



*Sri Aurobindo and
the Mother*
on

**EDUCATION OF
THE WHOLE BEING**



Sri Aurobindo Society
AUROBHARATI

INDIA - FROM PAST DAWNS TO FUTURE NOONS



At the basis of the old Aryan system was the all-important discipline of Brahmacharya.

The first necessity for the building up of a great intellectual superstructure is to provide a foundation strong enough to bear it.

Sri Aurobindo, CWSA, 1:360



The true basis of education is the study of the human mind, infant, adolescent and adult. Any system of education founded on theories of academical perfection, which ignores the instrument of study, is more likely to hamper and impair intellectual growth than to produce a perfect and perfectly equipped mind.

Sri Aurobindo, CWSA, 1: 383



The mother-tongue is the proper medium of education and therefore the first energies of the child should be directed to the thorough mastering of the medium.

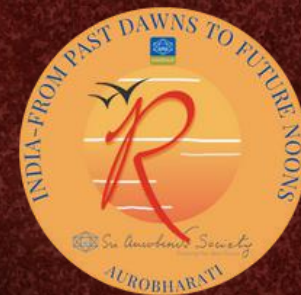


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Sri Aurobindo, CWSA, 1:360



**The mere inclusion of the matter of
Indian thought and culture in the
field of knowledge does not make a
system of education Indian...**

Sri Aurobindo, CWSA, 1:368



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This vital education has two principal aspects, very different in their aims and methods, but both equally important.

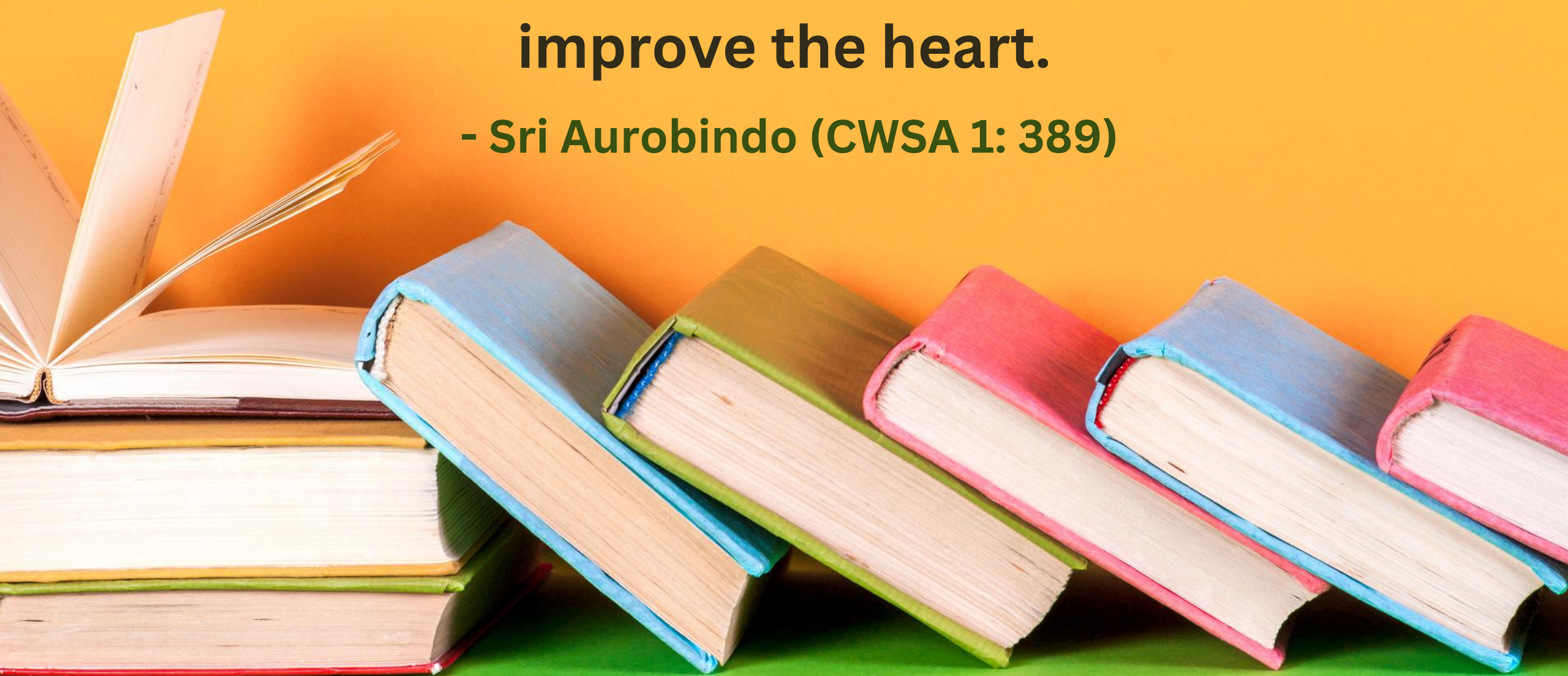
The first concerns the development and use of the sense organs.

The second the progressing awareness and control of the character, culminating in its transformation.

THE MOTHER, CWM, 12: 20

The attempt to make boys moral and religious by the teaching of moral and religious textbooks is a vanity and a delusion, precisely because the heart is not the mind and to instruct the mind does not necessarily improve the heart.

- Sri Aurobindo (CWSA 1: 389)



You can impose a certain discipline on children, dress them into a certain mould, lash them into a desired path, but unless you can get their hearts and natures on your side, the conformity to this imposed rule becomes a hypocritical and heartless, a conventional, often a cowardly compliance.

- Sri Aurobindo (CWSA 1: 389)

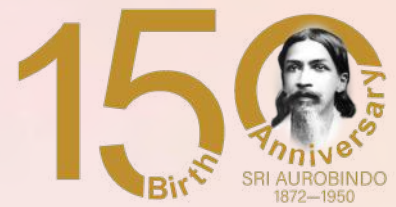


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The wildness and recklessness of many young natures are only the overflowings of an excessive strength, greatness and nobility. They should be purified, not discouraged.

- Sri Aurobindo (CWSA 1: 391-392)



**There is a great
power in the simple
confidence of a child.**

The Mother, CWM 12:30





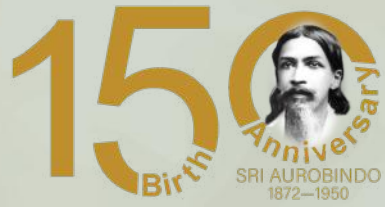
Painting by Ritam Upadhyay



Between them music,
art and poetry are a
perfect education for
the soul; they make
and keep its
movements purified,
self-controlled, deep
and harmonious.

Sri Aurobindo, CWSA, I: 448





The fulfilment of the individual is not the utmost development of his egoistic intellect, vital force, physical well-being and the utmost satisfaction of his mental, emotional, physical cravings, but the flowering of the divine in him to its utmost capacity of wisdom, power, love and universality and through this flowering his utmost realisation of all the possible beauty and delight of existence.

Sri Aurobindo, CWSA, 25:48





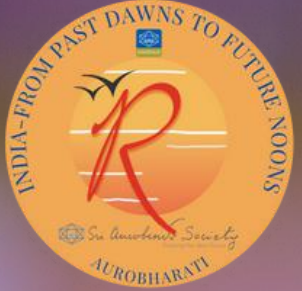
...each human being is a self-developing soul and that the business of both parent and teacher is to enable and to help the child to educate himself, to develop his own intellectual, moral, aesthetic and practical capacities and to grow freely as an organic being...

– Sri Aurobindo (CWSA, 25: 33)



To be young is to live in the future.
To be young is to be always ready to give up what
we are in order to become what we must be.
To be young is never to accept the irreparable.

The Mother, CWM 12:122



**To know how to be
reborn into a new life
at every moment is the
secret of eternal youth.**

The Mother, CWM, 12: 124

