



# AUROVILLE CONNECT



It is true that to live in Auroville a great progress of consciousness has to be made.

But the moment has come when this progress is possible.

MOTHER ON AUROVILLE



## The Auroville Charter

1. Auroville belongs to nobody in particular. Auroville belongs to humanity as a whole. But, to live in Auroville, one must be a willing servitor of the Divine Consciousness.
2. Auroville will be the place of an unending education, of constant progress, and a youth that never ages.
3. Auroville wants to be the bridge between the past and the future. Taking advantage of all discoveries from without and from within, Auroville will boldly spring towards future realisations.
4. Auroville will be a site of material and spiritual researches for a living embodiment of an actual human unity.



[Facebook.com/people/Auroville-Connect](https://www.facebook.com/people/Auroville-Connect)



[instagram.com/auroville\\_connect](https://www.instagram.com/auroville_connect)



[avconnect@auroville.org.in](mailto:avconnect@auroville.org.in)



<https://shorturl.at/pG3ww>



[sites.google.com/view/auroville-connect](https://sites.google.com/view/auroville-connect)



## Introduction

### Welcome to Auroville Connect

Auroville Connect is more than just a WhatsApp group — it's a growing platform dedicated to connecting people in and around Auroville who care deeply about the Dream, the Charter, and the Future of this unique experiment in human unity. Here, we share vital updates, thoughtful articles, creative contributions, and important news — not just through WhatsApp, but also via social media and a periodic newsletter that keeps the spirit of Auroville alive and evolving.

In a time when misinformation spreads easily, Auroville Connect offers clarity, consciousness, and a collective space to reflect on what is — and what is yet to be realized. We believe the Dream of Auroville is too precious to squander. Rooted in the ideals of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother, we stand by the two foundational pillars of Auroville: its Charter and its City Plan, and we are committed to their living realization for the future of humanity.

This is not a chat page — but a curated space for awareness, participation, and shared aspiration. If you have something meaningful to offer, we welcome your voice. If you seek to stay informed and inspired, you are in the right place!



## This issue:

Retuning to Plan A

Supreme Court Verdict

Call for Newcomers & Volunteers

The ATSC announcement

Newcomers: Important Information

Myths vs Facts

A Dawn Unconquered

Is Auroville In Danger?

Auroville-  
A cradle for  
Supramental Manifestation

Auroville-  
A laboratory of  
consciousness



## RETURNING TO PLAN “A” By John H

Amid the chaos of the crashing of Auroville’s facades, one can sense now, silently being born, but already immensely powerful, the re-emergence of Auroville’s orientation towards its true goal: a fundamental change of consciousness, the growth of a real, deep, unifying link between its residents, and another way of being.

Everything we have tried to build, or almost everything, is collapsing, or being distorted out of recognition by our current encounter with World Forces.

Up till now, Auroville engaged the world a bit remotely, through outreach, though projects put into action on the world stage, but now the world has entered the very fabric of Auroville in full force and we meet its presence and actions on a daily, even minute to minute basis.

But there is a growing glow deep inside, a glow which tells us that even though our old external stage is being reduced to rubble, that even while our surface conventions are basically being cast aside, this apparent destruction has behind it the secret intention of the Time Spirit.

That the Time Spirit is forcing us along a path, not of our choosing, but a path that offers us an opportunity, once again, of growing towards the true Auroville, to take more rapidly a next step in its evolution.

Basically, we are being returned to the red desert of the 60’s and 70’s. This is a new kind of desert, but also like that in the 70’s the only tangible support is our Need, our thirst for the true Auroville to grow, and to manifest.

Now, a different kind of desert is being introduced, the desert of the external world, which is totally preoccupied with the outward scene.

So, for some time to come, there will be two faces of Auroville: the outward, public, visible structure now being forcibly built, and then nestled deeply inside it, a growing Auroville family welded together by its urgent need to realise the true goals set out for us by the Mother.

It is as if the Time Spirit has declared that she now has no time to waste. No time for the Auroville of the 2000’s to quietly grow as a green ecologically oriented community, no time even for Auroville to manifest itself as a perfected galaxy.

The world needs the emergence of the true Auroville spirit. The emergence of a deep binding unity between peoples from all corners of the planet, between man and man. And the emergence of powers of knowledge and action which we cannot now even understand or dream of.

So, personally, seeing the chaos all around, living in it, feeling it, suffering from it, I begin to settle into the hope of an immense emergence.

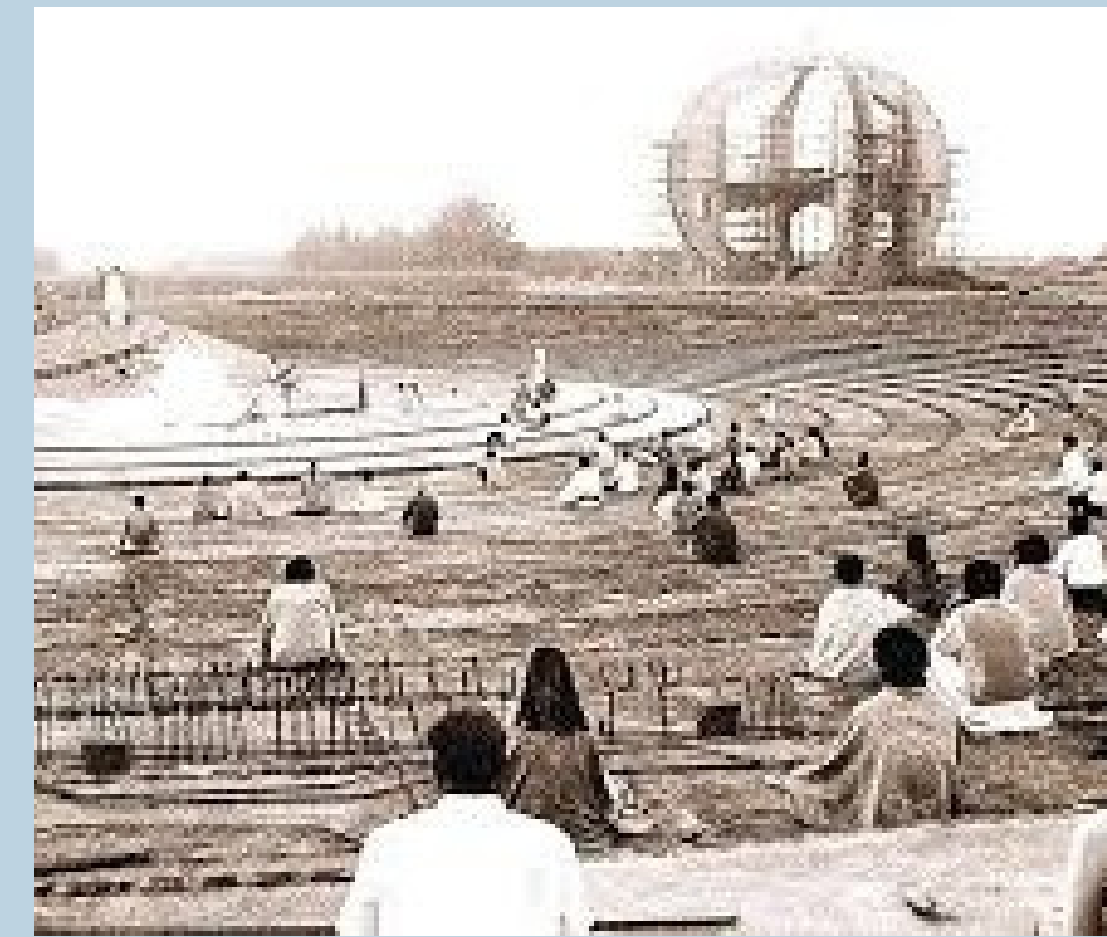
Auroville is being returned by the Time Spirit, forcibly, to plan “A”.

The growth and manifestation of its true consciousness. No time now for meandering bypaths and a long hesitating evolution.

Will the Time Spirit be able to pull it off?

Perhaps it does not depend totally on us... (hopefully not!) but we surely have to pay attention and do what we can. We can only try to remain centred deeply in our belief in Auroville’s true emergence, In the faith that even though we seem to be being swept away on the wings of the wind, there is indeed a deeper purpose being worked out.

And perhaps, eventually, with a quiet smile, we will be able to enjoy the ride.



# Supreme Court Verdict

## Supreme Court Upholds Auroville Foundation's Authority and Validates

### Master Plan Implementation

The Auroville Foundation welcomes the recent landmark judgments delivered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 17th March 2025, which have reinforced the Governing Board's authority to implement Auroville's vision as envisioned by the Mother and approved through a statutory Master Plan, and has clarified the role to be played by the Residents' Assembly. The Auroville Foundation was represented by the

Attorney General of India, Mr. R. Venkataramani, Adv. Mr. Vaibhav Venkatesh, the Legal Counsel of the Auroville Foundation. and Adv. Mr. Balaji Srinivasan.

**Verdict on Environmental Clearance and the Auroville Master Plan** In the case of The Auroville Foundation vs. Navroz Kersasp Mody & Ors. (C.A. No(s). 5781-5782 of 2022), the Supreme Court:

- Set aside the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) directions that had stalled the construction of Crown Road and other essential infrastructure projects aligned with the Auroville Master Plan.
- Affirmed that the Auroville Master Plan—originally envisioned by the Mother, approved in 2001 by the Governing Board and the Government of India, and notified in 2010—has statutory force and does not require fresh Environmental Clearance (EC).
- Held that the Crown Road and related projects were part of an approved statutory plan and could not be halted by invoking the Precautionary Principle where no substantial question of environmental law was involved.
- Recognized that the area in question (Darkali) was not a forest and did not require clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

*Relevant excerpts from the judgement: Para no. 16 "From the conjoint reading of the provisions of the A.F. Act and the said Rules, there remains no shadow of doubt that the Governing Board is vested with all the powers and is empowered to discharge all the functions as may be exercised or discharged by the Foundation, and that the general superintendence, direction and management of the affairs of the Foundation vests in the Governing Board alone."*

*Para no. 17 "Having regard to the statutory provisions in the Act and the Rules, we are of the opinion that the impugned Standing Order 01.06.2022 containing the Standing Order No. 01/2022 does not suffer from any legal infirmity. There is no legal or statutory right conferred upon the Residents' Assembly or upon an individual resident to be part of any committee/council constituted by the Governing Board in exercise of its powers conferred under Section 11(3), 16(1) and 17(e) of the said Act read with Rule 5(1) and 5(2) of the said Rules. The functions of the Residents' Assembly are confined only to advise the Governing Board in respect of the activities relating to the residents of Auroville and to make recommendations as specified in Section 19 of the Act, and not any further."*

*Para no. 18. "In that view of the matter, we are of the opinion that the High Court has thoroughly misdirected itself in misinterpreting the provisions of the A.F. Act and in setting aside the impugned Notification containing the Standing Order dated 01.06.2022. The impugned Order being highly erroneous deserves to be set aside, and is hereby set aside."*

*Para no. 19 "As demonstrated earlier, some disgruntled and discontented residents kept on filing petitions one after the other dragging the Appellant-Foundation into unnecessary litigations. The Writ Petition filed by the respondent before the High Court was one of such illmotivated petitions filed by her to abuse the process of law, to hamper the development of Auroville and to cause obstructions in the smooth functioning of the Governing Board of the Foundation. Hence, the Appeal is allowed with cost of Rs.50,000/- to be deposited by the respondent before the Supreme Court Legal Service Committee within two weeks from today."*

### Commitment to Auroville's Vision and Growth

The Auroville Foundation remains steadfast in its commitment to realizing the vision of the Mother—establishing a universal township dedicated to human unity.

With the Court's endorsement of the Master Plan and the Governing Board's powers, Auroville can now move forward without unnecessary hindrances or legal obstacles.

Way Forward:

Implementing Auroville's Vision Auroville will resume all pending infrastructure projects aligned with the Master Plan, including the Crown Road and related developments.

The Auroville Town Development Council (ATDC) will continue its work in line with the reconstituted structure approved by the Governing Board.

The Foundation remains committed to ensuring transparency, accountability, and growth while advancing Auroville's mission.

Gratitude and Appeal for Collaboration

All residents and stakeholders are invited to join hands in this journey of growth and progress by supporting all efforts to implement Auroville's vision.

Collective cooperation and harmony are essential to fulfilling Auroville's destiny as a beacon of an Actual Human Unity.

Issued by: Sindhuja, AVF Legal Coordinator

Date: 17th March 2025

# ATSC Announcement

## ATTENTION Newcomers & Volunteers

Dear Volunteers & Newcomers,

Greetings from Auroville!

We are pleased to announce that the Governing Board has formed the Admissions & Terminations Scrutinising Committee (ATSC) and the Admissions & Terminations Registry (ATR), as stipulated in the Auroville Foundation (Admission and Termination of Persons in the Register of Residents) Regulations, 2023 (attached).

Kindly fill out the below linked Google Form so that we can be informed of your situation, questions, concerns and requirements.  
<https://forms.gle/TCHCe135oQBfqFFs7>

As the ATR & ATSC get fully operational, we will take your process forward as soon as possible and invite you to meet us if required.

Please note that the admission of names into the Register of Residents will not be finalized for the time being, in compliance with the interim order of the Madras High Court on the Writ Petition filed by Residents challenging the new Regulations.

We are aware that many of you have been eagerly waiting for this news. We take the opportunity to wish you all the very best, especially in this momentous period, in Auroville's evolution.

We are grateful to everyone who wants to be a part of this adventure.

We are happy you are here!

**With trust and in collaboration. At the service of Truth,**

**ATSC and ATR teams. [www.auroville.org.in](http://www.auroville.org.in)**

***"A harmonious collaboration can change the course of circumstances"***

**The Mother.**



## Newcomers: Important Information

It has come to our notice that a Volunteer is spreading misinformation about the new process and regarding Auroville's administration on a WhatsApp group, which is sure to mislead Newcomers and discourage them from following the process, protocols and regulations established by the Governing Board, and from attending the next meeting on Thursday, 20th February, at Unity Pavilion, which is meant to be a special session for them.

All volunteers are to respect the guidelines of Auroville given by the Mother and of the Auroville Foundation (Residence Criteria) that outlines detailed guidelines for volunteers, newcomers and Residents.

Auroville is not a place for politics, and such blatant misconduct against Auroville's values, guideline and principles is unacceptable.

As a reminder to all of us, below is the Mother's very first and defining message about Auroville:

"Auroville wants to be a universal town where men and women from all countries can live in peace and progressive harmony above all creeds all politics and all nationalities. The purpose of Auroville is to realize human unity."

It is for every participant to honour this and be an active part of Auroville while respecting the guidelines of the Mother, the statutes related to Auroville and, of course, the laws of the land.

We invite you to join us to be a part of this great adventure laid out for us by Her and work together towards it.

To understand The City and The Charter, click on the link below:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=4XfRwvJXldw&t=5s&pp=ygUaYXVyb3ZpbGxIIIGNoYXJ0ZXIgaW5kIGNpdHk%3D>

### Important links



<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/law-news/story/supreme-court-relief-to-auroville-township-development-sets-aside-ngt-madras-hc-rulings-2694597-2025-03-17>



<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/law-news/story/supreme-court-relief-to-auroville-township-development-sets-aside-ngt-madras-hc-rulings-2694597-2025-03-17>



[https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/right-to-development-equally-important-supreme-court-order-on-auroville-7941260#pfrom=home-ndtv\\_topscroll](https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/right-to-development-equally-important-supreme-court-order-on-auroville-7941260#pfrom=home-ndtv_topscroll)



<https://scroll.in/latest/1080359/supreme-court-sets-aside-ngt-order-barring-development-works-in-auroville>

# Myths vs Facts

## Myth 1:

**Auroville's development is being pushed without legal clearance or due process.**

### Fact:

On March 17, 2025, the Supreme Court of India upheld the authority of the Auroville Governing Board to carry out the city's development as per the Master Plan. It overturned prior NGT and Madras High Court judgments, affirming that the Governing Board is the sole superintending authority, and the Residents' Assembly holds only an advisory role in specific areas.

## Myth 2:

**Opposition from residents represents the majority opinion in Auroville.**

### Fact:

The resistance comes from a small section of unauthorized residents and non-residents with no legal standing claiming to represent official groups. Many have benefited from decades of unregulated living and seek to maintain control over resources and land. These actions do not represent the vision of Auroville nor its majority community members who support the city's planned growth.

## Myth 3:

**Auroville is being turned into a political or administrative colony.**

### Fact:

Auroville's founding purpose, as defined by The Mother, is to be a universal township that transcends politics, nationalities, and creeds. The Governing Board and Auroville Foundation are simply facilitating the realization of the Divine Mother's vision in accordance with the law and established Master Plan—not imposing political control.

## Myth 4:

**Newcomers are being misled and discouraged by the current administration.**

### Fact:

There is ongoing misinformation being spread through unofficial channels. Newcomers are urged to follow the official process as per the Auroville Foundation's Residence Criteria and participate in sessions like the one held at Unity Pavilion. The guidelines and structures are in place to ensure harmony and integration with Auroville's core values and vision.

## Myth 5:

**The city belongs to its current residents and their private interests.**

### Fact:

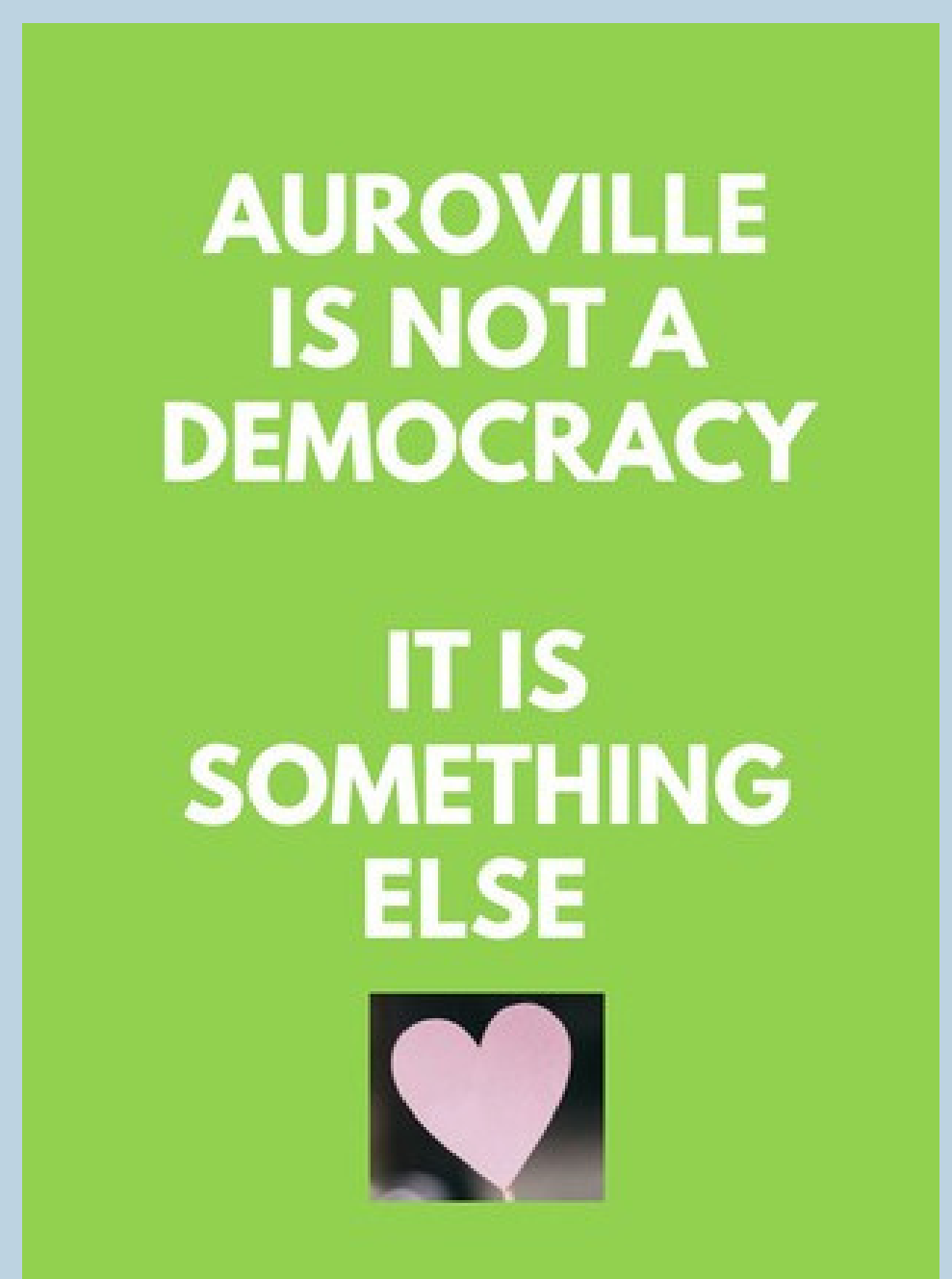
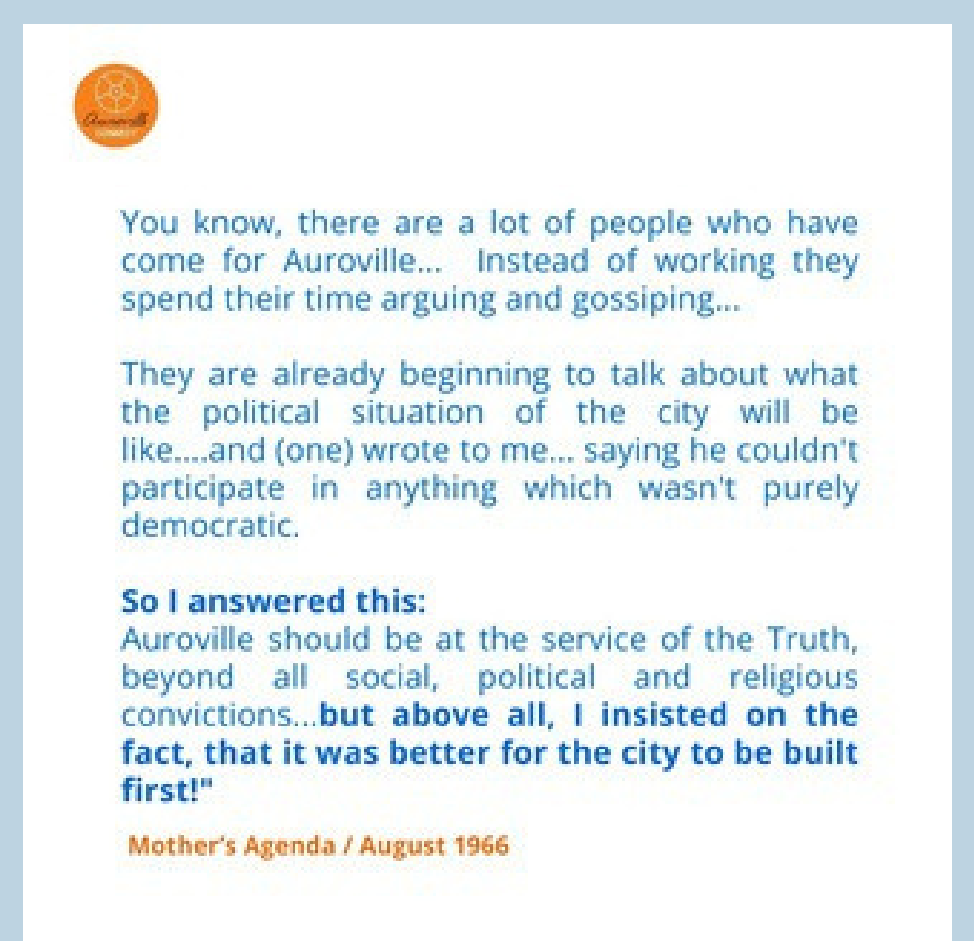
Auroville was never meant to be owned by individuals. The land and city are dedicated to a collective and divine purpose. Attempts to claim personal ownership or obstruct development are contrary to the principles set by The Mother and the legal framework of the Auroville Foundation Act.

## Myth 6

**The Central Government is forcibly taking over Auroville.**

### Fact:

The Government of India established the Auroville Foundation precisely to safeguard The Mother's vision from such misuse and stagnation. The Supreme Court's support reaffirms that this is not a "takeover" but a rightful and necessary step towards fulfilling Auroville's destiny as a city of human unity and conscious evolution.



## Is Auroville in Danger ?

Auroville has faced relentless negative media coverage, with claims that it's dying, a failed utopia, and more. A recent video even declared Auroville "in danger." An outpouring of support has refuted these claims, setting the record straight. Here are some responses that highlight the truth.

### Response # 1

NO, AUROVILLE IS NOT IN DANGER.

I just watched your video. As an Aurovilian myself (a permanent resident of Auroville), I feel compelled to respond. No, Auroville is not in danger, even though it is going through a delicate phase. There is a lot of misinformation in what you are saying, even though not everything is false.

You say that Aurovilians are afraid to speak, that they are being silenced—that's completely untrue. Proof of this is the weekly Auroville journal – "News & Notes" – which is published in two versions, and in the version "opposed" to the Secretary, there are always articles against her or against certain decisions.

It's true that two Aurovilians were expelled – which personally hurt me – but they were able to return on a tourist visa, whereas in the past, other expulsions were final and much more dramatic.

You talk about "facts," but you would need to talk about ALL the facts, which you should have done if you were truly being objective.

Did you know that some buildings were deliberately constructed along the path of the "Crown Road" to prevent its development?

Did you know that for years, most of Auroville's development was blocked by the township's development committee (L'Avenir d'Auroville)?

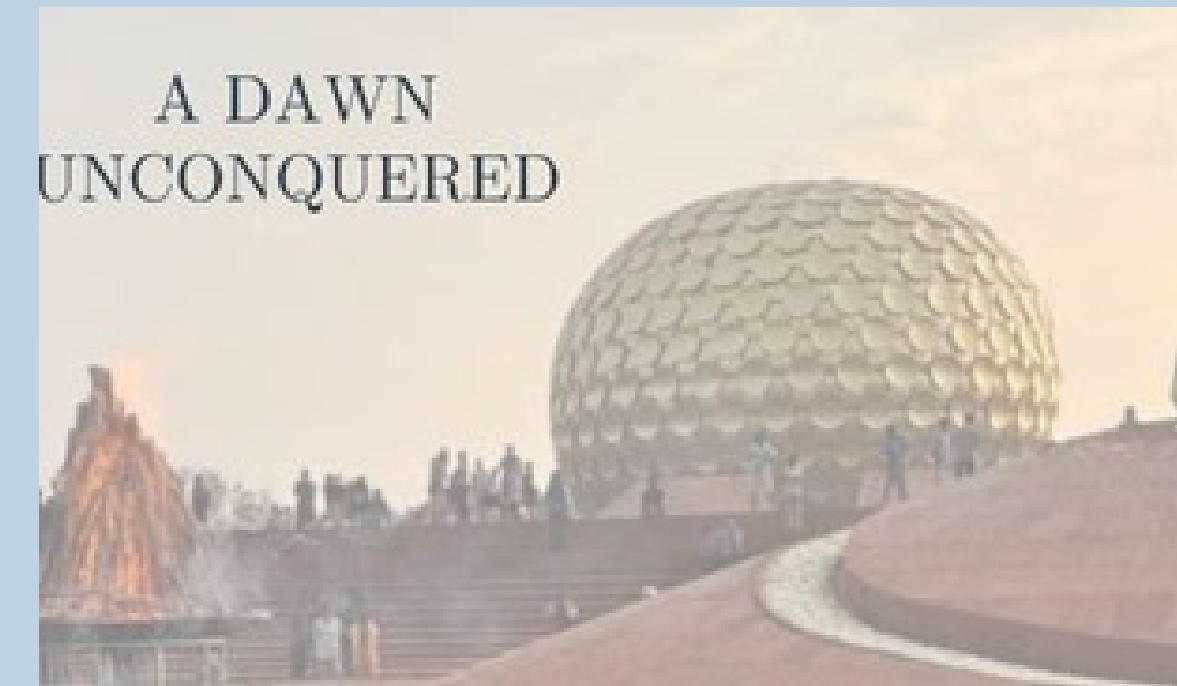
Did you know that one of the Secretary's first actions was to negotiate with the youth regarding the relocation of the "Youth Center," but some Aurovilians intervened to block the work and told the youth they were being manipulated? That's when everything began to fall apart.

No, it's not about five misguided Aurovilians—that too is a mistake—there are many more.

On the wall behind you are the symbols of the Mother and Sri Aurobindo, yet not once did I hear the word "spirituality," even though Auroville is a spiritual project—both material and spiritual.

Auroville is an invitation to look within when difficulties arise. Auroville calls for introspection, both individual and collective. Again, one word I didn't hear from you was "why?" Why is Auroville in this situation today?

You mention the Auroville Charter and other founding documents, but your comments lead me to believe that you have not grasped their deeper meaning.



*From the hush of  
eternal depths She rises,  
A golden radiance upon the earth's  
brow, not bound by time, nor  
dimmed by crisis, Auroville stands*

—  
*none can halt Her now.*

*In the heart of the Earth,  
where the future takes root, A city  
unfolds—  
not of brick and stone,  
But of a luminous vision, a soul's  
pursuit,  
A sanctuary where the One alone is  
known.*

*The night gathers,  
its shadows press near,  
Clutching at power, feigning might,  
But Truth advances, steadfast and  
clear,  
Unbowed before the blind of sight.*

*Voices rise,  
Seeking to divide,  
Weaving illusions that cannot last, Yet  
Love stands firm, vast and wide, A  
flame untouched by stormy past.*

*There are those  
who grasp and claim,  
Trying to mold the dream anew,  
Forgetting that no earthly name Can  
bind the Light breaking  
through.*

*Auroville rises, unshaken, free, The  
fire of dawn in Her embrace, No force  
of earth, no tyranny,  
Can cloud Her predestined grace.*

*The storms may shake, the winds  
may call,  
Yet Her spirit moves beyond their  
chains,  
For Destiny's hand upholds it all,  
And Love alone, eternal, reigns.*

*Auroville,  
Her dream takes flight,  
No longer vision, but form and deed,  
Through Her light shall shine so bright,  
A world reborn, a soul set free.*

*For here, where  
the Mother's will is known,  
Time itself bends to Her grace,  
And Truth shall stand,  
in Light full-grown—*

*A dawn victorious, the future's face*

It's too easy to blame the Secretary and the Indian government instead of taking responsibility for what we are living through. It's too easy to show video clips taken out of context and say "look what they're doing." All of this is so "old world." First, take responsibility for your own life.

For your information, there are many Aurovilians trying to bring both sides together, and that gives a lot of hope.

Let me point out that I am personally neither for nor against the Secretary—I am here for Auroville, to do the work of the Mother and help develop her city.

By the way, maybe you can tell me how to build a city without cutting down trees—because the Mother's project is, and has always been, the development of a city.

You are the one who should be ashamed of spreading such biased and one-sided information. I have friends who worry about me after watching videos like yours or reading similar articles (for example, the recent article in La Croix titled "In India, the end of the dream for the utopian city of Auroville")—I have to reassure them.

And when I see the reactions of people who discover your video and are shocked because they believe you—you bear a heavy responsibility in spreading misinformation. The reaction of the AVI is understandable if that's the only kind of information they're getting—I met with them recently, I know what I'm talking about.

Oh, and I almost forgot, one last question: are you going to censor this message, or will you leave it accessible to all?

Thank you.

**Antoine Colombani**

## **Response # 2**

This video is a delirium that distorts reality and therefore exaggerates and/or minimises the facts, on the one hand.

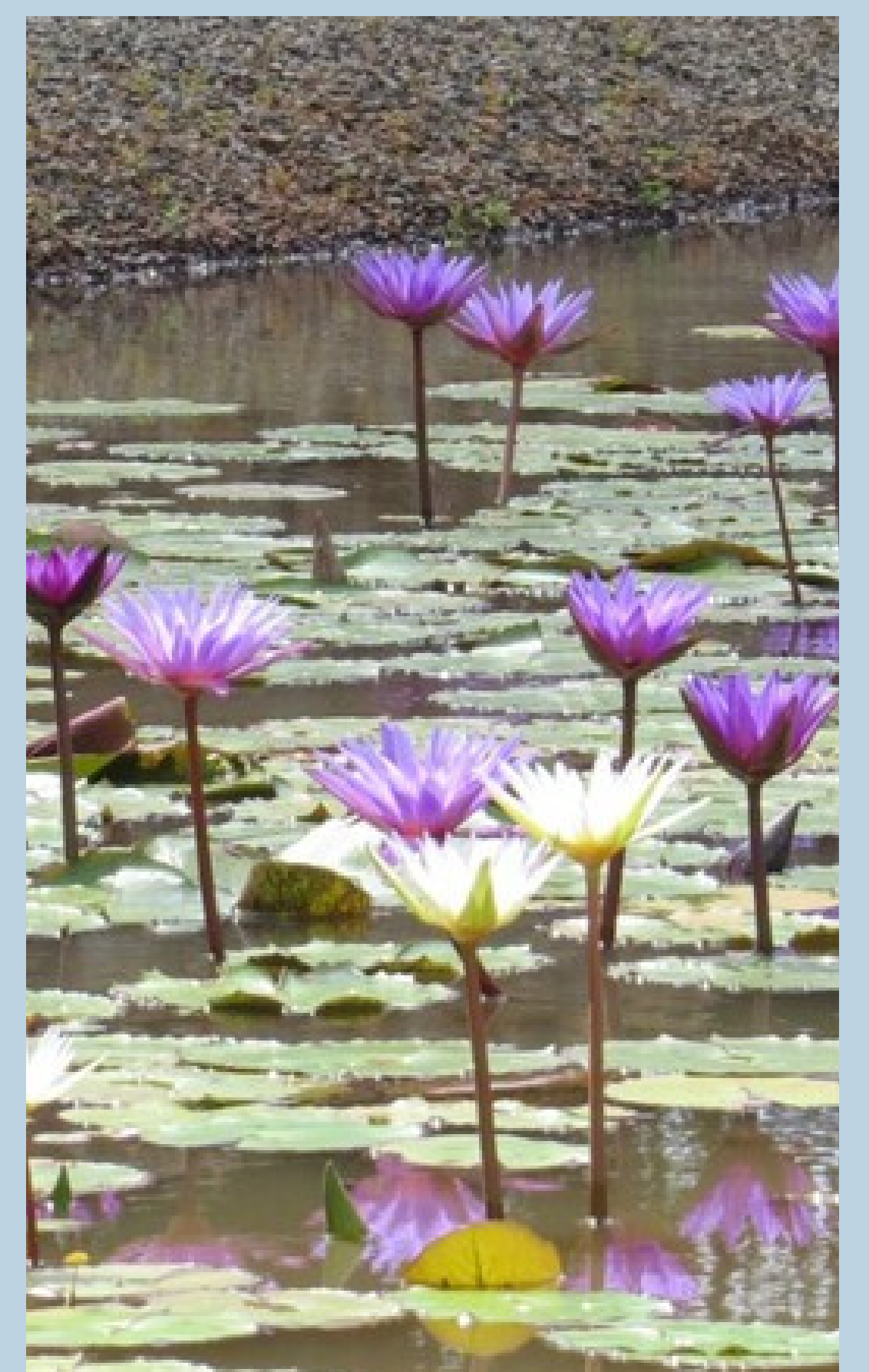
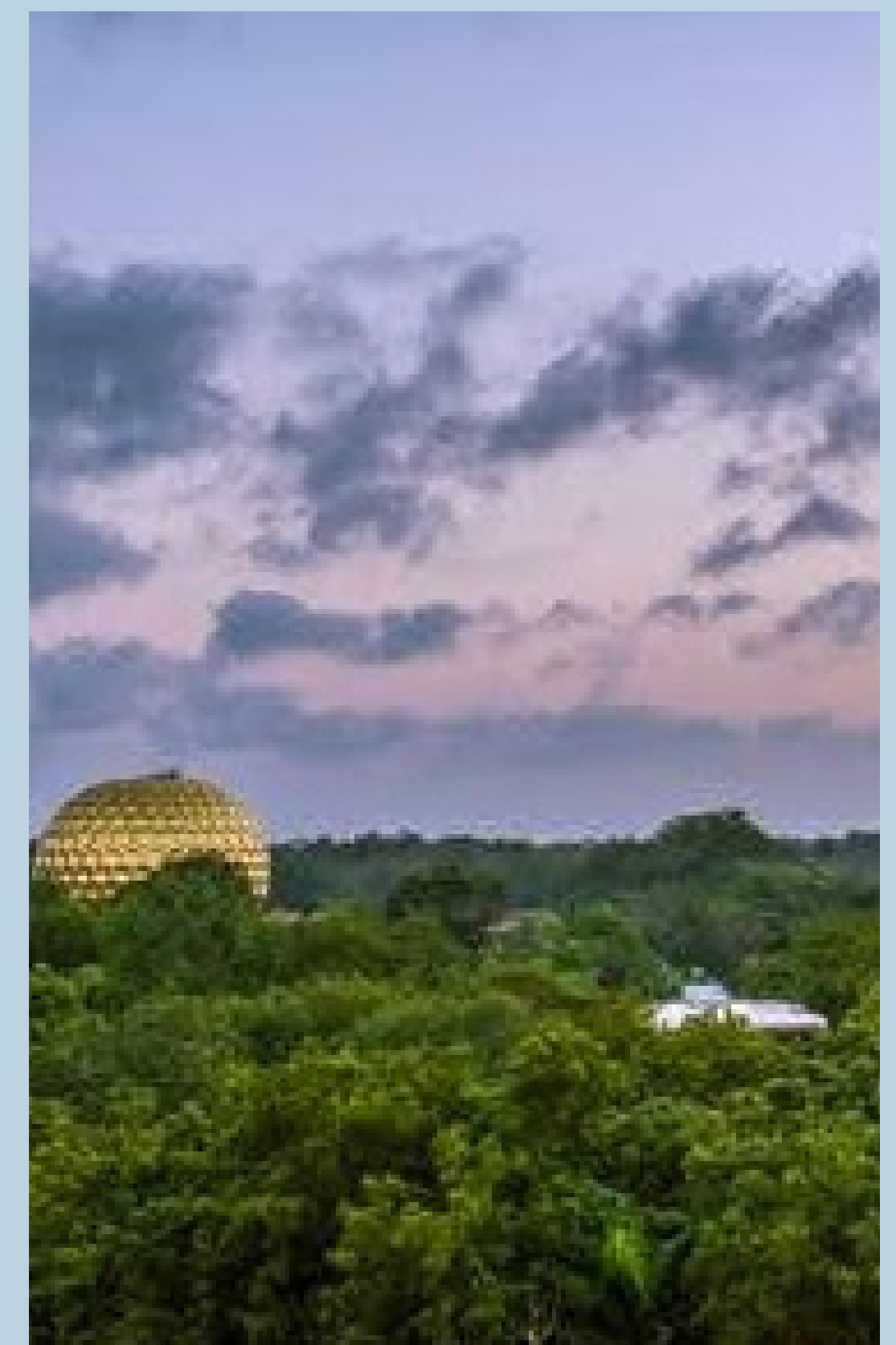
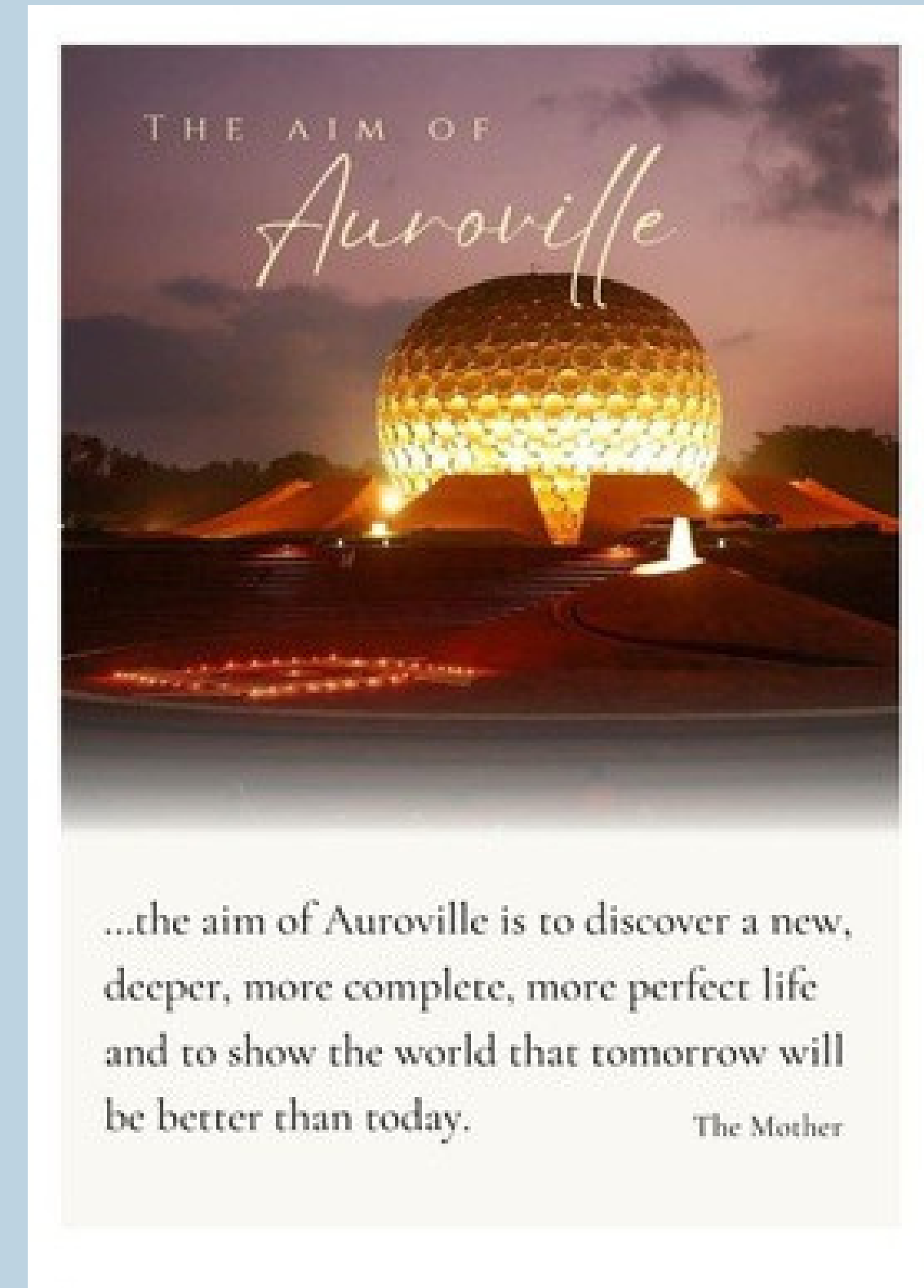
On the other hand, .. Auroville was never conceived as a place FOR those who created or developed it.

This project does not aim to serve the interests of a community, a group or a generation, no matter how dedicated, but to embody a collective research turned towards the future, a living experience of human unity and evolving consciousness.

Auroville's legacy is renewed through the sincerity of service, the detachment of the acquired, and the constant openness to what the Divine wants to manifest at each stage.

Those who helped build Auroville sowed the seeds, but the flowering belongs to a larger truth, which goes beyond individuals.

**Sylvie Escarret**



### Response # 3

Please stop instilling fear in people.

When I first arrived in Auroville 35 years ago, one morning I went to visit my friend who worked in the Laboratory of Evolution, and just as I opened the door, I found a big sign that read, "The Agenda is leaving Auroville."

It referred to a large group of French Aurovilians who were leaving Auroville because they claimed Auroville had failed. And with them, apparently, the Agenda of the Mother was also leaving. What arrogance!

Many Aurovilians at the time expressed their relief knowing that these people had left, as they had caused too much tragedy for Auroville with their view of the things happening here.

A few years earlier, other French people had also declared that Auroville was a ship adrift and had to be abandoned...

But the years passed, and Auroville remained alive and vibrant, always thanks to the Force of the Mother who has upheld and continues to uphold this place, despite, above all, despite all of us here... despite all our mediocre systems and along with all the different actors that Auroville Foundation has had (and will have in the future).

Today I saw a video again of a French person warning about the danger Auroville is in... once again, grand words of fear and tragedy... and of course, in an age of mass communication, the video makes its way around the world...

I felt sad about the wasted energy, the confusion, and the fear it will cause in so many people who will be swayed by what they hear...

but above all, it hurt me to see the lack of faith in the Mother and the lack of trust in this country that the Mother and Sri Aurobindo chose as the place for their work and as the spiritual cradle of Auroville...

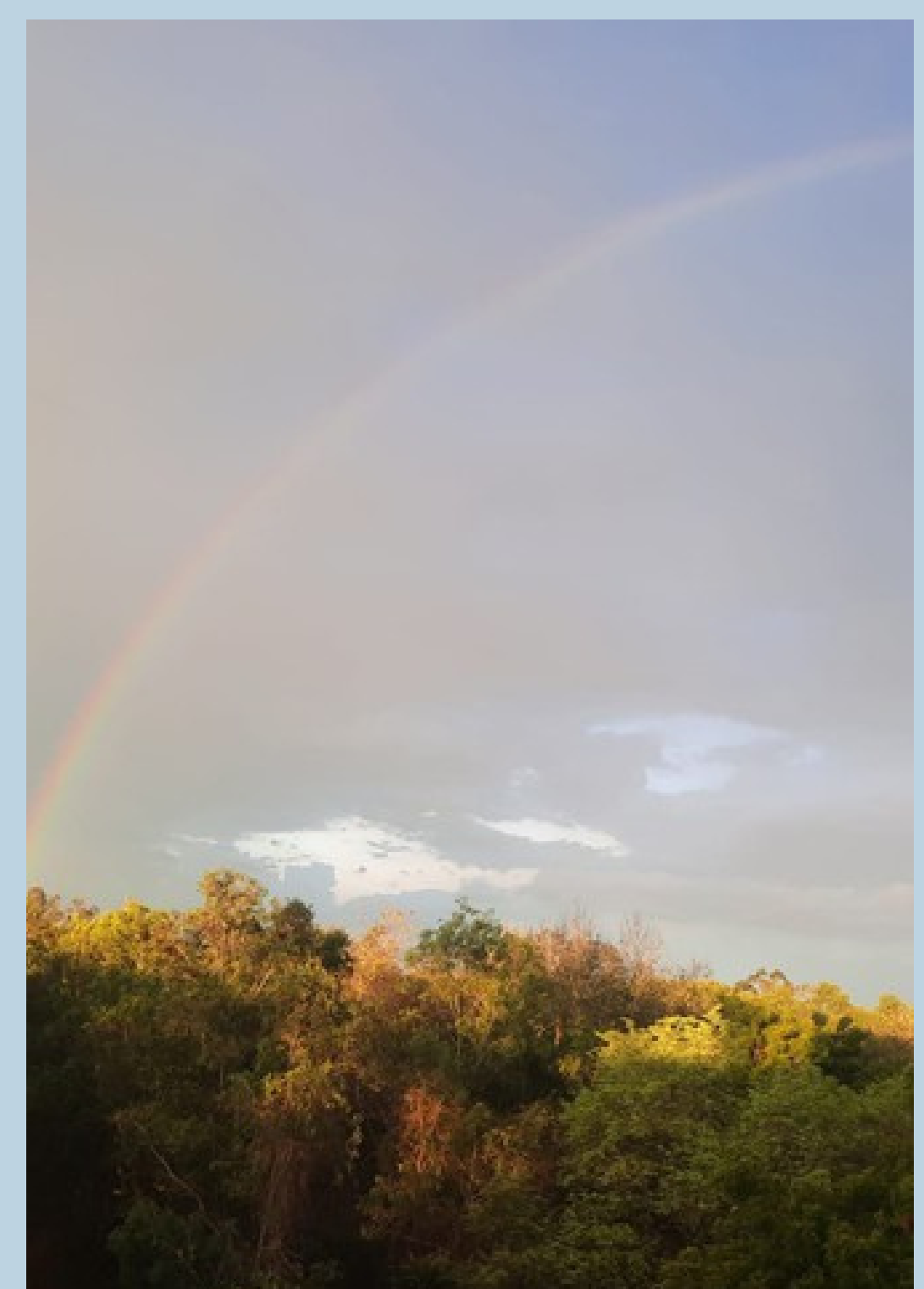
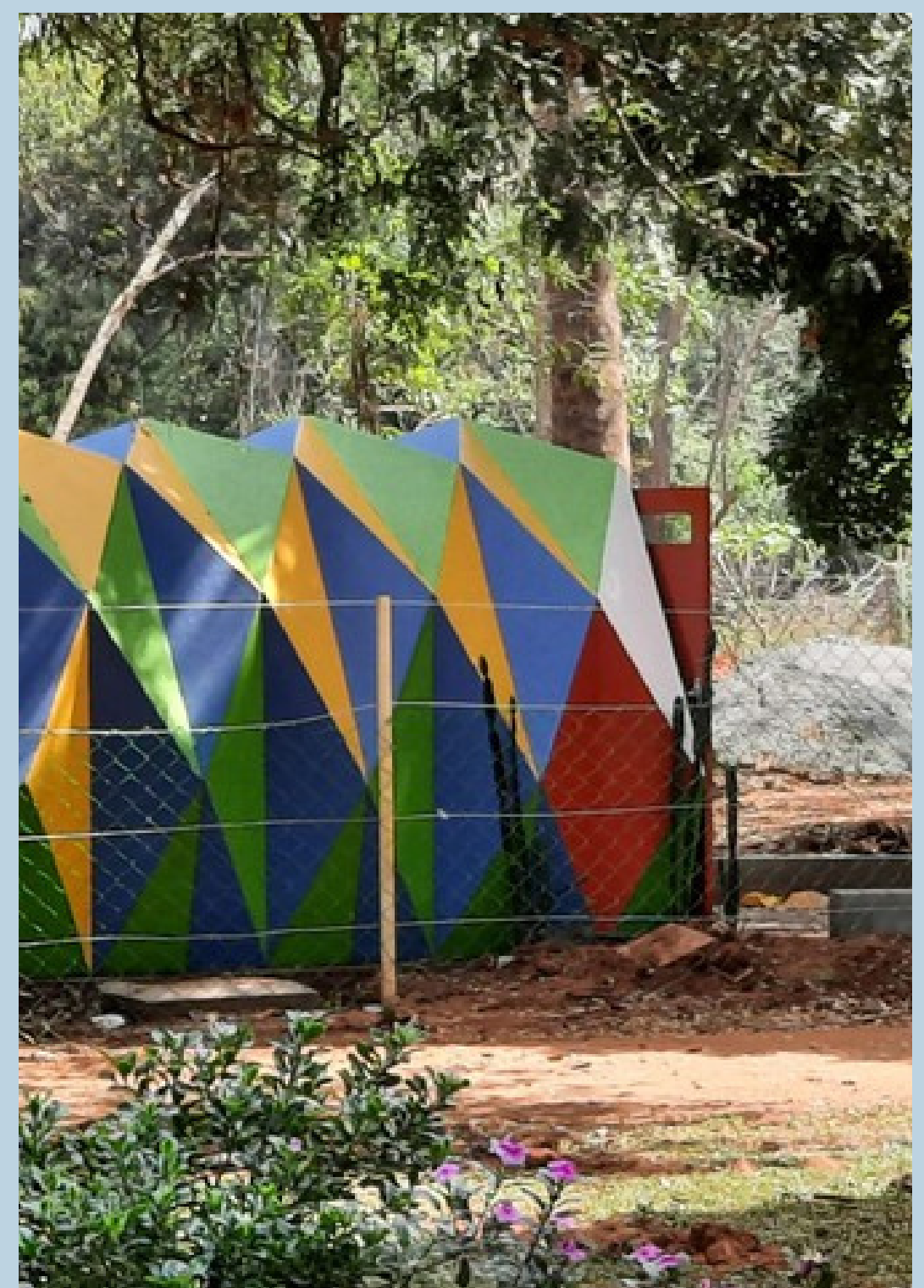
He says that Aurovilians dare not speak... How laughable... when there are 35 cases in the courts, when there are hundreds of videos and posts circulating for the past 3 years... What we are is tired of the spread of fear and tragedy, misinformation and excess, tragedies and victimhood.

Frankly, we don't need more "friends" instilling fear from the outside, being ignorant and manipulative judges of a reality that has many levels.

What we need are more souls on the path of yoga who will move the project forward, without so many words and without so much tragedy, with sincere dedication and unwavering faith.

**Anandi Breton**

More responses to follow in our next issue....



## Humanity in Danger ?

### Auroville Awakens...

There comes a time in the life of a civilization when it stands at a crossroads — trembling between light and darkness, hope and despair, evolution and collapse. Today, as voices echo that “Auroville is in danger,”

it is not just the future of a city that trembles — but the destiny of humanity itself.

For too long, the vision of Auroville—the Mother's dream of a cradle for the supramental world—lay wrapped in mist.

What was meant to be “the shelter built for all those who want to hasten towards a future of Knowledge, Peace and Unity” became clouded with conflict, resistance, stagnation, and a fatal comfort with the status quo.

But storms, when rightly understood, are not calamities—they are calls to awakening. And in that storm of resistance and denial, something extraordinary is beginning to stir. Auroville, long slumbering, is beginning to awaken.

It is easy to dwell in disillusionment, to raise cries of despair, to call the soul's revolution a disruption. But a deeper eye sees: what crumbles now are not dreams, but the shells that held them back.

The scaffolding of ego, possessiveness, division, has begun to fall, revealing the luminous skeleton of a deeper design—the Mother's design.

She did not dream of a village trapped in comfort. She spoke of “a conscious city radiating from the Matrimandir,” a city “symbolising the Divine's answer to man's aspiration for perfection”.

Auroville is not a forest or a protest—it is a prophecy.

Yes, the forces of resistance have risen, as they always do when something profound attempts to manifest. Property, identity, and preference cloaked themselves in the language of liberty.

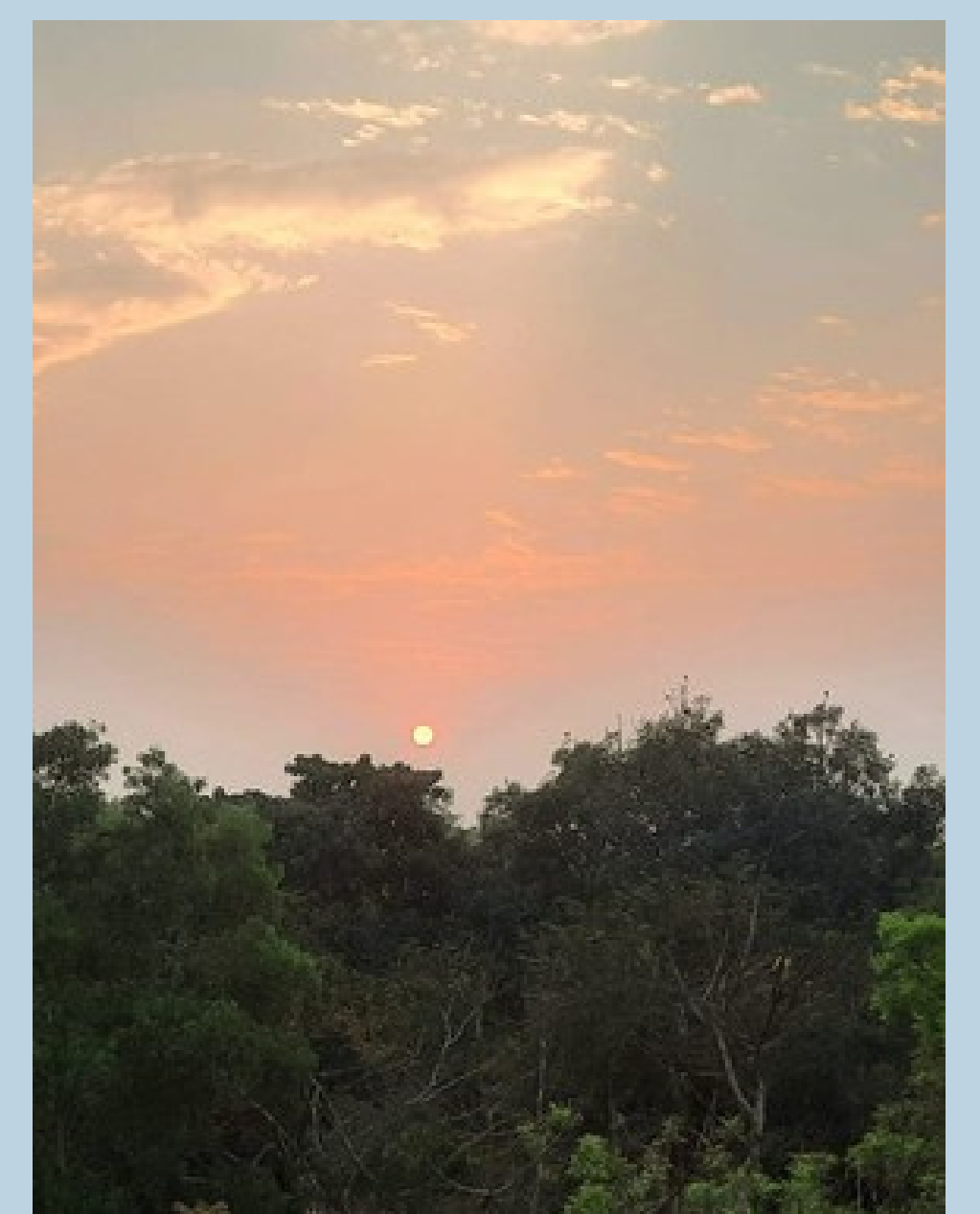
The past was defended, trees became symbols of ownership, and the Dream was buried beneath bureaucracy.

But now, something greater is moving.

Auroville was meant to be “the city the earth needs”—not just for a few seekers, but as a nucleus of change, a living model for a supramental humanity.



“Auroville, as Sri Aurobindo has said, is a practical means of creating a human unity that would be strong enough to fight against war.”



The world, fractured and frantic, is crying for solutions—not of policy or technology, but of consciousness. This city, built on the lines of the Galaxy, was “not an experiment of man” but an expression of the Supreme Will.

The Mother's words ring through the ages:

***“The city will be built by what is invisible to you. The men who have to act as instruments will do so despite themselves. They are only puppets in the hands of larger Forces.”***

And now those Forces have begun to act.

Through apparent conflict, falsehood is being unearthed. Through administrative intervention, paralysis is being shaken. Through exposure, introspection is being demanded. It is not an invasion—it is an invitation.

An invitation to each one of us to examine what it truly means to be an Aurovillian.

Are we willing servitors of the Divine Consciousness, or are we clinging to identity and fear?

The dream is not dying—it is daring to live. The soul of Auroville, the Matrimandir, still radiates the silent call: Progress. Sincerity. Unity.

Let us not mourn change—let us meet it with the fire of aspiration.

Let us not defend the old—instead, let us become transparent vessels for the new. This is not destruction—it is emergence.

Auroville is not in danger.

Humanity is.

But Auroville, as it awakens, becomes the beacon it was meant to be—the first glimmer of the Dawn.

A city where money is no master, where ego is shed, where work is worship, and “relations of strife are replaced by real brotherhood.”

To those who raise voices in warning, let us raise our hearts in affirmation. To

those who cry betrayal, let us respond with rebirth.

To those who claim the Dream is lost, let us live it so radiantly that doubt itself dissolves.

Let us not forget: The Dream was never ours to possess—it is ours to serve.

And through that service, humanity may yet be saved.



“The city will be built by what is invisible to you. The men who have to act as instruments will do so despite themselves. They are only puppets in the hands of larger Forces.”

The Mother



## A Cradle For Supramental Manifestation

By Anu Majumdaar



The 1930s saw a period of acceleration in Sri Aurobindo's sadhana. He spoke of the Supramental's tail descending, but not yet its head. The work of bringing down the new Consciousness was in full force. Replying to a question regarding his work the Mother explained: Consciousness is like a ladder: at each great epoch there has been one great being capable of adding one more step to the ladder.

The step which is being added now Sri Aurobindo has called the Supramental... It is a work in the consciousness, a work of connection between the consciousness and the material being. Once, however, this connection is made it must have its effect in the outward world in the form of a new creation, beginning with a model town...

Why a town?

Yet, at that very moment of spiritual intensity, Sri Aurobindo and the Mother chose to initiate the construction of Golconde, now recognized as the first modern building of India. Around 1936 the Mother even asked the architect to prepare a city plan.

Later she called it the first plan of Auroville, but WWII intervened bringing an abrupt pause as their attention shifted to the arena of war where other forces had to be held down.

From then on and till the end, Sri Aurobindo was focused on Savitri's epic battle with world forces and the conquest of Death. We did not hear of the model town again till much later.

In February 1956 the Mother announced the Supramental Descent: The supramental Light and Force and Consciousness rushed down upon earth in an uninterrupted flow.

A new world had been born, flooding the earth's atmosphere. Two years later the Mother would recount another vision, of a ship of advanced seekers training for the supramental life. Could this ship have an anchor on earth? Would it have the capacity to endure and reach the supramental shore?

"What would it be like to have a small supramental creation as a nucleus of action and influence radiating upon earth??"

THE MOTHER



Late will he know, opening the mystic script  
Whether to a blank port in the Unseen  
He goes, or armed with her fiat, to discover A  
new mind and body in the city of god.  
Savitri, Book1, Canto 4

A new mind, body and life: in other words a complete transformation of existence as we know it. In 1961, we hear her say:

What would it be like to have a small supramental creation as a nucleus of action and influence. She already had the plan: It was the idea of an ideal city. The model town and the Supramental Consciousness were now intrinsically connected.

She was aware of how unprepared the earth was and yet the Will that moves the Universe could not be turned back, humanity had reached its crisis point.

To understand the need for Auroville and what finally governs it, it is essential to understand the nature of the New Consciousness and necessity of this evolution for earthly life and humanity. Sri Aurobindo's last essays on The Supramental Manifestation upon Earth, written between 1949-50, offer an important perspective given that they were written for the Bulletin of Physical Education.

A total perfection is the aim we set before us... the life of the Spirit fulfilled on earth... That cannot be unless the body too undergoes a transformation. For, the divine life in a material world would necessarily imply a union of the two ends of existence, the spiritual summit and the material base.

So it is no surprise that the Charter of Auroville's culminating point states unequivocally: Auroville will be a site of material and spiritual researches for a living embodiment of an actual human unity. Auroville, the model town, would be the body to manifest this soul, for an integral union, so far not effected in the world. Not a haphazard city but a conscious and planned one.

The Mother described Sri Aurobindo's work as a unique earth transformation. Above the mind lay several levels of consciousness of which the really Divine world was the one Sri Aurobindo had described as the Supermental. The present status of consciousness was the Overmind, that of the cosmic gods, but this was not the authentic home of the Truth, and therefore, did not possess the power to transform humanity. For that the Supermind was the sole agent which was Sri Aurobindo's focus.

The character of the Supermind is a Truth-Consciousness, Sri Aurobindo wrote, a consciousness always free from the Ignorance which is the foundation of our present natural or evolutionary existence and from which, nature in us is trying to arrive at self-knowledge and world knowledge and a right consciousness and a right use of our existence in the universe...

The Truth Consciousness does not need to struggle to arrive at knowledge, it possess it, in its supreme unity.

Truth Consciousness plays a key role in this union. For Auroville's inauguration the Mother ordered a ring to be installed around the Banyan Tree at the centre of Auroville with this message: Auroville: The City at the Service of the Truth.

“ One result of the intervention of the Supermind in earth nature, the descent of the supreme creative Truth Power, might well be a change in the law of evolution, its method and its arrangements.”

THE MOTHER



Auroville was finally born on 28 February 1968. The Mother had spent three years with the architect making sure he got her vision right. The city would look like no other on earth: contemporary and everlasting, a swirling galaxy, transplanting on earth like a receptacle, or a cradle for the Consciousness.

It had a centre of Light, and the city held together by an inner ring to prevent it from spiraling outward in a sprawl which most cities suffer from.

The city was an experiment where the Consciousness could harbor and grow till it had the capacity to impact the world around it. Those choosing to live in Auroville would consent to serve the Divine Consciousness as its Charter declared.

A year later the Mother reported a communication:

*We shall endeavour to make Auroville the cradle of the superman. Important news! She would exclaim but who was “we” and what did it want with Auroville? The reply was categorical: Because we’re going to try to get people who will be in Auroville to collaborate.*

Collaboration is fundamental for Auroville because the Truth Consciousness demands that both the ego and falsehood be surpassed for this adventure to succeed. Right after the inauguration the Mother would observe: it is difficult to be sincere, but one can at least be mentally sincere –

this is what one can demand from Aurovilians. The Force is there, present as never before; what prevents it from descending and being felt, is men’s insincerity.

The descent of the New Force in 1956 had caused a tearing of the limits, and this sudden transformation of the universal element also brought a chaos of perceptions from which a new knowledge would eventually emerge. This new substance had a warmth, a power, a joy so intense... a single surge of (its) deep and true love... takes you nearer to the goal than all possible explanations.

That difficulties, material, human or spiritual would trouble such an extraordinary evolutionary experiment is not surprising. Auroville was born at a time of multiple crises: wars, assassinations, economic failures, race inequalities and more: humanity seemed to be rupturing from its centre.

But people were gathering across Auroville’s red plateau, some from thousands of miles away, some from across the dusty path, many lives meeting in concurrence, recognizing, often without understanding, what had drawn them there, or what gave them the joy to work on the Matrimandir or, for a city they had no real idea about. It had never been tried before.

The city was the best vehicle for a complete and integral transformation touching every aspect of the human being and Matter, thus impacting the full range of mind, life, body and spirit.

It was therefore natural that here, at the turning point of earth’s trajectory, Auroville would meet the greatest resistance within itself, almost to the point of impossibility. How would one go through, how would the soul navigate, what would it be compelled to abandon, with what power would it collaborate?

We shall endeavour to make Auroville the cradle of the superman. Important news!

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This Consciousness is the live learning curve that forces one to arrive at surrender, to break through prejudice, falsehood or fear, to reach one's truth or, it hammers us until a complete recognition of the Divine and its Will is reached, and the path opens further.

Not all human beings on earth, or in Auroville, are aware of the presence of this Consciousness. Some grow to it gradually, some slide into it naturally. Each Aurovilian, is a living guinea pig of this journey of transformation. The real challenge of Human Unity, which is forged by the Truth Consciousness, is the greatening the soul to a true freedom and its power to open and be nurtured by this New Consciousness that is rapidly transmuting and shaking up the world.

In a sense this is Sri Aurobindo's Sanatana, universal and eternal, moving the future of humanity forward, not for anyone's personal gain but to build and sustain the cradle of the supramental existence.

The Fifth Dream of Sri Aurobindo's message for India and the world states: The final dream was a step in evolution which would raise man to a higher and larger consciousness and begin the solution of the problems which have perplexed and vexed him since he first began to think and to dream of individual perfection and a perfect society... Here too, if this evolution is to take place, since it must proceed through a growth of the spirit and the inner consciousness, the initiative can come from India and, although the scope must be universal, the central movement may be hers.

Auroville, founded in India, will grow multi-dimensionally, universally, leaving out nothing, no one and no layer, for the Consciousness to touch and transform. The thing to be done is as large as human life, therefore the individuals who lead the way will take all human life as their province, Sri Aurobindo wrote in the Human Cycle.

The city is envisioned for a full scale transformation: from the most material to the most human for the Consciousness to touch. Foreseeing the crisis of humanity and the plight of cities worldwide, Auroville was planned as a model of spiritual urbanism. The Mother commissioned the architect, Roger Anger, to prepare a city plan that would harness Her vision, starting from the centre, the soul of the city. The city integrates the social, cultural, economic, educational, sports, artistic growth and a sustainable development, all in one unified whole. The approved city plan came to be known as the Galaxy.

At the centre of this plan lies the Matrimandir. The Matrimandir represents the Divine Consciousness, she said as she wrote the Charter. This active nexus between the material realization and the supramental consciousness was the first element to be anchored. What the New Consciousness wants (it insists on this) is no more divisions. To be capable of understanding the extreme spiritual and the extreme material and to find a meeting point where...it becomes a true force.

This is the realization, the integral sustainability that Auroville moves toward as a city and as a people. The Supramental Force, with its double anchor in the material and the spiritual, is the touchstone of Auroville, the beauty of its soul and its power. Auroville is meant to hasten the advent of the Supramental Reality on earth.

“Earth needs a place where men can live away from national rivalries, social conventions and self contradictory morality and contending religions. A place, where human beings, freed from the slavery to the past can devote themselves wholly to the discovery and practice of the Divine Consciousness that is seeking to manifest. Auroville wants to be this place and offers itself to all who aspire to the Truth of Tomorrow..

The Mother



## Auroville, a laboratory of consciousness in tension and in the making.

Sylvie Escarret

There is unity, but the illusion of separation dominates.

The universe is one, but humanity perceives fragmentation. Auroville, founded on a vision of embodied unity, is today torn by conflicts that are not ideological or ecological, but much deeper: conflicts of existence, of preferences and of ego. Here, ecology is often no more than a pretext, a fashionable cover to mask fear of the unknown, resistance to change and the need for reassuring compromises.

The Indian government's intervention reveals this tension:

Some see it as a call to order, an attempt to speed up a project perceived as stagnant. In reality, it is a reaction to inaction, to the gradual renunciation in the face of challenges, to the habit of postponing the ideal on the pretext that it is too big, too ambitious. Hiding behind the argument of 'adapting to today's reality' amounts to abandoning what Auroville exists for.

Others see this intervention as an intrusion contrary to the founding spirit of Auroville. But if this intrusion has been possible, it is because we ourselves have allowed it. It mirrors our own divisions, our lack of real commitment to the original vision. Auroville cannot be violated from the outside; it is from within that the loss of direction takes place.

Humanity is a passage, but Auroville is struggling to come to terms with it.

Unity can be achieved internally, but Sri Aurobindo insists on its incarnation in matter. This does not mean endless discussions, but action, concrete adherence to an ideal that goes beyond individual preferences.

The willing servant does not debate; he serves. The intellect divides, the mind wants to control; aspiration unites and sets things in motion.

Auroville, conceived as a living laboratory of transformation, today faces a paradox: everyone thinks they know better than the other how it should evolve. But how can the unknown be defined in advance?

Adhering to a vision is not about imposing opinions, but about fully surrendering to it.

The Master Plan, far from being a rigid constraint, is an opening, a window to the infinite, with beauty and perfection as its horizons.

For some, this freedom is dizzying and elusive. For others, it is the very essence of the Aurovilian experience.



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The Mother

But the rejection of the initial plan is not a desire for destruction. It is often a disguised way of giving up, a way of saying that the ideal is too difficult, that it should be made 'more coherent' or 'more realistic'. But is dreaming inconsistent? Isn't true coherence about rising to the top of the aspiration rather than adjusting the aspiration to what seems attainable?

The future belongs to those who dare and surpass themselves. Government intervention: symptom, necessity or opportunity?

The intervention of the Indian government is the direct result of our inability to embody our own ideals. Whether we perceive it as a threat or a necessity is irrelevant; what counts is understanding why it was made possible.

If Auroville had been able to align itself with its vision, it would not have needed outside intervention. But by multiplying compromises and allowing divisions to take root, it opened the door to an administrative framework that operates on a very different basis: management, structure and control.

Auroville is based on a spiritual and experimental dynamic, but this dynamic cannot remain a concept. It must be translated into action. Otherwise, others will decide for us - and that's not a threat, it's a fact.

The real issue, then, is not so much government intervention as Auroville's ability to become autonomous in consciousness, to re-align itself with its essence.

The real question: an evolution in consciousness or a power struggle?

Being is free, but the ego creates resistance. The current tensions are not simply disagreements over the application of the Master Plan or the management of State intervention; they reveal a deeper difficulty: humanity is struggling to detach itself from the need for control, possession and opinion.

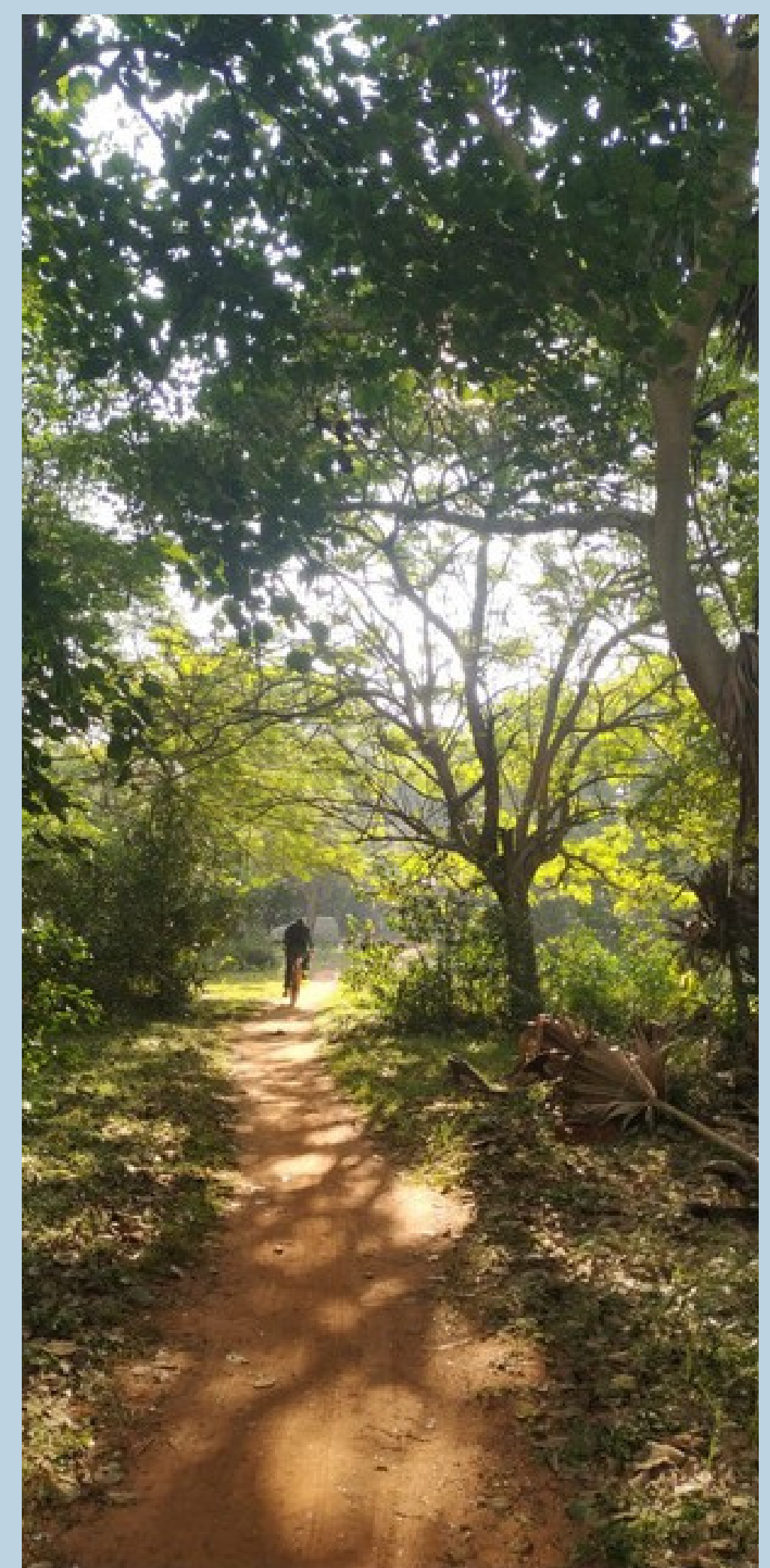
This is not a conflict between tradition and modernity. It's not even a debate. Loyalty to Auroville does not mean blind rigidity or adjustments dictated by convenience. It involves constant aspiration, without preferences, without limiting mental projections.

The idea of adapting Mother's vision to our current understanding is an illusion. Mother didn't give us an instruction manual; she gave us an impetus, a call to go beyond ourselves. Who are we to decide what is possible and what is not?

When opposition becomes a power struggle, dialogue becomes impossible and outside intervention became inevitable. But it is not compromises that will enable Auroville to find its way back. There is only one thing: pure and total adherence to what is beyond each of us.

Current tensions: an initiatory passage

Auroville is an experiment in consciousness in matter. And matter, by its very nature, resists. This crisis is not a failure, but an opportunity.



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If Auroville is to remain true to its essence, it must overcome duality and recognise that the only true reality is the aspiration towards the Divine. It is not the material world that must be integrated into the Auroville ideal, it is Auroville that must be a breakthrough of aspiration in the material world.

The government's intervention sends out a strong signal:

Either Auroville finds within itself the strength to transcend its divisions, and this intervention will become obsolete. India, in its profound wisdom, will then leave Auroville to its own destiny.

Either it remains a prisoner of ego and power games, and becomes a mere administrative town...?

But beyond any analysis, there is one absolute truth: faith in the intervention and guidance of the Divine, despite everything and everyone.

Auroville is not a human project. The consciousness that inspired it transcends all individual or collective wills. Evolution cannot be stopped.

Conclusion: Auroville's future depends on its ability to truly embody its ideal. Unity does not have to be created; it must be revealed and materialised in matter.

This embodiment in matter is not an option, it is the very essence of the project.

The current tensions are not a legitimate debate; they are a symptom of the ego's resistance to the inevitable.

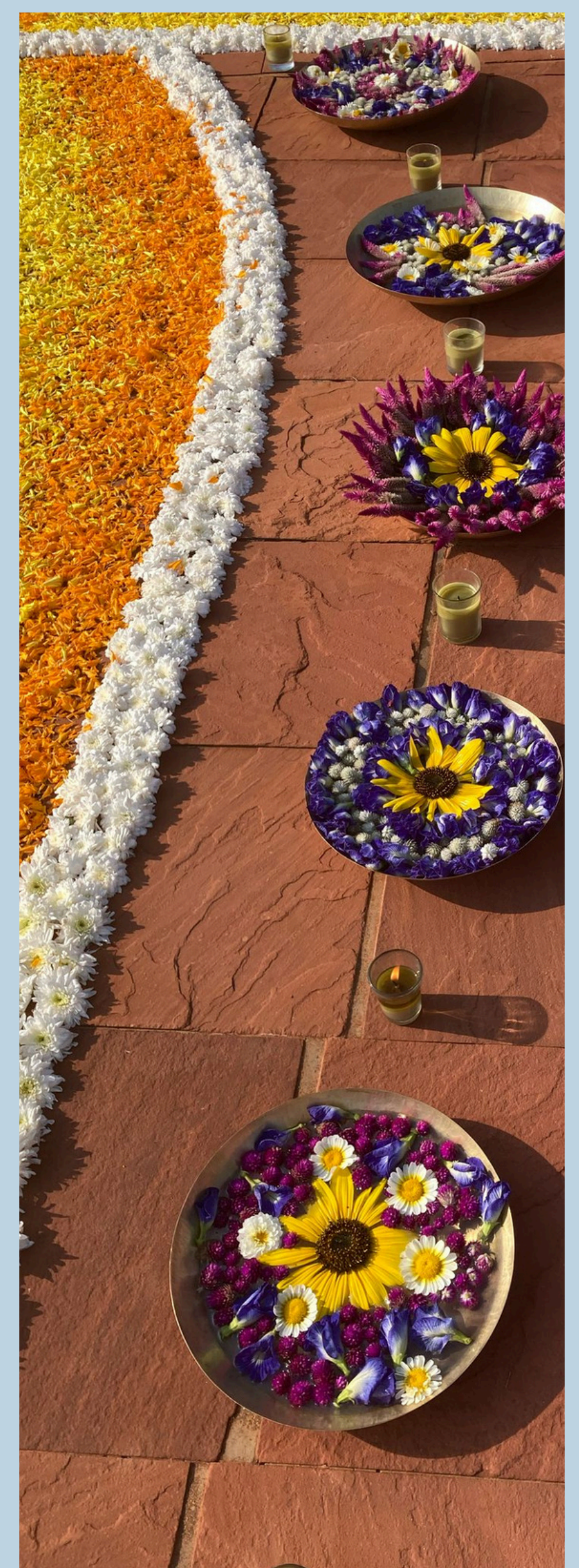
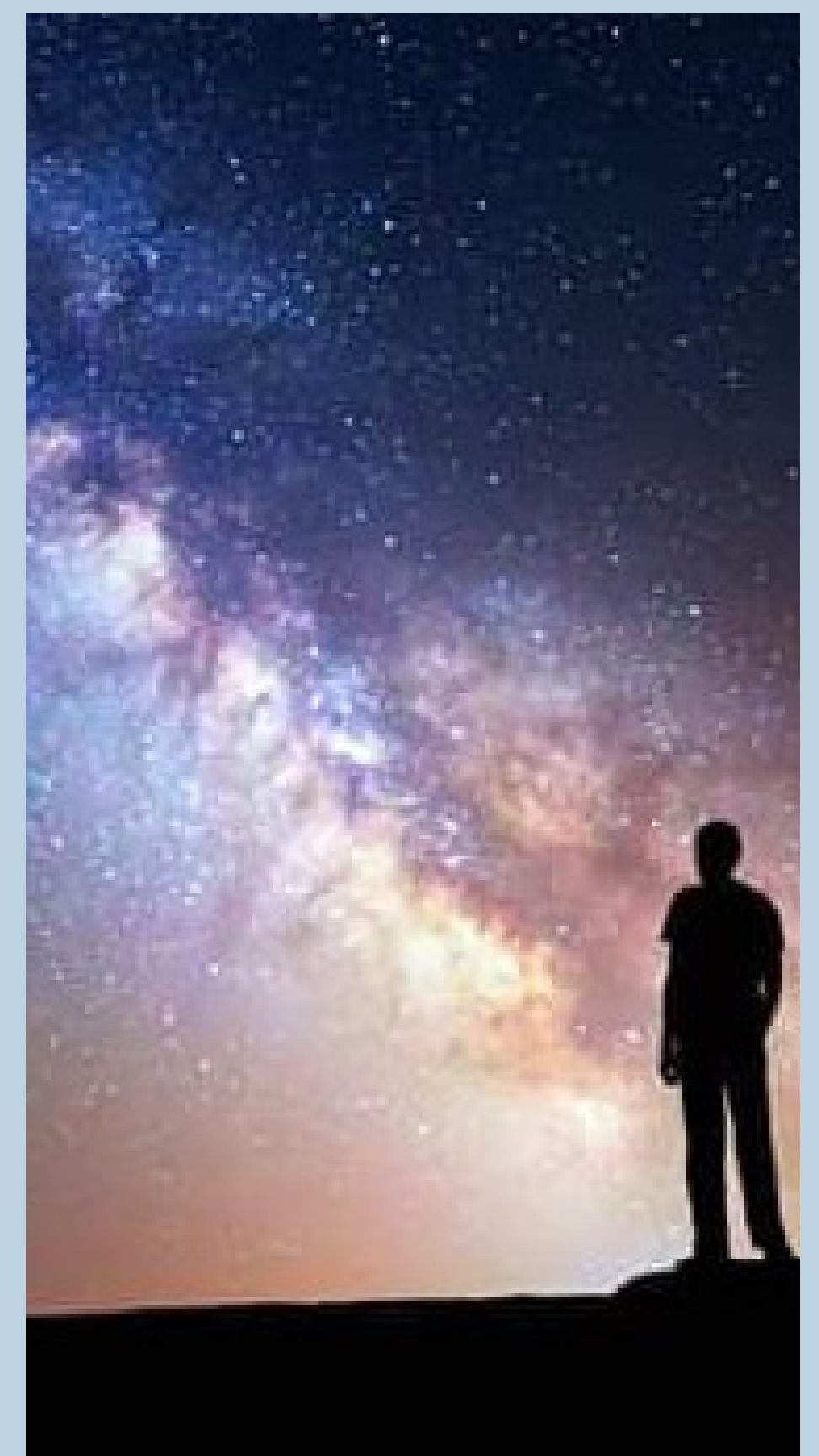
Collective evolution cannot be decreed, it cannot be imposed; it is the fruit of pure aspiration, without attachment to forms or mental resistance.

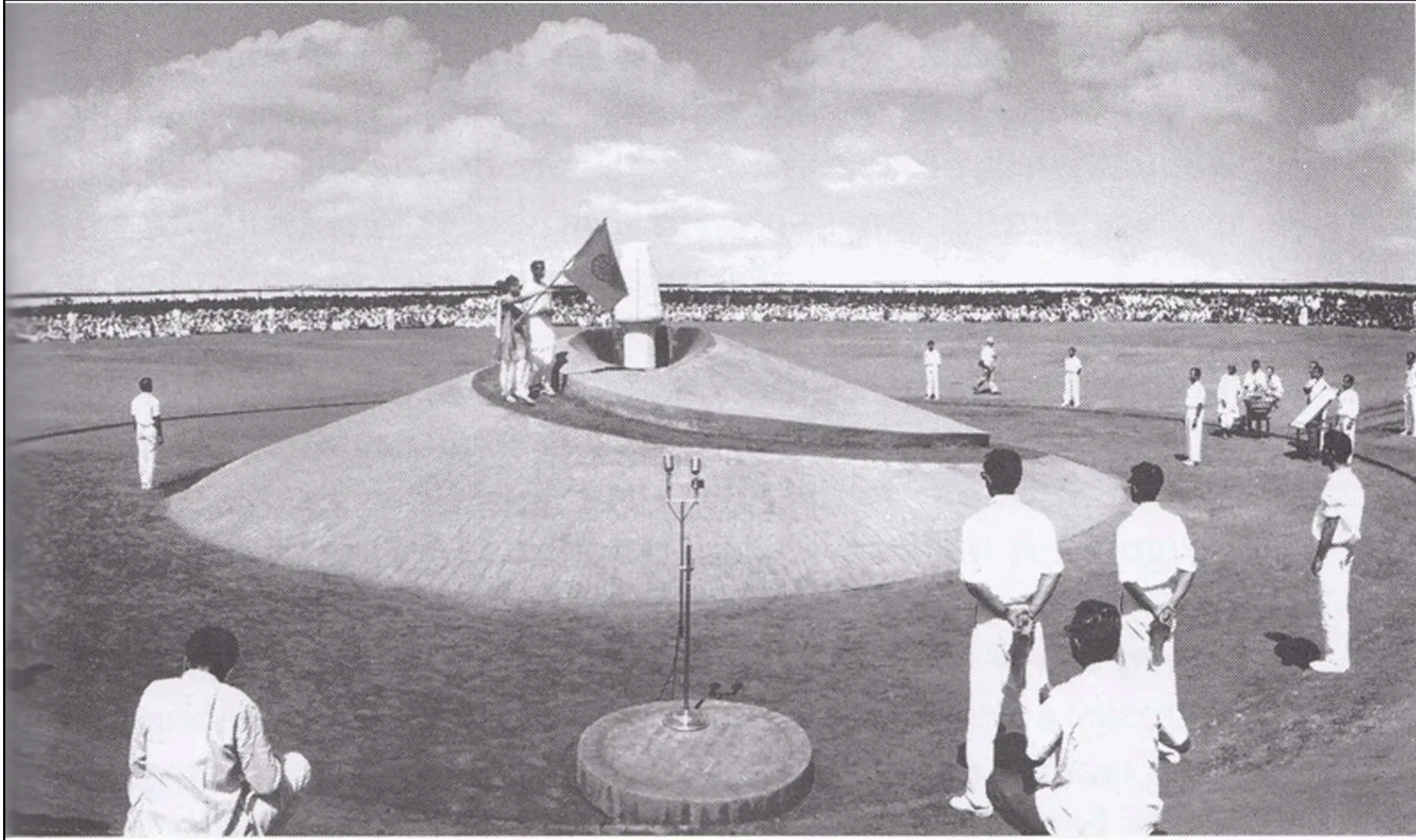
Auroville can overcome this crisis, but this will only happen if consciousness prevails over the ego, if adherence to the ideal becomes total, and if trust in the Divine remains at the centre of the path.

The future of Auroville is not in our hands: it belongs to the aspiration that runs through us and to our ability to serve it, without expectations or doubts.

***"The moment we recognize, as our enlarging experience compels us to recognize, that there are in the universe knowable realities beyond the range of the senses and in man powers and faculties which determine rather than are determined by the material organs through which they hold themselves in touch with the world of the senses,-that outer shell of our true and complete existence,-the premises of materialistic Agnosticism disappear, We are ready for a large statement and an ever- developing inquiry."***

***The life divine' Sri Aurobindo***





The inauguration of Auroville

28.2.68.

Greetings from Auroville  
to all men of good will

Are invited to Auroville all  
those who thirst for progress  
and aspire to a higher  
and truer life.



## Conditions for living in Auroville

“from the psychological point of view, the required conditions for living in Auroville are:

To be convinced of the essential unity of mankind and to have the will to collaborate for the material manifestation of that unity.

To have the will to collaborate in all that furthers future realisations.

The material conditions will be worked out as the realisation proceeds.”

**The Mother , 19.6.1967**

