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PREFACES TO THE BOOKS OF THE AGNI YOGA SERIES

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LEAVES OF M'S GARDEN

Vol. I (The Call) 1924

Into the New Country My first message. Thou who gavest the Ashram, Thou who gavest two lives, Proclaim.

Builders and warriors, strengthen the steps.
Reader, if thou hast not grasped read again, after a while.
The predestined is not accidental,
And the leaves fall off in due time.
Yet the winter is but the messenger of spring.
All is revealed; all is attainable.
I shall cover you with a shield labor.

I have spoken.

LEAVES OF M'S GARDEN

Vol. II (Illumination) 1925

They will ask:

"Who gave you the Teaching?" Answer: "The Mahatma of the East." They will ask:

"Where does He live?"

Answer: "The abode of the Teacher not only cannot be made known but cannot even be uttered. Your question shows how far you are from the understanding of the Teaching. Even humanly you must realize how wrong your question is."

They will ask:

"When can I be useful?"

Answer: "From this hour unto eternity."

> "When should I prepare myself for labor?"

"Lose not an hour!"

"And when will the call come?" "Even sleep vigilantly."

"How shall I work until this hour?"

"Enhancing the quality of labor."

COMMUNITY 1926

Wayfarer, friend, let us travel together. Night is near, wild beasts are about, and our campfire may go out. But if we agree to share the night watch, we can conserve our forces.

Tomorrow our path will be long and we may become exhausted. Let us walk together. We shall have joy and festivity. I shall sing for you the song your mother, wife and sister sang. You will relate for me your father's story about a hero and his achievements. Let our path be one.

Be careful not to step upon a scorpion, and warn me about any vipers. Remember, we must arrive at a certain mountain village.

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Traveler, be my friend.

AGNI YOGA 1929

Yoga — as that supreme span with cosmic attainments — has existed through all ages. Each Teaching comprises its own Yoga, applicable to the step of evolution. Yogas do not contradict each other. As the branches of one tree they spread their shade and refresh the traveler exhausted from heat.

His strength regained, the traveler continues on his way. He accepted naught which was not his; nor did he divert his striving. He embraced the manifested benevolence out of Space; he liberated the preordained forces. He mastered his single belonging.

Do not reject the forces of Yoga, but as light let them search the twilight of labor unrealized.

For the future, we arise out of sleep. For the future, we renew our garments. For the future, we sustain ourselves. For the future, we strive in our thought. For the future, we gather strength.

First shall we apply the counsels of life. Then shall we pronounce the name of the Yoga of the time approaching. We shall hear the tread of the element of Fire, but we shall already be prepared to master the undulations of the flame.

Therefore, hail we the most ancient — the Raja Yoga. And affirm we the future — the Agni Yoga.

INFINITY 1930

We give the book Infinity.

Is it worth while to speak of Infinity if it is unattainable? But it does exist; and everything great, even if invisible, compels us to think about the ways to it. Thus, even now let us ponder about the ways into Infinity; for it exists, and it is terrifying if it is not cognized. But even in the earthly life one can approach and can temper the spirit toward acceptance of the unfathomable.

A great deal remains unknown to us, yet we do overcome our ignorance. Thus, even if we do not understand the meaning of Infinity, we are able to realize it as something unavoidable and therefore meriting special attention. How else may we temper into commensurateness our thoughts and actions? Verily, by comparison with Infinity we realize the scope of our grievances and triumphs.

Hence, the levels of thinking in many countries should be stabilized just now, since the reminder about Infinity is especially important when arguments over falsehoods are taking place.

Therefore, we shall offer the radiance of the rays of Infinity, into which there is carried not only the spirit but even stones, in a blending, as it were, of loftiest creation with grossest matter. But in the whirlwind of Eternity the stone and the spirit are imponderable, for they are drawn into the same magnet. The very realization of the magnet increases the attraction, focusing it upon intensification of currents. These same vortices conquer space, and you do not know from what spheres the indivisible electron — nucleus of Tamas and Teros — reaches you.

Ponder to what extent you can understand My language and express it in your tongue. Similarly understand your reciprocative feelings and express them in the language of your heart. This language of understanding and sympathy will open the first Gates to Infinity.

HIERARCHY 1931

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Merging into the waves of the Infinite, we may be compared to flowers torn away by a storm. How shall we find ourselves transfigured in the ocean of the Infinite? It would be unwise to send out a boat without a rudder. But the Pilot is predestined and the creation of the heart will not be precipitated into the abyss. Like milestones on a luminous path, the Brothers of Humanity, ever alert, are standing on guard, ready to lead the traveler into the chain of ascent.

Hierarchy is not coercion—it is the law of the world-structures. It is not a threat—but the call of the heart and a fiery admonition directing towards the General Good.

Thus let us cognize the Hierarchy of Light.

HEART 1932

COLUMN F

After our daily labors, let us gather to discourse about the Heart. It will lead us beyond the domains of earth towards the Subtle World, in order to bring us closer to the sphere of Fire.

FIERY WORLD

Vol. 1 1933

Ur is the root of the Light of the Fire. From times immemorial this Radiant Principle has attracted the hearts of many peoples.

Thus, from the Covenants of the past let us transport ourselves into the future attainment.

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FIERY WORLD Vol. II 1964

People usually have absolutely no idea how to use the given Teaching. When they hear some formula which seems familiar, they haughtily exclaim, "Again the same thing, known to everyone!" They do not attempt to verify the extent to which this familiar formula has been realized and applied by them. They do not stop to think that the useful Teaching is given not for the sake of novelty but for the upbuilding of a worthy life.

The Teaching of Life is not a compilation of unheard-of utopias. Humanity is of very ancient origin; and in the course of ages multifarious sparks of Wisdom have been poured upon Earth, but every cycle has its key. If someone can recognize the present key as a familiar one, then let him rejoice and be thankful for an indication which is close to him. It seems simple, but in reality it proves to be very difficult. People love to listen to news and to receive toys, but few are ready to refine their consciousness.

It cannot be that one of the elements has not been stressed in the Teachings. Fire has been mentioned a thousand times, but now the stressing of Fire is no longer a repetition, for it is a warning about events which concern the planet's fate. Most people will not be able to say that in their hearts they have been preparing for the Fiery Baptism, although the most ancient Teachings forewarned about the inevitable Epoch of Fire.

FIERY WORLD Vol. III 1935

Now we may begin the approach to the Fiery World, affirming the supermundane signs. We have repeatedly pointed out the urgency of the development of necessary earthly qualities. The Teaching always proceeds along two currents which, when they meet, form the complete line of attainment. While many earthly qualities are not easy to attain, the super-earthly conditions may appear to be abstract; but they are an exisiting reality. He who is accustomed to think on a planetary scale knows how real is the life in the World of Fire, in the World of Radiance, in the World of Attainment.

Thus, let us begin the third part of Fiery World.

AUM 1936

Entering upon labor, let us beware of weakening in action. Through ignorance it is possible to be filled with thoughts which enfeeble and impede the broadening of consciousness. But let us remind ourselves about the Fundamental Force. Let us reiterate the principles of the Source of advancement and tirelessness.

The All-bestowing Principle is often forgotten, therefore let us summon all our attentiveness in order to become permeated with the Fundamental Force.