

## Inner Struggle

*“If you cannot make God love you, make Him fight you.  
If He will not give you the embrace of the lover,  
compel Him to give you the embrace of the wrestler.”*  
Sri Aurobindo

When we began the Centre, all of us were aware that the real work was not so much outside or with other people, as with and upon our own natures.

As the months unfolded one after the other, each one's inner battle came to the forefront and there were times when it could no longer be confined to the individual - the whole Centre became the battlefield. It was a wonderful opportunity given to us - it was as if the Divine had decided that we could no longer escape Him and must reveal all to His unveiling eye.

One after the other the layers within me began to peel - falsehood, jealousy, pride, anger, depression, suppression, aggression, ego and ambition, petty squabbles, rigidity of mental opinions, the need to be appreciated, the give and take attitude, rebellion, even hostility to the work - all surfaced and was visible to all who worked so closely with each other. I found that there was really no place to hide, no image to conceal myself in - all facades crumbled.

It was not easy to face up to oneself. And midst all this, there was the larger question of basing the Centre on a new principle of work and relationships. How could that be done when we ourselves were so bogged down by the old? Session after session followed to unravel all the knots. Nothing was ignored. Nothing considered unimportant. Human nature must change - and the beginning had to be made first within ourselves. All processes accelerated. Such was the intensity of the inner struggle that what transpired but a month back seemed to have happened a year ago. And now when we stand on the threshold of 1998 and look back, it seems remarkable how relationships have changed, how the group has become one large mirror with each individual a point of reflection to show us our faults - on the path to self-perfection.

- Anuradha  
Founding Trustee & Secretary  
The Gnostic Centre