

# MADISON SUFIS



## Upcoming Events

### Special Dances of Universal Peace

**1st Friday, February 5**

**3rd Friday, February 19**

**Long Dance Night**

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

**via Zoom**

Zoom link will be emailed  
before the event.

### 2021 via Zoom

**Big Love  
in Times of Impermanence**

**Tasnim and Saadi**

**March 27- March 28  
(flier pg.7)**

## *Dances of Universal Peace*

*The Madison Sufis invite you to two special evenings of  
the Dances of Universal Peace this February*

Please join us **Friday, February 5th** for an  
evening of Dances and sharing on the

**URS of Pir-O-Murshid Hazrat Inayat Khan.**

We honor Murshid's memory in the spirit of celebrating  
his passing as his "wedding" and return to the One.

On **3rd Friday, February 19th**, we will hold an evening  
in **honor the closing of the Tai Chi Center**  
in it's former space at Bedford Street.

We have held dozens of seminars in that space  
throughout the years and want to  
remember all the Teachers who have enriched our  
community and our practice through  
the Dances and the Esoteric Schools

For info: Jamila 608-338-0709

*Realizing that love is a divine spark in one's heart,  
one blows that spark until a flame may rise  
to illuminate the path of one's life.*

*Hazrat Inayat Khan*

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## February Activities

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February, 2021

### **Ziraat Lodge**

**Wednesday, February 10      via Zoom**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Ziraat uses a metaphor of agriculture to develop the mind and experience deep ecology. Anyone is welcome. Please contact Noor Rachel or Gayatri and a link will be emailed on Sunday before the event.

Noor Rachel, Rachel.roang@gmail.com  
Gayatri Ann, annaswegan@gmail.com

### **Grassroots Gathering**

**Friday, February 12      via Zoom**  
**Gather - 6:30 p.m.**  
**Program - 7:00 p.m.**

As the Tai Chi Center closes its doors at the Bedford Street location, we take an appreciative look back over some of the moments shared at the Tai Chi Center teaching seminars. Basir will present a special video / audio collage for us.

Rafiq, 608-338-0709

### **Universal Worship Service**

**Sunday, February 14      via Zoom**  
**10:00 a.m.**

“The Kindled Word Is LOVE”

This month's Zoom Universal Worship falls on February 14, and we will gather for a simplified service of shared poetry, seeking the power of inspired words, glowing and flaming with Truth, to illuminate the hearts of readers and listeners. This month's theme is, of course, love, and all are welcome to bring a poem (or two) to offer. A poem you like, a poem you wrote, a poem about sacred love, a poem about secular love ... there is no love but the One Love. Let's gather and warm ourselves at Love's fire!

A Zoom link will be emailed before the day of the service.

Contact Rev. Murad for more information as needed at  
[jodycurley@gmail.com](mailto:jodycurley@gmail.com)

### **Healing Service**

**Sunday, February 21      via Zoom**  
**11:00 a.m.**

The Healing Service will be led by Noor Rachel. Anyone who is interested in the healing service is welcome to join us on Zoom. Please email Rachel to receive a link 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 Noor Rachel's email address.

Noor Rachel, Rachel.roang@gmail.com

### **Sufi Songs and Teachings**

**Wednesday, February 24**  
**7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.      via Zoom**

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

If you are a mureed and would like to join this class in the new year, please contact Jamila Joy at and leave a message prior to February 24h.

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

**Sunday, February 28      via Zoom**  
**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 pm**

May we be enriched by the warmth of the light and flame of our friendship with one another on this caravan.. We will work with Healing practices, readings, meditation, music and take time for story telling as people feel inspired.

Ya Shahid/ Ya Shakur= Divine Witness and Gratitude for gifts we are blessed by.

Karima, 608-338-0709

### **Rahmat's Class**

Rahmat will notify us if he holds class this month.



## The Religion of the Heart

*by Hazrat Inayat Khan*

If anybody asks you, "What is Sufism? What religion is it?", you may answer:

“ Sufism is the religion of the heart, the religion in which the most important thing is to seek God in the heart of mankind.”

There are three ways of seeking God in the human heart. The first way is to recognize God the divine in every person, and to care for every person with whom we come in contact, in our thought, speech, and action. Human personality is very delicate. The more living the heart the more sensitive it is; that which causes sensitivity is the love element in the heart, and love is God. The person whose heart is not sensitive is without feeling; his heart is not living, but dead. In that case the divine spirit is buried in his heart.

A person who is always concerned with his own feelings is so absorbed in himself that he has no time to think of another. His whole attention is taken up with his own feelings: he pities himself, worries about his own pain, and is never open to sympathize with others. He who takes notice of the feeling of another person with whom he comes in contact practices the first essential moral of Sufism.

The next way of practicing this religion is to think of the feeling of the person who is not at the moment before us. One feels for a person who is present, but one often neglects to feel for someone who is out of sight. One speaks well of someone to his face, but if one speaks well of someone when he is absent, that is greater. One sympathizes with the trouble of someone who is before one at the moment, but it is greater to sympathize with one who is far away.

The third way of realizing the Sufi principle is to recognize in one's own feeling the feeling of God, and to realize every impulse that rises in one's heart as a direction from God. Realizing that love is a divine spark in one's heart, one blows that spark until a flame may rise to illuminate the path of one's life.

The symbol of the Sufi Order, which is a heart with wings, is symbolic of its ideal. The heart is both earthly and heavenly. The heart is a receptacle on earth of the divine spirit, and when it holds the divine spirit it soars heavenward; the wings picture its rising. The crescent in the heart symbolizes responsiveness; it is the heart that responds to the spirit of God that rises. The crescent is a symbol of responsiveness because it grows fuller by responding more and more to the sun as it progresses. The light one sees in the crescent is the light of the sun. It gets more light with increasing response, so it becomes fuller of the light of the sun. The star in the heart of the crescent represents the divine spark reflected in the human heart as love, which helps the crescent toward its fullness.

The Sufi Message is the message of the day. It does not bring theories or doctrines to add to those already existing, which puzzle the human mind. What the world needs today is the message of love, harmony, and beauty, the absence of which is the only tragedy of life. The Sufi Message does not give a new law. It awakens in humanity the spirit of sister and brotherhood, with tolerance on the part of each for the religion of the other, and with forgiveness from each for the fault of the other. It teaches thoughtfulness and consideration, so as to create and maintain harmony in life; it teaches service and usefulness, which alone can make life in the world fruitful and in which lies the satisfaction of every soul.



from Hazrat Inayat Khan

## Part II - Autobiography America, 1910 - 1912

I was transported by destiny from the world of lyric and poetry to the world of industry and commerce, on the 13th of September 1910. I bade farewell to my motherland, the soil of India, the land of the sun, for America the land of my future, wondering: "perhaps I shall return some day", and yet I did not know how long it would be before I should return. The ocean that I had to cross seemed to me a gulf between the life that was passed and the life which was to begin. I spent my moments on the ship looking at the rising and falling of the waves and realizing in this rise and fall the picture of life reflected, the life of individuals, of nations, of races, and of the world.

I tried to think where I was going, why I was going, what I was going to do, what was in store for me. "How shall I set to work? Will the people be favorable or unfavorable to the Message which I am taking from one end of the world to the other?" It seemed my mind moved curiously on these questions, but my heart refused to ponder upon them even for a moment, answering apart one constant voice I always heard coming from within, urging me constantly onward to my task, saying: "Thou art sent on Our service, and it is We Who will make thy way clear." This alone was my consolation.

This period while I was on the way, was to me a state which one experiences between a dream and an awakening; my whole part in India became one single dream, not a purposeless dream, but a dream preparing me to accomplish something toward which I was proceeding. There were moments of sadness, of feeling my self removed further and further from the land of my birth, and moments of great joy, with the hope of nearing the Western regions for which my soul was destined. And at moments I felt too small and little for my ideals and inspirations, comparing my limited self with this vast world. But at moments, realizing Whose work it was, Whose service it was, Whose call it was, the answer which my heart gave moved me to ecstasy, as if I had risen in the realization of Truth above the limitations which weigh mankind down.

## Part II - Autobiography Personal account

I would have been most happy sitting with my vina in my hand in some corner in the forest, in solitude, and nothing better would I have asked. There came a time when I could not have sufficient time to keep up my musical practice, which was too great a loss for my heart to sustain. Yet I had to bear it, for every moment of my time was absorbed in the work. I especially yearned for the music of India, the fluid with which my soul was nourished from the moment I was born on earth. But for my music the soil of India was necessary, the juice of that soil for me to live on, the air of India to breathe, the sky of India to look at, and the sun of India to be inspired by. It is just as well that I gave up

*February 5th is the 94th anniversary of Pir-o-Murshid Hazrat Inayat Khan's passing*

## The Zephyr January 2021

20 January 2021

Dear Companions,

As travelers on the Sufi path, many affinities unite us. We are stirred by the spiraling melodies of spirit-rousing music. We find renewal in daily plunges into silence. We bow to the current of luminous guidance that moves through all of the world's great wisdom traditions. But perhaps most fundamentally, we share an intuition of interconnectedness: the discernment that we, and all beings, are intimately interrelated in a mysterious oneness that is beyond all fathoming and yet evidenced at every level of creation.

From this perception comes a desire to be of service, in whatever little way one can, to the life of the whole. And in this magical and broken world in which we find ourselves, there is at every turn an opportunity to shake ourselves awake, to bear witness to all that is visibly and invisibly present, and to give our hands over to the work entrusted to us by our sacred ancestors, the friends of God.

As I write these lines, you are in my thoughts. I am mindful of the ways in which we are joined in inner space even while apart in physical space. I am attentive to the friendship that intertwines our lives, and the common allegiance that mingles our spirits. May this companionship grow, and flow, and know the depths and heights of the Great Breath in which we travel together.

Huuuuuu!

Yours ever,  
Pir Zia

### RUHANIAT FAMILY GATHERING VIA ZOOM

Saturday, Feb 6th  
Noon (CST)

**"WHY DO WE PRACTICE?"**  
with Taj Inayat, Pir Shabda and friends

*Recordings of other special events:*

The **50th URS CELEBRATION OF MURSHID SAM** 1/15/21

**The Story as Teacher: Conversation with Asha Greer**

**"Alive and wondrous in the world"**

(Links imbedded in bright blue)

# Big Love in Times of Impermanence



with  
Tasnim Hermila Fernandez  
and  
Saadi Neil Douglas-Klotz  
March 27 & 28, 2021  
Madison, Wisconsin

*Meditation, chant, walking meditation, zikr, Sufi stories, Dances of Universal Peace*

Life constantly asks us the same question: how do we connect the seen and unseen sides of life, its limited and unlimited expressions? From the moment we are born, *what* and *why* dominate our existence. While we may think of our lives in generalities, in big pictures, we live them in details. The unifying answer to all of the questions is love. Big love. Meaning not only romantic loves and friendships, but also how we deal honestly with teachers, students, family members, neighbors, acquaintances, enemies and, most importantly, ourselves. The Prophet Muhammad once said, “*the inner path is all about how we conduct ourselves in life*” (“the *din* is all *adab*”). This is why the larger questions of love feature so importantly in Sufi stories and poetry, as well as in the transmission of our lineage teachers.

Through teaching, poetry, stories, chant, meditation, zikr and Dances of Universal Peace, we will aim to go beyond the cultivated but tame stereotypes of love into its wild spaces and unanswered questions. These questions confront us every day in a world in which many things we thought certain—institutions, ways of relating to each other, even our environment—seem to be crumbling around us. In the words of the classical Sufi poets, we are living in a veritable “tavern of ruins.

**Times/Dates:** 11:30AM to 2:30PM - Sat. (3/28/2021) ~ 11:30AM to 2:30PM - Sun. (3/29/2021)

**Location:** This will be a meeting via Zoom video conference.

**Registration:** Pre-registration is required, although there is no registration fee. Donations are accepted for this event. Details including Zoom link will be sent after registration is received. More registration details on <http://madisonsufis.org> in the future.

**For more information:** Call Basir at (608) 338-0709 or E-mail: [basir@madisonsufis.com](mailto:basir@madisonsufis.com)

*At the moment when I shall be leaving this earth,  
it is not the number of followers that will make me proud;  
it is the thought that I have delivered His message to some souls that will console me,  
and the feeling that I have helped them through life that will bring me satisfaction.*

Hazrat Inayat Khan



February, 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 <i>Urs of Hazrat Inayat Khan</i> 1882-1927  Special Dances via Zoom  7:00-9:00 pm	6
7	8	9	10 Ziraat  via Zoom 7:00 p.m.	11	12  Grassroots Activity Gather 6:30 pm Program 7:00 pm  via Zoom	13
14  Universal Worship  via Zoom 10:00 am	15	16	17	18	19  Special Dances of Universal Peace  via Zoom 7:00-9:00 pm	20
21  Healing Service  via Zoom 11:00 am	22	23	24  Sufi Songs and Teachings  via Zoom 7:00 - 9:00 pm	25	26	27
28  Sunday Heart Gathering  via Zoom 11:00-1:00 pm						

## Milwaukee Area Activities

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### Universal Worship

Feb. 7 at 10:00 in zoomland.  
The topic is love.

Email Sara at [angelwork99@gmail.com](mailto:angelwork99@gmail.com)  
and she will send you a zoom link by email.  
Stay in the Light.

### Dances of Universal Peace

#### **Waukesha / Delavan Circle**

February 18 2021, 7pm via Zoom

#### ***Moving Toward Beloved Community***

We will join the virtual circle from our own homes and align our hearts to a shared rhythm. No experience is necessary.

Contact Patti Kies at either 262-642-9289  
or [pattiburncake@hotmail.com](mailto:pattiburncake@hotmail.com) with any questions.

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## Donations

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We ask that you consider making a donation to the Madison Sufis. \$30 per year is suggested as a donation to support the newsletter and the work of the Madison Sufis although any amount will be gratefully accepted.

#### **Pay online with credit card at:**

<https://www.madisonsufis.com/donate>

**Or checks** may be made out to: ***Madison Sufis***  
and mailed to us at: **P.O. Box 46463**  
**Madison, WI**  
**53744-6463**

Thank You,  
Basir, Treasurer, Madison Sufis

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