



News Notes

#952 A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville 8 December 2022



Matrimandir Disk Fairies

They beheld the self-force of the Divine Being deep hidden by its own conscious modes of working.

Swetaswatara Upanishad

This is he that is awake in those who sleep.

Katha Upanishad

Pondering



For the Force that builds the worlds is a conscious Force, the Existence which manifests itself in them is conscious Being and a perfect emergence of its potentialities in form is the sole object which we can rationally conceive for its manifestation of this world of forms.

All is essentially response to vibratory contacts between force and force

Conscious Force, Life Divine, Sri Aurobindo

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Our Guidelines

Hard deadline for submissions TUESDAY 3pm



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.org.in.
- 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 3pm.

Disclaimer:

The views expressed on these pages are those of their respective authors or work groups and do not represent the position of the editors or of the community as a whole. The News & Notes serves as a channel for the publication of material coming from trusted sources within Auroville. The editors cannot be held accountable for any alleged misinformation given or offense caused. In case of any dispute, the Auroville Council may be consulted and publishing of disputed material suspended.

Roy & Agnijata, News & Notes,
Media Centre, Town Hall,
NewsAndNotes@auroville.org.in, 0413-262-2133



House of Mother's Agenda

"In fifty years the whole world, all the receptive section of humanity (I am not saying intellectual, I am saying receptive), all the receptive section of the world will be embraced—not "embraced": ABSORBED in the power of Sri Aurobindo's thought.

Those who already are have the good fortune of being the first ones, that's all."

The Mother, Agenda 16 February 1972 (+ 50 years = 2022)

The Vision of the World-Spirit¹—The Double Aspect

(continued from last week)



But what then is the uniqueness of this Form by which it is lifted so far beyond cognizance that all the ordinary endeavor of human knowledge and even the inmost austerity of its spiritual effort are insufficient, unaided, to reach the vision? It is this that man can know by other means this or that exclusive aspect of the one existence, its individual, cosmic or world-excluding figures, but not this greatest reconciling Oneness of all the aspects of the Divinity in which at one and the same time and in one and the same vision all is manifested, all is exceeded and all is consummated. For here transcendent, universal and individual Godhead, Spirit and Nature, Infinite and finite, space and time and timelessness, Being and Becoming, all that we can strive to think and know of the Godhead, whether of the absolute or the manifested existence, are wonderfully revealed in an ineffable oneness. This vision can be reached only by the absolute adoration, the love, the intimate unity that crowns at their summit the fullness of works and knowledge. To know, to see, to enter into it, to be one with this supreme form of the Supreme becomes then possible, and it is that end which the Gita proposes for its Yoga. There is a supreme consciousness through which it is possible to enter into the glory of the Transcendent and contain in him the immutable Self and all mutable Becoming, — it is possible to be one with all, yet above all, to exceed world and yet embrace the whole nature at once of the cosmic and the supracosmic Godhead. This is difficult indeed for limited man imprisoned in his mind and body: but, says the Godhead, "be a doer of my works, accept me as the supreme being and object, become my bhakta, be free from attachment and without enmity to all existences; for such a man comes to me." In other words superiority to the lower nature, unity with all creatures, oneness with the cosmic Godhead and the Transcendence, oneness of will with the Divine in works, absolute love for the One and for God in all, — this is the way to that absolute spiritual self-exceeding and that unimaginable transformation.

The Way and the Bhakta

In the eleventh chapter of the Gita the original object of the teaching has been achieved and brought up to a certain completeness. The command to divine action done for the sake of the world and in union with the Spirit who dwells in it and in all its creatures and in whom all its working takes place, has been given and accepted by the Vibhuti.

The disciple has been led away from the old poise of the normal man and the standards, motives, outlook, egoistic consciousness of his ignorance, away from all that had finally failed him in the hour of his spiritual crisis. The very action which on that standing he had rejected, the terrible function, the appalling labour, he has now been brought to admit and accept on a new inner basis. A reconciling greater knowledge, a diviner consciousness, a high impersonal motive, a spiritual standard of oneness with the will of the Divine acting on the world from the fountain light and with the motive power of the spiritual nature, — this is the new inner principle of works which is to transform the old ignorant action. A knowledge which embraces oneness with the Divine and arrives through the Divine at conscious oneness with all things and beings, a will emptied of egoism and acting only by the command and as an instrumentation of the secret Master of works, a divine love whose one aspiration is towards a close intimacy with the supreme Soul of all existence, accomplished by the unity of these three perfected powers an inner all-comprehending unity with the transcendent and universal Spirit and Nature and all creatures are the foundation offered for his activities to the liberated man. For from that foundation the soul in him can suffer the instrumental nature to act in safety; he is lifted above all cause of stumbling, delivered from egoism and its limitations, rescued from all fear of sin and evil and consequence, exalted out of that bondage to the outward nature and the limited action which is the knot of the Ignorance. He can act in the power of the Light, no longer in twilight or darkness, and a divine sanction upholds every step of his conduct. The difficulty which had been raised by the antinomy between the freedom of the Spirit and the bondage of the soul in Nature, has been solved by a luminous reconciliation of Spirit with Nature. That antinomy exists for the mind in the ignorance; it ceases to exist for the spirit in its knowledge.

*Sri Aurobindo, Essays on the Gita,
Chapter XI, pages 390-392*

https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/sa/13/essays_on_the_gita_19_e.pdf

¹ Gita, XI. 35-55

Townhall Speaks

FUNDS & ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT NOVEMBER 2022

How will work be organized and distributed in Auroville?

Money would be no more the sovereign lord. Individual value would have a greater importance than the value due to material wealth and financial position. Work would not be there as the means for gaining one's livelihood, it would be the means whereby to express oneself, develop one's capacities and possibilities, while doing at the same time service to the whole group, which on its side, would provide for each one's subsistence and for the field of his work.

The Mother

Work, bhakti and meditation

I have always said that work done as sadhana—done, that is to say, as an outflow of energy from the Divine and offered to the Divine or work done for the sake of the Divine or work done in a spirit of devotion is a powerful means of sadhana and that such work is especially necessary in this yoga. Work, bhakti and meditation are the three supports of yoga...

Sri Aurobindo

Funds & Assets Management Committee Report

AUROVILLE

FUNDS AND ASSETS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

FOUNDATION

ACUR, AUROVILLE 605 101
TAMIL NADU, INDIA
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November 2022

- All assets, buildings, farms, forests, lands are resources that belong to the Divine Mother to be optimally and diligently used by all. The assets are held in a structure-The Auroville Foundation-amenable to the laws of the land.
- FAMC has been set up in the Act to coordinate the funds & assets of Auroville held in trust for all. In view of this, the thrust of FAMC is to move forward on compliance, accountability and transparency in all areas pertaining to funds, assets, utilization and coordination with necessary human resources for the best results.
- FAMC met the Governing Board members briefly on 7th and 8th November.
- FAMC is working with a group of Aurovilians to set up a Human Resource Service to meet the needs of Auroville units and services while offering fulfilling work opportunities for Aurovilians, newcomers and volunteers. The HRS team will communicate with you all very soon.
- About PTPS: Regular stock taking had not been happening since April 2022. This has begun in November and will be carried on periodically. Fixed assets will also be looked at. Within the next 6 months PTPS is expected to transition to support the Prosperity system along with regular grocery outlets. It will no longer function under Service Trust. PTPS management board (which has done a good job of supporting the transition so far) will also stand dissolved.
- FAMC is taking forward the centralized platform for AVF accounting for all the trusts. The pilot setup is done. Remaining trusts accounts will be included to provide a complete setup where after pertinent Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the access and use of the trust accounts will be set up and tested. This is an ongoing work from the previous FAMC team. We hope to prepare the full setup for a new rollout by April 2023.
- FAMC has been working closely with the BCC since the last three months. A total revamp of BCC operations have been done and methods are put in place for bringing efficiency in collection of contributions at unit and individual level and streamlining expenditures to municipal services. During this scrutiny of the contribu-

tions to city services it has been ascertained that over six hundred residents do not contribute to the city services. We will approach the residents to be made aware to participate in the contributions and hear concerns as necessary. Also soon, the monthly expense accounts will be requested from all municipal services for proper accountability of utilization of the recurring budgets that have been disbursed.

- FAMC is in the process of consolidating GST submission and filing into six verticals across all units and services registered with AV Foundation. On Thursday, 10th November FAMC and the Foundation Office arranged for a consolidation of GST reporting and filing in respect of all units dealing with Auroville Finance and Furtherance activities. All units and services executives are requested to keep in mind the new changes for GST filing is to be properly understood and followed. Information and requirements for each of the six verticals is being shared. Please make time and participate.
- House to house verification was done for Register of Residents by members of AV foundation along with members from the various working groups. The list of house assets, stewardship and house sitter information is collated and will be streamlined in coming weeks. Preparations for a proper building assets survey will be undertaken by ATDC and FAMC where by GIS information and other pertinent parameters for the building will be recorded. Announcements on this work will be sent to the residents when it will be launched.
- Housing Policy (2011) & Housing Mandate (2018) are being revised and internal feedback and review is carried out. These drafts will be shared to the residents for feedback soon.
- Ongoing initiatives:
 - Gratitude Farm engagement in the Demo Farm of Auroville.
 - Discipline Farm review for optimum and full utilisation.
 - Understanding Housing Service processes to make them simple and focused.
 - Prosperity work.
 - Meeting with the Land Board.
- New initiative started:
 - Digitizing & Centralization of all AV accounts
 - Setting up of prepaid cards and UPI outward payment with ICICI for Units & Activities, that spend online typically requiring a debit card or UPI payment. This will allow all Units & Activities to do their operations without requiring a bank account in their name.
 - Setting up of Donation Gateway with Virtual Accounts and Virtual UPI to allow services to receive one time and recurring donations.
- Work in reviewing or update of policies and mandates:
 - Upgrade request from large activity to unit is under review and follow up—list of entities given.
 - Review of those who have not progressed is underway.
- Urgent items, routine items:
 - Review of funds distribution on recurring expenditures, collections
 - Review of the unutilized space on the 1st Floor of Archives. This space was meant for the media (AuroTraduction, News and Notes, Web Services and AV Radio.) Except for the Radio, none of the other members want to shift there. Funds needed for Radio's shift are substantial and this move may not happen in the immediate future.
 - Refurbishing of the old video & music library space is undertaken.

The Human Resources Service will begin operations from this new location.

- Office, budgets, approvals:
 - Ongoing review, funding and use of monthly budgets for FAMC office and new initiatives that will be launched subsequently.
- Challenges:
 - Work Plan for sub groups—Farms & Forests
- Resource people needed for the following teams:
 - House Repair team
 - Forest Service planning
 - BCC team
 - Integral Information Service
 - Prosperity
- Health Sector finance is being looked into.
- FAMC does not believe in parallel governance/ administration nor can Auroville's economy afford this phenomenon. There's a lot of work to be done for Auroville. Amongst us we also raised questions about whether Auroville should be funding "its own resistance" to "City the Earth Needs" and its Master Plan. The Office of the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation has not interfered in this process, though in some cases communication has gone out from a member of FAMC, who also happens to be working for the Office of the Secretary, AVFO. The outcome of this process put a few members of our community on bridging maintenance (BM) to help them find other work in the community than with the "working groups." This has been a painful process with no other alternative. Those who have been put on the BM will be asked if they need a basic minimum care package at the end of their BM period. This care package will take care of their basic needs for some more time.
- As is evident, FAMC has a huge amount of work to do. We need collaboration from the community and we request all people with skills in management and accounting, as well as people with goodwill and willingness to work, to contact us.
- Units and Trusts issues—Appointment, reappointment or resignation of trustees, unit executives and activity manager:
 - Rapid Care Services is a new activity under the umbrella entity ASSA (Auro Small Scale Activities). The scope of the work is "Repair and maintenance services- Masonry, Painting, Carpentry, Aluminum Works, Metal Works, purchasing assistance". Arun SELVAM and Balaji SRINIVASAN are appointed as managers from 2022-11-01.
 - Comm4unity is a new activity under the umbrella entity LEAD (Learn Experience and Develop). The scope of the work is "Community Building Tools/Life Coaching/Health". Kaviitha SELVARAJ and Michael MARCO—MANAGER are appointed as managers from 2022-11-01.
 - Light Art is a New Activity under the umbrella entity AVArts (AV Arts Service). The scope of work is "Art classes/workshops for children and adults, producing/selling of my own art, publishing, distribution online/offline, expressive arts creation/facilitation/sales". Helena HUTTE is appointed as new manager from 2022-11-21.
 - Auroville Institute of Applied Technology, a unit under
 - Auroville Village Action Trust. Appointment of Jean Yves Henri Claude TARIOT as an additional executive dated from 2022-11-21 to 2025-11-20. The other executives are Lavkamad CHANDRA, Karin LATZKE, Juergen PUTZ, Lakshay DHARAN.
 - SAIER under Auroville Foundation. Appointment of Lijun LIU as
 - an additional executive dated from 2022-11-21 to 2025-11-20. The other executives are Ashoke CHATTERJEE and Sanjeev RANGANATHAN.

- REVE Guest House, a unit under Guest House Trust. Appointment of Jonas SUCHANEK as an additional executive dated from 2022-11-21 to 2025-11-20. The other executives are Jean-Xavier and Ishita GRASSI LIDCHI.

*In Her Service, Smiles,
FAMC (Chandresh, Geeta, Kalya,
Sathyanarayan, ShankarDevy and Torkil)*

NOTE ON ROAD SAFETY

Dear Aurovilians, we have received a few concerned emails regarding the safety of children cycling to school in the current scenario of alternate routes while Crown works are ongoing.

We are aiming to open the Crown soon only for pedestrians and cyclists, once the sub-layers are complete and the road top surface is rough but cyclable (much like the stretch in front of Humanscapes now).

However, we take this opportunity to hereby urge all parents to stop giving motor vehicles to children who hold no driving permit. This includes mopeds, all bikes, bullets. This will go a long way in helping ensure the safety of children on the roads and also ensure that Aurovilians respect the laws of India.

*At Her service,
Govind, Hemant, Jaya, Ponnusamy,
Prasad, Sindhuja, Toby
L'avenir d'Auroville/ ATDC members*

L'AVENIR D'AUROVILLE/ ATDC

Application Announcement 08-12-2022

The following project has received Preliminary Design Approval (feedback requested before 22 December 2022 to application-avenir@auroville.org.in):

Auromode Hive Extension—PDA NO. 2587

- Applicant/s: Louis Cohen
- Architect/ Designer: Sonali
- Location/ area: Auromode
- Area for which approval is sought: 286 sq.m

Project brief: Proposed space is designed on the existing roof slab of "Auromode Hive". Extra ground space or foundations are not needed. The access through a staircase is already existing. Proposed structure is designed to have a roof with sandwich panels that can withstand the monsoon and are equipped with insulation to withstand heat. The panels will be laid in a slight slope to drain rainwater naturally. The sliding glass windows are designed to have both options of natural cross-ventilation and air-conditioning whenever required to have a clean and controlled interior needed for office use.

This is a Preliminary Design Approval, to be followed by a Building Approval.

Constructive feedback guidelines

So far, while giving permissions, we have asked the project team to include approval from the neighbours. This has no resonance with the ideals of Auroville where we are supposed to be headed towards a life guided by no desire, no preferences and no sense of ownership. We will no longer request this approval.

Similarly when we publish projects for approval, we will discard all personal feedback with respect to "neighbours choosing neighbours" or "neighbours choosing development guidelines".

All other feedback is welcome and will be part of the process.

- For more details, please see our Auronet post <https://auroville.org.in/article/93664>

Submitted by Lieve

ERRATA

Some of you may have noticed some typos that appeared in N&N #951. This was due to some technical mistake in which a global replacement of 'Fri', as in the word 'Friday' was processed on a wider range of pages than was needed. So, instead of Friday or Friends, etc... It appeared as

- Fridayends (in BCC to Increase Maintenances) or
- Fridayday (in Sante Services in December 2022).

These should have been spotted in the Proof Reading, for which I apologies.

We ask for your collaboration in preparing the materials sent for publication in the N&N: Please write full names of Months and Days of Week and use bold instead of full word in CAPs to reduce unnecessary editing and probability of casual mistakes.

Sincerely, Roy and AgniJata

BCC TO INCREASE MAINTENANCES

Dear Community Friends, BCC is happy to complete the exercise of former BCC and announce an increase of 10% in the maintenances, from December '22 onwards as indicated in the tables (2) below:

Increase In Maintenances—W.E.F 1 December 22

Type	Basic Full Time			Basic Half Time			Care Package			Apprentice Maintenance		
	Pre-sent	New	Difference	Pre-sent	New	Diff	Pre-sent	New	Diff	Pre-sent	New	Diff
Cash	6000	6800	800	3000	3300	300	—	—	—	2750	3000	250
Kind	6750	7100	350	1250	1250	0	—	—	—	3650	4530	880
In-Kind Scheme	1700	2000	300	1700	2000	300	1700	2000	300	850	1000	150
Lunch Scheme	2050	2200	150	2050	2200	150	2050	2200	150	2050	2200	150
Health Fund Sch.	500	600	100	500	600	100	500	600	100	500	600	100
Nandini	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	500	500	0
Total	17000	18700	1700	8500	9350	850	4250	4800	550	10300	11830	1530

- To partly compensate for this additional cost, we are have to increase the City Services Contribution by Aurovilians, Newcomers & FOA from the present Rs 3,470 to Rs 3,800

Children And Student Maintenances—W.E.F 1 December 22

Description	Children from 0-18						Students/18+ Children	
	Age: 0-5		Age: 6-13		Age: 14-18		Old	New
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New		
Cash	600	660	600	660	1,100	1210	800	880
Kind	1,700	1840	2,700	2940	3,200	3490	3155	3470
Health Fund	250	300	250	300	250	300	500	600
Nandini	450	500	450	500	450	500	500	550
Lunch	Nutrition Scheme						1730	2200
Total	3,000	3300	4,000	4400	5,000	5500	6685	7700

- **Note 1:** If the student goes to outside school, he does not get the lunch amount and he gets Rs 5500
- **Note 2: Age Groups**
 - 0-5 Starts with birth and ends at 6th birthday
 - 6-13 Starts with 6th birthday and ends at 14th birthday
 - 14-18 starts with 14th birthday and ends with 18th birthday

With best regards, BCC, Naren, Ocean, Radhika, Rupali

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE—ES # 159

Dated: 08-12-2022

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 CONFIRMED:

- Muthulakshmi GUNASEKARAN (Indian)
- Ruben PORRU (Italian)
- Tanisha MANN (Indian)

AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:

- Ksenia NUGAEVA (Russian)

LEFT ON HIS/HER OWN:

- Sahiti DIVI (Indian)

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, Aurore, Dheena, Jayanthi, Lakshmanan, Matilde, Matriprasad, Ramnarayana and Swadha

SAFETY AND SECURITY ISSUES ON THE CROWN ROAD

Dear Auroville community, since the road works on the Crown have been resumed by the Office of the Secretary's 'ATDC' and the Central Public Works Department (CPWD), several cases of accidents and concerns for the safety of children using the now-motorized cycle paths have been reported to us. We are equally dismayed by the lack of professionalism with which this unauthorized and dubious work is being conducted, which is also a threat to the safety and security of community members and more specifically children.

We have sent a letter to the Chairman and members of the Governing Board, with a copy to the Office of the Secretary and International Advisory Council, [which can be found here](#).

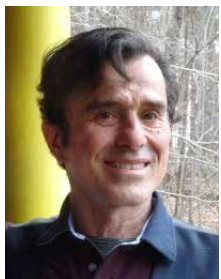
We invite all to be careful while driving along the dismantled roads, and to please inform us of any accident that may occur. This would help us in following-up with the relevant authorities.

Sincerely, Your Working Committee
Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Hemant, Maël, Sauro, Valli

Community News

Auroville Matters

PASSING ON: ROBERT LAWLOR



This is to inform the long-term residents among us that Robert Lawlor peacefully passed away on 29 November in the hospital on King Island, Tasmania at the age of 84.

After studying Art at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y., Bob discovered the Sri Aurobindo Ashram during his world travel in the 60s and returned to India with his then wife Deborah in 1967, thus becoming two of the first pioneers in Auroville, founding the community that Mother named 'Forecomers'. There they experimented with building methods, planting trees, cultivation of spirulina, dance and other forms of art, and presented the Mother with the first vegetables grown in Auroville. After a first handmade dam in Forecomers' canyon got washed out in a cyclone, they returned in 1971 to the US to recover their health, and further study Sri Aurobindo as well as sacred geometry. In '73 they were here for another two years during which they further cultivated Forecomers and translated the magnum opus of French Egyptologist, R. A. Schwaller de Lubicz, *The Temple of Man*. [In an 2009 interview](#) Robert describes what his time Auroville meant for him, his insights and further developments.

Having left Auroville due to the cumbersome situation at the time, Bob continued to work on *The Temple of Man* in the US and France and published his *Sacred Geometry, Philosophy and Practice*, which is still in print. In his later years, Robert lived on Flinders Island and King Island in Tasmania with his third wife, Joanna, and continued to study and write while regularly visiting the US to give talks. While he and Deborah had been separated, they returned together to Auroville in 2018 for Auroville's 50th. At the time, Robert met many of his old friends and gave a talk at Pitchandikulam on his final book that came out in 2015, [A Geometry for the End of Time](#).

His remains will be interred on his King Island property 'Varuna Loka' next to his deceased wife Joanna. We salute an old friend and exceptional human being, with our warmest condolences to Deborah and other members of his extended family.

OM



Awakening Spirit

ACT IN SILENCE THROUGH LOVE

For all of you who are pointing at me and others saying 'this is not what the Mother wanted', here is something The Mother said that you can think on:

"I am not eager to be the Guru of anyone. It is more spontaneous for me to be the universal Mother and to act in silence through love."

Jocelyn

AMPHITHEATER—MATRIMANDIR

Meditation with Savitri read by Mother to Sunil's music
5:30 to 6pm, every Thursday at Sunset



We follow the Sun and the timing changes with the season...

We are restarting from Book 1. 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 Amphitheater from 5:15pm.**

Thank you, Surya & Velmurugan
for Amphitheater team

MOTHER'S FLOWER SIGNIFICANCES CLASS BEGINS



I have been asked to begin a flower class on Mother's flower significances. We could meet at the Matrimandir. Date and time to be decided by the group.

Respectfully, Narad

INVITATION TO MEET RAGHU ANANTHANARAYANAN

Dear Friends, trust you are well with complete faith in Divine Grace.

As many of you are aware, Raghu Ananthanarayanan has been invited by Dena Merriam, Chairperson of Auroville's International Advisory Council (IAC) with the approval of the Governing Board and Auroville Foundation office to facilitate a deep dialogue for harmony in Auroville. Raghu and his wife Sashikala had come to Auroville in the early days and worked for some time at Matrimandir. Later they decided not to join Auroville but they have been in touch with some residents from Auroville and Sri Aurobindo Ashram. You can know more about him and his work on <https://www.raghuananthananarayanan.com>

After speaking with several Auroville residents and both sets of Working Committee members—appointed by the RA and GB, Raghu had made presentation to the Governing Board (GB), International Advisory Council (IAC) and Auroville Foundation Office (AVF) team, sharing his first-level understanding of the current situation in Auroville. You can find video recording of the presentation, interaction with some community members after the presentation and some related documents [in this folder](#).

He feels that the conditions don't seem ready yet for Working Groups appointed by the RA and GB to sit together along with GB, IAC and Foundation team and engage in a deep dialogue. However, there are several Auroville residents who are willing to engage in a deep dialogue process for healing and shared understanding. So he is suggesting a "Heartweaving" process with a small group of residents who are willing to come together for a deep dialogue for healing and harmony. He will also be speaking with the Dreamweaving team to explore working with them in close collaboration.

Dena and Raghu will be Auroville from December 14-16 (Wed-Fri) and they will be glad to meet Auroville residents who are willing to understand what the suggested "Heartweaving" process is about and then decide if they would like to participate in it. Please write an email to synthesis. auroville@gmail.com for more details.

ॐ आनन्दमयि चैतन्यमयि सित्यमयि परिमे।

Sincerely, B, Bridget, Deven, Devi N, Jyoti K, Min, Naveen V, Sehdev K, Suzie, Tom L
on behalf of the Synthesis Auroville group.

THE MOTHER'S VICTORY

Monday, 12 December 2022, 4pm at Savitri Bhavan.



Duration: 36min.

In this video talk **Dr. Alok Pandey** reflects on several aspects of the new evolutionary Lila of the Supreme Divine Mother and the need of surrender and transformation.

The Supreme Divine Mother, Aditi, is the undivided infinite consciousness. She gives birth to the gods, the adityas, and gives them light as well as the shakti, and dwells with them to uplift the earth and human beings and to bring beauty and harmony.

And then, there are the Titans, the beings of division and dark energies and destruction who fight against the gods. The battle between them has been going on continuously for ages. In this conflict, when the Titans have the upper hand, the poison appears in the form of doubt, pessimism, depression, despair, in fighting, hate and ingratitude.

Both sides of the conflict are influencing human beings: the forces of the gods, positively and the forces of the Titans, destructively. As long as the Titans and their power of falsehood in humans remain, there will be no definite victory of the Divine.

Mother and Sri Aurobindo descended into this world to end this long-drawn battle and bring the final victory of truth and light. They aim at the **Victory of Harmony** in human consciousness and on all levels of existence. A deeper wisdom must be worked out since the Titans also came out of the Divine but revolted against the Divine Will and continue to be in opposition to it.

So, the Divine Mother starts a new **Lila of Transformation** involving all to attain a final resolution of this conflict and transform and rescue the Titans. She also has to face a reality of the gods' nature: they do not have the power to transform themselves and to progress further because they do not have this urge. The Mother was in contact with all the gods of the Indian pantheon as well as with Greek and Egyptian deities. She mentioned that when she was conducting meditation sessions in the Ashram, all these gods would come and watch this new Lila going on. But they do not understand the necessity of their transformation because they are absolute in their own right.

Fortunately, there is something in man, a potential of becoming even greater than the gods. That something is the **Psychic Being** as well as man's aspiration, love and surrender to the Divine: that is what gives man joy and ecstasy.

One day the Mother asked Durga why she does not **surrender to the Supreme**. Thereafter Durga surrendered to the Supreme and that facilitated the Divine work of transformation.

In a communication with a disciple the Mother says that all the darkness that needs to be transformed comes up to the surface suddenly. Due to the presence and pressure of the Supreme, all the falsehood is brought to the surface, all the poison of the millennia. This explains why surrender to the Divine Mother and Supreme are absolutely required for the work of transformation. And She is the power that absorbs all the poison and annihilates it. All is the sacrifice of the Divine Mother for the victory of truth over falsehood.

The Mother too advises the disciple: you have to stay on, you have to endure, you have to keep offering and have to have faith, because all the falsehood has to be burst out. Moreover, it is necessary to undo the habit of lying, and to learn mental honesty.

There are multiple victories won by the Supreme. And the Mother states that the creation is consciously moving towards the Divine Origin. Now only a few men have a glimpse of it. It will take centuries until it becomes natural for entire humanity.

The video *The Mother's Victory* (36min) will be followed by *Who is the Mother* (3 min).

Submitted by Margrit

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTEGRAL YOGA

of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother

Tuesday, 13 December, 9am—12noon

- **Focus:** The Psychic being
- **Led by:** Ashesh Joshi
- **Place:** Mirabelle Education Centre, Auromodele
- **Contact:** 9489147202



All are Welcome, Ashesh

Acres for Auroville

NEW MATCHING FUND FOR LAND DONATIONS



New matching opportunity for land donations ! Don't miss this chance to double your generosity!

Dear friends and supporters of Auroville's unified base, We are happy to inform you about a new and wonderful land donation opportunity which starts on December 1st. It is open to donors from everywhere who wish to donate to Acres for Auroville!

Auroville International USA is offering a match for every land donation received through this link:

- <https://aviusa.donorsupport.co/-/XSNDXAJU>

That means that if you donate \$50 to Acres for Auroville, AVI-USA will donate an additional \$50, doubling the impact of your donation! If you contribute \$500, the total



impact will be \$1000 !

AVI-USA has raised \$20,000 for this matching opportunity, and donations will be matched until the \$20,000 runs out—so if you're planning to donate, please don't delay ! We sincerely thank AVI-USA for this wonderful boost for Auroville's designated but still-missing and vitally needed land!

With our warmest thanks for your solidarity and greatly appreciated support,

Aryadeep, Mandakini & Jothi,
for Acres for Auroville

For Your Information

NANDANAM KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

Nandanam Kindergarten invites you to join us for our Open House on

- **Monday, 12 December, at 12—2pm**
- **Tuesday, 13 December, at 10am—2pm**



Come and be part of our ever growing family and explore the wonders of our world!!!

Warm regards, K.Lakshmi,
for The Nandanam Kindergarten Team

AURODENT—DENTAL CLINIC



Dental Clinic
Auromode, Auroville.

For Appointment please contact us

Email: aurodent@auroville.org.in

Phone: 0413-2622063 What's up: 9629199328

Working hours

Monday – Friday (9am – 1 pm & 2pm – 6 pm) Saturday (9am – 1pm)

SANTÉ SERVICES IN DECEMBER 2022

Crown Road, Phone: (413) 2622803

Email: sante@auroville.org.in

Website: <http://sante.auroville.org.in>



Working Hours

- Monday—Saturday: 9—12:30pm & 2—4:30pm

Tests and Sample collection

- Monday—Friday before 12pm.
- No sample collection on Saturday.

For emergencies

- Auroville Ambulance (24/7) +91 9442224680
- Government Ambulance (24/7) phone 108

Appointment

- Please call Santé on (0413) 2622803 during working hours for an appointment & to check availability of the therapist.

Doctor consults with Dr. Senthil, Monday to Friday	Nursing Care, Ezhil & Thilagam, Daily (No appointment necessary)
Acupuncture with Andres, Monday to Friday	Ayurveda with Dr. Sonia/ Dr. Be, As Per Availability
Homoeopathy with Michael, Monday/ Wednesday/ Saturday	Integrative Psychotherapy with Juan Andres, Monday to Friday, until 16 December
Midwifery & Family counselling with Monique, As Per Availability	Pregnancy Care & Women's Wellness with Paula, Tuesday & Wednesday
Paediatric Physiotherapy with Swati, Monday & Wednesday	Physiotherapy with Osnat Monday/ Wednesday/ Thursday
Physiotherapy with Rebeca, Tuesday & Friday	Physiotherapy and Massage with Galina, Monday to Friday

In Santé, we value our patient's confidentiality & make every effort to ensure their privacy.

In case of cancellation or to reschedule, it is necessary to inform us in advance.

Love, Dasha

AURO VISION IS LOCATED IN THE HEALTH CENTER



Only recently I found out that for changing glasses there is no need to go up and down to Pondy a few times. Auro Vision is located in the Aspiration Health center, and you can pay by FS account too.

- Open 9am—1:30pm and 3—5pm daily except Sundays.

They have modern optometry and deliver within 48 to 36 hrs.

By Anton, Saylam building

MAATRAM

Centre for Psychological Development & Support
Schedule for December 2022

Walk-in, Open Consultation Hour (OCH)

- Monday to Friday: 9—10am
- Monday/ Wednesday/ Friday: 4:30—5:30pm

Therapists (for OCH) as listed below

Monday	Saif	Palani
Tuesday	Rashmi	
Wednesday	Palani	Tia
Thursday	Chetna	
Friday	Gopa	Tia

OCH is a walk-in session where anyone can come without an appointment. If the therapist is already seeing someone by the time you walk in, please leave your contact details and we will revert.

Other activities

- Rural Mental Health activities at Thamarai, Annai Nagar.
 - First Thursdays of every month, 10am—12.30noon
- Street Play on Mental Health Awareness, once a month at different venues or by invitation
- Care for senior Aurovilians

Note: Maatram will remain closed from 24 December 2022 to 2 January 2023

- 9087709434, Message or Call
- maatram@auroville.org.in
- Website: matramav.in
- Location: Mitra Youth Hostel near Town Hall.

Warmly, Megha for Maatram



The Arts

UNSEEN REALITIES

Centre d'Art Gallery, Friday, 9 December, 4:30pm
Centre d'Art Gallery, Citadines, Auroville invites you to an exhibition "Unseen Realities" by Aparna Ashok



- **Exhibition opening:** Friday, 9 December, 4:30pm
- **Exhibition Date:** 9—24 December.
- **Gallery hours:** Monday to Saturday, 2—5pm
- Centre d'Art Gallery, Citadines, Auroville.
Please Park at the Town Hall.
- Free pickup and drop from the visitors Center on Friday and Saturday, 2:30—4:30pm.
- Sunday is closed.

Introduction: How can you ever know who you are, if you feel like you don't belong?

"Unseen Realities" is an exhibition that draws our attention to feelings of confusion and estrangement ethnic minority groups are often left with, whilst trying to navigate life in a predominantly white society.

Drawing on personal experience, the narrative around the work addresses intimate feelings of 'otherness' faced as an Indian living abroad. The installations invite the viewer to actively participate and engage with the work and also consider the role of white supremacy in creating underlying tensions and discourse between concepts of social and personal identity and cultural racism. Perhaps you identify with the narrative or see parts of yourself in the subjects. If we take a closer look at the workings of society, is it fair for us to constantly feel this urge to change ourselves and to please others to fit in? Why must we have to wear a mask and live a lie?

Artist Biography: Aparna Ashok commonly known as Chaos, is a Multisensory artist, self-portrait photographer and performer who constantly finds herself shuttling between Chennai, India and the UK. She is driven by research and curiosity about the complexities of human experience and identity.

Before graduating with an MA in Visual Communication from the Royal College of Art, Aparna completed her BA in Visual Arts at Stella Maris College in Chennai, India.

Aparna's work centres around social benefit through the creation of scenarios and opportunities for interaction. She often finds herself working with themes pertaining to identity, death and rituals. Her practice is rooted in creating curated designed experiences.

Submitted by Sri/ Centre d'Art

THE AUROVILLE CHOIR
Sings Spiritual & Gospel Songs



Dear community, for the choir concerts on December 10 and 11 we request everyone to park their cars and motor bikes on the Gaia Frisbee field. Cycles will be allowed to park in the CRIPA parking space.

- To access the field, turn left on the road to Gaia.
- We would appreciate that no motorized vehicles use the temporary access between Kalabhumi and Gaia via CRIPA during the concerts, 7:30—9:15pm.

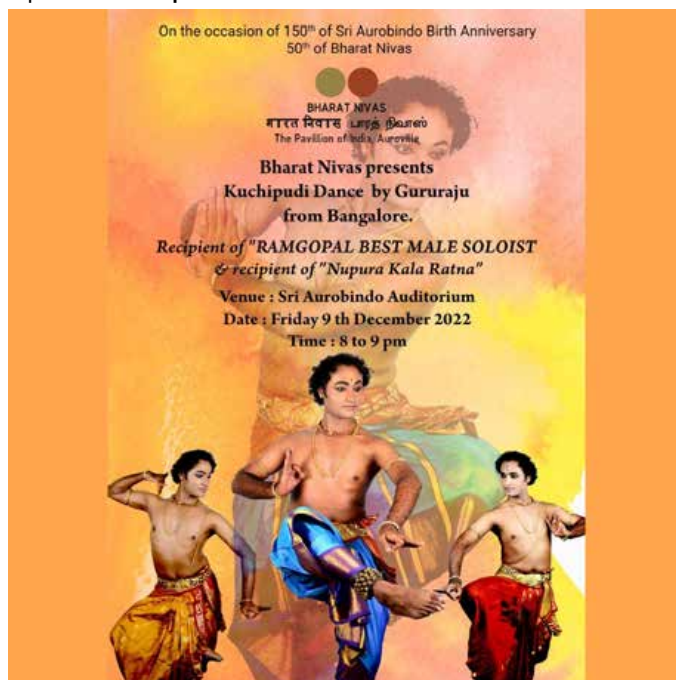
Thank you for your understanding and support.

Submitted by Nuria

BHARAT NIVAS PRESENTS

Kuchipudi Dance

Bharat Nivas presents Kuchipudi Dance by Gururaju from Bangalore, recipient of "Ramgopal Best Male Soloist & recipient of "Nupura Kala Ratna"



Thank you for registering your names by sending a mail to bharatnivas-auditorium@auroville.org.in
Auditorium, Friday, 9 December, 8—9.15 pm

Series of Talk: Growing the Spirit Through Music & Creativity by Nadaka

A New Series of Explorations
 Bhumika Hall,
 Bharat Nivas,
 Saturday,
 10 December,
 5—6:30pm

Regards,
 Vani,
 Bharat Nivas
 Cultural team



THE POP UP

Thank you, Kevin

LIVE MUSIC NIGHT: COMING HOME

Submitted by Edo

MANIFESTING THE GALAXY

During a meditation in the Matrimandir inner chamber, Birgitta had a vision of the Galaxy on the bark of the large Elephant Ear tree (at the crossing next to Matrimandir's entrance). She immediately went to check and then to print it. The bark didn't only manifest beautiful Galaxies, but also quite incredible Ganeshas.

To manifest the Galaxy from a tree bark is a beautiful paradox, which is uniting 2 different positions. And to find Ganesha—the remover of obstacles—on the same place is quite a sign! The Ganeshas are all fractal, which means they are formed from dozens of small Ganeshas.

Please come and see yourself and get surprised.

All the work will be on display in the Unity Pavilion from December 3 until January 11, 2023.

To manifest the Galaxy with her artwork from the bark of a tree is Birgitta's contribution to unity within Auroville.

As many people have missed the opening, Birgitta is offering an introduction and guided tour through the exhibition on:

- Tuesday, 13 December, at 4:30pm
- Thursday, 29 December, at 4:30pm
- Tuesday, 10 January, at 4:30pm
- On appointment, 9442300574

Submitted by Arun

Ecology

GREEN COLUMN

Leaders meet on Plastic and Biodiversity, Supreme Court hears about GM foods, mass Youth rally in Chennai



Mustard in Court

Let's start in India, where on Wednesday [petitioners asked the Supreme Court](#) to ban commercial cultivation of genetically modified mustard seeds which in October, received approval from the Environment Ministry. In a rare moment of empathy the Justice B.V. Nagarathna [reminded the court](#) of the social cost of technology: "In rural areas, women are experts in removing weeds. They are a part of the labour force in agriculture in India. It brings them employment... You know it is because women started agriculture that humankind stopped being nomads and we saw the sprouting of civilisations."

Also, the risk to biodiversity was expressed [by the lawyer of Gene Campaign](#): "There are non-GM hybrids that far

outperform GM crops. There are over 4,000 varieties of mustard being cultivated in India and almost every household in the country consumes it. All such varieties will be contaminated, if environmental release is not stopped." And of course the battle between supporters and protesters includes continued mutual questioning of each others' research and lobby tactics ([See Here](#)).

Finally, the Central Organisation For Oil Industry and Trade said GM Mustard will not boost production. During 1951-52 in India, production of grain was only 5.2 crore MT and today it has increased to more than 30 crore MT without using GM seeds...([See Here](#)).

There is much at stake and tensions are high as it's not just a technology on trial but an entire worldview and perception of reality. Are we humans a modest member of the Web of Life? Or are we its Masters to mould it to our economic desires?

UN conference on Plastic Pollution

Moving swiftly to the South coast of Uruguay where historic negotiations about global plastic pollution have just ended. Representatives from governments, the private sector and civil society began to develop an international legally binding way to end plastic pollution, including in the ocean. They hope to finalize the deal by 2024.

The first session of this [Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee](#) (INC), known as [INC-1](#), comes nine months after representatives from 175 countries endorsed a landmark resolution on plastic pollution at the United Nations Environment Assembly stating [Four main changes](#) that are needed to transition to a circular economy:

- eliminating and substituting unnecessary plastic and hazardous additives,
- designing plastic products to be reused and recycled,
- ensuring products are actually reused and recycled, and
- managing plastic pollution in an environmentally responsible manner.

Examples of possible measures include extended producer responsibility legislation; subsidies, taxes and tariffs; and bans or restrictions on specific substances, polymers or products.

The resolution comes amid a mounting plastic crisis that experts say threatens the environment, human health and the economy. [Research](#) shows that we produce around **460 million metric tonnes of plastic a year, and without urgent action, this will triple by 2060**. According to one UNEP study, over [14 million metric tonnes of plastic](#) enters and damages aquatic ecosystems annually, and greenhouse gas emissions associated with plastics are expected to account for 15 percent of the total emissions allowable by 2050 if humanity is to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

Experts say that recycling alone can't end plastic pollution and that humanity needs to consume and produce less of the material. We need a Life-cycle approach which examines how products are designed, produced and distributed. We are not going to recycle or ban our way out of the plastic pollution crisis. According to a UNEP report, a life-cycle approach can reduce the volume of plastics entering the ocean by over 80 percent and save governments US\$70 billion by 2040. It can also reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 25 per cent and create 700,000 jobs. (For more contact [Llorenç Milà](mailto:Llorenç.Milà@un.org) i Canals from UNEP's Life Cycle Initiative: llorenç.milà@un.org).

UN Conference on Biodiversity 2022

Yet another global summit where the fate of our shared planet is decided takes place in Montreal, Canada, from 5 – 17 December. [The 15th Convention of Parties of the Convention of Biological Diversity](#) (CBD). The CBD was started at the famous Earth Summit in Rio in 1992. Since then things have not been going well for non-human life forms.

We practically wiped out half of the other species and are on track to kill whoever is left.

At this COP the aim is to set concrete targets for protection and fair use of Life on Earth. Examples include leaving 30% of our land and ocean to non-humans and investing \$200 billion a year on helping them stay alive. Oceans seem to catch a lot of attention this year. [The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO](#) together with the [UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development](#), is hosting a big event at COP15, with speakers from government, science, industry, and philanthropy to explore the data, infrastructure and knowledge needs of different user groups to inform policy and decision making and showcase global solutions for conserving and restoring marine biodiversity in a changing climate. Who knows what that means: a lot of words? Or actual change...

Perhaps the powers that be will start paying attention when they feel it in their wallets. A recent study showed that biodiversity loss can increase the cost of borrowing for states. "partial ecosystem collapse" such as in fisheries, tropical timber production and wild pollination can lead to billions of dollars of extra interest costs because the country's repayment potential is affected. ([See Here](#)).

Cleaning up after the World Cup in Qatar

Some feel good news that went viral: Japanese soccer players and supporters alike cleaned up their locker rooms and the seats in their stands after the matches. Supporters carry special huge blue bags in which they collect their flags, capes, rattles, food wrappers and bottles. They call it [当たり前](#) "Atarimae" or naturally/obvious, because for them it's the most normal thing in the world to clean up and leave the place as they found it! We can't help but look at the [Kuilapalayam cricket grounds](#) and sigh...

The Earthshot Prize and flower power shoes

One of the most prestigious environmental awards, the Earth shot prize, will be celebrating 50 solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. The 2022 winners are from all over the globe including two Indian finalists. One Ankit Agarwal runs a project called Phool.

The Ganges is a lifeline to 420 million people but is the second most polluted river in the world. 96 percent of the flowers cast into the river contain highly toxic pesticides. During the festival of Makar Sankranti in 2015, Ankit Agarwal and a friend watched pilgrims drink the dirty waters of the Ganges. At the same time, they saw local temples dumping used flowers into the water, their pesticide coating poisoning the river. At that moment, Ankit had an idea that would soon become his business: Phool, the company that created Fleather. At first, Phool collected this floral waste and turned it into incense sticks. As they did, however, something extraordinary happened. A thick mat-like substance began to grow over the unused fibers lying on their factory floor. This mat, they realised, could be turned into a sustainable alternative to environmentally damaging animal and plastic leather. They called the new material Fleather.

Since then, Phool has collected 13,000 tonnes of floral waste, and they now create 90 square ft of Fleather a day, employing 163 female 'flowercyclers' from the Dalit community. "We began life with a simple idea: to clean up India's holiest river. In the process, we've discovered a material growing on our factory floor that could one day replace Animal leather for good. Sometimes ground-breaking ideas come from unlikely situations, and we want to thank The Earthshot Prize for recognising ours."

Lisbeth and Gijs

The Green Column appears fortnightly in The News & Notes. We report on green issues in Auroville, the Bioregion and the wider world. We like to hear from you!

avgreencenter@auroville.org.in or
avgreencenter@gmail.com

FALLEN NEEM TREE IN THE MATRIMANDIR GARDENS

For those curious to know why the big neem tree in the Matrimandir fell in July this year, some pictures [have a few clues](#).



Looking at these you can see that the entire bottom portion is decayed. If you had seen the tree just before it fell, you would have noticed that it had a full canopy of leaves and therefore you would have had no reason to think it would fall. This is quite common. Most people assume that tree roots are not something to think about. This event paints quite a different story, however.

So, what could have happened? In my professional, opinion I would say it was the result of direct damage to the roots (possibly by JCB or general hand digging) this could easily have been made worse by compaction of the soil around the tree. The reason compaction is an issue is that it removes the space between soil particles where air (which trees need to respire, like us) and water reside. It also makes it more difficult for roots to push through the soil when growing.

Why am I mentioning this now? Because this sort of thing will happen more and more as older trees are damaged. Young trees generally bounce back from damage much more readily than older trees (like humans, if that helps to imagine). So, it is just to say that people might want to pay a bit more attention to this sort of thing, so we don't end up losing many of our older trees.

Less trees damaged means:

- less work planting new ones
- less expenses from maintenance and removals
- less trees falling on people and property
- less trees dying (especially from droughts and storms)
- less time not benefiting from trees (shade, storm water management, air purifying, improved mental and physical health etc...)

And just for reference, here is from the British Standard (BS:5837, *Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction*):

Regarding installation of a road within the [Root Protection Area \(RPA\)](#) of a tree:

- New permanent hard surfacing should not exceed 20% of any existing unsurfaced ground within the RPA
- The structure of the hard surface should be designed to avoid localized compaction by evenly distributing the loading over the track width and wheelbase of any vehicles expected to use the access
- The ground should not be skimmed to establish the new hard surface at the former ground level. Loose organic matter and/or turf should be removed carefully using hand tools. The new surface should then be established above the soil
- A layer of gravel or other granular material which remains gas- and water-permeable throughout its design life should be installed below the road surface
- The soil structure including the area beneath the proposed new hard surface should be protected from compaction during installation. This may be achieved by:
 - the use of temporary ground protection to safeguard the working area;
 - constructing the new surface with machinery working forward from the surface as it is constructed (known as "rolling out").
- The excavation needed for the placement of kerbs, edgings and their associated foundations and haunchings can damage tree roots. Within the RPA, this should be avoided either by the use of alternative methods of edge support or by not using supports at all.

Is any of this being followed at present? No.

Regarding my question, two News and Notes ago, we have our first answer (by Mahalakshmi Home):



Submitted by Island (consulting arborist)

Activities

LESSONS IN CARNATIC SINGING

Each class begins with the meditative practice of yoga of sound (yoga nado-pasana) by visualizing the eight chakras corresponding to the eight notes, then we will sing a raga while studying the pulse and rhythms as well as a composition of the Carnatic repertoire.



Lessons

- **Every Monday:** classes for children, 5—6pm.
- **Every Friday:** classes for adults, 5—6pm.
- **Private lessons** (volunteer), on demand.

Educational concerts

- Every Monday and Friday, 6pm—7pm.

Bruno, at the veena, will introduce you to the nature, construction, subtleties and purposes of Carnatic music.

Venue

Music room at Bruno's in Utility in Auroville. Please leave your vehicle at the entrance to the community.

- Mobile: 9597922185, Bruno.
- nadopasana@auroville.org.in

Cordially, Bruno

CENTER FOR RESEARCH EDUCATION EXPERIENCE IN THE VISUAL ARTS

Classes and sessions for December and January '22-23
Make your reservation with the artist at least a day before.

- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10:30am—12:30pm.
Henna design class by Pooja, +91 9422978173
- Thursday, 9:30—11:30am.
Explore Drawing and Color with Audrey, 0413 2622641, +91 9489408358.
- Friday, 9—11am.
Life Model Session (A sketching of human figure)
Audrey, +919489408358, 0413 2622641
- Saturday, 2—3:30pm.
Clay Sculpture with Sangarapranan, +91 9047722987
- Sunday, 10:30am—12noon.
Oil Painting with Sangarapranan, +91 9047722987
- **"Open Studio"** is the space to experience your own creativity. Art supplies are available for you in studio.
Saturday and Sunday, 9:30—5pm. Pooja, +919422978173



CREEVA

creeva@auroville.org.in

CREEVA Art Studio, Creativity community, Auroville,
Regards, Sathya

TANGO DANCE CLASS

Every Monday group class, Cripa, Auroville



2 month commitment for a group class. Every month a new batch starts for beginners and intermediate. If they want to learn private class for Tango dance any day by appointment.
 Mani, +918637633696, In: bakisata_dance

SALSA DANCE CLASS

Every Tuesday group class
 New Creation Sports Ground, Auroville



2 month commitment for a group class. Every month a new batch starts for beginners and intermediate. If they want to learn private class for Salsa, Bachata and Kizomba Dance any day's by appointment
 Mani: +918637633696, In: bakisata_dance

AUROGAMES SESSION AT HUMASCAPE

Sessions with Aurogames help develop concentration and memory. Open to all ages from 6 year old on. The sessions take place in small groups, for a better stimulation of the children. For individual sessions, it is best to make an appointment.

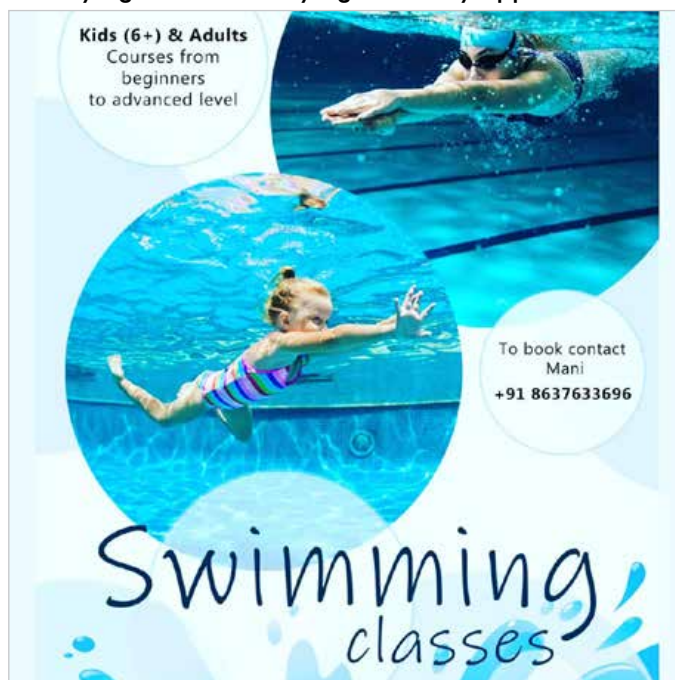


- Sessions take place at **Humanscape**, the community building
 - Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 4—5pm
- Limited places, please reserve and confirm your venue.

- Possibility of private session on appointment only.
 - Free of Charge
- Geetha 7094688421, Veronique 9488512678

SWIMMING CLASS

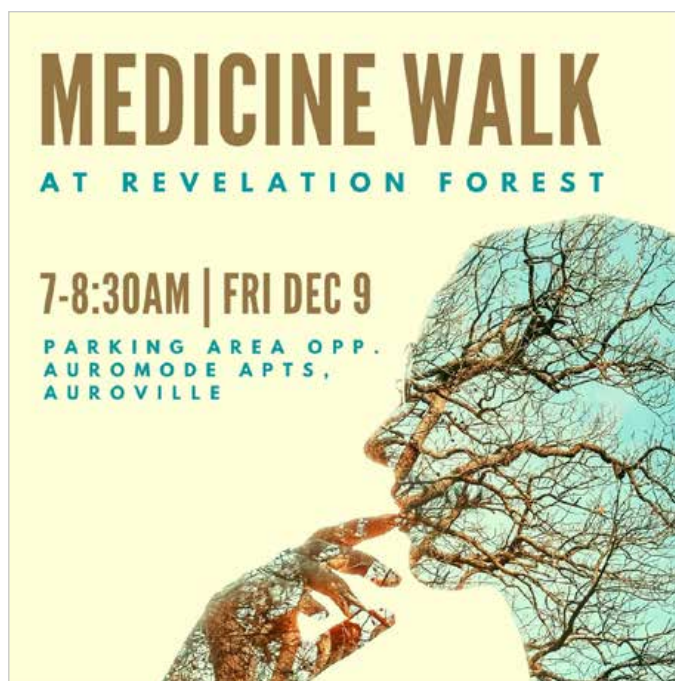
Any age kids and Any age adult by appointment.



Mani, +918637633696

MEDICINE WALK AT REVELATION FOREST

Friday, 9 December, 7—8:30am



A medicine walk is an ancient earth-based practice for soulful inquiry. Bring a question that's alive in your heart. Allow Nature to be the pure mirror and guide that supports you in discerning your next most aligned pathway. Join us for a Medicine Walk at Revelation Forest this Friday.

- **Special Instructions:** Please wear full sleeves and full pants to prevent mosquito bites. You may also carry some mosquito repellents and wear closed shoes. Carry a raincoat or an umbrella if it's rainy.
 - **Register:** WA Niharika, +919833384580
 - **Meeting Point:** Parking area opposite Auromode Apartments
 - **Instagram:** @revelation_forest, @niharika.sanyal
- Regards, Arun, +919833384580

I JUST WANNER WRITE



Thank you! Francesca

WALK WITH US



Rains are here—A rainy day is a perfect time for a walk in the woods. Join us for a curated walk in one of the densest forests of Auroville. Connect with nature through all your senses!

Also, learn about one of the most successful reforestation projects which brought back a thriving tropical forest from scratch.

- **Time:** Monday to Friday—7 am
- **Venue:** Parking area opposite CSR and Auromode Apartments
- **Duration:** 1 hr
- **Special Instructions:** Please wear full sleeves and full pants to prevent mosquito bites. You may also carry some mosquito repellants. Carry a raincoat or an umbrella if it's rainy.

Contact +91 9958084473, WA only
Regards Arun

Honorary Voluntary

GAU SEVA AT SADHANA FOREST!



Your heartfelt service is needed at the Sadhana Forest Gaushala! You are most welcome to join us on any day **from 6am onwards**, and have a vegan breakfast at **8:45am**. Breakfast is offered as a gift, and there is no need for prior booking.

If you would like to contact us:
sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in,
WA 8525038274 or call 8122274924.

Looking forward to welcoming you!
The Sadhana Forest team, warmly, Shek

EVERY SOUL IS UNIQUE



Youthlink is happy to collaborate and offer support to the new musical performance "Every soul is Unique", co created by Jump Inward, members of the Auroville community, and its bio region. The main objective of this project is to create a safe and inclusive space for all participants to allow themselves to explore their creativity and gifts through play, dance and music. It is an environment for them to discover their singularity in the diversity of the collective.

They are looking for **10 volunteers to help** on the date of rehearsal and performances (end of January), to help the participants (performers) and with backstage management.

- **Volunteers should be:**
 - Comfortable with kids and group management
 - Has leadership, someone able to take initiatives
 - Has experience in theater
 - Can possibly speak Tamil
- **Type of things to do:**
 - Manage a group of 5-8 participants (performers) throughout the performance (keep them as a group in a dedicated area, keep them calm and ready to go on stage)
 - Coordinate communication throughout the play
 - Know when to send their group onto the stage
 - Help with make-up/ hair/ costumes.
- **If you are interested to join the project,** please contact Yolane: zalayyolane@gmail.com or at +917605977202

Thanks for your participation!

Sincerely, Aurore for Youthlink and Jump Inward team

Available

Household Items Available

The below items have just become available, and are in good condition.

- IFB Washing Machine
- 15 liter hot water heater
- Bed frame and Mattress 1.20 X 1.85
- Designer Couch
- Table Wood & Granite 2m X 90cm
- A Canon MG2500 printer

If interested Please contact francis@auroville.org.in

Musical Instruments Available

- Epiphone-Express LesPaul-model, Electric Travel Guitar New
- Yamaha RBX 170 fretless bass with DiMarzio DP 148BK Ultra Jazz Bridge Pickup
- Avedis Zildjian medium Ride Cymbal 20" 370 Anniversary
- Avedis Zildjian New Beat HiHat 14" cymbals, A series
- Tama SLP Series Fat Spruce Snare Drum 6"x14"
- LED Projector EGATE New



Ray, 7094136060

Taxi Share

To Chennai Airport, 24 December, 2pm



My name is Larisa, I am a guest at the Center Guest House. I will be leaving on December 24 to Chennai Airport and I'm looking for a taxi share for that date. +447732859431 WA, aquileias@gmail.com.

Kind regards, Larisa

Help Needed

WATER—THE QUINTESSENTIAL SOURCE OF ALL LIFE ON EARTH.



Let's come together to learn and celebrate at the 2nd Water Festival in 2023. Deepen our relationship with our neighbor's and the environment, trickle initiatives, drip drop activities and flow together to celebrate and build a united and resilient world.

In line with the Citizens Assembly initiative of 2021, Auroville can take this occasion to put into practice the values and expertise showcased there. Auroville plans on hosting the final week of the water festival 2023 together with PondyCan and All4Water4all.

- **When?** From 2 February (World Wetlands Day) to 22 March (World Water Day).
- **Where?** The 7 week long festival will be held in different locations of the watershed basin area that stretches from Marrakanam to Cuddalore and which includes Pondicherry, Villupuram, Auroville and Cuddalore (PVAC bioregion).
- **Why?** One watershed—One community. We all depend on this essential resource we are all responsible for its good health.
- **What?** Closing week in Auroville Mar 16-22 exhibitions, talks, entertainment and Valedictory functions of all the water protectors and participants.

How can I help?

We need: Volunteers to assist in organisation of: Transport, Logistics, Fundraising, Events, Media and Documentation, networking and more. If you would like to give a talk, put up an exhibition, organize an education or provide entertainment on the theme of water.

- If you wish to contribute financially you can donate to FS account 251257

watarmattersmela@gmail.com, Renu

SEEDS OF UNITY

An offering by Auroville for Auroville... for all who cherish **HER dream**, community, and a celebration of togetherness on this land coming together with no particular agenda but to celebrate our community with **People Food Music**. A free food offering of local food for **1000 people**, pooja and havan, dance, fire, music, stories and art from our community and a live concert by **Emergence**. At **Solitude Farm Auroville, 23 December @ 5—10pm**



This is a non-commercial event and is open to all.

This is another call to our community to help with various aspects of the festival:

- venue preparation and cleaning
- decoration
- stage preparation
- welcome entrance
- food preparation/ serving and cleaning.
- video of the event.
- fundraising

There is lots to do and we would love to have you join the team. Please get in touch with us on 9843319260 WA or 9361618654 (Priscila) WA

There is a beautiful energy emerging around this event. Many people are coming together who don't necessarily work together or even know each other! Celebration has an amazing power of adhesion within a community and we would love you to be part of it! The creation of the event working on a collective level can bring about beautiful healing for us all!

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Links to videos about the event

- <https://youtu.be/49k5m4QRors>
- <https://youtu.be/1EDh-Gf7LVs>

Love, Seeds of Unity Team

AUROVILLE ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC BUS SEEKS FUNDING



Dear All, Auroville Accessible Public Bus was running at loss till end of October. Additionally we had annual insurance renewal and Annual Fitness certificate renewal from the Transport department. All together brought us a big minus.

Auroville Vehicle Service had made the advances to cover the running cost since August 2022. We were hoping the BCC would support the running cost for the year 2022—23 but unfortunately BCC has no access to grant any budget at the moment.

We kindly request you to support the community public bus in contributing whatever amount is possible to you.

- **We are currently in minus of Rs.137,000**

We do understand the current situation of Auroville but If we don't get the support from the community now, there is no other option for us, other than to close the service completely.

You could transfer to our Account 251675/ AV Accessible Bus

Thank you, Raju, Sauro & Susmita for AV Accessible Public Bus Team

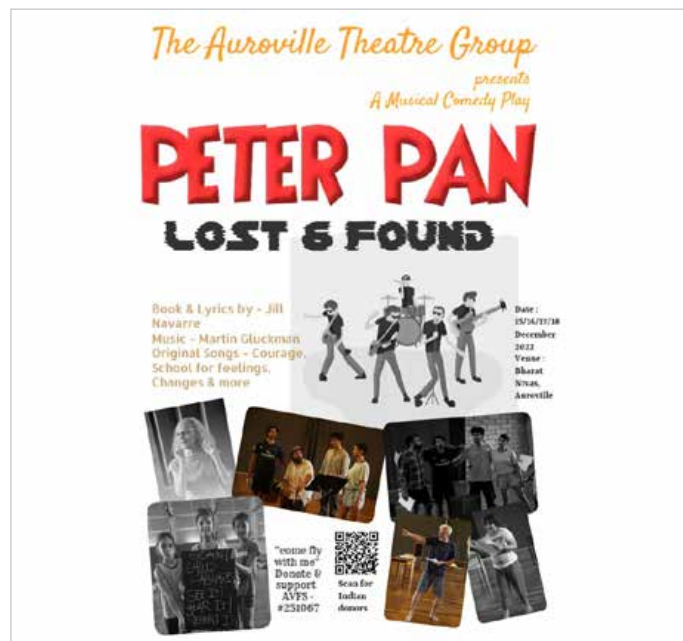
PETER PAN: LOST AND FOUND

The Auroville Theatre Group presents Peter Pan: Lost and Found, a rock musical book and lyrics by Jill Navarre, Music by Martin Gluckman.

December 15-18, 7:30 pm

@Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, Bharat Nivas, Auroville

All are invited. Admission is free!



Dear Friends, we are asking you for help! We have a wonderful show, a rock musical, with book and lyrics by Jill Navarre and music by **Martin Gluckman**, additional music by Samagr Shaksi, which we are preparing for next week.

There are songs, dance, social issues, comedy, drama, young Indian actors, Auroville actors, Auroville musicians... a wonderful mix and the story will be shared with our audience here in Auroville at the Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, Bharat Nivas, Auroville on December 15-18, 2022.

So you can imagine we are very excited to bring you this show, prepared with such loving attention for the last three months.

We just need a little help from you to carry us over: the costs are for the musicians, the costumes, the rental of the rehearsal space, the final nights of food for all the participants.

Maybe you would like to sponsor the Musicians: 4 of Auroville's best on bass guitar, lead guitar, keyboard and drums. That's rs. 80,000 for two months.

Or maybe you would like to help **Feed Us** for the final performance so that everyone can go home after the show well fed and happy. That's rs. 40,000 for 4 nights.

Costumes for this show are not so fancy, they are not period costumes, like when we do Shakespeare. Modern dress is fine, but still we need to find stuff and sometimes we don't find what we want at the **Free Store** (our clothing collective) so we have to purchase clothes: rs. 10,000.

We have been practicing at **Cripa** in Kalabhum, and we are very grateful for the opportunity to use the rehearsal hall 5 days per week for 2 1/2 months. We would like to say thank you: rs. 8,000.

So if any of these needs speak to you, please donate. Our Auroville FS # is 251067. Just say it's a contribution for *Peter Pan: Lost And Found*.

- If you are not an Indian national or are donating from abroad, you can [log on to our Indiegogo fundraiser](#).
- Here in India, for Indian donors, [you can help us here](#).

So thanks for taking the time to read this message.

We hope you will consider our request and help us bring *Peter Pan: lost And Found* to the stage!

With much love, Jill Navarre and the Peter Pan Team:
Aarti Aiswarya Aarohi Ananya Anita Celine Elka Kumud

Mani Martin Priyanka Raquel Reshabh Rohit Rupesh
Sakshi Samagr Saumya Satyavan Seshadri Shubham
Sourav Swar Edgar Zalak

Peter Pan Band:

Martin Raquel Juan Andres Stefano Andra

GREETINGS FROM ADISHAKTI



We are back with the 7th edition of the "Remembering Veena-pani Festival", 3—9 April 2023.

We have 7 performances this time, and we are proud to announce that one of these performers is our own Fellow of the Theatrical fellowship

We would like to give 1 lakh each to our performers and

the estimated cost is 8.5 lakhs and we would like to raise 8.5 lakhs to meet our cost. We have raised almost 4.5 lakhs as of now and would be grateful to you as our well-wishers and friends and those who love and celebrate the work that we do to raise the rest of the amount.

Make sure to spread the word and share it on your social media and also with your dear friends and family.

You can donate to us at this crowdfunding platform using the link below

- <https://www.ketto.org/fundraiser/support-the-remembering-veenapani-festival-2023>

A few words:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uwVhgZypPc>

Please ignore this message if you have already donated.

Regards, Vinaykumar, Artistic Director

WINGING SCAPULA, TREATMENT

Dear Friends & Family, I am Ramanan, working and living at Auroorchard Farm. I am for many years suffering from winging scapula. In my case it seems to be the medial scapular winging. I have been trying all these years to find the right doctor to confirm the diagnosis and get the right treatment but I didn't manage. I need your help to find someone who could help me with this.

Thanks & regards, Ramanan, +919842873272 WA
ramanan@auroville.org.in, ramanan2world@gmail.com

YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT IS NEEDED

for Anand—Matrimandir

Dear friends, this is to inform you that Anand had a severe heart attack a few weeks ago and had to undergo Angioplasty surgery in PIMS. On top of the ongoing medical expenses, the family of Anand had to take another burden to pay for the Angioplasty surgery. The Auroville health fund has told us that the maximum limit that they can help for Anand is Rs 1,50,000 and it was offered for his operation planned for December. Now, as the Angioplasty surgery had to be done, the doctor has advised to postpone that operation for the one portion of his skull to January or February 2023. So the amount Rs 1,50,000 (One lakh and fifty thousands) offered for his skull replacement operation will be paid for his Angioplasty operation bills.

We are requesting the community again to come forward to help Anand and his family to pay for the operation that is expected to happen in January or February. They do not have enough funds as they have already spent a lot beyond their capacity so far.

The minimum expected amount for the operation for his skull replacement is Rs 2,50,000 (Two Lakhs and Fifty thousands).

Anand needs support, please give your contribution to the FS account 251019.

Thank you, Antoine, for MM executives and coordinators

Foods, Goods and Services

RAPID CARE TEAM

Dear Community members, we are happy to offer the following services for our community:



- Repairs and maintenance for Houses, Offices, Yards.
- We also do carpentry, welding, aluminum fabrication, masonry, wall painting, plumbing, electric work, washing machine repair & installation, a/c repair and installation, Inverter repair and installation, dth installation and purchase assistance.
- We also do small and simple construction like extensions, remodeling and floor tilings for houses, apartments and offices.

We are a group of trained young Aurovilains who will be carrying out the tasks under the supervision of experts as mentors from various relevant fields of expertise and experience.

We will be sourcing all the necessary materials from Auroville units wherever possible and our staff will be composed of people from the Auroville community and bio region.

Kindly contact us and hire our services at the below mentioned contact details.

Best regards, Arun & Balaji For Rapid Care Services
7639810621 Arun, 8270071581 Balaji
rapidcare@auroville.org.in

LATEST NEWS FROM INSIDE INDIA—TRAVEL SHOP

Mr. Ganesh our Travel Consultant can only be contacted directly for discussing Travel itineraries, issuing, rescheduling etc. for all kinds of ticketing



by phone or/ and by WA: +91 9894598686

- by email: travelshop@auroville.org.in or domestic@inside-india.com

Under the revised guidelines of the health ministry, the submission of self-declaration forms on the online Air Suvidha portal stands discontinued.

E-Visa portal gets upgraded and it is now again possible in the UK and Canada to apply for the same. Maybe the situation with E-Visa in other countries will also improve with the same upgrade. If not working we recommend to get the Visa directly from the Indian Embassies.

Aircraft of most of the Airlines are fully booked and it's advisable to make bookings well in advance. Lufthansa will have daily flights from April onwards.

For travelers who accept flexible flight dates: there is a chance to get international flight tickets for only about 15 % higher price than in the past. But if one books late and has a fixed itinerary it could be 40 % or even double.

- **Srilankan airways** special fare is available to Narita, Paris and London.
- **Vistara airline** competitive fares are available to Paris, Frankfurt and London.
- **Qatar airways** good fares are available to Stockholm, Munich, Zurich, Rome and Milan.
- **Etihad airways** special fare is available to Rome, Milan, Paris, Frankfurt and London.
- **Oman airways** has special fares to Zurich and Paris.

We have started to receive International Tourist again and need one person who has knowledge in the field of Touring business.

If interested please contact joster@inside-india.de

Joster, Inside India

AUROMODE HIVE OPEN HOUSE

Friday, 9 December,
10am—5pm

Dear All, Auromode Hive would like to invite you to an Open House on Friday, 9 December, from 10am to 5pm.



We will have free internet! All are welcome to try out our coworking space, Free of Charge!!!

For more details regarding our Plans check out our catalog at our WA Business No. 7092197375

Auromode Hive Team

TECH ELVES

Dear all, YouthLink has started an initiative called 'Tech Elves' in order to help Aurovilains better understand their technology!

From simple things such as adding a contact to your phone to more in depth tasks like completely backing up your computer, we are available to come once a week and help you with anything you may need concerning your technology.



- **If you are interested and would like some assistance,** WA/message us at +91 8940725128

or send an email to youthlink@auroville.org.in and we will set a time to come and meet you:)

The YouthLink Team, Sanata

ECO FEMME OPEN HOUSE

Every Thursday morning from 10:30am

Dear friends, join our open house at our office in Auroshilpam every Thursday morning from 10:30am. Come and learn about sustainable menstrual products and our not-for-profit programs and pick up discounted cloth pads, cups and cloth nappies.



See you soon!

The Eco Femme Team'

Auroville Poetry

“LET’S HONOR ALL... ”

Lime-light
Shining for some
Sour for others

With all in Thy domain
O deathless sun-light
So sweet, sweaty and bright!

With joyful Gratitude,
Anandi Zhang

Voices and Notes

AUROVILLE RADIO



Dear Aurovilians, please check the latest podcasts of your favourite radio! Stay tuned!

[Here you can listen](#) to the stream channel (playing 24/7).

[Here you can see](#) on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts

- [Teens Connect—Ep. 1 \(Integral education\)](#)
- [Kadhaj Ketpoma—Ep.11 \(Literature\)](#)
[“நீ நதி போல ஓடிக்கொண்டிரு”](#)
- [I just wanna write—Ep.1 \(Creative Writing\)](#)
- [Marlenka’s weekly offering—ep.73 \(Literature\)](#)
- [Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi—420 \(Integral Yoga\)](#)

... and more! on www.aurovillerradio.org

Please help us to relocate the radio!
Donate to F. A. number 251369

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

Peace and Love

Regards, Wobbli

ELBA GOT ANANDI

Dearest friends, Elba got the name Anandi in 1980 for her Birthday from Champaklal. He wrote it on a paper, he was already on Mauna. I did not know what was the meaning, when I asked him, he wrote “a feminine of Ananda”.

I said thanks, but I am not going to use it, it is too much! But we have started a Kids ‘Community in Utility and the kids started chanting the name... and all my cells were answering with Joy!... and I decide to use it... A few years back quite a few more girls started having Anandi, an Aurovillian, an Indian, a Spanish, a Chinese... and I started feeling that was a kind of too much, and confusing sometimes, and I add “a” at the end. And I was Anandi-a in Auroville. “A” stands for, from Auroville, Argentina, and America.

I felt OK. And one day I found a Mapuche word (from Patagonia) that touched me: ayün. Not only because it starts with “a”, but also for the meaning: Amor (love), but semantically means: love as a veil be taken out. I was feeling that powerfully and decided to add it to my name. And from 25- 11-2021, done!

Within Her Grace,
Anandi ayün, Certitude

AROHANAM:

Ecovillage in context of our sustainability challenge



Our society is faced with the common challenge in human existence which is caused by the unsustainable situation in the current socio-economic and ecological system. Whether we are talking about population growth, social inequity, environmental and ecological concerns, we are now witnessing unsustainable exponential growth in every realm of life, due to the free market arrangement of the economic system, development of global capitalism and the economic outlook of separation, fragmentation, reductionism and individualism lacking community cohesion. Environmentally sustainable and ecologically oriented eco villages should be focused towards developing low impact lifestyles that reduce the “ecological footprint” reducing consumption based on necessity and zero waste via circular economies.

In its ongoing journey to impact the roots of our beginnings Arohanam seeks to be a facilitator of eco-villages focused on sustainability and achievable outcomes. Our efforts are for catalyzing the aura of communities to grow a renewing future. We will be working with pathfinders and pioneers in the field of grassroots innovation to develop with their aegis and outreach avenues.

Key criteria:

- Strong local self-governance
- Close to a resource center
- Acceptance of new technologies
- Population diversity

Regards, Surajkiran,
Mobile: 9884204918 (Voice and WA)

PRE-AUROVILLE

Near Matrimandir there is a burial place. It belonged to the people which lived about 2500 years ago. Approximately about that time Mahavira created Jainism, Buddha—Buddhism, Rishis—Vedas. It was a time of great events. Maybe the ancient people 2500 years ago knew about the future Auroville and tried to create something similar. Why not? There were special human beings in that time.



In this case can we say something about pre-Aurovilians? Yes, it is possible, they were eco friendly, didn’t have motorbikes, didn’t need the crown road, didn’t kill trees by bulldozers. Contemporary mankind changed the climate but pre-Aurovilians didn’t participate in it. People now forgot about key words of Jainism—ahimsa (non-violence), aparigraha (non-possession).

From time to time the golden rules of Jainism are born again. For example French journalist and political theorist Pierre Joseph Proudon (1809-65) wrote: “La propriété c’est le vol”, “Property is theft”. The bourgeoisie didn’t like this theory and Proudon was put into prison more than once.

Idea of Auroville not was born in the XX century only. Similar city was created 3400 years ago in ancient Egypt—Akhetaten. The Mother was incarnated then—Tiyi, the mother of pharaoh Achenaton, creator of that city.

Usually the ancient people preferred to live near rivers or lakes. It is possible that the pre-Aurovilians lived near Ousteri but at a distance from their graveyard (or necropolis). Of course they can create wells near burial land.

We respect our parents, grandparents. What about distant ancestors? I was happy to see in the graveyard or necropolis the bush rhododendron with many beautiful flowers. The Mother’s name for these flowers is Abundance of beauty.

Boris

PS The famous beautiful Nefertiti was the wife of Akenaton: ‘Maybe you want or not want, Nefertiti lived in this world.’

THE JOY OF WORK

As we observe in the vast movement of Time, the self-correcting evolution of consciousness and life on Earth progresses in stages.

In the Joy of Work in one's unique calling, in one's swabhava and swadharma, time and the impatience associated with boringness disappear. Any such feelings of boringness is the result of works done unconsciously. In Conscious Works or Action the monkey mind galloping with the wild vital horse settle down in co-creative joyfulness. And here in Auroville, the motivation and Vision, the consciousness behind that Joy of Work must be as that of our founders', not just the same myopic ways of living of the old-world humans.

Here's some guidance from The Mother's Agenda of June 24, 1967:

"Does that state of consciousness, that way of being, that way of existing, reacting, expressing, does it strive towards the divine Manifestation? Is it in conformity with the tendency towards the divine Manifestation? The movement is trying to be as sincere and spontaneous as possible under the influence of the divine Presence..."

(Then Mother turns to the translation of two texts by Sri Aurobindo which she wants to publish.)

"That is a great secret of sadhana, to know how to get things done by the Power behind or above instead of doing all by the mind's effort."

That's exactly the point.

Then:

"The importance of the body is obvious; it is because he has developed or been given a body and brain capable of receiving and serving a progressive mental illumination that man has risen above the animal. Equally, it can only be by developing a body or at least a functioning of the physical instrument capable of receiving and serving a still higher illumination that he will rise above himself and realise, not merely in thought and in his internal being but in life, a perfectly divine manhood. Otherwise either the promise of Life is cancelled its meaning annulled and earthly being can only realise Sachchidananda by abolishing itself, by shedding from it mind, life and body and returning to the pure Infinite, or else man is not the divine instrument, there is a destined limit to the consciously progressive power which distinguishes him from all other terrestrial existences and as he has replaced them in the front of things, so another must eventually replace him and assume his heritage."

(The Life Divine, XVIII.231)

I understand! I have been preoccupied with this all the time."

- https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/ma/agenda_08/1967-06-24-01_e.htm

What follows in the discussion between Mother and Satprem is very important in understanding this new being or beingness

That's why the necessity of "a change in consciousness", a change from the false mental dualistic me-centered consciousness to the Supramental Truth-Unity We Consciousness: Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (The World is One Family) leading to Sanatana Dharma (Unity in Diversity) leading to a Life Divine on Earth. And the easiest and most joyful way to that is the Sunlit Path of Surrender, the Path of Bhakti that completes in synthesis the Paths of Jnana and Karma: the three mutually co-existing foundations of Integral Yoga. These are and must be the crucial bases of life and governance in Auroville if we are to move forward in joy, harmony and balance with our founders' Ideals, which are already gaining ground here in Mother India and the rest of the world with the receptives.

Otherwise the pains and sufferings while experiencing the continuous individual and collective churnings towards the Divine Manifestation, which are the multiform progressive life processes and challenges we face everyday, the most basic of which for many is the survival mode, of having access to life's basic needs of food, shelter, clothing and bare necessities.

The shift to the Truth-Unity Consciousness changes everything, the perception and actions change, towards collective upliftment.

Zech, 2022.12.05

THE UNITED NATIONS' REQUEST

To Build the Galaxy vis Systems Engineering

On 13.3.1969 the Mother forwarded to the Ford Foundation a detailed request to found a feasibility study to build her 50,000 inhabitants' town via systems engineering; a preliminary master plan (renamed the Galaxy) and all the relevant documentation were enclosed.

In 1987 Suresh Hidocha, who with Mother's blessings had contacted Dr. Firstman of the Planning Research Corporation, California, to adopt systems engineering, handed over to me copy of his archive. I was a member of the Centre of Human Unity researching Mother's town and guidelines; our compilations were distributed to the community along with the News and this called back the Mother's architect after an eight years absence.

The United Nations request on 29.12.1971 to Dr. Firstman "to accept the role as Town Planner described", on behalf of the Government of India to which the Sri Aurobindo Society had submitted the [Galaxy] project, concludes the Hindocha archive. The Pakistan conflict erupted and this ended the matter.

On Sri Aurobindo's Mahasamadhi Day, Paulette

United Nations

Nations Unies



Technical Assistance Recruitment

Services United Nations,

New York 17, New York

From the Government of the Republic of India

Job Description

IND-630-158-TA

15 November 1971, Auroville

The expert will advise the Sri Aurobindo Society for the Government of India, on the composition of an expert team required for the preparation of a technical feasibility report which is needed for the development of Auroville, a new town project being established as an international cultural centre. In particular the expert will:

1. Review with the Society the nature of the proposed project, its principal elements and the major problems (institutionally and technically) that are related to its implementation;

2. Prepare a draft discussion document as a preliminary to the final report in mid-mission for the Society, identifying the principal areas that would appear to require primary focus on the part of an expert team in its preparation of a technical feasibility report (to be used for discussion purposes prior to final report); and

3. Prepare a final report for submission by the Society to the Planning Commission, Government of India, which will outline the nature and content of the proposed technical feasibility study, set forth its objectives, describe the principal areas requiring study, establish the type of assistance required, number and type of experts, with job descriptions and/or consultants and the terms of reference for that latter, and length of time required. The expert should bear in mind that, for this purpose, the township to be created is not the usual type of new town. Particular attention must be given in the report to the special quality and concept of the community to be created and to the establishment of basic design criteria for achieving this concept.

Qualifications

The expert must have:

- A degree in town planning, with training in architecture, architectural history, or the arts, or equivalent preparation; and
- Experience in new towns planning, preferably from design concept through implementation stages.

Background information

The Sri Aurobindo Society, Pondicherry, India, a non-governmental organization affiliated with the Indian National Commission for UNESCO, is presently engaged in early planning for the creation of an international cultural township to be known as Auroville. Development is proposed within township limits of approximately 11,000 acres and would include an international sector and cultural pavilions, with each national pavilion to contain residential quarters (for students, permanent residents and visitors), and cultural and national objects of that nations; a university; a Sanctuary of Truth; conference facilities for international youth programmes; a seaside tourist/ resort; administration buildings; housing; Institute of Health Sciences; a model village for 100 Harijan families; an industrial zone; an industrial training institute and a model agricultural village and 1,000 acre farm with Polytechnic Institute.

The Society has proposed this project as an international environment within which people of different countries could live together in harmony as one community and engage in cultural, educational, scientific and other pursuits in order to contribute to international understanding and the promotion of peace. The Society, its objectives and proposals have been endorsed by UNESCO, and Member States and international non-governmental organizations have been invited to participate in the development of Auroville. Land acquisition is already under way. environment within which people of different countries could live together in harmony as one community and engage in cultural, educational, scientific and other pursuits

Paulette

IN MEMORY OF BHAGA—IN HER OWN WORDS

For those of you who knew Bhaga, our sister who passed away earlier this year, founder of the Laboratory of Evolution and Center for Human Unity, she left behind many writings and reflections on many topics of Life and Yoga, and Auroville. Below is something she wrote in 2011 and posted on her blog site at www.labofevolution.wordpress.com, which I feel reflects how big her Heart and Aspiration was/is, and which I feel we need more of now in Auroville and the world... OM with Peace to All

What I Really Want

8 October, 2011

Why, I suddenly wonder this morning, am I so eager to evolve further myself first of all, and to spark in others the need to evolve as well?

Why am I still living on this physical plane, in a physical body, doing all I have been doing since forty years in this Auroville? What keeps me at it day after day? What do I really want, after all?

After a moment of deep concentration within, this is the new-found truth about myself that emerges with great clarity:

What I really want is; This World to be a happy place to live in, for everybody

Not just for me and my relatives or friends, not just for everybody in Auroville either, but for everybody on this little planet Earth. I am so tired of seeing these poor people from the local villages around here, my neighbors, or my employees, so many of them living in such dire conditions, the lack of sufficient money depriving them of the needed medical care, dental care, good and abundant enough food, and proper housing.

I want money, or any other means to provide all that to those simple Indian people I see all around me and watch suffer with as much dignity and patience as they can, while the world of the rich rolls on, not even noticing their plight, and not paying even attention, let alone money, for helping them. It is with burning tears in my eyes that I am writing this. Even here in Auroville, there are still Aurovilians who don't get anything from Auroville to live on, although they participate in the work faithfully since years. There is still so much real need not taken care of, which I am aware of or have to

witness everyday, and which I am not able to relieve, however hard I try through the outer work I am doing and through approaching the various Auroville financial services.

This month, in this remote corner of Auroville, the Café some other Aurovilians are running had to lay down its three last lady employees, for as long as they cannot pay them; and the little Guest-House here (a few huts) that I am running with another resident Aurovillian, both without getting anything out of it, also had trouble covering the amount needed for the wages of our regular workers, some of whom have been working with us for more than twenty years.

For me, they are family, I could never abandon them; and the life of the entire place depends actually on their daily work here, so we couldn't do without them either; but how to get all the money necessary for them to live decently, and to put aside something, so as not to starve after some more years when they grow too old for working? And in the meantime, while they are still working with us, how to make sure we can always pay them their normal salaries, and more, as the inflation makes all prices go higher and higher?...

This whole economic crisis inexorably strangling the already poor everywhere in the world, and making so many more human beings poor too, is definitely a BAD SCRIPT, but how to stop it on the vast scale where it must be stopped? I feel like holding hands with them all, all around the world, and screaming 'HELP!...' at the top of our lungs, all together, or ringing the biggest bells we can find, or doing what some have started doing even right in the USA: to ask for the entire system to be changed, starting with the banks and all the 'Wall Streets' doing their crazy business everywhere.

I want every country, starting with Auroville, to give to each of its citizens enough to live, whatever work they do, so that no one is forced to do a work they hate or which costs them their health, just to earn enough to survive, they and the children they may have, who are our future citizens. Let's make sure they all have good reasons to respect and love Auroville. Let's make it possible here to work for the pleasure of working, that is, of doing what one would anyway be doing because it is what one really enjoys doing from the depths of one's being, just like a bird cannot help but fly and sing. This, regarding the 'others', those other human parts of my Divine Self in its Wholeness. And of course there are some other 'little people' too, all the animals and plants that live with us on Planet Earth. They too should at least not suffer any cruelty from us human beings, and in their own realms should reign more harmony.

But 'What I Really Want' includes also those tiny 'others' inside my own physical body: my dear body-cells, also living for the time being such a hard life—less hard already since they too, about twenty-five years ago, after I had done the same in 1975, began to be able to connect by themselves inwardly with the Divine, and to live in the Divine Presence within this very Physical World. It is because of my love and compassion for them too, for those other parts of my Whole Being, that I persist in this physical life, so that they can go on learning that new way of living, and participate in the future Life Divine promised to all of us who have labored for so long, so many lifetimes, to finally win this huge Game of Evolution, our Adventure as embodied Spirits.

With those two sides of 'otherness' that still need my help and love, I think I have described fully the new awareness I now have of What I Really Want in staying within this physical body, and participating to the best of my ability in the new step Evolution is taking here...

Peace, Noel

ERRATA

Again some mysterious error has occurred in issue N&N #951 in Anton's article "Regarding OP27, in which vital active links were 'deactivated'. To correct this error we post here the missing Links: [7 mm](#) / [had 1459 mm](#) / [62,000 participants](#) / [CO₂ Emissions](#) / [Global Carbon Atlas](#)

Sincerely, Roy and AgniJata

Classes, Workshops & Healing Arts

QUIET HEALING CENTER

1. Somatic Yoga Classes with Linda Lee

- Saturday 10, 17, 24 and 31 December, 10:30am—12pm

Somatic yoga classes are designed to

- learn how to use Somatics as a preparation for yoga asanas;
- experience ease, comfort, joy and stability that flows from inside out;
- include somatic preparations for Sun Salutations;
- lay down movement pathways for a seamless flow, which establish stability and safety, and stimulate courage, compassion and contentment.



Schedule

- Group sessions: Saturdays, 10:30am—12pm
- Individual sessions on request

2. Heartfull® Meditation Classes with Avantika Nirupama

- Sunday 11, 18 and 25 December 2022 9:30—10:30am)

Thanks, Guy for Quiet Healing Center
www.quiethealingcenter.info/ quiet@auroville.org.in
 Mobile: +91 9488084966

BUTTERFLY BARN

Women Temple

- Wednesday, 14 December, 7—9pm

Harvesting the gifts that this past year has brought & releasing for composting that which serves no more.

Welcome into the circle of Women exploring & connecting through embodied practices like prayer, movement, conscious touch, self inquiry, in the atmosphere of re-discovering sisterhood & celebrating each other's unique gifts.



- If you hear a whisper or a roar of 'yes' from within you, pls register on WA/ Telegram 9786658

Create Your Vision Board

Creating a sacred space that displays what qualities we want to manifest in life, actually does bring them to life—what we focus on expands. When we create a vision board with a focus and place it in a space where we see it often, we essentially end up doing short visualization exercises throughout the day.

Visualization is one of very powerful mind exercises we can do; for ex Olympic athletes have been using it to improve performance. It's simple: a vision board needs to focus on how/what one wants to feel/experience, not simply on things that one wants...

Welcome to join this 5 hour ws, to connect with your deeper longings, let your creativity flow using recycled materials and create your Vision board around specific project/topic (relationship, work, community, health...), or a more general one for ex. for next month, a year etc.

- Saturday, 10 December, 3—6pm &
- Sunday, 11 December, 3:30—5:30pm.

Please register, so I know how much material to prepare!

- WA/ Telegram 9786658967

Both above offerings by Dariya who is trained in many land and water based modalities and has been holding individual and group spaces for transformation over 25 years.



VÉRITÉ INTENSIVES

Phone: +91413 2622045, 2622606,
 Mobile: 7867805812, 8489391876
programming@verite.in,
www.verite.in

Registration required for the following intensives

Shaucha:

Yoga to Purify Body, Energy & Mind with Sabrina

- Saturday, 17 December, 9:30am—12pm

According to the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali, Shaucha (Purity) is the doorstep that connects with the inner voice, in order to reach mental clarity and accelerate spiritual development. You will learn a variety of yogic tools such as asanas, pranayamas, mudras, mantras and meditation to purify and detoxify the physical body, the energetic system and the mind. (Please have a light breakfast, or come with an empty stomach).

Vinyasa Krama Yoga, an Introduction, with Joshna

- Saturday & Sunday, 17 & 18 December, 9:30am—12:30pm

Vinayasa Krama yoga is an ancient system developed by Sri T Krishnamacharya, which focuses on using the breath to go deeper into postures, thereby accessing the layers of the self. It is a practice involving dynamic movements of the bones, muscles and ligaments, static postures for internal organs, pranayama to access one's life force and pratyahara to go beyond it.

Yoga of Forgiveness with Dr. Sehdev

- Saturday, 17 December, 2—4:30pm

From the darkness of hatred & indifference to the light of forgiveness is a momentous step. Shifting from fear & revenge into the courage of being is the true journey of the spirit.

Thushar, Programs Coordinator,
 Vérité Programming

SOUND CHAKRAS HEALING

Guided vibrational sound journey using (Bija mantras, Tibetan bowls and Tuning forks therapy) to help to Reduce Stress, Anxiety, Depression, Insomnia, stimulating the natural cellular healing process, Rebalancing the emotions & Reconnecting with your true essence.



Benefits:

- Peace, Calm and Quietude
- Mental clarity
- Revitalized, released
- Improve sleep
- Emotional and mental balance
- Inner silence
- Deep relaxation
- Grounding

Sessions:

- Individual session
- Couple session
- Small group (max 4 people)
- Big group on request

Please contact me for an Appointment :)

- Lakshmi 8489764602 or
- lakshmiprem369@gmail.com

Under Abhaya activity of ASSA trust

PITANGA



(0413) 2622403/ WA 9443902403, info@pitanga.in

Dear friends, there are some changes in the program for December.

Ashtanga Yoga—Mysore Style

Monday	7—8:30am	Sheida
Saturday	9:30—11am	Sheida

Homeopathic Clinic

“Svasti” Homoeopathic Clinic with Dr Aditi Patel, B.H.M.S., Homoeopath (Registered).

- Consultations for new cases are held by appointment only.
- Please contact her by phone +91 9428429642 for any enquiry, or come in person, Monday to Friday, 3:30—4:30pm to Pitanga.

And a last invitation to an

Evening Talk By Dr. Rajan Sankaran

- Saturday, 10 December, 7:30pm

For at least the past twenty-five years, Dr. Rajan Sankaran has been a significant figure in the world of Homeopathy. He is a brilliant clinician, a prolific author whose works have profoundly influenced the practice of countless homeopaths and a charismatic speaker whose wisdom and humor consistently delight audiences all over the world. Rajan will be in Auroville for a few days in December and has offered to give a lecture during his visit. He proposes to speak for about an hour then allow about 30 minutes for interaction.

All interested are welcome to attend

Organised by Michael Z. and Pitanga

If you wish to receive our program of activities by email, please write to us: info@pitanga.in

See you at Pitanga, with a smile!
Submitted by Andrea, for Pitanga.

TAI CHI HALL

The Tai Chi Hall in Sharnga community offers daily classes, six days a week.



Mondays & Saturdays	Tuesdays—Fridays
◦ 7:30—8:30am: Chi	◦ 7:30—8:30am: Form
◦ 8:30—9:30am: Form	◦ 8:30—9am: Chi

We practice three forms (24, 108 and 127) in the Yang style, as taught by the Inner Way School—Stevanovitch Method (artduchi.com). All are welcome to drop in.

Our next beginner’s intensive

- January 30—February 18.
taichi.auroville.org, taichi@auroville.org, Krishna



www.auroville-jiva.com, WA 9626006961
contact@auroville-jiva.com, [Facebook](#), [Youtube](#)

Natural Horsemanship

- Individual and group sessions ongoingly

Mirrabelle offers webinars, classes and workshops in Natural Horsemanship. Natural Horsemanship focuses on body language of horse and human, which is universal, by effectively using intention and centered presence to communicate clearly, with purpose, and without violence. This is the key to building a vocabulary with the horse, your partner. Experience yourself beyond words! 7 horses and ponies of all sizes and temperaments are curious to know you!



Natural horsemanship improves your self confidence, your trust, your skills in nonverbal communication—and it’s just fun time to BE with a sensitive, naturally trained horse! Mirrabelle lives with horses since she was 3 years young. Past 10 years she fulfills her life’s dream to bring children, adults and horses together in a healing way, in Auroville, Sharnga Guesthouse. Mirrabelle has studied human and horse psychology, and offers consultancy on all aspects of horse care—hoofs, nutrition, psychology, care, riding and therapy!

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- Sessions afternoons 4—6pm or mornings 8—10am

Contact: WA 9626565134, contact@auroville-jiva.com

New: Webinars Natural Horsemanship with Mirrabelle

- Horse Care and Management (5 lessons)
 - Basic needs
 - Basic anatomy
 - Feed needs
 - Deworming
 - Basic medical terminology

What we can learn from horses about leadership (5 lessons)

- History of horses and humans, and its significance
- Basic needs: similarities and differences
- Different kinds of intelligence and what they mean
- Non-verbal communication and energy levels, how to find neutral
- Setting yourself up for success, value-based Team-work!
- Contact Mirrabelle directly: 919626565134 WA or contact@auroville-jiva.com

Acupuncture, Qigong, Shiatsu with Andres



Andres Lokutta, is a experienced practitioner in Acupuncture (over 12 years), and further practices of Chinese Medicines: QiGong energy exercises, and Shiatsu: gentle stretches to increase energy flow.

Please contact us for an appointment via contact@auroville-jiva.com, WA 09626006961

Integral regression therapy training

- Intro Session 13 December, 4:30—6:30pm
- Intro Webinar 14 December, 7—9pm

Integral regression therapy and energy work based on Sri Aurobindo and The Mothers integral Yoga, integrating trauma therapy, past life regression therapy, inner child work, NLP, and a client centric approach.



Typically, integral regression therapy addresses unexplainable pains, trauma from accidents or early childhood, questions about past lives, life purpose or restricting behavior patterns.

Sigrid: An in-depth training through a series of webinars the theory of this deeply healing approach is transmitted. Therapists wishing to integrate this approach in their psychotherapeutic or body- mind — healing work shall come for presence sessions, for four 3 day workshops to Auroville, to practice facilitating the 2hrs therapy sessions, and their own personal transformation.

- **The 7 Module training in Integral Regression Therapy starts end July with Modul 1 Reliving and transforming**

Sigrid Lindemann is integrating her large professional background in this focussed approach to transforming deep, longstanding issues towards an evolving consciousness and purpose of life. Sigrid is a transpersonal regression therapist, trainer in hypnotherapy and teacher of advanced classical homeopathy, with her background in Integral Yoga, living over 20 years in Auroville, Pondicherry.

All info: Sigrid contact@auroville-jiva.com, WA9626006961

Explore your mind

- 3 day workshop in hypnotherapy
- 23, 24, 25 December

"The answers you seek never come when the mind is busy, they only come when it is still" What is hypnosis? How do the right and left brain function practically? How do conscious and subconscious interact? Explore the depths of your mind and relax! Meditate with ease! Expand your therapeutic toolbox!



Apply Selfhypnosis Workshop combining experiential learning and "Theory of the Mind "Certified course from EKAA www.ekaa.co.in

- Friday, 23 December, 4—7 pm
- Saturday & Sunday, 24 & 25 December, 9am—5:30pm at Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall
- Info meeting 21 December, 5—5:30pm. at Sharnga Guest House Terrace

Trainer: Sigrid Lindemann Certified Faculty in Hypnotherapy, Regression Therapy and Classical homeopathy, Germany and Auroville

Venue: Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall, www.sharngaguesthouse.in

Register with Sigrid, 09626006961 WA, contact@auroville-jiva.com

Our Venue Sharnga Guesthouse

- www.sharngaguesthouse.in

Sharnga Guesthouse is a green oasis, with a huge Banyan Tree, horses, birds, a lively tropical garden, with a small pool, gym and rooms from simple to AC, single to family units. A Yoga Hall, AC lounge with big screen, and the great service and international cuisine make it a perfect spot.

YEP We do offer adventure camps with kids programs, <https://www.facebook.com/YEPAV> parallel with wellness and healing sessions for parents: forest walks, camp fire, visits to various activities in Auroville, Yoga and TaiChi, art sessions, bird watching, etc! WA 09626565134

- We offer transformational practices addressing all issues of body, mind, emotion and soul, for conscious evolution. Acupuncture, Shiatsu, QiGong, TaijiQuan, Energy work, Fasting Natural Horsemanship, Horse Assisted Therapy, Medical Clowning, Yoga Nidra, Gentle Birth & Peggancy, Integral Regression Therapy, Trauma Therapy, Advanced Classical Homeopathy Systemic Constellation & Family Constellation

Languages

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, since it is a wireless-free space

Tomatis

Thank you to all those who have contacted us. We will get back to you one by one!

For more information about the Tomatis program, 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=wnpXprTl3m0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeTIG0y-sBM-lywZNdZcAng/videos>
- <https://www.listenwell.com/>

Current Language Courses at ALL

New: 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.

- This course started on 22 November and classes take place every Tuesday, 2:30—4pm.

New: Tamil Written and Spoken with Murugesan

Our teacher, Murugesan, is ready to start a new Beginner Written & Spoken Tamil Course. This course is for those who wish to enrich themselves with the complex beauty of the Tamil written alphabet and speech. Murugesan will explore the difference between spoken & written Tamil, and focus on developing listening & reading skills through songs & lyrics. Grammar will also be taught with an emphasis on practical usage. The new batch will start in November.

- Classes will take place Mondays & Thursdays, 10am to 11am.

The course will start as soon as we have a minimum of 5 students. It will run for three months comprising 24 hours of teaching.

New: English for Total Beginners with Rupam

If you can read this, then obviously this course isn't for you! But, if you know someone who could use some basic, everyday English in their daily lives, feel free to pass this along. This one-month semi-intensive course will begin with the alphabet and take the students through basic nouns, verbs, and simple sentence structures.

- Classes will take place Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays 11am—12 noon.

French with Jean-François

Jean-François is offering four 3-month (24-hour) courses:

• 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 started on November 5.
- Classes take place Saturdays, 2:30—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 mediums 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 started on November 12,
- Classes take place Saturdays, 11am to 12noon.
- We have 3-4 spots left.

• French Conversation (Pre-Intermediate)

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 will also review the grammar useful for basic conversation.

- This course started on November 21.
- Classes take place Mondays & Thursdays, 2—3pm.

• French Conversation (Intermediate)

This course is for those who have a good level in French. In this course, the basics of public communication like expression, understanding, argumentation, meeting participation shall be deepened. Jean-François would explore a range of topics like food, sports, travel, philosophy, news, literature, economics, social sciences, theater, and more. At the end of the course, students will also have reviewed the grammar useful for interaction.

- This course started on November 3.
- Classes take place Mondays & Thursdays, 3:30—4:30pm.

English Conversation with Ramesh

Ramesh's classes are ideal for pre-intermediate and intermediate level English speakers. The course aims to equip students with day-to-day conversation skills in practical situations, improved vocabulary and pronunciation, idiomatic expressions, building listening comprehension, fluency and confidence in speech. Ramesh will also touch upon basic grammatical concepts.

Ramesh runs two groups:

- Mondays & Thursdays, 2—3pm and
- Tuesdays & Fridays, 3:30—4:30pm.

This is a monthly course.

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, 10:15—11:15am. Enquire now to join!

New: Beginner Italian

Great news for Italian learners!

- Our new Beginner Italian course is slated for early January, 2023!

As always, spaces are limited. You are welcome to enquire with us and reserve your spot!

German with Verena

• A1.1 Beginner German

Verena's A1.1 Beginner German Course started this week! Verena has been trained through the Max Mueller Bhavan, Chennai/ Goethe Institute, and she brings a variety of interactive tools and offbeat approaches to her classes. We have always got excellent feedback on her course! By the end of this three-month course, you would be able to carry out simple conversations in German like introducing yourself, talking about your work, your family, your hobbies, and ask & answer questions about everyday things like shopping, restaurants, holidays, etc. No previous knowledge of German is needed for this course!

- Classes take place Mondays & Wednesdays, 11am—12:30pm.
- Course started on 28 November comprising 36 hours of teaching over three months.

• A1.2 Beginner German

This course is for students who have already taken a Beginner Course with Verena in the past or have a basic knowledge of German. The course is meant to deepen the basics previously learned and further advance the learner's German language skills.

- Classes take place Mondays & Wednesdays, 9—10:30am.
- Course started on October 31 comprising 36 hours of teaching over three months.

A note to present and past students: If you've borrowed any of our books, please bring them back! We will soon be working on cataloging our reference library.

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](#) to join or inquire about any language classes at the Lab! You can drop us an email to info@aurovillelanguagelab.org, or call us at 2623661

- **Please Note** Registration (correct contact details on our database, plus payment/contribution) is important when joining a course with us. Please see our team member at the front desk to ensure this is complete before joining a course, thank you!



The Language Lab's Opening Hours

Monday—Friday:

9am—12pm & 2pm—5pm.

Saturday:

9am to 12pm.

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

Phone: (0413) 2623 661, 4036920/22.

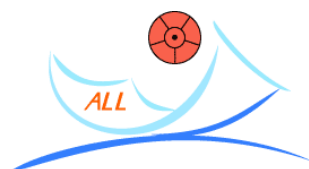
Email: info@aurovillelanguagelab.org

Find us on    @aurovillelanguagelab
Auroville Language Lab Tomatis Research Centre

Current Schedule of Classes

Language	Level	Time	Day(s) Of Classes
English	Beginner & Pre-Intermediate	10:15—11:15am	Tuesday & Thursday
	Total Beginners To start soon	11am—12noon	Monday Wednesday Friday
	English Conversation Group 1: Started 7 November	2—3pm	Monday & Thursday
	English Conversation Group 2: Started 8 November	3:30—4:30pm	Tuesday & Friday
French	Beginner Started 5 November	2:30—4:30pm	Saturday
	Beginner for Teens Started 12 November	11am—12 noon	
	French Conversation 1 To start 21 November	2—3pm	Monday & Thursday
	French Conversation 2 Started 3 November	3:30pm—4:30pm	
German	A1.1 Beginner Started 28 November 2022	11am—12:30pm	Monday & Wednesday
	A1.2 Beginner Started 31 October 2022	9—10:30am	
Hindi	Beginner To start soon	10am—12noon	Saturday
Tamil	Spoken Beginner, Started 1 November	9:30—10:30am	Tuesday & Friday
	Written & Spoken Beginner, To start December	10—11am	Monday & Thursday
Sanskrit	Beginner To start December	TBA	TBA
Spanish	Beginner Group 1 Started 3 October 2022	2:30—3:30pm	Monday & Wednesday
	Beginner Group 2 Started 3 October 2022	3:45—4:45 pm	
	Intermediate Started 22 November	2:30—4pm	Tuesday
Japanese	Beginner To start January	TBA	TBA
Italian	Beginner To start January	TBA	TBA

Vismai
for Auroville Language Lab Team



Presents at Multi Media Centre Auditorium (MMC, Town Hall)

Reminder: "Mexican Mini Film Festival"

- Friday, 9 and Saturday, 10, at 6 and 8pm, Video room (Visitors' Centre)
- Sunday, 11, at 10:30am, MMC Auditorium (Town Hall)

Friday, 16 December, 8pm**"OTTAAL" (THE TRAP)**

Directed by Jayaraj – India/Kerala, 2014

Synopsis: Ottaal is an adaptation of one of Anton Chekhov's timeless work, Vanka. Set in our present days in a small village in Kerala, it tells the story of a young boy and his relationship with his grandfather, his only living relative in the world. A delicate and poignant film that Jayaraj is happy to share with us in Auroville once again. The film won several awards -including an Award for the Best Film on Environmental Conservation/Preservation at the National Film Awards and a number of critical awards.

Original Malayalam version with English Subtitles. Duration 1h30'

A MEXICAN MINI FILM FESTIVAL

Aurofilm, A Sub-Unit Of Saiier And Auroville Mexico Present A Mexican Mini Film Festival

- Friday, 9 and Saturday, 10, at 6 and 8pm, Video room (Visitors' Centre)
- Sunday, 11, at 10:30am, MMC Auditorium (Town Hall)

We are happy to present a selection of 5 feature films about Mexican culture and 8 very short animated films of Indigenous Mexican Languages. This is an initiative of Auroville International Mexico in collaboration with Aurofilm!

Welcome to all! Bienvenidos todos!

Friday, 9 December, at Video Room, Visitor Centre

- 18:00 | Dream In Another Language/ Sueño En Otra Idioma (Original title)

Directed by: Ernesto Contreras, México, 2017, With: Fernando Álvarez Rebeil, José Manuel Poncelis, Eligio Meléndez. "When a language dies, a unique vision of the world is lost forever".

Martin, a young linguist arrives in a small jungle settlement hoping to record a conversation between two elderly men, the last two remaining speakers of the Zikril language. Unfortunately for him, the men are feuding and haven't spoken to each other in 50 years. Trying to bring the two old friends back together, he discovers that hidden in the past, in the heart of the jungle, lies a secret that makes it difficult to believe that the heart of Zikril will beat once again... A poetic, mythical and mystical film!

Not particularly for the young children—Spanish/ Engl. Sub./EST 1h.43'

- **20:00** i Super Short Films In Mexican Indigenous Languages ! (with Engl. Sub/EST!)

- **20:15** Roma

Directed by Alfonso Cuarón, México, 2018, With: Yalitza Aparicio, Marina de Tavira

In 1970, Cleodegaria Gutiérrez, "Cleo" is an Indigenous live-in maid in an upper-middle class household in the Colonia Roma neighborhood of Mexico City. She and another maid, Adela, speak Mixtec when they are together, but Spanish in the presence of the family: the mother Sofía; the father, Antonio; grandma Teresa; and their four children. When Antonio, a doctor, remains in Quebec after a conference, the problems in his and Sofia's marriage become apparent... Shot in black & white, Roma won many awards, including with the Golden Lion for Best Film at the Venice International Film Festival.

Not particularly for young children—Spanish/EST 2h.15'

Saturday, 10 December, at Video Room, Visitor Centre

- **18:00** Coco

Directed by Lee Unkrich— Animated film US, 2010

With voices of: Anthony Gonzalez, Gael García Bernal, Benjamin Bratt, Alanna Ubach, Ana Ofelia Murguía

Coco is a much awarded computer-animated fantasy film produced by Pixar Animation Studios. The story is inspired by the popular Mexican holiday call "Day of the Dead". The story follows a 12-year-old boy named Miguel Gonzalez who is accidentally transported to the Land of the Dead, where he seeks the help of his deceased musician great-great-grandfather to return him to his family among the living, and to reverse his family's ban on music.

General Audience, English/ EST 1h.45'

- **20:00** Super Short Animated Films In Mexican Indigenous Languages

- **20:15** We Are The Nobles/ Nosotros Los Nobles

By Gary Alazraki, Mexico, 2013

With: Gonzalo Vega, Luis Mendez, Karla Souza, Juan Pablo Gil, Karla Sofia Gascón.

In Mexico City, businessman Germán Noble cuts off his three spoiled children from their family fortune, which forces them to do the unthinkable: get jobs! The film's plot for this successful movie was taken from Luis Buñuel's 1949 Mexican film The Great Madcap starring Fernando Soler.

A lively comedy, not particularly for the young children, Spanish/ EST

Matinée Sunday 11 December at MMC Auditorium (Town Hall)

10:30 The Book Of Life/ El Libro De La Vida

With voices of: Diego Luna, Zoe Saldana, Channing Tatum, Ice Cube, Ron Perlman

A 3D computer-animated musical fantasy film. Based on an original idea by the Mexican director, the story follows a bullfighter who, on the Day of the Dead, embarks on an afterlife adventure to fulfill the expectations of his family and friends. The Book of Life encourages us to celebrate the past while looking forward to the future!

General Audience—English/EST 1h.35'



Program Details For Short Films Of 68 Voices
(Indigenous Mexican languages!)

A project of HOLA COMBO, a Mexican production company that worked together with Channel 11, a Mexican television channel dedicated to culture, who showed, supported and finished the project. As well as with INALI, the National Institute of Indigenous Villages in Mexico.



Friday 9 December at Video Room (Visitors' Centre):

20:00

- When a Tongue Dies/ Cuando Muere Una Lengua
"Quema polihui se tlajtol camanali"
Náuatl Language/EST 2 min



- The witch Cricket/ El Chapulin brujo
"Wo'ochi yee sisibome"/ Yaqui Language/EST 4 min
- The origin of life on earth/
El origen de la vida en la tierra
"Cha'an jiñi yùjkel yik'oty bajche'tsa'tye'jchy
cuxtyä'lel tyi lum"/ Ch'ol Language/EST 1 min
- The origin of the rainbow/ El origen del arco iris
"Nga'tae kucha kitukja' ya xi s'e nga ja menda tsio"/
Mazateco/EST 1 min

Saturday 10 December at Video Room (Visitors' Centre):

20:00

- The origin of fire/ El origen del fuego
"Juka tájjita ániat yew maachiaako"
Mayo Language/EST 1 min
- The Fireflies that Embellish the Trees/
Las Luciérnagas que embellecen los árboles
"Netosa Brajkinbebajyaata Kita'nutje Netovuwi"
Matlatzinca/EST 1'30 min
- The last dance/ La última danza
"U Yóok'otil Kíimil" Maya Language/EST 2'28 min



- My Face dies/ Muere mi rostro
"Niy Kilakán" Totonaco Language/ EST 1'27 min

Thanks a lot! Merci beaucoup, Surya and Susana
Aurofilm, Kalabhoomi,
aurofilm@auroville.org.in, 0413-2622 037



CINEMA PARADISO
Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium
 Film Program
 5 December To 11 December 2022

Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center is now in operation at 100% seating capacity. Maintaining standard Covid protocols, i.e. temperature check, registration, and Mask (and not scarves) etc. are a must even now. Please come prepared. To organize seminar/program please contact us via email.

We continue to have issues with our projector. It is getting repaired, and we will continue the program with an older alternative. Clearly it is time for us to look for a new one. If you are able to kindly donate at MMC's FS Account for this.

Indian—Monday 5 December, 8pm:
SUPER 30

India, 2019, Dir. Vikas Bahl w/ Hrithik Roshan, Mrunal Thakur, Nandish Singh Sandhu, and others, Biography-Drama, 154mins, Hindi w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

Anand Kumar, a Mathematics genius from a modest family in Bihar who is made to believe that only a King's son can become a king is on a mission to prove that even the poor man can create some of the world's most genius minds. He starts a training program named 'Super 30' to help 30 IIT aspirants crack the entrance test and make them highly successful professionals.

Italian—Tuesday 6 December, 8pm:
L'UOMO CHE VERRÀ (The man who will come)

Italy, 2009, Dir. Giorgio Diritti w/ Greta Zuccheri Montanari, Claudia Casadio, Alba Rohrwacher, and others, Drama, 115 mins, Italian-German w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG 13

Winter 1943. Martina is small child, who stopped talking since the death of her infant brother some years before. She lives in a rural area of central Italy. Her mother is pregnant again and Martina lives for the arrival of her new brother. Meanwhile, the war is getting closer, forcing the people of the village to tread a difficult path, torn between the partisan brigades and the Nazi Army. On the same day as the birth of Martina's brother, the SS start a massive roundup of civilians in the area, an infamous event that known as the Marzabotto massacre during which more than 770 people were killed in houses, cemeteries and churches.

Interesting—Wednesday 7 December, 8pm:
REVOLUTION OF OUR TIMES

Hong Kong, 2021, Dir. Kiwi Chow w/ Gwyneth Ho, Benny Tai, and others, Documentary-History, 152mins, Chinese-English w/English subtitles, Rated: R

This film vividly depicts the evolution of Hong King's social movement from 2019 till today—from the eyes of a journalist, a paramedic, a student, a social worker and many more. Questions pop up as you watch along—what is justice? How come millions of people choose to fight back? Striking, memorable and painful, but inspiring, and thought provoking for others.

German—Thursday 8 December, 8pm:
KOKON (Cocoon)

Germany, 2020, Dir. Leonie Krippendorff w/ Lena Urzendowsky, Jella Haase, Lena Klenke and others, Drama, 95 mins, German w/ English subtitles, G

In collaboration with Goethe Institute/Max Mueller Bhavan. Seductive coming-of-age tale of sexual awakening in the 2018 summer of love in Berlin Kreuzberg. The shift in perspective of this coming out story of 14-year-old Nora can be vital for those seeking understanding and presentation through queer cinema.

International—Saturday, 10 December, 8pm:
HYTTI NRO. 6 (Compartment number 6)

Finland-Russia, 2021, Dir. Juho Kuosmanen w/ Yuriy Borisov, Seidi Haarla, Valeriy Nikolaev, and others, Romance-Drama, 107 mins, Russian-Finnish w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

A young Finnish woman escapes an enigmatic love affair in Moscow by boarding a train to the arctic port of Murmansk. Forced to share the tiny sleeping car for a long ride with a larger-than-life Russian miner, the unexpected encounter leads the occupants of Compartment No. 6 to face major truths about human connection.

Children's Matinee—Sunday, 11 December, 4:30pm:
MISSING LINK

USA, 2019, Dir. Chris Butler w/ Hugh Jackman, David Walliams, Stephen Fry, and others, Animation-Adventure, 90 mins, English, Rated: PG

Sir Lionel Frost is the world's foremost investigator of myths and monsters—but his high-society peers don't recognize it. His last chance for acceptance by the adventuring elite is traveling to America's Northwest to prove the existence of a legendary creature, evidence of Man's primitive ancestry—The missing link.

Bruno Ganz Film Festival @ Ciné-Club

Sunday 11 December, 8pm:
DANS LA VILLE BLANCHE (In the white city)

Switzerland-Portugal, 1983, Dir. Alain Tanner w/ Bruno Ganz, Teresa Madruga and others, Drama, 108 mins, German-Portuguese w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

Ganz, that great loner of modernist cinema, here plays a Swiss seaman who jumps ship in Lisbon and sends reels of home movies back to his wife. The home movies, Jean-Luc Barbier's beautiful, hard-edged jazz score, terrifyingly reflect the disintegration of a man in flight from himself. But this is no idling tract on alienation, more an intrigue built around silences and deceptions of space and time. A simple film that compels and stimulates.

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. Pl donate to "Cinema Paradiso" (account #105106) or set up for a monthly contribution. We need it now more than ever.

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



CINEMA PARADISO
Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium
 Film Program
 12 December To 18 December 2022

Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center is now in operation at 100% seating capacity. Maintaining standard Covid protocols, i.e. temperature check, registration, and Mask (and not scarves) etc. are a must even now. Please come prepared. To organize seminar/program please contact us via email.

We continue to have issues with our projector. It is getting repaired, and we will continue the program with an older alternative. Clearly it is time for us to look for a new one. If you are able to kindly donate at MMC's FS Account for this.

Indian—Monday 12 December, 8pm:
PALTHU JANWAR (Domestic animal)

India, 2022, Dir Sangeeth P. Rajan w/Basil Joseph, Johny Antony, Dileesh Pothan, and others, Comedy-Drama, 117mins, Malayalam w/English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

Circumstances drove Praseon, an animator to become a livestock inspector. Despite being wary of animals, he adapts to the role of veterinary care in a village. The protagonist through a series of fits and starts finds his rhythm with the provincial population and various animals to become a sort of local hero. Interlaced with the drama, bits of comedy and jocular conversations makes this a a nice, feel-good movie.

Italian—Tuesday 13 December, 8pm:
NOSTALGIA

Italy, 2022, Dir. Mario Martone w/ Pierfrancesco Favino, Francesco Di Leva, Tommaso Ragno, and others, Comedy, 117 mins, Italian w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR

After a long time in Lebanon and Egypt, Felice, having become a wealthy entrepreneur, returns to Naples, the city where he lived until he was 15. Gradually, Felice gets back in touch with a world that he had forcibly put aside and meets Don Luigi, a priest who is fighting the Camorra. But Felice also needs to reunite with Oreste, a close friend and companion of adolescent raids, who has become a small boss of the Camorra. The advice to leave Naples is useless, as if it were possible, to leave behind a city that has entered your heart forever.

Interesting—Wednesday 14 December, 8pm:
DESCENDANT

USA, 2022, Dir. Margaret Brown, Documentary-History, 109mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

The film follows members of Africatown, a small community in Alabama, as they share their personal stories and community history as descendants of the Clotilda, the last known slave ship to illegally transport human beings as cargo from Africa to America. The ship's existence, a centuries-old open secret, is confirmed by a team of marine archaeologists.

Selection—Thursday 15 December, 8pm:
THE MAN FROM THE EARTH

USA, 2017, Dir. Richard Schenkman w/ David Lee Smith, Tony Todd, John Billingsley, and others, Fantasy-Mystery, 87mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

Jerome Bixby, the legend wrote this last screen play in his death bed with the help of his son Emerson. In the story, history professor John Oldman, is leaving. His colleagues, who include anthropologist, archeologist, historian and a biologist, arrive for an impromptu farewell party. There John declares that he is 14,000yrs old. Concerned and curious, his colleagues ask questions, and his responses are both intriguing and interesting. *A film to watch!*

International—Saturday, 17 December, 8pm:
EL BUEN PATRÓN (The good boss)

Spain, 2021, Dir. Fernando León de Aranoa w/ Javier Bardem, Manolo Solo, Almudena Amor, and others, Comedy-Drama, 116 mins, Spanish w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG-13

A company producing industrial scales in a small Spanish town awaits the visit of a committee who will judge whether they merit the local Business Excellence award. With their fate in the committee's hands, everything has to be perfect. As proprietor Blanco works against the clock to address and resolve any issues with his employees, he crosses every imaginable line.

Children's Matinee—Sunday, 18 December, 4:30pm:
THE WILLOUGHBYS



Canada, 2020, Dir. Kris Pearn w/ Will Forte, Maya Rudolph, Alessia Cara, and others, Animation, 90mins, English, Rated: PG

Convinced they'd be better off raising themselves, the Willoughby children hatch a sneaky plan to send their selfish parents on vacation. The old-fashioned siblings then embark on their own adventure into the modern world to find the true meaning of family.

Bruno Ganz Film Festival @ Ciné-Club
Sunday 18 December, 8pm:

DER HIMMEL ÜBER BERLIN (Wings of desire)

Germany- France, 1987, Dir. Wim Wenders w/ Bruno Ganz, Solveig Dommartin, Otto Sander and others, Drama-Fantasy, 128 mins, German w/ English Subtitles, Rated: PG-13

An elusive, poetic vision of Berlin before the Wall fell. An extraordinary, haunting piece that evades the hard edges of plot for a moody shimmer of ideas tracing lost souls about a cold city.

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Thanking You, Nina for MMC/CP
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ECO FILM CLUB
Every Friday at Sadhana Forest

Schedule of Events:

- 16 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Tour
- 16:30 Tour of Sadhana Forest
- 18 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Eco Film Club
- 18:30 Eco Film Club begins with "previews" of short Sadhana Forest films
- 20 Dinner is served



21:15 Free bus from Sadhana Forest back to Solar Kitchen
Before the movie, at exactly 16:30 you are welcome to join us for a full tour of Sadhana Forest and an update of our most recent work! After the film, you are welcome to join us for a free 100% vegan organic dinner!

The bus service is operated by Sadhana Forest. For more information about the bus service please contact Sadhana Forest at 8525038274.

****Note:** Families and children are welcome! Dinner for children will be served at 19:)

Friday, 16 December: The Year Earth Changed

2021/ 59 minutes/ Tom Beard

The Year Earth Changed is a nature documentary film about the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on nature. It focuses on wildlife during public health lockdowns and travel restrictions from the onset of the pandemic in 2020.

The Long Road

Editor Note: As the active Link provided by the Working Committee (RA) will not work in the printed version of N&N, we provide the contents of the email sent to R.N. Ravi Here

CONTENTS OF THE EMAILS SENT TO R.N. RAVI

Working Committee, RA

Respected Chairman of the Governing Board
R.N. Ravi and members of the Governing Board
of the Auroville Foundation,

We would like to bring to your attention yet another urgent and important matter, which affects the safety and security of Auroville residents and their children. The few residents working for the Office of the Secretary have announced, on 26 November 2022, that the works on the Crown road would resume shortly. For months, the said roads had been dismantled at several locations, creating concern for the safety of residents. This concern has tremendously increased over the last few days.

Since the work has resumed, the roads have continued to be dismantled and now most portions of the Crown have been blocked. Deviations are being improvised along existing cycle paths, which have been opened to 4-wheeler circulation by those working for the Office of the Secretary, and several accidents have been reported since the start of the works. These existing cycle paths are used daily by children on their way to school, and the Auroville School Board as well as many parents have expressed severe concern for the safety of the children.

All these roads have been closed simultaneously while the works could have been phased. Closing only the necessary stretches at a time would have minimized the safety hazard that is high in a monsoon season, and the difficulties created for any emergency movement including ambulance and other health-related movement. No announcements on a final date have been made, and we observe that since July existing well-functioning road sections of the Crown

have been dismantled without proper explanations nor reconstruction for more than 4 months.

In addition, this work on the Crown is in contravention of the Residents' Assembly's decision and resolution number RAD/01/2022 of January 2022, which directed "to pause all clearing, infrastructure laying and permanent construction work on the Right of Ways of Crown, Radials and Outer Ring in order to enable the community to define a way forward for Auroville's development."

Kindly intervene at the earliest to avoid further accidents from happening, which may create high risks for the lives of Auroville residents and their children.

Sincerely, The Working Committee selected by the Residents' Assembly of the Auroville Foundation
Aravinda Maheshwari, Chali Grinnell, Hemant Lamba, Ilayabharathy Somasundaram, Maël Shanti Vidal, Sauro Mezzetti, Valli Senthilkumar

Copy to:

- Secretary, Auroville Foundation
- International Advisory Council, Auroville Foundation
- TDC selected by the Residents' Assembly

Hans Van Baaren: the Vision and the City

Present: All aboard, don't need any baggage.

Past: Rumbblings through the known: birth pains.

Future: To be announced: knowledge based society.

6 word-memoirs', technique from E.Hemingway

It's a beautiful moment when Aurovilians come together, there is such diversity in background and the connection of why we are here. Pretty soon personalities, archetypal currents, hidden tension and arrogance of the intellect and feelings come into play.

The 'I don't know' becomes 'I know' (intellectually, emotionally). Normally we observe, reflect, and then feel. We often forget to reflect, and jump directly into feeling. Combine this with ego, power play, nervousness, a sense of entitlement, tribal/lifestyle loyalty, religious sentiment, spiritual experience, and we have all the ingredients for a good explosion. December 4 was a celebration of all types of unconscious energies blowing up.

What an amazing opportunity, what a paradigm shift.

This 'knowing' is by default in opposition to the other. So, can we admit that we don't know. Can we step out of the arena we have created? In not-knowing we can rediscover the guidelines given to us by Mother, and with that go through our process.

Can we move from organic growth (people doing amazing things, building as we go along without common vision, bureaucratic vagueness) to a growth that moves more along with the Vision. (This does not mean uniformity, it is a celebration of diversity in the collective...a new idea in the world). From knowing and feeling content with who we are, to not-knowing. To cultivate intuitive intelligence and the future that is Auroville: the City and its Vision.

It is time we realized that since twenty years or more, we have not managed very well, especially in Governance, the City and Education. Democracy is not at all so, working groups have no authority, forests are not forests at all, the buildings are not yet a city at all, we are not at all sustainable, the schools are run by very nice people but are not even close to what we aspire for etc. Don't get me wrong, there are nice things being done for sure and will continue to.

What we can do next, concretely, is to build the City. This is the one thing that is clear, it's physical...the plans and overall design are set out, we can all get involved if we wish, there is a lot to work on, design and... Build. Simply.

And all those who are then not directly involved, will allow those who are, to do it. What we can do is have a collective enthusiasm for this, and accept people making mistakes, then we are moving. We have a common purpose and goal. And this is very empowering. Very beautiful. And it's

perhaps why Mother insisted on building. And along with it, becoming a more expansive and diverse knowledge based society. What may be more difficult is to rekindle the fire for the future, for the Divine life. But I think building the City can also help with this. After all, the plan itself carries within it the vision and the drive towards human unity. It is good to have a good look at what the Galaxy is, hopefully without immediately being over-critical and arrogant.

We carry aspects of what we see in others. I find this one of the beautiful aspects of Auroville, we respect each other's process (as we understand it can happen to anyone). This is an aspect of freedom. However, sometimes a particular approach or lifestyle dominates all others and this is a real danger to diversity in human unity.

The contentment came, like a cozy blanket, covering us all, during the past decades. And also the conviction that a 'quasi-green lifestyle' is the Auroville Identity. The tribal affinity is considered Auroville Unity. The 'chez nous' in French, 'we are amongst ourselves, content and cozy. We are fixing things as we can and we are ok, moving along just fine'. A very self indulgent, narcissistic way of life that is in a dangerous comfort zone. This is as much a social commentary as it is the reality that many of us are forced to look at when we want to rekindle the spiritual aspiration of being a part of this CITY.

This 'lifestyle' became against the building of The City according to the given design-outlines. Against, or wanting to change it. I mean there must be a hundred architects, eco-visionaries, planners and specialists who would love to have a go at putting their stamp on it. But the main framework there is done by Roger and The Mother. This is not a project to build an architect's portfolio...we need architect's, people and professionals that will be executors.

Perhaps out of conviction, or habit, the 'lifestyle' became defensive and reactive. I think we can all agree: no good decisions can be made in that state.

It is good to remember that these are archetypal energies, rather than judging anyone.

Perhaps the soft blanket of the comfort zone would have us forget why we are here...the flame burning. This is very personal, this flame cannot be imposed, projected or fixed. Well, you can try, but God knows what horror that would bring about. But we can facilitate it. Then, it comes to building the city. And this is where we really need help, everything else is work in progress. And the help has come. So many people went on attack mode or 'rebel against authority'. Its normal that Auroville attracts 'rebels and cowboys'. But I would say it was a mistake and now one could also relax, let it go.

It is not meant to be a forest (we don't have forests here by the way). I mean a forest will need vast spaces, enormous, in fact so large hardly anyone will be able to live there. We are supposed to have a green belt that is obviously important, and a green city to support beauty and human life (not animal life, there is a difference). I don't know what happened that we came to identify Auroville as a green lifestyle. And it's quite ok, live and let live, unless it starts claiming to be the 'raison d'être' of Auroville: this is a very manipulative message, and also a big threat to realise the spiritual identity of Auroville, which is the true 'raison d'être' of Auroville.

Ecology, human unity, solidarity, compassion, brotherhood, sisterhood, love, family, friends, knowledge, beauty, so on and so forth... these are all wonderful building blocks for the CITY OF SPIRITUALITY... let's not mistake particular elements of these building blocks as our "identity". We have been given a grander opportunity by The Mother & Sri Aurobindo to be all of this and much more.

And this particular lifestyle identity pulls in the youth too. We can say perhaps it has a place here, we are human after all, but it cannot dominate. The youth center is a place meant for the youth (under 18), not for a mixed culture of young and old hanging out. Under and above 18 have different needs, and very different developmental stages. Mother gave a space for the youth in Auroville. They agreed to this new space but then something came in between and the resistance to the inevitable became even more clear. Normally... that's ok, but

in Auroville it is turned against the city. The older Aurovilians sometimes have shamelessly used youth as their pawn to play out this resistance to the City. This is extremely painful and also a failure in our society. I personally want to apologize to our youth, we all have failed you. But the city is a wonderful project of which you are a big part. Sorry but that's a tough one. And the opening up of the way on December 4 was inevitable, agreed upon and arranged since long. Here we see again that the process is what matters, there is none to blame, these are manifestations of certain habitual patterns that are now being challenged to move on. And actually the youth have nothing to do with this whole process. They are engaged in their own interests and often embody much more integrity and intuitive intelligence than the adults who are still trying to manipulate them.

With enthusiasm for the City, and therefore the Charter, more people will come. Many people staying in Auroville will be visiting, studying, and interacting. There will be the coming and going of many people, and those who live here will be accommodating those people, welcoming, interacting and sharing...a place of seeking knowledge and spiritual experience and a constant movement of people. Like a City...except this is one of Knowledge, research in Human Unity and Divine Consciousness. Of education and interaction.

And lots and lots of construction...cranes, bulldozers, trucks... 'oh my god, a bulldozer, how terrible': really?? Deep down the 'contentment' resists. Resistance, or discomfort...we all have sometimes! For sure. It's at times too much to bear. But we can, because of the Fire. Often the notion of a City brings about in us a deep mistrust: they have been founded on violence, desire, greed, trade, money, traffic. Places of labor, schedules, chaos, poverty, inhumane architecture, insane differences in wealth, loneliness... The plan of the city here is of a very different kind designed by The Mother and Roger Anger.

'Oh no, you misunderstood, we are all for the city.' Actually you will hear: 'I am for the city, BUT...', 'What are they doing here', and 'how are they going to do that', and 'we should design perhaps...' and, 'oh no, look at this how stupid, look, how can they do this! No no we need to do it together, with a democratic creative process, let us see what comes out naturally'.

Yes yes, this happened. A Sociological occurrence that we share with humanity at large (the contentment leading to a downfall): turned against the City. There is a lot of self-entitlement, intellectual arrogance, ownership even, false democracy, propaganda. And horrible accusations and slander thrown around by very self-entitled people, to decisions being made. And shocking ingratitude to the GOI and their representatives.

And here we have the problem. The lifestyle slowly growing here is saying No. Since decades people have misbehaved towards others (many behind a desk of some power or another have no communication skills whatsoever) and people become reactive...and never forget... There are other aspects also, like our Entry process, how terrible, humiliating and false this has been. Have we forgotten what it was like? I need to say it again, perhaps it has more to do with energies than individuals because most here mean well, they do their best. But as a collective there is not the Vision.

It is time to recognize the discomfort, and it is ok. Its an adventure!! I feel that the delight in the process of slowly the ego letting go can be less painful if we simply focus on the work at hand. When people are gathered, even in large meetings, there needs to be the Vision (the Divine will to manifest, to be of goodwill, to become nobody, not-knowing), otherwise things go downhill very fast.

And then...one hears so often,

'Oh we must build together. It's not about the city, it's about human evolution, human unity, consciousness, it will take time, we are not ready, numbers are not important'. And again all is pulled down. 'First we must grow in consciousness...'

What if the act of building brings solutions. That it is a great act, a force that will help our process? Perhaps it is very dif-

difficult, even for the very learned, to believe that the design and materialization of the Galaxy plan will be the influence for our inner growth. The Spirit of Auroville (is real and most of us know it) will be present in spite of our knowing and not knowing. We act as if matter doesn't matter. I don't know how many times Mother refers to the seeking of perfection in matter and works, being truly spiritual...

Ah yes, to build the city. Take simple examples, like a car/bike free city, or living in a certain density. Or the collective space to be so beautiful...so designed that it actually stimulates the meeting, the happy coincidences, the freedom and the privacy, and moving out of one's ego. To work differently. Can you imagine not going faster than 15 km per hour, what this will do. And all aspects of life and the City, crossing over all the time. And the green calm and beauty interwoven everywhere. The Mother manifested a design. Think about who She is, again. That's it.

And this City entails large and bold steps we must take towards becoming a knowledge society that interacts with India and the world.

We are not so developed as we like to believe. And this is all right, things will keep coming until the work is done: the Divine Manifestation, and that would be Human Unity in Diversity: the great mystery. For now this could be defined as: admittance to not-knowing and trying to stay true to the vision of Auroville. Not to fall into knowing, being against or reacting to. There is no enemy, there is no Auroville to save or protect. It will happen in spite of us. It is the act of trying that is taken up and used by the higher consciousness in this great drama, with all the mistakes. We are ignorant, which means we only have guidelines given by The Mother to navigate with, and not our knowing.

The groups in governance should have people who are willing to undergo the experience of intuitive intelligence, to work as a team on becoming conscious of the undercurrent archetypal energies and with a common vision and purpose, i.e. that of The Mother, as much as possible, and as a team. And let them have authority in decision making.

Meanwhile it is a good idea to try to cool down the emotional and nervous anger. To stop projecting on the other. Or choose sides. There are no sides, there is only the side of wanting to go towards what Mother proposes, Auroville. Concerning the list that was drawn up as part of a witch hunt against those supporting the Secretary, seen as 'waste', including 'all neutrals: actually they are the majority. But they are only neutrals because they are labeled so, and the 'extremists' are creating sides to be on, and making the noise and dominating the narrative. The neutrals are actually for the development, for receiving the help, and working together to build the city, to see a change and more people come in. They are rather positive and don't feel the need to go against the new elan.

A small town mentality is that the outsider is generally frowned upon, and if the outsider should want to come in, there would have to be some sort of initiation or so. I don't see the GB, Secretary and Foundation etc as outsiders, neither are all the people out there connected to this place. They are very capable people willing and able to help us. And here we have it: action from the part of the government representation is undertaken, after a long time of observing by the sidelines, to help move us forward and out of the dangerous, threatening situation we are in...(no decisions, no authority, a general incoming tourism, real estate, crime, a growing anti-City/ Galaxy/ development lobby etc.)

We are losing the depth in connection with being here, and it's bound to happen unless we try to work out what is given: the Vision and the City. The Fire inside for this future. To become more conscious of collective energies that are diverting our destiny toward simple fate and downfall. But this will not happen, though it looks like it often enough. To move on, move on, to a wonderful new chapter with a lot of new energy, more aligned with the Vision of Auroville, is that not what we are here for?

Hans Van Baaren

Accessible Auroville Public Bus

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



Auroville TO PONDICHERRY

	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3
Svaram Musical Center	7	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	15
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	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	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 & New comers
- Rs. 200 Round trip for guests.
- Bus passes are available at Auroville Vehicle Service, Town Hall, Auroville, 0413 2623302

Emergency Services

Ambulance (24/7): Auroville—9442224680

- PIMS—0413 2656271

Security (24/7):

- Auroville Safety & Security Team—9443090107
- Auroville Police Station—0413 2677318
- Kottakuppam Police Station—0413 2236148
- Vanur Fire Station—0413 2677368

Health: Health Center—0413 2622123

- Santé—0413 2622803
- Farewell—8903836246

Mental health 24/7 support:

- Vandrevala Foundation +91 9999666555

India Emergency Response Service (24/7): 108