

PEACE IN MOTION NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2018

Dear all,



2018 started for us with the retreat in Goa, India, around the Bhagavad Gita, combining retreat and free time at Goa's sunny beaches. This also gave us the lovely opportunity to visit our son Jochem and his wife Anushya in their new North Goan house.

Soon after coming home, our schedule and other matters kept us overly busy. Our agenda was filled with trips to Suresnes, France, and the USA on top of our regular program. Wali translated two volumes of Saadi's new books on Kahlil Gibran into Dutch and prepared the publication of his new book (see below).

As our daughter Brechje now lives in the Netherlands as a single mom with her two small boys Surya and Satya, we spent more time in the Netherlands than usual. We helped fixing up her Utrecht home (which was rented out) to make her house really hers and of course were babysitting and doing all these things grandparents do.

In between, we reorganized our garden, and had a wooden fence and a fine wall on our terrace made. Below, you can see the results.

So the last seven months gave us little rest so we are looking forward to a relative quiet end of summer and fall, with more time to breathe out in December and January.

Coming December, we're invited to an Indian wedding in Thailand, so we've cancelled our Silvester Retreat to spend more time at the more sunny side of our planet, inshallah with the whole family.

We hope you enjoy this Newsletter and it would be great to see you in Khankah Samark or on one of our trips!

Love, Wali & Ariënne

January 2018: Goa



Drawing of Krishna and his flute by Brechje, aged 6, inspired by Ariënne studying Hinduism.

unconditional and unattached behavior?

With our inner being as Krishna's *dharma khshetre* (battlefield of dharma), and our higher self struggling with our ego and our concepts on right and wrong, we researched our abilities to be at least a little bit more *sukha dukhe same kritvaa* (II: 28), to be in peace in joy and sorrow, in gain and loss. To work with and from our heart without thinking of reward or goal. Bede Griffiths and Vivekananda proved great guides in this.

The afternoons were for beach time, swimming and

leasuring, whereas in the evening we picked up the Gita to focus each time on one specific sloka (sentence), thus getting both the overview of the Gita and the depth of some of its

Early January, we set off to Goa, India, for our Goan Retreat on the Bhagavad Gita in the Secret Garden, a holiday resort run by our friends Nasir and Monica Nur, two Sufis from the Chishti family. We arrived well before the start of the retreat, as we had quite a few emotional errands for our daughter, who had returned to the Netherlands middle December after having lived in Goa for 6 years.

This left us little time to refine our homework on the Gita, but once we reopened the book, it soon was clear that all the talks and meetings with Brechje's and our friends and acquaintances had been the best preparation to apply the main themes of the Gita in daily life.

For where else can you really learn about



slokas.

On one of our dolphin-spotting boat trips, we danced on one of the beaches that can only be reached by boat. There, a group of young Mumbai men and women decided they liked our dances and asked to join us. What a privilege to dance Shiva and Krishna with Indian people!

Love Harmony and Beauty



Next April we have been living 10 years in Khankah Samark. Brahma – the initiator – handed over his baton to Vishnu – the caretaker and sustainer – so there’s still plenty of maintenance work to be done.

Yet we felt it was time to also make some outer improvements. The motto for these Khankah is the same as when we started this project, namely love, harmony and beauty. For us, this means creating organically and indeed all visitors to the Samark Summer Week were

surprised to see how the wall with glass-stained window looked as if it always had been there as a natural and logical element to define the terrace. The green color of the stained-glass window (a find from E-Bay) matches the green of the rest of the house and faces the wall at the other side with its glass-stained church window, thus forming two protective wings around the Khankah.



The new bow-shaped entrée to the workshop space was something we already had in mind when we first saw the house in January, 2009. With its openness, we feel that in a natural way it links the main house to the retreat house.

At the other side of the house, we kept part of the stone wall open with a view to our ‘West garden’ where we sit in the summer evenings, catching the setting sun and enjoying the quiet summer evenings. With the new wooden fence and the door to the terrace, it feels like we gained an outdoor room!

We may add a window in the opening later, as the bare opening seems to ask for it.

The fence, made from Douglass pine, defines the area of the garden for over 28 meter, but the lush green from the garden breaks the pattern. Our neighbor already started growing trees and bushes at his side some years ago, so with time, *inshallah* all will feel natural.



May all beings be well and happy!

USA



Due to an invitation to lead the annual Dance Retreat in Fort Wayne, following up on two earlier retreat in Michigan, we left half July for two weekends in the US. We first went to New Jersey to offer a weekend on Rumi with our friends Danny and Jamila Aziza who kindly offered to back up our trip with a weekend at their place. Jamila Aziza and Danny had joined us to the Sahara and earlier this year to India. It was lovely seeing them again and in their own surroundings.

Next we went to Fort Wayne, where over 50 people showed up, many of them for the first time to experience European teachers, here teaching the classical Sufism of heart, self and soul in relation to everyday life. With this theme, we taught from Wali's recently published book *The wings of Love and Understanding* (see below).

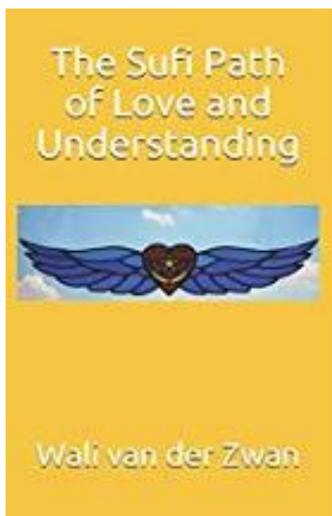
Organized by the Fort Wayne Dance Collective, an initiative to promote all forms of dance, also for young people and people with disabilities, we immediately felt at home, as Wali's past running a theatre and Ariënne's love for dancing had made the both of us dive deep into modern dance some 35 years ago.

This journey proved a great chance to have the participants experience some of our dances that already made it to the US directly through us. At the same time, we were able to express our views and insights on Murshid SAM's Dances as a vehicle for his ideas and ideals toward human growth to perfection, following the teachings of his teacher of the Heart Hazrat Inayat Khan.

Ya Shakur to all who made this journey possible!



The Sufi Path of Love and Understanding



On our first visit to India in 2012, we visited an Indian Sufi publisher and came home with an impressive pile of books on and from Ibn 'Arabi, Iman Ghazali, Indian Sufism and the main Sufi handbooks of the Golden Age of Sufism.

What followed was an intense study of classical Sufism and an effort to apply these insights to daily life, focusing first mainly on the Sufi psychology of the heart and later on Ibn 'Arabi's metaphysics and the path of Love.

This path of Love led us from Hallaj and Ahmed Ghazali (brother of Imam Ghazali) to 'Iraqi. As 'Iraqi also lived in India, his teachings influenced Indian Sufism and led via Nizamuddin Aulia all the way to Hazrat Inayat Khan and his Sufi creed *'ishq Allah mahbud lillah*.

In our workshops on some these themes, we soon realized how actual and modern these teachings on the *nafs* and the lower aspects of our soul still are and how they can shine light on our inner

and on how we shape our vision of the outer world around us.

It took some persuasion to undertake such a project, but prompted by one of our students, we decided to go for it and offered a five-weekend year group on classical Sufism: *the Sufi Path of Love and Understanding*.

As preparation, Wali first drafted a book with the same title, augmenting and changing as the year group went along and adding mostly the practical and experiential side to the teachings of the classic Sufi masters, leading all the way to Hazrat Inayat Khan and Murshid SAM. Sufi stories and poetry (many from Dutch books Wali published) found their place in the book, as did our interest in Rumi, the eloquent advocate and apostle of the path of love. Just before flying to the US, the book was published. There, all available copies were sold but soon we will have more with a slightly changed cover.

Spring 2019, we hope to have a German version. The German translation team Hans-Peter Baum (translation) and Regina Keespe (proofreading) are almost halfway.

With chapters on the History and Development of Sufism; the Divine and us; the Wing of Understanding and the Wing of Love; the Sufi Psychology of Heart, Spirit and Soul; the Stages of the *nafs* as ladder to self-realization; Rumi's model for ascension *I was a mineral*; and a new perspective on the Invocation of Hazrat Inayat Khan, we hope this book will fulfill a function for all wayfarers on the spiritual path.

Feel free to write us for a copy (€ 15/\$ 17.50 plus € 3 /\$ 3 postage). In due time, the book can also be directly ordered through Amazon.



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Program Winter 2018 – 2019

Wali & Ariëne



September

6 – 9



The Sufi Path of Love and Understanding (Khankah Samark)

Last weekend of a series of 5.

Only open for participants to the whole series

22 – 23

Dance Weekend Hamburg (Germany)

The Unity of Religious Ideals

We will focus on the Unity behind all apparent diversity and end the weekend with a ritual in dance, honoring the Unity behind all traditions. Yoga Centrum Hamburg.

Contact [Heinz Scheffler](#) *German spoken.*

October

12 – 14

Dance Weekend De Weyst (Netherlands)

The Sufi Path of Love and Understanding

Dutch spoken

26 – 28

Dance Training North (Bildungsstätte Bredbeck, near Bremen)

We will work from our Dance manual 'The Art of Dance Leading and Mentoring'. With *feedback session*.

Contact [Hans-Peter Baum](#) *German spoken*

November

17 – 18

Dance weekend Glastonbury (UK)

The Sufi Path of Love and Understanding

Contact [Diana](#)

22 – 25



Samark Sesshin (Khankah Samark)

Zen & Zikr

From Thursday evening dinner until Sunday, late lunch.

In a Sesshin, we alternate dancing with meditating. To further the inner process, part of the weekend will be in silence.

December

N.B.

Due to an invitation for an Indian wedding in Thailand, we had to cancel our planned Silvester Retreat.

2019

Februari

9 – 15



Samark Winter Retreat (N.B. Ends on *Friday morning*)

The Journey of the Soul.

This 19th Winter Retreat will be dedicated to the inner journey that our soul-self may take on our spiritual path. This means going through forgiveness and repentance toward the world of inspiration and intuition.

March

16 – 17

Dance Weekend Bremen

The Art of Remembrance

Contact [Renate](#)

April

13 – 14

Dance Weekend Sydney (Australia)

Contact [Zebunissa](#)

16 – 21

Annual Dance Retreat Australia

The Call of the Dervish

Using Rumi's poetry, we will distill from his teachings every day a next step to bring us closer to our spiritual self and so to the Divine. This way, we'll learn to listen to our inner call, face our passion, understand we have 'two addresses' and learn to 'die before we die', all ingredients that drove Rumi to his beautiful poetry. Contact [Zebunissa](#)

May

17 - 19

Dance Retreat Moscow

The Sufi Path of Love and Understanding

Contact [Marina Kamila](#)

25

Dance Day Dublin

The Sufi Path of Love and Understanding

Contact [Zahira Noor](#)

June

7 - 10



Samark Pentecost Retreat

Thy Love and Thy Light

Our yearly Pentecost Retreat, focuses this time on the well-known lines from Hazrat Inayat Khan 'Thy Light is in all forms, Thy love in all beings'.

29 - July 6



Ruhaniat Summer School (Proitzer Mühle, Germany)

Annual gathering of the EU Sufi family with EU Sufi teachers.

Contact [Qadima](#)) or [Aziz](#)

English/German spoken.

July / August



Samark Summer Week

Theme and date to be announced

September

21 - 22

Dance Weekend Hamburg (Germany)

The Sufi Path of Love and Understanding

Yoga Centrum Hamburg.

Contact [Heinz Scheffler](#) *German spoken*

October

7 - 18



Sahara Pilgrimage

Desert Life

The experience of the Desert can be so powerful that many travelers keep returning. On request of many, we will return to the Sahara for the fifth time. To wander and wonder, to retreat and rejoice, to laugh and love and most of all to be one with the Desert and thus deepen the contact with the inner self. N.B: Waiting List

November

21 - 24



Samark Sesshin (Khankah Samark)

Zen & Zikr

In a Sesshin, we alternate dancing with meditating. To further the inner process, part of the weekend will be in silence.

December

28 - 1 January



Silvester Celebration (Khankah Samark)

New Year Retreat & Celebration

Retreat and celebration to look back in gratitude for what 2019 has brought us and to look forward to unfolding of some of our next steps in life in 2020. *German or English/German spoken.*