

SATSANG

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Somayag 2012



NEW ERA 69





NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2012

Perform Agnihotra



Heal The Atmosphere

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Cover:

(Clockwise from top) Arrival of the Tretagni fire at Somayag; Pravargya; an array of implements used in the Somayag; the Tower to Heaven. Please see the article on page 3. A Vajapeya Somayag was held at the Homa Therapy Goshala in Maheshwar, Madhya Pradesh, India from November 24 to December 10th. This was the fifth in a series of seven Somayags planned for the Goshala.

The seven Somayags are:
AGNISHTOMA--for the atmosphere
ATYAGNISHTOMA--for water
JYOTI RUKTHA--for food
SHODASHI--for health
ATIRATRA--longevity of life
APTORYAM--well-being, prosperity of the whole society
VAJAPAYEE--peace of mind

What is Somayag?

The ancient science of bio-energy given through Vedas describes certain energy processes which have the power to effect a change in the functioning of PRANA (life-force which pulsates through us and connects us with the cosmos). These energy processes come under the category of YAJNYA. Somayag is one such Yajnya.

AGNIHOTRA, tuned to the biorhythm of sunrise/sunset, is the basic YAJNYA which any person can perform with only a little effort. There are Yajnyas to be done at the juncture of two seasons when there is a climate change. There are medicinal Yajnyas (HOMAS).

There are some special Yajnyas to be performed based on astronomic conditions. Somayag (Soma Yajnya) is one such special Yajnya. An intelligent young person would take about twelve years to learn this technique with proper Mantra chanting. The person has to follow strict disciplines. This Yajnya is called Somayag because SOMA juice is used as the main oblation. Soma is called the king of medicinal herbs. This special Yajnya provides an extra powerful boost of healing energy for the whole world.

The beneficial effect of each Somayag lasts for several decades. The atmosphere becomes medicinal, nutritious and disease-free. Somayags yield a qualitative and quantitative improvement in the psyche.

It is believed that the Vajapeya Somayag has not been performed anywhere on the planet for more than fifty years.

The Yajaman for this Somayag was Deekshit Achal Apte. His father, Haribau Apte, was Yajaman for the previous four Somayags held in this series at the Homa Therapy Goshala.

The Yajaman represents the element of fire during a Somayag. Only someone who performs Tretagni Agnihotra regularly can become a Yajaman. He carries this Tretagni fire to the place where Somayag is to be

performed and from this Tretagni fire the Somayag is started.

Achal's wife is Bhakti Apte. The Patni (wife of the Yajaman) is vital to the Somayag. The Yajaman must have a wife, and she is called upon at various points in the Somayag to be present for certain activities and often to touch and bless utensils which are used. The Patni is the only person who is given her own quarters in the Somayag shala.

Unique features of the Vajapeya Somayag

This year's Somayag differed from previous Somayags in several ways. First was the format. One could say that this Somayag was actually three Somayags in one; the cycle of performing fires and offerings in the various areas of the Somayag shala--first the Pravargyas (in which the flame shoots up), followed by the offering of Soma juice in the Uttarvedi (the largest altar), culminating in the bath in the Narmada river--was completed three times. But this Somayag also included some activities which were not part of the previous four Somayags held here.

Archery

Seventeen arrows were shot, each starting from the point where the previous arrow had touched the ground. The point where the last arrow hit marked the finish line of the chariot race that followed. As this point has some importance, Achal suggested that we plant some Yajnya tree there.

Chariot "race"

One exciting event this year was the chariot "race." A line of bullock carts was brought just outside the Somayag shala, and all the

participants were invited to climb onto them and join in the "race," which made a loop around the Goshala grounds and ended in back of the Somayag shala. In old days, there would have been seventeen chariots and whoever won the race would be the Yajaman. However, we knew beforehand that Achal would win, so the event was essentially symbolic. The Yajaman and his family rode in an ornate horse-drawn chariot, adding to the festive air.

The Yajaman (seated on the right) returns to the Somayag shala after the race.



Tower to Heaven

Just outside the back of the Yajnya shala, a gaily decorated tower, approximately thirty feet in height, was erected. After the competition, the winner/Yajaman stands at the top of this tower and greets his subjects; originally the race was between seventeen kings who wanted to choose the ruler among them, therefore also the seventeen arrows.



Achal and his wife Bhakti atop the Tower to Heaven after the chariot "race"

Wheel

Another activity involved a large wheel, like those used on the bullock carts, which was placed horizontally on a post. The Brahma (the person overseeing the whole Yajnya) sat on this wheel, chanting mantras while it was turned. While it was turning, he threw a golden bowl; traditionally, the person who



catches it gets to be the Yajaman. Fortunately for us, Achal caught it.

The Rutvijas

Throughout the Somayag, attendees often commented on the amazing job done by the rutvijas (the pundits performing a Somayag). For every Somayag, four groups of rutvijas are necessary, each well-trained in one of the four Vedas. The training takes at least ten years, and must begin at a young age for the person to be able to master all the mantras. They worked as a precision-trained team, chanting for many hours daily and carrying out varied procedures, using an array of special Yajnya implements. They also performed a number of other tasks necessary to the Somayag, such as moving equipment, carrying wood, cleaning implements and helping to build some places needed during the Somayag.





Above: Making offerings in the Uttarvedi. Below: The rutvijas with Yajaman Achal Apte, center.





Creating pure fire energy

For Somayag we need pure fire energy, which is created through a special process: the Yajaman brings one block of a special wood which carries the energy of the Tretagni he performs at home. A wooden stick is pressed and churned on this block of wood until the friction causes fire to start. This is quite hard work. One person stands, pressing this stick on the block of wood, while a second person uses a rope wrapped around the stick to turn it rapidly, in a pulley-type fashion, creating friction.

This important procedure of creating "fresh" fire was performed at several points during the Somayag in order to add new energy.







Above: Some of this year's attendees. The Somayag was truly an international event, drawing people from Europe, Australia, North and South America and Asia. Below, a group of young people gather at the amphitheater.









More information on Somayag 2012

For video footage and more information on Somayag 2012, please visit: www.somayag.org.

Clockwise from above left:
Preparing for Pravargya;
crushing the Soma herb
to extract the juice; ladies
decorating the Somayag shala
with beautiful and symbolic
designs made from colored
chalk powder; a wide variety of
implements used throughout the
Somayag.



Message on Somayag 2012

On December 9, 2012 Parvati Rosen-Bizberg received the following message in meditation from Shree Vasant regarding Somayag 2012, in Maheshwar, India:

We have renewed the intention of this Somayag. And it has been a successful Somayag, with greater effects on the planet than can be seen or heard. Power is generated from this site and Sound has begun to reverberate through the Earth, air, fire, water and ethers.

All love and blessings to all.

OM TAT SAT.



From the Orion Transmissions

November 18, 2012 On Homa Herbs and Agnihotra Ash for Future

Herbs have greater power when grown in Homa atmosphere-the power to heal and transform illness. Agnihotra Ash will be your gold in future times. Store it and increase your fires from now. Five hours per day on Homa Organic Farms is essential. Four hours is sufficient to start with, but in these times, five better.

November 28, 2012 Day of Lunar Eclipse, major day of Somayag On Opening the Channel

Yes, yes, yes. Philosophies and illustrious deliberation on issues, predictions from all sources for the end of this civilization and whose fault is the planet's demise--all is designed to keep you in a state of confusion, suspended in between truth and fantasy. Readily you all choose to remain in the dark, when the Light is daily, hourly becoming brighter.

Yes, yes. Phenomenal stores of energy being released into atmosphere. Channel indeed has been opened, precisely during 24-hour period. This channel will be used to release not only dross of human suffering but excess gases and residues built up in the atmosphere. It is, in essence, a deep and profound cleansing. Simultaneously, as release is tak-

ing place, Light is being transmitted to this planet.

December 1, 2012 At Somayag On Sowing Seeds of Love

Yes, yes. As you are all aware, the forces of good, of Light, are being fortified, while the forces of darkness and negativity are being pushed out. Always where there is a great surge of Light, darkness will be drawn to it like a moth to a flame.

Those of you who perform this ancient fire for healing of the atmosphere are servants of the Divine. You carry within you seeds of Light. It is your duty, as well as your privilege, to nurture these seeds and to sow them in fertile ground. Know where you are going and there, sow seeds of love. When you know where to focus Divine energies, it is there where the seeds will take, eventually growing and bearing fruit.

Practice Tapa of speech, if you feel inclined to find fault or criticize another human being. Encourage and inspire. This will manifest the most positive results.

December 5, 2012 At Somayag On Second Sun and Ancient Civilizations

Yes, yes. Now, scientists will begin to promote the possibility of there being a second

sun. There have been prophecies specifying the coming of the era of two suns.

As well, new discoveries of ancient underground civilizations will be boosted by new data confirming the validity of these ancient civilizations. Some say such civilizations still exist but on another plane parallel to this one.

That ancient civilizations existed has been proven again and again, but the existence of such on other levels at the same time as this one is seemingly far-fetched. Dear ones, human beings have so little perception of what exists in their own universe, how can you conceive of another one? There is interaction between levels of existence, dear ones. And many immortals amongst you. OM. OM. OM.

Yes, yes. There will be a second sun. This will mark a new phase in the planet's evolution. There will come a time when the human race will once again consult the moon and stars for guidance for the universe--a time when humans will once again find peace with Nature, a time when communicating with all living beings will come as naturally as breath.

And humans will communicate with each other with Sound, but not words. A time when human beings all over the world will

recognize each other from lifetimes before. It will be paradise upon the Earth. It will be the Dawning of the New World of Light. OM.

December 6, 2012 On Somayag purification process

Yes, yes. Cleansing planet, purification process intensifies now. For the planet, it is essential, an injection of high energies at each level.

At any sacred site where Light is strong and pure, there will be resistance from dark forces. Perseverance tempered with faith will easily carry all through the process of purification as it unfolds. OM

December 18, 2012 On Sound and Fire Healing

Hmmm...our dear vehicle is rejuvenated and now will experience the benefits of the recent Somayag. Days following this stupendous thrust of healing energies, there was a departure from the power and a period of difficult energy to wade through. That has now lifted. All of you will experience the Light now, as emanated from Maheshwar these sacred seventeen days.

Our dear vehicle, there is great work to be accomplished through subtle energies and sending Light. Use of SOUND AND FIRE is recommended for this healing. Do this for

the families of children lost in the recent shootings and for those children and teachers who perished. Send Light via Fire and Sound. Blessings will follow for all. OM. Do not delay sending Light via Fire and Sound. Set a time today to send from your hearts. Perhaps sunset is most powerful time. OM.

Families fractured by violence send ripples throughout the world. Voices unheard call for Peace, call for greater safety measures for a world out of control. Who will heed the call?

It is acts of senseless violence which betray the very fibre of humanity.

Limiting access to firearms is only one necessary action. Increasing protection and security in schools, yes. The problem is deeper and reflects a society based in a violent culture. Images children can freely see on television and Internet affect their sensitivities. Violence and the use of weaponry filters through movies and music, which children watch and listen to. This also needs addressing.

Yes, when one suffers, all of humanity suffers.

December 21, 2012 On Nature's Resilience and Gratitude

Yes, yes, yes. We see you are still here, dear ones. Let that not make you less alert or more complacent on your journey. **Simply**

realize that Nature is more resilient than She appears and not at all likely to adhere to preconceived dates for endings or for beginnings.

This sacred planet upon which you all dwell is heaving a sigh, one of exhaustion but one of renewal as well. This is not the end ones of you had expected, based on predictions and prophecy. Grace of Almighty, dear ones, supersedes predictions and overrides prophecies!

In your own lives, strive to be more and more deserving of the Grace which you see and experience unfolding in your lives. Walk in Grace. Let Grace lift your head and help you walk in awareness of all of Nature, with respect to all living beings great and small.

Offer your heartfelt gratitude and prayers for healing and rejuvenation of planet Earth.

Walk in Love.
Hand in hand.
Heart and heart.
In your most sacred hour,
May you all learn to live in Peace,
with love, understanding, tolerance and acceptance for all.
In blessed JOY,
ORION

For more information, please visit www.oriontransmissions.com

The Somayags held at the Homa Therapy Goshala in Maheshwar provide a unique opportunity for Homa Therapy teachers from around the world to meet, share information, and provide mutual support.

It can also give teachers the chance to compare notes and clarify their understanding of Shree's teachings.

The following are excerpts from some informal discussions with some long-time, certified Homa Therapy teachers on a variety of questions and issues.

Is it acceptable to use cigarette lighters to light the Agnihotra fire, or to use the lighter to light a match and then light the fire?

Grace Alone by Vasant V. Paranjpe states, "The use of mineral oil or gas or electricity for Agnihotra fire is forbidden." Lighters use mineral oil, so they cannot be used.

Sometimes the striking surface of a pack of matches wears out before the matches are used up, and one might like to use up the leftover matches. But even if one uses a lighter to light the match and then light the fire, the fire will still have the quality of mineral oil, which is not acceptable for Agnihotra. Therefore, lighters should not be used at all for Agnihotra. Candles also should not be used.

Agnihotra literature in various places states that offerings should be made after the word "Swaha." Is this also true for Vyahruti Homa, Om Tryambakam Homa and other fires that we perform?

Offerings should be given **after** the word "Swaha" for all the Yajnyas we practice.

A question arose concerning Agnihotra and Yajnya at Resonance Points and Fire Temples and people using ayahuasca, alcohol, marijuana and other mind-altering substances.

As concerns what people do in the privacy of their own home, that is up to their discretion.

Resonance Points and other public-use Agnihotra Shalas and Yajnya Shalas are a different issue. Any subtle energies have an effect on the desired outcome of performance of Vedic Yajnyas. Of course, clear mind and clear focus on performance of the Vedic Yajnyas are desired.

Any mind-altering substance ingested prior to performance of Yajnyas has a deleterious effect on the energies produced. Therefore, it is agreed that persons ingesting mind-altering substances not perform the Vedic Yajnyas while under the influence of such substances.

When performing Vyahruti Homa, is it correct to take one large spoonful of ghee and make all

From Shree Vasant's Teachings

the offerings out of that spoonful by only offering part of it to the fire for each offering?

No. When the spoon is brought to the fire, all the contents of the spoon must be given to the fire at that moment, so we should only put enough ghee into the spoon for each offering.

It is correct to put as much ghee as you will need for the Vyahruti Homa into an offering dish. Using a spoon, take each offering from the dish, and for the final offering, pour all the remaining ghee in the dish into the fire.

The same basic idea is true when performing Om Tryambakam Homa. We should take out as much ghee as needed for the Yajnya and put it in the offering dish. At the end, whatever ghee remains in the offering dish should be offered to the fire.

Many ancient cultures have long lost their fire rituals. In nearly every ancient civilization fire rituals of some kind were performed, generally for some kind of healing purposes. In old American Indian cultures certain tribes had ceremonial rites using fire as a spiritual force, source of energy and healing vibration. Much of this has been lost or distorted but still much literature remains and the elders themselves can be interviewed on such matters.

Agnihotra, science of the Vedas, is many ages old. We teach it now in brief form but Yajnyas for purification purposes and healing ceremonies were conducted every day in old times. Buddha himself used to perform Yajnya.

THE URGENCY OF THIS MESSAGE IS TIME. TIME IS THE CRUCIAL FACTOR.

Importance of Agnihotra goes beyond scientific explanation. It gives a link with the Almighty. When you see past the physical, you begin to think of what importance this is. Through Agnihotra many will be brought home.

Life can be viewed like the growth of a tree. If one stays focused like a pure tree, they will grow fast and high, all energies pointed

upward. But if one gets entangled in different desires then the branches can go any way. If you prune the tree, just like if we discipline ourselves, the growth is more directed. ONE NEEDS TO KEEP ONE'S LIFE VERY SIMPLE. THIS IS DONE THROUGH DAAN AND TAPA. THE ROOT OF THE TREE DETERMINES THE DESTINY AND THE HEART OF THE TREE IS THE SELF.

So much suffering in the world. We have to rise above our own problems. No doubt, we all have these ups and downs but through Tapa combined with Agnihotra, our ups and downs become more even keel. Through disciplines and Mantra all the time anything can be accomplished. Diet will improve, attitude will improve. You will learn to make good use of time.

Now I tell you. It will be bliss and joy in the later years. First the struggle. The destruction has come. Out of that will be born a world of bliss and peaceful coexistence. We worry about nuclear war. That will not happen. But destruction, pollution, floods, war, famine, violence--is this not the nuclear war? Agnihotra is the way out. THOSE HOMES IN WHICH AGNIHOTRA IS DONE WILL BE-COME LIKE OASES. IT WILL BE LIKE WATER IN THE DESERT.

Discipline is the only answer now. Make all efforts to conquer any barriers which block you from achieving a highly disciplined life.

Tapa is always required. Even I must perform Tapas every day. Through Tapa the mind and body are made strong.

Most people are unhappy because they search for happiness in the material world which can only multiply their desires and never satisfy them.

When you undergo pain and do not complain, He lifts you up and you do not feel it. All you feel is Love and joy. Whenever fear comes it is the same. Say to that fear, "Well, I am sorry, I am not interested. I will take Shree's Name and whatever He gives me I will take." Then it is like a breakthrough. All blessings come.

To overcome duality, one must merge the individual spirit with the Divine. That is done through a culmination of effort. There are times when little effort is required by some and seemingly endless efforts required by others. One must be attentive at all times to receive Divine guidance.

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FIVEFOLD PATH for Happy Living

- 1. Perform **AGNIHOTRA** for purification of the atmosphere which leads to automatic purification of mind.
- 2. Practice **DAAN** (sharing of assets in a spirit of humility to reduce attachment to worldly possessions).
- 3. Practice **TAPA** (becoming better managers of our energy expenditure by training the body and mind to react to all circumstances in life with Total Love).

- 4. Perform **KARMA** (every action for self purification only and thus no expectations which bind us to the material world).
- 5. Practice **SWADHYAYA** (Self-study) for liberation. Who am I? Why am I here? My work on this planet is to learn to react with total LOVE with each opportunity given to me.

This is the Fivefold Path for happy living on the planet. By practicing the Fivefold Path you become better members of your society, group, religion, community, etc.