



Pondicherry- a French colony

Pudicheri meaning "new settlement" as we call now has been the cradle of many powers in the past. "Puducherry" is the name given by French. A Legend has it that the sage Agastya established his ashram in the old Pondicherry which was earlier known as Agastiswaram. Excavations carried out in Arikame near Pondicherry proved that the Romans came for trade and settled here 2000 years ago. Around the 1st century AD, they carried out trade in dyed textiles, pottery and semi-precious stones. In the fourth century A.D, Puducherry became a part of the Pallava Kingdom. This was followed by the rule of different dynasties of the south in the next centuries. Then the Cholas came and later they were replaced by the Pandya Kingdom in the 13th century. After the invasion of Muslim rulers, the Vijayanagar Empire gained the control of almost whole of Southern India which lasted till 1638. After the arrival of Portuguese on the 4 February 1673, we have the Dutch, the Danes and the English and the French arriving. After 20 years, in 1693 the Dutch took over and fortified the town to a large extent. In the 18th century, the town is transformed into a major port city. In 1742, Joseph François Dupleix, became Governor of the French India. It also witnessed the Carnatic Franco-English wars lead by Dupleix and Clive. For the next 70 years, war between France and England continuous. Finally Pondicherry went into the hands of France in 1814 till 1954. On 31st October 1954, at 6 o'clock, as the sun set, the French flag was lifted off the pavilion ending the 280 years of French rule. On November 1, 1954, Puducherry became a Union Territory "which now includes Pondicherry, Karikal, Yanam and Mahe.



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Write down the four official languages of Pondicherry

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Historic city has Interesting places to visit!!

Religious places						
HINDU TEMPLES	Manakula Vinayagar Koil	Varadaraja Perumal Temple	Vedhapureeswarar Temple	Kanniga Parameswari Temple	Kamatchiamman Temple	Sri Gokilambal Thirukameshwara Temple
BUILT IN AND DEDICATED TO	300 years old & is dedicated to Ganesh	Built in 600 AD for Lord Vishnu in the typical Dravidian style	dedicated to Lord Shiva	dedicated to the goddess Shakti	dedicated to Durga, the goddess of war	12th century Chola period dedicated to Devi & Murugan
ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES	golden spire and walls portraying 40 forms of Ganesh	brightly coloured 'gopurams' and sculpted pillars	colourful 'gopuram' and adorned by the statues of gods & goddesses	blend of Tamil & French architecture i.e. arched walls, angel decorations etc	dark rust coloured temple with less ornamentation	Attraction-organizes annual Temple Car Festival
CHURCHS	Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus	Church of Our Lady of Good Health	Notre Dame de'	The Notre Dame des Agnes	Church of the Assumption	The Church of Our Lady of Lourdes
BUILT IN AND BY	built by French missionaries in the 1700's in the Neo - gothic style	founded in 1690 but was rebuilt several times	Cathedral built in 1791 similar to a church in France	1852 in the Greek Roman architectural style	built in 1851	erected in 1876 is modeled on that of the Basilica in France
ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES	stained glass panels depicting incidents from Jesus Christ's life	freestanding Crucifix upon the altar and brightly painted wooden images on the side walls	a statue of Our Lady with the infant Jesus in her arms	pastel peach and lime colours & has a painting of Our Lady of the Assumption, which was a gift from the French emperor, Napoleon III	statue of St. George in the act of slaying a yall-like monster and has a Crucifix surrounded by flying angels	statue of Notre Dame donated by the French Govt and the church tank like Hindu temple is a curious feature



MOSQUES	Meeran Mosque	Kuthbha Mosque:	Mulla Mohhamed Mosque:
BUILT IN AND BY	oldest mosque in Puducherry built before 350 years by Arcod Navab	Kuthbha means preaching	Kuthba Mosque was built as Mulla Mohammad Mosque
ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES	old gothic Islam architecture	It has the Daarga Of Moulla Saiubu	has a small pond with fishes, a hall, and Ramjan fasting food cooking hall

Write down names of European colonies in India and their colonizing country.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

- ❖ **Sri Aurobindo Ashram**- founded in 1926 by Sri Aurobindo Ghose, an Indian freedom fighter, poet, philosopher etc.
- ❖ **Gandhi Statue** -A four-meter statue is surrounded by eight magnificent granite pillars
- ❖ **French War Memorial**- built for those brave soldiers who laid down their lives during the First World War
- ❖ **19th Century Light House**- used for the first time on 1836 and continued till 1979.
- ❖ **Aayi Mandapam**- a white monument built during the time of Napoleon III, Emperor of the France. It was named after a lady courtesan called Ayi, it is said she destroyed her own house to build a water reservoir to supply water for the city.
- ❖ **Romain Rolland Library**- established in 1872, has a vast collection of more than 300000 volumes in both French and English.
- ❖ **Beaches** in Puducherry- Paradise Beach, Serenity beach, Auroville Beach, Chunnambar Backwater etc

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