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SRI AUROBINDO AND THE UTTARPARA SPEECH: AN OVERVIEW

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Abstract

Lectures and speeches delivered by our national leaders before India achieved her independence were revolutionary and thought-provoking. They instilled in the masses the spirit of enquiry, rationality and freedom. People became aware of their sufferings and exploitations caused by the British. In this connection, I wish to discuss the famous *Uttarpara* Speech delivered by Sri Aurobindo. It was a milestone in the history in which he spoke profoundly about indigenous culture and religion of India that aim to promote welfare and well-being of all people by discarding different kinds of discrimination. He was convinced that if the Indian people become conscious of the Indian religion and heritage, it will help them to free themselves from the shackles of British rule. After all, mental strength and confidence are keys to progress by removing the obstacles in the path of self-knowledge. He mentioned his experience of divine consciousness and grace amidst pain and suffering during his period of confinement.

Keywords: Aurobindo, *Uttarpara*, *Chotolok*, The Synthesis of Yoga, Sanatana Dharma, Freedom