

SAKSI

➤ Inspiration

➤ Mission

➤ Publications

➤ Activities



SAKSI is a spiritual movement. The aim is to spread the message of the Veda and Sri Aurobindo, which imbues awareness to lead a beautiful, harmonious, creative and happy life, individually and collectively.

SRI AUROBINDO KAPALI SASTRY INSTITUTE OF VEDIC CULTURE



Sri Aurobindo

A poet, philosopher and mystic, Sri Aurobindo has through his theory and practice, pioneered the understanding of the message of the Vedic heritage and the meaning of the modern renaissance. He is one of the outstanding "builders" of Indian philosophy in recent times. He formulated his philosophy of

integralism on the basis of his own authentic experience. Experience is manifold; it may relate to any field of life - art, poetry, religion, philosophy, occultism, and so on. When it is organized as a verifiable field of knowledge, it is philosophy.

Sri Aurobindo's philosophy is described as integral for two reasons. It takes into account the whole of reality as it reveals itself to the uplooking / inlooking human mind. It is also integrative as it leaves no grade of experience behind once another experience comes by. The lower is taken up and integrated into the higher, the smaller into the larger.

Sri Aurobindo did not arrive at his philosophy by a sudden revelation. His was a steady growth of consciousness with dimension adding itself to dimension. Sri Aurobindo's philosophy continues to shape the lives and minds of human beings in various ways, at different levels.



Sri T. V. Kapali Sastry

Sri T.V. Kapali Sastry (1886-1953) was a multiple personality. He excelled in whatever field he worked. Among his several services to the national heritage, the one which comes most prominently to the mind is his solid contribution in building a strong bridge between the ancient past and the evolutionary thought of the present. Following the trail of his masters, first of Vaisishtha Ganapati Muni and then of Sri Aurobindo, he unearthed many a truth that underlies concealed within the cryptic utterances of the Veda. In the great adventure of reinterpreting vedas to us along the lines of Sri Aurobindo, Sri Kapali Sastry played a significant part.

Sri TVK's writings on the Upanishads, especially on the various Vidyās, disciplines, that are described briefly and cryptically in the originals, are a treasure of mystic lore. Sri TVK's writings are in four languages namely English, Tamil, Telugu and Sanskrit. Sanskrit was more natural to him. All his writings are collected and published in eleven volumes. Sri TVK regarded himself as a Tāntrik, first and last. He was a profound votary and a masterful adept in the mantra śāstra. It is on record how his Mantra Japa turned the tide in the lives of many in distress.

The Institute

The Institute 'SAKSI' was started in 1997 with the aim of disseminating the wisdom in the ancient Veda Samhita and related books such as Upanishads, so that the knowledge becomes easily accessible to all interested persons who are not necessarily knowledgeable in Sanskrit or even the Devanagari script. Most of the existing English translations of the Veda Samhita view the books as anthropological and ritualistic curiosities rather than as books of wisdom. Even though Hinduism contains many important religious books of later times, the wisdom of the Vedic age is relevant even today.

The sages of the Vedas had an integrated and pragmatic attitude towards the pursuit of the supreme goals of the spiritual life and the demands of everyday life. Unlike some of the later books, the Vedic books do not exhort everyone to take up sanyas or cessation from common daily professional activities for seriously pursuing a spiritual life.

SAKSI draws its inspiration from the great spiritual savants and scholars, Sri Aurobindo (1872-1950), The Mother (1878-1973), Sri Kapali Sastry (1886-1953) and Sri Madhav Pandit (1918-1993). Their well-known books emphasize the need for harmonizing both the 'spiritual' and 'worldly' aspects of our life. We have to take seriously the notion 'All is Brahman'. We should become conscious of every act or thought in us so that we can indeed lead a beautiful and harmonious life.

Our first publication was a new edition of the entire text of Rig Veda Samhita in a beautiful format, published in 1998 and reprinted in 2003. We are apparently the first to publish an English translation of Rig Veda Samhita giving the meaning of every Sanskrit word. Volumes 1 to 3 of Rig Veda Samhita containing the first 1300 verses in this format were published in 2000-2001. The revised edition in single volume has come out in 2003.

We are also the first to bring out the Krishna Yajur Veda Samhita or Taittiriya Samhita in book form (3 volumes) including the complete text both in Devanagari and Roman scripts, English translations of individual padas or phrases emphasizing the psychological meaning in them and the subtle yajna occurring in our subtle bodies which enhances our integrated well-being.

Our books giving the highlights of Rig Veda on various topics relevant to the modern age such as 'Why Read Rig Veda' have been well received. Small booklets covering



Inauguration of Vedic Library



Workshop on Veda & Integral Life

various subjects of Veda published by us have drawn the attention of wider public. New books are being continuously added. Till Feb 2005, We have published 60 titles.

www.vedah.org is our computer web site. It gives a variety of knowledge in a thousand pages in an easily retrievable form; it includes the original text of some of Veda Samhitas, Upanishads and the Rig Veda chants.

SAKSI is conducting several half-day or full-day workshops on Veda to popularise Vedic knowledge amongst all sections of the society.

'Creative Life Project' is one more unique activity of the Institute. The project aims at unfolding the creativity latent in every one. To fulfill the aims of this project we conduct various programmes periodically. The membership for 'Creative Life Project' is open for all enthusiasts.

The Institute is part of the Sri Aurobindo Kapali Sastry Institute of Vedic Culture Trust, a non-profit organization. Contribution can be sent to: SAKSI by DD/Cheque. A part of the contribution to the trust is free of income tax under the Income Tax Act. Section. 80G.



'Veda Kamala' Award to Prof. S. K. Ramachandra Rao
Sri MKG (L) & Dr. RLK (R)



'PRAYERS' Cassette & CD.
Release by Sri Babu Krishnamurthy

Managing Trustee
Prof. G. V. Anantha Iyer

Trustees
Prof. R. L. Kashyap
Sri T. Sreenivasan
Sri R. V. Jahagirdar

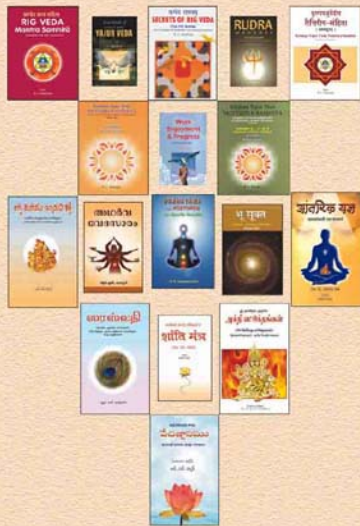


The Objectives

- 1 Start or aid research efforts to understand the connections between the four Veda Samhita books, Upanishads, Tantras and other related books.
- 2 Computerization and publication of the Vedic texts, both as hard bound books and in multimedia CD or world wide web format, in several scripts like Devanagari, Roman, Kannada etc and translations of these texts into English, Kannada and other Indian Languages.
- 3 Start or aid the study of vodic phonetics and chanting procedures.
- 4 Popularise the ways in which vedic society handled successfully the modern concepts or problems of liberty, equality, status of women, old persons and children, democratic governance, health and healing, multiple languages, development of creativity etc.
- 5 Understand the contributions of the ancient Hindus in quantitative sciences like geometry, building construction, arithmetic, the mathematical codes on ciphers, the mathematics behind metres and chanting systems etc.
- 6 Start or aid the schools for the spread of the vedic knowledge, both in the existing classroom type format and also alternative informal modes such as workshops, camps for youngsters, etc.
- 7 Start or aid experimental communities to implement these ideas into practice.

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A few publications of SAKSI



SAKSI

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