

“Sanskrit is more perfect than Greek, more copious than Latin and more exquisitely refined than either,” he wrote.

The centennial volume (1994) of the *Savitar* recapitulates the past and enlightens us further:

ROOTED IN HISTORY:

“Origins have challenged the human spirit to search through the path that is constantly being created as it moves further from where it began. The origin of a name or a tradition can be buried under piles of information and is often extremely difficult to uncover. Incredibly, the origin of a core part of Mizzou’s history exists on campus 100 years later.

“The *Savitar* yearbook was first published in 1894. The published volumes stand still in time as they unfold the story of how it began and what it meant to the students. The *Savitar* traced its own history. From the beginning, the

name Savitar was considered by the students provokingly enigmatical. The editors of the first *Savitar* were intent on choosing a symbolic and significant name for their mission publication.”

We have seen above that the wise men of Columbia, who Christened the M.U. yearbook after the Vedic

its black and gold emblem from the same black and gold deity, Savitar.

However, what has been presented above represents only one aspect of the Lord Savitar: a natural phenomenon. It emphasizes only His physical aspect; the *external* view; the bright form, dazzling power and potential; the mighty majestic efful-

The Savitar

1 9 2 0



Gajalakṣmī

Savitar a century ago, have quoted a hymn in praise of the God Savitar saying that he is a black and gold deity. The University of Missouri-Columbia could have also derived

gence witnessed and experienced through our physical sense organs such as eye and skin. But God Savitar has another aspect too - more vital, truly internal, highly

MU’s Museum of Art and Archeology starts a South Asian collection on 4th fl. University Library.

1960

1965

National Defense Education grant helps establish a South Asian language and area center at MU. Departments could now hire South Asian specialists to teach India-related subjects.

1973

South Asian Librarian Murarilal Nagar is the first in three decades to teach Sanskrit at MU. Sanskrit had been taught in MU’s classical language department as early as 1894!