

# *The Hearts Center*®

July 17, 2008

India Pilgrimage letter #3

Dear Fellow Pilgrim,

I trust that you're finding time to do your personal research on India. The masters have stated often that the more informed we are in the history and culture of the countries we visit, the more teaching they can release. India has a long rich history in which each of us has likely embodied many times. It's quite fascinating, as an example, to study the religions of India and to realize how many of the world religions actually started in India. Travel guides are an excellent place to start. They provide thumbnail sketches of the important places as well as a snap shot of the history and culture of the nation. The internet is another great source. Just Google "India" and read up on the sites listed on our itinerary.



## **Teens/children**

The Hearts Center does encourage the participation of our youth on this pilgrimage. Therefore we have implemented a \$300 discount for teens and children. This will apply to the main pilgrimage only. There is no discount available on the Extension.

## **Final payment**

*Your final payment is to reach me by August 1<sup>st</sup>. If your reservation was for both the pilgrimage and the extension and you made a deposit of \$300, your final payment is \$2,345. If your reservation was for the pilgrimage only and you made a deposit of \$200 against the \$1,795 cost, then your final payment is \$1,595. If you have any questions give me a call at 406-223-5459.*

## **Date-of-Birth (DOB)**

In India they require each person's DOB for advance booking on the train. In that we will be traveling onboard the train on three occasions, I need your DOB. It may seem an unusual request to us, however, it is the protocol in India. **Therefore. I ask everyone to**

**please include your DOB with your final payment or email your date of birth directly to me at [phaugen@theheartcenter.org](mailto:phaugen@theheartcenter.org)**

## **Flights**

Many of you have chosen to fly on Air India. As mentioned previously, it is the lowest non-stop airfare between New York (JFK) and Delhi (DEL) at around \$1,030.

At this time we do not have enough requests to fly on American Airlines to qualify for group travel. As more heartfriends elect to join the pilgrimage, we can continue to assess the possibility of group travel on American Airlines.

Those of us traveling from Montana have found Continental Airlines to be our best option. Our routing is via Newark (EWR) and then non-stop to DEL. You may want to look at Continental as an option for yourself. Go directly to the Continental website as their fares are as low as you'll find amongst all the airline search engines.

In booking your return flight, *it is very critical to pay close attention to the departure time.* For example, Continental departs DEL at 10:35 p.m. on October 28<sup>th</sup> and Air India departs DEL at 00:30 a.m. on the 29<sup>th</sup>. The departure times are only 2 hours apart; yet, their departures are on different days.

Do keep in mind that once you purchase your airline ticket you “lock-in” your fare. It is no longer subject to fuel surcharge increases.

If you have any questions about booking your flights, do give me a call or send me an email.

## **Passport**

Just a reminder regarding your passport. *You must have a passport with six months validity beyond the date of your travel: i.e. April 28, 2009 or beyond.*

## **Visa**

*A visa is required for all U.S. citizens visiting India. Each pilgrim is responsible for securing their own visa in advance.* Application for an India visa can be made on line at: [http://www.americanpassport.com/India\\_Tourist\\_visa.php](http://www.americanpassport.com/India_Tourist_visa.php). Those traveling from other countries can Google “India Visa” for their country’s requirements. One question on the application asks the name and address of your travel agency. It is: Mosaic India Tours Pvt. Ltd., EC-16, Inderpuri Extn., New Delhi-110 012 INDIA. Please email me once you have secured your visa. **You will not be allowed to fly to India from your country of origin without this visa.**

## **India pilgrimage insert and visual**

The Hearts Center Pilgrimage to India insert (CS-45) is on the website and a visual with the double dorje over India is also posted on the site. Please print them out and use them daily.

It’s less than three months until our departure!

AOV,  
**Paul**