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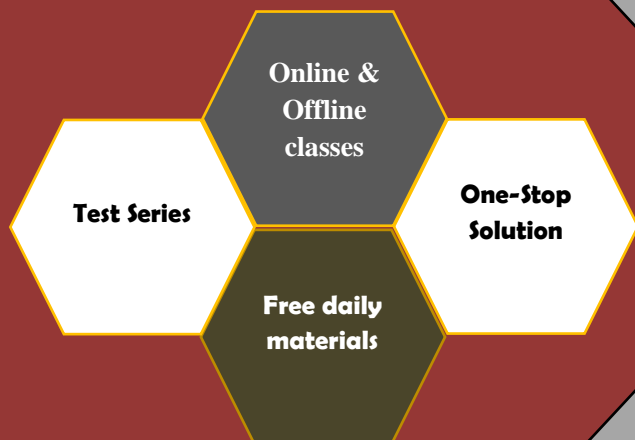
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Sri Aurobindo

Notes for civil services preparation



UPSC

General Studies

Sri Aurobindo

Recently, the Prime Minister has set up a 53-member committee to mark the 150th birth anniversary of spiritual leader **Sri Aurobindo** on 15th August 2022.

Key Points

▪ About:

- Aurobindo Ghose was born in Calcutta on 15th August 1872. He was a yogi, seer, philosopher, poet, and Indian nationalist **who propounded a philosophy of divine life on earth** through spiritual evolution.
- He died on 5th December 1950 in Pondicherry.

Education:

- His education began in a **Christian convent school in Darjeeling**.
- He entered the University of Cambridge, where he became **proficient in two classical and several modern European languages**.
- **In 1892, he held various administrative posts in Baroda (Vadodara) and Calcutta (Kolkata)**.
- He began the **study of Yoga and Indian languages, including classical Sanskrit**.

Indian Revolutionary Movement:

- From 1902 to 1910 he partook in the **struggle to free India from the British**. As a result of his political activities, **he was imprisoned in 1908 (Alipore Bomb case)**.
- Two years later **he fled British India and found refuge in the French colony of Pondichéry (Puducherry)**, where he devoted himself for the rest of his life to the development of his **"integral" yoga with an aim** of a fulfilled and spiritually transformed life on earth.

Spirituality:

- In Pondichéry he founded a **community of spiritual seekers, which took shape as the Sri Aurobindo Ashram in 1926**.
- He believed that the **basic principles of matter, life, and mind would be succeeded through terrestrial evolution by the principle of supermind as an intermediate power** between the two spheres of the infinite and the finite.

Literary Works:

- An English newspaper called **Bande Mataram (in 1905)**.
- Bases of Yoga
- Bhagavad Gita and Its Message
- The Future Evolution of Man
- Rebirth and Karma
- Savitri: A Legend and a Symbol
- Hour of God

