



Harmony for Body, Mind and Soul

## HUNGARIAN GURU ASHRAM

### YOGA IN DAILY LIFE CENTRE

- JÓZSEFVÁROSI SPORT CLUB -

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Beloved Gurudev,

On behalf of all Your Hungarian disciples and of the Hungarian Yoga in Daily Life Ashrams – their board, yoga instructors, and all members – it's an honour to congratulate you Swamiji for this special award of "Pride of India", given to you at the British Parliament.

The occasion of receiving such an award is a great opportunity to review your activities in our country. In this letter, we can evoke even the most important events only partly, your 40 year's work in Hungary being so eventful.

We remember the unforgettable pleasure of your arrival to Hungary on 7<sup>th</sup> of May 1978 and the showering of Mahaprabhu Ji's wisdom to the listeners of your satsangs during the 30 days of your first visit. You visited most of the major cities of Hungary, such as Budapest, Szeged, Miskolc, etc. With an exceptional energy you taught authentic yoga and Indian spiritual heritage to several thousands of Hungarians – just in one month.

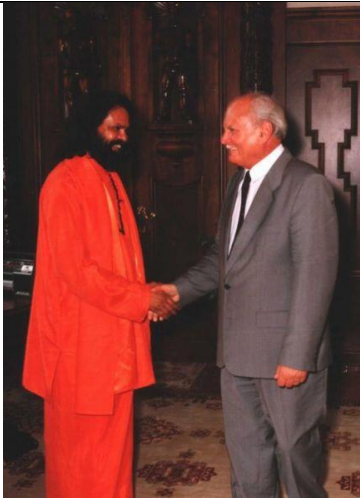
In each month, or even multiple times in a month, you visited Hungary between 1978-1980. In weekend seminars and in summer camps several weeks long, you taught yoga instructors and everyone inclined to spirituality and yoga. There were memorable yoga camps in Virágos-nyereg (1978) and Páty (1979). We were again together in Páty in 1980 with you and your Master, Holy Guruji – His Holiness Paramhans Swami Madhavanandji. During this time we received a marvellous blessing, when you and Guruji inaugurated the Budapest Ashram which was being built at that time. This place is known as the 'Hungarian Guru Ashram' since then.

Besides the major cities of Budapest, Debrecen, Miskolc, Szeged, etc. you travelled through the whole country, Pest, Hajdú-Bihar, Csongrád, Veszprém, Somogy, Vas, and Zala counties, among others.



*Yoga camp in Páty with Guruji and Swamiji in 1980*

There were memorable summer and weekend seminars in Kétegyháza, Mezőtúr, Budapest, Érd, Százhalombatta, Debrecen, and Vép.



*1992, Audience with the Hungarian President, Árpád Göncz, who expresses his appreciation of Swamiji's more than fifteen years of social and spiritual work for the people of Hungary*

The village of Vép (Vas county) is one of the main venues of international Yoga in Daily Life retreats since 1993. An agricultural school was established here in 1962, within the 700 years old, 135 acre park of the former Erdődy Castle. With its old trees, its large hall and kitchen, and the 2-4 bed hostel rooms this college is an ideal place for YIDL retreats. The International Sri Deep Madhavananda Ashram Fellowship has organised here weekend and summer yoga seminars for the past 20 years. Several hundreds of Hungarian and international disciples and practitioners, from neighbouring countries and from all over the world gather here time to time to practise yoga and the understanding between nations and religions – this being a major part of Swamiji’s teachings as part of social health.



*Bird's-eye view of the Vép castle*



*Swamiji leads open air asana practice in Vép*



*Swamiji's Satsang in great hall in Vép*



*A peace prayer in Érd and Százhalombata in 2002 – one of many such events in Hungary*



*8<sup>th</sup> World Peace Summit, 2-4 October 2009, organised by the Sri Deep Madhavananda World Peace Council, together with the Hungarian Association of Yoga in Daily Life. Honorary guests were: Ramu Damodaran from UN, H.E. Ranjit Rae, Ambassador of India in Hungary, Arun Manilal Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, Surya Kumar Bose, Ricaardoe di Done (Canada), and Prof. Timi Ecimovic (Slovenia).*



*Planting a Peace Tree in October 2009 in Szombathely, with the Town Mayor and participants of the World Peace Summit*

János Áder, President of Hungary invited Swamiji to an outstanding event in Hungary in 2013, the Budapest Water Summit.



*Swamiji gave a lecture at the Budapest Water Summit, 8-11 October 2013. High level representatives of governments, politicians, and scientists participated this Summit, opened by H.E. Ban Ki-moon, General Secretary of UN and H.E. János Áder, President of Hungary. At the Philanthropy Roundtable of the Water Summit, H.H. Swamiji introduced the Desert Rainwater Harvesting Initiative of the Sri Swami Madhavananda World Peace Council and Yoga in Daily Life.*



*Planting of 11 Peace Trees at the Svábhegy (Duna-Ipoly National Park), Budapest, in the frame of the Budapest 2013 Water Summit: Minister of Rural Development H. E. Sándor Fazekas, Deputy Secretary of State for Water, the Director of the Park, the Head of the Department for International Relations of the Ministry of Rural Development, and the Chief Adviser of the Special Ministerial Envoy, 7 October 2013*

Beloved Spiritual Master, Swami Ji,

We wish you from all of our hearts a long life in this Earth, to continue your work, which is a blessing for Humanity and each and every living being.

On behalf of all the members of the Hungarian Yoga in Daily Life, with love and gratitude,  
in the service of Mahaprabhu Ji and You:

Krishnanand

July 2014, Budapest