

# The Sunlit Path



**150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of  
Sri Aurobindo**

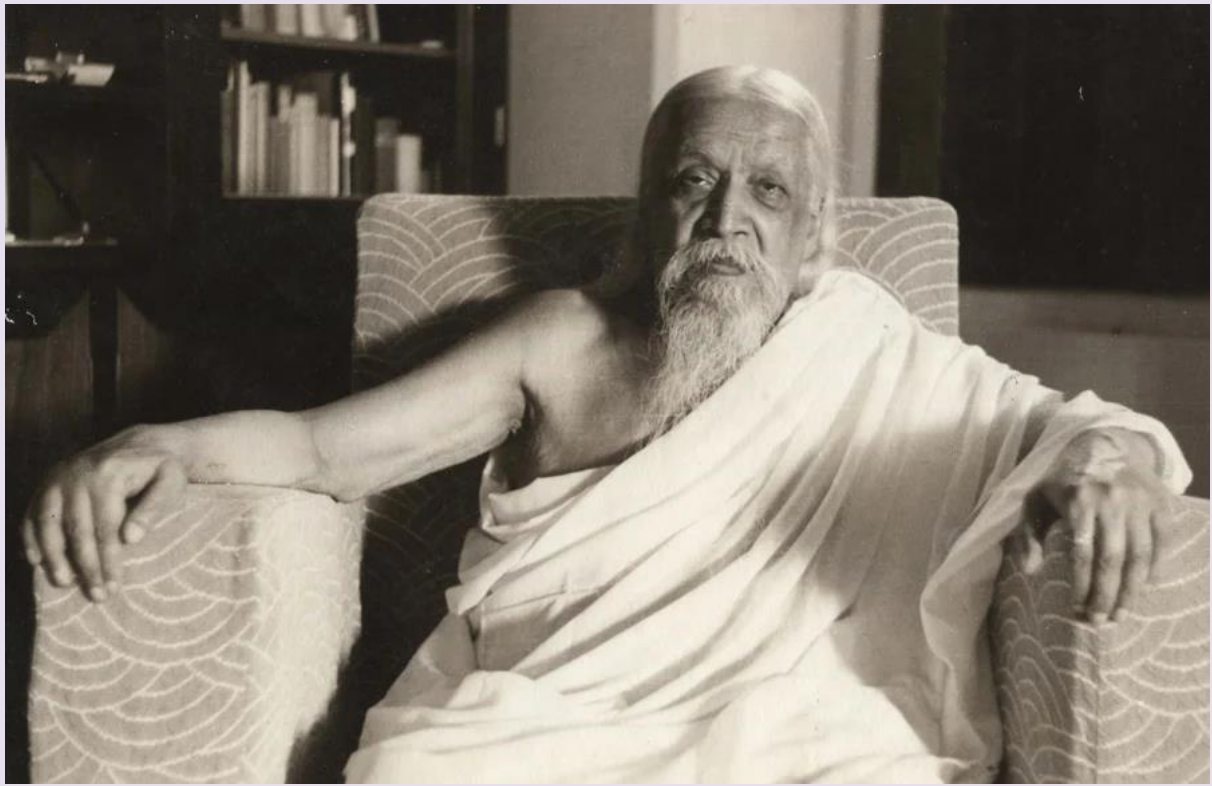
**Sri Aurobindo Chair of Integral Studies**

**Sardar Patel University**

**Vallabh Vidyanagar, India**

**15 August, 2022**

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## Editorial

My dear friends,

I am happy to bring to you the **150<sup>th</sup> issue of The Sunlit Path of the 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2022, on the occasion of 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo.** On this occasion, my heart is overwhelmed with Gratitude to Sri Aurobindo and The Mother.

This special issue contains a message from Prof. Niranjan Patel, Vice Chancellor, Sardar Patel University on this special occasion.

‘Living Words’ contain Darshan message received from Sri Aurobindo Ashram on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2022. There are several messages received from The Mother on the occasion of Sri Aurobindo’ Centenary. A special invocation of The Mother India in the words of The Mother is included in this issue.

A poem written by Sri Aurobindo, ‘Because Thou Art’ and a Gujarati prayer written by Sundaram are included in this special issue. A small passage written by Sri Aurobindo describes the uniqueness of Integral Yoga. A very short but powerful message from Sri Aurobindo to the Youth of the Nation is included in ‘A call to the Young India’. And finally, we have ‘Prayer of the cells of the body - almost a proclamation’ written by The Mother.

15<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 marks 75<sup>th</sup> year of India’s Independence. It is a time for the nation to strive with renewed vigour to re-discover its National Spirit in all walks of Life and Education. Messages from Sri Aurobindo and The Mother are our torch-bearers in our quest.

This is 15<sup>th</sup> year of publication of The Sunlit Path and I am indeed at

loss of words to express my Gratitude on this Special Occasion. The primary objective of its publication was to offer the readers of the university writings of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother on diverse aspects of Integral Yoga and Integral Education.

Truly speaking, the journey of publishing the e magazine, which started in 2009 has been more of an inner journey for myself to read and receive Sri Aurobindo's and The Mother's teachings, accompanied by an equal joy to share the same with the academia. At this juncture I am attaching herewith the link to access all the 150 issues of The Sunlit Path.

I am sincerely thankful to Prof. Dr. Niranjana Patel, Hon. Vice Chancellor for his constant support and encouragement. I am also thankful to all previous Vice Chancellors and staff members of the university for their support. I am thankful to valued readership for being together in this beautiful journey.

The following is the link of e- magazine published from 2009 to 2021.

<https://www.spuvvn.edu/academics/academic-chairs/sri-aurobindo-chair-of-integral-studies/the-sunlit-path/the-sunlit-path-archives/>

Link for issues of 2022 is as under: [The Sunlit Path – Sardar Patel University \(spuvvn.edu\)](#)

I pray Sri Aurobindo and The Mother for Their Blessings on the academia of the university so that their pursuit of knowledge is

enlightened.

With sincere regards,

Dr Bhalendu Vaishnav



## **Message from the Desk of the Vice-Chancellor**

*I am happy to learn that Sri Aurobindo Chair of Integral Studies is publishing 150<sup>th</sup> issue of its e-magazine 'The Sunlit Path' on the occasion of 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo.*

*Sri Aurobindo was a great revolutionary and freedom fighter. His contribution in the initial stages of India's freedom movement was exceptional. It laid foundations and provided the necessary impetus for its ultimate triumph. The gift of Sri Aurobindo in the form of Integral Yoga for Superamental Transformation is indeed unique and without a second in the history of mankind.*

*The following remarks by Shri Chitranjan Das, one of his Nationalist collaborators and a famous lawyer in Alipore bomb case clearly vocalize the feelings of millions of people of the nation about Sri Aurobindo during times of early freedom struggle. Shri Chitranjan Das said, "My appeal to you is this – that long after this turmoil, this agitation will have ceased, long after he is dead and gone, he will be looked upon as the poet of patriotism, as the prophet of nationalism and the lover of humanity. Long after he is dead and gone, his words will be echoed and re-echoed not only in India but across distant seas and lands..."*

*Sardar Patel University is the first and the only University in India which established Sri Aurobindo Chair of Integral Studies way back in 1994. The chair has strived sincerely to fulfil its cherished ideals of spreading the Light and Vision among academia since then. Integral Education and the Synthesis of the Matter and Spirituality form the basic concept of the vision of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, and, therefore, the focus of the activities of the chair.*

*Publication of e-magazine 'The Sunlit Path' is an important activity undertaken by Sri Aurobindo Chair of Integral Studies. It is more than a coincidence; it is indeed a Divine Grace that the 150<sup>th</sup> issue of The Sunlit Path is being brought out during 15<sup>th</sup> year of its publication on the occasion of 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo and 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of India's Independence. I heartily congratulate Dr. Bhalendu Vaishnav, chairperson of the chair for this commendable work and dedication.*

*Importance of implementing principles of National Education as pronounced by Sri Aurobindo are being recognized by the educationists across the universities. They assume growing relevance at a juncture when the nation is in the process of transforming its basic educational fabric through the new National Education Policy. In the present era, students have access to unlimited knowledge, but acquisition of knowledge goes missing. It is here that we look up to Light and Teachings of Sri Aurobindo and Sardar Patel and strive to blend the subject-centric and life-centric education, apara vidya and para vidya for ultimate growth of the mankind. This is the work that institutions of higher education owe to the society and I am happy to share that the sardar Patel University is constantly striving in this direction through its diverse activities.*

*I once again congratulate Dr. Vaishnav and his colleagues and wish them the very best in their future endeavors of bringing innovations in Higher Education to make it Life-fulfilling activity.*

**15 August, 2022**

**Prof. Niranjan Patel  
Vice Chancellor  
Sardar Patel University  
Vallabh Vidyanagar**

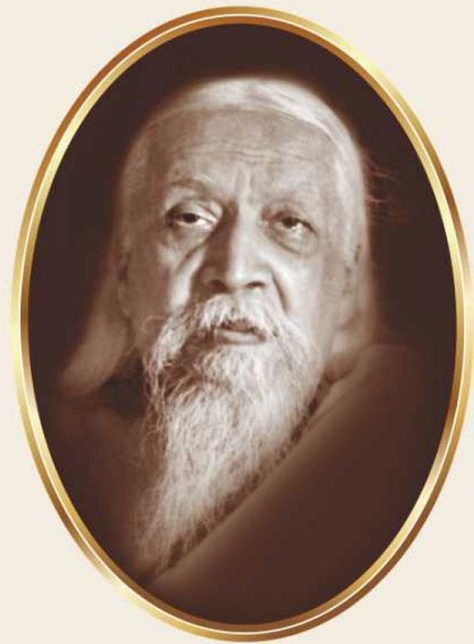




## Darshan Message: 15 August, 2022



The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of Sri Aurobindo's Birth





The best homage that we can render to Sri Aurobindo on his centenary is to have a thirst for progress and to open all our being to the Divine Influence of which he is the Messenger upon the earth.

The Mother

A spiritual ideal has always been the characteristic idea and aspiration of India. But the progress of Time and the need of humanity demand a new orientation and another form of that ideal.... Our ideal is not the spirituality that withdraws from life but the conquest of life by the power of the spirit. It is to accept the world as an effort of manifestation of the Divine, but also to transform humanity by a greater effort of manifestation than has yet been accomplished....

Sri Aurobindo



Le meilleur hommage que nous puissions rendre à Sri Aurobindo à l'occasion de son centenaire est une soif de progrès et une ouverture de tout notre être à l'Influence divine dont il est le messager sur terre.

La Mère

Un idéal spirituel a toujours été l'idée et l'aspiration de l'Inde. Mais le progrès du Temps et le besoin de l'humanité demandent une nouvelle orientation et une nouvelle forme de cet idéal (...) Notre idéal n'est pas la spiritualité qui se retire de la vie mais la conquête de la vie par le pouvoir de l'esprit. C'est d'accepter le monde comme un effort de manifestation du Divin mais aussi de transformer l'humanité par un plus grand effort de manifestation que celui qui a été accompli jusqu'à présent (...)

Sri Aurobindo

## Sri Aurobindo

### The Mother

What Sri Aurobindo represents in the history of the earth's spiritual progress is not a teaching, not even a revelation; it is a mighty action straight from the Supreme.

15 August 1964

(Message for broadcast by All India Radio, Tiruchirappalli)

\*\*\*\*\*

Sri Aurobindo has come on earth not to bring a teaching or a creed in competition with previous creeds or teachings, but to show the way to overpass the past and to open concretely the route towards an imminent and inevitable future.

22 February 1967

\*\*\*\*\*

Lord, we are upon earth to accomplish Thy work of transformation. It is our sole will, our sole preoccupation. Grant that it may be also our sole occupation and that all our actions may help us towards this single goal.

1 January 1951

\*\*\*\*\*

Today is the first day of Sri Aurobindo's centenary year. Though he has left his body he is still with us, alive and active. 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 realisation of a

glorious future fashioned by the Divine Will. All those who want to collaborate for the progress of humanity and for India's luminous destiny must unite in a clairvoyant aspiration and in an illumined work. (Message for broadcast by All India Radio, Pondicherry)

15 August 1971 (1)

\*\*\*\*\*

1972

BONNE ANNEE'

This year is consecrated to Sri Aurobindo. 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. May his teaching enlighten and guide us, and what we cannot do today, we shall do tomorrow. Let us take the right attitude in all sincerity, and it will truly be a BONNE ANNEE' .

31 December 1971

\*\*\*\*\*

Without the Divine we are limited, incompetent and helpless beings; with the Divine, if we give ourselves entirely to Him, all is possible and our progress is limitless. A special help has come upon the earth for Sri Aurobindo's centenary year; let us take advantage of it to overcome the ego and emerge into the light.

BONNE ANNEE'

1 January 1972 (2)

\*\*\*\*\*

The Soul of India is one and indivisible. India is conscious of her mission in the world. She is waiting for the exterior means of manifestation. 6 June 1947 (3)

\*\*\*\*\*



## INVOCATION

**15 August 1947**

O our Mother, O Soul of India, Mother who hast never forsaken thy children even in the days of darkest depression, even when they turned away from thy voice, served other masters and denied thee, now when they have arisen and the light is on thy face in this dawn of thy liberation, in this great hour we salute thee. Guide us so that the horizon of freedom opening before us may be also a horizon of true greatness and of thy true life in the community of the nations. Guide us so that we may be always on the side of great ideals and show to men thy true visage, as a leader in the ways of the spirit and a friend and helper of all the peoples. (4)

\*\*\*\*\*



## Because Thou art Sri Aurobindo

*Because Thou art All-beauty and All-bliss,  
My soul blind and enamoured yearns for Thee;  
It bears Thy mystic touch in all that is  
And thrills with the burden of that ecstasy.*

*Behind all eyes I meet Thy secret gaze  
And in each voice I hear Thy magic tune:  
Thy sweetness hunts my heart through Nature's ways;  
Nowhere it beats now from Thy snare immune.*

*It loves Thy body in all living things;  
Thy joy is there in every leaf and stone:  
The moments bring Thee on their fiery wings;  
Sight's endless artistry is Thou alone.*

*Time voyages with Thee upon its prow, —  
And all the future's passionate hope is Thou. (5)*

## શ્રી અરવિન્દ

શ્રી અરવિન્દ :  
શ્રી અરવિન્દ :  
હૃદય હૃદય શ્રી અરવિન્દ.

હે પુનિતુ દ્યુતિ,  
આ ધરણી તલ અંકિત તવ પદ,  
તે આપ્યા જ્યોતિર્મય અંબુદ.  
શ્રી અરવિન્દ :  
હૃદય હૃદય શ્રી અરવિન્દ.

હે મધુર દ્યુતિ,  
તવ કરુણા તવ પ્રેમ અનર્ગલ  
ભસ્મ બન્યા જગના દાવાનળ.  
શ્રી અરવિન્દ :  
હૃદય હૃદય શ્રી અરવિન્દ.

હે અમૃત દ્યુતિ,  
તું ધારક, ગોપક, દ્યોતક કર,  
તે બક્ષ્યું જગને સ્વાર્ણાબર.  
શ્રી અરવિન્દ :  
હૃદય હૃદય શ્રી અરવિન્દ.

હે બલવદ્ દ્યુતિ,  
ગહન તિમિર અવગુંઠન ભેદક,  
એક મીટ શત શત ચિતિ સર્જક !  
શ્રી અરવિન્દ :  
હૃદય હૃદય શ્રી અરવિન્દ.

હે પરમ દ્યુતિ,  
નયન નયન તવ હો પરમા દૃગ,  
તવ હૃદય વિરમે વિગલિત જગ,  
શ્રી અરવિન્દ :  
હૃદય હૃદય શ્રી અરવિન્દ.

-સુન્દરમ્



## A Call to the Young India Sri Aurobindo

*There are times in a nation's history when Providence places before it one work, one aim, to which everything else, however high and noble in itself, has to be sacrificed.*

*Such a time has now arrived for our motherland when nothing is dearer than her service, when everything else is to be directed to that end.*

*If you will study, study for her sake; train yourselves body and mind and soul for her service.*

*You will earn your living that you may live for her sake. You will go abroad to foreign lands that you may bring back knowledge with which you may do service to her.*

*Work that she may prosper. Suffer that she may rejoice.*

*All is contained in that one single advice. Talk given at the Bengal National College on August 23, 1907. (6)*



## Newness of Sri Aurobindo's Yoga Sri Aurobindo

It is new as compared with the old Yogas:

- (1) Because it aims not at a departure out of world and life into a Heaven or a Nirvana, but at a change of life and existence, not as something subordinate or incidental, but as a distinct and central object.

If there is a descent in other Yogas, yet it is only an incident on the way or resulting from the ascent — the ascent is the real thing. Here the ascent is indispensable, but what is decisive, what is finally aimed at is the resulting descent.

It is the descent of the new consciousness attained by the ascent that is the stamp and seal of the sadhana. Even Tantra and Vaishnavism end in the release from life; here the object is the divine fulfilment of life.

- (2) Because the object sought after is not an individual achievement of divine realisation for the sole sake of the individual, but something to be gained for the earth-consciousness here, a cosmic, not solely a supra-cosmic achievement.

The thing to be gained also is the bringing in of a Power of consciousness (the supramental) not yet organised or active directly in earthnature, even in the spiritual life, but yet to be organised and made directly active.

- (3) Because a method has been preconised for achieving this purpose which is as total and integral as the aim set before it, viz. the total and integral change of the consciousness and nature, taking up old methods but only as a part action and passing on to others that are distinctive.

I have not found this method (as a whole) or anything like it in its

totality proposed or realised in the old Yogas. If I had I should not have wasted my time in hewing out a road and in thirty years of search and inner creation when I could have hastened home safely to my goal in an easy canter over paths already blazed out, laid down, perfectly mapped, macadamised, made secure and public.

Our Yoga is not a retreading of old walks, but a spiritual adventure.  
(7)





## **The prayer of the cells of the body The Mother**

*Now that, by the effect of the Grace, we are slowly emerging out of  
inconscience and waking to a conscious life, an ardent prayer rises in  
us for more light, more consciousness,*

*“O Supreme Lord of the universe, we implore Thee, give us the  
strength and the beauty, the harmonious perfection needed to be Thy  
divine instruments upon earth.”*

**It is almost a proclamation.**

**(8)**

## Acknowledgements



**All passages from the writings of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother are copyright of Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry, India and taken with kind permission of Sri Aurobindo Ashram Trust.** Their titles and captions are chosen by the editor. The sources of the short passages in the present issue are:

1. The Mother, CWM 13,14
2. The Mother, **CWM 13, 16**
3. The Mother, CWM 13, 351
4. The Mother, CWM 13, 352
5. Sri Aurobindo, CWSA 2, 602
6. Sri Aurobindo, CWSA 13, 511
7. Sri Aurobindo, CWSA 29, 399-410
8. The Mother, CWM 6, 447-8

**The Sunlit Path** is an e magazine of **Sri Aurobindo Chair of Integral Studies, Sardar Patel University**. It is being brought out fortnightly during 150<sup>th</sup> year of Sri Aurobindo's Birthday. It can be viewed at the University webpage: [http://www.spuvvn.edu/academics/academic\\_chairs/aurobindo/](http://www.spuvvn.edu/academics/academic_chairs/aurobindo/)

Editor: Dr. Bhalendu S. Vaishnav, Chairperson, **Sri Aurobindo Chair of Integral Studies, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, 388120, Gujarat, India.**

Contact: Department of Medicine, Pramukhswami Medical College, Bhaikaka University, Karamsad 388325, Gujarat, India.

e mail: [Sriaurobindochair@gmail.com](mailto:Sriaurobindochair@gmail.com)