

NAIROBI CENTRE – NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2011

Date to remember:-

1st January 2011 – Saturday – New Year Meditation at 11.00 a.m. and also meeting at as per every Saturday Meeting at 5.30 p.m. at the Bhavan.

Every Saturday: 5.15p.m. to 6.30p.m.: Meditation, "SAVITRI" studies, readings from "GROWING WITHIN".

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 8a.m. to 7p.m. You are welcome. It is a place for silent meditation.

NEW YEAR PRAYER

January 1, 1914

To Thee, supreme Dispenser of all boons, to Thee who givest life its justification, by making it pure, beautiful and good, to Thee, Master of our destinies and goal of all our aspirations, was consecrated the first minute of this new year.

May it be completely glorified by this consecration; may those who hope for Thee, seek Thee in the right path; may those who seek Thee find Thee, and those who suffer, not knowing where the remedy lies, feel Thy life gradually piercing the hard crust of their obscure consciousness.

I bow down in deep devotion and in boundless gratitude before Thy beneficent splendour; in the name of the earth I give Thee thanks for manifesting Thyself; in its name I implore Thee to manifest Thyself ever more fully, in an uninterrupted growth of Light and Love.

Be the sovereign Master of our thoughts, our feelings, our actions.

Thou art our reality, the only Reality.

Without Thee all is falsehood and illusion, all is dismal obscurity.

In Thee are life and light and joy.

In Thee is supreme Peace.

The Mother
(Prayers and Meditations, pg.43)

Each year from 1933 to 1973, the Mother gave a message on New Year's Day - a thought, a prayer, an aspiration to serve as a guide for the whole year. Following are some of those messages which can guide us for 2011.

1933

Let the birth of the New Year be the new birth of our consciousness! Leaving the past far behind us let us run towards a luminous future.

1936

O Lord! grant that this year may be the year of Thy Victory. We aspire for a perfect faithfulness which would make us worthy of it.

1939

O Lord, all those who take part in the Divine Work implore Thee, that by a supreme purification they may be liberated from the domination of the ego.

1941

The world is fighting for its spiritual life menaced by the rush of hostile and undivine forces.
Lord, we aspire to be Thy valiant warriors so that Thy glory may manifest upon the earth.

1944

O Lord, the world implores Thee to prevent it from falling back always into the same stupidities.
Grant that the mistakes recognised may never be renewed.
Grant lastly that its actions may be the exact and sincere expression of its proclaimed ideals.

1945

The earth will enjoy a lasting and living peace only when men understand that they must be truthful in their international dealings.
O Lord, it is for this perfect truthfulness that we aspire.

1960

To know is good,

to live is better, to be, that is perfect.

On New Year's Day, from 1985 to present, the Ashram distributes messages selected from the writings of the Mother and Sri Aurobindo, following are some of them:

1987

The closer you come to the Divine, the more you live under a shower of overwhelming evidence of His immeasurable Grace.

1989

I am the shakti of Sri Aurobindo alone, and the Mother of all my children.

My children are all equally part of my consciousness and of my being. When transformed and realised, all will have an equal right to manifest each one an aspect of myself and Sri Aurobindo. It is the unity of all in the solidarity of a common manifestation that will allow the creation of the new and divine world upon the Earth. Each will bring his part, but no part will be complete except as a power in the solidarity of the whole.

1990

In the night as in the day be always with me.
In sleep as in waking let me feel in me always the reality of your presence.
Let it sustain and make to grow in me Truth, consciousness and bliss constantly and at all times.

Sri Aurobindo

1992

The grace and the help are always there for all who aspire for them and their power is limitless when received with faith and confidence.

1993

Lord, grant that everything in us maybe ready for Thy Realisation. On the threshold of the New Year we bow down to Thee, O Lord, Supreme Realiser.

1994

Mother Sri Aurobindo is my refuge.

1996

Lord, Supreme Truth, we aspire to know Thee and to serve Thee.
Help us to become children worthy of Thee. And for this, make us
conscious of Thy constant gifts so that gratitude may fill our hearts
and govern our lives.

1997

It is the Divine Presence which gives value to life. This Presence is
the source of all peace, all joy, all security. Find this Presence in
yourself and all your difficulties will disappear.

*Sri Aurobindo writes the following thought provoking lines in his
epic poem - Savitri:*

**"O Force-compelled, Fate driven earth-born race,
O petty adventurers in an infinite world
And prisoners of a dwarf humanity,
How long will you tread the circling tracks of mind
Around your little self and petty things?
But not for a changeless littleness were you meant,
Not for vain repetition were you built;
Out of immortal's substance you were made...
A greater destiny waits in your front:
This transient earthly being if he wills
Can fit his acts to a transcendent scheme... "**

(Book 4, Canto 3, p.370)

MOMENTS

***If perfect moments on the peaks of things,
These tops of knowledge, greatness, ecstasy,
Are only moments, this too enough could be.***

I have assumed the rapid flaming wings
Of souls whom the Ignorance black-robed Nature brings
And the frail littleness of mortality
Can bind not always; a high sovereignty
Makes them awhile creation's radiant kings.

These momentary upliftings of the soul
Prepare the spirit's glorious permanence.
The peace of God, a great still transience
Is now my being's boundless atmosphere.
All parts are gathered into a timeless whole;
All moments last in an eternal Year.

SRI AUROBINDO

BLESSINGS

*As the earth that heaves and opens, as the tree that grows, as the
flower that blossoms, as the bird that sings, as the man that loves,
let His light permeate you and radiate in an ever-increasing and
widening happiness, a happiness steadily moving onward as the stars
move in heaven.*

THE MOTHER

A Polite Request

Dear Friends, though there is no subscription as such for this Newsletter, Shs. 1000/= per year helps to cover postage, printing and other expenses. Contribution by way of cheque may be sent to:-

Sri Aurobindo Society, Nairobi Centre,
P. O. Box 42099, 00100 GPO NAIROBI