Curried Zucchini Soup, (modified from an Emeril Lagasse's Food Network recipe)

Yield: 8-12 servings

- 2 tablespoons <u>vegetable oil</u> (better to use coconut oil)
- 2 cups chopped yellow onions
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic (I usually put in one whole pod)
- 4 teaspoons <u>curry powder</u>
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Pinch cayenne (or more if you like hot)
- 4 pounds <u>zucchini</u>, trimmed and chopped (leave on a little skin for vitamins and sometimes if I have some yellow squash I use both)
- 7 cups <u>vegetable stock</u> (I use "Better Than Bouillon" vegeteble base)
- 2 cans whole coconut milk (Emeril used cream, rather than coconut milk)
- 1 Tablespoon sugar (optional, but it's better with the sugar)
- Chopped cilantro, garnish (I put a big handful in the soup as I blend it)
- Fried pappadums, or toasted pita triangles, <u>accompaniment</u>

Directions

In a medium pot, heat the oil over medium-high heat. Add the onions and garlic and cook, stirring, until soft, about 3 minutes. Add the curry powder, salt, and cayenne, stir, and cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Add the zucchini, reduce to medium heat, and cook, stirring occasionally, until soft, 5 to 6 minutes. Add the <u>stock</u> and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer until the zucchini is very tender, about 20 minutes.

Remove from the heat. With a hand-held <u>immersion blender</u>, or in batches in a <u>food processor</u>, puree the soup. <u>Return</u> to medium heat and stir in the coconut milk. Simmer for 3 minutes. Adjust the seasoning, to taste.

Pour into a clean container and let cool slightly. Refrigerate until well chilled, 4 to 6 hours.

To serve, ladle into large cups, garnish with <u>cilantro</u>, and serve with hot pappadums or pita toast.

This soup is fabulous hot or cold.

PS: I added some fresh cilantro to the mix when I was whirring it with the blender. Not cooked, but fresh in the mix, then more after plating as a garnish.