

Recollections of the Federation of the Sufi  
Message, April 2008  
by Neshamah Jami

Toward The One, the perfection of Love Harmony and Beauty. The Only Being. United with all the illuminated Souls, who form the embodiment of the Master... the Spirit of Guidance.

Dearest Family,

May All Blessings Be Upon You

I am just recently back from the Federation of the Message Retreat, at the Abode in upstate New York. There were about 70 of us present including representatives from the many and growing branches of the Message Tree, of Love Harmony and Beauty, brought forth through our BeLoved Master, Hazrat Inayat Khan. Those of us who were present at the last afternoon working session, have been asked to share the ideas that came forth during this meeting with all Branches of our Family, about how we can work together, as a united, world-wide community to help to spread and develop the Message of Love Harmony and Beauty. With this task in Heart and mind, I am writing to you all.

First, here is a brief over-view of our time together. Jami Klein will be writing up a more detailed summary, and perhaps others will, too, in the days to come. On the first morning we were all delighted to hear from Pir Hidayat and Pir Zia that the Sufi Movement and the Sufi Order have completed building the bridge that spans between their memberships. Then Pir Zia said that though the Sufi Order is not yet a full member of the Federation, that they have always been so in their Hearts, and that now that the issues between themselves and the Sufi Movement are nearly complete, that it won't be long until they are fully underneath our Federation Family umbrella. Many were moved to tears of joy as we then watched Pir Hidayat and Pir Zia warmly embrace, saying that we are all brothers and sisters!

Each morning we received practices and teachings from the many Orders that were present. Some of us met for the first time with representatives from the Fraternity of Light, as well as the Sufi Way, and the Sufi Contact. All were welcomed with open arms and Hearts, and it appears that after these many years of hard and Heart-full work, we are all opening into one love-full Family, who simply live in different Houses -- in a very large neighborhood!

Then after lunch the memberships of all of our communities were given opportunities to get intermingle together in small groups, with tasks that led to each of us

opening our Hearts and sharing a bit about our own hopes, dreams, and desires -- to see the Message unfolding... through our own Hands and Hearts! This was so very nice, and we got to know our Brothers and Sisters on a much deeper level.

The evenings were also shared with the different streams... and of course the Dances were an ever-present De-Light, that all so much enjoyed. We were treated to Dances led by members of the different communities, and some new Dances were learned by all!

The last afternoon we were asked if we had any ideas that we felt could spawn a worldwide involvement, of all of our Branches, in creating projects that would help to spread the Message. Jami Klein masterfully led the afternoon, inviting us to present and develop our ideas in small groups, and then asked us each to continue to work on developing these projects throughout the coming year. He also asked each of us to share widely these ideas, so that all over the world, members of all streams, could begin to see the value of the Federation in spurring us on, as we put into practice some of the ideas mentioned on this day.

To start our process, Jami presented us with the upcoming Centennial Celebration of the Hejirat, the day that Hazrat Inayat Kahn and his family began the voyage to bring the Message to the West. A group was formed to look into ideas on how we could promote similar celebrations, throughout our worldwide Family for this event, which will occur on September 13th, 2010, and a committee has now formed to begin to look at the various ways that this world-wide celebration can manifest. I am very happy to say that I will be one of the mureeds working on Jami's committee!

Aslan Sattler gathered a group who is looking into a worldwide email listing of any who would offer their home to a Family member traveling for the Message, while they were passing through their local community. This will definitely create very nice opportunities for our Families to get to know one another!

Then I presented to the group the idea of joining our many streams of the Healing Orders together on email lists, locally and world-wide, so that we all can be notified of urgent cases in need of collective prayers. I have begun such a list this year in the Bay Area, with Pir Shabda's blessing. On a yahoo group email site, each order places the names of those in our communities, who are in need of our Healing Prayers. Then these names are taken to our individual Healing Rituals, and placed onto our Healing Lists as space permits. Yet we are also invited to take these people into our Hearts and in our own homes, as we are able, we can hold them daily in our own personal prayers. The feeling is that in so working together, throughout our community, our individual

Heart-Lights are becoming more conscious of each other's Presence, and this creates a strong inner Harmony -- as well as lots of bright Lights in our city! This has working very well in our area.

A second idea about how we can all work together was also presented -- which is the forming of a World-Wide Prayer Circle for the Earth, to be organized by the Cherags of all of our many branches. This idea is based on the Universal Worship Service that I created in Boise, Idaho over twelve years, having come to me in vision in 1990. In that Prayer Circle, members from the Clergy of all of the local religious and Spiritual communities were invited to lead our Service, on a rotating basis, and bring their communities with them, to pray together for world peace -- all in one room! Starting with only 12 attendees, we soon grew to a loving community of over 300! The Service is based on the Universal Worship Service. The idea is that the leaders of our world-wide Cherags will work together to plan certain days, throughout the year, when we, as a world-wide Family will gather, in our local communities, to Pray together for World Peace. On those days, in Harmony with our world-wide Family, each community can also invite the members of their local Religious communities to join together with us in prayer. We can also be instruments in offering the Universal Worship to other Spiritual communities that invite us to attend other gatherings they are holding to pray for World Peace.

These are some of the gifts and ideas which came to us, as we worked together -- as many relatives belonging to One Family. But there is so much more to be shared! How we laughed and spoke and hugged one another! How we opened our Hearts and gave our Hearts permission to let go of the burden of closure! To soften, and to merge! And to feel at Peace with all members of our own Family!

On the Way to this meeting I was almost asleep in the airplane, when I heard a 'Whisper' say, "We must be an agent of change for the world, not another reflection of the times of separation!" Seems like this is coming to BE.

I have placed photos of the Federation Meeting onto Shutterfly, and here is the link to view them. If it does not come through for you, please let me know.

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with all love,  
and gratitude,  
Neshamah Jami  
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