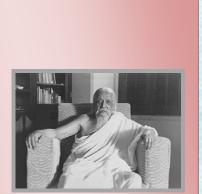
E-Newsletter of SACAR (Sri Aurobindo Centre for Advanced Research)

August 2010

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MĀSA

What Sri Aurobindo represents in the history of the earth's spiritual progress is not a teaching, not even a revelation; it is a mighty action straight from the Supreme. The Mother

Sri Aurobindo is always with us, enlightening, guiding, protecting. We must answer to his grace by a perfect faithfulness. The Mother A prayer, a master act, a king idea Can link man's strength to a transcendent Force.

Savitri, Book I, Canto II

Darshan Greetings to All Our Readers

August 15, 2010 marks the 138th birthday of Sri Aurobindo. It is also the 63rd birthday of free and new India. Let us today recall the five dreams of Sri Aurobindo that were broadcast as part of his August 15, 1947 message on All India Radio, Tiruchirapalli:

August 15th, 1947 is the birthday of free India. It marks for her the end of an old era, the beginning of a new age. But we can also make it by our life and acts as a free nation an important date in a new age opening for the whole world, for the political, social, cultural and spiritual future of humanity.

August 15th is my own birthday and it is naturally gratifying to me that it should have assumed this vast significance. I take this coincidence, not as a fortuitous accident, but as the sanction and seal of the Divine Force that guides my steps on the work with which I began life, the beginning of its full fruition. Indeed, on this day I can watch almost all the world-movements which I hoped to see fulfilled in my lifetime, though then they looked like impracticable dreams, arriving at fruition or on their way to achievement. In all these movements free India may well play a large part and take a leading position.

The first of these dreams was a revolutionary movement which would create a free and united India. India today is free but she has not achieved unity. ...the old communal division into Hindus and Muslims seems now to have hardened into a permanent political division of the country....This must not be; the partition must go...unity must and will be achieved, for it is necessary for the greatness of India's future.

Another dream was for the resurgence and liberation of the peoples of Asia and her return to her great role in the progress of human civilization....There India has her part to play and has begun to play it with an energy and ability which already indicate the measure of her possibilities and the place she can take in the council of the nations. The third dream was a world-union forming the outer basis of a fairer, brighter and nobler life for all mankind.... A new spirit of oneness will take hold of the human race.

Another dream, the spiritual gift of India to the world has already begun. India's spirituality is entering Europe and America in an ever increasing measure. That movement will grow; amid the disasters of the time more and more eyes are turning towards her with hope and there is even an increasing resort not only to her teachings, but to her psychic and spiritual practice.

The final dream was a step in evolution which would raise man to a higher and larger consciousness and begin the solution of the problems which have perplexed and vexed him since he first began to think and to dream of individual perfection and a perfect society. This is still a personal hope and an idea, an ideal which has begun to take hold both in India and in the West on forward-looking minds. The difficulties in the way are more formidable than in any other field of endeavor, but difficulties were made to be overcome and if the Supreme Will is there, they will be overcome. Here too, if this evolution is to take place, since it must proceed through a growth of the spirit and the inner consciousness, the initiative can come from India and, although the scope must be universal, the central movement may be hers.

(C)C)



(About "the Mother's flag", which contains her symbol in gold centered on a silver-blue background)

It is the flag of India's spiritual mission. And in the accomplishment of this mission will India's unity be accomplished.

> *The Mother, 15 August 1947 CWM, vol 13, p. 352*

News & Notes

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Governments, societies, kings, police, judges, institutions, churches, laws, customs, armies are temporary necessities imposed on us for a few groups of centuries because God has concealed His face from us. When it appears to us again in its truth and beauty, then in that light they will vanish.

Sri Aurobindo

Photo credit: <u>www.freedigitalphotos.net/images/</u> <u>Sunset And Sunrise g108-</u> <u>Dawn p7471.html</u>

To learn about many academic programmes SACAR offers in collaboration with IGNOU (Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi)

Click: sacar.in/ignou/mainpage.html

To apply, e-mail: suhasmehra@gmail.com

Currently accepting applications for February 2011 session



New

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Please note that successful completion of C-SFIC is a pre-requisite in order to enroll for C-CEI or C-CISP.

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START DATE: AUGUST 15, 2010

To apply, email: <u>suhasmehra@gmail.com</u> Or, download the application form at <u>www.sacar.in/cics/cics.html</u>

Currently accepting applications for courses starting on February 21, 2011

A few seats are still available in the course starting August 15, 2010! Late admissions may be considered until September 1.



The special issue of our quarterly journal, <u>New Race:</u> <u>A Journal of Integral Studies</u> (February-April 2010) is now available on the web. To browse through the journal, visit:

http://sacar.in/journal_of_is/ feb-april10/new_race.html

Sri Aurobindo Centre for Advanced Research (SACAR), Pondicherry

A Partner Institution of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi for "Sri Aurobindo Studies"

invites all to attend an enriching SYMPOSIUM to be organized at SACAR

DATES: OCTOBER 4-10, 2010 Symposium Theme: INTEGRAL PHILOSOPHY, YOGA-PSYCHOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

The symposium aims to provide an intensive learning opportunity to the participants through in-depth, rich and constructive deliberations on selected topics. Programme includes lectures, interactive question-answer sessions, group reflections and discussions. Other activities include group visits to Ashram & Auroville, film shows, and open sessions for informal conversations.

A SACAR-IGNOU Certificate of Participation will be given to all the attendees who successfully participate in all the required sessions.

Themes to be explored in the seminar include: Man and the Evolution, The Knowledge and the Ignorance, Integration of Matter and Spirit in Integral Philosophy, The Human Personality, Integral Yoga in Daily Life, Management of Man and Matter in the light of Sri Aurobindo

The programme begins at 2:30pm on October 4 & closes after lunch on Oct 10. Active participation in all sessions is mandatory.

For fees and more details, visit:

sacar.in/SeminarOct10/SeminarOct10.html

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! Last Date for Registration: September 15, 2010

REGISTER EARLY! LIMITED SEATS!

For more details including symposium fees and registration form, email: <u>beloome@gmail.com</u> <u>sacar@auromail.net</u>

Or visit our website: sacar.in/SeminarOct10/SeminarOct10.html

News & Notes

A supreme difficulty is Nature's indication to us of a supreme conquest to be won and an ultimate problem to be solved; it is not a warning of an inextricable snare to be shunned or of an enemy too strong for us from whom we must flee.

Sri Aurobindo

MĀSA is a bimonthly electronic newsletter published by SACAR and provides updates and information about various activities at SACAR. We invoke the blessings and grace of our beloved Mother and Sri Aurobindo through our reference to MĀ and SA.

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Brief Report of Ananda Reddy's Visit to the USA and Europe

Ananda Reddy recently returned from a three-week-long trip to several cities in the USA and Europe. During this time he attended the Sri Aurobindo Integral Yoga Retreat organized at Furmon University in Greenville, South Carolina (July 14-18).



Ananda delivered many talks there covering different topics related to the journey of Integral Sadhana. He covered areas such as Basic Requisites of Sadhana, Sadhana through Work, Meditation, and Love & Devotion, and Difficulties of the Path. At the question & answer sessions titled "About the Mother", organized in the late evenings he was accompanied by Sraddhalu Ranade, who also delivered several lectures and talks at the retreat on important topics related to Integral Yoga. Ananda Reddy's talks and lectures touched many people because they incorporated many reminiscences from his personal contact with the Mother.



Other speakers included Narad (Richard Eggenberger) who led the OM Choir and also spoke on the spiritual significance of the flowers, and Dilip Sarkar who led the Ashtanga yoga and pranayama sessions in the morning and also spoke on yoga therapy and Ayurveda.

Ananda Reddy also travelled to St. Louis and spoke at different gatherings. There again, his talks focused more on the Bhakti aspect of Integral Yoga and incorporated many of his personal recollections of living in the Ashram. In most of the meetings and gatherings Ananda attended in the US, he discovered that there was a great curiosity among the participants to know about the details of the life in the Ashram when the Mother was there physically, and also about the Mother's daily routine during that time.



At one event, he witnessed a beautiful play on the virtues, performed by a group of children. He was touched by a poem written and composed by a 6-year-old girl, in which she expressed her love and affection for her "Pondy Mother".





Ananda's talks at the Sri Aurobindo Yoga Foundation at New Jersey focused on the nature of psychic being, and Godward emotion & God.

Throughout his travels, Ananda was very pleased to see a large number of young people attending and taking active role in the programmes being organized to spread the work and vision of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother.



Ananda also visited Holland and Berlin during this trip. At Holland, he spoke to a group of people on the role of meditation and mantra in Integral Yoga. At the gatherings he attended in Europe he was again touched to see the seeking that was present among the younger audiences, who were so keen to hear about the Mother and her work and vision.