

Community News

Auroville Matters

SHRADDHAVAN, A REMEMBRANCE



Shradhdhavan is the Sanskrit name given by the Mother in June 1972 to a young English-woman who left her country to join the upcoming project of Auroville in 1970. Shradhdhavan means 'one who has faith in the higher being'. She fully embraced her name. She was born Anne Margret Robinson on June 4, 1942. Her father was a protestant pastor and her mother, Winnie (known to

many in Auroville), was a teacher. Before leaving England, she studied English Language and Literature as well as Library Science at Bristol University. Before coming to Auroville she traveled extensively throughout Europe, Asia, including India, and Australia.



Shradhdhavan

*is your name and wear
the ring as coming from me
do not believe of*



Last School, 1974

When she arrived in Pondicherry in November 1970, she was sent by the Mother to Auroville to teach in the newly started school in Aspiration.

But the work for which she will always be remembered is her work as Project Coordinator of Savitri Bhavan, which along with her partner, Helmut, she

built up from its inception.

Shradhdhavan undertook an in-depth study of the works of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother. She was a teacher, a poet (she published a book of her poems 'Stars in the Soup'), a translator, a researcher, an efficient administrator, and above all a great sadhak. Several of her poems, stories, essays, articles, and book reviews have been published in the Ashram journal Mother India, Heritage magazine, Collaboration, etc. She was the editor of the journal *Invocation: Study notes on Savitri*. She has been honored with the 'Auro-Ratna Award' by the Overman Foundation on 18 November 2012.



Savitri Bhavan



Savitri Study Group in Holland

Shradhdhavan conducted classes on *The Life Divine*, *Essays on the Gita* and *Savitri*. Many AVI centres were happy to have hosted her for her classes in their countries and via Zoom link. They continue with regular classes guided by

Shradhdhavan's books and videos.

The depth of her understanding of Sri Aurobindo's mantric epic poem *Savitri* was reflected in her classes, the joy her students experienced during her Sunday Savitri Study Circle, which have been going on for the last 25 years, and her 'English of Savitri' classes.



The Savitri Study Circle

Her sentence by sentence explanations of Sri Aurobindo's great epic have been transcribed into 12 volumes, the last two volumes are in the stage of publication. They are an unparalleled guide for Savitri lovers around the globe.

Shradhdhavan declared that this was her life's work.

Last year, she gradually began to fade away and left her body on July 19, 2022 aged 80 years.

As the Mother wrote in Prayers and Meditations:

Some give their soul to the Divine, some their life, some offer their work, some their money, a few consecrate all of themselves and all they have—soul, life, work, wealth; these are the true children of God.



Shradhdhavan—A True Child of the Mother

Helmut, Judith and Dhanalakshmi
on behalf of the Savitri Bhavan Team

ECO SERVICE REQUESTS ALL ORGANIZERS REDUCE

THE USE OF PLASTIC



Dear All, the 15 August is around the corner with the 150th anniversary of Sri Aurobindo.

We, the Eco service Team, would like to ask all organizations or organizers who are planning an event to make an extra effort in trying to reduce the use of plastic and specially single use plastic. Let us take that challenge.

Let the change of Consciousness be reflected on all levels and in all the details.

Let us also support and highlight the new single use plastic ban since the 22 July 2022. It includes all cutlery, plates, straws and plastic bags. In our last community event, a major effort to make it a plastic free event was a great success with only 3 kg of plastic as a result. Let us keep up the effort for a great result and be an example .

Thank you for putting in the needed effort and helping us become a waste-less and cleaner Auroville.

Thanking you, Kali from eco service Team

Awakening Spirit

MEDITATION WITH SAVITRI READ BY MOTHER TO

SUNIL'S MUSIC

6 to 6:30pm, Amphitheatre—Matrimandir

Every Thursday at Sunset.



During the summer the Meditation is with Mother and Sunil's "New Year Music", before we restart a cycle of Savitri read by Mother to Sunil's music.

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

Reminder to all:

- The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work and is to be used only as such.
- We request everyone: please do not use cameras, I-pads, cell phones, etc. No Photos.
- Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card with you.
- Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5:45pm.
- Please be seated by 5:55pm.

Thank you, Surya & Amphitheatre Team