

Paths of Light

Tales of Spiritual Awakening in Auroville, India



**Discover Inner Peace, Recharge Your Energy,
Embrace Transformation, Experience Unity,
Illuminate Your Journey,
and Rediscover True Joy in Life**

Dr. Lourde Nadin Epinal, PhD

Copyright © 2024, Dr. Lourde Nadin Epinal, PhD
All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or any information storage and retrieval system now known or to be invented, without permission in writing from the publisher, except by a reviewer who wishes to quote brief passages in connection with a review written for inclusion in a magazine, newspaper or broadcast.

Published in India by Prowess Publishing,
YRK Towers, Thadikara Swamy Koil St, Alandur,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600016

eISBN: XXXX

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication

Table of Contents

- 1 Whispers Beneath the Banyan: A Tale of Divine Recognition
- 2 Sacred Union: The Inner Chamber and Banyan Tree
- 3 The Heart's Whisper at Matrimandir
- 4 Heartful Thanks: A Story of Body Gratitude
- 5 The Wisdom of the Banyan: A Journey to Inner Peace
- 6 The Eternal Walk: Spiritual Insights from Mahalingam
- 7 The Aurovillian and the Inner Peace: Finding the Matrimandir Within
- 8 Blessings from the Banyan Tree: Honouring the First Aurovillians
- 9 Blossoms of Peace: Auroculture's Flower Devotion
- 10 The Chair of Secrets: From Ancient Mysteries to Present
- 11 The Journey to the Inner Chamber: A Spiritual Path
- 12 408 : The Sacred Number of Matrimandir
- 13 Banyan Tree Gratitude: Embracing Nature's Wisdom
- 14 The Temple Within: Embracing the Thorns
- 15 Release and Laugh: Monika's Path to Peace
- 16 The Whisper of the Crystal: Rosa's Journey of Mindfulness
- 17 Ego to Essence: A Journey to Inner Peace
- 18 The Matrimandir: A Story of Unity and Light

19 Gratitude Scavenger Hunt: Finding Joy in Everyday Moments

20 Embracing Change: Gopi's Tale of Faith and Resilience

1

Whispers Beneath the Banyan: A Tale of Divine Recognition

Under the sprawling canopy of the ancient Banyan tree near the Matrimandir in Auroville, an unusual gathering took place. This tree, home to a myriad of creatures—mynas, parrots, crows, kingfishers, owls, bats, butterflies, dragonflies, doves, squirrels, ants, grasshoppers, beetles, bees, and sometimes even snakes—buzzed with excitement. For decades, these creatures had watched countless individuals come and go, each with a different purpose. Today, they convened to discuss a matter of great curiosity: who among the humans had reached the highest level of consciousness? Who had truly seen the spirit, the light, or the divine?

The lively discussion began with the parrots, who claimed that those who opened the Matrimandir's inner chamber must have attained the divine. "They enter the sacred space first," the parrots argued, "surely, they are the closest to the divine light."

The butterflies countered, "No, it's those who clean the crystal in the inner chamber. They alone touch the powerful crystal and maintain its purity."

Squirrels chirped in disagreement, "Meditators in the inner chamber are the closest to the divine. They absorb the light into their very beings."

"But what about those who clean the golden discs of the Matrimandir?" the butterflies insisted. "They reach the top, touch the sunlight directly."

The praying mantis offered another perspective, “Long-term Aurovillians are the most connected. They have dedicated their lives to building and serving Auroville and the Matrimandir.”

Ants, never to be left out, added, “Newcomers bring fresh energy and devotion. Their purity and enthusiasm are unmatched as they serve diligently during their introductory period.”

Bats swooped in with their own view, “Those who serve at the base of the lotus are closest to the divine. They witness the light descending into the small crystal on the earth.”

Mynas praised the gardeners and architects, “Without them, the Matrimandir wouldn’t exist. Their vision and hard work have created this sacred space.”

Dragonflies highlighted the fundraisers, “Without their efforts, the Matrimandir wouldn’t have the resources to thrive. They are crucial to its existence.”

Beetles, always industrious, chimed in, “Those who maintain the infrastructure, fixing and repairing, are the best. They ensure the Matrimandir is always in perfect condition.”

Bees, with their keen sense of community, added, “The volunteers who tend to the gardens and ensure the flowers bloom are the best. They create the beauty and harmony that surrounds the Matrimandir.”

Tree frogs, usually quiet, couldn’t stay silent, “The ones who care for the sacred ponds and water bodies are the best. They maintain the balance of nature around the Matrimandir.”

As the debate continued, the Banyan tree, intrigued by the lively exchange, suggested, “Let us ask the Matrimandir itself.”

Gathering their courage, the creatures approached the majestic Matrimandir. After listening to their conversation, the Matrimandir smiled and spoke gently, “All the people you mentioned are indeed important. Each one plays a vital role in creating and sustaining this sacred place. However, there are those who are very near to the divine, and they might not be on your list.”

The creatures listened intently as the Matrimandir continued, “Look at Amma from Kottakkarai. She cleans the toilets every morning and evening without any ego, performing her work as karma yoga. She is illiterate and poor but rich in service. She cleans with joy, singing Tamil songs, never complaining. She is fully present in her work, unaware of the world outside. She is very near to the divine, though she never enters the inner chamber for meditation. For me, those like Amma are the best, the true first Aurovillians.”

A hushed silence fell over the creatures. The wisdom of the Matrimandir resonated deeply within them.

“And,” the Matrimandir continued, “those who open their hearts to the divine are also the best. Many here in Auroville embrace the divine with an open heart, receiving the divine force. They are indeed near to the divine.”

With newfound understanding, the creatures returned to their Banyan tree, humbled and enlightened. They realized that divinity was not just in grand gestures or prestigious roles but in the purity of heart, humble service, gratitude, and kindness.

From that day forward, they watched with deeper appreciation, recognizing the divine spark in every person who came to the Matrimandir. They saw the greatness in those who worked quietly and sincerely, in those who offered their hearts with gratitude and kindness. True greatness, they understood, lies in the heart of humble service and sincere devotion.

You've Just Finished your Free Sample

Enjoyed the preview?

Buy: <http://www.ebooks2go.com>