

NAIROBI CENTRE – NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2011

Dates to remember:-

1st December 2011 – Thursday – Prosperity Day – Meditation at 6.30 p.m.

5th December 2011 – Monday – Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo's Mahasamadhi. Meditation at the Bhavan at 6.30 p.m.

9th December 2011 – Friday — Anniversary of the day Sri Aurobindo's body was laid to rest in the Samadhi. Meditation in the evening at 6.30 p.m.

Every Saturday: 5.15 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.: Meditation, "SAVITRI" studies, readings from "COLLECTED WORKS OF THE MOTHER – De Luxe Volume 14.

Every Sunday: 11.00a.m. to 12.30p.m.: Readings from "The Synthesis of Yoga"

Shrine: Sri Aurobindo's Shrine at Sri Aurobindo Bhavan is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. You are welcome. It is a place for silent meditation.

NEWS

On 9th November 2011, two thousand booklets in ten titles were presented to Lions Eye Hospital, Nairobi by the Nairobi Centre of Sri Aurobindo Society. The presentation was made at Sri Aurobindo Bhavan to the Deputy Executive and to the Marketing Manager of the hospital. The booklets will be distributed to the staff of the hospital and will be kept in various outlets in the hospital where there are about two hundred patients visiting everyday. The hospital which is run by The Lions Club, Nairobi deals with various eye, dental and ear treatments.

Year end prayer of the Mother

O LORD, grant that this collective convention of the ending year be for us also the occasion to put an end to a whole lot of bonds and attachments, illusions and weaknesses which have no longer any purpose in our lives. At every moment we must shake off the past like falling dust, that it may not soil the virgin path which, at every moment also, is opening before us.

May our mistakes, acknowledged and rectified within us, be no more than vain mirages, powerless to bring any consequences and, pressing our foot down firmly upon all that no longer should exist, on all ignorance, all obscurity, all egoism, may we take our flight boldly towards wider horizons and intenser light, a more perfect compassion, a more disinterested love... towards Thee.

I hail Thee, O Lord, Master of our life, and I want to proclaim Thy reign over all the earth.

Prayers and Meditations, December 29, 1913

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE DIVINE

-Words of The Mother

All is relative except the Supreme. The Supreme alone is absolute; but as the Supreme is at the centre of each being, each being carries in himself his absolute.

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After all, it is very simple, we have only to become what we are in the depths of our being.

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There is nothing more beautiful than to unite with the divine Consciousness.

One is sure to find what one seeks – if one seeks it in all sincerity; for what one seeks is within oneself.

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None can say to the Divine, “I have known Thee”, and yet all carry Him in themselves, and in the silence of their soul can hear the echo of the Divine’s voice.

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One can live the Divine even though unable to express the Divine, one can realize and be the Divine’s infinity though unable to define or explain the Divine.

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For him who is in union with the Divine, everywhere is the Divine’s perfect felicity, in every place and in every circumstance it is with him.

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Communion with the Divine: for him who has it, all circumstances can truly become an opportunity for it.

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The joy of perfect union can come only when what has to be done is done.

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As we progress and purify ourselves of our egoism, our friendship with the Divine becomes more and more clear and conscious.

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Friendship with the Divine: delicate, attentive and faithful, ever ready to respond to the smallest appeal.

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Closeness to the Divine will always grow with the growth of consciousness, equanimity and love.

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God cannot be taken by violence. It is only through love and harmony that you can reach God.

Be in peace – my blessings are with you.

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Attachment for the Divine wraps itself around the Divine and finds all its support in Him so as to be sure never to leave Him.

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Affection for the Divine: a sweet and confident tenderness that gives itself unfailingly to the Divine.

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Intimacy with the Divine: complete surrender to the Divine and total receptivity to His influence, without any conditions to this intimacy.

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Intimacy with the Divine in the physical is possible only for the one who lives exclusively by the Divine and for the Divine.

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Intimacy with the Divine in the vital: only a pure, calm and desireless vital can hope to have access to this marvelous state.

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Intimacy with the Divine in the psychic: the natural state of the fully developed psychic.

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Integral intimacy with the Divine: the entire being no longer vibrates except with the Divine touch.

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It pleases Him to be like that. He is like that.

And simply, the secret is to be in the “it pleases Him”.

Not to be only what is objectified; to be also in That which objectifies. That is everything.

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The Omnipresent, Eternal Spirit remains immutably One. The various ways of serving and understanding It make no difference to Its Reality.

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(Types of relationships)

The Lord and his Shakti
God and his devotee
The father and his child
The master and his disciple
The Beloved and Lover
The Friend and co-worker
The child and his mother

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To give oneself to the Divine, to receive and be the Divine, to transmit and spread forth the Divine: these are the three simultaneous movements which constitute our total relation with the Divine.

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THE WAYS OF WORKING OF THE LORD

The Divine's Grace is wonderful and almighty.

And the ways of working of the Lord are full of a delightful sense of humour...

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Be always ready to receive the Divine, for He may visit you at any moment.

And if sometimes He makes you wait at the appointed meeting-place, that is certainly no reason for you yourself to be late.

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Surely, the Divine, like everybody else, has the right to change His mind.

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Q: If we want to have conversations with God (of course within us), is it possible? If yes, on what condition?

A: God does not indulge in conversation.

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Q: Does God ever become angry with us? If yes, when?

A: When you believe He is angry.

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Q: If we shed tears for God, does He ever shed a tear for us?

A: Surely He has deep compassion for you, but His eyes are not the kind that shed tears.

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According to the law of man the guilty ought to be punished. But there is a law more imperative than the human law. It is the Divine Law, the law of compassion and mercy.

It is because of this law that the world is able to endure and progress towards Triumph and Love.

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Mother,

Does the Divine punish injustice? Is it possible at all for Him to punish anybody?

The Divine does not see things as men do and has no need to punish or reward. Each and every action carries in itself its fruit and consequences.

According to the nature of action, it brings you near to the Divine or takes you away from Him, and that is the supreme consequence.

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Human beings are capable of withdrawing from the Divine – and they often do it; but for the Divine to withdraw from human beings, that is an impossibility.

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If the supreme Consciousness got angry over the defects of men, humanity would long since have ceased to be.

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Q: Why was not man created good from the beginning?

A: It is not God who made man wicked.

It is man who makes himself wicked by separating himself from God.

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The Divine may very well lean down towards you, but to understand Him rightly you must come up to Him.

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To understand the Divine we must have no preferences.

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To understand the Divine one must become the Divine.

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(The above statements by The Mother are taken from the Collected Works of The Mother, Vol.14, Part One)

IN PEACE AND SILENCE THE ETERNAL MANIFESTS,
ALLOW NOTHING TO DISTURB YOU
AND THE ETERNAL WILL MANIFEST,
HAVE PERFECT EQUALITY IN FACE OF ALL
AND THE ETERNAL WILL BE THERE.....

THE MOTHER