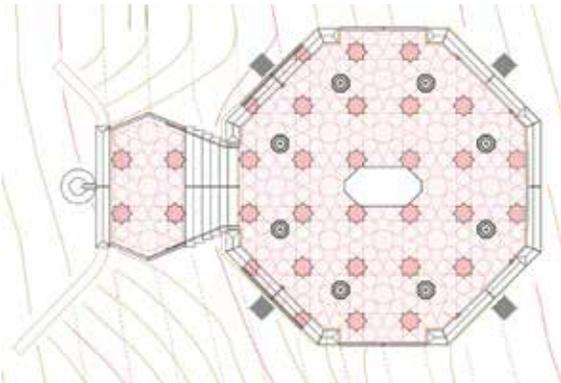


The outline for the Dargah of Murshid Samuel Lewis is an open pavilion or gazebo; no walls, with eight stone carved pillars at 24 feet across, wooden corbels, a wood-framed dome and an overhang for shade covered by copper. Murshid Sam's white quartz stone covered burial mound will remain untouched, surrounded by a stone floor, cut in a geometric pattern.



We build the shrine in stone, wood, and copper in an attempt to provide a container to experience the magnificence of the inner reality that is our Eternal and Infinite Source. Our hope and effort is to build a structure that will last 500 years!

The website for more information, updates on the process, or to make a donation is:

dargahproject.ruhaniat.org

The Sufi Ruhaniat International deeply appreciates your prayers, support and generosity toward this vision.

While we recognize that each of us has our own relationship to giving and pilgrimage, we offer some simple guidelines of giving that would support this project.

We note the blessing value of your participation.

One Time or Annual Donation
Suggested Amounts:

\$11 \$101 \$501 \$1,001 \$10,001 \$20,001

Tax deductible donations for this project can be given in the following ways:

1) Check

Check payable to: Sufi Ruhaniat International
On the check memo, write SAM Dargah Project
Mail check to:
Sufi Ruhaniat International
PO Box 22
Makawao, HI 96768

2) PayPal

Go to www.paypal.com
Send money to: info@Ruhaniat.org
In the note section, write SAM Dargah Project

3) Credit Card

Contact Basira Beardsworth
Ruhaniat Secretariat & Treasurer
info@Ruhaniat.org
808-280-2710 telephone * Hawaii Time Zone
877-782-4461 fax

4) Make a Pledge for an Annual Donation

Contact Basira Beardsworth
Ruhaniat Secretariat & Treasurer
info@Ruhaniat.org
808-280-2710 telephone * Hawaii Time Zone
877-782-4461 fax



Sufi Ruhaniat International



Murshid Samuel Lewis Dargah Project

Samuel Lewis was an American Mystic, born and raised in the Mission District of San Francisco in the late 1800's. Through a lifetime of assiduous study of all of the world's scriptures, and deep practice within a number of spiritual traditions, including Sufism, Zen Buddhism, Christianity, Kabbalah and Hinduism, he achieved highest realizations. In the late 1960's Murshid Lewis was discovered by a number of "Flower Children" who had migrated to San Francisco in search of a new way of life. Murshid soon became known as Sufi SAM, bringing into being Sufi Dancing, now known as the Dances of Universal Peace and practiced in more than thirty countries.

With open arms to all, he taught the many young people who had become his students that there is one God, each individual having their own unique path to this discovery. Prior to his death in 1971 he founded the Sufi Ruhaniat International, a universal sufi lineage, which uses the mysticism flowing from all the world's religious traditions. Murshid SAM is now considered by many to be the first Sufi Master born in the western world.

Murshid Samuel Lewis knew the value of Pilgrimage. When visiting the shrines of saints in the East, he was able to sit and receive their direct guidance. And what a blessing it is that he received inspiration for the Dances of Universal Peace at the Dargah (shrine) of Hazrat Salim Chishti, in Fatehpur Sikri, India (below).



Before his passing he predicted that his own resting place would become a touchstone, a place where pilgrims could receive guidance and answers to life's questions. To his disciples, he stressed the importance of creating such shrines and pilgrimage places in America.

Murshid Samuel Lewis passed on January 15, 1971 and is buried at the Lama Foundation in New Mexico (below). Many of us have found pilgrimage to this site to be a rich and inspirational journey.



The connection between the teacher and the disciple is in no way dependent on one or the other being in the body.

Murshid Samuel Lewis



Appreciating the paradox of being able to find the teacher everywhere, we find great value in the pilgrimage, the living presence that we feel at a dargah, the opening and expansion that occurs when we are able to sit and listen.

Currently, when sitting or Dancing by Murshid Sam's grave (below), one is not able to stay for more than a short time because of the intense sun at an elevation of 8700 feet above sea level.



In 2007, Pir Shabda Kahn, lineage holder for the Sufi Ruhaniat International, received compelling inner guidance to design and build a proper, beautiful and functional shrine - Dargah - at Murshid Sam's gravesite. Manifesting this vision will be a powerful and vitalizing force for the Ruhaniat, for Lama Foundation and for humanity for many generations to come. Such sacred spaces offer infinitely more than a quiet place to meditate - they can become a portal to the Awakened Heart.

Hazrat Inayat Khan's Dargah 1976



In 1976, Sufi Hazrat Inayat Khan's Dargah in Mother India was open-air, open to the sky, and quite unusable for more than a short visit because of the elements. Now, and for the past several decades, Hazrat Inayat Khan's Dargah has been beautifully fashioned with a protective dome, and it is very accomodating for even large groups of seekers.

Hazrat Inayat Khan's Dargah Present

