

# MADISON SUFIS



## Special Events

### Rescheduled for 2021

**Big Love  
in Times of Impermanence**

**Tasnim and Saadi**

**March 25 - March 28**

## *Dances of Universal Peace*

**1st Friday (October 2nd) Dances will not be held  
to allow us to attend a Special Event**

## *Awakening Love: Sufi Devotion, Power and Presence*

Online retreat with  
Murshid Rahmat Moore and Sára Rain.

### **September 30 - October 3**

Diving into Sufi practices, philosophy, Zikr, music and meditation. Exploring the dual and non-dual treasures of the spiritual path. Bringing loving awareness to our experience in the world and in ourselves.

(See page 3 for details)

***The lover of nature  
is the true worshipper  
of God.***

**– Hazrat Pir-o-Murshid Inayat Khan**

### **3rd Friday - Long Dance Night**

**September 18**

**7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

Zoom link will be emailed before event.

Jamila, 608-338-0709

### **Ziraat Lodge**

**Wednesday, October 7**      **outside, weather permitting**  
**6:00 p.m.**      **if not, via phone**

I would like to invite you to come to a socially distanced ziraat service in my back yard at **2709 Willard Ave.** If the weather is nice we will meet in the back yard at 6:00 pm to catch the last of the light. If we are not able to meet outside, we will be on the phone again. Please contact me if you are interested. I will let you know about the possibility of meeting outside on that day.

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

Rachel.roang@gmail.com

### **Grassroots Gathering**

**Friday, October 11**      **via Zoom**  
**6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

**Activity - TBD**

A description of the activity and a zoom link will be emailed.

Rafiq, 608-338-0709

### **Rahmat's Class**

**To Be Determined**

Rahmat will send an email to the newsletter group if he holds class this month. If he does we will continue to explore practices of presence through, Zikr, Wazifa, and silent meditation.

Rahmat, 608-338-0709  
[madisonsufis@gmail.com](mailto:madisonsufis@gmail.com)

### **Universal Worship Service**

**Sunday, October 11**      **-**  
**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**      **via Zoom**

Dear Friends,  
Join us for a Zoom Gathering in the Virtual Church of All. The theme of the service will be "Letting go, Moving on" offered by Reverends Saladdin, Murad, and Karima. Messages from several religions and sacred traditions on the topics of surrender, reconciliation, and revival will be shared.

Saladdin Jason, 608-338-0709

### **Healing Service**

**Sunday, October 18**      **via Zoom**  
**11:00 a.m.**

Healing Service will be led by Gayatri Ann Aswegan who has just completed her initiation as a healing conductor. Here's an opportunity for anyone who is interested in the healing service to join us on zoom. Please contact her at [annaswegan@gmail.com](mailto:annaswegan@gmail.com) so she can send you a link an hour prior to the service.

The healing service was developed by HIK to utilize absent healing for those who have asked to be sent healing prayers.

If you have any names you would like to add to the healing list please send them to my email address.

Rachel.roang@gmail.com

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

**Sunday, October 25**      **via Zoom**  
**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

We will work with Healing practices, readings, meditation, music and take time for story telling as people feel inspired. Please bring a poem to share, or something that touches your heart during this time.

Karima, 608-338-0709

### **Sufi Songs and Teachings**

**Wednesday, October 28**      **via Zoom**  
**7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

Jamila Joy will lead **via Zoom** this class of songs, practices and readings from the Githa papers of Hazrat Inayat Khan. This class is for mureeds.

Please contact Jamila ahead of time if you wish to attend for the first time.

Call me with questions,  
thanks, Jamila 608-513-3950



October, 2020

## Retreat Opportunity

Please contact Karima if you are interested in a 3-5 day silent retreat in nature.

*Holy Wisdom is a glorious place to stay and feel deeply held in the beauty of nature.*

Sliding fee scale.

Karima, 608-338-0709

## ***Awakening Love: Sufi Devotion, Power and Presence***

***Online retreat  
with Murshid Rahmat Moore and Sára Rain***

**September 30th to October 3rd**

***Schedule - Central Daylight Time***

**Wed. 7 to 9 PM**

**Thur. 11 AM to 12 PM**

**Thur. 7 to 9 PM**

**Fri. 11 AM to 12 PM**

**Fri. 7 to 9 PM**

**Sat. 11 AM to 1 PM**

***There is no required fee for these gatherings, if you feel happy to contribute support for the teachers, your generosity is welcome and appreciated! Perhaps a recommended approach of \$20/session...as you wish!***

Checks to Sára Rain, 2727 Alan St. Fort Collins CO 80524  
or <https://www.paypal.me/sararain>

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89779860984?pwd=VUZxaWtVWHFmWndrdHNOcEkxUWNwZz09#success>

**Contact Sára: [rain@trigoddess.org](mailto:rain@trigoddess.org) or Rahima: [rain.jodie@gmail.com](mailto:rain.jodie@gmail.com) for more info**

## Pir Shabda's September 2020 Message

Beloved Family,

Greetings and Salutations to all of you around the world from California!

I know many of you have been watching the news of the devastating fires along the West Coast of the US, California, Oregon, and Washington. Prayers for protection go out to all affected, those who lost their homes and belongings, all living beings, and especially to the first responders and firefighters on the front lines.

Speaking for those of us in the Bay Area, we were stuck indoors for a week with super bad air quality and now the sky is clear blue, and air quality excellent. Hoping Oregon and Washington will follow very soon and also have clean air. Having been homebound, going out for a walk brings a new appreciation and gratitude.

There is no doubt that as we gradually recognize our True Nature as Primordial Wisdom beyond any separation of a separate self, joy will be extended to every corner of our life, the world, and to all those we touch. With self comes self-interest! Naturally, we want to treat our suffering with kindness and wisdom. In all cases, we want to bring as much warm-heartedness to bear as we are capable of.

As I wrote to the list serves today, Tamam and I were recently enriched by a new Netflix documentary called "The Social Dilemma" which I feel gave us an important understanding of the workings, blessings, pitfalls, and dangers of social media, of news and fake news today. Hope you can all take the time to study it.

As a special treat our dear friend and colleague, Netanel Miles-Yépez, Pir of the Inayati-Maimuni Order founded by Reb Zalman Schacter-Shalomi, has sent us the link to Living from the Heart: Universalist Sufism in America)his 2018 film which is now free to view on YouTube.

Blessings to all of you in this time of social distancing and little or no singing and dancing in person together. May you have excellent health and the prosperity you need to get through these challenging times. My hope is that by late spring we may begin to move to a new normalcy.

And HAPPY JEWISH NEW YEAR 5780!

Much love,  
Shabda

<https://www.ruhaniat.org/index.php/shabda-blog/2866-september-2020-message>

***The lover of nature is the true worshipper of God.***

– Hazrat Pir-o-Murshid Inayat Khan

Commentary by Murshid Samuel L. Lewis (Sufi Ahmed Murad Chisti):

Nature is the aspect of God which includes names and forms. It is still the aspect of God, and the darkness in nature is only a veil to prevent the pure latent light from blinding the eyes of creatures incapable of gazing into it. Not only the seer or sage but many people feel this tremendous urge within nature; not only the mystic and pantheist but many of limited scope are stimulated by trees or mountains and rivers. This shows that there is in nature the same spiritual life which is in the soul of humanity, and in this love there is the call of soul to soul, God recognizing God.

## The Zephyr September 2020

*Dear Companions on the Path,*

*Shanah Tovah! May the Jewish New Year bring new light and life to hearts, and a renewed aspiration toward peace, healing, and the lived reality of kinship in the Holy Land and all of the holy lands of our green Earth.*

*As the pandemic and lockdown continue to weigh on individuals and communities, I hope you are finding a way forward that is spacious and hopeful. At times such as this, the solidarity and companionship of our caravan is especially important. And most important of all is the moment by moment intuition of the presence of the Friend.*

*The prayers of all of us, I know, are with our brothers and sisters in the Western states of the U.S., where devastating fires continue to rage. May rain, and relief, come soon.*

*Please send a prayer toward our beloved brother in the path Ghani O'Dell, whose spirit entered the Invisible last week. We are grateful for his many long years of dedicated service to our movement. May the Divine Light enfold him in his further journey.*

*The spirit of Pirzadi Shahida Noor has been very present to us these last weeks. On August 28th, English Heritage installed a Blue Plaque in Noor's honor at 4 Taviton Street in Bloomsbury, where she lived while preparing for her fateful undercover mission in France. On Noor's Urs, September 13th, we gathered online, and a group convened in Dachau. You will find Latifa Mancinelli's account of the latter gathering here. On that mournful and sacred day, the new Noor Society was announced. If you haven't yet, I encourage you to visit the website ([noorsociety.org](http://noorsociety.org)) and become a member. The following day we all watched spellbound as Noor's Aède of the Ocean and Land was performed online by an outstanding cast livestreaming simultaneously from Athens, New York, San Francisco, Den Hague, and Rome. And, from the "world of dreams" Noor has bequeathed to us, there is still something more to look forward to: *Dream Flowers: The Collected Works of Noor Inayat Khan* is currently at the printers, and is expected to ship soon.*

*Finally, I would like to tell you of the conclusion reached by the Worldwide Message Council and myself with respect to a question that has arisen regarding the Invocation. The question is: a number of ashigs and murids feel a certain hesitation around the word "Master"; what can they, what can we all, do about it? The word "master" is often associated with structures of social domination, such as the abhorrent institution of slavery. Even though, when we say the Invocation, it is widely understood that we don't mean to reference slavery or anything of the kind, unintended semantic associations may nonetheless loom uninvited. In Murshida Sharifa Goodenough's writings she tells of how she asked Murshid what was meant by "Master" in the Invocation. He answered that it meant Rasul, or Messenger. We thus have a clear substitute directly from Murshid—two actually, one in English and the other in Arabic. The recommendation of myself and the Message Council, therefore, is that anyone, or any group, that wishes for an alternative to "Master" in the Invocation is encouraged to use "Messenger" or "Rasul." In non-English-speaking regions, it will be left up to each language group to determine the appropriate translation of "Messenger," or alternatively to use "Rasul," as well as determining the appropriate definite article to use, if any, with the aim of maintaining gender neutrality.*

*Yours ever,  
Pir Zia*



October, 2020

# Fragrant Gold Fall Equinox 2020

## A Note from Devi

### **Beloved Friends,**

The polarized world of today challenges us to hold the whole human family in our shared heart. Seeds sown of confusion may bring out fears that tempt us to focus wholly in one direction. Yet, our training and path ask us to embrace humanity as a totality in love, including those who test us, as we vision a world that moves toward love and harmony. We can hold the accommodation for a healthy environment and a society that allows for differences when we meet in the place where we are One, joined in the boundless Heart, open to faith, hope and optimism.

Love doesn't mean that we have to like; it doesn't mean that we all have to make the same choices. We can love and still take action when we remember that we are all interconnected. When love leads, the boundless heart also leads; what seems irreconcilable somehow transforms. A new way of being together emerges. Together we become something greater, and there's more room for us to understand each other in this period of great awakening.

Let's commit to being masters of our thought while staying strong in our heart. These times can be alluring, and this can trip us up. There are so many competing narratives that are asking for an outsized response. We need, instead, to remember the connection to ourselves, each other, and the Divine. Let's make sensible and powerful choices in our thinking and in our doing.

**Love,  
Devi**

### **Acts of Kindness that We can do Together:**

Let's remember that we have the power to use our voices from a place of positive benevolent action. In this coming quarter we have the ability to VOTE. Please, use your voice for the betterment of all. Don't just vote, vote early. If you can, help others to vote by ensuring they have the ability and means with which to do so. Here is a great resource for information on the guidelines of each state: <https://www.betterknowaballot.com/>

There have been many natural disasters throughout the world, from fires in the western US to hurricanes in the south. Send prayers, look up organizations set up to help, send money or other items requested.

Consciously do something kind for someone else each week, whether it's a kind word, deed or something material.



October, 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
			Awakening Love: Sufi Devotion, Power and Presence Online Retreat			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Ziraat  2709 Willard Ave good weather or via phone  6:00 pm		Grassroots Activity - TBD  via Zoom 6:30 pm	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Universal Worship  via Zoom 10:00-12:00					Dances of Universal Peace  via Zoom 7:00-9:00 pm	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Healing Service  via Zoom 11:00 am	Murshid Samuel Lewis's Birthday  1896		Sufi Songs and Teachings  via Zoom 7:00 - 9:00 pm			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Sunday Heart Gathering  via Zoom 11:00-1:00 pm			Sufi Songs and Teachings  via Zoom 7:00 - 9:00 pm			

## **Milwaukee Area Activities**

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### **Universal Worship**

No UW in Milwaukee for public this October season of Autumn.  
New location next month with same first Sunday of the month timing.

Thank you Tower Address for housing  
the Light of the Message for these 7 years.  
Toward the One,

Call Sara Farishta with questions 414- 299-0218.

### **Dances of Universal Peace**

- **Waukesha/Delavan Circle**

*Listening to a Voice Still and Small, Deep Inside All*

**Thursday, October 15**

**7:00 pm**

Last 2020 date reserved  
'at' United UU Congregation, Waukesha

For Zoom link and additional info :

Prajna Patti Kies: 262-642-9289 or [pattiburncake@hotmail.com](mailto:pattiburncake@hotmail.com)

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