

Auroville

NEWS & NOTES

No 988 - A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

17 August 2023

RA EDITION

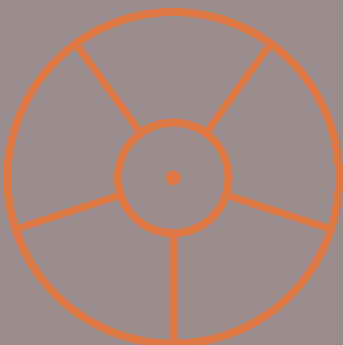


PONDERING

**Auroville
the free international city.
No army, no police,
they are replaced by
a battalion of Guards
consisting
of athletes and gymnasts.**

The Mother, on Auroville, page 13

<https://motherandsriaurobindo.in/The-Mother/books/compilations/the-mother-on-auroville/>



HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



(continued from last week)

The yogi who with his power had done away with illnesses had not really solved the problem; he had only muzzled the forces of those illnesses. It is perfectly understandable that no transformation is possible as long as these forces are simply muzzled, prowling around in the dark and awaiting their hour. Moreover, since nothing can be subtracted from the universe, they must be converted. But how? Death and diseases are everywhere, in the subconscious of our bodies and in all the bodies in the world. The yogi who had conquered diseases and defied death (though not indefinitely, of course) had conquered only for himself, and that is why he could not fully conquer. How wise is the Law! He had built a protective shell, shut himself up in it like an embryo of light, and let everything beyond it swarm around as usual. But if the shell opens, everything rushes back in! There is only one body! The example of Ramakrishna lashed by the whip that struck the bullock beside him, or of the Mother struggling against a hemorrhage afflicting a disciple several hundred miles away, without her even knowing about it, places us before the real problem. The body is everywhere! exclaimed the Mother. The conquest has to be achieved everywhere – for all the bodies and the whole earth. Nothing can be transformed unless everything is transformed. Otherwise one is simply entrenched alone in one's little hole of light. And what purpose does that serve? What good does it do if one man is transformed while the rest of humanity goes on dying? The body of the pioneer of transformation is therefore like a battlefield: this is where the battle of the world is being fought – where everything meets and where everything resists. There is a central point in the ultimate depths, a knot of life and death where the world's destiny hangs. Everything is gathered into one single point.

*I have been digging deep and long
Mid a horror of filth and mire,
A bed for the golden river's song,
A home for the deathless fire...
My gaping wounds are a thousand and one...*

The pioneer must therefore confront all difficulties, including Death, not in order to destroy them, but to change them. Nothing can be transformed unless it is taken upon oneself: *Thou shalt bear all things that all things may change*, says Savitri. This is why Sri Aurobindo left his body on December 5, 1950, officially because of uremia, he who could heal others in a few seconds. To die on the cross is moving, to be sure, but crucifixions, especially when worshipped, only perpetuate the law of death. *It is not a crucified body that will save the world*, insists the Mother, *but a glorified body*.

No, it is not spectacular work, but decidedly a "microscopic work," and it is through the very mud of the world that one must dig.

SECOND PHASE – THE SUBCONSCIENT

Thus, there is another category of difficulties (though still the same behind a different mask), which is not due to the resistance of individual, corporeal matter but to the subconscious resistance of the entire earth. This is where Sri Aurobindo met Death. And this is, too, where Mother would resume the work. If we want to understand where the whole story – our story – is unfolded and to follow the process of the work, we must go back to the evolutionary process itself. The advent of a new stage in evolution, whether it be Life in Matter or Mind in Life, has always resulted from a twofold pressure: a pressure from within or below, from the involved principle seeking to emerge, and a pressure from "outside" or "above," from the same principle as it already exists within its own plane. The conjunction of these two pressures – for example, that of the mind involved in certain living forms and that of the Mind as it was created in its own plane in the course of a descending evolution or devolution – eventually led to a rupture of the vital limits, and suddenly Mind emerged in Life. Everything is involved, already there in Matter, but the involution cannot be unlocked except through a pressure from above responding to a call from below and breaking the seal, just as the sun breaks the seed's shell. At present, the supermind involved in Matter pushes from within, in the form of spiritual yearnings, human aspirations for Immortality, Truth, or Beauty, etc.; at the same time, it presses from above, from its own eternal plane, in the form of intuitions, revelations, or illuminations. This is what the Scriptures expressed in their own way when they linked the appearance of a "new earth" to that of a "new heaven" ("a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth the Truth"), because without the new heaven or, rather, the new supramental level of consciousness, the emergence of a new earth would not be possible. The new earth will result from the "new heaven" of the supramental consciousness, just as the present earth resulted from the old mental or overmental "heaven" of the gods and religions. So it is for all the evolutionary stages: high and low go together.

(to be continued next week)

— Satprem, **The Adventure of Consciousness, Chapter 17,**
The Transformation

https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/satprem/adventure_of_consciousness_e.htm#064

With love and gratitude,
Gangalakshmi (HOMA)



NEWS & NOTES GUIDELINES

HARD DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: TUESDAY 5PM

The content of News & Notes is a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of Harmony, Goodwill, and Truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy.

How to submit material:

- Max size of the published poster is 9cm x 9cm independently of the size you sent. The bigger posters will be reduced.
- Please AVOID CAPS letters
- Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent in English only to **newsandnotes@auroville.services**
- Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.
- Please do not send submissions and inquiries as a "Reply" to the digital subscription mail. There is no guarantee that anyone will see communications sent this way.
- Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready. Any modifications of submitted News items must be sent to the editors before **Tuesday 5pm.**



DISCLAIMER:

Please note that the opinions and views expressed on these pages are solely those of the respective authors or work groups and do not necessarily reflect the position of the editors or the larger Auroville community. The News & Notes aims to provide a platform for the publication of diverse perspectives and voices from multiple sources within Auroville.

While our editors strive to ensure the accuracy of the information presented, we cannot guarantee that all information is free from error or omission. Additionally, we cannot be held liable for any alleged misinformation provided or offence caused by the content published.

In the event of any dispute, we encourage readers to consult with the Auroville Council, and we reserve the right to suspend the publication of disputed material. Our commitment to providing an open and inclusive platform for dialogue and exchange of ideas remains steadfast.

The News and Notes team
newsandnotes@auroville.services

LIST OF ACRONYMS:

AVF (Auroville Foundation), **AVFO/FO** (Auroville Foundation Office), **GB** (Governing Board), **RA** (Residents Assembly)

The following groups are divided in two categories: The groups selected by the Residents Assembly through Community decision making Processes and the groups put together by the GB and the FO (not recognised by the Residents Assembly).

Working groups selected by the Residents Assembly:

Working Committee (WCom)
Funds and Assets Management Committee (FAMC)
Budget Coordination Committee (BCC)
Town Development Council / L'avenir d'Auroville (TDC)

Auroville Council (AVC)
Entry Service (ES)

FO selected groups:

Working Committee (WC)
Funds and Assets management Committee (FAMC)
Budget Coordination Committee (BCC / BCS)
Auroville Town Development Council (ATDC)

Housing Service (HS)
Land Board (LB)

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Community,

if you wish for your events, workshops, and other content to be published in the RA N&N please send it to:

newsandnotes@auroville.services.

Reminder:

Please do NOT write to us from an @auroville.org.in mail ID, your submissions will not reach us. If you only have an auroville.org.in mail ID, please use this [FORM](#) to send us your content.

Support the RA N&N:

As the News and Notes budget is still being disbursed only to the FO N&N, printing and distribution costs are currently being covered by private donations. If you wish to contribute to the RA Edition of the N&N, you can do so by donating to: "NEWSLETTER COLLECTION" **FS #252150**.

We look forward to continuing to serve the over **3000 readers** who receive the RA Edition as well as serving the Auroville community as a whole by providing a platform for all perspectives to be shared with respect.

In community,

The RA Community Edition News and Notes Team

EMERGENCY NUMBERS



Ambulance (24/7):

Auroville 9442224680	PIMS 0413 2656271		
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Security (24/7):

AV Safety & Security Team 9443090107	Auroville Police Station 0413 2677318	Kottakuppam Police Station 0413 2236148	Vanur Fire Station 0413 2677368
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Health:

Health Center 0413 2622123	Santé 0413 2622803	Farewell 8903836246	
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Mental health 24/7 support:

Vandrevala Foundation +91 9999666555

India Emergency Response Service (24/7): 108

WORKING GROUPS NEWS

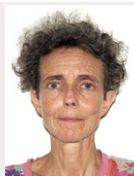
FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE

ES # 193 DATED: 17-08-2023

The following people have been recommended by the Entry Board to join our community. Please share your feedback within 2 weeks for potential Newcomers, Associates and Friends of Auroville and within 4 weeks for Potential Aurovilians, Returning Aurovilians, Youth and Spouse/Partner of an Aurovilian in writing to auroville.entryservice@gmail.com. We thank you in advance.

NEWCOMER ANNOUNCED:

- **Caroline GINDRE (French)** staying in New Creation and working at MM & french pavilion



- **Pranav KUMAR (Indian)** staying in Felicity and working at Gaia's Garden



- **Sohini MITRA (Indian)** staying and working at Udavi school



NEWCOMER CONFIRMED:

- **Girijashanker Jayshanker DAVE (Indian)**
- **Saranya KUMAR (Indian)**

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:

- **Aloke MAJUMDAR (USA)** staying in Grace and working at Talam



- **Nivedha PARIMALARSELVAN (Indian)** staying in Auromode and working at Progress Landscapes



NOTE:

- The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after the NC kit has been returned and should not exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation.
- A Newcomer becomes an Aurovilian once his/her name has been confirmed by The Admission Committee (aka the Entry Board) after following due process.
- The date of becoming Aurovilian is the date of confirmation. An Aurovilian confirmed by the Entry Board is eligible to participate in all community decision-making processes.
- A confirmed Aurovilian becomes officially a Resident of Auroville once the individual has filled in and signed the B-Form and his/her name has been entered in the Register of Residents (RoR) maintained by the Auroville Foundation Office (AVF).
- A Resident of Auroville is eligible to become an executive of a Unit or Service of Auroville and to get an ID card issued by the Auroville Foundation.
- A meeting with the Secretary of the AVF will be arranged by the Entry Secretariat according to the availability of the Secretary and not at any personal request.

Yours,

The Entry Board (Alain, Grace, Jayanthi, Lakshmanan, Matilde, Sara, Sonja and Swadha)

Entry Service Timings:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:30am—12:30pm

Tuesday & Thursday: Newcomer kits, 2:30—4:30pm

Contact: 0413 262-2707, auroville.entryservice@gmail.com

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ENTRY SERVICE

(FROM APRIL 2022 TO MAY 2023)

Dear community members,

We present to you the Annual Report of The Entry Service for the period from April 2022 to May 2023. The Entry Service comprises four main components: The Entry Board (The Admission Committee), The Entry Secretariat, The Aspiration Team, and the Mentor Pool.

The current Entry Board consists of eight members, selected through the Participatory Working Group (PWG) process. After welcoming three new members in February 2023 (Grace, Sara, and Sonja), the Board is now composed of Alain, Jayanthi, Lakshmanan, Matilde and Swadha as well as our 3 new additions.

We express our gratitude to Matriprasad, Dheena, and Ramanarayan, who served in the previous Entry Board, for their dedication and contributions.

The Entry Secretariat comprises Shanti, Suvedha, and William, while the Aspiration Team is represented by Amir, Falguni, and Ramya.

The Mentor Pool plays a crucial role, consisting of about 150 committed members from diverse cultures, nationalities, and backgrounds, who have been confirmed as Aurovilians for at least three years. Their role as a bridge between the Entry Board, the community, and the applicants is highly valued.

Throughout the year, the Entry Board interacted with applicants from all categories interested in joining the Auroville experiment. The Board conducted more than 250 sharings/interviews in collaboration with respective mentors. Non-Indian applicants were met individually to assist them in obtaining a Letter of Recommendation for their visa from the AV Foundation.

Despite the challenges posed by the post Covid-19 restrictions, the Aspiration Team provided valuable support to potential applicants, offering up-to-date information and resources to aid their integration into Auroville. The Welcome Talk and Yucca program resumed monthly sessions from April 2022 onwards.

Several people in Savitri Bhavan and in Brahmanaspati Kshetram extended their assistance in helping local applicants understand the aims and objectives of Auroville and gain knowledge about the founders, the Mother and Sri Aurobindo.

Despite the below mentioned difficulties, we are pleased to have welcomed a significant number of applicants from various countries, as indicated in the provided statistics.

Major challenges faced during the year include:

- Last August, we were removed from 'auroville.org.in' domain without being given any explanation. We lost several months of work but luckily we had a back up and could still function in our daily tasks and follow ups. The Entry Board reacted swiftly after the above event and we created new email addresses as well as a new drive. auroville.entryservice@gmail.com
entryservice@auroville.services
- Delays in obtaining Recommendation Letters for aspiring Newcomers .
- Furthermore, there is a need for passionate and qualified mentors from diverse backgrounds to support applicants and aid the Board's decision-making process.
- Housing continues to be a major issue for applicants, as they must secure a long-term contract in Auroville to complete their newcomer process and become Aurovilians.
- The cost of housing and the present situation of Auroville governance is also a concern for many applicants.
- There are still over 170 confirmed aurovillians who have not yet been entered in the ROR (Register of Residents)

The Entry Board has recently noticed an increase in the number of 'fake housing agreements '. Some Aurovilians provide inaccurate or false attestations about applicants' living and working situations, necessitating verification of their claims, and this is a draining effort.

In May 2023 the Youth Link prepared a program for the Auroville youth who want to join Auroville as adults and conscious individuals. The program was a successful venture for the participants as well as for the facilitators. We would like to encourage all the youth to participate in it, even if they are already Aurovilians.

Please find below some statistics for the year 2022-23:

- New Aurovilians joined in 2022-23: **49**
- Youth turned 18+: **10**
- Total Newcomer from April 2022 to July 2023: **113**
- New Friends of Auroville (FoA): **03**
- New Relatives/Spouses of Aurovilians: **02**

We extend our gratitude to the entire community for their ongoing support and cooperation, which has been vital in accomplishing our tasks and objectives.

Sincerely,
The Entry Board

FROM THE RA WORKING COMMITTEE

THE AUROVILLE.MEDIA WEBSITE IS NOW REFRESHED!

Dear Community,

We are very happy to announce that our website, **Auroville.Media**, has been updated! So far the home page and a few others have been revamped or updated, and the work will be ongoing in the coming weeks.

This website is mainly addressed to visiting journalists and press, to external well-wishers and friends, and to those who would like to know more about Auroville or about the situation we are currently facing.

We encourage you to share it with your friends and contacts, in India and world-wide. People may be particularly interested in our attempt to summarize the current crisis in a synthetic yet accessible way: <https://auroville.media/crisis/>

You can access the website anytime at www.auroville.media

If you haven't had the time yet, we also invite you to listen to the first episode of our new [Auroville News Podcast](#), or to have a look at our bimonthly [Voice of Auroville](#) journal!

Information-sharing and media requires much work, so if you feel inspired to give us a hand, please reach out to us at media@auroville.services!

In community,

The Auroville Media Liaison team
and

Your RA Working Committee

(Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Hemant, Maël, Sauro, Valli)



WORKING COMMITTEE
of the Residents' Assembly
AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

AUROVILLE
Media Liaison

OBITUARY

SUMITRA OF PROTECTION

We regret to inform Auroville Community and band of friends the passing away of Mrs. Sumitra Manou in the morning of Saturday 12 August at Jipmer hospital due to her chronic health issues. She was 54.

Sumitra Manou (Veeralakshmi) hailing from a Gandhian family of Thengampudur, Nagercoil District.




She came to Auroville in 1990 as a trainee of a leadership camp and stayed at the old Ilaignarkal campus at Matrimandir Nursery. Then she stayed longer to explore Auroville, became Aurovillian and got trained in teaching pre-school children. Later she joined New Creation Kindergarten. Sumitra had a passion for cooking nutritive food in a traditional way and serving people happily.



She got married to J. Manou, the then executive of Auroville Electrical Service. He passed away in 2006. Sumitra got a house at Protection. After working for years at Aikiyam's Kindergarten in New Creation, she joined Ilaignarkal Education Centre as a teacher for neo-literates and caretaker of Library & Assets. She became co-executive of Ilaignarkal Education Centre from 2010.

In the early afternoon of Sunday 13 August, her remains were buried at the Auroville cremation grounds, with many of her colleagues and friends attending.

Many of us will miss her beautiful smiles and quality hospitality. Let the Mother hold Sumitra in Her arms.

OM Shanti 

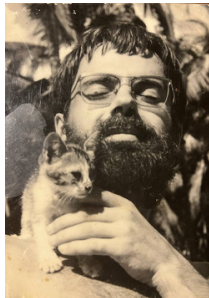
JUERGEN FROM MAHALAKSHMI HOME

Juergen Klein, born on 19 October 1944 in Bad Aibling, Germany, left his body on the afternoon of Monday, August 14th in his room at Mahalakshmi Home, surrounded by love and light. He had suffered a stroke the week before. He was at peace.



Rest in Her arms, Juergen - Auroville will look after the children, the books and the plants for you.

With our warmest condolences to Elvira, Tara and Max, we salute a comrade on the path.



OM 

COMMUNITY SUPPORT NEEDED

CRP3 IS LOOKING FOR RESOURCES PERSONS

Dear Auroville community,

The CRP3C (Conflict Resolution Policy 3 Coordination) group has existed for close to two years and looks into issues falling under section 3 of the Conflict Resolution Policy (<https://auroville.org.in/page/conflict-resolution-policy-2015>).

In order to address more specifically the 'Psychological health issues' and the support these persons need, the CRP3C **is looking for additional Resources Persons that could help with the following tasks:**

- Accompany people for daily activities (walking, doing errands, sport, etc.)
- Presence and support through: talking, playing games, entertaining, etc.
- Specific support for seniors
- Healing modalities

We expect the resource persons to be able to:

- Commit for a given period of time (minimum 2 months)
- Have a capacity to listen with empathy and in certain cases will need to be in good physical condition
- Be patient and good-willed
- Be reliable

As this new kind of 'support' in Auroville would require a specific set of skills (necessary training can be provided), time and commitment, it would be seen as a full or part-time job and support in the form of maintenance can be considered.

If you have time and are interested in this kind of service and work to support community members, please send an email to crp3.auroville@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting the well-being and growth of our community,

The CRP3C Team, (Anandamayi (AVSST), Dr Saif (Mattram), Suryan & Ashwini (AVC), Chali (RA WCom), Angelo F, Dan, Mukta and Shivaya (Resource Persons), Sophie (Coordination & Admin)

COMMUNITY SHARING

WINNERS OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY RUN

Because of the age of the participants the distance was reduced from 5 k to 50 mts.

The two runners, Balabaskar and Frederick, shared first prize.



VOICES AND NOTES

ABOUT APPROPRIATION IN AUROVILLE

Some recognize divine action in what upsets Auroville today, or so they say. For others who don't agree, what about it?

If Auroville must be the reflection of a divine inspiration always on the move and concretized by beings who do not appropriate neither the works nor the results, then has the manifestation of Auroville ever even begun?

At all times, humans have had to deal with a natural feeling of appropriation, whether of lands and goods of all kinds, of merits and fair rewards, of wealth and pleasures, of powers up to domination, etc.

The idea of the non-belonging of all things has only rarely germinated in humanity except in a few primitive tribes endangered by the covetousness of their lands and its resources. But Auroville had to go further than these ancestral ways of life with unknown origins but which knew how to last for thousands of years because they lacked any evolutionary ambition, that is to say the exact opposite of Auroville.

In this sense, Auroville is a novelty never explored by humanity with the key to the passage towards a decisive evolutionary step and promising of following once humanity is rid of the cancer of individual property and provided with divine providence.

«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.»

So what went wrong? What prevented Auroville from growing and becoming stronger? What hindered his announced advent and let the wolf into the fold?

Did not all forms of appropriation - material, intellectual and even spiritual - participate in it? Let us also add the doubts and difficulties inherent in a project that far transcends ordinary human aspirations.

If there are causes, are they not essentially internal. Should we not admit that the consciousness of the aurovilians did not follow the expected development and that it was slowly but surely disintegrated by the traps of appropriation? Little by little, the dissonance of the community turned out to be so strong that the common ground became very tenuous, materially, intellectually and even spiritually.

Materially, the ease of each other is far from comparable. The disparities in housing, resources, mobility or finances are most significant compared to lifestyles normally reduced to simplicity. Intellectually, the very varied cultural horizons of the aurovilians have distilled intellectual appropriations through multiple interpretations of the The Mother's words or through improvised or even preconceived ideas or methods which have greatly delayed any understanding of the greater community because they were confined to the worldly domain.

Spiritually, the word itself is not always understood as associated exclusively with the supra-mundane realm as opposed to the ordinary mind and vital spheres limited to mundane or infra-mundane aspects. As a result, karma yoga has not always been practiced in connection with spirituality and appropriations such as being spiritually superior to others have wrongly emerged.

My purpose is not so much to state the multitude of causes for the current situation as to seek the one that would be the deepest because I think that, when I arrived in Auroville in 2011, without knowing it, its decline had already begun due to wide divisions in the community and that, after 10 years, nothing has changed. I don't say this to absolve myself of any responsibility - I have some like most of us - but I will not forget that a former Aurovillian once said to me "You came too late".

Anyway, what strikes me today is that when The Mother stated «Auroville belongs to humanity as a whole» it does not have to do with Auroville's geo-location alone nor with material belonging alone. Paradoxically, the belonging to humanity in question is the antithesis of appropriation, whether material, intellectual or spiritual. «To live» refers to the material domain with the idea of behaving like when one is passing through, contenting oneself with the minimum subsistence, «willing» marks the intellectual domain in the form of a deliberate intention and «servitor of the Divine Consciousness» establishes the link to the supra-mundane domain in its highest acceptance. And finally, «to humanity as a whole» adds that Auroville is wherever the 3 aspects are present.

Unfortunately, it seems to me that when one of these 3 aspects is missing in its heart for too long, Auroville fails.

Will there be a second chance? How many of you are to think that Auroville will one day be able to return to the normal of X-visas and tripartite governance with an RA capable of self-management?

It's possible if the GOI suddenly decides to drop everything, but won't that require a radical change in hearts and minds? If so, shouldn't the community boldly prepare for it?

Yves, 2023-08-14

"THE TRUE COMMUNISM OF THE EQUAL GODHEAD IN THE RACE"

"For so only can egoism disappear and the true individualism of the unique godhead in each man found itself on the true communism of the equal godhead in the race; for the Spirit, the inmost self, the universal Godhead in every being is that whose very nature of diverse oneness it is to realise the perfection of its individual life and nature in the existence of all, in the universal life and nature."

Sri Aurobindo, The Human Cycle, CWSA 25, 220-1

"The true communism of the equal godhead in the race"

Yves, an economist who, after twelve years in Auroville, left about one year ago, has posted in an internal website a very beautiful analysis of the three cardinal aspects missing in Auroville.



These are two of my comments:

“Collective property is part of humanity’s age-long dream, its myths and tales. Manifested at times in rudimentary forms by primitive societies, the past century it was attempted by the Russian kolkhozes, the Chinese communes, the Israeli kibbutz. Yet all of these crumbled, for no state or community can enforce from without a revolution whose *raison d’être* can only spring from within one’s utmost being: Self is one, without a second. There are no neighbours, no brothers and sisters in the Self: only oneness. How, then, can we own anything, or even divide it with others, when in Selfhood there are no others?

And when the Mother stated that Auroville belongs to nobody in particular, and here all is collective property to be used for the wellbeing of all, isn’t this a reminder of human unity at its highest? In fact, beyond human unity: the indivisible oneness of the Self in each and all, of which collective property is a manifestation. I am an Advaitin communist, Marx should read Adi Shankara: it leads straight to Auroville, the Mother’s.”

Then, back from Matrimandir:

“I have just given to the Secretary, met in the amphitheatre, a copy of the third edition of Avatarhood -- Human and Divine. This excerpt from the introduction I wrote to this book is the substratum of my early comment:

"The Avatar is the Divine descending into a human body; but to regenerate society demands people with integrity of heart, empathy and overwhelming compassion; people surrendering needs and personal cravings to the wellbeing of all, finding felicity and bliss in the felicity and bliss of their wider selves, loving their neighbours and co-citizens as oneself – for they are, indeed, oneself. The wider one's consciousness, the wider is the embrace of self and others as indivisible atoms of the same one substance: the Self, 'one without a second'. The creed of Vedanta and Advaita is the key to the ideal society: this is the Avatar's mission. Abolition of the ego and the ordinary mind – the spiritual transformation of Integral Yoga, the second one – is the gateway to the ultimate ideal society, the gnostic society of supramental beings. Embracing Sri Aurobindo's and Mother's Path goes along with the eternal, universal quest of a perfect society by perfect beings. As ancient as the human errand, this is bound to remain unfulfilled as long as the ego's boundaries are not cut and we merge into what we truly are: the Self."

When I gave *Avatarhood -- Human and Divine* to Manoj das Gupta, the main Ashram trustee, I told him: "Auroville cannot be as long as we don't understand the difference between personal guru and avatar." Sri Aurobindo and the Mother are not the personal guru advising about one's petty life, like a family doctor looks after our bodies. The Avatar leads society, and Auroville is "the cradle of the superman" (which Georges van Vreckem translates, much appropriately, as overman). Nothing less will do.

On Sri Aurobindo's 151th Anniversary Day, calling the Avatar Paulette

AUROVILLE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

It is very interesting to observe that Auroville, this special City of Dawn of the Supramental Avatar Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, has dynamically evolved under the Ministry of Education of Bharat Mata, the Guru of the World.

Here are some cues and clues from our founder, the Mother, as to where Auroville is heading:

"I am perfectly sure, I am quite confident, there is not the slightest doubt in my mind, that this University, which is being established here, will be the greatest seat of knowledge upon earth.

It may take fifty years, it may take a hundred years, and you may doubt about my being there; I may be there or not, but these children of mine will be there to carry out my work.

And those who collaborate in this divine work today will have the joy and pride of having participated in such an exceptional achievement."

<https://incarnateword.in/cwm/12/students-prayer?search=Make+of+us+the+hero+warriors> ¹

That was for the Sri Aurobindo International University Centre, named as such that time. Now it may be SAICE, Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education (please help correct as necessary). The wordings of the acronyms are expressions of the Divine Consciousness-Force that is emerging from within.

Continuing on with the concentrated Supramental evolution in the magnitude of a city, Auroville now has SAIER - the Sri Aurobindo International Institute of Educational Research.

"Sri Aurobindo tells us that a true community – what he terms a gnostic or supramental community – can be based only upon the INNER REALIZATION of each one of its members, each realizing his real, concrete oneness and identity with all the other members of the community; that is, each one should not feel himself a member connected to all the others in an arbitrary way, but that all are one within himself. For each one, the others should be as much himself as his own body – not in a mental and artificial way, but through a fact of consciousness, by an inner realization.

(silence)

This means that before hoping to realize such a gnostic collectivity, each one must first of all become (or at least start to become) a gnostic being. ...

Sri Aurobindo has also written somewhere else that a double movement is necessary: the effort for individual progress and realization must be combined with the effort of trying to uplift the whole so as to enable it to make a progress indispensable for the greater progress of the individual: a mass progress, if you will, that allows the individual to take a further step forward."

<https://incarnateword.in/agenda/1/july-3-1957>

1. *"We are not here to do (only a little better) what the others do. We are here to do what the others cannot do because they do not have the idea that it can be done.*

We are here to open the way of the Future to children who belong to the Future.

Anything else is not worth the trouble and not worthy of Sri Aurobindo's help."



Zech, 2023.08.04

WHAT'S IN A PARK? PART 2: LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION!

Part 1 and other articles can be found [here](#).

There are different types of parks based on land availability, demand and functions required.

So far, the main parks that have been suggested in both "[master plans](#)" for Auroville are based on the four "powers" of the Mother: Maheshwari, Mahalakshmi, Mahakali and Mahasaraswati. These can probably be classed as [urban parks](#) (medium to large in size, although in some areas of the map these appear to be less than 30 meters wide). There are a few versions of how these parks appear on the maps, but they are quite similar to each other.

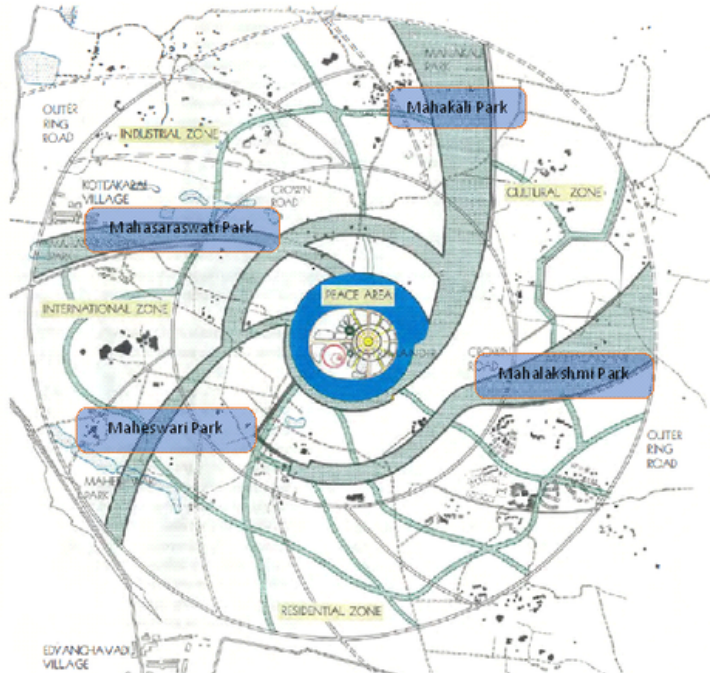


Figure 1 The four parks in the Master Plan 1999 with green corridors as connecting squiggles.

The small parks and corridors linking the urban parks could possibly be classed as [pocket parks](#).

But what do we need our parks to do? Look pretty? Connect green spaces? Provide cycling or walking routes? Increase the area's biodiversity (e.g., to improve pollination of nearby crops)?

I won't get into the green infrastructure or ecosystem service aspects that parks provide as I have somewhat covered this before [here](#) and [here](#) but, ideally, we want locations for parks and vegetation where it makes sense, not just based on a drawing.

It makes sense, for example, to place parks rather than buildings in areas where the soil allows for high percolation to support rainwater infiltration and reduce flooding, and instead to build in areas with lower percolation.



Figure 2 High percolation areas in darker greens (perhaps it would make sense to join the parks in the dark green area?)

It also makes sense to have parks where there are canyons (where it is also prohibited by law to build) or where parks can connect with each other and/or provide connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

For this to become apparent and incorporated in the design process one needs to add different layers to the planning maps, with details such as topography, infiltration rates, current and future mobility and so on.

In urban forestry it is well understood that an established area of vegetation provides more benefits than a newly planted one and is a more financially viable option. Auroville already has many locations which have been revegetated over the last 30+ years which could temporarily be assigned as parks (even for another 50 years), until that space has a comprehensive plan developed for it. Removing existing vegetation where no development can or will occur shortly is essentially destroying existing assets. The current, globally accepted, standards for development are to make gradual rather than wholesale changes which are adapted as new information about the conditions of the area emerges. Would Auroville be able to follow this as well?

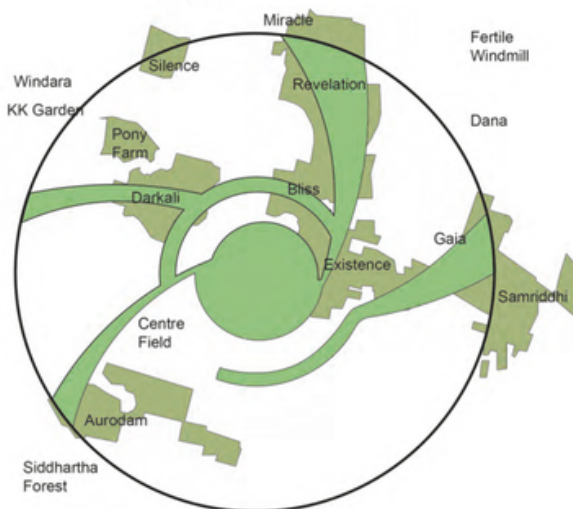


Figure 3 Areas already with vegetation appropriate for the region overlaid with the previously suggested park locations.

So, this is where the parks are suggested as of now (remember that the “master plans”, so far, are more detailed than the Galaxy Concept but are perspective plans and not [implementable documents](#)). Some vegetated areas already follow the general location of the parks and the high percolation location. Maybe we can try to integrate these in a holistic manner, at least until there is a need to make compromises?

Island, Arboriculturist

AWAKENING SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTEGRAL YOGA OF SRI AUROBINDO AND THE MOTHER

Tuesday, 22nd August, 9 am - 12 noon
Focus: The Vision and the Way

Led by Ashesh Joshi

Place: Mirabelle Education Centre, Auromodele
Ph/Whatsapp: 9489147202 (Please register)

All are Welcome



THE REVOLT

"It is not a revolt against the British Government (or any government)...

It is, in fact, a revolt against the whole universal Nature..."¹

— Sri Aurobindo

https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/purani/00/evening_talks.htm

Just to be crystal clear why we were invited and have consciously chosen to participate in this revolutionary experiment that is the City of Dawn, Auroville:

To prepare for and hasten the advent of the new species beyond separative mental man, the unified Supramental being.

Any revolt against any man-made government based on the old divisive mental-vital world hierarchical system will only result in a chaotic and deadly psychological-emotional-physical power play. It can only be [a futile revolt](#) as the current psychophysical limitations of the human being prevents it from fully realising the superficially aspired results of its intended actions, namely, freedom-equality-fraternity exclusively for and by the human.

This is clearly not the purpose of Auroville, cradle of the transitional beings:

"Man is a transitional being, he is not final."

It is high time that the Integral Knowledge of Oneness of our Avatar founders Sri Aurobindo and the Mother be fully communicated to and practiced by all who wish to be part of this intentional community that has now appropriately evolved under the legal jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education of Bharat Mata.

Current intensely developing local and global events are pointing to the hastening of this unstoppable Supramental revolutionary process:

A change of consciousness based on true unity in diversity, a direct sense of oneness emerging from within.

Om Namo Bhagavate ♡

1. Universal Nature as it is still predominantly, having evolved based on Mind, falsely perceives itself separate from everything else, and thus the false actions based on division, competition, domination and conflict, personified and fully expressed by the mental being of fleeting egocentric self-satisfaction, karmic suffering and sorrow: the human species.

Zech, 2023.08.11

THURSDAY MEDITATION AT THE AMPHITHEATRE

Every Thursday at sunset, 6 to 6:30pm
weather permitting

**Meditation with Savitri read by Mother
to Sunil's music**

Enjoy the beautiful open space, an immense sunset,
heavenly music in the very center of Auroville!

Reminder to all

- The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work and is to be used only as such.
- We request everyone: please do not use cameras, I-pads, cell phones, etc. No Photos.
- Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card with you. Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5.45 pm and until meditation ends.

Surya & Velmurugan

BRAHMANASPATI KSHETRAM



BRAHMANASPATI KSHETRAM
The Mother Sri Aurobindo Centre

*To my dear little child
live only for the Divine*

Calendar of regular events of August 2023

Every Thursday 6:00 - 6:30pm
Meditation

Every Friday 5:30 - 6.30pm, reading
"The Mother's Questions & Answers- Vol-7"
in English

1st, Tuesday at 6:30pm full moon, reciting
Sri Aurobindo's Gayatri Mantra for 30min

No.3/134, Kalathu Mettu Street
Edayanchavadi, Auroville

kshetram2014@auroville.org.in

Location



WORDS OF GRATITUDE

GRATITUDE TO SOLAR KITCHEN

I'm happily grateful to Solar Kitchen, for the existence of it in our communal life, to the team(s) who've been working to provide and serve foods with genuine care and smiles, to volunteers who help clean the tables and plates, and to those who designed the solar bowl and maintain it all these years. It warms my heart to see these individuals make collective efforts. And I do like Solar Kitchen meals, better than my own cooking, mostly:-) especially evening meals.

With joyful Gratitude,
Anandi Z.

 Gratitude

POETRY

I cried, again.
Not because of
Injury or separation
A broken heart or dream
A chilli or an onion.

But because
My heartstrings
Are gently plucked
By your Song.

-Anandi Z.



THE ETERNAL

Looking at all these infinite things
Wiggling in and out of intertwined existence
Upheld by a Superconscious Force;
The Word that emerges is the Eternal.
And this bundle of We
Are That.
Only slightly conscious
With limited force.
How then to fully embody and express
That which truly Can and Knows?
That is for you to willingly aspire to
And find out,
As in truth, there is actually no other,
So you can ask any of your mirrors.
They will provide experiences of all sorts.
And so the Great Cosmic Game
Of the One and Its hierarchical many
Continues...
Towards a Life Divine.

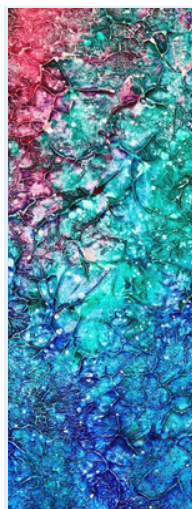
Zech, 2023.08.13

THE ARTS

PITANGA



2622403 / WA 9443902403 / info@pitanga.in



Art exhibition by Hufreesh Dumasia

Whispering Soul Unveiling the Unseen World

A delicate communication from the soul to the artist.

Unveiling suggests an act of revelation, a lifting of the veil to expose what lies beneath. Hufreesh encourages viewers to explore and engage with the mysteries that lie just beyond our grasp through these artworks.

The exhibition is open till Thursday, August 31, 2023.

Monday to Saturday, 8.30am to 12.30pm
and 2.30 to 5.30 pm

CULTURAL ANNOUNCEMENT

AUROVILLE SINGING FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 14TH & 15TH

Dear community,

AV Singing Festival will take place on the **14th and 15th of October**, in CRIPA. We invite participants from all national backgrounds to join this beautiful event. The theme is "Singing Hearts of Auroville".

Participants are required to fill out a form:

<https://tinyurl.com/avfestival>

And prepare your song!

AVSF team:

Shakti, Marta, Rolf, Antoine and Ok.



AVSINGINGFESTIVAL@GMAIL.COM



AUROVILLE SINGING FESTIVAL

DEAR INTERNATIONAL FAMILY,

WE ARE PREPARING THE AV SINGING FESTIVAL, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE 14TH AND 15TH OF OCTOBER, IN CRIPA. WE INVITE PARTICIPANTS FROM ALL NATIONAL BACKGROUNDS TO JOIN THIS BEAUTIFUL EVENT. THE THEME IS

"SINGING HEARTS OF AUROVILLE"

PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO FILL OUT A FORM IN THE LINK BELOW. THEN, WE WILL MEET AND DO OUR BEST TO ACCOMMODATE ALL WHO WANT TO JOIN AND SING THEIR NATIVE SONGS. WE CAN ALSO ACCOMPANY THEM IF THEY REQUIRE. PLEASE COME FORWARD AND LET'S CREATE UNITY IN THE BEAUTIFUL DIVERSITY OF VOICES OF AUROVILLE BY PRESENTING OUR NATIVE SOULS AND EXPRESSING OURSELVES THROUGH SONG.

AVSF TEAM:
SHAKTI, MARTA, ROLF, ANTOINE, OK



<https://tinyurl.com/avfestival>

EDUCATION

TUTION GRADE 1-10

I offer Tuition from grade 1 to grade 10.

Contact Ashwini 8270512606

SPOKEN ENGLISH AND HINDI

I offer Spoken English and Hindi sessions for all levels.

Contact Ashwini 8270512606



NEWS FROM AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LAB



Please remember to put your mobile phones on flight mode and switch off all wireless and Bluetooth devices before you enter the Lab. We are a wireless-free space!

Looking for: If you are a true-blue Malayali and speak Malayalam with an authentic Malayalam accent, please contact us by Whatsapp at +919443631861 or email at tomatis@aurovillelanguagelab.org. We need to record some words & sentences as well as some simple daily life conversations in Malayalam for a research project.

Tomatis

There are spaces available for both language & therapeutic programmes!

Please contact 0413-3509932 or email us at tomatis@aurovillelanguagelab.org to schedule your Listening Tests & Consultations.

To know more about the Tomatis Method, please have a look at the following links:

- <https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/tomatis-method.php>
- <https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/tomatis-kids.php>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnpXprTI3m0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeTIG0y-sBMlyywZNdZcAng/videos>
- <https://www.listenwell.com/>

For those who slipped through the cracks, whose requests we were not able to respond to, we sincerely apologize.

Please send us an email if still interested, and we'll get back to you soon!

Current Language Courses at ALL

New: Beginner German with Ben

We are thrilled to announce that Ben has joined us as our new German teacher! A recent newcomer & native German speaker, Ben has been an online teacher for three years now, giving integration classes and language courses to immigrants from various backgrounds. He is now eager to apply his skills to an in-person classroom. Ben is a language enthusiast and takes interest in translating poetry and studying ways of integral education. Ben's classes will be structured around the Goethe Institute material & will employ a variety of audiovisual tools and interactive elements. While we organize the class structure & timings, we invite you to enquire and book your spot! We hope to start the course mid-September. Timings & days to be announced soon!

New: Beginner Hindi with Alka

We have a new Hindi teacher!

A native Hindi speaker, Alka has a passion for teaching which she has keenly pursued over the last twelve years. Her approach is to make learning easy through games, songs, poems, & other fun activities. This three-month beginner course is a great introduction to the Hindi language, and intends to make learners comfortable with basic Hindi vocabulary, grammar, and everyday sentences. The course will be paced to align with each student's comfort!

- The course will start on **September 9**. Classes will take place **Saturdays, 10am to 12noon**.

New: Beginner Spanish with Mila

Great news for Spanish learners!

Our long-time Spanish teacher, Mila is ready to start a new batch for Beginner Spanish. This three-month (24-hour) course is structured on the highly-acclaimed book, "Madrigal's Magic Key to Spanish: A Creative & Proven Approach." Mila has been running this course since many years. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the Spanish alphabet, phonetics, & vocabulary. The course will also delve into verb conjugations, formation of sentences, use of adverbs & adjectives, and work on the student's listening & reading skills.

- Course will start on September 4 with an introductory class on **August 30**. Classes will take place twice weekly, on **Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:30 to 3:30 pm**.

New: French with Jean-François

Jean-François offers four 2-month (16-hour) courses. All his courses are open to new registrations.

Beginner French:

This course is for all those wanting to join a French course but finding themselves too busy through the week! Our Beginner French Course is deliberately planned for Saturdays! The classes are highly interactive delving into French vocabulary of everyday life and the basics of grammar. By the end of the course, you would be able to make simple sentences useful for interaction, and talk about your work, hobbies, daily life, etc. in a simple way.

- This course will start on **August 5**. Classes will take place **Saturdays, 2:30pm to 4:30pm**.

Beginner French for Teens:

This course is for students between 13 to 16 years of age. The course is based on exercises that use many media like videos, games, role-playing, etc. to make learning both fun and effective. By the end of the course, students will have an immersion in the French language and will be able to express themselves in a simple way.

- The course will start on **August 5**, and classes will take place **Saturdays, 11am to 12noon**.

French Conversation:

For those of you who know a bit of French, this is the perfect course to get more fluent, expand your vocabulary, and speak without inhibition in a diverse & fun group! Each lesson covers a theme of daily life (work, family, hobbies, shopping, projects, etc.) and is aimed at developing the students' ability to express themselves and interact in French. Jean-François would explore a range of topics like food, sports, travel, philosophy, news, literature, economics, social sciences, theater, and more. He will also review the grammar useful for basic conversation.

- This course will start on **August 3**. Classes will take place **Mondays & Thursdays, 2:30pm to 3:30pm**.

New: Italian with Fabio

Fabio will soon start two new Italian courses in August!

Beginner Italian:

If you are a beginner with little or no knowledge of the Italian language, you are welcome to join this 3-month (24-hour) course. The course will take students through the Italian alphabet and phonetics, spoken grammar, main verbs, pronouns, sentence structure, etc. By the end of the course, learners will be able to introduce themselves & others in a simple way, exchange information about family, work, holidays, home, etc., speak about everyday activities, hobbies, etc. A range of different topics can be explored based on the interests of the students. Feel free to enquire with us and reserve your spot!

- The days & timings of this courses will be fixed at the mutual convenience of the teacher & the students.

Italian Conversation:

This two-month (16-hour) course is for learners who already have a basic knowledge of Italian and would like to explore the language further & polish their speaking skills. Fabio will delve deeper into spoken grammar, phonetics, conversation, and any other topics of interest. This is mainly for those who took the Beginner course last time, but is open to all.

- This course will start **August 22**. Classes will take place **Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:30 to 3:30pm**.

Intermediate Spanish with Susana

Our long-time teacher, Susana, is offering an Intermediate Spanish course for students who are already familiar with the various verbal modes in Spanish language (Infinitive, Indicative, Conditional, Subjunctive, and Imperative). The course will focus on polishing the conversational skills of the students and will also dive into the rules of grammar. This is a monthly course.

- Classes take place every **Tuesday, 2:30pm to 4:00pm**.

Beginner and Pre-Intermediate English with Rupam

Rupam continues to offer morning English classes. Her classes are a mix of discussion on current topics, and grammar as necessary. You are welcome to try out a class and see if it fits your needs. However, please note that this is not a drop in/walk in class but is meant for students committed to joining the course.

- Classes take place **Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30am to 11:30am**. Enquire now to join!

If there is a language you would like to learn, and it's not on our list, please send us a query!

To join or enquire:

Please fill out our form at

<http://register.aurovillelanguagelab.org/>

You may also drop us an email at

info@aurovillelanguagelab.org,

call us at **2623661** or **come visit us!**

Please Note:

Registration and contribution are essential before you join a course with us. Please see our team member at the front desk to ensure this is complete, thank you!

Current Schedule of Classes

Language	Level	Time	Day(s) Of Classes
English	Pre-Intermediate & Intermediate	10:30 - 11:30am	Tuesday & Thursday
	Conversation	TBA	TBA
French	Beginner Started 5 August 2023	2:30- 4:30pm	Saturday
	Beginner for Teens To start soon	11am – 12noon	
	Conversation Started 3 August 2023	2:30 -3:30pm	Monday & Thursday
Tamil	Spoken Beginner To start 12 September 2023	9:30 – 10:30am	Tuesday & Friday
Sanskrit	Beginner To start September 2023	TBA	TBA
Hindi	Beginner To start 9 September 2023	10am – 12noon	Saturdays
German	A1.1 Beginner To start mid-September	TBA	TBA
Spanish	Beginner To start 5 September 2023	2:30 – 3:30pm	Monday & Wednesday
	Intermediate	2:30 – 4pm	Tuesday
Japanese	Beginner To start September 2023	10am – 12noon	Saturdays
Italian	Beginner To start September 2023	TBA	TBA
	Conversation To start 22 August 2023	2:30 – 3:30pm	Tuesday & Thursday

The Language Lab is open:
Monday – Saturday, 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 5pm

Location:
International Zone, after Unity Pavilion & Pump House.

Contact:
Phone: (0413) 2623 661, 2622467, +919843030355 Email:
info@aurovillelanguagelab.org

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & HEALING ARTS

DARKROOM WORKSHOP

BY SASIKANTH SOMU

24TH-25TH-26TH AUGUST 2023

Program:

- **Thursday, 24 August, 2—5pm:** Brief look at History of Photography & Introduction to Film Camera.
- **Friday, 25 August, 9am—2pm:** Film photo shoot (in your own time) 2pm—5pm: Develop your roll of film.
- **Saturday, 26 August, 9am—12:30pm & 2—5pm** (one can choose either of these sessions): printing contact sheets & photos in the darkroom.

Registration Contact: centredart@auroville.org.in

The workshop fee for Guests: towards contribution.

The workshop is free for Aurovilians, Newcomers and registered volunteers, who are residing in Auroville. Registered Volunteers are requested to provide the details of their registration with SAVI Auroville.

All the material for the workshop is provided except the analogue camera. Analogue/Film cameras are available to the participants against a contribution.

Regarding the Analogue camera and any specific questions about the workshop please write directly to the teacher Sasi sasi@auroville.org.in

While subscribing for the workshop please share your full name and your mobile number. Kindly write a few words about yourself and your interest in Analogue Photography.

Analogue Photography Darkroom Workshop



Date: 24th, 25th and 26th of August 2023

Venue: Centre d'Art Gallery, Citadines, Auroville

Program & Timings:

Thursday 24th: 02.00 - 05.00pm Brief look at History of Photography & Introduction to Film Camera.

Friday 25th: 09.00am - 02.00pm Film photo shoot (in your own time), 02.00pm - 05.00pm - Develop your roll of film.

Saturday 26th: 09.00am - 12.30pm & 02.00 - 5.00pm (one can choose either of these sessions) - Printing Contact Sheets & photos in the darkroom.

Registration: centredart@auroville.org.in

MARC'S C.L.C

COFFEE LEARNING COMMUNITY



Welcome to CLC, a place to learn all about coffee and coffee culture.

Our team will conduct classes, workshops, research programs and field trips for all those interested to explore the world of coffee from a holistic perspective.

Auroville endeavour for the past 55 years has created a culture of learning with a purpose, to manifest a higher level of existence based on the human potential which allows humanity to prepare for the next evolutionary age of the planet.

Hence, CLC is a homegrown entity that aims to offer high quality integral education and research programs to the surrounding villages, the Indian subcontinent and Internationally.

Why Coffee Culture?

Coffee is the second worldwide mostly traded commodity in the world, with a value chain that connects people across the globe. Coffee Culture brings people together offering a great ecosystem to connect and collectively find solutions to the most pressing issues of the XXI century: ecological balance, access to living wages, global peace through human unity.

Visit your online store , under master classes you can find out program

www.marcscoffees.com

Foundations of Speciality Coffee

From August 21st – August 25th

A holistic introduction to the world of speciality coffee, exploring its many aspects, rather than solely on the final product by tasting and exploring some of the best international and Indian coffees. It covers 6 modules and 1 final assessment and five days of everything about coffee!

Classes will take place from **10am - 1pm and 3pm - 5pm** at Coffee Learning Community (CLC), First floor Marc's Café

Fermented Drinks Workshop

Every Saturday 3pm - 5pm at Coffee Learning Community (CLC)

Learn how to make delicious Kombucha at home following Matilde's recipes. 2-hour session for beginners that will allow you to make safe fermented drinks at home, learning the basics of fermentation techniques. You will take home 3 unique signature recipes: Tepache, Fruit Soda and Kombucha. The session will end with a tasting from the brewery, a scoby and some tea to take home and kick-start your kombucha making journey.

Coffee Cupping Session

Every Saturday 10am - 12pm pm at Coffee Learning Community (CLC)

2-hour, in-depth introduction to cupping! We will learn how to use The Flavour Wheel, cup a limited selection of speciality coffees from around the world and score them, following the SCA cupping protocols.

Includes a brewing session of the class's favourite coffee, fresh beans of 100g Marc's Coffee for participants to take home.

For enquiry please contact:

contact@marcscoffees.com / 72008 81291

'THE RENAISSANCE IN INDIA' - A SELF-REFLECTIVE STUDY



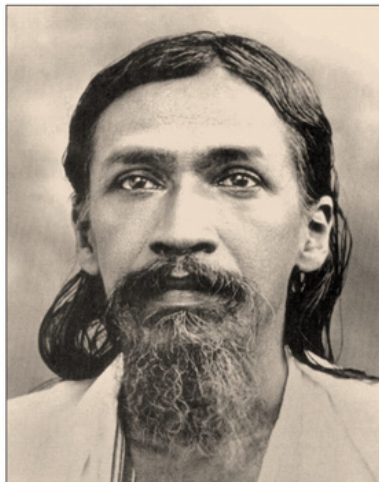
15th August is not just the Independence Day of India but also the birth anniversary of Sri Aurobindo; a coincidence that he preferred to see as *"the sanction and seal of the Divine Force"* that guided him and not just a *"fortuitous accident"*.

It is being stated that we are currently in the middle of an Indic reawakening; that a *"New India"* is emerging out of the shackles of the old. But what would the contours of an authentic reawakening be - not just politically but more importantly, culturally and spiritually? Sri Aurobindo has clearly articulated his vision for an awakened India in many of his works. His essays on **The Renaissance in India**, first published in 1918 are perhaps among his most powerful.

In this study, we will be *self-reflectively* engaging with these essays and be observant of what they evoke in us. We will be engaging with one chapter every week and meet for an online Dialogue Circle with other participants. Over five such calls, we will finish the book and also review it once. There will be some allied readings and videos as well along with the text to engage with. We'll start with an online Orientation Call on **24th August, Thursday, 7:00 - 8:30 AM IST**. Subsequently, we will meet every Thursday at the same time until 12th October. Those interested can come to the Orientation Call first and then choose to sign up if they feel called to.

Contributions are welcome, but not mandatory.

For further details and registrations please write to: aram.auroville@gmail.com



Aram
warmly invites you

Sri Aurobindo's
**The Renaissance
in India**
a self-reflective study

August 24th - October 12th

For more details, please see the accompanying brochure or contact: aram.auroville@gmail.com

VIPASSANA

Every Sunday at Udavi school

Vipassana
As taught by S.N. Goenka



All old students of Vipassana meditation as taught by S.N. Goenka (www.dhamma.org) having attended at least one 10 day course are welcome to attend a half-day Vipassana course at Udavi School in Auroville.

Date: **Every Sunday**

Timings: **8:30 AM – 12:30 PM** but you can also drop in and join as long as you wish.

Venue: **Udavi School** (building on the left when you are at the front entrance), near Tank in Edayanchavadi (Auroville).

No registration is required.

Contact: Sanjay Tumati, +91 8790982210
(available on WhatsApp)

sanjay@auraauro.com



ECOLOGICAL HORTICULTURE COURSE

AUROVILLE BOTANICAL GARDENS

ecologicalhorticulturecourse@gmail.com



Applications open!

ECOLOGICAL HORTICULTURE COURSE
DEC 2023 - MAR 2024

To fill the form:



For queries :
ecologicalhorticulturecourse@gmail.com

LAST DATE TO APPLY!
15TH OCT'23

AUROVILLE BOTANICAL GARDENS

The Sound of Bamboo

Various Styles of the Indian Flute



Bansuri (Flute) Group Classes With Michael Kalabhumi Music Studio

Every Friday (Beginner: 11am-12pm, Advanced: 12pm-1pm)

Drop in is possible at any time, flutes available to borrow or buy.

Contribution:

Aurovilians, NCs, Volunteers & Local Villagers: Free donation
Guests: 500 INR

More Info:

www.the-sound-of-bamboo.com

To Donate:

<https://pay.auroville.org/divine-arts>

Learn More About Divine Arts:

<https://auroville.org/page/divine-arts>

Warm Regards,

Dave

M: +44 (0) 7564 119 728

E: djsevans87@gmail.com

TAI CHI HALL @ SHARNGA

We have regular tai chi chuan and chi classes every morning till August 5th.

Monday & Saturday:

- 7.30-8.30 Chi
- 8.30-9.30 Tai Chi

Tuesdays- Fridays:

- 7.30-8: Chi
- 8-9: Tai Chi



Contact: taichi@auroville.org.in

TAI CHI CHUAN WORKSHOP

7 AUGUST TO 26 AUGUST, 2023

INNER WAY TAI CHI SCHOOL

TAI CHI HALL in Sharnga

Presents

THE ART OF CHI - Stevanovitch's method



From Mondays to Saturdays, 7.30 AM – 10.30 AM,
Beginners, chi and tai chi basics, approaching the 24-posture
form.

The 3-week workshop is essentially directed towards:

- Mastery of the body through breathing and muscular relaxation;
- Improvement of movement through balance and coordination;
- Learning to mobilize Chi. First perceiving it, then guiding it in one's body
- with the use of three factors: will, imagination and muscular activity.

Information and booking: taichi@auroville.org.in

Website: taichi.auroville.org, www.artduchi.com

STUDIO BASED ART THERAPY AND COUNSELING

CREATE AND TRANSFORM

STUDIO BASED ART THERAPY AND COUNSELING

individual * group * family



Therapy can be creative and non-threatening for help with:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Trauma
- Life Issues

Trauma Informed Art Therapy & Counseling:

- Client Centered,
- Strength Based,
- Solution Focused,
- Incorporating CBT and a creative, eclectic tool box.



Tia Pleiman, MA, ATR, NCC, LPCC

tialovesart@gmail.com

www.createandtransform.org

WA 704007610

tialovesart@gmail.com / www.createandtransform.org

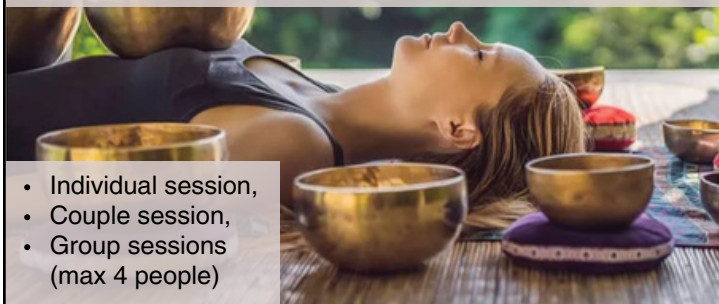
WA 704007610

ACTIVITIES BY LAKSHMI

Sound Chakras Healing

Guided vibrational sound journey using **Chakra mantras, Tibetan Bowls and Tuning forks** to help reduce stress, anxiety, depression, insomnia, stimulating the natural cellular healing process, rebalancing the emotions & reconnecting with your true essence.

- Individual session,
- Couple session,
- Group sessions (max 4 people)



Private Transformational Yoga Classes

- Transformational Yoga
- Pranayama to release Fear, Anger and Anxiety
- Pranayama to achieve Peace, Calm, Quietude and Clarity
- Breathwork

Transformational yoga is inspired by Mother and Sri Aurobindo's Integral Yoga.

It is an innovative and highly effective yogic system, which synthesizes techniques of Hatha, Raja, Mantra, and Kundalini Yoga to bring about rapid transformation within the mind, body and spirit. Powerful, yet gentle, everyone can reap the benefits of this purifying yoga practice.



Please contact for an Appointment:

Lakshmi 8489764602 or
lakshmiprem369@gmail.com

Activity offered under Abhaya, an activity of ASSA, under Artisana Trust

CAPOEIRA- MARTIAL ART AND MUSIC WITH GINGA SAROBA

Afro-Brazilian martial art that combines elements of dance, acrobatics, music and movements. More than 500 years old, Capoeira is a constantly evolving art form, come connect and express yourself. Join us for

Adult Classes : Monday & Thursday - 6 PM - Deepanam School

Contact: 7598446327

Submitted by Kiran for Ginga Saroba



KOLAMYOGA

On Sunday the 20th August 14:30 to 18:00 we will celebrate with the making of Snake drawn Kolam Naga Panchami in Nature outside...

Tuesday 22nd Vishuda Chakra Yantra Kolam **14:30 to 18:00** and

Friday the 25th Ajna Chakra Yantra Kolam **14:30 to 18:00**

We start each session together in Sharanga (right gate) Grace her house with Mental Theorie, Physical warm, to enter into the emotional experience of the theme chosen.

You receive a supporting booklet of reading material, all materials, snacks and my (Grace) step by step guidance is provided for the making of the relevant Kolam.

Each WS cost 1500/- this is all inclusive.

Visit www.kolamyoga.com if you wish to know more about what is a Kolam, what is KolamYoga and who is your host Grace Gitadelila.

Registration is required to be able to plan and provide the work materials accordingly. Limited space with quality attention to 6 participants only!

info@kolamyoga.com or WhatsApp 8072449091

I request to please introduce yourself properly, don't be scared and don't limit yourself to just reaching out with an Ola or Hi ... a bit more text helps ;) And is more motivating to answer to.

In her Light, Grace Gitadelila



KolamYoga
KolamYoga Foundation course online
A systematic and pedagogic practice through 12 videos online sessions, drawing the 3 major types of Kolam.



QR code to the introduction video

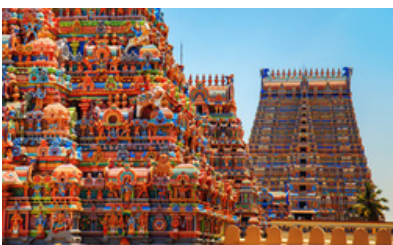
Contact email:
info@kolamyoga.com
Ph: +91- 8072449091
<https://www.kolamyoga.com/kolamyoga-learning/>



ACTIVITIES

RUPHAVATI JOY ACTIVITIES

Bio-region Temple Tour



- Every Sunday, Tuesday and Saturday
9 am - 12 noon
- Every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
5 pm - 7 pm

Starting from Solar kitchen

Contact: 8098845200

(If you want to Participate, please book it in advance)

Indian cooking

Every Monday to Friday:

- Noon 12 pm to 2 pm
- Evening 5 pm to 6:30 pm

Every Saturday and Sunday:
10 am to 5 pm

at Creativity

Contact: 8098845200

(If you want to Participate, please book it in advance)



Tai massage everyday at Creativity

- 12 noon to 2 pm
- 5 pm to 7 pm



Contact: Cell and WhatsApp number: 8098845200

E-mail: rupavathijoy@gmail.com

(If you want to Participate, please book it in advance)

Tailoring

- Any kind of Dress, Blouse, Kurtis can be done.

Contact: Cell and WhatsApp number: 8098845200

E-mail: rupavathijoy@gmail.com

HIBISCUS ART VILLAGE & SUDHA'S KITCHEN

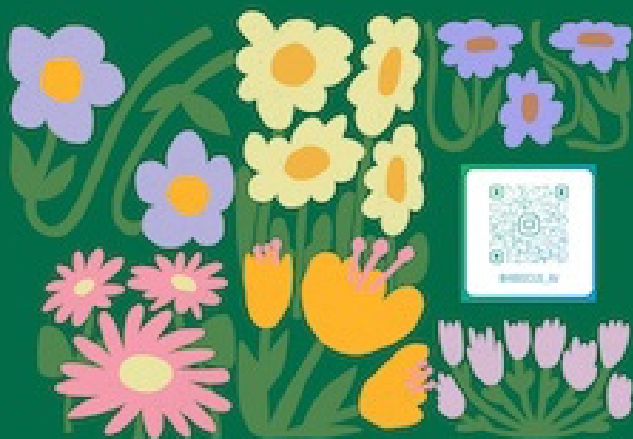
19 AUGUST - SVE DAME

HIBISCUS ART VILLAGE & SUDHA'S KITCHEN
© Sve Dame presents

Resilience



19 AUGUST SATURDAY 11AM - 10PM



All Day Food | Art & Craft Market

Exhibition | Workshops | Music

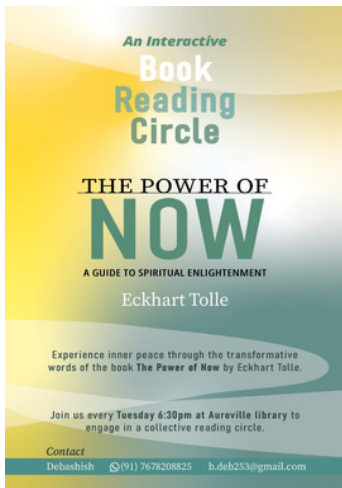
BOOK READING CIRCLE - "THE POWER OF NOW" AUROVILLE LIBRARY

Experience inner peace through the transformative words of the book "The Power of Now" by Eckhart Tolle.

Join us at the Auroville Library to engage in a collective reading circle.

Every Tuesday
6:30 - 7:30pm
starting 22nd August.

Contact: Debashish
(91) 7678208825
b.deb253@gmail.com



EDIBLE WEED WALKS

edibleweedwalk@gmail.com / 9840936907

Let's walk!

The second and the last
EDIBLE WEED WALKS scheduled this month
are on Saturdays: 19 August 2023
Time: 7:30am to 8:30am (max 8:45am)

Venue in Auroville: TBA before the walk
to pre-registered participants only
Max number of participants/ walk: 10
(to avoid trampling and compaction affecting the plants)

I offer edible weed walks using the Edible Weeds Coloring book as a guide between December and March and some special ones in August - when weeds flourish after a few summer rains.

To register and contribute write to:
edibleweedwalk@gmail.com
or WhatsApp: 9840936907



Sketch by Nina S

JOIN AUROVILLE BOTANICAL GARDEN'S GUIDED TOURS

Come and discover the beautiful gardens on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays**. We start at **9:30**.

Please book your walk at avbg tours@gmail.com

From the 11th
of August to
the 11th of
October 2023



Come walk with us!
Guided Garden Tour

Auroville Botanical Gardens

Wednesdays and Fridays - 9.30 am (about 1 1/2 hour walk)

Be on time - Bring your water bottle and a hat - Meeting point at BG Kitchen
Please send us an email to: avbg tours@gmail.com to book your walk



KUILAI CREATIVE CENTRE



KUILAI CREATIVE CENTRE

A SUB UNIT OF SAIER – AUROVILLE



Silambam



Bharatha Natyam



Kungfu



English Classes



Kuilapalayam - Auroville Main Road
Landmark: Next to Auroville Bakery
Kuilapalayam, Tamilnadu 605101

Email: kuilaicreativecentre123@gmail.com
Mobile: + 91-8608473385, +91-9843195290
Website: kuilaicreativecentre.org aviusa.org/?form=Kuilai



Hip Hop



Music: Keyboard



Tailoring

Archery
Karate
Tai Chi
And Sports Activities

Dear Friends,

Regular Activities are offered at our Kuilai Creative Centre. For more information on the timings and to join in, please write to kuilaicreativecentre@auroville.org.in or to our WhatsApp: 8608473385

With regards,
Selva from KCC.

CHANTING CLASS - SERENDIPITY



Traditional Mantras & Stotras Chanting Classes

at Serendipity Community
Friday 17:00 (Regular class)

with Sonia Novaes



Email: serendipityauroville@gmail.com
WhatsApp: +91 8940288090

ECO FEMME OPEN HOUSE



ECO FEMME OPEN HOUSE

Every Thursday morning
from 10:30 AM



Three pairs of colorful cloth pads in blue, purple, and pink are displayed on a light-colored surface with green leaves and white flowers.

Dear friends,

Join our open house at our office in Auroshilpam every **Thursday morning at 10:30 AM till 12 AM.**

Come and learn about:

- Sustainable menstrual products (cloth pads, cups and period panties),
- Menstrual cycle awareness and,
- Our not-for-profit work.

You can also pick up discounted cloth pads, cups, period panties and cloth nappies.

See you soon!

The Eco Femme Team

POWER OF COLLECTIVE ASPIRATION

Power of Collective Aspiration

Gatherings in
Matrimandir Gardens



Sunday evenings
6 to 6:30 pm



A harmonious collective aspiration can change the course of circumstances.

Dear Community,

As we are going through a phase of intense turmoil, some of us feel the need to call for our collective prayers for protection. Let's gather in the **gardens of the Matrimandir**, the soul of Auroville, on **Sunday evenings** at sunset time, for collective invocation.

Join a circle of prayers and chanting at the Amphitheatre from **6 to 6:30 pm**.

Come a little earlier to the stone circle for silent meditation to call the Light and Power of the Divine in Auroville.

All are welcome.

(Guests and volunteers, please bring your Aurocard)

FOODS, GOODS & SERVICES

AIRCON CLEAN OFFERS COMPREHENSIVE AIR CONDITIONER CLEANING SERVICE KNOWN AS "JET SERVICE".



The Jet Service includes not only the filter cleaning but also indoor cooling coils, blades, and blower wheels, indoor cooler drain tray cleaning and outdoor unit with AC jet pump.

After a cleaning service your air is fresh and healthy, reducing sickness and helping you live a healthier life.

Save up to 30% power usage with a regular cleaning service.

Contact **AIRCON CLEAN** now at 9786809518 or email us at airconclean.av@gmail.com

Regards, Julien.

REPAIR OF AIR CONDITIONERS, FRIDGES, WASHING MACHINES AND APPLIANCES

Loganathan working at Mahasaraswati Shop (near PTPS, Aspiration area)

is a long term Aurovilian that has gained a lot of knowhow through looking after and repairing all kinds of machines. He happily repairs your machines and appliances.

You may contact him via phone / SMS or whatsapp
+91 94434 93025



HAIRDRESSER

For your and / or your child's next haircut: inspired, thriving for the perfect, 11 yrs young artist Ahana takes care of your and / or your child's hair and well being.

For an appointment kindly contact 9751513906 (all messenger providers, no calls) or essence.touch@yahoo.de



SOLITUDE FARM - 2023

Farm



Solitude has a small farm shop which is stocked daily with fresh seasonal produce.

There are also some ayurvedic powders such as giloy or guava leaf and also chilli powder, turmeric, pickles and dried flowers. Solitude also runs a C.S.A. fruits and vegetables basket service where people sign up in advance for a basket of seasonal produce.

- Papayas
- Assamese giant lemons
- Pineapple
- Plantain
- Bananas
- Wild spinach
- wild salad greens
- sundakkai
- banana stem
- banana flower

Cafe

The cafe runs from Monday to Saturday serving a local food vegan thali.

We also serve farm salads, smoothies, desserts, vegan coffee etc...

The cafe runs a lunch scheme.

Education

Solitude farm runs mini permaculture workshops during the week (Wednesdays and Fridays) and longer weekend workshops on a monthly basis. Pricing is flexible for Aurovillians.

Tour

Every Saturday we offer a free tour of the farm sharing the narrative and philosophy in practice of how a food forest can emerge through natural farming and permaculture.

Volunteers

Solitude Farm is happy to welcome volunteers.

Timings 8:00 am -12:30 pm

We offer breakfast, tea and lunch.

Opportunities

Solitude Farm Cafe is looking for a serious person to manage the POS and accounts, stock, excels etc for the cafe and farm. Replying to emails and calls.

Solitude Farm is looking for people to help with the educational workshops.

To find out more:

email: solitudepermaculture@gmail.com

whatsapp: 9843319260

Solitude farm & café
Auroville



Solitude Farm

AUROVILLE LIBRARY TIMINGS

Auroville Library opening timings:

Mon - Sat: 9am - 12.30pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat: 2pm - 4.30pm

Tues: 4pm - 6.30pm



Every **Saturday** between 10am -11am: **Children's storytime!**

DROPZY

Products and services
from in and around Auroville.



150dpi has been emailing units and activities while also posting in News & Notes to reach out to us to sign up on Dropzy under your category of choice and preference. Request you to email us back with your queries and questions. As this will allow us to merge same and similar items of concern, address these queries and those unique to your units/activities.

Workshops, Events and Classes categories are similar to the **notice boards** found in around Auroville where units/activities affix their posters and flyers. It will aid you in increasing your target audience which today is digital in its search for information. As the **mobile phone** has become the go to media and medium to look for recreational and learning opportunities.

Do contact us on 8098144686 or hello@150dpi.com to register on Dropzy.

Coming soon in Google Play and Apple Store.

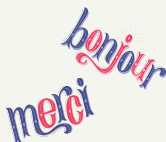


Sathish Arumugam
For 150dpi

LOOKING FOR

FRENCH TEACHER

Ashwini needs a French volunteer teacher to teach her basic French language. Please contact 8270512606 if you can help.



FULL TIME JOB AVAILABLE

Looking for a lady to do full time house work in Auromodele / Fraternity.

Experience in house keeping & cooking in Auroville required.

Contact: Shama 9443413471

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

LONG-TERM ANIMAL CARETAKER WANTED!

As we are lifting our dog shelter to a new level of professional animal care, we offer you a unique opportunity to join our ever-expanding team at the Auroville Dog Shelter!

Responsibilities:

- Feeding and handling dogs, which includes cutting and handling meat
- Assisting our vets with dog handling when needed
- Sometimes carrying heavy bags and engaging in physically demanding tasks
- Providing extra feeding for our slow for legged eaters
- Bathing, grooming, and de-ticking of our dogs
- Administering daily medication and supplement syrups
- Offering abundant love and care to our furry residents

Requirements:

- Genuine love for dogs and fearlessness in handling them
- Team player with a reliable schedule adherence
- Ability to work 5 days a week, 4 hours a day
- Passionate and dedicated to the well-being of our 300 residents

Compensation:

We can offer Rs. 8000 as financial compensation



AUROVILLE
DOG SHELTER

Contact: aurovilledogshelter@gmail.com

AV RADIO

Dear Aurovilians,



AurovilleRadio
The voices of Auroville

Your favourite radio is always working for you. Stay tuned!
[Here](#) you can listen to the stream channel (playing 24/7).
[Here](#) you can see on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts:

- [Musical Renditions of Sri Aurobindo's Sonnets by Shakti Balu](#) (Music)
- [Soul Tracks – Se.5 Ep.6 “Sleepless Nights and Poolside Parties”](#) (Music)
- [Exploring Education in Arts, Animation and Film-making – Ep. 14 “Animation Hall of Fame – Contd...”](#) (Cinema)
- [Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi – 446](#) (Integral Yoga)
- [Marlenka's weekly Offering -Ep.101](#) (Literature)
- [La Vita Divina – Ep.29](#) (Sri Aurobindo)

Last Youtube Live Videos:

- [Aspiring for the Supermind in the City of evolving Consciousness for the Supermind - Bhoomika Hall](#)

Auroville Radio Tv is maintained and supported with the help of a small town budget and voluntary donations. If you as Aurovilian wish, **make a donation to F.A. number 0867.**

Thanks for your help!

....and more! on www.aurovilleradio.org

For more information write to radio@auroville.org.in

Peace and love

Regards, AvRadio team



AVAILABLE

MACBOOK PRO 2015 LAPTOP

MacBook Pro 2015 laptop, 2nd-hand, good condition

Apple MJLQ2HN/A 15.4-inch Laptop (Core i7/16GB/256GB/Mac OS/Integrated Graphics)
+ additional 250GB SD card

If interested, contact L'aura
(laura.joyful@gmail.com, 9442788016)



ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE PUBLIC BUS



avbus@auroville.org.in / +91 94430 74825

Auroville TO PONDICHERRY

	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3
Svaram Musical Center	7:00	8:50	14:50
Veite Guest house—Junction	7:02	8:52	14:52
Town Hall—Main Parking	7:06	8:56	14:56
Solar Kitchen (Round About)	7:10	9:00	15:00
Certitude Enterance	7:12	9:02	15:02
New Creation Road	7:17	9:07	15:07
SBI Bank—Kuilapalayam	7:19	9:09	15:09
ECR Junction—Aroma Guest House	7:23	9:14	15:14
Quiet Healing Center—Junction	7:26	9:17	15:17
Lotus Hotel—S.V Patel Salai	7:36	9:30	15:30
Ashram Road Junction	7:38	9:33	15:33
Ashram Dinning Hall	7:40	9:35	15:35

Pondicherry TO AUROVILLE

	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3
Ashram Dinning Hall	8:00	12:15	18:10
Ashram Road Junction	8:02	12:17	18:12
Lotus Hotel—S.V Patel Salai	8:07	12:22	18:17
Quiet Healing Center—Junction	8:17	12:32	18:27
ECR Junction—Aroma Guest House	8:20	12:35	18:30
SBI Bank—Kuilapalayam	8:25	12:40	18:35
New Creation Road	8:27	12:42	18:37
Certitude	8:32	12:47	18:42
Solar Kitchen—Round about	8:34	12:50	18:44
Town hall Main Parking	8:38	12:54	18:48
Verite Guest House—Junction	8:42	12:58	18:52
Svaram Musical Center	8:45	13:00	18:55

- Monthly Rs. 800: Aurovilians & Newcomers, No validity
- Student Pass Rs. 1200 per month/ 24 days round trip
- Rs. 150 Round trip for Aurovilians & Newcomers
- Rs. 200 Round trip for guests

Bus passes are available at
Auroville Vehicle Service,
Town Hall, Auroville, 0413 2623302



CINEMA

AUROFILM

Presents at **MULTI MEDIA CENTRE AUDITORIUM (MMC, Town Hall)**

Reminder: **FRIDAY 18th** “**LEON MORIN PRETRE**” by Jean-Pierre Melville, France, 1961

and

FRIDAY 25 AUGUST, 8.00 pm

“**3 FACES**” (Persian: Se rokh)

Directed by **Jafar Panahi**, Iran, 2018

With: Behnaz Jafari, Jafar Panahi, Marziyeh Rezaei, Maedeh Erteghaei

Synopsis: A famous Iranian actress, Behnaz Jafari, tries to help a reclusive young girl in a remote village where traditions continue to dictate local life. The girl wants to become an actress and go to Tehran. She sends a video to Behnaz Jafari. Worried with the content, Behnaz persuades the script writer J. Panahi to accompany her in this village located at the Turkish border... The film takes the form of a road movie with much of it taking place in and around Panahi's SUV. Several whimsical encounters take place during the trip, with local characters and traditions that in the end brought together three female faces of Iranian cinema! 3 Faces was produced despite a ban on filmmaking imposed on Panahi. It was selected to compete for the Palme d'Or at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival, winning the award for Best Screenplay.

Original Persian version with English Subtitles. Duration 1h.40'

NOTE: On **Sunday 27th** in Kalabhoomi, Aurofilm will hold a **Cine-master Class on “White Sand of the Desert”**, a Russian “Ostern” classic film. After the projection the film will be presented by Alexander Pereverzev and Philippe May. Details in the next issues of the News and Notes!

AVI USA EVENT, SRI AUROBINDO FILM SCREENING WITH INTRO BY OLIVIER BAROT

Please join us on Zoom, **Saturday August 19, 8:00pm!**

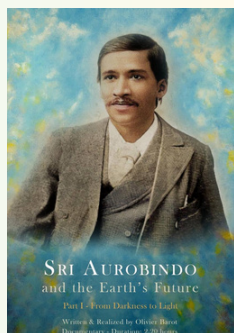
AVI USA will be hosting a Zoom presentation of Olivier Barot's **Sri Aurobindo & The Earth's Future: Part 1, From Darkness to Light**, on Sunday August 19, 8:00pm Auroville, 10:30am New York. Olivier Barot, the director, will join us for an introduction and Q&A about the creation of the film.

Register for the free event here:

<https://aviusa.org/sri-aurobindo-film/>

There will be a group viewing of the **Zoom event at Unity Pavilion, at 8:00pm, Saturday August 19.**

Contact Unity Pavilion at 0413 2623576, for additional information. Please arrive a few minutes early.



Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program 21 August 20 23 to 27 August 2023

Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center is now in operation at 100% seating capacity. However, if you want to wear a mask it is your choice.

To organize the seminar/program please email us. Our projector is crawling towards the end of its life. It has served well, but it is time for us to look for a new one. For this or to support our work you could financially support us. Please find necessary details at the end of this note.

Indian and diaspora – Monday 21 August, 8:00 pm:

• EK JAGAH APNI (A place of our own)

India, 2022, Dir. Ektara Collective w/ Manisha Soni, Muskan, Aakash Jamra, and others, Drama, 88mins, Hindi w/ English subtitles, Rated: U (G)

Yet another much acclaimed film from the makers of "Turup"/Checkmate (which was first screened at the Cinema Paradiso, then at the Auroville Film Festival where it won the Best Film award, and recently by Aurofilm). This film, set in Bhopal, MP is a peek into the lives of the transgender community - as they try to live their lives, work, and rent a place to live. We follow Laila and Roshni as they received a sudden eviction by their prejudiced landlord. They must put their wits together to find a new home and reclaim their place in society. In doing so, their courage, resilience and humanity shine through the difficulties they face. *This screening has been made possible via a generous sharing by the Ektara Collective. Don't miss!*

Potpourri – Tuesday 22 August, 8:00 pm:

• IT'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL DAY

USA, 2012, Dir. Don Hertzfeldt, w/ voice Don Hertzfeldt, Animation-Comedy-Drama, 62 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

Don Hertzfeldt, the director, tells the story of a man named Bill, who struggles to put together his shattered psyche. All this is done with very simple, but heartwarming drawings mixed with some live action moments. We listen to simple stories about life itself, with some very dark humor intended. You'll laugh, you'll cry, but most of all you'll only spend 62 minutes of your life on something that was quite clearly worth it... *Don't miss!*

Interesting – Wednesday 23 August, 8:00 pm:

• SWIMMING THROUGH THE DARKNESS

India, 2018, Dir. Supriyo Sen w/ Kanai Chakraborty and others, Documentary, 76mins, Bengali-Hindi w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG-13)

Hailing from a poor family, blind man Kanai Chakraborty chooses the daring life of a swimmer. But his success in the sport couldn't ensure him a job, and hence he has to keep swimming to retain a respectable identity at the age of 40. As he continues stumbling off the water while sailing smooth on it, this National Award-winning film chronicles the roller-coaster journey of a gritty man who constantly negotiates with destitution, desire and destiny while chasing his dream.

Selection - Thursday 24 August, 8:00 pm:

- **UNDIR TRÉNU (Under the tree)**

Iceland, 2017, Dir. Hafsteinn Gunnar Sigurðsson, w/ Steinn Þór Steinþorsson, Edda Björgvinsdóttir, Sigurður Sigurjónsson and others, Comedy-Thriller, 89 mins, Icelandic w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

Agnes throws Atli out and does not want him to see their daughter Ása anymore. He moves in with his parents, who are involved in a bitter dispute over their big and beautiful tree that casts a shadow on the neighbors' deck.

As Atli fights for the right to see his daughter, the dispute with the neighbors intensifies - property is damaged, pets mysteriously go missing, security cameras are installed and there is a rumor that the neighbor was seen with a chainsaw.

International - Saturday 26 August, 8:00 pm:

- **LIVING**

UK, 2022, Dir. Olivier Hermanus, w/ Bill Nighy, Aimee Lou Wood, Alex Sharp and others, Drama, English w/ English subtitles, 102 mins, Rated: PG13

Overwhelmed at work and lonely at home, a council bureaucrat's life takes a heartbreaking turn when a medical diagnosis tells him his time is short. Influenced by a local decadent and a vibrant woman, he continues to search for meaning until a simple revelation gives him a purpose to create a legacy for the next generation.

Children's Matinee - Sunday 27 August, 4:30 pm:

- **EVERYBODY LOVES GOOFY**

USA, 2003, Dir. Danny Webb, Animation-Family, 52 mins, English, Rated: NR (G)

It's nonstop laughs as Goofy, the world's wackiest hound dog, returns to a hilarious collection of his greatest cartoon shorts. You'll love every minute of Goofy's outrageous antics in this delightful collection, overflowing with the magic of Disney animation.

CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL@ Ciné-Club:

Ciné-Club Sunday 27 August, 8:00 pm:

- **LE GRAND BLEU (THE BIG BLUE)**

France-Italy, 1988, Dir. Luc Besson, w/ Jean-Marc Barr, Jean Reno, Rosanna Arquette and others, Adventure - Action, 168 mins, French w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG.

The rivalry between Enzo and Jacques, two childhood friends and now world-renowned free divers, becomes a beautiful and perilous journey into oneself and the unknown. It is a heavily fictionalized and dramatized story of the friendship and sporting rivalry between two leading contemporary champion free divers in the 20th century.

Rating codes we often use are from Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA): G=General Audiences, PG=Parental guidance suggested, PG-13=Parents strongly cautioned, R=Restricted (equivalent to Indian rating: A i.e. for Adults), NR=Film Not rated, Rating awaited, or Rating not available.

For scheduling programs at MMC/CP venue: please email us at mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in. **We appreciate your continued support. Please donate to "Cinema Paradiso" (account #105106) or set up for a monthly contribution. We need it now more than ever.**

Thanking You,
MMC/CP Group Account# 105106,
mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in