

MOORABBIN LEADER

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SARS clips guru's wings

Indian spiritual leader Sri Mata Amritanandamayi has cancelled her planned visit to Moorabbin due to the SARS outbreak.

Known as Amma, she is considered a saint in her home country and was scheduled to run three free sessions at the Kingston Arts Centre.

The Australian branch of Amma's charitable foundation said last week that her national tour had been cancelled.

In a statement, Melbourne media representative Michaela Rost said: "Amma sincerely regrets having to take this unavoidable decision.

"Because of SARS, international airlines have been cancelling flights and stops, making air travel unpredictable and undependable.

"For a large group such as Amma's, traveling could mean missing connection, being re-routed and even stranded. It would not only affect the Australian tour but also Amma's other commitments."

It is not known whether Amma will reschedule her Moorabbin visit.

(Courtesy of Leader Community Newspapers)