

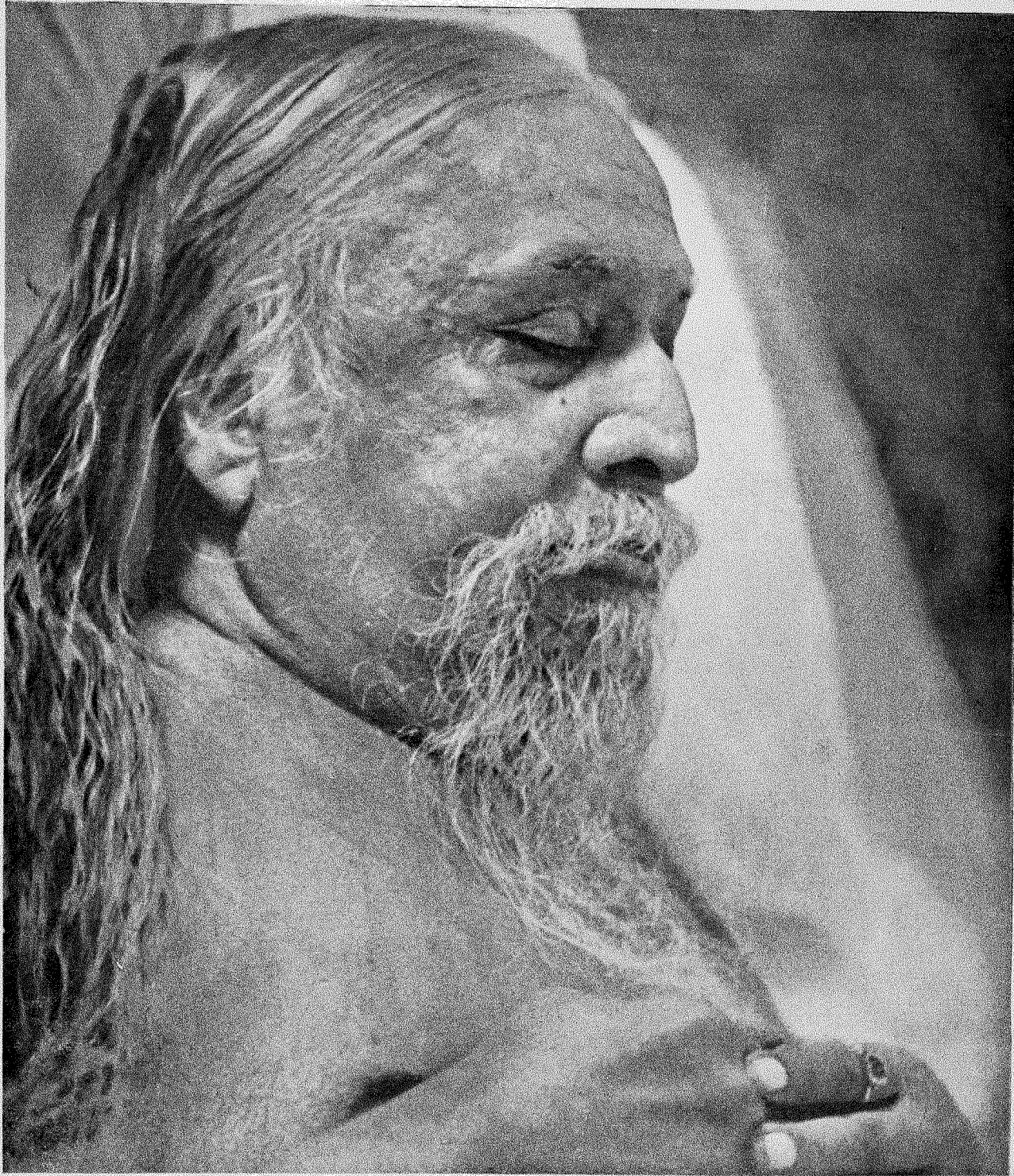
MOTHER INDIA

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"GREAT IS TRUTH AND IT SHALL PREVAIL"



SRI AUROBINDO

who after attaining all the traditional spiritual realisations worked with boundless compassion through forty years for a new earth-transforming light which he called the Supermind, withdrew from his body at 1-26 a.m. on December 5, 1950, in his seventy-ninth year. His burial was fixed for the evening of the next day. But at the appointed time the Mother made the announcement: "The funeral of Sri Aurobindo has not taken place today. His body is charged with such a concentration of supramental light that there is no sign of decomposition and the body will be kept lying on his bed so long as it remains intact." It lay intact for several days in a grandeur of victorious quiet, with thousands having "darshan" of it. Only at 5 p.m. on December 9, in a rosewood case lined with silver and satin, it was buried in a vault specially prepared in the centre of the Ashram courtyard. On the sides of the platform raised over the vault will be inscribed the prayer to the body of Sri Aurobindo, which came spontaneously from the depths of the Mother after the physical remains had been put into the case: "To THEE who hast been the material envelope of our Master, to THEE our infinite gratitude. Before THEE who hast done so much for us, who hast worked, struggled, suffered, hoped, endured so much, before THEE who hast willed all, attempted all, prepared, achieved all for us, before THEE we bow down and implore that we may never forget, even for a moment, all we owe to THEE."