

ANNEX A - Words of the Mother and more

“Greetings from Auroville to all men of good will.
Are invited to Auroville all those who
thirst for progress and aspire to a higher and truer life.”

- The Mother

Charter of Auroville

Auroville belongs to nobody in particular.

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

Auroville will be the place of an unending education, of constant progress, and a youth that never ages.

Auroville wants to be the bridge between the past and the future. Taking advantage of all discoveries from without and from within, Auroville will boldly spring towards future realisations.

Auroville will be a site of material and spiritual researches for a living embodiment of an actual Human Unity.

A Dream

There should be somewhere on earth a place which no nation could claim as its own, where all human beings of goodwill who have a sincere aspiration could live freely as citizens of the world and obey one single authority, that of the supreme Truth; a place of peace, concord and harmony where all the fighting instincts of man would be used exclusively to conquer the causes of his sufferings and miseries, to surmount his weaknesses and ignorance, to triumph over his limitations and incapacities; a place where the needs of the spirit and the concern for progress would take precedence over the satisfaction of desires and passions, the search for pleasure and material enjoyment.

In this place, children would be able to grow and develop integrally without losing contact with their souls; education would be given not for passing examinations or obtaining certificates and posts but to enrich existing faculties and bring forth new ones.

In this place, titles and positions would be replaced by opportunities to serve and organise; the bodily needs of each one would be equally provided for, and intellectual, moral and spiritual superiority would be expressed in the general organisation not by an increase in the pleasures and powers of life but by increased duties and responsibilities.

Beauty in all its artistic forms, painting, sculpture, music, literature, would be equally accessible to all; the ability to share in the joy it brings would be limited only by the capacities of each one and not by social or financial position.

For in this ideal place money would no longer be the sovereign lord; individual worth would have a far greater importance than that of material wealth and social standing.

There, work would not be a way to earn one's living but a way to express oneself and to develop one's capacities and possibilities while being of service to the community as a whole, which, for its own part, would provide for each individual's subsistence and sphere of action.

In short, it would be a place where human relationships, which are normally based almost exclusively on competition and strife, would be replaced by relationships of emulation in doing well, of collaboration and real brotherhood.

To be a True Aurovilian

The first necessity is the inner discovery by which one learns who one really is behind the social, moral, cultural, racial and hereditary appearances. At our inmost centre there is a free being, wide and knowing, who awaits our discovery and who ought to become the acting centre of our being and our life in Auroville.

One lives in Auroville in order to be free of moral and social conventions; but this liberty must not be a new slavery to the ego, its desires and its ambitions. The fulfilment of desires bars the route to the inner discovery which can only be attained in peace and the transparency of a perfect disinterestedness.

The Aurovilian must lose the proprietary sense of possession. For our passage in the material world, that which is indispensable to our life and to our action is put at our disposal according to the place we should occupy there. The more conscious our contact is with our inner being, the more exact are the means given.

Work, even manual work, is an indispensable thing for the inner discovery. If one does not work, if one does not inject his consciousness into matter, the latter will never develop.

To let one's consciousness organize a bit of matter by way of one's body is very good. To establish order around oneself, helps to bring order within oneself. One should organize life not according to outer, artificial rules, but according to an organized, inner consciousness, because if one allows life to drift without imposing the control of a higher consciousness, life becomes inexpressive and irresolute. It is to waste one's time in the sense that matter persists without a conscious utilization.

The whole earth must prepare itself for the advent of the new species, and Auroville wants to consciously work towards hastening that advent.

Little by little it will be revealed to us what this new species should be, and meanwhile the best measure to take is to consecrate oneself entirely to the Divine.

Agreement to be signed by all Applicants

Please note that the following text are not words of The Mother. This document is to be attached and used with all Admission Application Forms. This is an agreement to be signed by each applicant.

Values and principles guiding the collective life of Auroville

Auroville is an experiment, based on the ideals and vision of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother. Messages of The Mother about Auroville, such as “The Charter of Auroville”, “A Dream”, and “To be a True Aurovilian”, contain guiding steps towards the realisation of these ideals.

All forms of connecting with the Divine are recognised as means for personal growth.

The Mother stated: “Auroville is for those who want to do the Yoga of work”.

No particular religion or sectarian beliefs are encouraged. The propagation of any religious or sectarian beliefs is not in line with Auroville’s vision.

People living in Auroville are expected to contribute to the collective welfare in work, kind and/or money. Aurovilians should give their full time and energy to Auroville, ideally through the practice of Karma Yoga.

Auroville is a place for manifesting human unity. Any discrimination, social, political, geographical, economic or racial, is not acceptable.

Residents abstain from active involvement in Indian or international party politics.

Auroville is aspiring to be a universal cultural township and is subject to the laws of India. Residents abide by the laws of India. Auroville maintains a zero tolerance policy on illegal drugs.

All forms of violence are in contradiction to the ideals of Auroville. Physical violence and the threat of it are grounds for expulsion from the community.

Auroville is located in Tamil Nadu, which has a unique heritage. Residents need to respect its cultural values and avoid any form of disrespect towards local people and their customs, traditions and social order. The same respect is expected to be extended to the cultural values of all nations.

Non-ownership of immovable assets (land and buildings) in Auroville is a collective value of Auroville. Stewardship (or care-taking), of any Auroville property, does not imply ownership, and may be revised at any time.

All immovable assets in Auroville are owned by the Auroville Foundation, which holds them in trust for humanity as a whole. No resident of Auroville may acquire any immovable assets in Auroville. Ownership of any such asset in Auroville must be declared when joining Auroville.

Auroville is a self-governing community which aims to build collective prosperity for all its members, irrespective of the type of work one is engaged in. Everyone endeavours to build an economy based on generosity and sharing for the “city the Earth needs”.

Internal conflict resolution processes have been created to resolve conflicts arising between the members of the Auroville community with mutual respect and understanding. Residents agree only to involve an external agency after having exhausted the possibilities of conflict resolution based on Auroville internal processes.

By signing this document, anyone residing in Auroville agrees to the above.

I have read and agree to the above mentioned values and principles, and understand that to be an Aurovilian is to be part of a journey towards inner and collective growth.

Date:..... Signature:.....