

*"One force shall be your mover and your guide,
One light shall be around you and within*

-Savitri, Book IV, Canto III

SACAR Welcomes New Students

We are happy to enroll our first batch of SACAR-IGNOU students who will pursue their studies in Sri Aurobindo Studies at various levels – Certificate, Post-Graduate Diploma, MA, M.Phil and Ph.D. These students come from various parts of India and a few are also from abroad.

We extend a hearty welcome to all the new students and wish them the best for their studies at SACAR.

SACAR-IGNOU CLASSES BEGIN OCTOBER 20, 2008



Our Newest Student Batch

Programme of Study	Number of students
Ph.D. in Sri Aurobindo Studies	5
M. Phil in Sri Aurobindo Studies	2
MA in Sri Aurobindo Studies	5
PG Diploma in Studies in Indian Culture	1
PG Diploma in Integral Education	1
Certificate in Introduction to Sri Aurobindo Studies	10
TOTAL	25

To learn more about the SACAR-IGNOU programmes, visit:

www.sacar.in/ignou/mainpage.html

Letter from Germany

Upon hearing the news of SACAR-IGNOU collaboration, which brings the study of Sri Aurobindo's thought into the academic mainstream of India, Georg Stollenwerk, a friend and well-wisher of SACAR sent a beautiful letter of congratulations. Georg is a member of the management of Sri Aurobindo Center, Berlin (SACB) and is deeply involved in the Integral Yoga. He is also a member of board of the German chapter of Auroville International. With his kind permission, we are happy to share the letter with our readers. Georg emphasizes that this letter expresses his personal joy and response, and does not represent a statement on behalf of SACB or AVI-Germany.

"With great joy I received the news of the recognition of SACAR within the national university system that shall hopefully open yet another, wider door for scholars and students in India and around the world to access the view of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother in an all-encompassing variety of academic and practical approaches.

I personally feel that the University is going to finally embody the essential truth of the ideal of a 'studium universale' envisaged by the Renaissance and humanistic European scholars for centuries [but that has] never [been] possible to be realised due to the lack of the integral wisdom and vision of Sri Aurobindo. It is as if an old dream comes to realisation and truth of knowledge and wisdom has now been given a body, its first integral body in the material creation. Although I have not actively contributed, it means a lot to me and touches my heart very deeply.

My heartfelt gratitude to you and all your supporters for stepping forward to manifest this dream of giving the Truth of Wisdom a form and active shape in the rational-mental plane, a dream so deeply rooted in generations of seekers."



*"The sign of dawning
Knowledge is to feel
that as yet I know little
or nothing, and yet, if I
could only know my
knowledge, I already
possess everything."*

Sri Aurobindo

SACAR HOSTS A SHORT SEMINAR FOR A GROUP OF YOUNG FRIENDS FROM GERMANY, SEPTEMBER 08

SACAR welcomed a group of 20 young and enthusiastic learners from Germany who visited us on September 12-13, 2008. These individuals are currently living, in Auroville and will spend a year studying and working there.

Special sessions were arranged during their two-day visit to SACAR. On 12th morning they visited Sri Aurobindo Ashram and several departments, and enjoyed lunch at the Ashram Dining Hall. A session on *Demystifying India* was presented by Beloo Mehra in the afternoon. This session involved a discussion on the foundations of Indian culture as explained by Sri Aurobindo, followed by a short review of some of the contemporary voices about India and Indian culture.

The morning of the September 13 started with a session on *Mantra Chanting* conducted by Deepshikha Reddy. The participants were given a general background on Mantra and the psychological principle behind using Mantra in one's spiritual practice. They also practiced chanting a couple of Mantras under Deepshikha's guidance.

On the same morning Larry Seidlitz made a presentation on *Introduction to Integral Yoga*. In his talk, he emphasized the aim of Integral Yoga, its similarity and difference with other traditional yogas, the central guiding principle of Integral Yoga and the triple labour of Aspiration, Rejection and Surrender.

True happiness is the happiness one can feel in any circumstances whatsoever, because it comes from regions which cannot be affected by any external circumstances.

The Mother



The beautiful flower, Hibiscus 'Sebactini' shown on the first page was given a unique spiritual significance by the Mother: **Power of Effort** (Efforts well-directed break down all obstacles).

We include this flower to honour and appreciate all the well-directed and sincere efforts the new students are planning to put in their studies at SACAR.

Powerpoint presentations, video clips, and interactive discussions made the learning experience enriching for everyone. The 2-day event ended with a general Question & Answer session. Participants enjoyed the peaceful surroundings at SACAR campus and relished the *samosas*, *pav-bhaji*, and other Indian snacks served during tea breaks.



NEWS from Hyderabad

Workshop on Integral Education, August 29, 2008

On a special request from Andhra Mahila Sabha College, Institute of Human Study conducted a work shop on Integral Education for a team of teachers from Badrachalam Paper Board Company School.



Dr. Chhalmayi gave an insight into Sri Aurobindo's vision of Integral Education. Smt. Kanakavalli spoke about child development and growth processes. Mrs. Vidya Raghavan spoke about the approaches to and challenges involved in the implementation of integral methodology in the classroom and the need for new ways of assessment corresponding with this methodology. Mrs. Geeta Matha explained about the significance of a resource room in every school building which can house a wide variety of teaching learning materials to be used by teachers and students. Teachers were also introduced to the concept of environs. Mrs. Rama, the team leader and all the participants were highly enthusiastic about using new methodologies in their classrooms. They especially appreciated exploring how education is related to life and life skills.

International Scholars' Home at SACAR



International Scholars' Home (ISH) at SACAR provides affordable lodging for about 30 people. Other facilities include a spacious kitchen, dining hall and other common areas. In addition to providing affordable accommodation for those learners and seekers who are taking up research and study programmes at SACAR, ISH is also open for other guests who want to enjoy the serene surroundings of an academic center. Inquires are welcome. Single room is available for Rs. 100 per day, double room for Rs. 180 per day, and a dormitory bed is available for Rs. 30 per day.

Please call (0413)-2223188 or (0413)-2225543 or (0)9894778977 for other details including room availability and booking. Or email at: sacar@auromail.net

We invoke the Grace and Blessings of our beloved Mother and Sri Aurobindo through our reference to MĀ and SA. MĀSA is also a Sanskrit word which means month - appropriate for this monthly publication.