

The Sunlit Path



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Editorial

My dear friends,

I am happy to bring to you the 1 April, 2022 issue of The Sunlit Path.

This issue contains a very important conversation with The Mother on 'Psychic Presence and Psychic Being— Real Origin of Race Superiority', which gives profound knowledge about Psychic being, psychic influence and the hidden purpose of diversity of living expression of psychic influence, in very lucid language. Similarly, Her conversation regarding Supermind and Overmind very beautifully puts in perspective the True purpose of the Integral Yoga. And finally, we have a short poem 'One Day, The Little More' – which is indeed very meditative.

I do hope that you will find the contents deeply meaningful and inspiring.

In Her Light,

Dr Bhalendu Vaishnav



Living Words

Psychic Presence and Psychic Being – Real Origin of Race Superiority

The Mother

With regard to the evolution upwards, it is more correct to speak of the psychic presence than the psychic being. ***For it is the psychic presence which little by little becomes the psychic being.*** In each evolving form there is this presence, but it is not individualised.

It is something which is capable of growth and follows the movement of the evolution. It is not a descent of the involution from above. It is formed progressively round the spark of Divine Consciousness which is meant to be the centre of a growing being which becomes the psychic being when it is at last individualised.

It is this spark that is permanent and gathers round itself all sorts of elements for the formation of that individuality; the true psychic being is formed only when the psychic personality is fully grown, fully built up, round the eternal divine spark; it attains its culmination, its total fulfilment if and when it unites with a being or personality from above.

Below the human level there is, ordinarily, hardly any individual formation — there is only this presence, more or less.

But when, by the growth of the body round the spark of Divine Consciousness, humanity began upon the earth, certain human organisms became in the course of this progressive growth sufficiently perfected, and by their opening and receptivity allowed a junction with certain beings descending from above. **This gave rise to a kind of divine humanity, what may be called a race of the elite.**

If only they had remained by themselves, these people 'would have continued as a race unique and superhuman.

Indeed many races have made claims to be that: the Aryan, the Semitic and the Japanese have all in turn considered themselves the chosen race. But in fact there has been a general levelling of humanity, a lot of intermixture. For there arose the necessity of prolongation of the superior race, which drove it to intermix with the rest of humanity — with animal humanity, that is to say. Thus its value was degraded and led to that great Fall which is spoken of in the world's scriptures, the coming out of Paradise, the end of the Golden Age.

Indeed it was a loss from the point of view of consciousness, but not from that of material strength, since it was a tremendous gain to ordinary humanity. There were, certainly, some beings who had a very strong will not to mix, who resented losing their superiority; and it is just this that is the real origin of race-pride, race-exclusiveness, and a special caste distinction like that cherished by the Brahmins in India. But at present it cannot be said that there is any portion of mankind which is purely animal: all the races have been touched by the descent from above, and owing to the extensive intermixture the result of the Involution was more widely spread.

Of course one cannot say that every man has got a psychic being, just as one cannot refuse to grant it to every animal.

Many animals that have lived near man have some beginnings of it, while so often one comes across people who do not seem to be anything else than brutes. Here, too, there has been a good deal of levelling. But on the whole, the psychic in the true sense starts at the human stage: that is also why the Catholic religion declares that only man has a soul. In man alone there is the possibility of the psychic being growing to its full stature even so far as to be able in the end to join and unite with a descending being, a godhead from above. (1)

Supermind and Overmind The Mother

Sri Aurobindo's work is a unique earth-transformation.

Above the mind there are several levels of conscious being, among which the really divine world is what Sri Aurobindo has called the Supermind, the world of the Truth.

But in between is what he has distinguished as the Overmind, the world of the cosmic Gods. Now it is this Overmind that has up to the present governed our world: it is the highest that man has been able to attain in illumined consciousness.

It has been taken for the Supreme Divine and all those who have reached it have never for a moment doubted that they have touched the true Spirit.

For, its splendours are so great to the ordinary human consciousness that it is absolutely dazzled into believing that here at last is the crowning reality. And yet the fact is that the Overmind is far below the true Divine. It is not the authentic home of the Truth. It is only the domain of the formateurs, all those creative powers and deities to whom men have bowed down since the beginning of history.

And the reason why the true Divine has not manifested and transformed the earth-nature is precisely that the Overmind has been mistaken for the Supermind.

The cosmic Gods do not wholly live in the Truth-Consciousness: they are only in touch with it and represent, each of them, an aspect of its glories. No doubt, the Supermind has also acted in the history of the world but always through the Overmind.

It is the direct descent of the Supramental Consciousness and Power that alone can utterly re-create life in terms of the Spirit.

For, in the Overmind there is already the play of possibilities which marks the beginning of this lower triple world of Mind, Life and Matter in which we have our existence. And whenever there is this play and not the spontaneous and infallible working of the innate Truth of the Spirit, there is the seed of distortion and ignorance.

Not that the Overmind is a field of ignorance; but it is the borderline between the Higher and the Lower, for, the play of possibilities, of separate even if not yet divided choice, is likely to lead to deviation from the Truth of things.

The Overmind, therefore, does not and cannot possess the power to transform humanity into divine nature. For that, the Supramental is the sole effective agent.

And what exactly differentiates our Yoga from attempts in the past to spiritualise life is that we know that the splendours of the Overmind are not the highest reality but only an intermediate step between the mind and the true Divine.(2)



One Day ***The Little More***

Sri Aurobindo

**One day, and all the half-dead is done,
One day, and all the unborn begun;
A little path and the great goal,
A touch that brings the divine whole.**

**Hill after hill was climbed and now,
Behold, the last tremendous brow
And the great rock that none has trod:
A step, and all is sky and God.**





Acknowledgements

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1. The Mother, CWM 3, 150-51
2. The Mother, CWM 3 173-74
3. Sri Aurobindo, CWSA, 2, 542

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