

NAIROBI CENTRE – NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2012

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

Dates to remember:

1st December 2012 – Saturday – Prosperity Day – 5.15 p.m.

5th December 2012 – Wednesday – Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo's Mahasamadhi. Meditation at the Bhavan at 6.30 p.m.

9th December 2012 – Sunday — Anniversary of the day Sri Aurobindo's body was laid to rest in the Samadhi. Meditation in the morning at 11.00 a.m.

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 12th October 2012, Nairobi Centre of Sri Aurobindo Society presented two thousand booklets in ten titles and two hundred booklets of Ideal Child in Kiswahili to the Director and to the Facilitator of Presbyterian Church of East Africa, Eastleigh Community Centre, Nairobi at the Bhavan. The centre identifies critical issues that concern communities and translate them into short and long-term programs such as Child and Women Empowerment Program, Urban Refugee Empowerment Program and Youth Skills training and Entrepreneurship Development Program. The booklets will be distributed to all the program centres and will be kept in the libraries.

*

Whenever things become difficult we must remain quiet and silent.

The Mother

*

Sri Aurobindo's Mahasamadhi

(Sri Aurobindo left his physical body on 5th December 1950, “to help more fully his work of transformation.” His body was interned in Samadhi at the Ashram Courtyard on 9th December 1950. We give below the Mother's Message of 7th December 1950:)

“Lord, this morning Thou hast given me the assurance that Thou wouldst stay with us until Thy work is achieved, not only as a consciousness which guides and illumines but also as a dynamic Presence in action. In unmistakable term Thou hast promised that all of Thyself would remain here and not leave the earth atmosphere until earth is transformed. Grant that we may be worthy of this marvellous Presence and that henceforth everything in us be concentrated on the one will to be more and more perfectly consecrated to the fulfillment of Thy sublime Work.

The Mother

It is finished, the dread mysterious sacrifice,
Offered by God's martyred body for the world...
He who has found his identity with God
Pays with the body's death his soul's vast light.
His knowledge immortal triumphs by his death.

(SAVITRI, p.445)

(The last three lines were one of the three passages dictated last by Sri Aurobindo as additions to *Savitri*.
The autobiographical slant is unmistakable.)

(Above excerpt taken from *All India Magazine*, December 2006, p.38)

**DECEMBER 9, 1950,
TO THEE WHO HAST BEEN THE MATERIAL ENVELOPE OF OUR
MASTER, TO THEE OUR INFINITE GRATITUDE, BEFORE THEE
WHO HAST DONE SO MUCH FOR US, WHO HAST WORKED,
STRUGGLED, SUFFERED, HOPED, ENDURED SO MUCH, BEFORE
THEE WHO HAST WILLED ALL, ATTEMPTED ALL, PREPARED,
ACHIEVED ALL FOR US, BEFORE THEE WE BOW DOWN AND
IMPLORE THAT WE MAY NEVER FORGET EVEN FOR A MOMENT,
ALL WE OWE TO THEE.**

(The Mother's words inscribed on the Samadhi in the Ashram courtyard)

Mother's Messages

In the eternity of becoming, each Avatar is only the announcer, the forerunner of a more perfect realization.

And yet men have always the tendency to deify the Avatar of the past in opposition to the Avatar of the future.

Now again Sri Aurobindo has come announcing to the world the realization of tomorrow; and again his message meets with the same opposition as of all those who preceded him.

But tomorrow will prove the truth of what he revealed and his work will be done.

*

Sri Aurobindo came on the earth from the Supreme to announce the manifestation of a new race and the new world, the Supramental.

Let us prepare for it in all sincerity and eagerness.

*

Sri Aurobindo belongs to the future; he is the messenger of the future. He still shows us the way to follow in order to hasten the realization of a glorious future fashioned by the Divine Will.

*

To understand his teaching better and try to put it into practice, is certainly the best way of showing our gratitude to him for all the light, knowledge and force which he has so generously brought to the earth.

*

(AIM, December 2008, p.17)

A God's Labour

I have gathered my dreams in a silver air
Between the gold and the blue
And wrapped them softly and left them there,
My jeweled dreams of you.

Sri Aurobindo

Sweet Mother,

How should one spend the Darshan days, December fifth and ninth and one's birthday?

In search of a knowledge truer than ordinary knowledge.

The fifth and the ninth in understanding what death is.

The birthday in finding out the purpose of life.

The Mother

*

Death is the question Nature puts continually to Life and her reminder to it that it has not yet found itself. If there were no siege of death, the creature would be bound forever in the form of an imperfect living. Pursued by death he awakes to the idea of perfect life and seeks out its means and its possibility.

Sri Aurobindo

*

Death is there because the being in the body is not yet developed enough to go on growing in the same body without the need of change and the body itself is not sufficiently conscious. If the mind and the vital and the body itself were more conscious and plastic, death would not be necessary.

Sri Aurobindo

*

Soul's Journey after Death

At the time of death the being goes out of the body through the head; it goes out in the subtle body and goes to different planes of existence for a short time until it has gone through certain experiences which are the result of its earthly existence. Afterwards it reaches the psychic world where it rests in a kind of sleep, until it is time for it to start a new life on earth. That is what happens usually – but there are some beings who are more developed and do not follow this course.

Sri Aurobindo

*

Q: What is death, from the physical point of view?

Death is the phenomenon of decentralization and dispersion of the cells which make up the physical body.

The consciousness is, by its very nature, immortal, and in order to manifest in the physical world, it assumes more or less lasting material forms.

The material substance is in course of transformation in order to become a multiform and increasingly perfect and lasting mode of expression for this consciousness.

(CWM, Vol.12, p.342)

SRI AUROBINDO'S INTEGRAL YOGA

The integral Yoga takes up the essence and many processes of the old Yogas – its newness is in its aim, standpoint and the totality of its method.

It is new as compared with old Yogas....

1. Because it aims not at a departure out of the world and life into Heaven or Nirvana, but at a change of life and existence, not as something subordinate or incidental, but as a distinct and central object.
2. Because the object sought after is not an individual achievement of divine realization for the sake of the individual, but something to be gained for the earth consciousness here, a cosmic, not solely a supracosmic achievement. The thing to be gained also is a bringing in of a Power of Consciousness – the Supramental.
3. Because a method has been preconized for achieving this purpose which is as total and integral as the aim set before it, viz., the total and integral change of consciousness and nature, taking up old methods but only as a part action and present aid to others that are distinctive.. Our Yoga is not a retreading of old walks, but a spiritual adventure.

Sri Aurobindo

*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 the Immortal's substance you were made...
A Seer, a strong Creator, is within,
The immaculate Grandeur broods upon your days,
Almighty powers are shut in Nature's cells.
A greater destiny waits you in your front:
This transient earthly being if he wills
Can fit his acts to a transcendent scheme...
Authors of earth's high change, to you is given
To cross the dangerous spaces of the soul
And touch the mighty Mother stark awake
And meet the Omnipotent in this house of flesh
And make of life the million-bodied one.*

(SAVITRI, Book 4, Canto 3, p.370)