

THE 05 / 23
Auroville
TIMELESS

Auroville's
**Bold Step
Forward**



Forward, for ever forward!
At the end of the tunnel is the light...
At the end of the fight is the victory!

The Mother, Words of the Mother - III: New Year Messages

The Mother

Our sadhana has reached a stage in which we are mostly dealing with the subconscious and even the inconscient. As a consequence the physical determinism has taken a predominant position bringing an increase of difficulties on the way which have to be faced with an increase of courage and determination.

In any case, whatever happens and whatever you do, do not allow fear to invade you. At the slightest touch of it, react and call for help.

You must learn not to identify with your body and treat it as a young child who needs to be convinced that it must not fear.

FEAR is the greatest of all enemies and we must overcome it here, once and for all.

The Mother, Words of the Mother - III: Darshan Messages

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Cover. Residents concentrating at Matrimandir Amphitheatre during Auroville Day. Photo by Pietro.

Top-right. Matrimandir at sunset. Photo by Lakshay Dharan



AWARE is a City-Service Unit of Auroville that aims to promote human unity through effective communication and collaboration. The organization focuses on various aspects of Auroville, including spiritual, cultural, social, economic, organizational, and ecological aspects, to help Auroville realize its vision.

Timeless' Note

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Introducing Auroville Timeless



Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the inaugural edition of Auroville Timeless, a monthly magazine brought to you by Aware Auroville. This publication aims to capture the spirit and essence of Auroville, the internationally renowned experimental township in southern India, founded with the vision of a Human Unity.

In each edition of Auroville Timeless, we will delve into the diverse facets of Auroville, exploring its unique historical nature, present culture, and conscious future. We will feature reflections by Aurovilians, highlight their work and projects, and showcase the various events and activities that take place in the township.

After 55 years of Auroville's inauguration, there has never been a more exciting time to explore and celebrate the Auroville life. We hope that Auroville Timeless will be a platform for sharing stories, insights, and inspiration, connecting readers with the beauty and wonder of this unique place.

We welcome your feedback and contributions, as we embark on this journey together, exploring the timeless spirit of Auroville.

With warm regards,
The Auroville Timeless Team

Write to timeless@aurville.org.in for more information.

Roger Anger: 100 Years

Anupama Kundoo

It was Mirra Alfassa (the Mother), Sri Aurobindo's collaborator, who invited 42-year-old Roger Anger to be the chief architect of Auroville near Puducherry.

In her letter to the acclaimed Parisian architect in 1965, she expressed her joy and no surprise that he had accepted, as she had always felt him to be the L'homme de ce Projet, meaning 'the man of this project'. Already in 1938, she had ushered in India's modern architecture period by inviting architect Antonin Raymond from Japan to design the Aurobindo Ashram's dormitory, 'Golconde', India's first reinforced concrete building, long before Le Corbusier and Louis Kahn arrived here.

I first met Roger (1923-2008) in Auroville in 1990, and our association grew progressively as he asked me to develop urban design details for specific areas, including the city centre, and later while preparing the township's approved Master Plan Perspective 2025. With time, our conversations got deeper as I authored a book on him.

Anger, who had realised over a hundred high-rise residential schemes in Paris, was known for individualising collective housing, with rhythmic human-scaled facades and sculptural plasticity, and his rigorous experimentation spanned architecture's various scales, from the urban to the interior.

Neither the founder of Auroville nor the architect was satisfied with Chandigarh's urban vision as an example of a city of the future although Anger admired Le Corbusier's genius.

Instead of celebrating newfound individualism of emerging post-industrial lifestyles, Anger's visions for urbanism had included the necessary course correction, repositioning architecture and city-making as essentially social endeavours that were human-centric, steering the evolution of human society. For Auroville, he began by raising the question, "Shall we allow the presence of cars?!" and warned, "Probably in just a few years India will know, same as Europe and the U.S., the major urban problem the automobile is. The reign of cars has





conditioned the urbanism of the 20th century and continues to tyrannize it”.

He suggested replacing them with “more hygienic, slow, silent, energy efficient, collectively owned vehicles”. Other radical grounding principles that land cannot be individually owned, and money would no longer be ‘the sovereign lord’ allowed Anger’s team to radically rethink the city as a holistic new organism.

A three-year-long design process with regular interactions with the Mother resulted in the pedestrian-centric ‘galaxy plan’ that she inaugurated Auroville with in 1968. Two years earlier, Anger had presented Auroville at UNESCO in Paris thus: “It will be experimental by its urbanism and architecture... The task to give a concrete form to the vision of Sri Aurobindo has been given to the Mother: the creation of a new world, of a new society, expressing and incorporating a new consciousness to the work she has initiated... Auroville, then, appears like an attempt to realise, through work and actions in this material world, the vision of Sri Aurobindo.”

It is serendipitous, or timely then, that Anger’s own birth centenary falls in the 150th year of Sri Aurobindo’s anniversary being celebrated across India, coinciding with India’s 75th year of Independence.

Anger’s foresight identified future urban challenges and his visions are now being celebrated globally, beginning with rethinking mobility and ending with restoring human scale and intimacy in the built environment. Last year, his original

Auroville model was flown in to New York and displayed at The Museum of Modern Art as “a stunning artifact representing and embodying an equally stunning urban and societal vision”.

The Lisbon Architecture Triennale 2022, themed ‘Terra’, included Anger as a key visionary illustrating new paradigms that have the potential of shifting from a linear growth model of “cities as machines” to a circular evolutionary model of “cities as organisms”.

I was fascinated by how Anger negotiated the invisible and material aspects of architecture, his simultaneous awareness of the big picture and meticulous details. When I stayed at his home in France, and wanted to work beyond 5 p.m., he would insist I stop for the day and either play chess or ping-pong and join him for aperitifs. He promoted discipline and a work-life balance.

He carried a sense of unhurried calm that comes with clarity, focus and conviction, but without an iota of the stress and frenzy that accompany large projects. He remained loyal to the original intent, and insisted on the urban dimension of Auroville. Observing him navigate resistance was perhaps my biggest take-away. It revealed more clearly who he was, and why he was chosen by the Mother.

A man of few words and a sense of humour, Anger was always straightforward. Our most meaningful conversations were through drawings, yet we covered topics from the practical to philosophical, punctuated by his pearls of wisdom. When I was stuck in a design process, he mostly told me ‘be more simple’. On architecture’s aim, he said to transcend problem-solving and manifest a high standard of beauty, as something deep and far from frivolous: “Beauty has the power of uplifting the consciousness, spontaneously”.

I recall also on one of the few occasions where we played chess, he had commented in appreciation of the game, “it is one game, where nothing can occur by chance, you create everything.” These are his most empowering words I carry — the realisation that you create everything.

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“Roger’s centenary dovetails perfectly with Sri Aurobindo’s 150th birth anniversary and India’s 75th year of independence.”

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Left. Photo of Roger Anger and Jacqueline with the model of Matrimandir.

Right. A mnemonic commemorating 100th Birth Anniversary of Roger Anger, by Lakshay Dharan.

Matrimandir and Galaxy City

Anandi





Leaving the Matrimandir after a meditation and walking through the gardens a reflection came to me that compared the Matrimandir with the Galaxy plan of the City.

I thought with deep gratitude about the realization of the Matrimandir. First and foremost to Mother for having the vision at the center of the City of this space for concentration and connection with our true being, with our divine spark.

And secondly, to the human beings who participated in its design and construction: Roger for collecting the essence of the project from Mother and being faithful to the ideal of beauty and spirit, for guiding every detail with the greatest care. Then to Piero for supervising the construction indefatigably, to so many Aurovilians who contributed in one way or another to its manifestation and to all the donors who made this miracle financially possible.

And I thought that if all those Aurovilians had wanted to design and implement popular ecological and aesthetic considerations, changing them according to the times, now we would not have this Matrimandir or live the unique experience of breathing into that magical chamber and watching the golden sphere change color with the sky.

I imagined the Aurovilians with all their good will saying 'we are not against having a Matrimandir, but it has to be collaborative and taking into account the

ecological parameters' I imagined endless new designs, criticizing the cement, whether bamboo instead of concrete, and maybe not even a building, only a forest around the banyan tree. And with all that good will and with all those apparently undeniable ecological theories, the Matrimandir experience would have been lost, because Mother had that building built to channel Her Force and that's what matters.

Going back to the comparison with the City and the plan for the Galaxy that Mother approved with such joy, I thought that if we stopped questioning and talking about changing the design, giving prominence to all our opinions and just started doing it all together, each one with their capabilities, surely one day, walking through its streets and observing its buildings, we would understand why it had to be like this, and we will have an even more complete experience of Mother's Force in action. If we consented to be the instruments and not the directors of the work...

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“I thought with deep gratitude about the realization of the Matrimandir.”

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Left. Aerial view of Matrimandir. Photo by AMI.

Right Top. Model of Galaxy Plan by Roger Anger. Photo by Lakshay

Right Bottom. Flower decoration at Amphitheatre, on Auroville Day. Photo by Lakshay.



On Authority

Hans van Baaren

Most of us in Auroville have a distrust of authority. Coming here was partly to escape the world of authority, politics etc. And so when confronted with a form of, or a projection of, authority, many rebelled against it, by default as it were: it was an emotional compulsive decision.

Authority in Auroville lies in the Charter, the Divine Life, and as a first layer of execution means Leadership: the 3 bodies of governance called The Foundation, and it consists of Governing Board, Residents Assembly and the International Advisory Council. They are represented by a secretary and bring direction, decisions to

be made. It is also there to protect us from power group's tendencies that are obstructing development and creativity. Enabling us to...get on with it. Especially building the City and the major projects.

We have always had authorities in Auroville. These took the form of bureaucracy and groups of interest of different kinds.....and extensions thereof, for example: reaching into the AVI's and networks for fundraising, land purchase etc. Also people feeling entitled to the patch of land they had developed and not allowing others to build.



There exist forms of aristocracy for example, groups of interest. Little islands of authorities: even like country clubs as it were. Or the Entry group process holding power over one's livelihood and making their demands: often crippling people's chances of settling here.

Are all these not also forms of authority? They are almost invisible, like hidden networks that won't budge. The seeking of power and keeping it has always been there. In many ways these formations would hinder activities, block the development of the City, show favouritism concerning fundraising etc. The whole notion of freedom and collective process was a bit of a farce, drowning in these groups of interest: stifling our chances of developing on a collective level. Even the Residents Assembly of late tried to be the only authority and stop people from doing their work. Making a decision and then using the RA to stop it again because it was not to the liking of a few.

We have a lack of authority also. Anybody could come along and kick you out of your own project. Our working groups have never really had power behind decisions being taken. We could not move much, especially collectively. Very frustrating for those giving their time and energy often for nothing.

Now, when there are many people always commenting on the master plan, even on Mother, such things like 'oh, it's the past', what are we to do: have no authority, no protection at all? Just be overrun by people who in their arrogance believe they know better?

We wish to refocus those energies to the one and only authority: Auroville, the Divine Mother. And we need leadership to do this, to get anything done.

Maybe leadership helps us not to be a victim of Authority.

Leadership can be better than fixed rules and regulations. It is not here to fix everything once and for all. It is a management to help redirect the boat towards the collective vision. Yes it is especially towards building the



City and its major elements. The Mother gave a detailed design and concept, through Roger, a great man and loving person. Why can we not also show love to this, and align and work in simplicity and under leadership... The authority is The Divine, Auroville itself. We need not rebel or go against it, nor submit to the idea we have of it. Rather, to learn and rise to a third perspective and towards a society governed by sages and intuitive intelligence. Individual and collective research, effort, life. Freedom of expression, generating creative energy.

The freedom we are longing for then can begin to develop. And the authority of the RA can grow more true. And love can grow amongst people creating this vision.

Left. Signature of the Mother. Photo by Lakshay.

Right Top. Resident's gathering at Unity Pavilion.

Right Bottom. ACUR, Town Hall, Auroville. Photo by Pietro.



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Are the French in Danger in Auroville?

Jean Pougault

Born on 28 February 1968, the adventure finds its roots in two texts: the Charter of Auroville and the “Dream”. Its essence resides in the expression of aspirations, without any indication of the path to be followed, an evolutionary path, an adherence to an ideal, an aspiration towards a path for the soul.

Each human element, with its own qualities is requested to bring these qualities at the service of the realization of Auroville. Naturally each “element” comes with its “luggage” of things to accomplish in order to transcend his limits. But the regard remains fixed on the horizon, towards the dawn to come in spite of the difficulties on the road.

After some years, in the context of a semi desert land, where everything had to be done, we, ordinary humans, started to mark “territories” with our own

conceptions of property, without property. For this was the challenge, to believe in utopia.

When one speaks of the individual, one must include the collective. This collective aspires to be ideal, including everybody and letting everyone to give its opinion. Elections came and the politics followed. Soon one did not see the “other” as oneself. Then came opinions. And then came freedom of expression, personal choices, and preferences. Even the freedom of one bulldozing the liberty of another.

All this drowned, in fact, the original quest, and the individual not anymore the instrument but the dictator. We arrive at the fraternity of a clan, which is superficial. And that is where Auroville is at the present, forgetting that our only liberty is to adhere to the values enshrined





Why should the French be in danger, specifically French?

We have an evolutionary crisis, perfectly understandable. Great changes in the world have never come from compromise. See Nelson Mandela, Lincoln, Churchill, Bolivar, Napoleon, and many others. It requires courage? Yes. And conviction in an ideal. I have not noticed personally any risk or threat against the French or anyone else. If it is about Mael, he, as an individual was asked to leave India, not threatened, due to his sudden ordinary attitude to say the least. It is India that has invited men and women of goodwill to this fabulous project. That is to be simply respected. Mael's 'Leave India' notice may be interpreted as a threat if one wishes to. I have not noticed anything apart the sadness, from friends, not a fear of a similar action.

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“Each human element, with its own qualities is requested to bring these qualities at the service of the realization of Auroville.”

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in the Charter and the Dream.

One says that Auroville is in turmoil, it is true and it is a sign of the good health of this project. In fact, Auroville was day dreaming for the last 50 years, paralyzing itself with stagnation. Evolution cannot stop. One can see the enviroing landscape progressively overtaking the territory of the city itself. This is the consequence of the lack of choice or the division of the collective. It is also fashionable to be against the city. Then endless suppositions come in, born from the fears of everyone: fear to lose one's privileges, insecurities of all kinds, fright which have no reality but are posturing as truth...It is the fear of Change, well known from all of us, in spite of our aspiration for change.

To say today that the French are threatened!!! Why the French??? This is a gratuitous segregation. The uncertainties of some cannot be interpreted as the truth of the whole collective. What is the use of such communication? Is it to arm weaponize with importance only one's point of view? Transformation does not take place by imposing views but by an understanding at the individual level. Else it is just the creation of fear. To create a dialogue is to be able to include the 'other'.

To answer word for word to accusations or denunciations is a useless process. It is like justifying oneness with mediocrity.

It is important to recognize the aims and objectives of Auroville and not deny Auroville it's identity its realization as a city. The world is big enough for those who want to follow other dreams.

Today, we are confronted with a choice: to remain the little individual with its frustrations, its lived or pretended failures, its endless accusations of the other, its denunciations. It is a pigmy world without any evolutionary future... Or, can one look boldly into the essential to call the future to be discovered, the beauty to be manifest, the human unity where the other is oneself. To destroy or to build, it is the Divine who does.

Left. At Amphitheatre of Matrimandir, people gathered around bonfire. Photo by Pietro.

Right Top. Photo by Pietro.

Right Bottom. Kids playing at Matrimandir. Photo by Pietro.



Letter to Embassies

Working Committee

This letter was sent to the Embassies and Consulates by the Working Committee and other distinguished well-wishers of Auroville, following the different visits and the questions often received.

Excellencies,

Auroville was created as a hope for the world, a living example of what humanity can aspire for and move towards, a place where the signposts for the future would become living examples and where people of the world would communicate greater, conscious freedom, the beauty of its city, its environment, and many-sided realizations.

This universal town has a vision-born city plan, supported by a Charter, both initiated by the Mother. This plan is the basis of Auroville's master plan for which she invited Roger Anger, whose centenary we also celebrate this year.

As you know, the Crown, which has been in the news, is an important element of the city. It circles through the four zones of the city, unifying it, and preventing it from sprawling, to ensure a pedestrian-friendly, e-mobility plan for this main urban centre of Auroville. Here life, activities, culture, services, plazas, shaded patios, and walking arcades will allow young and old to meet, walk or cycle around the town, protected from sun or rain.

This is what many of us have been waiting for, for nearly 3 decades, since 1993, when Roger Anger wanted to start marking the Crown path. The resistance has been ongoing, amplifying and hardening. Discussions are ridiculed or disrupted and the very concept and need for this city

have been diverted to the idea of an eco-village which is amplified across all media and the original city plan has been made dispensable. Professions about not being against the city and the Galaxy plan have never been matched on the ground and people are waiting.

The present crisis only reveals how far a faction has gone and can still go to disrupt and obstruct all attempts to lay this central artery of Auroville's urban life. These have been splashed across national and international media, in government offices, at UNESCO, and other Auroville international platforms, deliberately ripping apart the goodwill in the community, between well-wishers around the world, obstructing the work, and demonizing all those who support the city.

Explaining the Auroville symbol which closely resembles the city plan, the Mother had stated: the inner circle represents the creation, the conception of the City.

This is the very thing being hindered through force, denial, and false propaganda. The prime target of all this since December 2021 has been Dr Jayanti Ravi, the one woman they have not been able to coerce or intimidate despite the vilest attempts to discredit and caricature her in media like in The Guardian, New York Times, Wall Street Journal and across Indian journals and social media.

The work continues because Auroville must continue and cannot be stopped by the whims and denials of those who refuse to collaborate. The How of it has been flaunted everywhere and needs to be seen in the context of How the years of

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“Explaining the Auroville symbol which closely resembles the city plan, the Mother had stated: the inner circle represents the creation, the conception of the City.”

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obstructions and delays by this faction have:

1. Divided the people, misled the youth in particular.
2. Duped authorities including the Governing Board that they were working for the city, for the Crown, and so on.
3. Contradicted the authority of the Standing Order for the TDC that an earlier Chairman set in place by propping up unratified parallel governance to compromise the planning.
4. The same pattern of parallel groups now flourishes, defying directives, with massive media and social campaigns, rampant court cases, alternate servers set up without permission, alternate websites, alternate RAS, alternate News & Notes: an alternate Auroville literally, fracturing all the goodwill and opportunities offered to Auroville. None of the above is in the spirit of Auroville, nor in service to the Divine that we are here to serve, as is claimed.
5. Has put on hold all projects ready to start since the NGT stay order was enforced, which described Auroville as a deemed forest, comfortably denying the city the Mother inaugurated in 1968, with a city plan on which 3 years of work went in.
6. The delays have hiked land and building costs which have skyrocketed over 3 decades.
7. Delays have led to the loss of master plan land over the years, where outside speculators have bought and built without consonance with the planned experiment.
8. Propagated false 'political' narratives and dragged Auroville into it.
9. Interfered and attempted to disrupt every aspect and every stage of work. When called to collaborate, as with the Dreamweaver, the parameters on which the collective endeavor was based were not respected, and the result of the workshop was not handed over to ATDC as agreed.
10. Continue to label the functioning ATDC as illegal despite clear High Court orders.

Instead, alternate groups flashed all over social media to further confuse people.

11. Brought unnecessary negative attention on Auroville by constantly harping against the Secretary, the Governing Board, and the Government, and those working for Auroville to grow.
12. Torn apart the fabric of Auroville by ostracizing not just adults but children too.

All these things are being done and said in the name of ALL in Auroville, in an unethical attempt to make ALL Aurovilians complicit in this false narrative. The Residents Assembly is not a political party. These antics have only brought unnecessary pressure and attention on Auroville and its affairs, taking away from ALL of us the natural freedom, right to action, and a sincere collaboration in the realization of Auroville that had been envisaged for this experiment.

Auroville is not a political or democratic project, it goes much further than it must if it aims at the transformation of life for the future of humanity. Auroville's aim, the Mother had said, is to 'divert the destructive current of the world' that perpetuates war. Human Unity is a huge responsibility that Auroville must learn to live up to.

The city is the practical means given to fulfill this experiment in all its aspects and must never be blocked.

We will keep you posted on the situation as it evolves so that you are not left with a limited perspective. We are certainly in the middle of a great churning but also at a turning point of a transformation for the future.

We warmly welcome all your questions and suggestions and look forward to your visits to Auroville.

Best regards,
The Working Committee
*Anuradha Legrand, Arun S. Joseba Martinez
Burdaspar, Parthasarathy Krishnan,
Selvaraj Damotharan, Srimoyi Rosegger,
and Christine Neuman*

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“Auroville's aim, the Mother had said, is to 'divert the destructive current of the world.’”

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Radical Resistance to Real Reset: Auroville's Bold Step Forward

Lakshay Dharan



The recent move to reset the assets and entities of Auroville has been met with mixed reactions. While some see it as a necessary step to shake things up and move towards the ideals of the City's founder, others view it as a power grab and an attack on the City's independence. In this article, we will explore why this reset is necessary, what it could mean for the future of Auroville, and how the City can move forward from here.

Auroville is a City that has always prided itself on its commitment to sustainability, social justice, and spiritual growth. However, in recent years, there has been a growing sense of discontent among some members of the City, who feel that these values have been compromised by a small group of residents who hold disproportionate power and influence. This has led to a sense of resentment and frustration, as well as a growing movement for change.

One of the key drivers against this movement has been the Radical Resistance group, which has been troubled by greater transparency, accountability, and responsibility within Auroville. The new working groups have been pushing for a reset of the City's assets and entities, with the aim of breaking down the old power structures and creating a more equitable and inclusive system.

While the Radical Resistance group has the staunch support from those who benefit from the status quo, the new working groups also gained a great deal of support from those who feel marginalized or excluded by the previous system. This has led to a growing momentum for change, as more and more people recognize the need for a real reset of Auroville's assets and entities.

This momentum has now culminated in a bold step forward for Auroville, as the City has undertaken a comprehensive reset of its assets and entities. This represents a significant deviation for the Radical Resistance group and others who have been against change, as well as a major shift in the City's governance and decision-making processes.



However, this is just the beginning of the process. The real work lies ahead, as Auroville now has to navigate the challenges of implementing this reset and creating a new, more purpose-driven and equitable system. This will require a great deal of collaboration, communication, and open-mindedness, as well as a willingness to learn from past mistakes and embrace new ways of thinking and working together.

Ultimately, the success of this reset will depend on the willingness of all members of the City to come together and work towards a common goal. It will require a commitment to the founding ideals of Auroville, including the pursuit of human unity, the realization of human potential, and the importance of spiritual growth and development. It will also require a recognition of the diverse perspectives and experiences that exist within the City, and a willingness to listen to and learn from each other.

Left. Auroville residents taking part in the Crown Walk. Photo by Pietro.

Right Top. Amphithreatre of Matrimandir. Photo by Pietro.

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“To achieve this vision, the City must focus on small, concrete actions that can make a big difference.”

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The Necessity of Resetting Auroville Assets and Entities

The decision to reset the assets and entities of Auroville has been taken after two years of efforts to bring change through existing means and systems. Resetting Auroville’s assets and entities will require a commitment to transparency, accountability, and active participation from all members of the City. While it may cause short-term disruption and uncertainty, in the long term, it could lead to a more vibrant and inclusive City, where everyone has a voice and a stake in its future. By embracing new ways of thinking and working together, Auroville can attract new residents and resources, as people see it as a place where their contributions and ideas are valued and welcomed.

To achieve this vision, the City must focus on small, concrete actions that can make a big difference. Improving the physical infrastructure of Auroville and collaborating on City-wide initiatives are just some of the ways residents can work together. Additionally, embracing diversity and inclusivity is crucial. Auroville was founded on the ideal that people of all nationalities, cultures, and backgrounds could come together to create a new kind of society. By actively working to include and empower all members of the City, Auroville can become a truly multicultural and cosmopolitan place, where diversity is celebrated and differences are respected.

Auroville: Unraveling the Feudal Mindset and Reimagining Community Assets

For a long time, Auroville has been plagued by a feudal system of control, where a select few hold sway over the City’s resources and decision-making processes. This system is antithetical to the principles of collaboration, equality, and shared responsibility that Auroville was founded on. By unraveling this feudal mindset and reimagining City assets,

Auroville can move towards a more equitable and fraternal model.

Unraveling the feudal mindset requires a willingness to let go of old power structures and embrace new ways of thinking and working together. It also requires a commitment to transparency, accountability, and active participation from all members of the City. By doing so, Auroville can break free from the old system of control and move towards a more vibrant and inclusive City, where everyone has a voice and a stake in its future.

Reimagining City assets means moving away from a system where a select few control the City’s resources and towards a more equitable model. This can be achieved by embracing diversity and inclusivity, focusing on small, concrete actions that can make a big difference, and actively working to include and empower all members of the City. By doing so, Auroville can create a truly multicultural and cosmopolitan place, where diversity is celebrated and differences are respected.

Rejigging Auroville: Why It’s Necessary and What It Could Mean for the Future

Over the years, the City has faced many challenges and struggles, including issues related to governance, finance, and City participation. In response, there has been a growing movement within the City to “rejig” or reset Auroville’s systems and structures, in order to better align with its founding ideals and move towards a more sustainable and inclusive future.

The need for a reset in Auroville is driven by several factors. First, there is a growing awareness that the City’s current systems and structures are not serving the needs of all members equally. For example, some residents feel that the governance system is too colonialized and centralized, while others feel that the financial systems are opaque and controlled by a small group of individuals. By rejigging these systems, the

City can create a more equitable and participatory environment, where all members have a voice and a stake in decision-making processes.

Another reason for the reset is the need to address the sustainability of Auroville's physical and social infrastructure. The City was founded with the vision of creating a sustainable, self-sufficient society, but in practice, this vision has been difficult to achieve. The City's reliance on external funding and resources has led to an unsustainable model, where the City is not fully responsible for its own growth and development. By rejigging the City's systems and structures, Auroville can become more self-sufficient and resilient, and better able to weather future challenges.

Of course, achieving this vision will not be easy. It will require a lot of hard work, open communication, and a willingness to learn from past mistakes. It will also require a commitment to the founding ideals of Auroville, which include the pursuit of human unity, the realization of human potential, and the importance of spiritual growth and development. But by embracing this challenge and working together towards a common goal, Auroville has the potential to become a shining example of what is possible when people come together to create something truly visionary and transformational.

Auroville's Asset Reset: Shaking Things Up for Positive Change

Auroville's recent asset reset is a bold move aimed at shaking up the City's power structures and creating a more equitable and collaborative model of governance. By resetting the assets, the City is taking a step towards breaking free from the feudal system of control that has been in place for too long. The reset is a necessary move to ensure that all members of the City have an equal say in the decision-making processes and to promote transparency and accountability.



Right Top. Auroville residents expressing themselves with public art, during Auroville Festival. Photo by Pietro.

The asset reset will have several benefits for the future of Auroville. Firstly, it will attract new residents who share the vision of a more equitable and inclusive City. Secondly, it will create a more vibrant and dynamic City where everyone has a voice and a stake in its future. Thirdly, it will create an environment that is conducive to innovation and experimentation, which is essential for the City's continued growth and evolution.

However, achieving these benefits will not be easy. The reset will likely cause some short-term disruption and uncertainty, as new people and processes are put in place. It will also require a significant shift in mindset, as residents let go of old power structures and embrace new ways of thinking and working together. The City will need to work together and support each other throughout this transition, to ensure that the reset leads to positive change and not further division.

One of the key challenges that the City will face is finding ways to ensure that the reset is implemented fairly and transparently. This will require the active participation and involvement of all members of the City, and a commitment to open communication and dialogue. It will also require a willingness to learn from past mistakes and to continually evaluate and adjust the reset as needed.

In all, Auroville's asset reset is a positive step towards creating a more equitable and inclusive City. It represents a break from the old feudal system of control and an embrace of new, more collaborative ways of working together. However, it will require significant effort and commitment from all members of the City to ensure that the reset leads to positive change and not further division.

♦ ♦ ♦

“Auroville’s recent asset reset is a bold move aimed at shaking up the City’s power structures and creating a more equitable and collaborative model of governance.”

♦ ♦ ♦

Towards Prosperity

Torkil

A core tenet of Auroville is the concept of Prosperity. Shortly defined it is an “unwritten contract” that states that when joining and offering you work to Auroville and its development, Auroville would in return take care of your basic needs, including housing.

As we all know this has been difficult to achieve and we are still far away from it. A certain number of conditions have to be fulfilled before it can happen.

Work. The work we give to Auroville should benefit the collective, by developing Auroville towards its goal as a City, by growing food or making products for Auroville needs, or for exchange with other things the community needs, or in

service and management. If too many are focused only on their own interest or development, it becomes difficult for Auroville to “honour the contract”.

Auroville needs to be able to provide work opportunities, not only in services but also in income generation units, so Auroville can make use of offered work in a way that benefits the community and provides an outcome that will allow Auroville to provide prosperity to all.

Food. After many years and a lot of effort Auroville is very far from being self-supporting with food. And we have to acquire a lot of food items from outside. If we could raise the production on a large scale, not only producing the food



products for our own needs, but more so we could exchange for the food we can't grow, it would be a huge step towards Auroville's possibility for covering the basic food needs for Aurovilians.

Basic needs. Auroville can only make a part of what is needed to cover basic needs. Many things, like bikes, petrol, electricity, mobile, internet and many other things we obviously can not produce ourselves. We need to produce other items we can use to acquire what we need. Auroville economy and production capacity has to be large enough to cover this part of basic needs.

To make sure that we acquire the products we need in an efficient way, a procurement service is a must. Now a complex, fragmented way of buying a large number of different items is very inefficient and costly. An effort is on the way for a Procurement service, taking care of buying all for basic needs. Together with a plan to link all major “buyers”, outlets, restaurants, bakeries, etc with a data system keeping track of buying needs, combined with a professional service to procure-“buy” the best products at best cost, we would be able to get our basic needs covered in the best economical way.



Scale of economy. Right now the scale of our Economy only allows us to provide basic maintenance to a little more than half of Aurovilians. And many are not satisfied with the level of basic maintenance. So we need a large scale up just to be able to give basic maintenances to existing Aurovilians. For future growth and more people, another large scale up of the economy is needed.

This will need a focus of expanding our income from existing income generating units, as well as nurturing startups. This will require a serious support system for units, in management and access to finance. But without this growth Auroville will never be able to provide prosperity. Prosperity has to be self generated, we cannot expect any donor to support this.

Housing. A chapter of prosperity we have never really entered is the housing part. It has more or less been left to each new aurovilian to solve this by themselves. This has to change. Housing has to become part of the maintenance system.

Newcomers financing their “own” house creates a strong ownership and “reselling” houses when moving houses, just prolongs this problem. Only giving access to people with “deep pockets” leaves young dynamic people being unable to join. Going forward, we need to find finance to build larger “social housing” where newcomers can get a place to stay and part of their maintenance will be a housing component, that will be able to take care of the cost of housing, building cost as well as maintenance.

If we are able to find solutions to these conditions, we would be able to move towards a general prosperity system. FAMC is committed to find solutions to these issues.

Left. A young girl lighting a lamp at Auroville Kindergarten. Photo by Pietro.

Right Bottom. A unique house in Auroville. Photo by Pietro.

Right Top. Boutique at Visitors' Centre, Auroville.

♦ ♦ ♦

“Auroville can make use of offered work in a way that benefits the community and provides an outcome that will allow Auroville to provide prosperity to all.”

♦ ♦ ♦

Fostering Youth Empowerment and Smooth Transitions in Auroville

Arun S

Auroville, the city where youth never ages, offers boundless opportunities for its young residents to embark on a journey of self-discovery and find their purpose in life through active engagement. However, one crucial element seems to be missing: the concept of transition. While the elder citizens have accomplished remarkable feats through their dedication, there is a need to bridge the generational gap and pass on their knowledge and skills to the aspiring youth, ensuring the continued growth and prosperity of Auroville.

Auroville owes its wonder and accomplishments to Mother and Sri Aurobindo. It also is the vision and efforts of its elder citizens. Their remarkable contributions have laid the foundation for the city's development. However, it is crucial to reflect on whether they have considered sharing their wisdom and expertise with the younger generation who aspire to excel in the same fields. Fostering a culture of intergenerational exchange can bridge the gap within the Auroville community and ensure a smooth





continuity of knowledge, skills, and assets.

To sustain the progress and vibrancy of Auroville, the notion of transition must be embraced. If the accomplishments and resources created by the elder citizens are not passed on effectively, Auroville risks losing its momentum and future direction. The responsibility falls upon the senior Aurovilians to acknowledge that their legacies and contributions need successors who can carry the torch forward. By actively supporting and mentoring enthusiastic young individuals who demonstrate a genuine interest in their respective fields, Auroville can witness a seamless transition of leadership, ensuring its continued growth and prosperity.

Auroville's youth should be granted meaningful opportunities in various positions that align with their innate interests and aspirations. By providing them with platforms to express their passion and take up responsibilities, Auroville can tap into their potential and witness remarkable transformations. When youth are given the chance to contribute to the city's development, a ripple effect occurs, inspiring others and fostering a culture of active engagement. The enthusiasm and fresh perspectives of

young individuals, coupled with the guidance of experienced elders, can bring about innovative solutions, address challenges, and open new avenues for growth.

The Auroville community must actively explore possibilities and strategies to facilitate a smooth transition. It is a healthy and necessary practice to keep our family moving forward. Embracing change and collaboration can ensure the seamless transfer of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities from one generation to the next. Open channels of communication and platforms for dialogue can encourage Aurovilians, both young and old, to share their insights, suggestions, and experiences. By collectively nurturing an environment that fosters growth, mentorship, and cooperation, Auroville can pave the way for a sustainable and prosperous future.

In Auroville, the power of transition lies in its ability to empower the youth, bridge generational gaps, and ensure the continuity of achievements. By actively fostering intergenerational exchange, providing opportunities for the younger generation, and embracing collaboration, Auroville can thrive and fulfil its collective vision.

Left. Cleaning of Discs at Matrimandir. Photo by Pietro.

Right. Residents celebrating Holi in Auroville. Photo by Pietro.

...
“Auroville's youth should be granted meaningful opportunities in various positions that align with their innate interests and aspirations.”
...

Time for Invitation

Aryamani



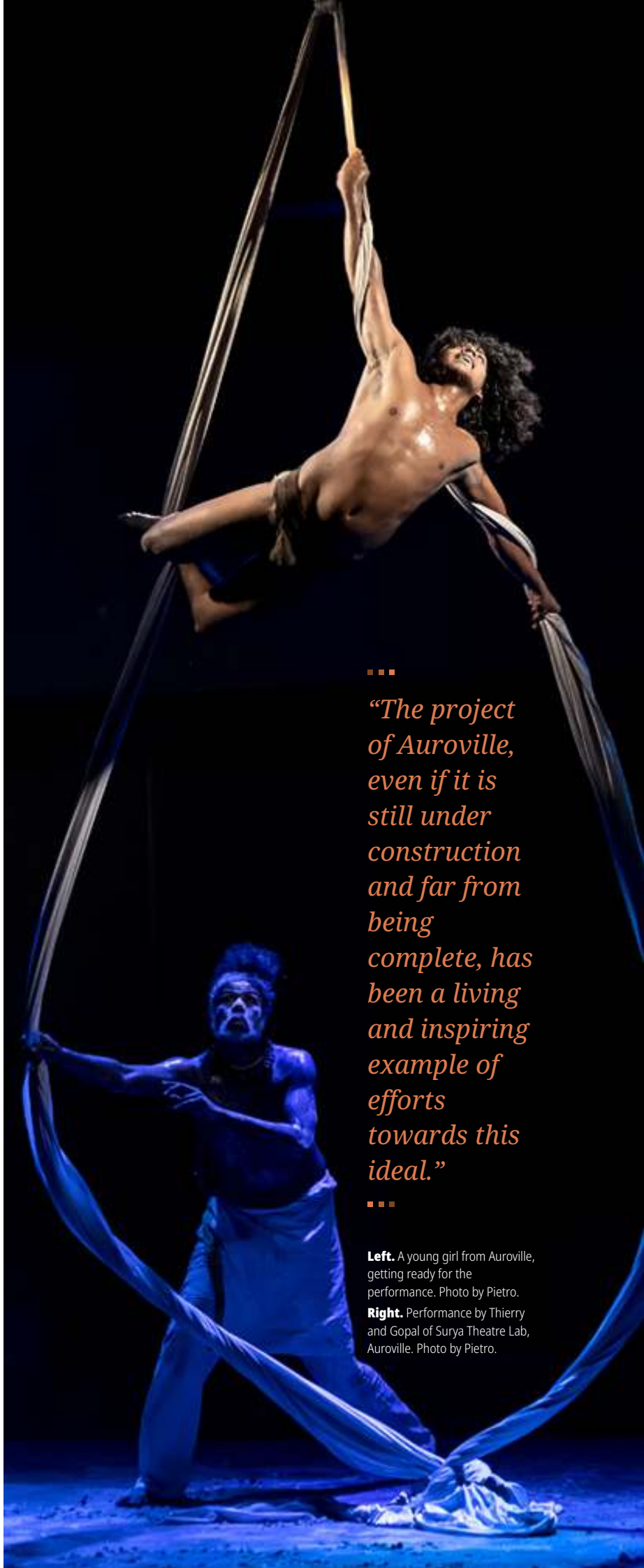
Surely most of us have noticed the action of the new consciousness that is emerging, how it is getting more and more accelerated, and how some great changes are becoming not only necessary but unavoidable: changes on Societies, changes on the way we see spirituality, changes on the Environment, changes on ourselves. And all along there is a radical and effective revaluation of ideas and things.

One clear sign of such changes is that in more recent times the perception of an oneness underlying the whole humanity is no more foreign to the human psyche, and in spite of the difficulty in manifesting it on a material level, this truth is taking roots on a growing number of individuals and organizations all around the planet.

The apparently strong opposition, seen everywhere, can not deter the Force pushing towards a more concrete realization, because the ideal of human unity surely contains in itself its own power, and this power is awakening everywhere, bringing with it new possibilities of realization, both at individual and at collective levels.

The project of Auroville, even if it is still under construction and far from being complete, has been a living and inspiring example of efforts towards this ideal. Now, we do think that the time is ripe to invite people from different places to know more about it and to find new ways of participating in the Auroville experiment. To join in our forces, aspirations and dreams.

Maybe this will help us, the residents of Auroville, to enlarge ourselves and to look at the world with new eyes. Maybe a sense of a golden thread, invisible and yet tangible, will permeate the new contacts, the new relationships that will be created, and will grow and spread.... Maybe we will learn to dream together, and make Mother's dream our collective dream, and be able to believe in our dreams. And maybe one day, the big dream of being one and universal, will become true. And this will only be the beginning of a far greater adventure...



■ ■ ■

“The project of Auroville, even if it is still under construction and far from being complete, has been a living and inspiring example of efforts towards this ideal.”

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Left. A young girl from Auroville, getting ready for the performance. Photo by Pietro.

Right. Performance by Thierry and Gopal of Surya Theatre Lab, Auroville. Photo by Pietro.

Steps to Develop Auroville's Green Network Plan

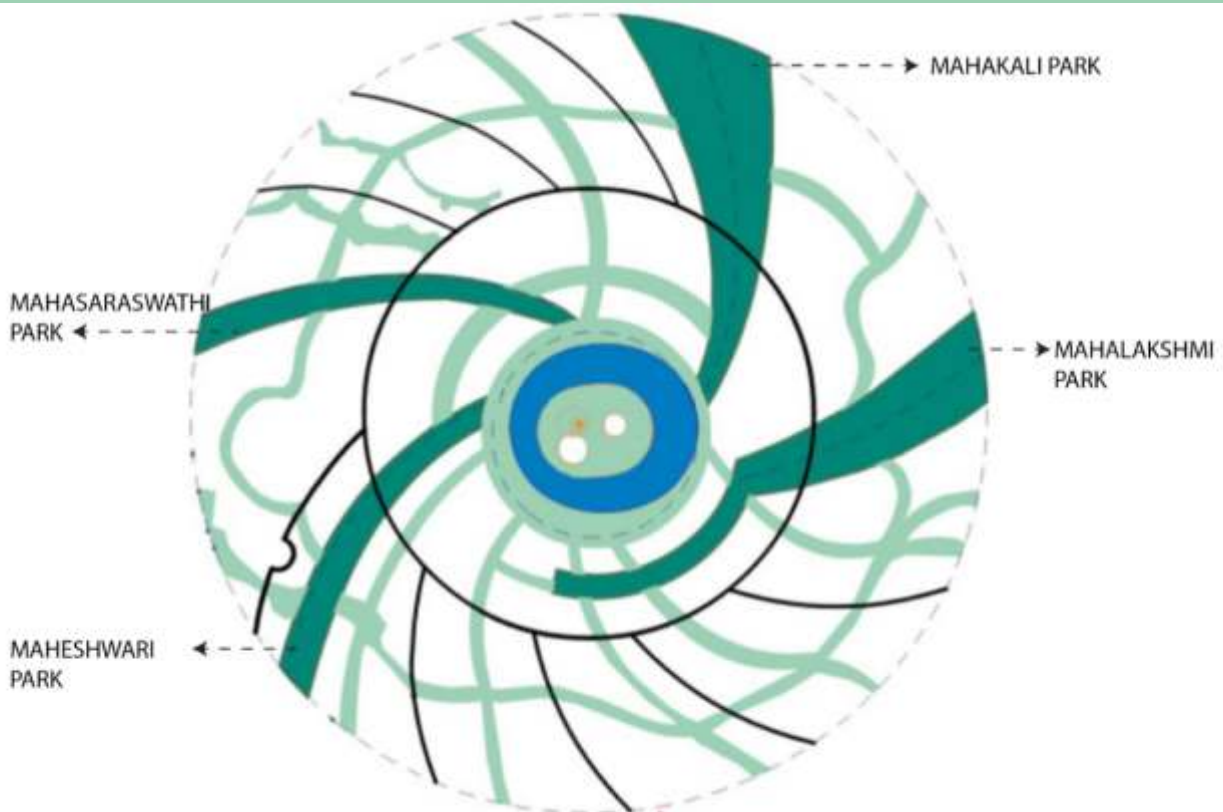
Anu

Auroville's Master Plan, as per the Galaxy Plan, consists of four main parks - Mahalakshmi Park, Mahasaraswati Park, Mahakali Park, and Maheshwari Park. These parks are situated between different zones, with connecting corridors and green lanes linking them.

The present land status shows that the Greenbelt area is 3637 acres, and the City area is 1213 acres. The Green Areas becomes an integral feature of the City Centre, impacting the circular stretch from the edge of the Matrimandir Lake up to the Crown. As the Crown passes through each zonal area, it crosses the corresponding parks.

The Green Areas along with a harmonious urban development and re-configured mobility, will help Auroville set conscious and creative standards for sustainable growth, urban development, and mobility. ATDC will bring together a wide spectrum of people, including forest and green group members, landscape designers, water planners, architects, urban

“...will create a conscious, walkable, and litter-free city, making it unique in its own way..”



designers, and potential community members, to work on the green network together with the urbanscape alongside in the most sensitive way, as in Crownways.

The potential of the green spaces is immense, as it will limit pollution and make a city that takes responsibility for itself, is humane, collaborative and innovative, integrates development with nature, and becomes naturally more secure. It will create a conscious, walkable, and litter-free city, making it unique in its own way.

To ensure the success of the Green Network initiative, it is crucial to bring together a diverse group of individuals with various skill sets and expertise. This can include green/forest members, landscapers, gardeners, architects, artists, mobility planners, and potential community members. These individuals can offer unique perspectives and contribute to the development of a comprehensive plan for the Green Network.

This team can be made up of representatives of different area expertise, formed by the ATDC who work together to develop a comprehensive plan of the Green Network, including water strategies and mobility hierarchies, in harmony with the urban elements of each park, within an agreed time frame.

Creating a budget/fundraising strategy is essential to ensure that the Green Network initiative has the necessary resources to succeed. This can involve identifying potential funding sources, developing a budget for the initiative, and implementing fundraising strategies to secure the necessary resources.

Studying what currently exists in the parks and gauging location areas is an essential step in developing a comprehensive plan for the Green Network. This can involve mapping the parks and connecting corridors and identifying areas that require attention or improvement.

Updating the study of flora and fauna species can help to ensure that the Green Network is developed in a way that is

respectful of the natural environment. This can involve identifying the different species that exist within the parks and developing strategies to protect and preserve them.

Surveying the parks and connecting corridors for land and water strategies can help to identify areas where improvements can be made to enhance the Green Network. This can involve assessing the quality of the soil, identifying areas that require additional irrigation, and identifying potential water storage solutions.

Developing a Green Network plan that includes forested areas, semi-forested areas, gardens, water bodies, and pathways is essential to ensure that the Green Network is comprehensive and meets the needs of the community. This plan should be developed with input from the Green Network Study team and should take into account the natural environment and the needs of the community.

Simultaneously creating an urban design plan for the city centre area and setting building guidelines for easier co-existence can help to ensure that the Green Network is integrated into the urban environment in a way that is harmonious and sustainable.

Studying how to integrate mobility hierarchies such as pedestrian, cycle circulation, and service access routes according to each zone, benches, e-vehicles stops, charging stations, and lights for evening security can help to ensure that the Green Network is accessible to all members of the community and is integrated into the urban environment in a way that is safe and secure.

Developing a security strategy for parks and corridors can help to ensure that the Green Network is safe and secure for all members of the community. This can involve identifying potential security risks and developing strategies to mitigate them, such as installing park lights and enhancing security measures.

Right. Residents participating in the Crown Walk, July 2021
Left. Galaxy Plan denoting four crucial parks of Auroville.



Reflections

on Democracy and Auroville's Governance

The serving members of the Working Committee have often turned to Sri Aurobindo and The Mother to understand what they had in mind for the governance or organization of Auroville, about the nature of freedom and anarchy and divine anarchy in the context of Auroville and its polity, and the collective future it must build. Here we share some of them here.

FROM SRI AUROBINDO

Ideal of Human Unity / Forms of Government

Or it might be something like the disguised oligarchy of an international council reposing its rule on the assent, expressed by election or otherwise, of what might be called a semi passive democracy as its first figure. For that is what the modern democracy at present is in fact; the sole democratic elements are public opinion, periodical elections and the power of the people to refuse reelection to those who have displeased it.

The Ideal of Human Unity / The Drive towards Legislative and Social Centralization & Uniformity

Certainly, democracy as it is now practised is not the last or penultimate stage; for it is often merely democratic in appearance and even at the best amounts to the rule of the majority and works by the vicious method of party government, defects the increasing perception of which enters largely into the present day dissatisfaction with parliamentary systems. Even a perfect democracy is not likely to be the last stage of social evolution, but it is still the necessary broad standing ground upon which the self consciousness of the social being can come to its own.

It does not follow that a true democracy must necessarily come into being at some time.

War and Self Determinism

Ancient liberty and democracy meant in Greece the self rule—variegated by

periodical orgies of mutual throat cutting—of a smaller number of freemen of all ranks who lived by the labour of a great mass of slaves. In recent times liberty and democracy have been, and still are, a cant assertion which veils under a skilfully moderated plutocratic system the rule of an organised successful bourgeoisie over a proletariat at first submissive, afterwards increasingly dissatisfied and combined for recalcitrant self assertion.

Another illusion was that the growth of democracy would mean the growth of pacifism and the end of war...

Man refuses to learn from that history of whose lessons the wise prate to us; otherwise the story of old democracies ought to have been enough to prevent this particular illusion.

War and Self Determinism

The future does not belong to that hybrid thing, a middleclass democracy infected with the old theory of international relations, however modified by concessions to a new broader spirit of idealism. The future destined to replace this present is evident enough in some of its main outward tendencies, in society away from plutocracy and middleclass democracy to some completeness of socialism and attempt at a broad and equal commonalty of social living, in the relations of the peoples away from aggressive nationalism and balances of power to some closer international comity.

The Idea of Human Unity / The Peril of the World State

Democracy is by no means a sure preservative of liberty: on the contrary, we see today a democratic system of government march steadily towards an organised annihilation of individual liberty as could not have been dreamed of in the old aristocratic or monarchical system... it

“Man refuses to learn from that history of whose lessons the wise prate to us; otherwise the story of old democracies ought to have been enough to prevent this particular illusion.”

revives now only only in periods of revolution and excitement often in the form of mob tyranny or a savage reactionary or revolutionary repression...

Sri Aurobindo / Evening Talks, 1926 / Purani
I am at present speaking against democracy. That does not mean there is no truth behind it – and I know it, yet I speak against democracy because that mentality is against the Truth that is trying to come down.

FROM THE MOTHER

On Thoughts & Aphorisms 341 -343 (Karma)
Democracy was the protest of the human soul against the allied despotisms of autocrat, priest and noble; Socialism is the protest of the human soul against the despotism of a plutocratic democracy; Anarchism is likely to be the protest of the human soul against the tyranny of a bureaucratic Socialism. It is chimerical to enquire which is the better system; it would be difficult to decide which is the worse.

A turbulent and eager march from illusion to illusion and from failure to failure is the image of European progress.

Agenda 10 April 1968

If there is no representative of the supreme Consciousness (which can happen, of course), if there isn't any, we could perhaps (this would be worth trying) replace him with the government by a small number—we would have to choose between four and eight, something like that: four, seven or eight—a small number having an INTUITIVE intelligence. All the intermediaries have proved incompetent: theocracy, aristocracy, democracy, plutocracy—all that is a complete failure.

Agenda, August 16, 1969

In an undated note, Mother once wrote: Democracy was necessary and useful a hundred years ago, but now we must go beyond it if we want to take a step forward towards a new creation.

Agenda 27 July, 1968 (conversation)

Satprem: The Press is asking for a few texts to fill blanks in the forthcoming Bulletin.

The Mother: Take from Sri Aurobindo, not from me! Everything from Sri Aurobindo

Satprem proposes the following text:

Sri Aurobindo: Overmind is obliged to respect the freedom of the individual....

Oh, that's a revelation! I didn't know that.

Sri Aurobindo: ...including his freedom to be perverse, stupid, recalcitrant and slow. Supermind is not merely a step higher than Overmind—it is beyond the line, that is a different consciousness and power beyond the mental limit.”

Do you imply that the Supermind will not be obliged to respect the freedom of the individual?

Sri Aurobindo: Of course I do! It will respect only the Truth of the Divine and the truth of things.

The Mother / On Auroville's Organization

We want an organization which is the expression of a higher consciousness working to manifest the truth of the future.

Mother's Agenda, 1966

Scores of people have come for Auroville.... Instead of working, they spend their time talking... They've already begun discussing what the city's political situation will be ...And one of them wrote to me yesterday, saying he couldn't take part in something that wasn't purely 'democratic'... So I answered him this: Auroville must be at the service of the Truth, beyond all social, political and religious convictions... but above all...it would be better to build the city first!

Mother's Agenda, 7 Feb, 1970

The anarchic state is the self government of each individual, and it will be the perfect government only when each one becomes conscious of the inner Divine and will obey only Him and Him alone...

Someone from Auroville wrote to me that he had come here to obey only himself and he found there were rules and laws. And he said: I won't do it! I am free, I refuse to do it... so I wrote to him..

“One is only free when one is conscious of the Divine...”

Charter of Auroville / The Mother

But to live in Auroville, one must be a willing servitor of the Divine Consciousness.

Right. Sri Aurobindo's statue at Savitri Bhavan. Photo by Pietro.



The Responsibility & Privilege of Building Auroville

Rosana Agudo

For the last 23 years I have been visiting Auroville regularly. I have also presented the city of Auroville through the Lur Gozoa Association, especially two exhibitions of the city, the model of the Galaxy and its Master Plan. At the end of this letter, I expose my curriculum for your more detailed information. I have spent a few weeks in Auroville, on such important dates as Mother's Anniversary and the 55th Anniversary of the City of Auroville, I have shared and held conversations with all kinds of Aurovilians, old residents, some of the

pioneers, new Aurovilians, visitors... people of different nationalities. All these people seemed to have no other type of conversation than to give their opinion on the subject of the Galaxy and more specifically on the Crown.

I believe that the moment we are living is extremely delicate in the sense that the project of Sri Aurobindo and Mother is about to manifest itself in a progressively active way, finally after 55 years in which it has been slowing down for various reasons. The reasons for which the project



has been stopped and slowed down for so many years are not relevant and it is not appropriate to count them and even less to personalize or name the different ways of manifesting the "fear" of realizing such a great work, not because of its size, but because of its significance.

The work, the project of manifesting the City that the World Needs, the City that will welcome the Humanity of the Future, to participate in it, in this laboratory, is very scary, it is an enormous responsibility, because it is not a matter of manifesting and building houses, roads, social premises, dining rooms, commercial places... etc., which also, of course, is a matter of course. The difficulties of building are solved immediately, mostly with money, with financing.

The problem comes, the fear of responsibility arrives when the construction of a project of colossal magnitude, born from the dream of some exceptional beings, is in hand. Those same exceptional beings, by Their Grace, have called in some subtle way all the people who are now living in what will be the City of Auroville. It is understandable that during all these years it has been difficult to prioritize the construction of the City taking into account the difficulties of financing. Finally the Matrimandir has been built, the soul of the City, its gardens, the lake (for so many years it was believed to be an "impossible dream" and thanks to new technologies it has been possible to build, nothing is impossible if someone already dreamed it, and in that case the Dreamers were, are exceptional), the different aids and donations have had to be distributed and prioritize the most immediate and necessary. It is understandable, even occupying land with the most immediate to continue to keep the spaces alive while building, but without losing sight of the ultimate goal: why and for what reason we are in Auroville, why I answered the call.

With new technologies it will be possible to do things now and in the near future, innovations that seemed impossible when Mother dreamed them up. It is clear that Auroville is not going to be the place from which new technologies are born for the rest of the world, but it will be the place



Left. Rosana Agudo. Image sourced on web.

Right. Nolinikanta Gupta offering soil into the Urn.

Next Page: Aura celebrating Diwali at Nandanam.

where those technologies are used in unexpected and innovative ways. What is certain is that the very experience of living in Auroville, of overcoming the difficulties, of attending to the detachments to our way of living, the flexibility in changing our minds, our ideas, overcoming the need to want to reduce with our little minds with their egoic needs the projections of Beings who have come to push our evolution, is what will make Auroville different from any other human enterprise undertaken so far. This is the wonderful contagion. Reaching 50,000 people living in Auroville with those who one day managed to reach this goal, is what will give the critical mass necessary to replicate it in other places in the world. This is what the Auroville laboratory is based on.

Auroville is for the world, it is not for a few privileged people. The privilege is to live to build Auroville, to have heard the whisper of the Masters and to accept it.

At this time, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Sri Aurobindo's birth, the eyes of India have turned to Auroville and have begun to recognize the figure of the Master in a strong way. Sri Aurobindo's 5 Dreams resonate strongly and this seems to have activated the need to strongly support the building of the city, another of Sri Aurobindo's dreams. "There should be somewhere in the world...". Mother knew that no other nation could participate in

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“...the City that will welcome the Humanity of the Future, to participate in it, in this laboratory, is very scary, it is an enormous responsibility...”

♦ ♦ ♦



the experiment, allow it. And 55 years later, India goes a step further and commits to fully fund the construction. And it begins to do so...

It is time to protect the Dream of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother, supporting the construction, being as close as possible, contributing what we have learned. It is time to build and protect, being grateful. It is not time for unsustainable absurd confrontations that confuse, that generate pain and allow fear to have its way. The people who live in Auroville have to remember their Dream. The people of Auroville have to remember that they have gone to India, to Auroville, to become Aurovilians and that being Aurovilians does not consist only in living in Auroville, but in getting involved in building the city of Human Unity and overcoming all the difficulties, material, emotional and spiritual that this challenge demands. Remember the words of Mother: "To be a true Aurovilian" the 7 points that She lists and that I, although I do not live in Auroville I consider them as a reference for my daily Sadhana, how to be a true human being. ALL LIFE IS YOGA.

In Auroville there is no need to build bridges of understanding. Whoever calls himself a mediator is fulfilling a task that no one has asked of him and is not necessary. Only an exquisite equanimity can attend to the needs and approaches of all the parties involved and, in this sense, as far as I am concerned AVI Spain is not fulfilling the function of representing all the sensitivities that are taking place at this time and with its clumsiness (which I do not doubt has good intentions) is aggravating an issue that the good will of all the people involved will know how to solve with intelligence and heart.

I request, by means of this letter, that AVI Spain, in this case, cease with the particular personal opinions of its president. I do not believe that AVI Spain is being able to transmit in an equanimous, fair and serious way to the people it represents, the reality of the delicate and decisive moment that the Auroville community is living and that with its visceral appreciations it is being of little or no help, furthermore it is

producing unnecessary confrontations.

I can provide documents addressed to AVI Spain that last year I already sent through the Lur Gozoa Association, if required. I understand that the way in which AVI Spain, in the figure of its president, continues to address and present the issue is inappropriate and seriously affects the honor of some people living in Auroville giving names and whatsapps, thus subtracting them ability to resolve personally in a serene way any injury that may arise due to the different ways of understanding and evolve with respect to the construction of the city according to the Master Plan, accepted and sealed by The Mother.

The impartiality in "telling" the story of the process that the Auroville Community is going through must be exquisite, in the case that the different AVI's have decided that they must participate and transmit the evolution of this important and decisive moment. I understand that we must, all the people involved in different ways, transmit calm, serenity and support and above all confidence that the people will be able to solve it with the sure help of The Mother, who is taking care of them and of the City that the World Needs, the City of Human Unity.

A twinned embrace in Her Light.

Rosana Agudo is Founder of the Association Lur Gozoa for a Conscious Citizenship (Antenna of Auroville International Spain) and of the Association for Women's Leadership Mirra. Director of TTi, Technology for Inner Transformation (she participated in the 1st Business and Conscience in the city of Auroville). She is a Dharma Master and Zen Master. Creator of the School of Active Meditation and Evolutionary Development where she works in the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and Mother. She has been traveling regularly to Auroville for more than 20 years and has a very close relationship with the city, actively collaborating with its aims and objectives at every moment according to the most immediate need. Visit www.rosanaagudo.com.

India is free but she has not achieved unity, only a fissured and broken freedom.... But by whatever means, the division must and will go.

Sri Aurobindo

There are two allied powers in man; knowledge & wisdom. Knowledge is so much of the truth seen in a distorted medium as the mind arrives at by groping, wisdom what the eye of divine vision sees in the spirit.





Donate

Like any other initiative, AWARE requires various resources to carry out its missions and programmes. However, AWARE still needs financial resources to access different types of talent, tools, technology, time of experts, etc. Towards this, we appeal to you to donate generously to enable us to create better AWAREness around Auroville.

<https://awareauroville.com/support/donate/>



Contribute

Contribute to the AWAREness of Auroville. AWARE is created as a resident-run independent information portal to provide authentic unbiased information on Auroville – its ideas, ideals, and ideology. Pls. submit your written pieces to aware@auroville.org.in.

<https://awareauroville.com/support/contribute/>



Volunteer

Auroville is a city in the making. The vision of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother is its raison d'être. Many people over the years have voluntarily offered their energy and some of them have stayed or come back to stay. To come to Auroville as a volunteer implies that you somehow resonate with the city's aims and ideals; that you are ready to give your energy to its various projects and services and take part in its development.

<https://awareauroville.com/support/volunteer/>



Serve

We request the willing servitors of Auroville to contribute to AWAREauroville.com, which is the voice of the residents of Auroville. By sharing your point of view, the world as a whole will come to know the pulse of our society and learn from struggles and successes. Together, we can reach out and touch the souls waiting to be aware of Auroville and contribute towards a new future for the world.

<https://awareauroville.com/support/serve-auroville/>



Champion

As a champion you can share information about AWARE with your friends and family, and encourage them to regularly access to AWAREauroville.com. You can also attend AWARE workshops, seminars, and conferences, and help to spread the word about the important work that AWARE is doing.

<https://awareauroville.com/support/donate/>



Contact

Your support and engagement are essential to achieving our mission. We look forward to hearing from you and working together towards a better future.

Write to aware@auroville.org.in



www.awareauroville.com