



Coronation of the Goddess



Volume 1 - The Cabella Collection

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Dedication

Jai Shri Mataji

This is a heartfelt offering to Parampujaniya Shri Mataji of the great remembrances of the divine moments at the pujas held mostly in Europe. The crowns mark the coronation of our Holy Mother in the different aspects of the Divine (Deities) and their qualities awakened in our subtle system, in the three channels and our chakras. Shri Mataji blessed us with more than a hundred sakar pujas in Cabella, Italy, and these crowns are the testimony of the divine heritage that marks the uplifting spiritual journey of Her children. There are indeed many stories behind many crowns and how they were made with love, care and bhakti and graciously offered to Her.

The crowns are offered at the epitome of the puja, when we sing the arti with heartfelt feelings of gratitude and prayer, singing the praise of the Primordial Mother and Power.

This book, with pictorial memories of the different pujas, is wholeheartedly dedicated to our Divine Mother, Shri Mataji. We humbly pray Her divine chaitanya fills our limited beings.

Salutations again and again to our Holy Divine Mother.

Foreword

This book is the first volume in a series of books that will portray the crowns Shri Mataji wore during many of the pujas celebrated in all corners of the world. Around 120 crowns are now located in Cabella Ligure, as many of them were offered to Shri Mataji during pujas celebrated in Italy. Some of the crowns are from pujas that Shri Mataji celebrated in other countries and that were sent to Cabella over the years.

Collective effort

It is our desire to be able to print in book form the full collection of Shri Mataji's crowns. Many crowns are located in Sahaj ashrams around the world, and we would love to be able to photograph these and add them to future books on this topic.

Also, there are beautiful stories to go with many of these crowns, either about comments made by Shri Mataji when She received the crown, or that actually tell of the creative process that led to both the idea for a specific crown and the crown's creation. We are hoping to gather as much information as possible on each crown and add this to future books so that future generations will enjoy and remember the beautiful moments and blessings Shri Mataji granted to us.

We would like to thank all those who made this first book possible: photographers, graphic designers, restorers, and all those who helped with the process of identifying each crown and the puja to which it belongs. The effort to identify and locate many more crowns is ongoing, so if you know of any crowns hosted in your local collective, or if you have any recollection about stories around a particular crown, please do contact us so we may ensure that such memories are passed on to posterity.



*On cover: HH Shri Mataji Nirmala
Devi, during Easter Puja in Montague
Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow (United
Kingdom), 8 April 1985.*

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The Meaning of the Crown in the Puja

Humanity has surely reached a spiritual climax in the blessing bestowed upon us with the opportunity and privilege to worship Shri Adi Shakti in many of Her forms and Divine Incarnations.

The protocol of the puja, whilst a sincere expression of devotion, follows a series of steps that try to ensure that all the Divine Principles worshipped in that specific puja are pleased and satisfied with the expressed form of bhakti.

In each puja, we crown the divine qualities of the Deity we are worshipping. When we crown Shri Mataji, we are crowning Her qualities, as Shri Mataji explained in Navaratri Puja, 1982, for Shri Rama:

“And on this day, Rama was crowned, and that’s why they celebrate it. Now, Rama is the person – at that time He was crowned – He represents the benevolent king. And the benevolence of a king is being crowned. So that’s why they celebrate Diwali.”

The offering of a crown at the end of the puja to the Divine Principle worshipped is the culmination of the act of devotion, and the acceptance of such a crown is seen as a gesture of the Divine welcoming the puja being offered and bestowing the blessings upon the devotees.

We are truly privileged to be able to still have with us the crowns that Shri Mataji wore in so many of the pujas celebrated around the world, and surely they still carry with them the divine vibrations that emanated from the Divine Principle they coronated.

*Austria offers a crown to HH Shri Mataji
Nirmala Devi. Shri Krishna Puja,
24 August 1986, Schwarzsee (Switzerland).*







The Cabella Crown Collection

The crowns that are currently displayed in the library and meditation room of the Castle are all crowns that were offered to Shri Mataji at various pujas over the years. Most of these crowns were offered at pujas that took place in Cabella and elsewhere in Italy. Others were offered at pujas that took place in various other countries and were sent to Cabella at the instruction of Shri Mataji.

The crowns in most pujas were worn by Shri Mataji at the end of the puja as the culmination of the act of worship of the Goddess in Her various forms and embodied Divine Principles, whilst others were offered together with the puja gifts.

These crowns were all stored securely in Cabella in the Castle, and in the spring of 2023 they were taken from their storage units for a team of dedicated Sahaja Yogis to restore them to their full beauty, whilst other Sahaja Yogis built beautiful and majestic display units where today the crowns can be enjoyed by all those visiting the Castle.

We know for sure that many more such crowns exist in other countries around the world, and in the years to come we will try to include them in a separate book dedicated to the Crown Collection to further enhance our record of the great blessing bestowed upon humanity.

The Worship of the Goddess Adi Shakti

*The library in Palazzo Doria in Cabella
Ligure where the crowns offered to
HH Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi during the
pujas are displayed.*





Italy

Italy has truly been blessed by Shri Mataji for many years. Shri Mataji travelled to all corners of the country and granted us the blessing of worshipping Her in many aspects of Divine Incarnations. A legacy of spiritual heritage has been created all over Italy based on Shri Mataji's visits to so many places, and part of this legacy are the exquisite crowns Shri Mataji wore at many of the pujas in the country. We are happy to now share with the world this collection of crowns hosted in Cabella Ligure and display to all the grandeur and beauty of the Divine Incarnation of the Adi Shakti.

*The stage in Nirmal Temple ready
for the Shri Ganesha Puja.
Albera Ligure (Italy), 5 September 1998.*





Shri Ganesha Puja *You Should Be Prepared to Change*

19 May 1985

Sant'Angelo Romano

“It’s a great day for Me to come to Italy to celebrate Ganesha Puja. The nature which we see around is the blessing of the Ganesha only, because He is the one who prays to the Mother Earth that She should grant Her blessings upon human beings. It is He who moulds all the elements of the nature and moulds them to create life. As you call them, these are all carbohydrates. Now, the carbohydrates have got carbon and hydrogen. Carbon is coming from Shri Ganesh and hydrogen is coming from Mahakali. And that is how this universe is created in this beautiful way all around us.”

“Now, this is also, we should say, is the work of Shri Ganesha. He resides as Omkara in the Ritambhara Pragnya. He resides on the electromagnetic forces as the vibrations in the matter, in every atom. He resides in every ripple of our emotions which gives us joy. And He resides as a beautiful decoration of the Kundalini because she has the red and the gold colour, just like My sari. So as the colour of the Kundalini He resides. But at Sahasrara, He becomes the joy. At Mooladhara, as the fragrance. And every memory of the mind should give you fragrance because He is the Lord of memory.”





Materials

Crown made of silk filled with cotton, decorated with pearl imitations and plastic applications.





Diwali Puja

The World Is Your Problem

29 October 1989

Montecatini Terme

“Yesterday was such a nice time we had together, and we really enjoyed Diwali, I think. I’ve never seen such a joyous ocean, absolutely going in a tempest. We have achieved the purpose of Diwali Puja, I think, only yesterday: it’s to feel the joy of God’s love.

To enjoy others, first of all you must accept the goodness of other people – not mentally; from your heart. And that will bring the benevolence on this country of ours, which we call the Kingdom of God.”





Materials

Crown made of wire and tin or tin alloy, covered with green velvet, embroidered with glass beads, gemstone imitations, decorative applications and Shri Lakshmi medallions.



“So, that is the second part of the Diwali, that you have to open your heart. Forget your nationality, forget your race, forget everything. It’s a funny kind of things Sahaja Yogis have: They must be respected, they must be treated like this, or may be that: ‘We are something great and they are no good.’ If you cannot mix up with the collective, something’s wrong with you. Nothing wrong with others. Easy to find faults with others. But what’s the use? If you start finding faults with others, you do not become clean. Supposing I find that your clothes are not clean. My clothes are not going to get cleaned by that, are they? It’s so practical and simple it is, that we should see ourselves, what’s wrong with us, and improve ourselves so that we can really, really, from our heart, enjoy.”





Materials

Crown made of silver with a ruby stone.



Shri Mahashivaratri Puja

Four Nadis of the Heart

16 February 1991
Chianciano Terme

“*Bhakti is – you can call it adoration, this, that – but it is the ocean of love that is God. You just get drenched into it. There’s no words to it. And that is what, when you feel, you must know, that you have taken the Spirit as a real connection between you and your Mother, or your Father. There’s no differentiation. You are one in that ocean, drenched in the ocean. You are the drop, you are the ocean, you are one in that bhakti. And that bhakti cannot be mechanical, because not man-made. So to enjoy Sahaja Yoga, you must know that it’s not dry vibrations only but is the bhakti. That is the joy of Shiva’s quality, the quality of joy that He adds to our life. Everything seems to be surrounded, resounding. Same thing the joy, that, ‘I’m loved so much by God,’ that ‘God loves me,’ that ‘I have a meaning in life.’ Then the ego drops out, first of all, and also the conditionings drop out.*”







Materials

Crown made of metal decorated with pearls, clear and green crystals and glass beads.

Guru Puja

Four Obstacles

28 July 1991
Cabella Ligure

“So as a Mother, to be a guru is a very difficult thing. At the same time, for you to achieve heights is also difficult. Because you get lost when I love you so much, and in that love you forget sometimes that the progress in your being is very slow. It is important that in Sahaja Yoga you have to be strict with yourself. That's why I said that you have to be your own guru, which people do not understand what it means. You have to be your own guru means you have to guide yourself; you have to treat yourself as your disciple and you have to trim yourself. If you do not understand the responsibility as Sahaja Yogi, of working it out yourself everything, you cannot move very fast, because it is a different type of relationship between the Guru and the disciples.”







Shri Krishna Puja

Yogeshwara - The Technique of the Play

1 September 1991

Cabella Figure

“He’s so capable that for Him it’s a play. All this is a play for Him. And this is what one has to know, that in yoga everything that you do should be just a play. Say, getting up at five o’clock in the morning should be play. In the morning you get up, say, it’s not yet – the sun has not come to suggest what you have to do and the moon has departed, and in that twilight or a little darkness, you get up. It’s very beautiful, and that time you sit down for dyana. It’s not a serious thing. It’s not something that is boring. It’s a play. But, for that, you have to be a master. If you’re the master of yoga, then it’s a play. So, the first Shri Rama state has to be there, where you become really Vishwa Nirmala Dharmi, so that it becomes your play.”

“In those days, Kundalinis were awakened, but it was not that Sahasrara was broken. So Kundalini must be somewhere hanging in the Agnya maybe, at Heart maybe somewhere. And such people became the seekers. And that’s how we find today people are here, as Sahaja Yogis whose Sahasraras are open, and they know all the yukti of Sahaja Yoga. But there are subtler and subtler yuktis of Sahaja Yoga, which you have to master.







Materials

Silver crown decorated with gemstone, colourful and clear crystals, with peacock feather.



The first is that His character was madhurya, meaning ‘the sweetness.’ Sweetness. He always says, ‘Sweet like honey.’ So, when He talked to anyone or He communicated with anyone, it was through sweetness. And this communication, if you have not developed, then you are nowhere near yoga. To talk to someone sweetly, automatically everything is madhuri for Him: His talking, His actions, His face. Everything is madhuri. So, when we talk of communications, first of all the greatest thing is the communication between human beings.”





Shri Ganesha Puja
*Shri Ganesha
 and His Qualities*
 15 September 1991
 Cabella Ligure

“Shri Ganesha accepts everything. He has a head with a trunk. He accepts it. Of course, is important – He should have that. Because head of the elephant suggests that He is not like a human being who develops ego, superego, conditionings, but He is just all the time one with the Divine. He accepts His body, He accepts His head, He accepts His ears, He accepts everything that He is made of. He doesn't aspire to something; some entrepreneurs put some ideas and He wouldn't go run after them. He won't try to change Himself,





He won't try to create that fashion and all that. He is what He is because He is a satisfied soul. The Kundalini on the stomach shows a complete, self-contented, satisfied personality of Shri Ganesha. When you have all the powers within you, you know you are powerful, then you don't hanker after all these things, and you don't try to make a position or an impression of others.”



Materials

Crown made of cardboard covered in decorative paper, decorated with fashion crystals and applications.





Navaratri Puja (6th Day)

Recognize Me

13 October 1991

Cabella Ligure

“There were nine times when the major incarnations of the Mother of this universe were manifested. They are manifested with a purpose. That purpose is to protect Her bhaktas, Her disciples, Her children. This was a binding love; She could not escape it. Mother’s love is binding. She cannot escape it. And She has to manifest it, work it out and give that protection to all Her children. This protection in the modern times has taken another form.”

“You shouldn’t worry about your reputation. Just go with full speed into any direction knowing one thing: that you are My child and





Materials

Crown made of cardboard covered with golden paper and decorated with pearl and gemstone imitations, decorative string and fashion jewelry.



that I am Adi Shakti. Everything that looks horrible will become better. We have seen it now in this France case and all that, what has happened. Don't worry about anything. Just know that I am the Adi Shakti, that all the powers of God and Goddesses and all that are within Me, and they are within Me and they are all looking after you. But if that recognition is not there, they are not going to recognize you either. So, for today's Navaratri, I have to tell you that just try to keep in mind that today you are worshipping the Adi Shakti and not only Durga. And you are worshipping Durga and all these Goddesses to thank them, because if they had not saved you that time you had been so frightened, you would have become bad people and would not have been here. That is why we are thankful to them for saving us and giving us this protection at that time when we were very helpless.”





Adi Kundalini Puja

Pure Love

21 June 1992

Cabella Ligure

“So, to this Kundalini, which is nothing but is the river – as yesterday they described nirvaj, which doesn’t accept any compensation – the river of that pure love which has awakened us with such love, kindness and tenderness, we should try to use that power within ourselves to be like that. Because our job is, She has given us realisation for the emancipation of the whole world, not only our own. So, everyone has to give realisation to others, otherwise their Kundalini will settle back. Talk about Sahaja Yoga. Sahaja Yoga is not part-time, it is not a side issue; it should be always with you. Wherever you get a chance, you have to talk about Sahaja Yoga, you have to work it out, you have to give realisation; otherwise, no use.”





Materials

Knitted and pressed lace to create the crown, and decorated with crystals.

Great Joy for the Spanish Collective

Story of the Crown for Shri Adi Kundalini Puja. Cabella (Italy), 21 June 1992
by Alejandra Sánchez

At this period in time, Shri Mataji did not wear all the crowns that were offered to Her. She used to put on a gold crown and leave the others at Her feet. So, in this puja I didn't know for sure if Mother was going to wear the crown that I had made for Her. We would only know this when the women who had helped Her to decorate removed the sari. I remember in this puja just asking Shri Mataji, 'Please, Shri Mataji, put on the crown. Please, Shri Mataji, if You don't want to, don't put it on, but please put on the crown.' And when they removed the sari and I saw that Shri Mataji was wearing the crown I had made and another tiny gold one on top of it, you can imagine my feelings: I felt immense love and total gratitude.

The next day, when Shri Mataji received the yogis from Spain in Her room, they saw that the crown had been placed on top of the head of a big wooden statue of Shri Ganesha. That was a moment of great joy for the whole collective.





Guru Puja

Gravity

19 July 1992

Cabella Figure

“Just see. Witness. Just seeing, itself, creates that state within us, the first state – is very important – that you become the witness, the sakshi. As soon as you become the sakshi, the whole thing, whatever you are seeing, gives you the complete idea – subtle as well as gross – of that thing. You see it and you know it and, as a Sahaja Yogi, it becomes your knowledge. We can say, in the modern terminology, that you see something, it gets recorded in your mind and it manifests joy, it manifests knowledge, it manifests compassion – whatever may the situation. Because now you have many dimensions which you have to develop. These dimensions are to be developed.”



Materials

Crown made of cut and perforated tin or tin alloy decorated with clear crystals and fashion jewelry.



“In the most chaotic conditions this world is today. So, at that time a kind of a silence will come within you. When there will be any such crisis, immediately you will become extremely silent. But this is again a state, I am telling you. So now, if there is something that makes you upset or makes you unhappy, try to reach that point, that axis, which is just silence. And this silence will make you really powerful because this silence is not only yours. When you are in that silence, you are in the silence of the cosmos, silence of the cosmos. And the silence of the cosmos works for you. You are in connection with that cosmic Power, we can call it. But it's more than that; it's Divine Power, I should say. Divine Power which is working all the cosmos also. So, if you just become silent within yourself, know that you are sitting in the Kingdom of God.”





“Even though the Power of God is eager to confer you with beautiful upward movement. Just like a lotus it has uplifted you also. But to remain in that state, you have to put some effort. The effort is very beautiful – it is of love.

How do we describe love? The meaning of love is that whenever, whatever work you do should be for your welfare and welfare of others. Welfare should support the Spirit. The welfare of the Spirit is love and is joy.

You believe Me, that's all right. You have to believe; what can I do? But believing should not be that: 'We touched Mother's feet,' 'We gave offerings to Mother,' 'We gave flower to Mother' – no. You should become the garland around My neck. You should become, not the garland. You become the garland around My neck. You become My grandeur, then I will accept that you believe in Me. The world should say, 'I had met a Sahaja Yogi, and seeing him I felt there is something special.'

The diamond that was within you, I got it out and kept it in front of you, saying, 'Son, you are that diamond. You become the shine of this diamond.' I did not do anything else. And when that diamond comes up front, then people also see and get astonished: 'Sir, what were they and now what they have become? Earlier, they were not equivalent to even the stones and gravel; now, they have become the diamond and shining in the crown of the Mother.'”

Talk to Sahaja Yogis: *Learn to Love Yourself*. Delhi (India), 16 February, 1986.

Dear Holy Mother, please make us all worthy of becoming diamonds of purity and love in Your crown!

