

NAIROBI CENTRE – NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2012

<https://sites.google.com/site/savitrinairobi/>

Dates to remember:-

1st September 2012 – Saturday – Prosperity Day. – 5.15 p.m. onwards.

Every Saturday: 5.15p.m. to 6.30p.m.: Meditation, "SAVITRI" studies, readings from "De luxe Volume 15 – COLLECTED WORKS OF THE MOTHER – Centenary edition."

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. All are welcome. It is a place for silent meditation.

NEWS

On 6th August Nairobi Centre of Sri Aurobindo Society presented 750 booklets in twelve titles to the Guru Nanak Ramgarhia Hospital, Nairobi. The booklets will be distributed among the patients and the staff of the hospital.

15th August 2012 - 140th Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo

Nairobi Centre of Sri Aurobindo Society observed this auspicious occasion at Sri Aurobindo Bhavan. After the readings of The Mother's Prayer and the Darshan Message of the day there was half an hour meditation accompanied by Sunilda's music. There were twenty five devotees present, each one received copy of the Darshan Message and prasad.

September 25, 1914

O DIVINE and adorable Mother, with Thy help what is there that is impossible? The hour of realization is near and Thou hast assured us of Thy aid that we may perform integrally the supreme Will.

Thou hast accepted us as fit intermediaries between the unthinkable realities and the relativities of physical world, and Thy constant presence in our midst is a token of Thy active collaboration.

The Lord has willed and Thou dost execute:
A new Light shall break upon earth.
A new world shall be born,
And the things that were promised shall be fulfilled.

The Mother
– Prayers and Meditations – page 249

ON EDUCATION

(Following is the continuation of the August Newsletter from Volume 12 of Collected Works of The Mother. Part Two of this volume is a compilation of the Mother's articles, messages, letters and conversations on education and self-development)

MESSAGES TO STUDENT BOARDING HOUSES

Prayer given to the Children of Dortoir Boarding

We all want to be the true children of our Divine Mother. But for that, sweet Mother, give us patience and courage, obedience, goodwill, generosity and unselfishness and all the necessary virtues. This is our prayer and aspiration.

15 January 1947

To Big Boys' Boarding

May this day be for you the beginning of a new life in which you will strive to understand better and better why you are here and what is expected of you.

Live always in the aspiration of realizing your most complete and most true perfection.

And for a beginning take care to be honest, sincere, straight-forward, noble and pure in a rigorous discipline that you will impose on yourselves.

I shall always be present to help you and to guide you.

My blessings.

1963

To Dortoir Boarding Annex

Today, we who are united in a common remembrance aspire that this intensity may be the symbol of a true oneness based on a common effort towards ever truer and more perfect realization.

15 January 1968

Young Man's Boarding

Be always faithful to your Ideal and sincere in your action.

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STUDY

My dear child,

The true wisdom is to be ready to learn from whatever source the knowledge can come.

We can learn things from a flower, an animal, a child, if we are eager to know always more, because there is only One Teacher in the world – the Supreme Lord, and He manifests through everything.

With all my love.

9 March 1967

To do good work one must have good taste.

Taste can be educated by study and the help of those who have good taste.

To learn, it is necessary to feel first that one does not know.

15 December 1965

When you feel that you know nothing then you are ready to learn.

December 1965

The whole question is to know whether the students go to school to increase their knowledge and to learn what is needed to know how to live well – or whether they go to school to *pretend* and to have good marks which they can boast about.

Before the Eternal Consciousness, one drop of sincerity has more value than an ocean of pretence and hypocrisy.

O Mother, I want to act according to Your will and nothing else.

Then quickly leave the path you have taken – don't waste your time wandering about and talking to girls. Start working in earnest again, study, educate yourself, occupy your mind with interesting and useful things and not with futile chatter, and do not give false excuses for your vital attractions. If your wish is truly sincere you can be sure that you will have my force to help you conquer.

27 September 1934

On the days when I do not study I feel worse. But when I begin to study, happiness comes. I do not understand this process.

What do you mean by process? It is not a process; the disappearance of the bad feeling is the very natural result of concentrating the mind on study, which on the one hand provides it with a healthy activity, and on the other draws its attention away from this morbid contemplation of the little physical ego.

3 December 1934

In the dream I saw You had written, "My dear child, why have you stopped studying?" You had written much more, and I would like You to write it here, if possible.

Yes, in fact last night I asked you why you had not studied, and I told you that to yield like that to the impulses of the vital was certainly not the way to control it. You must create discipline for yourself and impose it on yourself at all costs if you want to put an end to vital bad will and mental depression. Without discipline one cannot do anything in life and all yoga is impossible.

For physical work it is not difficult, but for study it becomes difficult to follow the discipline when I feel bad. All the same, I have decided that on the days when I do not study, I will not eat my lunch.

What a funny idea you have! To punish your body for a fault the vital has committed! It is not fair.

22 December 1934

I think there is one thing You do not like very much – that I do not apply myself to my studies.

Studies strengthen the mind and turn its concentration away from the impulses and desires of the vital. Concentrating on study is one of the most powerful ways of controlling the mind and the vital; that is why it is so important to study.

28 January 1935

My mind does not become peaceful, I think, because I do not study hard. Studying does not give me much pleasure.

One does not study for the sake of pleasure – one studies to learn and to develop one's brain.

1 February 1935

I do not know how to spend my time, understanding nothing.

Study, that is the best way to understand.

You tell me to study, but I do not like studying.

You do not give enough time to study, that is why it does not interest you. Everything one does with care necessarily becomes interesting.

10 April 1935

Which path must I take then? What is the right and true way of making an effort?

Do what I explained to you yesterday – make your brain work by studying regularly and systematically; then during the hours when you are not studying your brain, having worked enough, will be able to rest and it will be possible for you to concentrate in the depths of your heart and find there the psychic source; with it you will become conscious of both gratitude and true happiness.

22 May 1935

My studies are suffering because of constant depression.

I have told you that it is *by study* that you can overcome the depression.

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You see, my child, the unfortunate thing is that you are too busy with yourself. At your age I was exclusively occupied with my studies – informing myself, learning, understanding, knowing. That was my interest, even my passion. My mother, who loved us – my brother and myself – very much, never allowed us to be bad-

tempered or dissatisfied or lazy. If we went and complained to her about something or other and told her that we were not satisfied, she would laugh at us and scold us and say to us, "What is this foolishness? Don't be ridiculous, off you go and work, and don't take any notice of your good and bad moods! That is not interesting at all."

My mother was perfectly right and I have always been very grateful to her for having taught me discipline and the necessity of self-forgetfulness and concentration on what one is doing.

I have told you this because the anxiety you speak of comes from the fact that you are far too busy with yourself. It would be far better for you to attend more to what you are doing (painting or music), to develop your mind which is still very uncultivated and to learn the elements of knowledge which are indispensable to a man if he does not want to be ignorant and uncultured.

If you worked regularly eight to nine hours a day, you would be hungry and you would eat well and sleep peacefully, and you would have no time to wonder whether you are in a good or bad mood.

I am telling you these things with all my affection, and I hope that you will understand them.

Your mother who loves you.

15 May 1934