

Newsletter September 2013  
<https://sites.google.com/site/savitrinairobi/>

Dates to remember:-

1<sup>st</sup> September 2013 – Sunday – Prosperity Day Meditation at 11.00 a.m. at the Bhavan.

\*

Every Saturday: 5.15p.m. to 6.30p.m.: Meditation, "SAVITRI" studies, readings from "COLLECTED WORKS OF THE MOTHER – De Luxe Volume 16.

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.

#### NEWS

On 19th July 2013, Nairobi Centre of Sri Aurobindo Society presented 2000 booklets in ten titles to the Marketing and Customer Service Manager of The Nairobi Hospital at Sri Aurobindo Bhavan, Nairobi. The booklets will be kept in the reception areas of the various department of the hospital, some will be kept in the satellite clinics of the hospital and others will be distributed among the staff of the hospital.

\*

#### MORNING PRAYER

This morning my prayer rises to Thee,  
always with the same aspiration: to live Thy  
love, to radiate Thy love, with such potency  
and effectiveness that all may feel fortified,  
regenerated and illumined by our contact. To  
have power to heal life, to relive suffering,  
to generate peace and calm confidence, to  
efface anguish and replace it by the sense of  
the one true happiness, the happiness that is  
founded in Thee and never fades...

O Lord, O marvelous Friend, O all-powerful Master, penetrate all our being,  
transfigure it till Thou alone livest in us and through us.

The Mother

ON EDUCATION is the twelfth volume of The Collected Works of The Mother which contains writings and conversations of The Mother on education and self-development. The volume includes several essays in which she sets forth the principles of an integral education; advice on learning and teaching given to members of the Ashram's school and to captains of its Physical Education Department; conversations with a group of teachers; and three short plays. These writings and conversations cover the forty-year period between 1932 and 1973.

### To the students

To be noisy in class is an act of selfish stupidity.

If you don't intend to attend the class silently and attentively, it is better not to come.

\*

It is forbidden to fight at school, to fight in class, to fight in the playground, to fight in the street, to fight at home (whether at your parents' house or in a boarding).

Always and everywhere children are forbidden to fight among themselves, for each time that one gives a blow to another, one gives it to one's own soul.

*15 January 1963*

\*

I suggest the same remedy as the one I was using in my childhood when disagreeing with my young playmates. I was at that time, as you are, very sensitive and I felt hurt when abused by them, especially by those whom I had shown only sympathy and kindness. I used to tell myself: "Why be sorry and feel miserable? If they are right in what they say, I have only to be glad for the lesson and correct myself; if they are wrong, why should I worry about it – it is for them to be sorry for their mistake. In both cases the best and the most dignified thing I can do is to remain strong, quiet and unmoved."

This lesson which I was giving myself and trying to follow when I was eight years old, still holds good in all similar cases.

*17 April 1932*

Some words to the children.

1. Never make fun of anyone if you do not want others to make fun of you.
2. Always act in a respectable way if you want others to respect you.
3. Love everybody if you want everybody to love you.

\*

As girls and boys are educated together here we have always insisted on the relations between them to be those of simple comradeship without any mixture of sex feeling and sensuality; and to avoid all temptation they are forbidden to go in one another's room and to meet anywhere privately. This has been made clear to everybody. And if these rules are strictly followed, nothing unpleasant can happen.

16 August 1960

\*

*Astrologers say that those who are born in November will be mad about sex.*

Why do you believe in what the astrologers say? It is the belief that brings the trouble.

Sri Aurobindo says that a man becomes what he thinks he is.

Try this method of thinking that you are a good boy and will become sex-free.

Try this method for *five years* persistently and obstinately without admitting any doubt or discouragement, and after five years you will tell me the results.

Be very careful never to have a doubt about the result.

1965

\*

You are attaching too much importance to this sex affair.

Do not think of it at all – be interested in *more interesting* activities, try to grow in knowledge and consciousness and kick away the sex thought and the impulse when it comes – then you can hope of becoming one of my soldiers.

1965

\*

I have already asked of you all not to think that you are girls or boys, but *human beings* equally endeavouring to find, become and manifest the Divine.

16 February 1966

\*

*A complete lack of knowledge about sex can produce serious trouble. I want to give some information to children whom I know.*

A simple notion of medical knowledge may be useful in taking away this silly old harmful feeling of shame which brings perversion.

\*

*Students say we are looking forward towards a sexless society, so why should we bother about genders in the language?*

This is just a joke...or a twist of the mind and a clever way of refusing to understand what is meant by the advice.

\*

*Some good students give so much importance to money that it gives a shock. Can we discuss the matter?*

Yes, try – it is very much indeed. Money seems to have become the Supreme Lord these days – truth is receding in the background, as for Love, it is quite out of sight!

I mean Divine Love because what human beings call love is a very good friend of money.

\*

When a child wants to impress you by telling you stories of the wealth of his family, you must not keep quiet. You must explain to him that worldly wealth does not count here, only the wealth that has been offered to the Divine has some value; that you do not become big by living in big houses, travelling by first-class and spending money lavishly. You can increase in stature only by being truthful, sincere, obedient and grateful.

\*

I have said, and I insist on this decision, that children below 15 should not go to bed later than 9 o'clock – those who do are being disobedient and this is regrettable.

\*

*Mother, why are the hours before midnight better for sleep than the later hours?*

Because, symbolically, during the hours till midnight, the sun is setting, while from the very first hour after midnight the sun begins to rise.

Blessings.

22 August 1969

*Mother, how is it better to go to bed early and to get up early?*

When the sun sets, a kind of peace descends upon the earth and this peace is helpful for sleep.

When the sun rises, a vigorous energy descends upon the earth and this energy is helpful for work.

When you go to bed late and get up late, you contradict the forces of Nature and that is not very wise.

Blessings.

21 December 1969

*Mother, what should be our attitude towards the captains and teachers here?*

An obedient, docile and affectionate attitude. They are your elder brothers and sisters who take a lot of trouble for the sake of helping you.

Blessings.

1 February 1970

\*

### Holidays

Shall we say *holy days*? There are two kinds of them: traditionally, the Lord for six days (or aeons) worked to create his world and the seventh He stopped for rest, concentration and contemplation. This can be called the day of God.

The second one is: the men, the creatures during six days work for their personal interests and egoistic motives, and the seventh they stop working to take rest and have time to look inwardly or upwardly, in contemplation of the source and origin of their existence and consciousness in order to take a dip in It and renew their energies.

It is scarcely necessary to mention the modern manner of understanding the word or the thing, that is to say, all the possible ways of wasting time in a futile attempt at amusing oneself.

\*

*For those in Auroville who can be true servitors, is Sunday a holiday?*

In the beginning the organization of the week was conceived in this way: six days of work for the collectivity to which the individual belonged; the seventh day of the week was reserved for the inner quest for the Divine and the offering

of one's being to the divine will. This is the only meaning and the only true reason for the so-called Sunday rest.

Needless to say, sincerity is the essential condition for realization; all insincerity is a degradation.

25 October 1971

\*

### STUDIES ELSEWHERE

I intended to let you go for your studies to England without telling you anything about it, because each one must be free to follow the path he has chosen. But after what you have written I feel compelled to write to you.

No doubt from the exterior point of view, you will find in England all that you want for learning what human beings generally call knowledge, but from the point of view of Truth and Consciousness, you can find nowhere the atmosphere in which you are living here. Elsewhere you can meet with a religious or a philosophic spirit, but true spirituality, direct contact with the Divine, constant aspiration to realize Him in life, mind and action are in the world realized only by very rare and scattered individuals and not as a living fact behind any university teaching however advanced it may be.

Practically, as far as you are concerned, there will be a great risk of drifting away from the experience you have realized and then you cannot know what will happen to you.

This is all I wanted to say – now it is left to you to choose and decide.

22 October 1952

\*

*We see many people leaving the Ashram, either to seek a career or to study; they are those who have been here since childhood. There is a kind of uncertainty in our young people when they see others leave here and they say cautiously: "Who knows whether it will not be my turn one day!" I feel there is a force behind all that. What is it?*

This uncertainty and these departures are caused by the lower nature which resists the influence of the yogic power and tries to slow down the divine action, not through ill-will, but in order to be sure that nothing is forgotten or neglected in the haste to reach the goal. Few are those ready for a total consecration. Many children who have studied here need to come to grips with life before they can be ready for the divine work and that is why they leave in order to go through the test of the ordinary life.

11 November 1964

\*

*(A student received an invitation to follow a course of practical studies in Calcutta.)*

Those who *sincerely wish* to learn, have here all the possibilities to do so. The only thing that one has outside, but does not have here, is the moral constraint or the external discipline.

Here one is free and the only constraint is the one that one sets *oneself*, when one is SINCERE.

Now it is for you to decide.

3 August 1966

\*\*