

MADISON SUFIS



Special Events

Festival of Rumi

**Thursday - Sunday
Dec. 3 - Dec. 6
via Zoom**

This celebration of the 13th century Sufi poet and mystic Jelaluddin Rumi will exist in the all-pervading life in space. This Annual Festival of Rumi will be presented virtually.

Gifts of music, poetry, and zikr will be shared. Dances of Universal Peace, Universal Worship Service and a turning class will be offered.

*Shining Heart Community
of Kansas City, Missouri*

For festival schedule and zoom links:

<https://shiningheartcommunity.org/rumifest.htm>

**2021
via Zoom**

**Big Love
in Times of Impermanence**

Tasnim and Saadi

March 25 - March 28

Dances of Universal Peace

*We have accepted Shining Heart Community
of Kansas City, Missouri's
invitation to a . . .*

Sufi Salon with Music, Poetry and Zikr

**Friday, December 4
7:30 pm to 9:00 pm**

via Zoom

*Many special guests including
Allaudin Ottinger, Hakima Greentree,
David Basse, Malika Lyon*

*This event is one of the many offered as part of their
Festival of Rumi
(see the side bar for more info)*

Watch for an email with the Zoom link for the Salon

**3rd Friday, December 18
Long Dance Night**

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. via Zoom

Zoom link will be emailed before event.
Jamila, 608-338-0709

Rahmat's Class

Sunday, December 6 via Zoom
1:00 pm

We will continue the topic of Mujahida again this month and engage in practices of presence through Zikr, Wazifa, and silent meditation.

Rahmat, 608-338-0709
madisonsufis@gmail.com

Grassroots Gathering

Friday, December 11 via Zoom

6:30 p.m. - gather and greet each other
7 - 8:30 p.m - activity

After settling in together we will watch the recording of the November 13 Ziraat Attunement, Practices, and Prayers for our Planet with Kainat Norton.

Rafiq, 608-338-0709

Universal Worship Service

Sunday, December 13 via Zoom
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

All are invited to join in our December celebration of Universal Worship. Our theme this month is "A Kindled Word," and we will be listening with our minds, hearts and souls to poets and mystics whose words kindle the Light of Truth, Love, Harmony and Beauty within us, that we might then share that warmth and illumination with an outer world which may seem cold and dark. If you have such a prayer or poem you wish to share, please feel free to offer it.

A Zoom link for the service will be emailed.
For more information, contact:

Rev. Murad at jodycurley@gmail.com.

Ziraat Lodge

There will be NO Ziraat this month. We have completed our agricultural cycle and this is a good time to breathe and meditate. We will begin again in January.

Rachel, 608-338-0709

Healing Service

Sunday, December 20 via Zoom
11:00 a.m.

Healing Service will be led by Gayatri Ann Aswegan. 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 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

Sufi Songs and Teachings

Wednesday, December 23
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. 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

Karima's Sunday Heart Gathering

Sunday, December 27 via Zoom
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 pm

Welcoming in the Winter Solstice! May we be enriched by the the warmth of the light and flame of our friendship with one another on this caravan. Please bring a poem to share, or something that touches your heart during this time. 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



Pir Shabda's November 2020 Message

Beloved Family,

What a privilege to be writing to my family and be able to say in the same sentence, Blessings on the approach of winter, and Blessings on the approach of summer, as we span both the Northern and Southern Hemisphere!

And as the world turns her face to different angles to receive the Sun's rays, we make aspirations for the world that all those who wish can have a vaccine by late spring and then gradually we can return to a life which includes singing and dancing with our family, people can return to work, children to school, and in general, be able to express affection in a more visceral way.

Inshallah, I have a plan to spend the first two weeks of the New Year in a solitary retreat, and would then generally not be available during that period.

I hope you are enjoying reading Pir Zia's Dissertation on the life of his grandfather and the Message he brought. I am certain it will bring you much understanding and insight.

Our Pandemic Fund is still receiving donations and sending grants out. If you need support in these difficult times, feel empowered to apply.

With all love and a warm embrace,
Shabda

<https://www.ruhaniat.org/index.php/shabda-blog/2876-november-2020-message>

Text and Commentary to Study

This month we continue reading . . .

**A HYBRID SUFI ORDER AT THE CROSSROADS OF MODERNITY:
THE SUFI ORDER AND SUFI MOVEMENT OF PIR-O-MURSHID INAYAT KHAN,
by Pir Zia Inayat-Khan**

Finish reading Part A, chapter 4, pages 119 - 190

Life and Times of Hazrat Inayat Khan Part A

<https://files.constantcontact.com/162dcf2e401/dfc450e4-a4f8-4c9a-9f3d-83bd5a53e04e.pdf>

Life and Times of Hazrat Inayat Khan Part B

<https://files.constantcontact.com/162dcf2e401/2a48e336-1126-418f-89b2-d8da5c11d793.pdf>

The Zephyr November 2020

Dear Companions on the Path,

Just as the pandemic hit this spring, my family and I moved into a little house by the James River. Throughout the summer—our first summer in America in twenty some years—whenever there was a free moment I would go out into the backyard and tend to the herbs and flowers. Left and right, invasive vines had to be persuaded to take another path. Suddenly, amongst the elegant lilies a crop of rough-looking characters sprouted up vigorously. I wondered if it wasn't my duty to gently escort these interlopers elsewhere. But something gave me pause. Emerson defined a weed as a plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered. Perhaps there was a discovery to be made here? And so, warily, I extended a hand of friendship. Months went by, and the Suluk Global inaugural session rolled around. All of a sudden, one of those loiterers among the lilies put forth an enormous red flower! It was, I discovered, a Texas Star Hibiscus, or Scarlet Swamp Mallow. Far from being an intruder, it is a native species, and a generous one at that. Last week we had the inaugural session of the Suluk Graduate course, and lo and behold: a second enormous red flower!

Alas, Monday brought melancholy news as we learned from Evan Thompson that the previous day, Nov. 8th, his father William Irwin Thompson had peacefully passed away at home in Maine at the age of 82. William Irwin Thompson will be remembered as one of the great visionaries of the last fifty years. Less widely recognized than he deserved to be, William was a rare genius endowed with an almost magical ability to weave science, art, and mysticism into a complex "mind-jazz" that boldly advanced the horizon of contemporary culture. While James Lovelock and Lynn Margulis built the scientific case for the Gaia Hypothesis, William undertook the multidisciplinary articulation of a Gaian revolution of the spirit.

William's Lindisfarne Fellowship was the laboratory of his Gaian politique, and in keeping with his keen interest in Murshid's teachings, the Fellowship maintained friendly relations with our Order from the beginning. My father spoke at the inaugural Lindisfarne conference in 1973, William kindly welcomed me into the Fellowship in 2008, and the Abode hosted a memorable Lindisfarne conference in 2012.

In a dialogue with David Spangler and myself in 2009, William wrote: "When your mind is the mud, the stem, and the lotus, / you will be free to die and not even notice." William's was just such a mind. Those of us who knew and esteemed him will certainly notice the absence in this world of someone we so dearly cherished.

Yours ever,

Pir Zia

Ziraat Gratitude Pledge

Adapted from the Onondaga Nation.

It is recited by their elementary students.

Today we have gathered and when we experience the circle around us we know the the cycles of life continue. We have been given the duty to live in balance and harmony with each other and all living things. So now let us bring our minds together as one as we give greetings and thanks to each other as People. Now our minds are one.

We are thankful to our Mother the Earth, for she gives us everything that we need for life. She supports our feet as we walk about upon her. It gives us joy that she still continues to care for us, just as she has from the beginning of time. To our Mother, we send thanksgiving, love and respect. Now our minds are one.

We give thanks to all of the waters of the world for quenching our thirst, for providing strength and nurturing life for all beings. We know its power in many forms—waterfalls and rain, mists and streams, rivers and oceans, snow and ice. We are grateful that the waters are still here and meeting their responsibility to the rest of Creation. Can we agree that water is important to our lives and bring our minds together as one to send greetings and thanks to the Water? Now our minds are one.

We turn our thoughts to all the Fish life in the water. They were instructed to cleanse and purify the water. They also give themselves to us as food. We are grateful that they continue to do

Now we turn toward the vast fields of Plant life. As far as the eye can see the Plants grow, working many wonders. They sustain many life forms. With our minds gathered together, we give thanks and look forward to seeing Plant life for many generations to come. Now our minds are one.

With one mind, we honor and thank all the Food Plants we harvest from the garden, especially the Three Sisters who feed the people with such abundance. Since the beginning of time, the grains, vegetables, beans, and fruit have helped the people to survive. Many other living things draw strength from them as well. We gather together in our minds, all the plant foods and send them a greeting and thanks. Now our minds are one.

Now we turn to the Medicine Herbs of the world. From the beginning they were instructed to take away sickness. They are always waiting and ready to heal us. We are so happy that there are still among us those special few who remember how to use the plants for healing. With one mind, we send thanksgiving, love and respect to the Medicines and the keepers of the Medicines. Now our minds are one.

Standing around us we see the Trees. The Earth has many families of Trees who each have their own instructions and uses. Some provide shelter and shade, others fruit and beauty and many useful gifts. The Maple is the leader of the trees to recognize its gift of sugar when the People need it most. Many peoples of the world recognize a Tree as a symbol of peace and strength. With one mind we greet and thank the Tree life. Now our minds are one.

We gather our minds together to send our greetings and thanks to all the beautiful animal life of the world, who walk about with us. They have many things to teach us as people. We are grateful that they continue to share their lives with us and hope that it will always be so. Let us put our minds together as one and send our thanks to the Animals. Now our minds are one.

We put our minds together as one and thank all the birds who move and fly about over our heads. The Creator gave them the gift of beautiful songs. Each morning they greet the day and with their songs remind us to enjoy and appreciate life. The Eagle was chosen to be their leader and to watch over the world. To all the Birds, from the smallest to the largest we send



Ziraat Gratitude Pledge (cont.)

We are all thankful for the powers we know as the Four Winds. We hear their voices in the moving air as they refresh us and purify the air we breathe. They help to bring the change of seasons. From the four directions they come, bringing us messages and giving us strength. With one mind we send our greetings and thanks to the Four Winds. Now our minds are one.

We now send greetings and thanks to our eldest brother the Sun. Each day without fail he travels the sky from east to west, bringing the light of the new day. He is the source of all the fires of life. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to our Brother, the Sun. Now our minds are one.

We put our minds together and give thanks to our oldest Grandmother, the Moon, who lights the nighttime sky. She is the leader of women all over the world and she governs the movement of the ocean tides. By her changing face we measure time and it is the Moon who watches over the arrival of children here on Earth. We send greetings and thanks to our Grandmother the Moon. Now our minds are one.

We give thanks to the Stars who are spread across the sky like jewels. We see them at night, helping the Moon to light the darkness and bringing dew to the gardens and growing things. When we travel at night they guide us home. With our minds gathered as one, we send greetings and thanks to all the Stars. Now our minds are one.

We gather our minds to greet and thank the enlightened Teachers who have come to help throughout the ages. When we forget how to live in harmony, they remind us of the way we were instructed to live as people. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to these caring Teachers. Now our minds are one.

**Madison Sufis's New Year's Eve
Dances of Universal Peace
December 31
7-9 PM
Via Zoom***

The Madison Sufis will continue our long-standing tradition of hosting the New Year's Dances of Universal Peace. Please join us for this evening of community, music, poetry and sharing of Dances to bring in our long-anticipated year 2021. This event is still in the planning stages - watch for updates.

*A Zoom link will be sent to the Sufi Friends and Newsletter lists prior to the evening.
Please contact Jamila Joy 608-513-3950 for more info.



December, 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Shining Heart's Sufi Salon via Zoom 7:30-9:00 pm	5
6 Rahman's Class via Zoom 1:00 pm	7	8	9	10 Chanukah begins this evening	11 Grassroots Activity 6:30 p.m. - gather 7 - 8:30 p.m. - activity via Zoom	12
13 Universal Worship via Zoom 10:00 am	14	15	16	17 Urs Mevlana Jalaluddin Rumi 1273	18 Dances of Universal Peace via Zoom 7:00-9:00 pm Chanukah ends	19
20 Healing Service via Zoom 11:00 am	21 Winter Solstice	22 Sufi Songs and Teachings via Zoom 7:00 - 9:00 pm	23	24	25 Christmas	26
27 Sunday Heart Gathering via Zoom 11:00-1:00 pm	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve Dances of Universal Peace 7-9 pm		

Milwaukee Area Activities

Universal Worship

UW Milwaukee Area

Dec. 6th, 10am

As Winter approaches we will open the Sacred Texts

And see what the message will Be.

If interested email angelwork99@gmail.com

I will zoom you. Sara Farishta

Dances of Universal Peace

Plan to resume dances in January

Prajna Patti Kies: 262-642-9289 or pattiburncake@hotmail.com

Donations

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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