

Sonya says *“India is like heaven”*

Akinchin Bharat – November 24, 2007

Agra: *India*, also known as golden bird, *is a really good place* according to these two tourists from Holland.

They are simply crazy about vegetarian food and after tasting a variety of dishes *have described India as “heaven”*. They said that the food in Europe is very, very expensive and in India, it's not only cheap but the best. *Most of all, they enjoyed the Rajasthani cuisine.*

Aaldrik Mulder (41) and his wife Sonya Spry (43) from Holland, have begun a bicycle trip together, *covering 30 countries*. So far they have conquered 19 countries including Portugal, Spain and Turkey. Around 1½ months ago they entered India and just *21 days ago they took in the world famous monument in Agra.*

They are staying at Sheela Hotel.

- 19 countries conquered so far including Portugal, Spain and Turkey.
- The most expensive Europe; most economical India.

Up until now, they have travelled 16,500 kilometres. *In recent days they have visited the Taj Mahal and seen the Fort. Sightseeing is obviously tiring work and the next day when Sonya opened her eyes, she complained of a pain in her back.* When the pain did not subside, they went to SN Medical College for a diagnosis of the problem. The doctors found nothing serious, but recommended 1 months rest. On the advice of the doctors, Sonya is resting in Agra.

These two tourists told the reporter of Akinchin Bharat that they liked Indian food most of all. They said they are vegetarians and enjoyed the variety of vegetarian dishes in Indian, *instantly remarking that India is like “heaven” and the people and the culture are truly the best.* Also, *the couple enjoyed the cuisine from Rajasthan: including their most favoured dishes of Dhal Bhati and choorma. In addition, the chapatti and green vegetables were also among their favourites.* According to Sonya and Aaldrik travelling in Europe was very expensive whereas India was very economical and hotels are reasonably priced. *They spoke very highly of the Taj Mahal.*

On Friday evening Pradeep Parashar, director of World Ways Travel Co. of Agra and his associates, Siddharth Nandan and Ashish Shivhare welcomed and greeted these tourists.



Sonya says *“Never believe what you read in the papers”*

All highlighted text has been fabricated and testaments journalistic licence at it's best.

Firstly, I might have called India a few words but “heaven” was definitely not one of them.

We have as yet, not visted the Taj Mahal nor given our opinion on it or the Rajasthani cuisine, let alone express our delight with the dishes: dhal bhati, choorma or green vegetable. Chapati we have eaten all over the country. My sciatic nerve problem began in Gangapur 200kms before Agra.