

## The Gnostic Centre Team

### Ameeta Mehra

Chairperson, The Gnostic Centre

#### Qualifications

Equine Management (Irish National Stud, Ireland)  
Management Education Programme (IIM, Ahmedabad)  
BA: English Literature (Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi)

#### Work Experience

Chairperson & Founder-Trustee, The Gnostic Centre (since 1996)  
Managing Director, Usha Stud Farms, Gurgaon, Haryana  
Member, Governing Board, Auroville Foundation (since 2007)  
1st Lady Stipendary Steward in India (D.R.C)  
Chairperson, United Nations of Youth  
Teacher Educator and Teacher (1986-89), Mirambika (a Free Progress school),  
New Delhi



Since the age of 14 Ameeta had one dream – to change the education system of India. It is this quest that started her off on the road of Integral Education, in 1986. After completion of college, Ameeta joined Mirambika as a teacher for 4 years, where she became grounded in the educational philosophy of Sri Aurobindo. She later took up International youth work, and also trained in Horse breeding and Management, along with a business management background. Ameeta considers herself first and foremost as a researcher and educator, and sees no difference between her work with the education of horses, and with the education of students. (link page on Philosophy of Usha Stud) Over the past many years, she has conducted growth of consciousness courses, intensives and workshops with students as well as with teachers, college students, lecturers, parents and teacher-educators.

Ameeta is also the editor of the Centre's journal 'The Awakening Ray', and has compiled and edited books under the Interactive Self-discovery series, published by the Gnostic Centre.

Ameeta has had an abiding interest in theatre, classical music (Indian and western), sports (especially tennis), literature and integral yoga.

### Ritika Goyal

Treasurer, The Gnostic Centre

#### Qualifications

Justice Administration: Edith Cowan University (Australia)  
Certificate of Professional Studies (Power of Attitude), CODE, Hometon  
College, University of Cambridge, UK & The Gnostic Centre, New  
Delhi  
LLB (Law Faculty, University of Delhi)  
BA: Political Science (Hindu College, University of Delhi)

#### Work Experience

Treasurer & Founder-Trustee, The Gnostic Centre (since 1996)  
Advocate, High Court, New Delhi  
United Nations of Youth



Ritika is a practising advocate at the High Court (Delhi) and specialises in Corporate Law. She looks after the legal and financial work of The Gnostic Centre and is also involved in the execution of different works at the Centre, such as creation of multimedia presentations (especially scripting and graphics), running of the Alchemy café and health centre, further growth and expansion of the Centre's infrastructure, etc.

Ritika's special focus of research has been on how to develop the mind and she has taken classes with students, college youth as well as teachers, both in Delhi and outside.

Ritika has always been interested in social change - she has worked with street children and was also involved in an international youth movement. Ritika has trained as an athlete, and also in Bharatnatyam and folk dance.

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## Anuradha

Secretary, The Gnostic Centre

### Qualifications

Certificate of Professional Studies (Foundation Course for Facilitators : 2005-07), The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi

MA (International Education: Teacher Education in the Context of National Development), University of Sussex, UK

B.Ed. (Active), Devi Ahalya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore (gold medalist)

BA (English Literature), Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi

Diploma in French, Alliance Francaise, Paris

Diploma in Secretarial Practice, YWCA, New Delhi



### Work Experience

Secretary & Founder-Trustee, The Gnostic Centre (since 1996)

Acting Principal (1987-90), Teacher Educator (1991-96) and Teacher (1986-90, 1992-93), Mirambika (a Free Progress school), New Delhi

Secretary, United Nations of Youth (1990-91)

Development Worker, Centre for Development of Instructional Technology, New Delhi (1984-86)

Secretarial work, US Library of Congress (1982-84)

Anuradha is responsible for administration and execution of works at the Centre. She is the co-editor of the Centre's journal 'The Awakening Ray', and is also engaged in creation of multimedias and desktop publishing, as well as Construction.

Anuradha has been engaged in the field of Integral Education since 1986, through teaching, research and curriculum design. She has worked with children ages 2 years and above, adolescents, youth, teacher-students, parents and teachers, in Delhi and outside. She facilitates courses in Integral Education for teachers and teacher-students, as well as parents.

Anuradha has trained in music (instrumental, folk, classical) and dance (kathak, folk, tai-chi).

## Yogita

Coordinator, L'avenir

### Qualifications

Certificate of Professional Studies (Foundation Course for Facilitators : 2005-07), The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi

Certificate of Professional Studies (Power of Attitude), CODE, Hometon College, University of Cambridge, UK & The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi

Early Childhood Education (New England Graduate School, University of Antioch, US)

B.Ed. (Active), Devi Ahalya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore

BA (Amaravati University)



### Work Experience

The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi (since 1998)

Teacher, Kindergartens in Vermont, New Hampshire, US (1997)

Teacher, Auroville Kindergarten, Auroville (1996)

Teacher, Mira Nursery, New Delhi (1995-96)

Teacher, Mirambika (a Free Progress school), New Delhi (1991-95)

Yogita is the co-founder of the Centre's school, L'avenir (the future), and also its Coordinator. She is involved in teaching, curriculum development and administration. She is carrying out research on how to develop character in young children.

Yogita has worked with children between the ages of 18 months and 12 years, in varied environments - both in India and the US. She has trained in Early Childhood Education and has experience of working in the mainstream as well as in the field of integral education. She has held various camps and workshop in mental, vital and physical education for young children. She has also been involved in training teacher-students (Delhi University) in creative skills.

Yogita is also involved with the Centre's health food Cafe.

Yogita is very creative and good at various arts and crafts (folk dance, music, puppets, papercraft, beadwork, mehendi, etc.) and uses these to train the aesthetic faculty in children.

## Aditi

### Qualifications

Certificate of Professional Studies (Foundation Course for Facilitators : 2005-07),  
The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi

Certificate of Professional Studies (Power of Attitude), CODE, Homerton College,  
University of Cambridge, UK & The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi

B.Ed. (Active), Devi Ahalya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore

BA: Philosophy (Patna University)

### Work Experience

Administrative Assistant, Usha Stud Farms, Gurgaon, Haryana (since 2001)

The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi (since 1998)

Teacher, Transition school, Auroville (1996-98)

Teacher, Mirambika (a Free Progress school), New Delhi (1991-96)



Aditi is the co-founder of the Centre's school, L'avenir (the future). Her work has included designing physical education and learning spaces for young children, training youth in mental education and character development, conducting teacher education workshops for Bachelors of Education students (Delhi University and SCERT), facilitating sessions on Meditation, Education, Philosophy and Culture. Aditi is also in-charge of the Greenwork at the Centre.

Aditi's areas of interest, study and work include Integral Yoga philosophy, Integral Education and Indian Culture. Over the last few years she has carried out research on how to develop the mental faculties of children.

Aditi is interested in folk-music and folk art and takes special interest in clay modelling and papier mache. She has a background in physical culture and has participated in State level Kabaddi competitions.

## Sunaina Singh

Teacher, L'Avenir

### Qualifications

Certificate of Professional Studies (Foundation Course for Facilitators :  
2005-07), The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi

Diploma in Health and Early Childhood Education (IGNOU)

Teacher Training Course, Mirambika Teacher Education Institute, Sri Aurobindo  
Education Society

Certificate Course in Word-Processing from NOS

BA: Home Science (Magadh University)

### Work Experience

The Gnostic Centre (since 2002)

Mirambika, New Delhi (a Free Progress school) (1997-2002)



Sunaina has been in the field of Integral Education since 1997 and has worked with children ranging from 2 to 9 years. At L'avenir, she works with the young children in the areas of mental, vital and physical education and is involved in curriculum development and administrative work. Her work experience includes language teaching and development of creative skills: pottery, sculpture, puppet making, carpentry, papier mache, marbling, weaving, macramé, knitting and embroidery. She is also good at painting in Madhubani, Warli style and watercolour.

Sunaina's other responsibilities at the Gnostic Centre include looking after the gardens and the Shrine.

## Asha Jha

Teacher, L'Avenir

### Qualifications

Nursery Training Course, Mirambika Teacher Education Institute, Sri Aurobindo Education Society, New Delhi

### Work Experience

The Gnostic Centre (since 2002)  
Mirambika, New Delhi (a Free Progress school)  
Mira Nursery, New Delhi



Asha has worked with children between the ages of 2 and 9 years, in varied environments - both in the mainstream and alternative schools. At L'avenir, she works with the young children in the areas of mental, vital and physical education. Asha is a sportsperson with a background in basket ball, table-tennis, football, volleyball, yoga, trampoline, rock climbing and swimming, and has trained in physical aesthetics, cosmetics, diet, aerobics, creative and classical dance, western folk dance, carpentry, clay-modelling and puppet-making. She is very creative in story telling and takes a special interest in narration, art and craft and physical culture.

Asha's other responsibilities at the Gnostic Centre include running the Massage Centre (for women) at Alchemy.

## Durjee (Durjyodhan) Bhoi

Coordinator, Alchemy

### Qualifications

BA (Sambalpur University, Orissa)  
Mountaineering Course (Nainital)  
First Aid Course (Sri Aurobindo Ashram-Delhi branch, New Delhi)  
Automobile Course (Trichy, Tamil Nadu)  
Vocational Training: Welding (Sri Aurobindo Institute of Vocational Training, New Delhi)

### Work Experience

In-charge, Alchemy Health Centre, The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi (since 2007)  
Construction & Social Work, Auromira Service Society, Kechla, Koraput, Orissa (2004-07)  
Physical Education, Office work, Accounts & Maintenance, The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi (2000-04)  
Head of Department: Welding, Sri Aurobindo Ashram-Delhi branch, New Delhi (1995-2000)  
Physical Education Teacher, Sri Aurobindo Integral Education & Research Centre, Ruchida, Orissa (1993-94)



Durjee is in-charge of the Gnostic Centre's health centre: Alchemy, and is the in-house Fitness Instructor as well as Yogasana teacher. While at Sri Aurobindo Ashram-Delhi, Durjee was part of the leading group for high altitude Himalayan treks to Chhota Kailash, Pindari glacier, Milan glacier, Kuanri pass, Valley of Flowers, Rupkund, etc. At Kechla, Durjee organised health camps and an eye camp for the Parja tribals, as well as teacher education camps. He was also the instructor for swimming and boating at Kechla.

Durjee has experience of farming as well. His interests include Basket ball, Volley ball, Badminton, Gym, and Swimming.

## Prafulla Nayak

### Qualifications

BA (IGNOU, New Delhi)  
Computer Hardware Course (VIKVIN Computers, New Delhi)  
Water Sports Course (Pongdam, Himachal Pradesh)  
Vocational Training: Photo Lamination (Sri Aurobindo Institute of Vocational Training, New Delhi)

### Work Experience

In-charge, Building Works, The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi (since 2007)  
Construction, Horticulture & Social Work, Auromira Service Society, Kechla, Koraput, Orissa (2004-07)  
In-charge, Photo Lamination, Sri Aurobindo Ashram-Delhi branch, New Delhi (2000-04)



Prafulla is engaged in Construction & Maintenance works at The Gnostic Centre. He has strong background in sports as well. While at Sri Aurobindo Ashram-Delhi, he also served as the Games Teachers for the vocational trainees, and organised a few youth camps at Nainital as well. While at Kechla, Prafulla worked with the Parja tribals in villages, and organised health camps for them. His interests include swimming, boating, motor boat sailing, volley ball, badminton and reading books on machines.

## Jharna Mohapatra

Teacher, L'Avenir

### Qualifications

BA (Utkal University, Orissa)  
Diploma in Early Childhood Education (IGNOU, New Delhi)  
Teacher Training Course (Sri Aurobindo Education Society, New Delhi)  
Vocational Training: Handmade Paper (Sri Aurobindo Institute of Vocational Training, New Delhi)  
Self-defence Course (Delhi Police, Delhi)  
Yogasana Course  
Hindustani Vocal Music

### Work Experience

Teacher, L'avenir, The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi (since 2007)  
Teacher, Mira Nursery, Sri Aurobindo Ashram-Delhi branch, New Delhi  
Teacher, Matri Karuna Vidyalaya, Sri Aurobindo Ashram-Delhi branch, New Delhi



Jharna teaches at the Gnostic Centre's preschool, L'avenir, and also helps in office works, library and bookshop. Due to her interest (some training, and work experience) she has picked up a good knowledge of yogasanas and acupressure.

## Mousumi Goswami

Teacher, L'Avenir

### Qualifications

Pursuing DECE Course (IGNOU, New Delhi)  
Teacher Training Course (Mirambika Teacher Education Institute, Sri Aurobindo Education Society, New Delhi)  
BA: Sociology & Education (Dibrugarh University, Assam)

### Work Experience

Teacher, L'avenir, The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi (since 2008)



Mousumi has joined The Gnostic Centre recently and is teaching at L'avenir. Her interests include painting, reading, art and craft work.

## Tilu Borah

### Qualifications

Bachelors in Library Information Science (Annamalai University, Chennai)  
BA (Dibrugarh University, Assam)  
Vocational Training: Cooking, Bakery & Food Processing (Sri Aurobindo  
Institute of Vocational Training, New Delhi)  
Self-defence Course (Delhi Police, Delhi)  
Yogasana Course



### Work Experience

Alchemy Health Food Café, The Gnostic Centre (since Dec.2007)  
Teacher, L'avenir, The Gnostic Centre, New Delhi (2007 Apr-Nov)  
Library Assistant (Junior Library), The Mother's International School, New Delhi (2004-07)  
Teacher, Matri Karuna Vidyalaya, Sri Aurobindo Ashram-Delhi branch, New Delhi (2004-07)

Tilu takes care of the Health Food Café at The Gnostic Centre. Her interests include trekking, swimming, self-defence and instrumental music (guitar).

## Dhyaneshwar Gupta

### Qualifications

### Work Experience

Dhyaneshwar works at The Gnostic Centre office and provides support for accounts and administrative works.