

# It was Another Magnificent Tour of India: Kali Bharat Yatra (KT&T) Receives Lavish Praises

By Dr. Tara Singh

**“T**his trip was more fulfilling and enjoyable than the last one I made to India 14 years ago. The group experience has been joyful and entertaining. It was well-organized with knowledgeable and friendly tour guides and filled with high-quality entertainment, great food, and wonderful places to visit.” Tara Raoutie Persaud, like her fellow Yatrans, is overjoyed with her recent Indian experience gained, as part of a tour party to North India that was organized by Kali Bharat Yatra Travel and Tours, the only Indo-Caribbean tour operator recognized by the Government of India Tourist Board.

The 29th consecutive Kali Bharat Yatra tour to India captioned, “Kali Bharat Yatra presents Nirvana Tour of India,” returned to New York on January 14, 2012 after having spent 16 days in India. The tour party (Yatrans) consisted of 26 individuals, most of who were traveling to India, the land of their ancestors, for the first time. Yatrans say that they would have not traded that for anything else in this world. They praised Ramesh Kalicharran, Kali Bharat Yatra Tour director, for his excellent knowledge of India and his magnificent logistical arrangements.

The tour lived up to their expectations and the images and memories they have embraced, have been spectacular. The splendor of the Taj Mahal, an icon of everlasting love; the serenity of Mathura, the birth place of Lord Krishna; the sanctity of a dip into the Ganges; the sprawling and compelling architecture of the Akshardham of Delhi, a new wonder the world; and the spiritual aura of the Elephanta Caves, added glitter to their repertoire of unfor-

Cross section of group on Laxman Jhula



gettable experiences. Not to mention the humility and hospitality of the tour guide, Sunil.

This tour was organized primarily for the Nirvana Humanitarian Foundation (NHF), whose president is Pt Ramdular. The NHF was founded in 1997 as a cultural and humanitarian foundation. The Nirvana Resource Center supports educational activities in Guyana such as providing several low-cost computer and life-skills programs to the needy students of West Coast Demerara. NHF has been making generous donations to many disaster relief funds such as Tsunami and the Guyana floods, as well as, to Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) that run specific programs for the benefit of the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in New York, Guyana, and elsewhere.

Ramesh Deochand says: “This is my second visit to India. The first time was indeed beautiful, but on this occasion my experience has been more enjoyable, simply because of the excellent ‘arrangements’ made by the organizer; the relationship with the tour guide, bus-driver, conductor, the Nirvana Group and Mr. Kalicharran himself.” Ramesh’s wife, Parbatie Tej Singh, shares a similar view. For Pandit Ramdular “it has been a dream realized in its most spectacular form, and the experience will be etched indelibly in my memory.” For Parbatie Singh the experience has been emotional. “I was returning to the land of my grand-parents. To visit and participate in pooja, artie and having a dip in the Ganga have been a spiritual fulfillment. What a lesson in culture, history, architectural grandeur, breath-taking landscape, and people so friendly, polite and accommodating of our group!” Par-



Group at Citypalace at Jaipur

bati admits that the trip was beyond her expectations.

Hardyie Ramsumair, originally from Trinidad & Tobago, claims that her dip in the Ganga is an unforgettable experience. She cried, laughed, danced, shopped and had great fun with a group of people that she calls her family. “Stunning sceneries, beautiful buildings—my God, the Taj Mahal, the Akshardham, and the palaces in Rajasthan! What more could I have looked forward to? Thanks to Kali, Sunil, Bhajrang and Yogi. An experience to behold!” Champadai Ramsundar of Canada states: “I never dreamt of bathing in the Ganga—it was a great spiritual experience.” She is very impressed with “wonderful people, great places, in addition to the superb entertainment and joy.”

Mona (Alisha) Persaud, a trained classical dancer and choreographer (a Arengatrem graduate) and an Atorney notes: “This has been a tour full of entertainment, poignant spiritual experience, an education in history, culture and exquisite monuments to behold as well as warm people. I cannot wait for the next tour.” Another Yatran, Lena McGowan, proclaims, “it was one of my best vacations ever; I enjoyed the wonder of India.” She continues: “I had a ball of a time with entertainment; interacted with a wonderful group of people, and took a spiritually fulfilled dip in the Ganga. Sunil, Bhajrang, and Murgie (Yogi) were a joy to be with and I absolutely enjoyed the trip. Above all thanks to Kali-ji.”

Tara Ramsahai had a great trip, too. “I was absolutely mesmerized by India. I had great fun.” An enthusiastic Ramsahai further states: “Our prayers at



Part of group at Udaipur

Haridwar, Rishikesh; the scenic joys in Rajasthan, Agra and the Akshardham in New Delhi, together with a visit to the Elephanta Caves and Mumbai, have been some of the highlights. I can visit again – particularly with the same group and the same organizer – Kali and his wonderful workers.” Maimoon Persaud observes: “I am truly blessed to have visited India the land of my fore-parents.” Other members (Jasoda Hansraj, Shanta Chand-

paul, Indroutie Raghubir, Ashwinie Persaud, Parbaty S. Singh, Durpatty Misir, Muniram Tej Singh, Shanti Tej Singh, Sahadeo Rameshwar, Rameshwar, Swerany Sue Sahadeo, Seeroinie Persaud, Kamla Rampariag, among others) share almost similar pleasant, fascinating and self-fulfilling experience.

This Kali Bharat Yatra tour to India covered the Hanging Gardens, the Kamla Nehru Park, the Mani Bhawan, the Prince of Wales Museum and Gateway of India in Delhi, as well as, Lake Pichola in Udaipur where Colombian singer-songwriter, Shakira, held a concert, the Astronomical Observatory and the Hawa Mahal in Jaipur. Other fascinating places visited included Mathura (Lord Krishna’s birthplace), Bindra- van (the place where Lord Krishna grew up), the Taj Mahal of Agra and the Elephanta Caves of Mumbai. An exuberant Ramesh D Kalicharran observes: “Although I have been doing this for 29 years, every time I embark upon a new tour, I find additional joy and satisfaction.”



Group at Taj Mahal at Agra



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