

Auroville's Dedication Ceremony – 28th February 1968

Names of the Indian states, countries and regions represented

Names of the representatives and of the people reading the Charter

Notes:

1. Many countries of the world and States of India sent their representatives for the Ceremony. Their names are underlines in the following list.
Where such representatives were not sent, they were substituted by the youth of the Ashram. Their names are not underlines in the following list.
2. The names in bracket are those of the delegates who came but did not participate in the ceremony.
3. Many countries were not represented at that time. More have become independent since then.
4. Though Fiji, Mozambique, Quebec and Tibet were not independent at that time, they were represented.
5. Several countries have split since then (Czechoslovakia, USSR, Yugoslavia), while others have re-united (Germany, Vietnam, Yemen).
6. Several Indian states have been bifurcated since then.

Total number of countries (or regions) represented: 124 countries (including several regions which were not independent, and several states and countries which have either split or united since then).

Ashram	Vijay Poddar ¹	Kiran Poddar ²
Country	Represented by	Represented by

1st Indian group. While Amrita read the Charter in Tamil

Andaman & Nicobar	Niladri Banerjee(died)	(UK)Kusum Barai
Andhra Pradesh	<u>M. Sessa Sai</u>	<u>Harini Gopal</u>
Assam	Dilip Agarwal (ashram)(Karuna Mukherji(NewDelhi)
West Bengal	<u>Somen Biswas</u>	<u>Bandana Maitra</u>
Bihar	<u>Hemant Dayal</u>	<u>Pushpa Sinha</u>
Chandigarh	<u>Rajender Mohan Singh</u>	<u>Pimmy Ahluwalia</u>
Delhi	<u>C.S. Suryanarayanan</u>	<u>Avaninder Grewal</u>
Goa	<u>Rajendra Tamba</u>	<u>Judith de Souza</u>

2nd Indian group. While Madhav P. Pandit read the Charter in Sanskrit

Gujarat	<u>Makwana Valjibhai Bhikabhai</u>	<u>Parajia Khajendrika Shantilal</u>
Haryana	Upendra Ratra (pondy)	Rita Sardana(died)
Himachal Pradesh	Vijay Sharma(pondy)	Maria Jain(ashram)
Jammu & Kashmir	<u>Rafiq Ahmed Bazaz</u>	<u>Anita Samyal</u>
Kerala	Vinod Das	Shabha Das
Laccadives	<u>K.M. Kunhiseedikoya</u>	M 15 <u>K.K. Hajrommabi</u>
	K.M. Manu (escort)	F 14
Madhya Pradesh	<u>Pratap Reddy</u>	<u>Kiran Mehta</u>
Madras	<u>R. Kuppuswamy</u>	<u>R. Chitralkha</u>

3rd Indian group. While Norman Dowset read the Charter in English

Maharashtra	<u>Maraban Patrawala</u>	(Ambadasi (Attakai) Nakadi(teacher saice)
Manipur	Pratik Ghose(ashram)	Tripti Das
Mysore	<u>I. Sreekant</u>	<u>Uma Ratna</u>
Orissa	<u>Subhranshu Mishra</u>	<u>Meera Singh</u>
Pondicherry	<u>R. Selvaraj</u>	<u>Nirmala N.</u>
Punjab	Anand Arya(pondy)	Gulshan Sippy
Rajasthan	<u>Navin Poddar</u>	(Pondy)Manju Jhunjunwala ³
Uttar Pradesh ⁴	Diwakar Kamboj	?

Total: 24 States or Union Territories

Note:

1. There are now many more states and Union Territories
2. Sikkim was represented as a country. Since then it has become part of India.

¹ Son of Navajata (then General-Secretary of the Sri Aurobindo Society, of which Auroville was a project.)

² Daughter of Navajata.

³ Daughter of Shyam Sunder Jhunjunwalla (future secretary of Mother for Auroville's affairs).

⁴ This very large State cannot have been omitted but, as yet, we haven't found any photo of the pair representing it and the names of the youths who represented it. India's Ambassador in Paris, Ruchira Kamboj told Mandakini that her husband, Diwakar Kamboj represented Uttar Pradesh at Auroville's Inauguration Ceremony.

1st group of 9 foreign countries. While Shri V. Ramachandra read the Charter in Arabic

Afghanistan	<u>Moh. Tarik Abawi</u>	M 21	Pemma Chodan ⁵
Albania	Debabrata Haldar(N.delhi)		Chhanda Mukherjee
Algeria	Abijit Gupta(died in Europe)		
	Gauri Gupta(Germany)		
Argentina	<u>Cristobal M. Kirton</u>	M 22	Sunita Mahatta(dead)
Australia	<u>Ross Conabere</u>	M 23	Niranjana Arya(gujarat)
Austria	Joseph Szarkar(died)	(saice)	Suzanne Steiger(Germany)
Belgium	Kiran Kakkad (ashram)		Asha Kothari(pondy)
Bhutan	Bishma Kandoi(pondy)		Sumitra Dhandania(teacher saice)
Bolivia	Vivek Rane(france)		Vinay Sharan(pondy)

2nd group of 11 foreign countries While Dr. Hsu Hu read the Charter in Chinese(HsuHu died in china-left for china after Mao's d.in 1974-5, his centenary was celebrated on 2009)

Brazil	Laxman Mahtani(pondy)		<u>Maria Lucia Carrera</u>	F 19
Bulgaria	<u>Mihail Dimitrov</u>	M 20	Sangeeta Chowdhury	
Burma	<u>Maung-Tin-Nyunt</u>	M 27	Debjani Haldar(ashram)	
Burundi	Debdas Chatterjee(ashram)		Smita Mehta(Mumbai)	
China (nationalist)	Kanu Dey(ashram)		Vimala Sandalingam(teacher saice)	
China (communist)	Bokul Chakravarty(ashram)		Hema Singh(teacher saice)	
Cambodia	<u>C. Konthal</u>	M 12	Kalyani Bhattacharya(delhi)	
Cameroon	<u>John Ndeh</u>	M 21	Gargi Bajpei(Canada)	
Canada	<u>Stephen Inglis</u>	M 18	<u>Terry Delanny</u>	
Quebec	Jean Pierre Bunel ⁶		<u>Madeleine Gosselin</u>	F
Central African Rep.	Purushottam(ashram)		Dipali Chakravarty(ashram)	

3rd group of 9 foreign countries. While Ms. Wil van Liet read the Charter in Dutch.(died-ashram)

Ceylon	<u>Bandu Senaratna</u>	M	<u>Patsy Kreltszheim</u>	F 19
Chad	Nityaprakash Khare(ashram)		Lavanya Reddy(teacher saice)	
Chile	Ratan Ghose(kolkata)		Indu Rai(teacher saice)	
Colombia	<u>Fernando Iragorri</u>	M 21	Shashikala Patel(uk)	
Congo	Shobhan Roy Chowdhury(kolkata)		Pinakini Patel(pondy)	
Congo (Kinshasa)	Nalin Patel(pondy)		Aruna Barai(uk)	
Costa Rica	Jitendra Shah(gujarat)		Antika Ghose(ashram)	
Cuba	Ravi S.(teacher saice)		Vilas Patel(pondy)	
Cyprus	Arvind Mistry (pondy)		Chandrima Sengupta(pondy)	

4th group of 9 foreign countries. While Mrs. Theodora Karnash read the Charter in German

Czechoslovakia	<u>Jiri Strasiripka</u>	M 20	<u>Ales Wotruba</u>	M 18
Dahomey ⁷	Basabjit Deshmukh(pondy)		Meera Roy(Kolkata)	
Denmark	<u>Swen Pedersen</u>	M 23	Lison Ratra(pondy)	
Dominican Rep.	Ashwin Kakkad(pondy)		Charubala Patel(uk)	
Equador	Ajay Sharma(died)		Jyoti Reddy(pondy)	
El Salvador	Kabul P. Mitra(ashram)		Sutapa Kanungo	
Ethiopia	Swapan Basu(ashram-library)		Deepa Didwania	
Fiji	<u>Sashi Kant</u>	M 21	Jyoti Patel(ashram)	
Finland	Siddharta Bhabcock(teacher saice)		Archana Maheswari(pondy)	

⁵ A young Tibetan student of SAICE.

⁶ Goupi (Aurodam)

⁷ Now called Benin

5th group of 9 foreign countries. While Mr. Richard Rigos read the Charter in Greek

France	<u>Pierre Gros</u>	M 20	<u>Dominique Marty</u> <u>Florence Chomette</u>	F 20 F 12
Gabon	Rajanikant Naik(pondy)		Nishta Mukkerjee(died)	
Germany (West)	<u>Reinhold Pingel</u> ⁸	M 25	<u>Petra Erdmann</u>	F 26
Ghana	Milan Ghose(died)		Indra Tendon(Kolkata)	
Greece	Pritwiraj Narasimham (Dubai)		<u>Denise Sioris</u>	F 17
Guatemala	Ranajit Roy(ashram)		Tossi Bose(teacher saice)	
Guinea	Rajesh Saha(died)		Rita Bhattacharjee(pondy)	
Haiti	Aveni Shah(pondy)		Nanda Reddy(hyderabad)	
Honduras	Vinay Anuru(died AV)		Charulata Patel(pondy)	

6th group of 9 foreign countries. While Dr. Max Stryer read the Charter in Hebrew.

Hungary	<u>Audrey</u>	M	<u>Elizabeth Andai</u>	F
Iceland	Maurice Shukla(teacher saice) ⁹		Vishakha Patel(us)	
Indonesia	<u>Mohamad Kartono</u>	M 17	Minoti Mohanti(teacher saice)	
Iran	<u>Sianash Hatami</u>	M 20	<u>Shahla Danesh</u>	F 21
Iraq	<u>Walid Khalid Al Wadi</u>	M 23	<u>M. Kadhum Latif</u>	M 21
Ireland	<u>Garvan Gallagher</u>	M 17	Seraphine Martin	
Israel	Sharad Parekh (pondy)		Suman Mehra(teacher saice)	
Italy	Bruno Petris(died-ashram)		Elena Bellotti	
Ivory Coast	Rashesh Jivarajani(died)		Minakshi Patel(uk)	

7th group of 9 foreign countries. While Mr. Alberto Grassi (Nata) read the Charter in Italian.

Jamaica	Kamalesh Patel(died)		Veronica Braham	
Japan	Ashwin Barai (pondy)		Wakako	
Jordan	<u>Usama Sulaiman Abughosh</u>	M 15	Savitri Umachigi(teacher saice)	
Kenya	<u>Paul Kingola Maundu</u>	M 18	<u>Alex Mboha</u>	M 28
Korea	Paljore Thondup ¹⁰ (mysore)		Rachita Nayak(bbsr-odisha))	
Kuwait	<u>Bader Abughosh</u>	M 16	<u>Basil Abughosh</u>	M 17
Laos	<u>Boun Hom Prakhin</u>	M 13	<u>Boum Sou Prakhin</u>	F 14
Lebanon	Nabil Mniemne ¹¹	M 25		
	Nirmal Jhunjunwala(died)		Shernaz Daruwala(pondy)	
Liberia	Anand Reddy (pondy)		Ruby Roy(Kolkata)	

8th group of 9 foreign countries. While Mr. Omkardas¹² (Kobayashi) read the Charter in Japanese.

Libya	Amitangshu Chakravarty(died)		Gita Patel(uk)	
Luxembourg	Rajeev Reddy(Hyderabad)		Mounou Shamsukha(uk)	
Malagasy ¹³	Abhijit Mitra(teacher saice)		Swapna Artaud ¹⁴	
Malta	Mahesh Patel(pondy-aurofood)		Rina Chakravarty(Mumbai)	
Malaysia	<u>Eusebeus Gunter</u>	M 13	<u>Kau-Soo-Keong</u>	M 15
Mauritius	<u>Bhardwaj Modi</u>	M 21	Veena Poddar(teacher saice)	
Mali	Ranajit Gupta(architect Bharat Nivas contest)		Bhuma Bajpei (Canada)	
Morocco	Surendra Singh		Sanjukta Lall(pondy)	
Mauritania	Shreyas Gandhi(Gujarat)		Moon Patel(ashram)	

⁸ Poppo

⁹ Maurice lives in Pondy and teaches in the Lycée.

¹⁰ A young Tibetan student of SAICE.

¹¹ One document mentions this name for Lebanon and says he arrived on 23rd and left on 26th. Another document doesn't mention this person but the names of the two SAICE students mentioned below.

¹² son of Mme Kobayashi ..lived and worked in ashram press till 1970...later taught philosophy in Kyoto university.

¹³ Now Madagascar.

¹⁴ Adopted daughter of Yvonne Artaud. Became Aurovilian, married Bhagawandas. Passed away in France.

9th group of 9 foreign countries. While Ms. Else Heen read the Charter in Norwegian

Mexico	Jaganath Panda(ashram)		Mukti Das(Kolkata)	
Mongolia	<u>Thok Thok Bazar</u>	M 14	Chetana Kothari(died)	
Mozambique	Mukund Patel (uk)		Savita K.	
Nepal	Vishnulalit(teacher saice)		<u>Anita Kumari Garg</u>	F 18
Netherlands	<u>Hubert van Rijckevorsel</u>	M 16	<u>Carian Witte</u>	F 18
	(Ted Polderman)	M 20	(Ruth Dippel)	F 30
New Zealand	<u>Anthony Brian Lendrum</u>	M 20	Lotus Patel(uk)	
Nicaragua	Chandravadan Arya(gujarat)		Jacques Dhandania(bangaluru)	
Rep. of Niger	Prakash Budihal(died)		Bharati Shah(ashram)	
Feder. of Nigeria	<u>Amakpoho Rufus Iwatt</u>	M 23	Sudha Srivastava(ashram)	
	<u>G.K.Y. Jacks</u>	M 36		
	(F.A. Nzeribe)	M 45		

10th group of 9 foreign countries. While Mrs. Svetlana Pitoeff Alward read the Charter in Russian

Norway	Henning Christensen		<u>Kristin Gylseth</u>	F 19
Pakistan	Bhagawat Dolia(new guest house)		Subhra Banerjee(Gloria land ashram)	
Panama	Animesh Samantray(died)		Chetana Bhatt(pondy)	
Paraguay	Subbas Thakkar(uk)		Renu Gupta(us)	
Peru	<u>Eduardo Sarmiento</u>	M 22	Bharati D. Patel(ashram)	
Philippines	<u>Walfrido Adan</u>	M 18	Chandralekha Patel(uk)	
Poland	Agami Reddy(phoenix)		Prema Singh(ashram)	
Portugal	Kanhaiya Dalmia(ashram)		Evelyne Janssens	
Qatar	Rajan Sankpal (chicago)		Savita Srivasthava(pondy)	

11th group of 12 foreign countries. While Ms. Maggy Lidchi read the Charter in Spanish.

Rhodesia ¹⁵	<u>S.K. Hwindingwi</u>	M 25	Gita C. Patel(ashram)	
Rumania	Touyamani Bala(france)		Bala Kottamasu(Singapore)	
Rwanda	Tejendra Parmar(Nagpur)		Vikram Dolia(pondy)	
Saudi Arabia	<u>Michael Barretto</u>	M 15	Vasundhara Bhatt(teacher saice)	
Senegal	Mahesh B. Patel(ashram)		Bharati B. Patel(ashram)	
Sikkim	<u>Prem Bahadur Subba</u>	17	<u>Om Kumari Pradhan</u>	F 18
			<u>Chumsang Bhutia</u>	F 18
Singapore	Indra Arya(bangaluru)		<u>Gracey John</u>	F 18
Somalia	<u>Bashir Gardaad</u>	M 25	Bulbul Dhir(pondy)	
South Africa	Mukesh Gupta(Kolkata)		Datta Mukherjee(teacher saice)	
South Yemen	<u>Mohsen Hamdani</u>	M 24	Cheta Poddar(teacher saice)	
Spain	<u>Lopez Nadal Gonzalo</u>	M 15	Gita Dolia(teacher saice)	
Sudan	<u>Henry Khamis Wani</u>	M 24	Pragna Karuna	

¹⁵ Now Zimbabwe. From 1965 to 1979, the white government of Rhosesia wasn't recognised by any other country.

12th group of 10 foreign countries. While Mrs Charlotte Neogy¹⁶ read the Charter in Swedish

Sweden	<u>Lars Freden</u>	M 16	Kankana Mukherjee(france)	
Switzerland	Oscar Laser(swiss)		<u>Sahadja Christiane Roll</u>	
Syria	Tarun K. Banerjee(died)		Tapas Bhatt ¹⁷	
Tanzania	<u>Meelit Shah</u>	M 12	<u>Mamta Shah</u>	F 14
Thailand	Arup Mitra(pondy)		Aruna Nandi(died)	
Togo	Jay Sharma(pondy)		Autoshi Bose(ashram)	
Tunisia	Benimadhav Mohanty(teacher saice)		Uma Dhandania	
Turkey	<u>M. Akay</u>	M	<u>Mme. Akay</u>	F
Tibet ¹⁸	Galek Namgyal(mysore)		Dikki Dolker(swiss)	
Uganda	<u>J.M. Ssentongo</u>	M 22	Kamala Atrey	

13th group of 10 foreign countries. While Mr. Katak Tulku L.T.N. read the Charter in Tibetan

USSR	<u>Sergey Mirakyan</u>	M 10	<u>Alla Didenko</u>	F 10
UAR	(<u>I.S. Ismail</u>)	M 33	(Kaut El Karli Al H.)	F 23
	(<u>Sayed Ali El Sayed</u>)	M 31	(Habiba Hassam Helmy)	F 25
	<u>M. Sharweed</u>	M 33	(Laila Kamel El Kozaiky)	F 22
	(<u>M. Al Ansori</u>)	M 27		
	<u>M. Fawzy Abdalla</u>	M 29		
UK	<u>Julian Earle</u>	M 19	<u>Joanna Lancashire</u>	F 18
USA	<u>John A. Ware</u>	M 19	<u>Jeannie Ernst</u>	F 19
			<u>Louise Owens</u>	F 23
Upper Volta ¹⁹	Gurudas Banerjee(ashram)		Ila Patel(ashram)	
Uruguay	Bipin Bihari Prasad(died)		Amala Sandalingam(teacher saice)	
Venezuela	Vijay Anuru		Gita Lall(teacher saice)	
Viet Nam (South)	<u>Jack Duong Son Thong</u>	M 18	<u>Anne-Marie Duong Ngoc Thu</u>	F 17
Yugoslavia	<u>Danor Bonacic</u>		<u>Katarina Treppo</u>	
	Maro Bonacic			
	(<u>Milosh (Mikey) Greic</u>)	M 20		
Zambia	<u>Inyameo Nyumbu</u>	M 19	<u>Christine Chilangwa</u>	F 21
	<u>Arnon Dixi Zulu</u>	M 21		

Last pair

Auroville	Michel Lemaire(teacher saice) ²⁰	M	<u>Fabienne Bernard</u> ²¹	F
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¹⁶ Shyama.

¹⁷ Tapas lives in Prarthna.

¹⁸ Tibet had already been incorporated in China.

¹⁹ Now Burkina Faso.

²⁰ Later known as Kalya, only son & child of Françoise, née Morisset (Pournapréma) and hence Mother's great-grandson. Lives near "Utilité".

²¹ Fabienne is the only daughter and child of Janine, née Morisset (the eldest of Mother's two granddaughters) and hence Mother's great-grand-daughter.