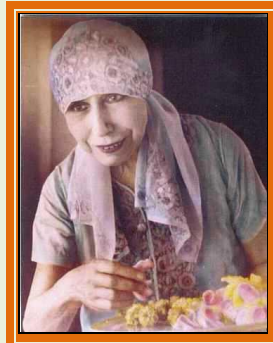


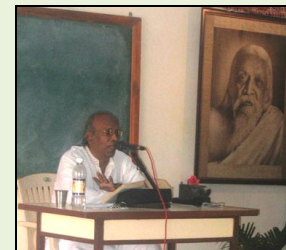
*This bodily appearance is not all;
The form deceives, the person is a mask;
Hid deep in man celestial powers can dwell.*

Savitri, Book I, Canto III



*Darshan Talks at SACAR
February 16-27, 2009*

As part of the bi-annual Darshan celebrations at SACAR, Ananda Reddy gave a series of talks on selected chapters from *The Life Divine*. The topics discussed were: Man and the Evolution, and Evolution of the Spiritual Man.



*SACAR Welcomes New Students
of February 2009 batch*

The second semester of SACAR-IGNOU started on February 21.

We enrolled our second batch of students at various levels – Certificate, MA, M.Phil and Ph.D. These students come from various parts of India and a few are from abroad.

*A group of Canadian students visit
SACAR, February 28-March 2, 2009*

Larry Seidlitz and Ananda Reddy presented a series of talks on Integral Philosophy and Integral Yoga Psychology of Sri Aurobindo for a group of healers and students from British Columbia, Canada. The group from Langara College, led by Ruth Lamb, was visiting Auroville for their study of indigenous healing practices, and visited SACAR on two afternoons for these special lectures.



Best wishes to all our new and continuing students for their studies

*SACAR-IGNOU Enrollment
As of February 21, 2009*

Programme of Study	No. of students
Ph.D. in Sri Aurobindo Studies	5
M. Phil in Sri Aurobindo Studies	15
MA in Sri Aurobindo Studies	6
PG Diploma in Studies in Indian Culture	1
PG Diploma in Integral Education	2
Certificate in Introduction to Sri Aurobindo Studies	18
TOTAL	47



*Organised Team-Work
Each in his place and all together*



Enlightenment
Painting by Bindu Popli

Contact: Beloo Mehra
Phone: 0413-2348067
beloome@gmail.com
sacar@auromail.net

We invoke the grace and blessings of the Mother and Sri Aurobindo through our reference to MĀ and SA. MĀSA is also a Sanskrit word which means month – appropriate for a monthly publication.

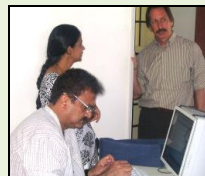
SACAR organizes Personal Contact Programme for new students

February 16-20, 2009

With an invocation to the Divine Mother, the 5-day residential study programme at SACAR commenced on the morning of February 16th, 2009. It provided the new SACAR-IGNOU students an introduction to the thought and vision of Sri Aurobindo and incorporated a rich variety of learning opportunities such as lecture-discussions and presentations on several topics, student essay writing sessions, small group discussions, and student presentations.



Students were also given an orientation to teaching and evaluation system used at SACAR. They also worked on short assignments to become familiar with the online learning system.



The programme included visits to the Ashram, Ashram departments and Matrimandir at Auroville.

The students were especially delighted about their experience inside the meditation chamber at Matrimandir. They documented this experience as an essay assignment.



Students stayed at the SACAR Scholars Home which provided them ample opportunity to get to know one another. This personal contact with one another and a sense of belonging to a learning community will add much richness to their online learning experience. Students also spent some informal time with their facilitators during lunches and tea-breaks. A few students were also accompanied by their family members, and they too became part of the SACAR family.



On the last day, an impromptu cultural programme was organized in which participants sang songs, recited poems and shared jokes. The programme came to a grand finale with an invocation to the Divine Mother.



Don't shoot!

Esha, who accompanied her mother Geetanjali to SACAR for the SACAR-IGNOU residential study programme, thoroughly enjoyed her time at the campus and made friends with everyone, especially with Sasikala who looks after the Scholars Home. She also helped decorate her mother's classroom with flowers!

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://www.sacar.in>

SACAR-IGNOU students speak about their PCP experience

- I feel adequately prepared to start the online programme of study at SACAR.
- The practical session was helpful and I wish we had more sessions for practice with online learning.
- Selection of topics was quite well thought out...the first session of the PCP clarified and put me at substantial ease regarding the online programme.
- I definitely feel adequately prepared to start online study. All the presentations were nicely structured and very helpful to give a good start of the programme.
- I feel I had enough opportunities to interact with the facilitators and peers.
- I believe the PCP's duration should be extended to 10 days for greater interaction with the facilitators and fellow students.
- Adding film shows to the structure of PCP will make it even more meaningful.
- It would be good to concentrate more on the literary works of Sri Aurobindo.
- Sri Aurobindo's thoughts on politics should be covered more widely.
- The academic/intellectual components of the programme appear to be near perfect.
- More critical reviews of Sri Aurobindo's texts can be included.
- The academic components of the program are simply the best to introduce to a fresh learner in Sri Aurobindo's studies.
- The term 'facilitator' really came true at SACAR. The classroom atmosphere is very nice and friendly. I will miss everyone after I leave the place.

And finally after all this hard work...A Family Picnic!

On March 3rd, SACAR family decided to take a day off! No computers, no emails, no phone calls...only nature and us!



The morning hours went by quickly as we visited a few Ashram gardens and admired the vastness and grandeur of nature. After the sumptuous *thali* meals, the afternoon was spent frolicking and resting at the Chunambar beach!



In the last week of February, Mr. & Mrs. Rudolf from Germany visited SACAR. They have been long-time supporters and friends of SACAR. They were very pleased to see the Scholars Home completed and running well.

Admissions are ongoing for August 2009 session of SACAR-IGNOU programmes

To learn about the programmes, visit -www.sacar.in/ignou/mainpage.html

To apply, visit -

www.sacar.in/ignou/admission/application_ignou.html

Deadline for applications: June 10, 2009

