

A New Book!

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“Destiny in the Palm of Your Hand”

We are happy to be in touch with you once again this year with the 8th edition of our Annual Newsletter.

While 1999 was spent promoting *Love in the Palm of Your Hand* and *Magnet Therapy*, much of 2000 was spent promoting Ghanshyam's third book *Destiny in the Palm of Your Hand: Creating Your Future Through Vedic Palmistry* published by Inner Traditions International. As experienced with our last two publications, we are finding a great demand for *Destiny*—The Netherlands and Canada having already bought the rights. The following is an excerpt taken from the book's jacket:



Ghanshyam on the set of Good Morning Arizona

“Using dozens of illustrations and examples of actual palm prints, Dr. Birla demonstrates how your less dominant hand reflects all that you have inherited from the past—old behaviour patterns, thoughts, desires, and attitudes—while your dominant hand (the one you write with) reflects your positive resolve to change for the better. By comparing both hands you gain an understanding of where you are coming from and where you are headed. As you make positive changes in your life, the lines on your palms will actually change to reflect your progress.”

A Traveller's Journal

In this newsletter, we would like to take you with us on our whirlwind tour of North America! While the staff at home remained busy with health fairs, symposiums, classes, consultations, Ghanshyam and his associates, Kathleen and Peter Keogh, drove across one end of the States to the other promoting *Destiny*.

The following are notes from Peter's journal...

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Traveling America's Highways



Ghanshyam with Peter and Kathy entering New Mexico en route to Sedona for the ACVA convention.

In 1999, I traveled with Ghanshyam and my sister Kathy flying as far west as San Francisco and Hawaii; as far south as Key Largo; and as high as Denver, Colorado, the "mile-high city". The year 2000 continued with the same enthusiasm to promote the books—regardless of what was predicted for Y2K—except this time we traveled everywhere by car.

Sedona - New Age Capital

January through March 2000 was an adventure for us, promoting *Destiny in the Palm*. We began our tour this time around in Sedona, Arizona the "New Age capital of the universe". This beautiful "red rock country" is said to be brimming with vortex energy—just take a walk to any one of many rock outcroppings such as Cathedral or Bell rock and experience it for yourself. Unfortunately, we didn't have the time to be "vortexed" so we created our own whirlwind of energy traveling between Sedona, Phoenix and Tuscon down by the Mexican border.



Ghanshyam with Chakrapani Ullal

ACVA - the American Council of Vedic Astrologers

Ghanshyam was a guest speaker at the bi-annual ACVA (the American Council of Vedic Astrology) convention in Sedona. Here we met more Vedic astrologers per square foot than anywhere else on the planet. It was truly exciting and a privilege to meet with various Vedic illuminaries such as Chakrapani Ullal and Dr. David Frawley noted astrologer/author, President of ACVA. Dr. Frawley honored us by writing the foreword to *Destiny in the Palm* saying, "Dr. Birla removes palmistry from the realm of mere fortune-telling and places it solidly into the field of holistic healing, where it can be used as a tool for enhancing life at all levels."



Ghanshyam with Dr. David Frawley

We were happy to meet with many people from ACVA, such as astrologer/author Dennis Harness, Debra Infante, Edith Hathaway, Prince Hirindra Singh, Gary Gomes and astrologer/author James Braha. Particularly interesting was the encounter with Das Goravani, the creator of the astrology program which we use in our work.



Peter and Das Goravani comparing notes at the ACVA convention in Sedona

A Golden Opportunity

While in Sedona, we were invited to the home and laboratory of alchemists Paul and his wife Micah and their very large dog which in fact is a very large wolf. In such a small space I cannot begin to explain some of their other-worldly experiments, however, suffice to say that they are definitely ahead of their time.

A Prophecy Comes True

Another chance meeting in Sedona was with Grace Love, a former client who had seen Ghanshyam twenty years ago in Toronto (Canada). She presented Ghanshyam with a copy of her autobiography including one chapter entitled "The Palmist" where she recounted her meeting with Ghanshyam and the profound effect he had on her life, including the suggestion that she could write a successful book.



Anodea Judith,
author of 'Wheels of Life'

Wheels of Life

We met with Anodea Judith, the author of *Wheels of Life* who appeared after Ghanshyam on the Haizen Paige public television broadcast, "Cosmic Palette."

Book Signings

As we commuted between Sedona and Phoenix, our temporary home away from home, Ghanshyam did numerous book signings and lectures at many *Borders* and *Barnes & Noble* bookstores. It seems that wherever we go, there are many who are so profoundly touched by Ghanshyam's insight, advice and caring nature, that they spontaneously offer to create and manage a branch office for us in their town. To date we have been working on having Ghanshyam cloned but so far have been unsuccessful.

TV and Radio Interviews

While in Phoenix, Ghanshyam appeared on "Good Morning Arizona" on KTV with Terri Ouellette, (of course you'll just have to come up and visit us at our retreat center in Quebec to really learn how to pronounce this name). He also gave seminars at the *Third Annual Aromatherapy*,



Ghanshyam with Carmen MacDonald, the organizer of his workshop with Zoe Ministries in New York, and her children.

Herb and Natural Health Conference and Trade Show in Scottsdale and was invited to lecture at the Glendale Community College after being a guest on Frank Baranowski's radio talk show "Mysteries Around Us".

A Visit in Tuxedo New York

After a short "pit-stop" at Village Lac Dumouchel, our retreat center, we packed again in late March, this time heading towards New York City. Our destination, "Zoe ministries" a predominantly black congregation headed by their magnetic leader Bishop Bernard E. Jordan and assisted by his wife Pastor Debra and her brother Father Berrian. Ghanshyam was invited to give an intensive weekend-long workshop in palmistry to this very open and responsive group of ministers and lay people.

Raleigh, N.C.

We continued on to Raleigh, more *Barnes and Noble* and *Borders* book signings, until we finally arrived in Fort Lauderdale for the Whole Life Expo.

Old Karmic Friends

Most people take a lifetime to connect with various family, friends and relatives of the past. In our travels, we are in the privileged position of meeting up with many familiar souls. So many of you whom we have met on our journey have felt like an extension of our families back home. We thank you for the gracious hospitality you extended during our stay.

The Windy City

In April, we found ourselves moving on horizontally across the map towards Chicago. Ghanshyam gave a successful lecture at "Transitions Bookstore" which was organized by our Chicago connection, Damaris Nightingale. This was probably the only city in the United States where no one knew we were Canadian - eh?



Ghanshyam's workshop at Transitions Bookstore in Chicago

NAVRA - Our US Non-Profit Affiliate

In May, we saw the birth of NAVRA—the North American Vedic Research Association. This was accomplished with the assistance of



Dr. Geeta Sharma, managing director of NAVRA, speaking at the book launch of 'Destiny in the Palm of Your Hand'

Dr. Geeta Sharma, psychiatrist, Unit Director and Assistant Clinic Professor, University of Maryland, and member of the Medical Surgical Association, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. NAVRA's aims and ideals are firstly, to study and research ancient *vedic* systems of healing. Secondly, to help individuals improve their physical, mental, emotional health through application of *vedic* systems of *Jyotish* and *Ayurveda* including palmistry, astrology, massage, mantra therapy, Yoga breathing and exercise, meditation, visualization, and relaxation techniques. Lastly, to establish an educational program in order to provide knowledgeable and trained practitioners in the ancient *vedic* systems for the healing of body, mind and soul, and inform the general public regarding the benefits of these ancient sciences.

In June, our affiliation with SPECTRUM: Arts and Education for Peace, Inc., an American non-profit association brought us one step further towards establishing our international identity, including a federal ID number to facilitate those who desire to give donations.

The French Version of Love in the Palm of Your Hand

In May, Ghanshyam's first book *Love in the Palm of Your Hand* - if you don't already have it - was translated into French by one of our staff members, the beautiful Johanne Riopel (who just happens to be my wife).

The translated title is *L'Amour dans les lignes de la main* published by Éditions du Roseau who will also publish at the beginning of 2001 the French version of *Destiny in the Palm of Your Hand* (*La destinée dans les lignes de la main*).



The French version of Love in the Palm of Your Hand

The American Society of Dowsers



Ghanshyam with author P.M.H. Atwater during ASD's 40th Annual convention

In June, Ghanshyam was on the road again this time giving a conference at the American Society of Dowsers' 40th Annual Convention held at Lyndonville College in Vermont. Here we met P.M.H. Atwater, the keynote speaker at the ASD and author of *Children of the New Millennium*, *Future Memory* and the *Idiot's Guide to Near Death Experience*.



Walking the Labyrinth



Inaugurating our second labyrinth at
Village Lac Dumouchel

We also met Marty Cain, a long time ASD consultant who teaches and lectures specifically regarding the power of labyrinths. Later in the summer Marty came to visit us at Village Lac Dumouchel - as a result we are now the proud guardians of two exquisite labyrinths, one that is grassed in and the other in stone. Did I mention that you should come up and see us?

Tipi Halsey Lends a Hand

Of special mention, and what will probably prove to be one of the most significant events in our center's history, was meeting with Tipi Halsey one of the Dowzers' convention co-ordinators who had originally invited Ghanshyam to the ASD conference. It was through her suggestion that we applied and were accepted under the umbrella of SPEC-TRUM: Arts and Education for Peace, Inc. - a non-profit association for the arts and healing.

Toronto Dowzers

As it turned out we were invited back to Toronto the following week for a similar event for the Canadian dowzers. Here we met Gary Skillen, President of the *Canadian Dowzers Association*, and Slim Sperling a vintage dyed-in-the-wool cowboy, if I've ever seen one, and who is referred to as a modern day Merlin.

Reopening the Montreal Office

In August, we were thankful to reopen our Montreal office in Westmount. After an exhausting two years recovering from extensive fire damage and disputing subsequent insurance claims we returned to the top floor of our three story building. Finally we were open again to pursue our work in palmistry and astrology. We are, however, still looking for a business to rent our ground and basement floors.

To book a private consultation with Ghanshyam Birla on his tour, please contact us at 1-514-488-2292.

If you would like to know more about upcoming book tours and media appearances, visit:
<http://www.palmistry.com/events.html>



Ghanshyam awarding a plaque to his Excellency, the High Commissioner of India, Shri Rajanikanta Verma

The High Commissioner of India Visits VLD

In September, as Fall approached, we had a book launching at Village Lac Dumouchel. More than a hundred people were in attendance including a very special visit by the High Commissioner of India, Shri Rajanikanta Verma, accompanied by his wife, Mrinalini, and his daughter, Sonia. In his opening address, Shri Vermaji gratefully acknowledged Ghanshyam's work as an ambassador for India, bringing ancient Eastern wisdom to the West through his work in the community and the publication of his books.



Ghanshyam giving a lecture for the New Hampshire Dowsers group

A Visit with Futurist Gordon Michael Scallion

By October, we were back in Vermont. We visited Tipi at her center - Lightgate Learning Center - and while down there, Ghanshyam gave a conference for the "Living Waters" Dowsing Chapter in Claremont, New Hampshire. We also had the privilege of meeting the futurist, Gordon Michael Scallion and his wife, Cynthia Keyes, founders of the Matrix Center, a new age center aimed at keeping people informed regarding earth changes and their global effects.



Kathleen taking the prints of futurist Gordon Michael Scallion

...It is only in the retelling of last year's tour that one realizes just how many people we met. All were special each with a unique story to tell. We are now on the threshold of a new year. No telling what adventures lie ahead!

Topping Off the Year!

Palmistry Supper Lectures at L'Assiette in Hull

In our neck of the woods, about forty-five minutes away, there is a cute little restaurant called L'Assiette (Lass-e-yet, the "e" is pronounced long) we have been invited there by its restaurateur Yvonne Lauzon to give introduction lectures in palmistry. Whether near or far the message is always the same, you can change your life through palmistry, and the changes are registered in the patterns of lines and signs in the hand. Our Supper Conferences will continue in the New Year with many interesting cases based on our book *Love in the Palm of Your Hand*. Make a reservation at 819-772-4844 and we will be happy to see you there. The food is great!



Johanne conducting a palmistry workshop.



Local Bulletin Board

Heather Flockhart and Jacqueline Poirier have retired this year and have officially joined the Palmistry Center full-time. Yahoo!!

Also, we are happy to have Francis Desjardins and Sylvie Dugal to be part of the full-time staff of the Center.

Massage therapists, Jacinthe Côté and Rémi Riverin, are taking further training in massage. We hope to personally test their new-found skills.

Guyline Vallée spent much of her summer promoting *Love in the Palm of Your Hand* at the *Bouquinistes* organized by Hélène Tirole. In the fall she gave a talk for the *Electricians Corporation* at the Sheraton Laval. This was not shocking news as Guyline gives electrifying talks everywhere she goes.



Ghanshyam reading palms at one of his many book signings throughout the US

At the Top of the Charts

Congratulations to Ghanshyam Singh Birla and Colette Hemlin! In November, *Magnet Therapy* was listed 2nd on the Top 50 all-time bestsellers of Inner Traditions International, our Vermont publisher. Ghanshyam was also at the *Salon du Livre Exposition* in Montréal to sign books at the *Éditions du Roseau* booth. There he met three authors, previous clients whom he had suggested to write books. One devoted a section of her book to Ghanshyam explaining how he had helped her in her spiritual quest. As of November, the following countries have bought the rights to Ghanshyam's books:

Love in the Palm of Your Hand: Russia, Italy, Bulgaria, Brazil, USA, Canada

Destiny in the Palm of Your Hand: The Netherlands, USA, Canada (world rights in French)

Magnet Therapy: Czech Republic, Poland, Latin America, France, Portugal (world rights in Portuguese) and Israel which has a strong interest.

Special Thanks

Taking care of 300 acres at our retreat center in the country, and our branches in Montreal, Toronto, Kitchener and Vermont is very demanding. We would like to thank all of you who have helped us over the last year too numerous to mention here.

Special thanks to Dr. Geeta Sharma MD, MPH, who has been an incredible support in every possible respect. Also, our thanks to Don Duncan and Ruth McLaren for their extraordinary generosity. Thank you Don for our new front door and the tractor, and Ruth, despite any fears, driving a 18-wheeler to deliver the boom truck and the wood chipper. We are forever grateful. Thanks to our dear astrologer friend, Pasquali Roberto, who for the last 18 years has kindly hosted us every month in our Toronto Branch and Millan Winter who keeps us busy in the Kitchener Branch of the Palmistry Center. Thanks to Joe Meccia for his construction help and Felicia Foster for her support. A special thanks to our "Barbier de Séville" Robert Melfi. Thanks to Ron Joannis, Yvonne Lauzon, Marie-Hélène Fortin, Marthe Blain, Lise Poirier, April Donnelly & Guy Arthur Family & Friends. Thanks again to Tipi and Bill Halsey, and Julia Hickory and Caroline Orgain from Spectrum. Lastly, thanks to our Toronto friends Frédérique Herel, Donna Goode, Erminia Tonelli and Sholom Wargon.



Voluntary Appeal



Jacinthe taking handprints at a health symposium.

We are still in need of all your good wishes and donations in terms of time and money. We are also in dire need of a cook, receptionist, and handy man.

At our retreat center, we are simultaneously working on its infrastructure, that is refurbishing our buildings—transforming what was previously a three season camp into a four season establishment.

In the process of realizing this multi-tasking ambitious project, we sometimes find ourselves of necessity pursuing a dominoes-like situation. For example you can't afford the wood furnace so you pay for electric heating (baseboard heating to boot!) for two years which otherwise could have been a substantial payment towards the furnace.

To break away from this pattern in what could become a permanent state of indebtedness, we would like to ask your financial assistance. Ultimately, our goal is to maintain a center where the ancient arts and sciences of palmistry and astrology can be researched and developed, in the form of publications, classes, on-line consultations, correspondence courses through our projected virtual university, and chat rooms. South of the border we are working towards obtaining an extension to our US work permit - that rare and precious commodity called a green card. This will help us to establish a permanent US office.



A "pause café" at Village Lac Dumouchel

It is in the hope, then, that as our paths have already crossed, you may see fit to provide some support, which in effect helps us to help others. For our US supporters, all donations are tax deductible through our federal ID number with our American branch. Cheques need to be made payable to NAVRA and mailed to our main office, The Palmistry Center, 351 Victoria Ave. Westmount, Qc, Canada, H3Z 2N1. If you want any more information on how you can be of help, call Denise at 514-488-2292.



Guylaine and Denise reading palms at a psychic expo.

At this special time of the year when our hearts go out to family and friends, all of us here at The Palmistry Center, its affiliated retreat center, Village Lac Dumouchel and its U.S. affiliate, NAVRA, wish you all the very best for the New Year. ♦

Please keep up to date on the Center's activities and events via our website: www.palmistry.com