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CONTENTS

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS 43-48

Tim Boyd

NEWS AND NOTES 49-72

Editor

S. SUNDARAM

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS*

To the 139th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society Adyar, 26 December 2014

I would like to welcome you all to this 139th Convention of the Theosophical Society. This is my first time presiding over an International Convention. It is a sincere honour, pleasure, and joy for me to participate with you in this important work, and to take time together to open ourselves to those Forces that seek to find an opening to bless this world. Please rise for the invocation that has been the source of inspiration for each of these Conventions:

May those who are the embodiment of Love Immortal bless with their help and guidance this Society, founded to be a channel for their work. May They inspire it with their Wisdom, strengthen it with their Power, and energize it with their Activity.

I am very glad to open this 139th Annual Convention of the TS. Part of my function now is to present the Presidential Address, most of which will recap the work around the world from the various Theosophical Societies. Let us recall that the theme of this Convention is about Theosophy in changing times. A year ago there was a sense of uncertainty within our Convention. Radha had passed. The process leading to a new president was under way. Change was in the air, but its nature was unclear. One year later the election process has ended and we are moving in a yet uncharted direction. One of the most basic recognitions for any conscious person is the fact of change. Whether the effects of change are welcomed or not, the fact that it is part of the fabric of existence is universally recognized. I know people who openly declare that they are opposed to change. Although this is an unreasoned reaction, it is understandable. Change can be challenging.

When the use of computers was becoming widespread and the

* Only some portions of the Presidential Address have been published here. For more details see *THE THEOSOPHIST*, January 2015.

Internet was becoming widely available, I used to help my father with the business of his farm. He was then approaching 80. He would tell me the projects he was focusing on and I would show him ways that we could use technology to help accomplish it. I remember once showing him something on the computer. He asked, 'You can do all of that with this machine?' When I answered yes, his response was, 'I think I have lived too long'. Although it was typical of my father's humour, he meant that he felt overwhelmed by the rapid process of change. Unlike many, he did not oppose it. It was simply that having spent a lifetime viewing the world from a particular angle, shifting that point of view was too demanding for him. In part as a result of the aggressive nature of the changes currently upon us, my father's response is now being echoed in a global sense of unease with the pace and direction of technology-driven change. Outer change requires some inner response. Given the relentless nature of change, for the mind that demands some sense of security, it can be disconcerting.

Helen Keller was born in the late 1800's without sight, hearing, or the ability to speak. During her life she overcame these substantial obstacles and went on to become a famous author, speaker, and one of the greatest humanitarian activists of the twentieth century. On the subject of change she said that 'Security is an illusion. It does not exist in Nature'. The idea that there is the possibility of some static condition in life is the product of superficial thinking and the source of needless suffering.

For us students of the Ageless Wisdom and members of the Theosophical Society, it is not uncommon to fall into a similar trap. Too many sincere spiritual seekers find themselves searching for peace, enlightenment, and liberation on their own terms. These words are familiar to all of us, but the reality behind them goes beyond terminology. What is peace? What is enlightenment? Too often the conventional view of these states of consciousness is negative in the sense that peace, for example, is regarded as a void, an absence of strife, conflict, worry, personal difficulties, and so on. In essence the imagined fruit of the state of being at peace is static and unchanging. This is more of an expression of a personal desire for comfort than a description of reality. So many things in the spiritual life can become coloured by the projec-

tion of our personal wants. Until we become grounded in the experience of a higher life, we are necessarily subject to such projections.

In her *Inner Group Teachings* H. P. Blavatsky made the poignant statement that ‘Whatever plane our consciousness may be acting in, both we and the things belonging to that plane are, for the time being, the only realities’. In a certain sense, we are stuck. We cannot see what we cannot see. One of the beauties of a genuine embrace of the Theosophical worldview and its teachings is that it holds the potential for transformation for an utterly new way of seeing. There is no formula or roadmap for this type of profound change, but within us there is a certainty of two things, 1) transformation is possible, and, 2) at the deepest levels of our being, it is our need. Whenever we reach a point in our unfoldment where we find meaning in something like Theosophy, it is because we are approaching a more expansive plane of consciousness.

Facing the pressing needs in the world today, we must ask ourselves what we can do to hasten this unfoldment, and turn our faces towards a world in need.

* * *

In the Indo-Pacific region, the **Indian Section**, with 16 Federations and 459 Lodges, remains the largest in the TS Adyar. Mr S. Sundaram was re-elected unopposed as the General Secretary for another term of 3 years. Their annual convention was held in Adyar in December 2013, chaired by the former International Secretary, Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy, and addressed by the former Vice-President, Mr M. P. Singhal. Annual conferences were held by most Federations. The former Vice President and former Secretary were chief guests in one such annual conference each, and the General Secretary was the chief guest in three of these annual conferences. The 91st South India Conference was held in Adyar during the Easter holidays with 145 participants. The theme was *The Key to Theosophy* by HPB. There were 12 speakers and it was inaugurated by the former international Secretary. The concluding address was given by Dr A. Kannan. The North Indian Study camp was held in Varanasi during October 2013 with 65 del-

egates Federations. Prof. R. C. Tampi and Mr P. K. Jayaswal directed the study camp on the theme of *The Secret Doctrine*. Another study camp was organized jointly by Bihar and UP Federations on *The Key to Theosophy* in March 2014. MP, Rajasthan, and UP Federations jointly organized a study camp on *The Voice of the Silence* by HPB in July 2014 with about 70 participants. The Section Headquarters conducted the Presidential Election in accordance with the Rules of the Society and the procedures laid down. Dr Annie Besant’s 166th Birth Anniversary and other TS holidays were duly celebrated by the Indian Section.

The General Secretary attended the Indo-Pacific conference held at Bali, Indonesia, in November 2013 and spoke at the Conference. He visited different Federations and Lodges in India during the year and spoke at many places. The Assistant General Secretary, Mr Pradeep Mahapatra, was the Chief Guest at the annual conference of the Bihar Theosophical Federation and visited several Lodges in AP, Odisha, and the Lodge at Bhowali. National Lecturers Mr P. K. Jayaswal, Mr C. A. Shinde, Mr N. C. Krishna, Mr B. D. Tendulkar, Mr S. S. Gautam, Mr A. P. Lokhande and Mr S. K. Pande gave talks at various places during the year. Mr Pedro Oliveira, former International Secretary, delivered a talk on ‘The Future of Humanity’ at Bengaluru City Lodge. The Bhowali Centre, with excellent conference facilities, food, and accommodation, has been setup in the Himalayas, which is being increasingly used for study camps and retreats. *The Indian Theosophist* monthly journal was published with a circulation of 3,500 copies. A special number was published to commemorate 125 years of publication of *The Key to Theosophy* and *The Voice of the Silence* by HPB. In addition to the Section journal, 13 Federations published their own journals at regular intervals.

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At the **International Headquarters** in Adyar, there have been some changes apart from the new President. Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy has been elected as the international Vice-President and Ms Marja Artamaa has been appointed as the international Secretary. Other appointments include Mr S. M. Umakanth Rao as Acting Manager, Theosophical Publishing House, and Dr Cyril Samuels as Veterinary Doctor in the Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary. The Estate Administration Committee and

the Election Committee steered the affairs of the TS well particularly in the absence of the late President. Two main roads were repaired and two others were newly laid, the lift in the Leadbeater Chambers was replaced, several wells were desilted, and repair and painting work was undertaken in many buildings. Mr S. Ramkumar chipped in whenever necessary.

The turnover of the **Theosophical Publishing House** was Rs. 2.1 million this year, a little less than the previous year's turnover of Rs. 2.3 million. Subscription to journals has increased. Only 8 reprints were brought out during the year but several more have been authorized by the newly constituted TPH Council. The accounts of the TPH, which were neglected between October 2013 and March 2014 have been brought up to date. The **Adyar Library and Research Centre's** work was strengthened by the appointment of Prof. T. Narayanan Kutty as Director, Dr S. Bhubaneswari as Research Officer, and Mrs Padma Padmanabhan as Research Assistant. The Library's bulletin, *Brahmavidyâ*, 2012-13, was published along with a supplement containing articles on *The Secret Doctrine* by HPB on completion of its 125th year of publication. A special commemorative issue of *Brahmavidyâ* for 2014-15 in honour of Dr Radha Burnier, former Director of the Adyar Library for 20 years, is under preparation. Four sessions of the **School of the Wisdom** were conducted by Mr Pedro Oliveira, Prof R. C. Tampi (Director of the School), Venerable Olande Ananda and Dr Ravi Ravindra. The **Olcott Education Society** continued its work through its five units. One of its former units, the Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary, was transferred to the Management of the TS as approved by the OES Board and the Executive Committee of the TS. Formal approval of the Government was received this year for upgradation of the Olcott Memorial High School to a Higher Secondary School. OES was able to get adequate financial help from Indian and other donors to support the upgradation of the School, to the Higher Secondary level and for higher wages now being given to the teachers and other staff of OES. The school students are doing well overall. A computer centre was set up in the school with help received from a Corporate donor. The **Social Welfare Centre** continues to run a day-care centre cum nursery school for about 60 children of working parents from low income groups. The

Vocational Training Centre has 22 women students undergoing one year course in weaving, tailoring, and embroidery. Recently the Vocational Training Centre has been collaborating with the Unnati Foundation of Bengaluru to conduct short-term vocational training in various trades for unemployed youth aged 18-30, to help them find employment. The first batch of 8 students, including 2 former students of the Olcott School, completed their training and have found employment earning from Rs.7,000 to Rs.12,000. The HPB hostel is running well. It accommodates 12 boys from class 5 – 12. The Visitors Centre is operated by the OES, which has many Theosophical books, magazines, information booklets, beautiful photographs of flowers, trees, birds, and buildings from the TS campus. The **Besant Scout Camping Centre** was used by 22 institutions/scout groups, benefiting about 1,200 children through camping activities. The **Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary** continued its work taking care of animals, with 3,226 cases treated during the year. The Centre is helped by the Animal Welfare Committee, now chaired by Mr Anoop Jaiswal. The **TOS International** continued its work with Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapot as its international Secretary. It had a year characterized by increased collaboration with the TS. It emphasized projects to protect women against discrimination and violence, and assistance for education of children in Karachi and to families displaced by war in Syria. Work was intensified in Ukraine, France, Italy, India, Spain, Australia, Congo, and Pakistan. A special effort was made in November 2013 to support the TOS in the Philippines following the super-cyclone that hit parts of Southeast Asia. Donations flowed in from all over the world. There was greater coverage of TOS work in TS magazines and Lodges. I hope you enjoy the grounds, each other, and these programmes.

This Convention is officially open.

TIM BOYD

NEWS AND NOTES

Assam

The Annie Besant Day was observed in the ATF's office on 1 October, 2014. The members of Silver Jubilee Lodge and many members from other Lodges participated in it. Bro. Bimal Hazarika, Bro. N.C. Dutta, Bro. R.K. Choudhury and the ATF's Secretary Bro. R.C. Deva Sarmah were the main speakers who mentioned about different aspects of Dr. Annie Besant's life and work and paid respectful tributes to her. Many other Lodges also held meeting in their respective offices and observed the day.

Bhaskarjyoti Lodge in Guwahati is now having regular fortnightly study meetings in the Abosar Vinodan Kendra and the members are at present studying C.W. Leadbeater's *Devachanic Plane* and P. Pavri's *Theosophy Explained in Questions and Answers*. Lodge's Secretary Bro. N.C. Dutta conducts the study.

Gopal Bazar Lodge at Nalbari is having at least two sittings every month under the Presidentship of Bro. Gokul Chandra Deka. Meaningful discussions on theosophical aspects are held and some books on Theosophy are read by different members as directed in earlier sittings.

Gaundhia Lodge and Bidyapur Lodge in Nalbari district are very regular in holding their meetings. Bro. Bishnu Kingkar Goswami, Bidyapur Lodge's President, conducts the meetings.

Lodge's President Bro. Amal Chandra Goswami (who was also Editor of ATF Bulletin) passed to peace. So, Bro. K.S. Lahkar, founder Secretary of the Lodge has been elected as President and Bro. Dharmaranjan Bhagawati is the new Secretary of Swagatam Lodge of Guwahati. The members are studying the book, *An Outline of Theosophy* at present. Panjabari Lodge is regularly holding study programme as well.

Sundarpur Lodge in Guwahati is holding study class twice in a month. The members have just completed the study of the 'Ancient Wisdom'.

The Annual General Meeting of Bhaskarjyoti Lodge was held on the 20 October, 2014, with Bro Raghunath Choudhury in the chair. It was held at the auditorium of Abasor Vinodan Kendra, Bhaskarnagar, Guwahati. Bro Nagendra Chandra Dutta, Secretary of the Lodge, welcomed the invitees including chief guest Prof Kiron Sarma and guest of honour Sri Hari Prasad Chaliha, an eminent writer, researcher and philosopher. Prof Kiron Sarma's Assamese rendering of the *Jajurveda* jointly with Prof Ashok Goswami, Manu Samhita, Isopanishad and the Bhagawatgita have been widely acclaimed in Assam and outside. He was the Head of Sanskrit Department of B. Barua College of Guwahati and adorned the chair of the Vice-Principal of the same college while dedicating himself for setting up and promotion of Asom Veda Vidyalaya in Guwahati.

Universal Prayer was followed by the welcome address, presentation of the annual report and the audited report which were accepted by the General Body. Opening the discussions three members of the Lodge, well-versed in Theosophy, viz Sister Arunima Barua, Ila Rajkhowa and Pranita Sarma delivered three short talks on 'Self-realisation', 'Sonto Kabir' and 'Meaning of Gita as interpreted by Gandhiji' respectively. These talks were illuminating and educative and evoked warm appreciation from the audience.

Chief Guest Kiron Sarma, after chanting 'Santi-Paath' from the Upanishads said a few words in appreciation of Bhaskarjyoti Lodge for the efforts made by the members to spread the teachings of Theosophy amongst the public. After these preliminary comments he delivered a talk on 'The Real One of the Vedas'. His interpretation of universal brotherhood was the same as explained in Theosophy. His principal thrust on strengthening the ties of universal brotherhood was centered around promotion of love, compassion and purity of body and mind. His was a scholarly treatment of the theme and the entire audience heard him with rapt attention.

Bro Hari Prasad Chaliha emphasized on the need for study of the Vedic literature to comprehend Brahma and the cosmos. It is important, he said, to go into depth of the spiritual understanding of the sages of ancient India to find out the real truth and follow the path of true divinity. Bro Raghunath Choudhury, in his presidential address, exhorted the listeners to love and embrace all in oneness and to stand boldly for the protection of every living being.

Bro Nagen Dutta offered vote of thanks and the annual meeting ended with a prayer for the well being of all lives under the sun.

The annual meeting of the ATF for the year 2013-14

It was a red letter day for Nalbari District Theosophical Coordination Committee whose sustained efforts witnessed the holding of the Annual General Meeting of their parent body, Assam Theosophical Federation on the 2nd November, 2014 at Sankardev Academy (Junior College) auditorium with Federation's President Bro. Dharendra Nath Chakravarty in the chair. The meeting started with the prayers followed by welcome address extended to the entire audience comprising members of the Theosophical Lodge from Guwahati, Nalbari, Jorhat and other districts of Assam. Bro Gokul Chandra Deka, President of the Reception Committee, in his welcome address gave a brief account of growth and development of Lodges during the period of last twenty-nine years in Nalbari district of Assam.

In his presidential address Bro Dharendra Nath Chakravarty explained the miserable condition of human beings in the present-day world bereft of love and the feeling of universal brotherhood, He strongly advocated for practicing the teachings of Theosophy in our day-to-day life so that we can live Theosophy.

Bro Hem Bhai, Chief Guest, who has carved a niche in the sphere of social service through the activities of Santi Sadhana Ashram established by him spoke at length on 'The Truth of Theosophy as revealed in the holy Gita'.

Dr. Basanta Kumar Goswami, a scholar of repute, released *Jnan Jeuti* and *Deep Sikha*, two magazines published by Assam Theosophical Federation and Nalbari District Theosophical Lodge Coordination Committee respectively. While appreciating the meritorious efforts of the publishers Dr. Goswami elucidated the deeper significance of Brahma as envisaged in our spiritual writings.

Bro. Ramesh Chandra Dev Sarmah, Secretary, ATF, read out the Annual Report of the Federation for the year 2013-14 which was approved by the General Body.

Bro. P.N. Das presented the audited accounts of the Federation for the year ending on 31 of March, 2014 and it was unanimously ac-

cepted. The proposed budget for the remaining period (01-4-2014 to 31-3-2015) was also presented before the house for information of all the members in general, and it was accepted for the time being.

Dr. Kunja Medhi, a senior member from Sundarpur Lodge and Vice-President of ATF offered a financial help of Rs. 2000/- for Dipjyoti Deka and Miss Sikha Moni Barman, both students of H.S.S. standard. The President and Secretary, presented them packets of Theosophical books from the Federation's office.

Earlier, four theosophists who hailed from Nalbari and Jorhat districts delivered short talks on certain aspects of Theosophy as explained in the writings of great Theosophists and practised by the great ones. The speakers were Bro Bhupendra Kumar Misra, Sarat Chandra Sarma Dina Hazarika and Sister Meera Deka.

Bro. Nagendra Chandra Dutta offered a vote of thanks and the meeting ended with a chanting of a prayer for peace.

Dr. Basanta Bhattacharya, one of the special guests, released the 'Jnana Jeuti' the Annual Magazine of ATF and the second issue of the other magazine named "Dipsikha" published by the Nalbari Lodge Coordination Committee and spoke highly of all the articles published in both the magazines.

Bro. Phanindra Nath Kalita and Prabin Sarma rendered a song composed by them on Brahmavidya. Another *Borgeet* was rendered by Bro. Bhupendra Pathak an active member of T.S. at Nalbari.

Thereafter the Chief Guest Hem Bhai delivered talk on '*Geetar Adhaarat Brahmavidyar Swarup*' in a very lucid language and established the fundamental relations of 'Brahmavidya' with the teachings of the *Srimad Bhagavatgeeta*. He also opined that to know oneself is the ultimate end of Brahmavidya.

The President of the Federation Bro. Dharendra Nath Chakravarty, in his Presidential address very painfully expressed his feeling that though God has sent the human being to this world to devote themselves for the common good and well being of others, yet man has not done any humane deed, and as a result killing, kidnapping and social unhappiness have been increasing day by day, making the life of the common people

most unhappy and full of uncertainty. He confidently commented that in the present time, the situation appears to be so much cruel that in the villages and towns of our land, a large number of people have lost their lives which is much higher and larger than the total casualties occurred during the 1st and 2nd World War. It so happened because we do not intend to follow the ideals of Brahavidya in our day-to-day life. The gap between the man and nature which has been increasing day by day because of the lack of knowledge regarding Brahavidya. He also mentioned that the ultimate objective of all religions is to discover 'TRUTH'. And then only we can expect peace and harmony in future, and this is why we should consider Brahavidya as one of our moral duty to achieve the above mentioned objective for the ultimate well being of all things and beings in society. Then only our civilization would be free from the fear of impending danger of being destroyed by the unspeakable cruelty.

The Secretary of the Federation, Bro. R.C. Deva Sarmah, led the concluding prayer and declared the meeting closed.

A State-level symposium was held in Jorhat on the 14 December, 2014, under the auspices of Pragati Lodge and Sampriti Lodge of Jorhat district. Dr. Purna Chandra Doley, a retired Professor of Assam Agriculture University and President of Sampriti Lodge, was in the chair. Besides members of local Lodges, delegates from Kamrup Metro and Nalbari district attended the symposium. The theme of the symposium was - 'Humanity and Love'. Several speakers including Bro J. N. Patowary, Dr Bipul Sarmah, Raghunath Chaudhury, Ramesh Chandra Deva Sarmah, Dr Jagannath Patgiri elaborated various aspects of Love as interpreted by distinguished scholars of Theosophy. The speakers were of the opinion that Love and Humanity have been two inseparable concepts right from the inception of civilization and will remain so for ever. In his presidential address Dr. Doley highlighted how human evolution has been enriched and glorified by love for centuries and how devastating wars turned some people into cruel creatures devoid of qualities of divine beings. The solemnity of the occasion was enhanced by apt reference to scriptures and writings of erudite scholars and poets etc.

Since its inception in 1988, Barama Lodge of Nalbari District has been actively propagating teachings of Theosophy. During the period

under review, the vibrancy of the Lodge was manifest in its regular activities like fortnightly meetings and observance of significant days like Foundation Day etc. The members of the Lodge participated in full strength in the Annual General Meeting of Assam Theosophical Federation held at Nalbari in November, 2014.

For many years, Pragjyotishpur Lodge has been witnessing daily sittings of members in the evening hours. Of late, enthusiasm of many members seem to be on the wane and the Lodge management has been actively considering how daily sittings can be made more interesting for the members or can be converted into weekly meetings as found suitable to majority of members. The T. O. S. School under the management of the T. O. S. Group is being run in the Lodge premises since its inception. Efforts are being made to draw more students belonging to the deprived section of society. On 14 Nov. 2014, some members of the Inner Wheel Club of Guwahati visited the T. O. S. School and had a meeting with the Lodge members and school children to celebrate Children's Day. They distributed sweets and teaching materials among the students.

Kumarpara Lodge, Bhaskarjyoti Lodge, Silver Jubilee Lodge are having regular meetings on their scheduled days, without any break. Books on Theosophical teachings are discussed in these meetings. Bro J. N. Patowary, Sis Anindita Choudhury, Bro N. C. Dutta, Sis Ila Sarma, Bro Dulal Barman are conducting study sessions in these Lodges.

Gopal Bazar Lodge has been observing Annie Besant Day, Foundation Day and are holding fortnightly meetings regularly.

Bombay

A meeting to observe the Foundation Day was held jointly with BTF and Blavatsky Lodge on 17 November 2014. It started with the Prayers of All Religions. Blavatsky Lodge's President Bro. Navin Kumar in opening address said: Theosophical Society founded on 17th November 1875 has matured and so has its Objects. 'Freedom of Thought' and 'Freedom of the Society' are unique guidelines of TS. Theosophy is not a Religion; it is the essence of all religions. No Teachings are imposed on any one right from the beginning. TS can cooperate with other organizations, but will be independent maintaining its own identity to move towards its own goals.

Sis. Aban Patel paying homage to Light Bringer and Founder of TS, Helena P. Blavatsky, spoke about her fine qualities, tender heart, artistic excellence, psychic power, courageous life and her gift to humanity with her books like *Isis Unveiled*, *The Secrete Doctrine*, *The Key to Theosophy* and *The Voice of the Silence*.

Sis. Jasmine Cawasji paid tributes to Founder President Col. Henry S. Olcott. Narrating his life she said that Col. Olcott was the chief organizer of TS. For him there was no return after his thorough obedience and complete surrender to the masters to spread Theosophy to humanity. He took Panchasheela and worked for Buddhism in Sri Lanka.

Bro. Dhananjay Bishwajit as a new member expressed how he came to TS in his spiritual quest. To him three objects of TS are a discovery of Journey in Life. From comfortable cocoon of life in Ahmedabad he came to Mumbai and with churning within and open mind he turned from a Sales/Marketing man to a spiritual coach. Theosophy has inspired him to go more within himself.

Bro. Berthram Redwood impromptu composed a song conveying: Let us understand where we stand and for what we stand. Every moment of the Founders' life was full of challenges, which they overcame with courage. Spiritual wisdom is inherent in each one, but it has to surface. One has to be there at the right time as a right vessel. Theosophy unfolds 'There is no other' and so there is no 'Chaos'. Our Founders have penned what they comprehended and it is for us to understand, which is beyond our mere knowledge.

Bro. Navin Kumar added referring to the Lives of Alcyone that over many incarnations relationship of HPB & HSO from bitterness gradually turned to co-operation and in the last incarnation they worked together for Theosophy and TS.

Bro. Navin Kumar showed a video on the Founders & International Presidents with their quotes and Blavatsky Lodge TS & Allied Activities with its Stalwarts & Members. It was nostalgic for older members to relive the vibrancy of TS in Mumbai.

Bro. Rustom Dalal thanked the speakers and Bro. Navin Kumar for showing the video, which should be preserved in the Archives of Blavatsky Lodge and at Adyar. As the Masters have said, 'More than

Red Cross Workers, we need workers to reach out to spread Theosophy'.

A special meeting on 'Truth My Life— Mahatma Gandhi' was organized by Blavatsky Lodge on 23 November. Bro. Navin Kumar spoke at length on the theme of the meeting. The others who shared their views on the subject were Brethren Zeena Rustamji, Rustom Cooper, Meher Aria, Khusroa Pavri, Mahazaver Dalal, Aban Amroliwalla, Kantibhai Patel, Aban Patel, Jasmine Cawasji, Kashmira Khambatta and Feny Paghdwala and young students Ishita R. Hundalekar, Mohanish M. Khamkar and Purva P. Javkar.

Bro. Jalbhai P. Sanjana passed to peace on 7 December 2014. The members assembled in Besant Hall of Blavatsky Lodge to fondly remember and pay tributes to the departed soul.

Karnataka

Ms. B. Sandhya Rani directed the study on 'Virtues' at Bhowali Centre from 15 to 20 October, 2014. The subjects covered were (1) *Shraddhe* (Interest/Faith) (2) *Parishuddhate* (Purity) (3) *Dhirya* (Courage) (4) *Namrathe* (Politeness) (5) *Sahane* (Patience) (6) *Samarasyate* (Harmony) (7) *Karune* (Compassion) (8) *Seve* (Service) and (9) *Santhosha/Santhrupthi* (Happiness/Contentment). Twenty-five members from Karnataka attended it.

Kerala

The 85th Annual Conference of Kerala Theosophical Federation was held at Annapoorni Theosophical Lodge, Alappuzha on 25 & 26 October 2014. The theme of the conference was "The Illumined Mind" and the Chief Guest was Bro. N C Krishna, National Lecturer, Indian Section, The conference started with Flag hoisting by the Acting President, Bro. G. Ramanathan. After prayers of religions, Bro. P.T. Krishnadas, Secretary, KTF, read out the greetings from Bro. Tim Boyd, International President and others. Bro. K. M. Vasudevan, President, Annapoorni Lodge, welcomed the delegates. Bro. G Ramanathan, in his presidential address, requested the members to familiarize with the developments in scientific field and highlight the reconciling points between Science and Spirituality and present them before the public, especially youth. Quantum Theory of Max Plank was explained as an

example in this connection. He exhorted the members to present Theosophy in a scientific outfit which is the best way to attract youngsters. Bro. N C Krishna inaugurated the conference and addressed the members. There was short lecture on “Mind and Consciousness” by Dr. V. P. Viswakumar of Annapoorni Lodge.

On 26, October, the programme started with Bharat Samaj Pooja. The first session was chaired by Sister A.V. Seethalakshmi, South Zone Secretary of Kerala Federation. In the short lectures, Prof. S Balakrishna Pillai, Secretary, Kollam, TS Lodge, spoke on “Characteristic of the Illumined Mind”, Dr. M.N. Sasikumar of Annapoorni Lodge spoke on “Modifications of the Mind” and Sister P. Shobha of Gouthama Lodge on “Mind what art thou?”.

In his keynote address, Bro. N.C. Krishna started his talk recollecting “The Seven Principles of Man”. In order to work towards illumination we have to move away from the lower manas which is engaged in comparing and dividing and filled with emotions like hatred, greed and jealousy. Practicing *vairagya* and meditation will help us move towards the higher mind which is integrating and uniting and has qualities of universal love and compassion. ‘The Illumined Mind’ after having realized that he is the true representative of *parabrahman* lives a life for the welfare of humanity. He knows that he is governed by the laws of the Universe. Having emptied the contents of his lower mind and erasing the line of difference between the lower mind and the higher mind, the person lives a life established in compassion.

The second session was chaired by Bro, P. Krishnan Nambiar, North Zone Secretary of the Federation. Bro. T.S. Usman of Sree Sankara Lodge spoke on “Discriminative Observation” and Bro K.N. Unnikrishnan of Blavatsky Besant Lodge on “Nirvana”. In the evening session, the Zonal Secretaries presented the reports of various Lodges of their respective zones. There was active interaction and the members discussed on how to bring youth to Theosophy and also how to propagate Theosophy among the public. Bro. G. Ramanathan summed up the two days’ programme. Bro. P.T. Krishnadas proposed vote of thanks.

Other Activities of Kerala Federation:

An Inter Lodge Meeting was organized by Blavatsky Besant Lodge, Pullut, Kodunagallur, on 28 September at Changampuzha Hall, Sahithya

Academy, Thrissur and the theme was “Theosophy Tenets & Modern Material Science Doctrines”. KTF Secretary, Bro. P.T. Krishnadas welcomed the members and the theme was introduced by Bro. K G Devidas, President of Blavatsky Besant Lodge. Bro. G. Ramanathan, Vice President, KTF inaugurated the meeting. Bro. K N Unnikrishnan gave a talk on “Harmony between Theosophy Tenets and Modern Material Science Doctrines”. Dr. M A Raveendran spoke on “Views of Theosophy vis-a-vis Modern Material Sciences on Life & Death, Birth & Reincarnation”. There was discussion regarding the subject with active participation by the members. Dr. P.U. Asokan, former President of Trichur Lodge summed up and Bro. C.K. Sudhakaran, Secretary of the Lodge proposed vote of thanks. Members from Perinjanam, Trichur, Ernakulam, Kodungallur and Irinjalakuda Lodge participated in the aforesaid meeting.

Sree Sankara Lodge, Ernakulam, conducted regular classes on every Wednesday, on the book *Beyond Violence* by J Krishnamurti and the class was led by Dr. Ajith Kumar. Every Thursday study class on *The Secret Doctrine*, was conducted by Adv. Shaijan and on *At the Feet of the Master*, by Bro. Usman. Every Friday there is a class on “Various Indian Schools of Philosophy” by Dr. Antony Indrajith. Bro. G. Ramanathan delivered a talk on *Study in Consciousness* by Annie Besant on 7 November. Bro. Sureshbabu spoke on “The Core of the Teachings of J Krishnamurti”. It was held on 26 November.

The members of Blavatsky Besant Lodge meet regularly and discuss on “Probable Metaphysical Causes of Disasterous Cyclones” and “Nirvana” under the guidance of Bro. K N Unnikrishnan. Trichur Lodge is conducting regular classes on every Wednesday on *Teachings on Discipleship and Yogic Practice – Yama and Niyama* by S S Varma under the guidance of Bro. G Ramanathan. Gouthama Lodge, Kannur, conducted regular Sunday meetings on *The KEY TO THEOSOPHY*.

Asoka Sankara Lodge celebrated Dr. Annie Besant’s Birth Anniversary on October 1st. Sri. P. Balakrishnan, Deputy Editor (Retd.) was the Chief Guest and Prof. R.C. Tampi presided. In October there were short lectures by Prof. R.C. Tampi on “Dr. Besant – Life and Contribution” and “Laws of Higher Life”. In November there was discussion on “Brotherhood”, “Mind”, “Art of Self Discipline” and “Theosophy and

Theosophical Society". Foundation day was observed on 17 November. Study Classes are conducted on every Wednesday on I. K. Taimni's book *Patanjali's Yoga Suthra*.

Bro. G Ramanathan, Acting President, KTF, visited Sree Sankara Lodge, Ernakulam on 14 November and took a class based on *Study in Consciousness* by Dr. Annie Besant. He visited Gouthama Lodge, Kannur on 30 November and interacted with the office bearers regarding how to propagate Theosophical teachings among the public.

Bro. P.T. Krishnadas, Secretary, KTF, participated in the Federation Secretaries meet at the Indian Section HQ, Varanasi, on 22 & 23 September 2014. This was convened to review the working of Zonal Property Committees and propagation of Theosophy.

M.P. & Rajasthan

The study of the book *The Voice of the Silence* by H.P.B. was conducted from 8 to 10 November, 2014 at Vikram Lodge, Ujjain, under the auspices of M.P. & Rajasthan Federation. Twenty-four participants attended it including local and outside members. Brother, H.S. Diwvedi, Secretary, M.P. & Rajasthan Federation, was also present.

Bro. B.D. Tendulkar, National Lecturer, spoke both in English and Hindi. Bro. Ashok Kaul, National Lecturer, summarized the talks in Hindi.

The study was held in two sessions, morning and afternoon.

The session started with the Universal Prayer. Bro. B.D. Tendulkar gave a brief introduction of the book (preface) and about three fragments. After that the first fragment was undertaken for the study. The verses mentioned were read out, the explanation given on them by Annie Besant and C.W. Leadbeater (*Talks on the Path of Occultism*, Volume II) were discussed in some detail, along with the notes of H.P.B.

Special attention was drawn to the statement made by H.P.B., in her own copy of the book *The Voice of the Silence*, H.P.B. to H.P. Blavatsky, with no kind regards. It was explained who was H.P.B., as she mentioned about herself. Besides, it was discussed who are those few to whom the book is dedicated.

Only some verses could be completed within the prescribed time. From the very beginning the purpose of the study was focused not to fill the mind, but to inspire the participants to undertake the study in daily life and develop their own deeper understanding about the spiritual life.

A public lecture on the "Higher Life" was given by Bro. B.D. Tendulkar on 8 November, 2014. More than 50 persons attended it.

Board and lodging arrangements were made in the campus of Vikram Lodge and the study was done in the hall of the Lodge's building.

Only few participants interacted with the speaker after the end of each talk. But it was a quite lively discussion.

Brother Dalpat Parihar (Diploma No. 74575) of Besant Lodge, Jodhpur, passed to peace on 23rd October, 2014. He was an active member of the Lodge since last 22 years. He was also member of the Executive Council. He was a renowned theatre artist, literary personality and active social worker. Condolence message from Besant Lodge was sent to aggrieved family members.

Marathi

The Annual General Meeting of the Maitreya Lodge, Nagpur was held on 24 August 2014. Bro. Bhalchandraji, President of the Lodge, presided over the meeting in which important decisions were taken and approved by all the members. Bro. Shri Madhukar Natu was the Chief Guest, who delivered a talk on "Objective and Aims of Theosophy". He explained in brief all the important aspects of theosophy. Shri M.R. Gan, Vice-President of the Lodge, gave vote of thanks.

The Maitreya Lodge organized a meeting to celebrate Dr. Annie Besant's birthday on 1 October, 2014. Bro. Shankara Supare spoke on this occasion about Dr. Besant's life and work in spiritual, educational and social field.

Bro. T.J. Jamgade (Diploma No. 66208/21.4.83) of Maitreya Lodge, Nagpur, passed away on 6 Dec. 2014. He had served the organization in various capacities. He was the President of Marathi Theosophical Federation from 1987 to 1993 and was the Treasurer of Theo-

sophical Society, Indian Section, from 1993 to 2000. He also worked for TOS from 1996 to 2001. A meeting was held at Maitreya Lodge, Nagpur, in which members spoke on Bro. Jamgade's contribution to Theosophical Society and prayed for peace of the departed soul.

Royalaseema

The 140th Founders' Day of the Theosophical Society was observed at the Lodge in Hospet on 21 Nov, 2014 under the joint auspices of Hospet Theosophical Lodge and Shri Giridharilalji Sheraji Palrecha memorial Theosophical PU College. Along with it 59th Karnataka Rajyotsava was also celebrated.

Sri Anke Gouda, Chief Guest and personal librarian who has collected more than 3 lakh books and also recipient of several awards addressed the students and gave the message of reading and its importance. Sri. U. Raghavendra Rao, Retd. Principal was the main speaker. He enumerated the inception and growth-path of the Theosophical Society till date and briefed the gathering about the contribution of several Theosophists.

Sri Ashok Jere, Secretary, presided over the function. Sri G. Bharmalingana Gouda, Vide-President, Sri Arali Kotrappa, Joint Secretary and other members of the society were present in the function. Sri Jagadeesh, Principal Theosophical PU College, welcomed the dignitaries. Sri G. Bharmalingana Gouda, Vice-President, gave a donation of Rs. 10,000/- to Sri Anke Gouda for his library. This donation was in memory of his late father Sri. G. Shankara Gouda who was the founder president of the college.

Bro. Ranga Reddy (Diploma No. 49293), a senior member of the Theosophical Lodge of Hospet, passed to peace on 16 December, 2014.

Uttar Pradesh

Bro. Devendra Vajpayee's talk on "Kalidas' perception of Beauty" was held at Nirvana Lodge, Agra, on 5 November, 2014. The speaker explained that Kalidas had observed and studied nature in great depth and considered himself as a part of nature. The other talks held at the same venue in November were 'The Voice of the Silence' by Bro. Qamar Iqbal, 'Sprit Release Therapy' by Dr. Rakesh Jain and 'Good Thoughts' by Dr. Anand Awasthy.

Bro. U.S. Pandey, Federation Secretary, delivered a talk at Dharma Lodge, Lucknow, on 'Dhammapad The twin verses and heedfulness'. It was held on 5 November, Besides, he spoke at Ashiana Lodge of Patna on 'The Voice of the Silence', on 'Paramitas' at Mahila Dharma Lodge in Allahabad and on 'Seven Mystic Sounds' at Satyamarg Lodge, Lucknow. He discussed administrative matters with the representatives of two Lodges at Allahabad. He conducted the study of *The laws of the Higher Life* at Gorakhpur and *A Text Book of Theosophy* at Lucknow. Smt. Vasumati Agnihotri and Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri were the other two resource persons at Lucknow.

Gyanodaya Lodge, Barabanki, observed Dr. Radha Burnier's birthday on 15 November. Bro. K.K. Srivastava, Secretary of the Lodge, while paying homage to Radha ji mentioned about her various works and especially the book *Human Regeneration*.

Sri Jwala Pd. Misra spoke on 'Conditioned Mind and ways of Liberation'. This public lecture was organized by Kashi Tattva Sabha on 5 December. The Lodge at Varanasi organized Dr. T.S. Mishra's talk on 19 December and the subject was 'Yoga for Health'.

Smt. Gyan Kumari Ajeet's talk on Dr. Annie Besant was broadcast by All India Radio, Allahabad, on 14 December, 2014. Smt. Ajeet, in her talk, mentioned about Dr. Besant's contribution in various fields and especially her role in promoting education in India. Besides, Dr. Besant's impact on Indian leaders was also highlighted in the talk.

The members of Anand Lodge and Mahila Dharm Lodge, Allahabad, observed Dr. Radha Burnier's 91st birthday on 15 November as *Vishwa Kalyan Diwas*. The function was attended by about 80 people. Dr. Rajesh Purohit, Director, of Allahabad Sangrahalaya was the chief guest. He spoke about Theosophical Society and Radhaji. A dance drama *Suryopasana*, written by Smt. Gyan Kumar Ajeet and directed by Smt. Sneha Jyoti Kriti, was presented by Radha Burnier Universal TOS Group of Allahabad.

Dr. Annie Besant's birthday' was observed by the members of Sarvahitakari Lodge, Gorakhpur, on 1 October, 2014. A meeting was organized on this occasion in which Dr. Ram Achal Singh, former Vice-Chancellor of Faizabad University was the guest speaker. The other talks organized by the Lodge in October were: Dr. Ajai Rai spoke in

detail about the content dealt with in the book *The Voice of the Silence*; Sri Jai Prakash Misra spoke on *Bahai Religion & its Philosophy*; Bro. U.S. Pandey delivered a talk on 'Meditation'; Dr. Sanjai Kumar, a Professor of Bundelkhand University, spoke on 'Environment pollution & Theosophy'; and a talk on 'Bhagavadgita & Theosophy' was delivered by Dr. Satish Chandra Tripathi.

Acharya Kalyan spoke on 'Life management' at Sarvatritakari Ldage on 5 November, He emphasized that man must get rid of six disqualifications- Kam, Anger, Maya, Ahankar, Lust and Ego. Bro. Bajrang Batra and Prof. Satish Chandra Tripathi shared their views on 'Gita Maa' on 14 November. A day-long seminar on 'Laws of Higher Life' was conducted by Bro. U.S. Pandey in which 18 members participated. Sri Raghurai Singh's talk on 26 November was on 'Ram Charit Manas'. Besides, Bro. S.B.R. Misra delivered a lecture at Ishwariya Degree College, Basgaon, and his subject was 'Good conduct in the light of Theosophy'.

A group of about 40 students of matriculation level studying in DAV Public School in the Campus of Chambal Fertiliser & Chemicals Ltd., Kota, was addressed by Bro. S.S. Gautam, National Lecturer. This meeting was held on 20 January 2015. A Power Point presentation on, "Student - a light pole" was delivered. In the presentation the students were invoked to remain cheerful and do not allow themselves to fall into depression which renders the surrounding environment dull and crushes the cheerfulness of the surrounding persons. They were inspired to discriminate while thinking, speaking and carrying out the activities in order to radiate cheerfulness and braveness around them including family and other social environments.

Sri Awadhesh Kumar Singh (Diploma No. 95389) of Nirvana Lodge, Agra, passed to peace on 20 October, 2014.

Sri Ratan Lal (Diploma No. 91381) of Sarvahitakari Lodge, Gorakhpur, passed to peace on 28 October, 2014.

Dr. Sunanda Phansalkar, a very senior Life Member, passed to peace at the age of 96 in Pune on 9 December. For more than five decades, i.e. till 1990, she was very actively involved in all the activities of Kashi Tattva Sabha, the Theosophical Lodge at Varanasi, and helped

under various capacities during the International Convention and north-India study camp, held at the Indian Section Headquarters. A doctor by profession, though she gave up private practice in late 1960's she continued to help in Ram Krishna Mission's hospital and commanded great respect there as well.

National Lecturer

Bro. N.C. Krishna delivered a talk on 'Our Real Work' at the 102nd Annual Conference of Rayalaseema Federation, held at Guntur on 20 September, 2014. Besides, he spoke on 'The Relevance of Theosophy in the modern world' on 27 September, 2014. This talk was held in the 18th National Congress of Spiritual Scientists at Khammam. His visit to Kerala has been covered on page 57.

Indian Section Headquarters

The Support Convention was held at the Section Headquarters, Varanasi, on 26 December and 31 December 2014. It was attended by the members of the Theosophical Society. Shri Shashi Nandan Lal Dar, Manager, Besant Theosophical School, started the meeting by indicating the theme of the International Convention i.e. "The Theosophy in a changing world". He then requested Smt. Uma Bhattacharyya, member of Kashi Tattva Sabha, to conduct the meeting. It began with Universal Prayer. Throwing light on the theme of convention, Smt. Uma Bhattacharyya first clarified the meaning of Theosophy i.e. Brahma-Vidya which the Theosophical Society is striving to spread not only in India but all over the world. She underlined the fact that pervasiveness of the organization and its wide-spread influence all over the world reflect how deep and strong are the roots on which the magnificent structure of the society has been established. Bringing out the relevance of Theosophy in the context of to-days' world, she elaborated that besides providing a strong and deep spiritual foundation to the mankind for their evolution, it attempts to establish peace and harmony in the world. Highlighting the relevance of the first object of Theosophical Society in the context of modern day world which is torn by hatred, violence and terror, she emphasized that following practical brotherhood which is elevated state of mind and heart is need of the hour. She reminded the gathering that we need to bring fundamental change in our inner world and that should be evident in our day-to-day behaviour and enrich personality and body language. Drawing attention to the teaching and mes-

sage of theosophy i.e. oneness of life, she maintained that it is the foundation of future religion and is extremely relevant in the prevailing world situation as the present forms of religion has miserably failed to reduce conflicts and violence terrorizing the world.

Dr. Pushpalata Pratap, a senior member of the TS touched the practical aspect of theosophy which professes to dedicate ourselves for the service of mankind. She stressed on the need to serve poor and needy selflessly which she felt is the true service to theosophy. She further elaborated that theosophical society was founded to provide long-term solution to the cause of human sufferings. She urged that we should diligently and consistently work towards alleviation of human suffering and forge ourselves into and instrument of service.

Pandit Jwala Prasad Mishra, Manager, Vasant Kanya Inter College and Shri Balkishna Sharma also spoke on the significance of theosophy in the changing times and highlighted the contribution of Theosophical Society in understanding fundamental truths and providing people a purpose for living. They maintained that this deep understanding inevitably results in compassionate actions.

The members met again on 31 December to continue the discussion on the subject in which Pandit Jwala Prasad Mishra was the main speaker. He extensively spoke on theosophy and enlightened the gathering about the tremendous impact the TS has made on the entire world. Smt Uma Bhattacharyya concluded the meeting with a resolve that we should merge into a team of workers ever striving together to develop a noble, chaste, pure and high character and conduct based on divine thoughts.

Theosophical Order of Service

The Lodge building in Guwahati has been renovated. The TOS School has been regularly running there. Here too adequate students are not there since regular mid-day meal is provided to the students in nearby other L.P. Schools. This is an important need to be considered for our students as well.

The members participated in raising fund and collection of old cloths etc. and helped the TOS Regional members in rendering services and helping the flood affected people in South Kamrup in the month of September 2014.

Study Camps

1. U.P. Federation is organizing a study camp on 14 & 15 March, 2015 at Agra on the theme 'Mahatma Letters-Teachings.' Members of U.P. Federation and also of other Federations are welcome to participate. The study will be conducted in Hindi. The participants may intimate their names to either of the following by 5 March 2015:

Bro. L.S. Sengar- President, Agra Lodge, Mobile No. 07409497975

Bro. U.S. Pandey, Federation Secretary of U.P., Mobile No. 09451993170.

Board/Lodging will be provided by Agra Lodge from the evening of 13 March to 15 March 2015. Each participant is required to pay Rs. 100/- only on arrival at Agra.

2. M.P. & Rajasthan and U.P. Federation are jointly organizing a study camp on 11-12 April at Gwalior. The theme is 'Basic Teachings of Theosophy'. The book titled "Ageless Wisdom of Life" by Clara M. Codd will form the basis for study which will be conducted in Hindi. Members are welcome to participate. The intending participants may inform their names and date of arrival by 20 March, 2015, to any of the following:

1. Dr. H.S. Dwivedi, Secretary, M.P. & Rajasthan Federation. Mobile No. 09425119409

2. Bro. U.S. Pandey, Secretary, U.P. Federation, Mobile No. 09451993170. Each participant will be required to pay Rs. 300/- on arrival at Gwalior. Board/Lodging will be provided from evening of 10th April to afternoon of 12 April, 2015 by Gwalior Lodge.

The proposals of the aforesaid item No. 2 has consent of the Secretary of M.P. & Rajasthan Federation.

SOUTH INDIA CONFERENCE

The 92nd South India Theosophical Conference will be held at the International Headquarters, Adyar, Chennai, from 3rd April to 5th April 2015. The Conference will be based on HPB's book *The Voice of the Silence*. Members of the Theosophical Society in good standing are welcome to attend as delegates. The delegates are requested to study the following reference books:

1. *Talks on the Path of Occultism*, by Annie Besant and C W Leadbeater
2. *From Inner to Outer Transformation*, by Joy Mills
3. *Creative Silence*, by Rohit Mehta

The Charges per delegate are as follows:

1. Registration Fee: Rs 100/-
2. Meals (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner, 2nd evening to 5th afternoon): Rs 400/-. Accommodation will be provided free of charge from 2nd April to 6th April 2015 at Bhojanasala or New Quadrangle depending on the availability.
3. Mattress charges: Rs 250/-
4. Delegates requiring accommodation are requested to send the Cheque /DD for Rs 750/- favouring "Treasurer, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai-600 020".
5. Delegates will have to provide information of the date of arrival, date of departure and contact number besides details of Lodge & membership.
6. All correspondence should be addressed to Convenor c/o The International Secretary's Office, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai 600 020.
7. For accommodation at Leadbeater Chambers, delegates will have to write to the Superintendent, Leadbeater Chambers, Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai-600 020.
8. For any clarifications, you may write to the following email id: 2014adyarconvention@gmail.com
9. Last date for receipt of application at Adyar is 19th March 2015.
10. In the event of cancellation there would be no refund of Registration fee. Other charges would be refunded if the request for refund reaches before 27th March 2015.

92nd SOUTH INDIA THEOSOPHICAL CONFERENCE THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY ADYAR, CHENNAI-600 020, INDIA

1. Name:
2. Nationality:.....3. Date of Birth.....
4. Address (in home country):.....
5. E-Mail:.....
6. Phone/Mobile Number:.....
7. Occupation (if retired, former occupation):.....
8. Date of Joining the T.S.....9. Diploma No.....
10. Section / Federation / Lodge to which attached and whether now in good standing as a member:
.....
11. Proposed duration of stay in Adyar:
From:.....To:
12. Details of person(s) accompanying:-
Sl.No. Name Age Member Details
Relationship
13. Special Request, if any:

Signature

Signature of applicant:

Date:

BHOWALI STUDY CAMP, SUMMER 2015

The Indian Section, The Theosophical Society, Varanasi, Study Camps' Programme for Summer 2015 at Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali, (Uttarakhand) -

I 21st to 30th April 2015 (+ 1 day prior +1 day after)	Rs. 3600/-	Proposed to be conducted by Karnataka Federation
II 11th May to 16th May 2015 (+ 1 day prior +1 day after)	Rs. 2800/-	Proposed to be conducted by Prof. C.A. Shinde for Marathi Federation
III 17 th to 19 May 2015 (+ 1 day prior +1 day after)	Rs. 1700/-	ES Retreat to be conducted by Sri P.K. Jayaswal
IV 21st to 24th May 2015 (+ 1 day prior +1 day after)	Rs. 2000/-	Study of Way of Disciple to be held under the auspices of the Indian Section. The study will be directed by Sri P.K. Jayaswal
V 26th to 29th May 15 (+ 1 day prior +1 day after)	Food & Accommodation Free	Workers' Training Camp to be conducted by Sri P.K. Jayaswal & others
VI 30th May & 31st 2015 (+ 1 day prior +1 day after)	Rs. 400/-	Camp for Uttarakhand Region

Accommodation for each camp will be for 32 persons. Lodge/ Federation sponsoring must recommend names of the participants. Cancellation will be permitted 7 days prior to study camp. Nominal Rs. 100/- will be deducted and balance amount will be refunded.

The theme of study camp etc will be announced by each Federation..

For camp V - Submit applications to Treasurer, Indian Section. Each Federation has to recommend two names of members below 45 years' age. Food and accommodation will be provided free. No train fare will be given by the Section. Please inform the details of the participants for the Workers' Training Camp before 1 March 2015.

Non – members will be charged Rs. 200/- per person, per day: subject to availability of accommodation.

Remittances are to be made into Vijaya Bank, Kamachha, Varanasi A/c No. 718301010005045 IFSC Code VIJB0007183 written in the name of the Indian Section, The Theosophical Society. Remittance details to be intimated to the Indian Section.

Registration 20 days before each camp, cancellation 7days before commencement of each camp.

S. Sundaram
General Secretary

RECENT REPRINTS

A STUDY IN CONSCIOUSNESS – A Contribution to the Science of Psychology

Annie Besant

An instructive book on the unfolding and development of Consciousness intended as an aid to students.

THE POWER AND USE OF THOUGHT

C. W. Leadbeater

Valuable guidelines on the correct use and control of the power of thought and emotion, and our responsibility for their effect upon others.

GAYATRI – The Daily Religious Practice of the Hindus

I. K. Taimni

A monograph explaining the sacred Gayatri mantra used by Hindus in their daily devotions, to meditate upon the Solar Deity and invoke its Light from within.

FORTHCOMING REPRINTS

THE KINGDOM OF THE GODS

Geoffrey Hodson

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C. W. Leadbeater

This book describes in detail instances of help given on the physical plane by beings on other planes, invisible to our physical sight. It is an absorbing record of such instances with detailed information about the astral plane.

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A pure heart, an eager intellect,
An unveiled spiritual perception,
A brotherliness for one's co-disciple,
A readiness to give and receive advice and instruction,
A loyal sense of duty to the Teacher,
A willing obedience to the behest of TRUTH,
Once we have placed our confidence in,
And believe that Teacher to be in possession of it,
A courageous endurance of personal injustice,
A brave declaration of principles,
A valiant defense of those who are unjustly attacked,
And a constant eye to the ideal of human progression
And perfection which the Secret Science depicts,
These are the Golden Stairs
Up the step of which
The learner may climb
To the temple of Divine Wisdom.

STUDY CAMP AT THE SECTION, HEADQUARTERS, VARANASI

A study camp at the Section Headquarters, Varanasi, will be held from 17 to 19 March 2015. The book for study is-**HUMAN JOURNEY: QUEST FOR SELF-TRANSFORMATION** by Joy Mills.

The Study will be directed by Prof. R.C. Tampi.

Registration will be made on the first come first serve basis. Members of the Theosophical Society in good standing are welcome to attend as delegates. Registration Fee, Accommodation Charges, and Meal Charges per person (from 17March evening to 19March afternoon) will be Rs.750/- (Registration Fee- Rs. 50/-; Accommodation Charges- Rs. 100/-; and Meal Charges- Rs. 600/-). Bed-rolls will be provided on extra payment. Give details of arrival departure, Phone/Mobile No./E-mail. Few special rooms available for Rs. 300/- during the camp.

Non-members will have to pay Rs 300 extra per person.

The Registration Fee, Accommodation & Meal Charges (Rs.750/) must be sent to the Treasurer, Indian Section, The Theosophical Society, Kamachha, Varanasi – 221010, on or before 5th March 2015. Please note that in the event of cancellation there will be no refund of Registration Fee. But Accommodation Charges and Meal Charges will be refunded if application for refund is received before 10 March 2015. The participants are to be present at all the sessions of study. Late joining or early leaving of the camp will not be permitted.

S. Sundaram
General Secretary