer, if viewing in browser, PC: Right Click, Mac: Option+Click). Please print flyers and give them to your friends or post them at book stores, yoga studios, natural food stores....Don't miss this exhilarating event!

Date	Location	Venu	Time	Contact	Phone	PDF Flyer
Feb 14	Columbia, MO	Unity Center of Columbia - 1600 West Broadway	7:30 pm	Melinda Staley	573-499-0070	Download
Feb 15	St. Louis, MO	Yoga Source, 1500 S. Big Bend Blvd	8:00 pm	Brad	314-322-3192	Download
Feb 16	Lexington, KY			Frances	434-466-6936	
Feb 17	Atlanta, GA	Karin Kabalah Center, 2531 Briarcliff Rd. NE #217	7:00 pm	Alok	404-320-1038	Download
Feb 19	Aluacha, FL	Temple of the Universe, 15808 NW 90th St.	8:00 pm	Linda	386-462-7279	Download
Feb 20	St. Petersburg, FL			Jeffrey & Sharda	727-363-0800	
Feb 21	Plantation, FL	1501 S.W. 52nd Terrace	7:00 pm	Bob	954-792-0936	Download
Feb 22	Boca Raton, FL	Yoga South, 3500 NW Boca Raton Blvd. #731	7:30 pm	Sula	561-573-7416	Download
Feb 23	Jupiter, FL	Transformational Studies - 108 Intra Coastal Pt Dr	7:00 pm	Jim or Sari	561-744-9123	Download
Feb 25	Buckingham, VA	Satchidananda Ashram - Yogaville, IYA	7:30 pm	Jyoti	eMail	Download
Feb 26	Charlottesville, VA			Frances	434-466-6936	

Feb 28	Cranford, NJ	Sciascia Chiropractic - 1130 Raritan Rd	7:30 pm		718-448-0687	Download
Feb 29	Shrewsbury, MA	19 Sinclair Rd	8:00 pm	Nirmal or Indira	508-754-1242	Download
March 1	Shrewsbury, MA	19 Sinclair Rd. Fire Ceremony	10:00 am	Nirmal or Indira	508-754-1242	Download
March 2	Shaker Heights, OH	Unity of Greater Cleveland - 3350 Warrensville Center Rd.	2:00 pm	Kali Devi	216-295-1129	Download
March 3	Omaha, NE	Omaha Healing Arts Center, 1216 Howard St.	7:00 pm	Sandy	402-345-5078	Download
March 5	Colorado Springs, CO	Colorado College, Shrove Chapel	9:00 pm	Frances	434-466-6936	Download

Kirtan Hall Update



Even though it has been a cold and snowy winter, we have been warm in our wonderful kirtan hall. Before this addition, the heating in the original temple was never adequate and so we were very cold throughout the winter during aarati. Now we are quite comfortable and very, very grateful.

We are pleased to let you know that through your generosity, matching pledges, monthly tithes, and all of your shop purchases, we

continuing to pay down our kirtan hall loan. We continue to look for other ways to help pay this loan off more quickly, if you have any ideas, please call the Ashram at 719-256-4108.

We would like to encourage you to make a monthly automatic pledge to pay down the kirtan hall loan. Either call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 with your credit card number and ask us to charge a set amount every month (\$108, \$54, \$27, \$10.08....) or go to our website and ask PayPal to deduct a certain amount from your account each month, [Click Here](#).

We want to thank you for all of your continued support in this meaningful project. If you are able to contribute to help us pay the loan off, you can send a check to the Ashram at P.O. Box 9, Crestone, CO 81131 or donate online by [clicking here](#).

Recent Events

Fund Raiser in Denver

Shashi Agarwal of Denver came up with the idea of having a yoga workshop, fire ceremony, chanting and lunch at her home for a fund raiser for the kirtan hall. It was combined with a trip to Denver to pick up Moti Ma from Germany and Jai Shankar from Houston who were flying in for the tour.



The yoga class was conducted by a well-known yoga teacher in Denver, Sara Hurrle and was attended by about twenty people.



More folks kept coming, since it was a beautiful sunny day, which allowed us to do the fire ceremony outside. About thirty-five people attended the ceremony. We then went down to Shashi's basement where we sang bhajans. The whole event culminated with a delicious Indian feast for lunch. Thank you to Shashi and family for having this wonderful event and to all the families that helped with the sumptuous food preparation.

Bal Gokulam (Children's Program)



On Saturday, January 12, we ran our monthly children's program - Bal Gokulam. We started out with yoga, meditation and singing bhajans to get the kids focused and grounded. Our theme this time was Ganesha, the remover of obstacles. We shared the story of how Ganesha got his elephant head and how Shiva promised Parvati that people would always pray to Ganesha before they undertake any venture. The participants shared how Ganesha has helped and supported them and how they can ask for His support in the future. Jade said she will ask Ganesha to help her in horseback riding when

she gets to begin jumping. We did a puja to Ganesha and we started learning the mantras that are used in the puja.

To close our program, we went to the temple and experienced what a special place it is and how to support that with their behavior. The children realized that it is a quiet place and said it is important to be considerate of other people in the temple. While in the temple, Venture, the parent helping in the kitchen that day, came to bless the food with her daughter Fiona then it was time to go and enjoy lunch together. This time the parents also expressed how they enjoyed learning bhajans and learning more about the puja, so it is a special time for children and parents to learn about our tradition together.

West Coast Tour!!!!



The tour was great. There was lots of fun energy between tour members and all the people at the various venues. One of the highlights for me was spending a week in California, since I was born there and had not been back for forty years. Perhaps one of the hardest parts was driving over the snowy passes and putting chains on the van when you could not even feel your fingers. Thank goodness Jai Shankar was there to help me too.



I was amazed that five people could be in such a tightly packed mini van for so long and have so much fun together. I look forward to the East coast tour although the vehicle is even smaller for the five of us! **Bhole Baba Ki Jai! - Kailash**

All I can say is THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for those incredible 3 weeks of being a part of the BHOLE BABA BHAJAN BAND. For all the love I received, for all the joy I have been able to transmit. Endless thanks to Shri Muniraj ji who gave me the final push to go – and promise, I did not have even one Hot Dog, just lots of green smoothies – yum!.

Thank you Ramloti for taking so lovingly care of all of us. Thank you Kailash for driving us



safely even through the heaviest blizzards
and for your special kind of humor. Thank

you Amulya for your beautiful dancing and being such a joyful company. And thank you my little big brother Jai Shankar for your love and the swinging good times. Last but not least I want to thank all of you beautiful people who hosted us so generously and helped to make our trip easy and comfortable. May Shri Babaji and the Divine Mother bless you all. **With LOVE and LIGHT, your Moti Ma**

On the Road with the Bhole Baba Bhajan Band. By Amulya Ananda



I guess it all started at Diwali when Ramloti asked if I liked to "tour". I said, "Well, I just got fired, that sounds great!" Baba's blessings are so many and take place in strange ways sometimes. But luckily, I am trusting more and more these days. If I still had my work-a-day-job, there would have been no way I ever could have considered going on tour with the Bhole Baba Bhajan Band. But this did not seem like an accident and I heartily accepted the invitation.

The people that I have met on this tour have been so incredible. We were welcomed everywhere we went, whether it was at the Hindu Temple of Scottsdale, Ashkenaz in Berkeley, or any of the little gas stations along the 4,000 mile journey. What a humongous blessing to feel that we were bringing light and joy wherever we went, singing "Om Namah Shivaya" all the way.



I am so grateful to Babaji and to Ramloti for asking me on this tour. And to my band mates Moti Ma, Jai Shankar, Ramloti and Kailash for being my family for this 2.5 week period of time. Thanks to the Ashram and the Samaj and to everyone who supported our tour in so many ways. Jai Ma.

How blessed we were to be in the company of so many amazing individuals across the west who, in no time at all became life-long friends. From the very start of the tour in



Ridgeway CO., we experienced so much devotion and shakti from our group that joined us there as well as such hospitable care in Montrose that a successful tour was apparent.



Through New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada then back to good ole cold Colorado we were treated with such care and love by the Babaji devotees' so beautifully sprinkled

across the USA. I enjoyed in various cities where friends came and played with us during the chantings and shared songs of beauty with so much joy. You all were such a pleasure to see and meet. The memories of past and new friends will be cherished in my heart for eternity as family working toward the same goal. **Bhole Baba Ki Jai!! Jai Shankar**



The West Coast Tour was Super! So many memorable evenings of shakti and joy! In each place we stayed we were warmly cared for and showered with so much love. Thank you to all who made this possible. I was so happy to see both of my sons on the tour. Here I am applying chandan to Jacob before the fire ceremony in El Sobrante.

It is very interesting how each tour and its makeup have a life of its own. Serendipitous events brought the five of us together

for this tour and it was such a harmonious and fun group. You really get to know people traveling in a van for hours on end and sharing living spaces for 2 and a half weeks. At the end of it all, we were still laughing and singing. We were also good friends who came to see one another much deeper than normally happens. I am so grateful for the four new friends that I have made on this tour; Moti Ma, Jai Shankar, Amulya Ananda, and Kailash. Thank you for sharing this part of your lives with me and with everyone that got to partake of your beauty and love of life! **Bhole Baba Ki Jai! Ramloti**



A photo collage of the tour by Amulya and Moti Ma





How Our Children Grow

We were able to see some of our devotees' children on the tour, some of whom we had never even met before.

Randi and Howard had twins shortly after we saw them last year. They drove the forty-five miles to our Los Angeles venue and shared the love of little Jade and Judah with us.

Here Randi is shown with Sondra Ray and the two babies, who will be one-year-old this month.



Another treat in LA was seeing our old friends, the Trivedi family. Chandresh and Jai Shree moved to the Ashram in Crestone from Bombay, India about eight years ago with their three children. Their daughter, Premal, who also joined us for the evening program is now 26 years old and as beautiful inside as out.



Amil and Sarah Wood had a new baby in August. Benjamin is now 20lbs and quite the sweetheart. Gavin just turned three and is going to preschool two days a week.

We had an afternoon walk on the beach with them and then had dinner at their home in Del Mar, CA. while on the tour.

Our last stop on the tour was at the home of Cassandra and Vane Clayton. Cassandra served on the Ashram Board of Directors for several years before she got married. Their warm hospitality and large home were so appreciated.

It was wonderful to see how much their beautiful daughter, Sydney, had grown. She will be two-years-old this month. She is talking up a storm these days and seems to have insurmountable energy.



Finally, on the home front here are photos of Matias and Talus. Their momma, Angela worked at the Ashram before she had her children. Now she does the book keeping for us. It is always a joy when she and her family come to the Ashram.

Little Sage will be one this month. She and her momma, Claire (who worked at the Ashram before

she was born) and her daddy, Paul (who was the contractor on our dorm and kirtan hall) spent the last two months in Hawaii. We are happy they are home with us again in Crestone.



And despite the cold and snowy roads, Catherine and her children Elle and Silas came to the Ashram from Ft. Collins for a few days. Having lived in Crestone for several years, it was great to have them here for a visit.



Calendar for 2008

February 14 - Shri Babaji's Mahasamadhi. Paduka Puja at 5:30pm followed by aarati.

February 14 - March 5 - East Coast Tour. See newsletter for dates and locations.

February 16 - Children's Program, Bal Gokulam from 10am - noon followed by potluck lunch.

March 6- Maha Shivaratri with all-night chanting and fire ceremony March 7 at 10am.

April 5 - April 13 - Spring Navratri, nine days to honor the Mother. Daily fire ceremonies, pujas, discourses, and readings.

July 18 - Guru Purnima Day, the day you honor your guru. Paduka Puja at 9:30am, Fire ceremony at 10am followed by an Indian feast.

July 19 and 20 - Annual American Haidkakan Samaj meeting. To find out more about the Samaj go to their web site at www.BabajiSamaj.org

July 21 - 25 - Annual Family Week at the Ashram

September 29 - October 7 - Fall Navratri, nine days to honor the Mother. Daily fire ceremonies, pujas, discourses, and readings.

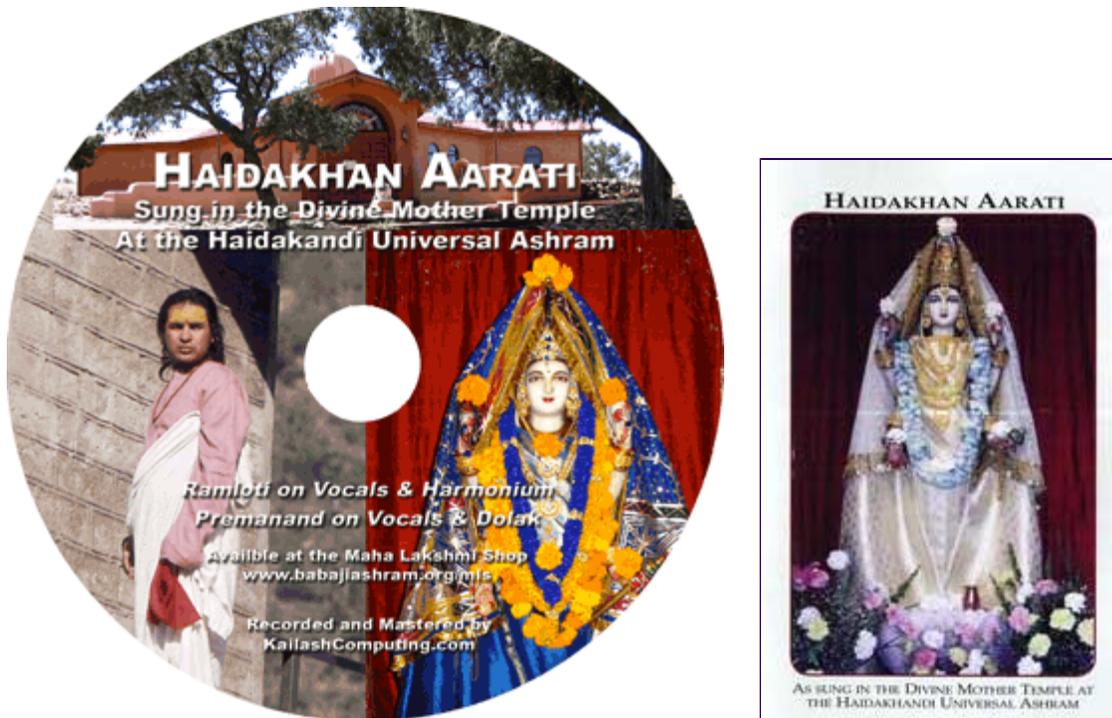
October 28 - Diwali, the festival of lights. Fire ceremony at 10am. Chanting at 7pm.

Maha Lakshmi Shop Report

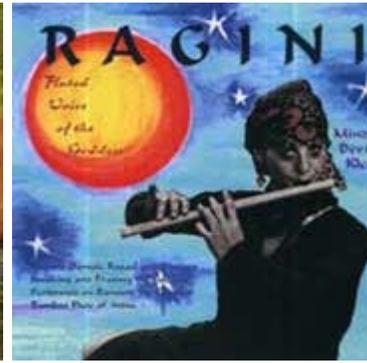
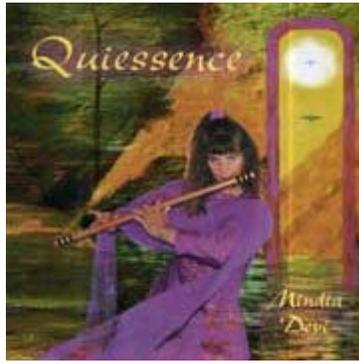
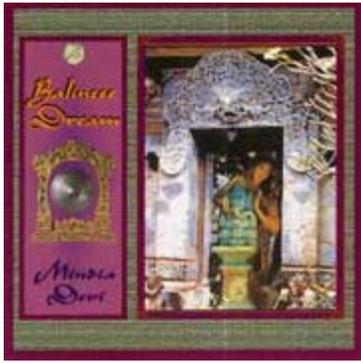
We have some great new music in the shop for you. Moti Ma brought her new CD from Germany with her. It is titled Divine Pearls and sells for \$20. We also have a good stock of her original CD, Shakti Wave, which also sells for \$20.



After years of playing aarati together and many requests, Premanand on dollak and Ramloti on harmonium, have made an aarati CD. It sells for \$18 and comes with an optional free aarati book which it follows exactly.



Mindia Devi played her beautiful flute at two of the venues in the San Francisco area. The Shop has replenished its supply of her three wonderful CD's. They are: Balinese Dream, Quiescence, and Ragini and all sell for \$20. We also have some of her cassettes of all but Ragini left in the shop and they and all of our cassettes are on sale for only \$6.



You can call the shop toll-free at 866-686-4185 to order or for more information. We are open daily from 9am until 5pm. We do take Mastercard, Discover, and Visa. To view items in the Maha Lakshmi Shop, please refer to our newly updated [web site at BabajiAshram.org](http://www.BabajiAshram.org).

You may [order on line](http://www.BabajiAshram.org) through paypal or e-mail us at shop@babajiashram.org, or of course, place the order over the phone. We love to talk with you.

We thank you for all of your shop purchases as the revenue from the shop is a huge support for the Ashram.

Bhole Baba Ki Jai!