

# A Religious Center

*Dictated by Krishnamurti to a Trustee of the Foundation at*

*Vasanta Vihar, Chennai on 26 January 1984*

It must last a thousand years, unpolluted, like a river that has the capacity to cleanse itself, which means no authority whatsoever for the inhabitants. And the teachings in themselves have the authority of the Truth.

It is a place for the flowering of goodness: a communication and cooperation not based on work, ideal or personal authority. Cooperation implies not round some object or principle, belief and so on. As one comes to the place, each one in his work – working in the garden or doing something – may discover something, a fact as he is working. And he communicates and has a dialogue with the other inhabitants – to be questioned, doubted and to see the weight of the truth of his discovery. So there is a constant communication and not a solitary achievement, a solitary enlightenment or understanding. It is the responsibility of each one to bring this about in this sense: that each one of us, if he discovers something basic, anew, it is not personal, but it is for all people who are there.

It is not a community. The very word *community* or *commune* is an aggressive or separative movement from the whole of humanity. But it does not mean that the whole humanity comes into this place. It is essentially a religious center according to what K has said about religion. It is a place where one is not only physically active, sustained and continuous, and so a movement of learning. And so each one becomes the teacher and the disciple. It is not a place for one's own illumination or one's own goal of fulfillment, artistically, religiously, or in any way, but rather sustaining each other and nourishing each other in flowering in goodness.