

# MADISON SUFIS



Beloved Ones,

We greet you with prayers of blessing, healing and protection; for yourself, your families and friends, for the greater communities of which we are part and for all the unknown beings and places in need of prayers.

We all share in this time of turmoil and we look to find the stories of hope, of sharing, of the sharp reminders of how life is fragile and precious. We are uplifted by the courage of the healers, the places of healing and the staff that sustain them; the strength of those who work to support those myriad of channels of activity that support us; medical supplies, heat & light, water, transport of goods, the people stocking grocery shelves, all those working from home to try to preserve their livelihoods. And the countless people who have to go out of their homes because we need them to do so.

We are alive in this time of technology that allows us to stay connected using the particle and the wave to send our image, voices and vibrations across limitless miles. As many of us have found in our practices, our impressions of space and separation can be an illusion. Connection can be found even without a video image to confirm it. And it is wonderful and soothing to be able to see one another and share breath, baraka, vibration and sound.

The Madison Sufis will share our public events over Zoom for this next month. Please look for our usual events. Please read the captions for dates and times. The zooms links will be sent to our new Sufi Friends@ googlegroups listing. This replaces the old Sufi Friends of Madison yahoo group. You should have received a note inviting you to this list. If not please contact [Jamila@madisonsufis.com](mailto:Jamila@madisonsufis.com). We will also send links to the e-list for this newsletter.

Regarding linking to the zoom meetings, please do not log on earlier than 5 minutes before the start time. The facilitators may be meeting to finalize our offerings. Please remember to mute your mic. We will build time into the end of the public meetings so we may chat with one another.

May the Light of The One Being bless you, preserve you and lift up your hearts.

In love and gratitude,  
The Madison Sufis

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## **April Activities**

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### **Dances of Universal Peace**

**1st Friday, April 3**     **via Zoom**  
**3rd Friday, April 17**  
**7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

Jamila, 608-338-0709

### **Ziraat Lodge**

**Wednesday, April 8**     **via Zoom**  
**7:00 p.m.**

If anyone is interested in calling in please contact me well before that time so we can set something up. I can accommodate a limited number of people using a regular phone line. Rachel

Rachel.roang@gmail.com.

### **Universal Worship Service**

**Sunday, April 12**  
**10:00 a.m.**

Join online for a **Zoom Gathering**  
in the Virtual Church of All.

"Seeding Spirit, Sprouting Soul"  
Messages from several religions and sacred traditions celebrating the seed and spring growth. Gather in this time of seasonal and social significance to listen to the words of Prophets, Saints, and Masters that resonate through the ages.

?s Jason Saladdin 608-239-2346,

### **Grassroots Gathering**

**Friday, April 10**     **via Zoom**  
**Activity and Time TBD**

Please watch Sufi Friends@ googlegroups for an update. If you would like to be notified directly, please contact Rafiqa

Rafiqa, 608-338-0709

### **Healing Service**

**Sunday, April 19**     **via phone**  
**11:00 a.m.**

Please contact me before that time if you want to be included in the call. I have limited access to phones and it will be conducted ( of course) remotely. Any names please let me know through my email.

Thank you and may all beings be well at this time!

[Rachel.roang@gmail.com](mailto:Rachel.roang@gmail.com).

### **Rahmat's Class**

#### **To Be Determined**

Please contact Rahmat later in the month to find out if he will be able to offer an April class.

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

We will continue to explore practices of presence

### **Sufi Songs and Teachings**

**Wednesday, April 22**  
**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

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

**Sunday, April 26**  
**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 pm**     **via Zoom**

TOGETHER not Seperate. How do we all grow through this, slower rhythm taking care of our own energy. Please join in for being in the moment. Learn from one another.

Khayr=WELL being self others. (Say 33-101x)  
MAY our faith increase .

All loving care heart to heart, Karima

Call a week in advance if you are new.  
Karima, 608-338-0709



## The Zephyr March 2020

21 March 2020

Dear Companions on the Path,

Peace and love to you. As the coronavirus spreads around the world, our lives are changing in unprecedented ways. Some things, however, will never change.

Seclusion is now the order of the day. Retreat is mandated. This is a chance to give our lives over to contemplation and remembrance. It's a time to be still and survey the quiet depths of our breath.

Adverse winds will not shake the solidarity of our caravan. We will be with each other through thick and thin. I will look for you on Sundays as we gather for reflection, study, and practice. Meanwhile a diverse cadre of Inayati teachers will offer meditations every day of the week, as this newsletter announces.

Let us be sure to take good care of one another. It is especially important to be mindful of our elders and those with special needs. May no one be forgotten. We are all in this together.

Some things will never change. God is the Light and Life in the lives of all of us, eternally and indivisibly One. Our souls, one and all, will live forever in the Being of Beings, the Vast and Tremendous. The Message brought by the Prophets is the truth. God is our secret, and we are God's secret.

Yours ever,  
Pir Zia

ps — Click on our [online schedule for the spring](#). It is designed to gather the *Inayatiyya* together to help us find attunement, rhythm, support, and community during this time of uncertainty.

April, 2020

*The pandemic is showing humanity the way to Universality, which is the calling card of our lineage and practice. The pandemic knows no boundaries, borders can stop it, it touches every age, every race, it doesn't affect one religion over another, it has no gender preference and so on. In the way let us pray it shows us and humanity the way to our unity and interdependence.*

*Pir Shabda Kahn  
in his March Blog*

<https://www.ruhaniat.org/index.php/shabda-blog/2837-march-2020-message>

**Join Pir Shabda & Friends  
Ruhaniat Family Zoom Gathering  
Saturday, April 4th ~ 11:00 am Pacific**

Beloved Family,

Greetings of the Heart as we make aspirations and prayers for protection, strength, ease and excellent health for our whole community and all beings!

What a wonderful overwhelming response to our ZOOM gathering on the Spring Equinox!

Apologies that we were unaware of the 100-person limitation since the Ruhaniat has a PRO ZOOM account. We right away purchased the next level account so the problem should not arise in the future, but sadly it didn't make a change for our Spring Equinox call. So many of you tried and were unable to join, YA GHAFAR YA GHAFOR!

We did record the whole call for anyone to watch, enjoy the family, and listen to the teachings and sharings that were offered - click on these links:

[YouTube Pir Shabda Zoom Meeting 03-21-2020](#)

[Audio Only Pir Shabda Zoom Meeting 03-21-2020](#)

**We want to create a rhythm of these call during these trying times and have scheduled the next call in two weeks for Saturday April 4, 2020 11:00 am Pacific Time (USA and Canada).**

Naturally we will send the link out a few days before as a reminder.

Much love,  
Shabda

**For info needed to join the meeting go to:**

[https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Ruhaniat-Family-Zoom-Gathering---SAT-APR-4---11-00-AM.html?soid=1120499716705&aid=xtkoQM\\_PqcU](https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Ruhaniat-Family-Zoom-Gathering---SAT-APR-4---11-00-AM.html?soid=1120499716705&aid=xtkoQM_PqcU)

Watch Live:

## Sufi Teachings w/ Pir Zia Inayat-Khan

Sundays: April 5, 3-4 pm EDT

April 19, 3-4 pm EDT

April 26, 3-4 pm EDT

Stream Live Online

[https://vimeo.com/392273201?mc\\_cid=688a056c87&mc\\_eid=a1b0ed6cb0](https://vimeo.com/392273201?mc_cid=688a056c87&mc_eid=a1b0ed6cb0)

We continue our ongoing series exploring Hazrat Inayat Khan's Gatha Papers and the Chivalric Rules.

If you are unable to join in real time, **the video will be available using the same link after the webcast.**

### Mark Your Calendar

**One Hundred Days of Love**

**Bilal Hyde**

**June 4-7**

**Pir Shabbda Khan**

**September 11-13**

### Rescheduled for 2021

**Big Love  
in Times of Impermanence**

**Tasnim and Saadi**

**March 25 - March 28**

### 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

### Subscriptions

We are attempting to reduce expenses by encouraging anyone who can to subscribe to the e-mail version of the Madison Sufis newsletter. Thanks to everyone who has made this change. If you receive the paper newsletter, please consider changing to the e-mail version.

E-mail [madisonsufis@gmail.com](mailto:madisonsufis@gmail.com) to subscribe or to change your subscription.

# The Power of Passover During a Plague

excerpts from an opinion piece in The New York Times

**By Alana Newhouse**

Ms. Newhouse is the editor in chief of Tablet Magazine, which just published "[The Passover Haggadah: An Ancient Story for Modern Times](#)."

March 30, 2020

Most Jews in history have not been free, whether from murderous regimes, famines or pandemics like this one. What we have been is devoted to the idea that we deserve to be.

This year, Passover falls at the beginning of April — smack in the middle of what some experts estimate will be the peak of the coronavirus pandemic in America. It's not just the timing of the holiday — built around a retelling of the Jews' exodus from slavery in Egypt — that feels off. It's that every aspect of its story and rituals now seems almost cruelly ironic.

The Passover Seder centers on the experience of being thrust out of our homes, but these days we feel trapped inside of them. The story involves miraculous plagues that saved us; today we pray for the end of one. There's the commandment to clean our homes of all non-Passover food, which we just spent innumerable hours and dollars hoarding.

Then there's the real heartbreaker: The Seder is when we traditionally gather with family, friends and even strangers. "Let all who are hungry come and eat," we say. These days, many of us can't even be in the same house as our own parents or children. We don't come within six feet of strangers.

And yet, there will still be Passover. Indeed, I've come to think of Passover as the stem cell of the Jewish people, a reserve of core source material with the proven ability to generate new meaning and solace in circumstances even more extreme than what we are living through now. . . .

. . . Rabbis, scholars and communal leaders differ on exactly why Passover maintains this enduring power. Some argue that it is simply central to the religion — one of the three times a year when the ancient Israelites would make that pilgrimage to the temple in Jerusalem. Others point to the accessibility of the Seder ritual itself, which allows people of varying levels of knowledge and experience, including non-Jews, to participate. . . .

. . . Last week, a group of major Orthodox rabbis in Israel announced that they would permit people to use Zoom videoconferencing for their Seders — a previously unimaginable accommodation to stringent Jewish law. But that's the point. We may be away from loved ones, or shut out of communal spaces. We may not be [preparing with the same vigor](#), or shopping with the same zeal. But we will do what millions of Jews have done before us: manifest our hope for liberation.

That is our obligation, and our privilege. All the more so in moments when the taste of freedom — from oppression, from want, from disease — is not yet ours.



April, 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Dances of Universal Peace  via Zoom 7:00-9:00 pm	4
5	6	7	8 Ziraat  via phone 6:00 pm  <b>Passover</b> starts at sundown	9	10 Grassroots Activity  via Zoom  TBD	11
12 Universal Worship Service  via Zoom 10:00 am  <b>Easter</b>	13	14	15	16 Rahmat's Class  TBD  <b>Passover</b> ends at sundown	17 Dances of Universal Peace  via Zoom 7:00-9:00 pm	18
19 Healing Service  via phone 11:00 am	20	21	22 Sufi Songs and Teachings  via Zoom 7:00 - 9:00 pm	23	24  <b>Ramadan</b> begins in the evening	25
26 Sunday Heart Gathering  via Zoom 11:00-1:00 pm	27	28	29	30		

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## Milwaukee Area Activities

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### Universal Worship

I will hold the UW here at my Tower

April 5th 10:00 am

Possible to Zoom on my phone with 3-4 others if desired.

Let me know. Sara Farishta

414-299-0218

Theme is Healing

### Dances of Universal Peace in Waukesha

Direct questions to: Patti Kies, 262-642-9289 or

[pattiburncake@hotmail.com](mailto:pattiburncake@hotmail.com)

## One Hundred Days of Love

Retreat with Bilal Hyde

Madison, WI

June 4-7, 2020

We wanted to give advance notice of Imam Bilal's retreat in Madison, starting Thursday night June 4 and continuing through Sunday June 7 1PM.

Appointments will be available Monday June 8. Sun. and Mon. in a private home. Many more details coming soon!

Any questions, please contact Rahima at [rahima.mccullough@gmail.com](mailto:rahima.mccullough@gmail.com)

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