Looking at the Twelve Qualities in relation to *Sadhana* on the Individual and Collective level

- **Sincerity** – This is the base. Without it no real change and progress is possible.

- **Humility** – We stand in front of the Divine, confronting our own ignorance. We know that by ourselves we cannot do this. If not for Grace it would be impossible.

- **Gratitude** – The Divine is there, the Grace, the love of the Divine accepting us as we are and taking us up. Be grateful for the beauty of the world and for all the possibilities.

- **Perseverance** – To do what needs to be done, again and again, never giving up. Perseverance is the fuel of the sacrificial fire.

- **Aspiration** – It is the flame of the sacrificial fire. This is *Agni* purifying, bringing the psyche to the fore.

- **Receptivity** – In India it is known that you do not seek the guru. When you are ready, the guru will come to you. Receptivity enables us to hear what is conveyed to us by the divine within us and all around us.

- **Progress** – When the Aspiration is burning strong and we are receptive, progress is the result. It is the gift of Grace.

- **Courage** – When progress has taken place in our inner being, it has to be embodied, put into action, making changes in ourselves and our life. We need courage for this, great courage, to change ourselves and change in relation to our surroundings as well as being part of creating change in the world. We have to shift patterns that are ingrained into our being and our society – now we have to be heroes, bold and with true courage to bring it into action.

These are the eight qualities we have to embody, the integrity from which our actions must emerge.
Now come the four qualities which are the base for our interaction in society.

- **Goodness** - Goodness is strength – it is not about niceness or trying to please. Sri Aurobindo says that Mahakali is the most loving aspect of the Divine Mother. Simply put, it is what is good for the individual, what is good for society, what is good for the world and all existence. If it is good, the consequence has to be good everywhere ultimately.

- **Generosity** - Generosity must be part of the way we take and execute decisions. With generosity we make space and a bridge for growth.

- **Equality** - Equality is not about being or having the same, it is about equal access, possibility to participate, to grow and develop integrally.

- **Peace** - Our decisions and actions must aspire to be conducive to peace. We must aim for our interactions to consciously/actively contribute to peace on a collective level.

If we look deeply at these qualities and see us embodying the first eight in our integrity and visualize using the last four as the foundation on which we take decisions, can they then be the levers to move us away from a bureaucratic mindset? Away from fear-based rules and regulations, and put a step forward on the path towards a new organization with a very flexible and plastic structure?

*It is interesting to note that the four Qualities which Mothers relates towards humanity are all placed in Matrimandir/Mothers symbol, connected with Mahasaraswati, whom Sri Aurobindo names as the aspect of the Divine Mother closest to humanity. Goodness is also connected to Mahakali: truth, power and strength, and Peace to Maheshwari: universality, wisdom and wideness.*