

黎明之城，一片试验田



THE PATH OF YOGA

The Mother made this drawing
to explain to a child the meaning of Yoga.
Man is at the bottom, the Divine at the top.
The wavy line is the path of the ordinary life,
the straight line the path of Yoga.

“对于那些满足于当前世界现状的人而言，黎明之城显然没有存在的必要。”

母亲¹

虽然黎明之城²居民应该是那些追求生命提升和真理的人，但这并不意味着他们对黎明之城当前的现状感到满意。黎明之城居民可能依然过着非常凡俗的生活。然而，黎明之城的独特之处就在于，正因为有这种追求，在这里，人们在生活的每一个领域不断地进行各种尝试，努力寻找新的方法来建设一个不同的社会。

黎明之城的创始人母亲确立了城市建设的基本原则和理想。然而，这些基本原则和理想仍需逐步实现。从这个意义上讲，整个黎明之城可谓是一个研究中心。这里的研究不仅包括对生活方式较为技术层面的研究，比如替代技术、可再生能源等。的确，在当前的世界形势下，人类亟需对新型经济、治理、社会进行透彻的研究，而这正是黎明之城试验的核心所在。

要想描述这些年来黎明之城居民在各个领域尝试的无数方法和系统是几乎不可能的，更何况在黎明之城一切都不是恒定不变的。我们必须在生活中逐渐形成尽可能有弹性、宽泛的原则，这样的原则才能保持不断进步。

新型经济研究

原则明确：没有私人所有权，没有货币流通，工作不是谋生的手段，人们通过工作成长自我。黎明之城居民是如何向这些目标迈进的呢？通过反复试验，并始终铭记理想——心知他们不可能一蹴而就地达到目标，并且，他们必须探索出一条道路。

首先，在加入黎明之城之际，人们须接受的事实是：他们用带来的资金建造的房屋，房屋所在的土地，以及他们创建的商业单位都不是他们的私有财产。它们属于整个黎明之城。未来的黎明之城居民须

¹ 请点击[这里](#)阅读母亲(The Mother)简介。

² 黎明之城(Auroville): 又名曙光村，曙光之城，地球村。请点击[这里](#)阅读和下载黎明之城中英文简介。

接受的事实是：在黎明之城没有继承，没有所谓的薪酬，工作不是为了打造一份职业、赚钱或赢得某个职位。

黎明之城有一个中央基金，旨在照顾所有居民的物质需求。是的，可以说黎明之城居民通过“基本生活保障”制度收到的每月生活补贴仍然是由其工作单位提供的。不过，我们发现黎明之城居民很享受仅凭个人能力和意愿选择工作单位或领域的特权。

黎明之城的食物分配系统提供两种选择，其中之一是直接供应实物作为基本生活保障，不进行现金交换。

商业单位需将其营业额中的相当大比例资金贡献给中央基金，但这只是一个表面的指导原则。因为，真正的基本原则是：所有工作、所有能量、所有财富都必须用于服务神。在实际操作层面，这意味着黎明之城居民通过工作帮助创造和维护资产，这些资产不是属于个人，而是属于黎明之城。

黎明之城居民之间相互提供一些服务、课程和活动，其目的是逐渐实现其愿景，将黎明之城打造成一所广阔、开放的学校，每一位居民都将能够自由地完善各个方面，实现全面成长，而无需有任何经济方面的考虑。

新型治理研究

母亲谈到建立“具有灵性觉知的政府”，来代替“进行智力思考的政府”。她还谈到“神圣的无政府状态”：每一位成员觉知和服从内在神性，并且，仅服从它。

黎明之城居民如何努力实现这一理想？首先，放弃所有外部的或传统的等级制度，并且，避免将总体权力赋予任何个人或群体。然后，多年来，根据当时的需要，成立不同的工作组，每个工作组负责一个特定的生活领域。有时候，为了选择这些工作组的新成员，我们尝试了各种方法。到目前为止，这些尝试并不令人满意。我们在不断努力寻找黎明之城的最佳组织者——根据母亲所言，他们应该是不再有欲望或偏好的人。

新型社会研究

黎明之城已经是一个非常不同的社会。在这里，通常依附于财富、文凭、过去职业或社会出身的声望不再适用。如果一个人有任何声望，它通常与个人创造力和做事能力有关。

黎明之城聚集了来自非常多样化的文化、社会、知识背景的人们共同生活。这里绝不是没有冲突或误解；然而，黎明之城居民有决心、有意识地努力解决这些冲突或误解。他们始终铭记：实现大同的唯一真正出路是每个人在自己的内在不再有分裂或冲突。

黎明之城位于印度南部泰米尔纳德邦，是在相对落后的农村地区建造新城市的一项特殊实验。有一些村民，特别是黎明之城创建之时（1968年2月28日）非常年轻的村民，已经完全加入黎明之城城市建设项目，成为黎明之城居民，目前在积极参与开展各个层面的工作。此外，黎明之城城区与几个村庄相邻。事实上，有2个村庄完全或部分位于环绕城区的绿化带的规划范围内。这是一项共同发展的深刻社会实验。

黎明之城不能孤立地规划未来：它必须考虑这些村庄的发展，以逐步建立共同的发展愿景。这是一项充满挑战而又不可或缺的任务。

生态研究

在上个世纪六十年代末七十年代初，当第一批黎明之城居民到达规划的城市用地时，他们发现这里是一片被严重侵蚀的土地。人们相信，很久以前这里曾是森林地带，而如今却没有树木，剩余的表层土在被季风降雨冲走。第一个明显的任务是修复这片土地。多年来，黎明之城居民通过精心设计的土堤系统来控制水流，通过种植树木和灌木来稳固土壤，同时在低洼地带筑坝以免土壤被进一步侵蚀。这是一项身体力行的高强度研究，通过积累经验和学习研究，发展出最适宜的方法来修复荒芜的土地。无论是过去还是现在，我们的总体目标都是在尽可能多的区域重建很久以前存在的热带干旱地区常绿森林 (Tropical Dry Evergreen Forest, TDEF)。

黎明之城的各个农场在进行有机农业和永续农耕研究。并且，这里还建立了一个植物园，在进行多项试验。

适用技术研究

适用建筑技术、水处理系统、可再生能源的研究在黎明之城发展得相当成熟。

黎明之城土建研究所(Auroville Earth Institute)倡导将土壤用作建筑材料，并因为在这方面取得的成就而闻名于世。

此外，黎明之城还拥有大量的建筑师。他们自然地将黎明之城的创新研究成果应用到不同风格的建筑设计中。

黎明之城科学研究中心(Centre for Scientific Research, CSR)开发出自主品牌的水处理系统和钢丝网水泥建造的沼气系统。这些系统成功地运用到黎明之城城区以及其他地方。

活化水研究中心(Aquadyn)开发出非常有效的原创水净化系统。他们独创的动态水活化技术为人们带来健康福音。

黎明之城的其他单位致力于可再生能源、替代交通工具（电动自行车或摩托车）和生态抽水系统（比如，风力发电）等领域的工作。

Auroville, a place for experiments

“For those who are satisfied with the world as it is, Auroville obviously has no reason to exist.”

The Mother

While it is true that Auroville is meant for those who aspire to a higher and truer life, it does not mean that Aurovilians have ever been satisfied with the actual reality of Auroville as it is now. Life in Auroville can still be a very ordinary life. Yet the uniqueness of this place lies in the fact that, precisely because of that aspiration, multiple experiments are constantly ongoing in each and every domain of life, in order to try and find new ways of building a different society.

The city’s underlying principles and ideals have been given by the Mother, the founder of Auroville. However, they still have to be worked out, progressively, and in that sense the whole of Auroville is a research centre. Research does not mean only research into the more technical approaches to the way we live, such as alternative technology, renewable energy etc. Indeed, the present world situation urgently demands thorough research into new types of economy, of governance, of society, – and this precisely constitutes the core of the Auroville experiment.

Describing the innumerable methods and systems that the residents tried out in this area over the years is nearly impossible, the more so as nothing here is fixed as permanent. Life itself must slowly work out rules as supple and vast as possible in order for them to remain ever progressive.

Research in a new type of economy

The principles are clear: no private ownership, no circulation of money, work seen not as the means of earning one’s living but as the means to develop oneself. How have the Aurovilians been attempting to proceed towards these goals? By trial and error, while always keeping in mind the ideal – knowing

that they cannot reach their goals at one bound and that they must find the way.

First of all, when joining Auroville, people accept the fact that the house they may build with funds they have brought in, as well as the land on which they will have their house, and the commercial unit they may create, will not belong to them. It will belong to Auroville as a whole. Those future Aurovilians accept the fact that there is no heritage in Auroville, that there is no salary as such, and that one does not work for building a career, for earning money or for being awarded a position.

Auroville has a central fund which aims to take care of the material needs of all residents. Yes, it could be said that the system of “maintenance” by which Aurovilians receive their monthly allowance is still too closely related to the unit in which the person works. We observe here, however, that Aurovilians enjoy the unique privilege of choosing the unit or area in which they work, solely according to their capacities and aspirations.

Auroville has a food distribution system in which two options are offered, one of which is directly oriented towards no exchange of cash and towards maintenance in kind.

The commercial units are expected to give a substantial percentage of their turnover to the central fund, but this is only a superficial guideline since the real underlying precept is that all work, all energy, all wealth must be given for the service of the divine. In practice this means that Aurovilians, through their work, help in creating and maintaining assets that are not theirs but belong to Auroville.

There are a number of services, classes and activities that Aurovilians offer to other Aurovilians, with the aim of Auroville progressively becoming the vast and open school that it is envisioned to be, where each Aurovillian will be able to freely develop the different aspects of his/her integral being, regardless of any financial considerations.

Research in a new type of governance

Mother spoke of replacing ‘the mental government of intelligence’ by ‘the government of a spiritualized consciousness’. She also spoke of a divine

anarchy: each individual member becoming conscious of the inner divine, and obeying it and it alone.

How do the residents endeavor to materialize this ideal? Firstly by discarding all types of external or conventional hierarchies and by avoiding giving overall authority to any single individual or group. Then, over the years, and according to the needs of the moment, different working groups emerged, each responsible for a particular area of life. In order to select at times new members of these working groups, a variety of methods has been experimented with. These have as yet generally been considered unsatisfactory and efforts are continuously being made to try and find the best organizers of Auroville, who are to be, in the Mother's words, people who have no more desires or preferences.

A new type of society

The society of Auroville is already quite a different society, in which the prestige generally attached to wealth, diplomas, past career or social origin does not apply any more. If there is any prestige at all, it is generally connected with an individual's capacities of creativity, of getting things done.

The society of Auroville is a society where people from remarkably diverse cultural, social, intellectual backgrounds live together. It is by no means free from conflicts or misunderstandings but there is a determined, conscious effort to resolve these, always keeping in mind that the only real way of finding unity is for each one to find the place within him/herself where there is no division.

Auroville, being located in rural Tamil Nadu, is an exceptional experiment in building a new city in the midst of a relatively backward area. Already a number of villagers, particularly many who were very young at the time of Auroville's inauguration (28 February 1968), have become Aurovilians by fully joining the project, and presently actively participate in the unfolding of the Auroville experiment at about all levels. Moreover, the very proximity of several villages to the township area (two villages are actually wholly or partially in the intended Green Belt surrounding the city) represents a deep social experiment in co-evolution.

Auroville cannot plan its future in isolation: it has to take into account the development of these villages in order to progressively build a shared vision of development, – a task as fraught with challenges as it is indispensable.

Research in ecology

When the first Aurovilians arrived on the site of the proposed township in the late sixties, early seventies, they found a severely eroded land. An area believed to have been forested long ago was now devoid of trees and the thin remaining topsoil was being washed away by monsoon rains. The first obvious task was to restore the land, which the residents did over many years by controlling the water flow through carefully devised systems of earth embankments and by planting trees and shrubs to fix the soil and stabilize it, at the same time damming canyons to stop further erosion. This has been an intense, hands-on research in developing, through experience and studies, the most appropriate methods for restoring a dying land. The general aim was, and is, to reconstitute in as many areas as possible the original tropical dry evergreen forest (TDEF) which was there long ago.

Organic farming and permaculture are being researched in various Auroville farms, and a botanical garden has also been created where many experiments are conducted.

Research in appropriate technology

Research in appropriate building technologies, water treatment systems and renewable energy is quite developed in Auroville.

The Auroville Earth Institute is internationally known for its achievements in promoting earth as a building material.

Besides the Earth Institute, the city hosts a great number of architects who naturally apply Auroville's innovative researches to their invariably different designs.

Auroville's Centre for Scientific Research (CSR) has developed its own brand of biogas systems in ferro-cement as well as water treatment systems that successfully operate in Auroville and elsewhere.

Aquadyn has developed original water purification systems which prove to be very effective; their unique water dynamisation process is a boon for health.

Other units work in the field of renewable energy, alternative transport (electric cycles and mopeds) and ecological water pumping systems such as windmills.