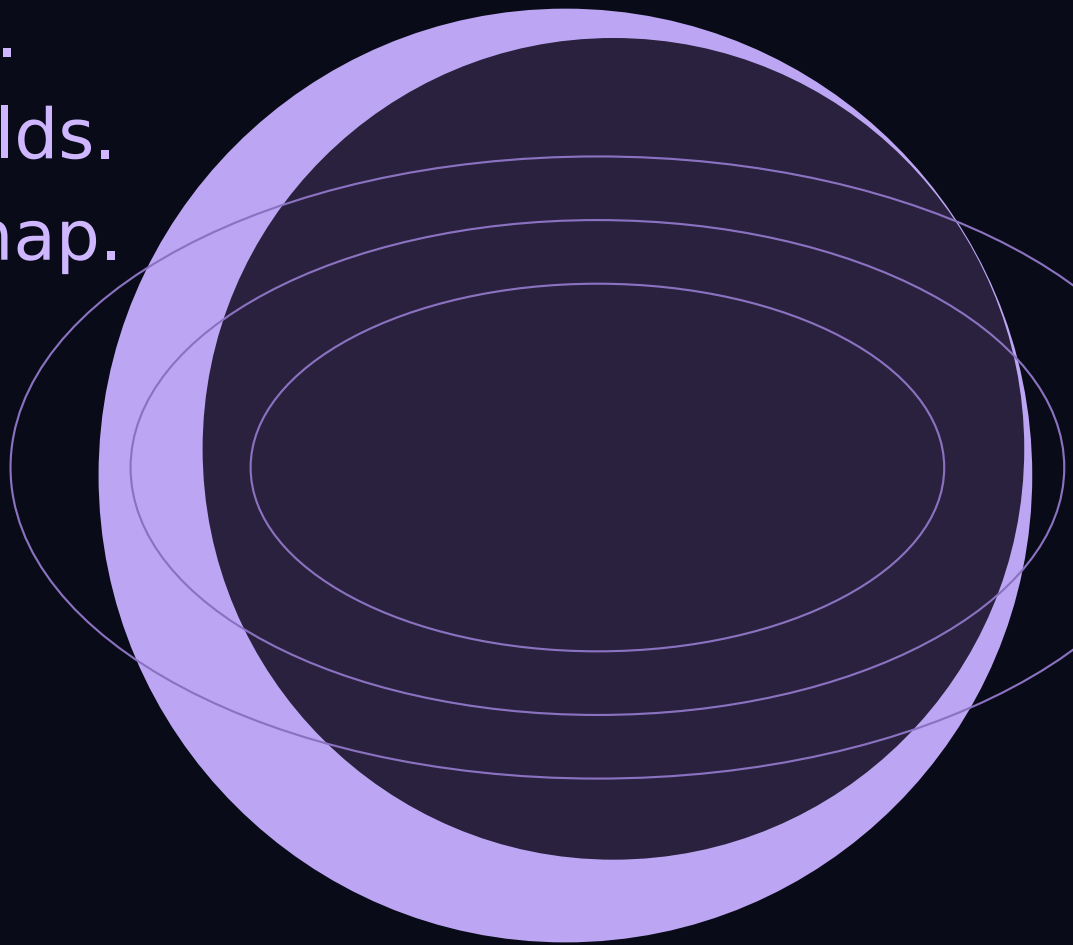


FIELD GUIDE / THE LIVING ATLAS

NEXUS

One mind.
Many worlds.
No final map.



The architecture, ethics, journeys and
maintenance philosophy of a connected archive.

SAHIL TAYAL / 26 OCTOBER 2026

01 / THE STRANGE POWER OF A SPREADSHEET

A map that starts by telling the truth

A directory tells us where things are. An intellectual atlas should also reveal what is related, which connections are justified, which ones are speculative, and which links do not presently behave as expected.

The source sheet is the registry. The public experience is a projection. Neither should pretend to know more than the evidence supports.

On the 26 October 2026 snapshot, the SAHILVERSE - LIVE DOMAIN ATLAS contains 436 recorded URLs distributed across three domain families. These include homepages, pages, field notes and technical resources, not 436 separate fully functioning products.

436	Recorded URLs
196	HTTP responses recorded as working
120	Recorded broken responses
52	Connection errors
68	Manual checks still needed

A successful HTTP request is not the same as successful rendering, accessibility, correct routing, or meaningful editorial content. The source labels specifically caution that browser QA remains necessary.

Evidence provenance: [Open the original Google Sheet.](#)

02 / ARCHITECTURE

The six-layer World Engine

01 Registry layer

Every public address has a unique record, recorded status, source timestamp, domain, technical type and optional editorial metadata.

02 Evidence layer

Separate HTTP observations, browser QA, content review and editorial approvals. Never collapse them into one green checkmark.

03 Meaning layer

Group related experiences by concepts and questions. This prototype infers many groupings from URLs and available titles; the future system should rely on explicit editorial annotations.

04 Graph layer

Represent connections as typed edges such as extends, contradicts, example of, inspired by and related subject. Every edge should carry an evidence source and review state.

05 Experience layer

Offer exploration modes that match different intentions: search, panoramic discovery, guided reading, maintenance investigation and creative recombination.

06 Preservation layer

Export open structured data, archive provenance, retain historical versions and make migrations possible without requiring a proprietary frontend.

A link is an address. A graph edge is an argument. They should never be confused.

03 / EDITORIAL DISCIPLINE

Three kinds of connection

Documented

A connection is present in the underlying editorial records. Example: the sheet explicitly associates writing on organizational normality with the Madness project. Its destination is marked as not independently verified.

Inferred

A connection is proposed by keyword overlap, headings or metadata. It is useful as navigation but should never be presented as a proven intellectual relationship.

Speculative

A connection is proposed as a creative question. NEXUS's Idea Alchemy combines two recorded worlds and invites an experiment. It does not claim to have analyzed either page.

The editorial linking test

- Does this link genuinely help the visitor understand the idea?
- Is the destination a published and safe public URL, or is its status unresolved?
- Can we explain the relationship in one precise sentence?
- Does the destination offer substance beyond a decorative hand-off?
- Could the relationship be ambiguous, contested or one-sided?
- Have we distinguished content inspection from URL similarity?

Suggested edge data: `source_id`, `target_id`, `relationship_type`, `rationale`, `editorial_status`, `evidence_url`, `verified_at`. Preserve original sources rather than flattening everything into an unsourced recommendation.

04 / THE READER JOURNEYS

Six ways into the same body of work

These are curated questions across existing Atlas URLs. They are not claims that every destination has been independently inspected or that the pages must be read in exactly this order.

Learning to agency

Can education recognise difference without making one ranking the truth?

Recorded entry points: education.sahiltaval.online • adhdtools.sahiltaval.com

Work to human capital

How much of useful work is difficult to measure?

Recorded entry points: humancapital.sahiltaval.com • kirana.sahiltaval.online

Scent and memory

What does a fragrance express that language cannot?

Recorded entry points: perfume.sahiltaval.online • emotional-literacy.sahiltaval.com

Reality as a story

Which of our institutions are held together by shared scripts?

Recorded entry points: truman.sahiltaval.online • consciousness.sahiltaval.online

Hip-hop and autonomy

What does craft sound like when it becomes a philosophy?

Recorded entry points: rap.sahiltaval.com • agency.sahiltaval.online

Success without applause

What would still matter if the metrics vanished?

Recorded entry points: fame.sahiltaval.com • achievements.sahiltaval.com

05 / OPERATIONAL HUMILITY

An observatory, not a trophy wall

A site can respond to HTTP requests and still be unusable. It can load in Chromium but fail on a low-end phone. It can look beautiful but have unreadable focus states or broken outbound links. The maintenance system therefore needs layered tests.

Layer 1 — Presence

DNS resolves, HTTPS negotiates, correct canonical host; observe final URL and response code.

Layer 2 — Rendering

Open the page in a real browser; confirm visible hero, fonts, assets and absence of console crashes.

Layer 3 — Interaction

Test navigation, forms, buttons, keyboard access and local state; avoid ornamental controls that do nothing.

Layer 4 — Content

Review titles, source links, honest disclosures, meaningful original material and image descriptions.

Layer 5 — Quality

Measure on phone/tablet/desktop; test reduced motion, performance and WCAG success criteria.

Layer 6 — Governance

Record who checked what, when, with what tool, what passed, and who approved publication.

“Working” is a historical HTTP observation. “Production-ready” needs a test record. “Editorially approved” needs a human decision.

A repeatable audit should leave a record for every URL: `observed_at`, `method`, `expected_behavior`, `actual_behavior`, `screenshot_reference`, `owner`, `resolution`, `next_check`.

06 / DELIGHT WITH PURPOSE

Build a world, not an obstacle course

NEXUS is intentionally theatrical: coloured constellations, slow orbital motion, a navigable canvas and a poetic entrance. But the spectacle should serve curiosity. That means the page also contains a search field, topic filters, a plain library, text-based status reporting and functional direct links.

Explore with choice

A visitor can use the constellation, list view, topic chips or guided reading trails. No single interface should hold the content hostage.

Use motion with restraint

Motion should express structure or reward an interaction. Reduced-motion preference must remove ongoing rotation and most transitions.

Make failure visible

A record with a failing HTTP status is shown as such; it is not quietly omitted just to make the collection appear healthier.

Separate software from scholarship

Current semantic labels are rule-based approximations from URL/title metadata. A serious knowledge graph needs explicit content analysis and human review.

Keep it lightweight

Static files and a compact JSON snapshot avoid API credentials, cloud compute and vendor lock-in in the visitor-facing deployment.

Interaction design is a promise: if it looks actionable, it should do something. This version has been smoke-tested at desktop and mobile widths, but a full independent accessibility audit has not been completed.

07 / THE UPDATE LOOP

How this can stay alive for years

A. Update the spreadsheet

Maintain canonical URLs and recorded status. Correct accidental malformed links at source, and keep browser QA separate from status-code evidence.

B. Export a dated snapshot

Obtain a fresh workbook from Google Drive and rerun the included `build_data.py` script. The script generates a self-contained `data.json` without connecting to the internet.

C. Review semantic changes

Examine newly inferred topics and especially Uncharted entries. Approved editorial relationships should become typed, documented edges before they enter a future public graph.

D. Verify then publish

Run the smoke tests, validate data counts, check focus/contrast and push the contents of the site/folder to Cloudflare Pages.

E. Preserve history

Keep every prior snapshot and the changes between them. A hundred-year archive depends on readable files and stable metadata more than one irreplaceable web framework.

An archive is not a pile of links. It is a way to recover a conversation after the original interface has disappeared.

The current NEXUS is deliberately snapshot-driven, not continuously synced. It does not modify the Google Sheet, deploy itself, monitor sites in real time, or claim to detect changes since the recorded audit.

08 / METHOD, READING AND FURTHER TRAVEL

Sources you can inspect

The guide uses the 26 October 2026 Google Sheet as its primary dataset. The following public standards and platform resources inform the recommended maintenance and web-quality practices. These are external readings, not independent audits of the 436 destinations.

The Live Domain Atlas

Primary user-maintained source, URLs and historical status evidence.

W3C WCAG 2.2

Testable criteria for accessible interfaces.

W3C PROV-O

Ontology for making the provenance of entities, people and processes explicit.

MDN: HTTP response codes

What network response statuses do and do not describe.

Cloudflare Pages headers

Rules for static-deployment HTTP headers.

Sahil Tayal canonical site

The main entrance to the broader body of work.

Truth labels: verified source = read directly from the workbook; historical test = the workbook records an HTTP result; inferred = generated from URL/title keywords; speculative = a creative question. These labels are meant to protect the visitor from an illusion of precision.

Guide and prototype created on 26 October 2026. This edition is a working instrument, not an assertion that all recorded pages are live or that every idea has already been given a final home.