

"The world's senseless beauty mirrors God's delight."

-Savitri, Book II, Canto IV

The first residential seminar at SACAR was a BIG SUCCESS

SACAR successfully organized its first ten-day residential seminar during April 20-29, 2008. Thirty people from various parts of India participated in this intensive seminar, and more than half of them stayed at the newly built International Scholars' Home at SACAR.

"An Orientation to the Multifaceted Genius of Sri Aurobindo" wove together a beautiful tapestry of four different aspects of the thought and vision of Sri Aurobindo - Integral Yoga Psychology, Integral Education, Social-political Thought, and Literature. A team of selected speakers presented on different topics within these areas. Several group-work and Q&A sessions made the seminar highly participatory and interactive.

In the next four issues of MĀSA we will provide brief coverage of each of the academic sections of the seminar. But at present we share memories of some special events and some tea-time moments caught on camera.

Comments from some participants

"The overall experience was very inspiring."

"It's like the *gurukul* system revisited with the modern facilities.

"The presentations were excellent in quality, very informative."

"Perhaps fewer speakers and more depth would have been better."

"Well thought out and carefully planned."

"It is astonishing how the Mother arranged for us to come over here...and today it feels as if we are not really departing, we will be here always at SACAR - with a will and an aim and we are sure the Mother will grace us."

When the tea flowed....

The juice-breaks and tea-breaks at the seminar were those relaxing times in between the academic sessions when people let loose and mingled freely with one another and shared news, common interests, personal stories, bonded as a group or enjoyed a quiet moment by themselves. Of course, to our resident photographer, these breaks also provided wonderful opportunities to capture some of the academically minded individuals in their casual moments.



Man approaches nearer his perfection when he combines in himself the idealist and the pragmatist, the originative soul and the executive power.
Sri Aurobindo

Glimpses from the Cultural Evening at SACAR April 27, 2008

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It was a pleasant Sunday evening, and the newly built stage at SACAR was set for an hour or two of music, dance, poetry recitation and other cultural events. The programme, which was part of the SACAR residential seminar, was coordinated and organized by Deepshikha Reddy, and most of the presenters were from the participants attending the seminar.

We enjoyed Mantra recitation, semi-classical music, Bharatnatyam and Odissi dances, and poetry reading. Arts and languages of different regions of India were beautifully represented in the selections made by the participants.

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'Red' appears on the first page with the permission of the photographer who prefers to remain unnamed. SACAR photos, courtesy of Satya. Hyderabad photos, courtesy of Institute of Human Study.



NEWS from Hyderabad

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All living thought is a
world in preparation; all
real act is a thought
manifested.
Sri Aurobindo

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

WORKSHOP ON THE NEED FOR INTEGRAL EDUCATION:

Sri Aurobindo International School and The Institute of Human Study, Hyderabad organised the third phase of the Workshop on the Need for Integral Education at Hanamkonda, Warangal during April 28- May 3, 2008. Forty-seven teachers from various schools located at Hanamkonda and Warangal participated in the workshop. Meenakshi Naidu, IMSK Raju, Geetamata and Vijayalaxmi conducted the workshop in which the participating teachers were given hands-on experience of play way method of teaching.



SUMMER CLASSES AT IHS:

The summer classes at the Institute of Human Study started from May 1, 2008. At present about 50 persons -- adults and children from the surrounding areas -- are enrolled in these classes in Music, Dance, Drawing, Martial Art, and Yoga.

ANNUAL DAY OF ADITI SCHOOL, CHAMPAK HILLS:

Aditi School, the free residential school sponsored by Matridarshan Trust, organized its annual day on April 24, 2008. The programme in which the students presented several cultural items was graced by Shri Mallaiah, an educationist and Shri M. Ramchandra Reddy, a freedom fighter, both hailing from Jangaon.

Online Programme in Introduction to Sri Aurobindo Studies Starts August 15th

A four-month overview of Sri Aurobindo's insights on Indian Culture, Social Evolution, Integral Philosophy and Integral Yoga.
Registration has begun! For information and application,
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