

**THE INDIAN SECTION
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
GENERAL SECRETARY
2015-2016**

It is not an ordinary fact that the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society completed 125 years in January 2016. It is amazing that the Theosophists are one of the few Global Groups which stands committed towards understanding about Reality through triple channels of Religion, Philosophy and Science. They believe that there is nothing higher than Truth. They respect all religions as expression of Divine Wisdom and also in the Divinity that abides in all beings. They believe in Universal Brotherhood. They have been engaged in cultivating goodness and compassion through education and social service for the last so many years. The values which the Theosophical Movement inculcated among the people helped in developing the organization into a creative forum of thought and action and also added something to the significant aspects and dimensions of Indian culture and tradition. However, now, in today's world of turmoil, chaos and disintegration it is necessary that we focus our attention on, and put in much greater effort, with all intensity at the level of positive and constructive thought that will spontaneously transform into creative action. In search for remedies for the existing situation and social maladies of society in general and world at large Theosophical Teachings seem more necessary than ever before.

So, question arises: What can be done to improve the existing situation of society in general? How can the members of the TS be instrumental in contributing to the fashioning of a more just society in future? How can Theosophy be made people centric? Can we work out a plan or method to bridge the gulf between the Theosophical Mission and individuals who are genuinely interested in and are working for the welfare of society in general? Can we build that competence

and generate enough courage and confidence to attract them to our movement? Can we develop means and method of doing rather to state of being antithetical to existing situation? As mentioned by N. Sri Ram: "What is important is a change in the quality of life that flows through the organization; that seems much more important than procedures and forms". The vital question is not only structural change. It is one of relationships and minds of men which have "become an imperative necessity". It must mean dynamism and progress towards greater human unity.

The essence of change or transformation lies in transformation of values. And, the values to which we give priority at the level of thought and action- determine our way of life. As it has been said that Theosophy is a way of life, way of shaping one's own life and the life of society on the foundation of Love and Truth. It emphasizes on being aware of responsibility and 'Self-abnegation'.

So, as mentioned by a former General Secretary of the Indian Section "let us all join together in this Great Work to which we are all committed and which is for the advancement of the Noble cause of Humanity".

INDIAN SECTION CONVENTION

The 124th Indian Section Convention-I was held at Adyar on 1 January 2016. Inaugurating the convention the International President, Bro. Tim Boyd, wished the Indian Section a 'Happy Birthday', for even though the Section's Charter signed by Col. H.S. Olcott was dated 17 November 1890, it was to take effect on 1 January 1891, exactly 125 years ago. Mr. Boyd suggested that "perhaps this year we would not merely make a wish but rather *make it our will* in the coming year to open ourselves more deeply and access our higher possibilities that are ever waiting for us more profoundly".

The Federation Secretaries conveyed greetings on behalf of their respective Federations.

The General Secretary, while welcoming the International President, Vice-President, Federation Secretaries and the delegates said that human society today is passing through a crisis which actually

is a 'crisis in values in human life'. People in general do not realize that values are the dynamic force which control and guide human actions. If we look at the world scenario, it would be evident how theosophical teachings are becoming an inevitable, urgent need of the day. They guide us to live in harmony with people, Nature and with one's self. The present as well as the future will depend on the commitment, effort and the inner strength of the members. The stronger the members are from within, the stronger will be the organization.

The GS then presented the Annual Report for the year 2014-15 giving a general survey of the work done during the year under review. It was followed by the Treasurer's Report presented by Bro. P.S. Panchakshari.

Bro. Chittaranjan Satapathy, International Vice-President, chaired the Convention.

The Indian Section Convention-II was held on 3 January, 2016, in which short talks were delivered on '**Listening to the March of the Future**' by Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri (of U.P. Federation); Sis. Geetha Jaikumar (of Adyar Lodge) and Bro. S.U. Mahesh (of Karnataka Federation). All the three talks were very much appreciated by the delegates and have been published in the March 2016 issue of *The Indian Theosophist*.

INDIAN SECTION HEADQUARTERS

The 168th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Annie Besant was celebrated at the Section Headquarters, Varanasi, on 1 October, 2015. Professor Harikesh Singh, Faculty of Education, Banaras Hindu University (BHU), was the guest speaker on the occasion.

Professor Harikesh Singh in his over an hour long scholarly and engaging discourse on 'Annie Besant and Theosophy' highlighted the idea of universal brotherhood – '*Vishwa Bandhuttva*'. He talked of Annie Besant in connection with education for harmonization and called her Educator of educators who championed the cause of women's education in Varanasi. The hallmark of the philosopher

educationist Annie Besant is advancing the spiritual essence. She worked tirelessly towards human conscientization because Truth has voice, Truth has a message to give and ultimately Truth has light – takes us to light. Unification of conscience with divinity is the purpose of Annie Besant's philosophy of education, Professor Harikesh Singh concluded.

Prof. Awadesh Pradhan of the Department of Hindi, Banaras Hindu University, was the guest speaker on the occasion of the Foundation Day of the TS on 17 November. While addressing our members, distinguished guests and students, he emphasized on this essential feature of the TS that 'It does not seek to confine anyone's mind within the periphery of preconceived ideas and set opinions. Every one is free to explore to delve into the depths and discover for himself for whatever he can of Wisdom and Truth'. He very much appreciated the Three Objectives of the TS placed before the world by the pioneers of the movement.

The Support Convention was held at the Section Headquarters on 31 December 2015 and 5 January 2016. Sri Shashi Nandanlal Dar conducted the meeting and Sri Jwala Prasad Mishra spoke on the theme of the 140th International Convention 'Compassion and Universal Responsibility'.

'Adyar-Day' was observed at the Indian Section Headquarters on 17 February 2016. Smt. Uma Bhattacharyya, who was the main speaker, drew attention of the gathering to the significance of remembering such sacred day as we get inspired to imbibe great values, a fresh enthusiasm for Theosophical ideals and make bigger use of Adyar as source of energy. She opined that Adyar provides favourable conditions for an experiment in living and life at Adyar can itself be one continuous meditation.

Smt. Manju Sundaram delivered a short talk in a meeting organized on the occasion of While Lotus Day (8 May) at the Section Headquarters.

All the aforesaid meetings started with the Prayers of All Faiths.

Keeping the 125th year of the Indian Section in view, a talk on ‘The Future of Theosophy and the Theosophical Society’ by Prof. P. Krishna was held at the Section HQ on February 5.

Kashi Tattva Sabha (KTS) organized thirteen lectures during the year under review. Six lectures were delivered by the members and six by the scholars of different institutions. Besides, Bro. B.D. Tendulkar, National Lecturer, delivered a talk on ‘Science and Spirituality’. *Sabad Kirtan* was organized by KTS on the occasion of Guru Nanak Jayanti.

The study classes under the auspices of KTS were held on Tuesday in which the members studied *The Voice of the Silence* by HPB and *Principles of Theosophical Work* by I.K. Taimni. The study of the book *An Approach to Reality* by N. Sri Ram has been taken up since July 2016. Besides, three talks- one by N. Sri Ram, one by J. Krishnamurti and one by Radha Burnier were also studied during the year under review.

Banaras Cultural Foundation and the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society jointly organized tree plantation in the premises of the Theosophical Society, Varanasi. The Garden of Peace was created with the generous contribution of the Banaras Cultural Foundation of 380 plants all from different varieties of Palm. On 10th April 2016, 20 *Banarasis* together with 14 monks from the Sarnath International Nyingma Institute planted the trees. Some of them were also planted around the Annie Besant School to complete the previous year’s plantation exercise there. There were two artists from China and four artists from Switzerland who along with a couple of volunteers from Germany participated in the programme for which they were invited by the Banaras Cultural Foundation.

On this occasion the monks chanted for peace followed by Smt. Manju Sundaram’s vedic chants for peace. Fifty birds were released on this occasion.

Banaras Cultural Foundation has requested the Indian Section, Theosophical Society, for another place in the premises where one more “Garden of Remembrance” can be created.

Mr. Ajay Pandey- Managing Director and Mr. Navneet Raman- Chairman of the Banaras Cultural Foundation, who are also members of the Kashi Tattva Sabha, were present on this occasion and organized the programme.

The guest house (Suryashram) at the Section HQ has been completely renovated.

THOUGHT FORMS paintings together with Man Visible Invisible paintings are being preserved. The first step was to arrest any further decay in the work which has been done with the generosity of Sis. Bronia Iwanczak and Bro. Navneet Raman.

In phase one we have reframed the originals with acid free mounts and museum glass after cleaning it for the silverfish and other insects in the paper. This is now being kept in climate control to stabilise the work.

Also at the same time we have got another set of works digitally restored and printed which is now part of an exhibition on the walk in Shantikunj for those interested to look and study the set. This was supported and curated by Sis. Bronia Iwanczak and Bro. Navneet Raman.

NORTH INDIA STUDY CAMP

The North India Study Camp was held at the Indian Section Headquarters, Varanasi, from 17 Oct. 2015 to 20 Oct. 2015 in which delegates from different Federations participated with great enthusiasm. The International President Bro. Tim Boyd directed the study on the subject ‘The Three Objects’. The inaugural session began with Universal Prayer and thereafter the General Secretary (GS) expressed his gratitude as International President kindly agreed to direct the study. Welcoming the International President Bro. Tim Boyd and his wife Mrs. Lily Boyd, on behalf of everyone present there, GS mentioned that this is the first time that the topic “Three Objects of Theosophical Society” have been chosen for the North India study camp and the members of Theosophical Society are fortunate to listen to the

International President on this core issue. The GS also welcomed all members from various lodges who came to attend this camp in large number from various parts of the country. Emphasizing on the relevance of Theosophical Teachings in modern- day world, GS highlighted the significant role the Theosophical Society is performing in spreading theosophy not only in India but all over the world.

During the first session, the International President chose to speak on the first object of TS i.e. which lays down the foundation of TS from a deeper level. He elaborated further that first part is ‘to know’, ‘to will’, ‘to dare’ and ‘to be silent’ because it is only the silent mind that can understand the unity. The President clarified the distinction between Theosophy, Theosophist and the Theosophical Society.

Throwing light on the second object the President clarified that the second object gives breadth to the mind. Terming mind as tool to study the Truth, he indicated that mind has the capacity to harmonize, synthesize and to put things in order.

Elaborating the third object he brought out that we are constantly impacting the environment around us. He explained that the mysteries of nature and life unfold themselves to one who decides to tread the spiritual Path. He underlined the fact that Universal Brotherhood is the expression of having connection with human chain. He reminded the participants that we are surrounded by life, energy, thoughts and ideas every moment and it is our limitation that we are not receiving the signal.

The International President exhorted the members to engage the mind with thoughts, ideas and energy enveloping us and urged them to embrace and allow these ideas to flow within. He maintained that it is an opportunity of creative endeavour through which we find ourselves enlarged and expanded. In this elevated state, he revealed that we become transparent and it flows to outer world.

The most interesting phenomenon in this study was that the International President shared his life experience, and his interaction with His Holiness Dalai-Lama and a Tibetan Monk.

The concluding session was devoted to question/answer from the participants and sharing of experiences of the study camp.

OTHER STUDY CAMP

Study Camp at Gwalior: A study camp was jointly organized by M.P. & Rajasthan and U.P. Federation at Gwalior on 9 and 10 April. The book taken up for study was *The Pathway to Perfection* by Geoffrey Hodson. The camp started on the morning of 9 April with recitation of prayers of all religions followed by Universal Prayer. Dr. H.S. Dwivedi, Secretary of M.P.& Rajasthan Federation, welcomed the participants and speakers. About 40 persons including members from both Federations participated in it. Bro. U.S. Pandey, Federation Secretary of U.P., introduced the subject and inaugurated the camp. Dr. O.P. Budholia, Dr. H.S. Dwivedi, Bro. S.K. Pandey, Bro. S.S. Gautam covered different chapters of the book. An interactive session was held on 10 April when as per the suggestion of Dr. H.S. Dwivedi, Bro. U.S. Pandey and Bro. S.K. Pandey spoke in brief about the purpose of Theosophy and the Theosophical Society, for the benefit of new persons participating in the camp.

STUDY CAMPS AT BHOWALI

1. A study camp was organized by the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society at Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali, from 20 to 26 April 2016. Prof. C.A. Shinde, National Lecturer, directed the study of the book *Light on the Path* by Mabel Collins.

In all, 16 delegates from the Theosophical lodges of Varanasi, Pune, Chennai, Salem, Bangalore, Amravati, Lucknow, Bhowali and Trivandrum participated in it. The camp was a great success to understand the subject in great depth. During the opening session Prof. Shinde gave the notes and the plan of study to be undertaken during the course. Bro. V. Narayanan, Bro. P.S. Panchakshari and Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri spoke in the inaugural session. The study course included 14 study sessions.

Prof. Shinde conducted the study on first three days. Then Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri, National Lecturer, assisted the director to take one session every morning on the last three days of the camp.

The concluding session was addressed by Prof. C.A. Shinde and all the delegates gave their feedback about the course. Vote of thanks was given by Bro. P.S. Panchakshari on behalf of the Indian Section. The daily routine included Bharat Samaj Pooja in the morning and meditation session before starting of the morning study session.

2. Karnataka Theosophical Federation (KTF) organized a study camp at the Himalayan Study Centre of the Indian Section, TS, in Bhowali. The subjects taken up for study were:- *The Voice of the Silence* and *Light on the Path*. The camp was held from 2 -10 May 2016.

The camp was very ably directed by Bro. B.V. Thippeswamy, President, KTF. The resource persons were Bro. G. Dakshinamoorthy, Vice-President, KTF; Sis. K. Parvathamma, Secretary, KTF; Bro. K.L.Nanjunda Shetty, State Organizer, KTF; Bro. A.C. Sriramaiah Shetty, Vice-President, City Lodge, Bengaluru; Bro. B.C. Narsingappa, Tumkur; Bro. Vastrad, Bellary; Sis. Lakshmi Govind, Librarian, Bengaluru; and Bro. M.S. Sridhara, Bengaluru.

Fifty participants from various Lodges of Karnataka Federation enthusiastically participated in the camp. Eleven lectures were delivered on *The Voice of the Silence* and nine lectures on *Light on the Path*.

Jyothi Pooja was conducted every day from 6AM to 06.45 AM. Pranayama was from 06:45 AM to 07:30 AM. Meditation sessions were held from 12:30PM to 01:30PM. Daily three lectures were given on the subject for one and half hours each.

Bro. P.S. Panchakshari, camp officer, extended his complete support and cooperation for smooth running of the camp.

During the last day of the camp, the valedictory function was conducted. Fifteen participants gave their impressions and feedback on the camp, which included mostly the appreciation of the content presented in the study sessions, natural beauty and the spiritual vitality of the place and the very good arrangement of food.

3. A study camp on the book *The Way of Wisdom* by N. Sri Ram was organized by Utkal Theosophical Federation at the Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali, from 15-20 May, 2016. It was directed by the Section's National Lecturer Bro. S. K. Pandey and was attended by 42 delegates from Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Sambalpur, New Delhi, Bhopal and Amaravati. Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri, National Lecturer, helped Bro. Pandey during the study session. Besides, he conducted the session on *The Light on the Path*. Bro. Sudhansu Pati conducted the class on Bhagavadgita and Prof. Sahadeb Patro participated in the discussion. Bro. S.K. Pandey elaborated the content of the books *The Voice of the Silence* and *At the Feet of the Master*. Bro. R.C. Pattnayak, Bro. Pradip Mahapatra, Bro. J.K. Sahoo, Bro. Ashok Mohapatra and Bro. D.P. Panda actively participated in dialogue and discussion on different aforesaid subjects. Bro. Pradip Mahapatra presided over the opening and closing session and Bro. Ashok Mohapatra gave vote of thanks on behalf of Utkal Federation.

4. A study camp, organized by the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society, was conducted at the Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali, under the direction of Bro. S.K. Pandey, National Lecturer, on 30-31 May 2016. In all, 25 delegates from Bhowali and Nainital participated in it.

Bro. Sanit Joshi, Co-ordinator of Uttarakhand State, welcomed the delegates, resource persons and the office bearers of the Indian Section. The introductory address was given by Bro. S.K. Pandey on the 'Three Objects of the TS' and 'The Three Great Truths'. It was followed by a session on 'Thought Power and Thought Forms' by Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri and a presentation on 'Life after Death' by Sis. Preeti Tiwari.

At the end Bro. S.K. Pandey shared with everyone the significance of the theosophical knowledge and its implementation in daily life.

Concluding remarks were made by the General Secretary of the Indian Section, Bro. S. Sundaram, on the theme 'Love and Service & We and Our Accountability'.

Bro. S. Gururani from Nainital Lodge, Bro. Shekhar Bhagat and Bro. P.C. Tripathi from Bhowali Lodge, while giving their feedback at the end of the camp, were really delighted to have attended the camp and expressed their views to have it more frequently.

NOTE ON SCHOOL OF WISDOM IN BHOWALI

A School of the Wisdom in Spanish language was very successfully conducted at the Himalayan Study Centre in Bhowali from 5 to 9 September 2016. It was well attended with 35 participants from 8 countries including 3 volunteers from India. The participants exhibited great enthusiasm and energy. The course on the theme 'Beyond the Physical Death' was ably directed by Dr. Issac Jauli Davila and Dr. Enrique Reig Pintado, who had designed the course content and provided excellent study material. The course was inaugurated by the International Vice-President Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy who emphasized the two main purposes of the School of the Wisdom: (i) imparting a deeper level of understanding so that the participants may carry out the objectives of the TS more effectively and (ii) cultivating a feeling of kinship of soul with the fellow students and the teachers.

Bro. V. Narayanan, Administrative Officer of the Indian Section, camped at Bhowali and meticulously took care of the logistics with the help of volunteers Bro Shikhar Agnihotri, Bro. Kuldeep Singh and Smt. Nandita Singh. Bro. Shikhar also conducted the Bharat Samaj Pooja in the morning which was attended and greatly appreciated by all the participants. In between the course, the participants were able to visit the nearby Nainital lake and town as well as the hillsides offering breathtaking view of the Himalayan terrain.

SOUTH INDIA CONFERENCE

The 93rd South India Theosophical Conference was held as usual during the Easter Vacation from 25-27 March 2016 at the International Headquarters in Adyar. As many as 137 delegates had registered for the conference. The theme of the conference was *Light on the Path*, a book by Mabel Collins. The conference was inaugurated by the International Vice-President Dr. Chittaranjan

Satapathy, who spoke about the history and uniqueness of the book and also explained the importance of the four preliminary statements. He also released a new book titled *The Theosophic Life and the Three Gems of Theosophy*, published by TPH Adyar, a copy of which was made available to each delegate. There were several speakers namely Mr. Isaac Jauli, Mr. Harihara Raghavan, Ms. Sandhya Rani, Prof. N. Ratnam, Mr. S. M. Umakant Rao, Dr. M. A. Raveendran, Prof. C. A. Shinde, Dr. R. Revathy and Prof. A. M. Vacha. They delivered talks covering all the aphorisms (rules) dealt in the book. The closing address was given by Prof. R C Tampi, General Council Member and the Director of the School of the Wisdom. He also explained the essay on Karma given at the end of the book. On the first evening, the beautiful ceremony of The Ritual of the Mystic Star was performed, and on the second evening, on behalf of The Great Banyan Audio Visual Centre, Mr. Vinay Patri made an audio-visual presentation on the Emblem of the Theosophical Society. Ms. H. Sripriya ably coordinated the organization of the conference with the assistance of officers and staff of various departments in Adyar.

SEMINARS

1. On the significant occasion of the 125th anniversary of the Indian Section, a two-day seminar on “**Looking Ahead in the Context of Theosophical Society**” was organized by the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society on November 18-19, 2015 in the Annie Besant Hall at the Indian Section Headquarters, Varanasi. The seminar was structured in seven academic sessions including the inaugural and valedictory sessions. *The Indian Theosophist*, Vol. 113, No. 10 & 11 was distributed to all the delegates and participants on this occasion.

In the inaugural session, welcoming the delegates and guests and introducing the theme of the seminar, Sri S. Sundaram, General Secretary, Indian Section, outlined the aims and objectives of our Society and said that now is the time to retrospect for all members of the TS. We have to ask ourselves what transformation has occurred in one's self after becoming a member. Prof. Anand Kumar, President

of Indian Sociological Society delivered keynote address. The other speakers were two Professors of Banaras Hindu University, Two Associate Professors of Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya and members of the Indian Section.

The seminar proceedings have been published in detail in the March (2016) issue of *The Indian Theosophist* (pp. 111-118). Besides, the papers presented in the seminar have been published in a separate Special Number entitled **Looking Ahead**.

2. A Retreat Seminar on ‘**Quest of the Absolute: Abhinavagupta’s Parâtrîshikâ Vivarana**’ was held at the Indian Section Headquarters from 1-7 December 2015, under the direction of Dr. Betina Sharda Baumer, in collaboration between the T.S. Indian Section and Trika Trust, Varanasi.

In all, 24 participants came from different parts of India and abroad: from U.P., Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Delhi, Chandigarh, from Germany, U.K., USA, France and Iran. The theme was one of the most mystical texts of Kashmir Saivism, being a commentary on the *Parâtrîshikâ Tantra*.

The programme consisted of two sessions of text study daily, based on the Sanskrit text, with translation and explanations, 3-4 hours silent meditation (both were held at the Annie Besant Hall), with musical recitation of the Tantra and of *Mangala Slokas* and other stotras, under the guidance of Smt. Manju Sundaram. The week was concluded by a *granthapûjâ*, worshipping the text studied, under the guidance of Dr. Ajithan from Kerala, with a dance offering by Navtej Johar.

Studying and practicing meditation with the text certainly presupposes some background in spiritual experience and some basic knowledge of Kashmir Saivism, but it was a powerful introduction into this tantric mysticism.

3 The Indian Section organized a two-day National Seminar at Delhi on 30-31 July 2016. Delhi Federation hosted the seminar. Members from different parts of India attended it. The theme of the seminar was **THEOSOPHY AND THE MODERN WORLD**.

In the inaugural session, Bro. Rajeev Gupta, President of Delhi Federation, welcomed the delegates. Then, Bro. Pradip Mahapatra, Asst. Gen Secy., Indian Section, TS, presented the theme of the conference. He described what is Theosophy and the present position of the world.

Bro. V. Narayanan said that Science, Philosophy and Occultism all are in search of Truth. One must observe the self. There is a divine plan and we all should be the co-creator. Bro. Ashok Choudhury opined that anything which we do not find comfortable for us turns into a problem. So theosophy is to be applied to our everyday life.

Bro. B D Tendulkar, National Lecturer of the Indian Section, delivered a talk on – ‘Present day ethical living’. Besides, he delivered a talk on ‘One Life and One God’. He described that Ethical life is the basis of all religions.

Dr. L. Nagesh, National Lecturer, delivered a talk on ‘Brotherhood, Truth and Freedom’. We know this at intellectual level but it disappears as the materialistic world binds us. We need to transcend it. Intellect is a trap but at the same time it is a door step. We have to use it as a gateway. He referred to the views of Annie Besant on two impediments mentioning that they are Material Consciousness and Ignorance. One soul knows the art of simple living and eliminates the unnecessary things in the life. Silence is the language that one uses to connect the inner self. Truth is to be realized. To experience the Truth one needs to become silent and become non-judgemental for some time at least.

His other talk was on ‘Theosophy: Synthesis of Philosophy, Science and Religion’. Dr. L. Nagesh described that Truth is one, approaches are different. Religion is mystical approach, philosophy is speculative approach and science is experimental approach. Then he described the structure of human being by saying that Human’s organ systems are like digestive, respiratory, nervous systems. It is all organs. Organs are made of tissues, tissues are made of cells, each cell is made of atoms, and each atom has a nucleus which has protons and neutrons. If one proton is blasted, we get 3 quarks. One is positive, negative and neutral. The positive is Brahma, Negative is Shiva and

Neutral is Vishnu. Again if each quark is blasted, we will get set of similar 3 sub-quarks and if further blasted, sun-sub-quarks show NOTHING. At physical level we are made of NOTHING i.e. *Shunya*. When we leave physical world, Atma/spirit [Shiva] leaves first. Physical body/matter [Brahma] leaves next and at the end, the binding force [Vishnu] is last to leave.

Bro. O. P. Aneja delivered talk on- 'Universal Brotherhood leads to Universal Morality'. Dr. Ambasht delivered a talk on 'Education and its value in present time'. Bro. M. P. Singhal in his talk on 'Theosophy: Doctrine and Ethics' advised that the members should study theosophical doctrines and realise the divine plan of evolution. Sis. Suvralina, in her talk on 'How Theosophy will help the Education System', described in detail that we should aim at by creating free man and woman, free intellectually, free morally, unprejudiced in every respect, and above all things, unselfish.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S VISITS

As a chief guest of the 91st Annual Conference of M.P. & Rajasthan Federation the General Secretary (GS), Bro. S. Sundaram, delivered the inaugural address at Ratlam on 31 October, 2015, He analysed the theme of the conference 'Flowering of Love is Meditation'. He said that the process of "flowering" gradually shapes itself into "love" which reflects the selfless motives of human life beyond the physical senses, breaking the bonds of *vasana*.

The GS was the guest of honour on the occasion of the Centenary of the Cuttack Lodge (in Odhisa) held on 13-14 February, along with the 51st Annual Convention of Utkal Theosophical Federation. He gave a talk in the TOS session on the theme 'Love and Service: Direction and Vision of Universal Brotherhood'. Besides, he attended a joint meeting organized by Sidharth Lodge, Bhubaneswar, where he delivered a talk on 'Relevance of Gandhi in today's world'.

The GS was the chief guest of the 14th East Zone Conference of TS & TOS held at Guwahati on 1-3 April, 2016. The theme of the

conference was 'Peace, Harmony & Service'. He explained the concept of love and harmony and how it is linked with service.

In a study camp organized by the Indian Section at the Himalayan Study Centre at Bhowali, the G.S. in the concluding session spoke on 'Love and Service' and 'We and our Accountability'.

As a chief guest of the 85th Annual Conference of Marathi Theosophical Federation the GS inaugurated the conference held at Nagpur on 23-25 September, 2016. He spoke on the theme of the conference 'Open Mind' in the inaugural session. Besides, he delivered a public lecture on 'Morality is the foundation of Spiritual Life'. In the concluding session he shared his views regarding how to promote and strengthen the work of the organization.

ASST. GEN. SECRETARY'S VISITS

Asst. Gen. Secy. Bro. Pradip Ku. Mahapatra visited Nagpur on 1 October and delivered a talk on 'Psychical contribution of Annie Besant to the World'. On 4 October 2015 he visited Akot Lodge in Maharashtra with Bro. Ashok Lokhande, President of Marathi Federation, and discussed with the members regarding the importance of the Lodge in Theosophical Society. On 13 February 2016 he participated in the symposium-'Quest for Truth' in the Annual Conference of Utkal Federation. He attended the 111th Annual Conference of Bihar Theosophical Federation on 15-16 April 2016 as Chief Guest and delivered inaugural address on 'Universal Brotherhood is the Saviour of Humanity'. He also chaired a session of short talks on 'Divine Love'. On 7 May he delivered a talk on 'The Path' at Cuttack Lodge. He presided over the opening and closing session of the study class on 'The Way of Wisdom' organized by Utkal Federation and also participated in the dialogue and discussion session of the said study class. He organized a National Seminar of the Indian Section in Delhi on 30-31, July 2016 and delivered a short talk on the theme of the seminar 'Theosophy and Modern World'. He also presided over the concluding session of the seminar. On 3-4 August, he was the Guest of Honour in the North Zone TOS conference held at Noida and delivered a talk on 'Service to Humanity'.

He visited Gupta Vidya Lodge at Eluru and addressed the members of Gupta Vidya and Ashoka Lodge on 'Role of a member of the Lodge in the Theosophical Society'. On 4 September 2016 he organized a day-long study class at Cuttack Lodge on the book *The Secret of Self Realisation [PratibigyanHrudayam]*. He participated in short talk session of the Annual TOS Conference of Odisha TOS region at Bhubaneswar on 'Education can transform humanity'. This was held on 25 September 2016.

NATIONAL LECTURER

Prof. C.A. Shinde visited Theosophical Lodges at Pune, Sangli, Delhi & Noida giving talks on theosophy and daily living. In the month January 2016, he visited Bangalore and Huliya Lodge of Karnataka Federation and directed study class on Theosophy. It was attended by 200 members. In February he visited Vishakhapatnam Lodge.

Prof. Shinde was invited as chief guest of Telugu Federation's Annual meeting held at Anakapalli in the month of February 2016 where he delivered the inaugural address on the theme of the conference 'Brotherhood'. He delivered a public lecture and also spoke in the valedictory session. He directed a study camp on 10 April at Chitradurga Theosophical Lodge.

Prof. Shinde directed a study camp organized by the Indian Section of the TS at Bhowali from 20 to 26 April 2016. The book taken up for the study was *Light on the Path* by Mabel Collins.

Prof. Shinde participated in the South India Conference held at Adyar (25 to 27 March) on *Light on the Path* by Mabel Collins. In April, he visited Amarapur Lodge and Kyadi Gunta Lodge and gave talk on Theosophy inaugurating a new building too at Kyadi Gunta. He spoke on 'HPB: Life & Work' on the occasion of White Lotus Days at Adyar. He addressed the members of Theosophical Lodge at Pune and Sangli in the month of June. Was one of the main speakers at the Annual Conference of Marathi Theosophical Federation held at Nagpur on 23-25 September 2016.

M.P. & Rajasthan Federation organized Bro. B.D. Tendulkar's programme from 28 September to 2 October, 2015. He had a meeting with the members at Gwalior regarding the present activities of the Lodge and how to vitalize them. The members were advised to start TOS activities in order to attract young people to theosophical programmes. Bro. Tendulkar delivered the following four lectures at Gwalior Lodge: 'Universal Brotherhood', 'Human Regeneration', 'Science & Occultism' and 'Essentials of Spiritual Life'. He spoke on 'Life, Work and Teachings of Annie Besant' on the occasion of her 168th birthday. He was invited to Gopala Temple for a *stasang* and there he spoke on 'Law of Karma' and 'Essentials of Spiritual Life'.

Bro. Tendulkar visited Amravati from 3 to 4 October for the 84th Annual Conference of Marathi Theosophical Federation. He chaired the inaugural session and a session of short talks on 'Innovative approach for the propagation of Theosophy in modern times'. He visited the newly formed Theosophical Lodge at Nandurbar from 3 to 5 October. He personally contacted the members at their residence in the nearby villages.

Bro. B.D. Tendulkar undertook a lecture tour in January 2016. He visited five Lodges of Karnataka Federation where he addressed the members on: 'There Great Truths', 'The Three Objects of the T.S.', 'What is Theosophy', and 'How to propagate Theosophy' respectively. Besides, he visited five different schools and a college where he addressed the students on 'Personality Development', 'Human Values', 'Practice of Concentration', 'Students and Social Service', and 'Universal Brotherhood' respectively.

Bro. Tendulkar conducted a study camp on 9-10 January at Bangarpeth Lodge on *The Voice of the Silence*, Bro. Satyanarayan was helpful in Kannada translation wherever necessary. Bro. Tendulkar visited Bangalore City Lodge and Malleshwar Lodge on 11 January and gave talks there on 'Human Regeneration' and 'Universal Brotherhood'.

Bro. Tendulkar participated in the national seminar held on 30-31 July 2016 at Patel Nagar (E), New Delhi. He delivered two lectures on 'Present Day Ethical Living' and "One Life and one God"

respectively. He visited two schools on 1 and 2 August 2016 at Noida. They are run under the auspices of TOS Sanatan Noida Group. There, Bro. Tendulkar addressed the students of 8th and 9th standards. There were 300 students in each school, most of them were from Bihar. He spoke to the students on 'Moral Values' & 'Occupational guidance for youth'. He attended the North Zonal Conference of the TOS at Noida, on 3-4 August. On 5th August, he addressed the members of Kashi Tattva Sabha, Varanasi, on 'Science and Spirituality'.

Bro. G. Dakshinamoorthy was one of the resource persons of the study camp organized by Karnataka Theosophical Federation at the Himalayan Study Centre of the Indian Section, TS, in Bhowali. The subjects taken up for study were:- *The Voice of the Silence* and *Light on the Path*. The camp was held from 2 -10 May 2016.

Bro. G. Dakshinamoorthy directed study at Dharwad and Davangere respectively on July 2 and 3. The theme was 'Truth'. Topics covered were on analysis of Religions like Hinduism, Islam & Christianity and Buddhism, Jainism & Sikhism. He was invited by Delhi Federation on 11 May where he delivered a talk on 'Need for Better Knowledge of Man'. The subject of his talk at the International Headquarters, Adyar, on September 4 was 'Unknown side of Man'.

Bro. Dakshinamoorthy organized and directed the study of Annie Besant's Convention Lectures: "Listen to the Song of Life". This was held from 10 to 12 September at Bhubaneswar (Odhis). There he delivered six lectures on the theme of the study.

He participated in a day-long seminar on **Practical Theosophy** at Davangere and delivered lecture on 'Theosophy at Home'. He was the director of the seminar on Annie Besant's book on *Dharma* and delivered five lectures on the subject. He spoke on Meditation at the Lodge in Hassan (Karnataka); organized a seminar at Dharwar and spoke there on Sikh Dharm. He was one of the resource persons of the study of *The Secret Doctrine* held in April. The study of the book *Dharma* by Annie Besant was directed by Bro. Dakshinamoorthy at the TS Lodge of Tumkur in the second week of July.

Annie Besant Day was observed on 1 Oct. 2015 by Assam Theosophical Federation in Guwahati. As chief guest, Bro. S.K. Pandey highlighted some of Dr. Besant's social, political and spiritual activities in India. He said that she was of a versatile nature and a revered foreign lady who loved India. Bro. Pandey directed the study of the book *The Voice of the Silence* organized by Assam Theosophical Federation (ATF) in Guwahati on 1 and 2 Oct. 2015.

On 3 and 4 Oct 2015 a study course was organized by ATF in the auditorium of MNC Girls Degree College, Nalbari. Bro. S.K. Pandey conducting the course on the book *At The Feet of the Master* elaborated several important points of four qualifications mentioned in the book.

On 6 and 7 Oct 2015, Bro. S.K. Pandey conducted a study camp organized by ATF in a remote village Dergaon (Distt. Golaghat) of upper Assam. The book taken up for study was *At the Feet of the Master*. Explaining the book in Hindi, as desired by the participants, Bro. Pandey pointed out that sitting *At the Feet of the Master* means 'Upanishad'. He said that studying 'Upanishad' or 'Geeta' or any scripture is just getting a knowledge. But a knowledge becomes wisdom when one starts living it.

Bro. S.K. Pandey attended the Taimni Memorial Study Camp jointly organized by the three Lodges of Lucknow on 20 and 21 Feb. 2016. He presented a brief resume of I.K. Taimni's book *Man, God and The Universe* relating it to the present findings in physics, the latest theory, 'The Superstring Theory' which is commonly known as a Theory of everything. Besides, Bro. Pandey delivered lectures on some chapters of *Ashtavakra Geeta* in a study camp held at Ghaziabad on 12-13 March 2016. It was organized by Anand and Besant Lodge of Ghaziabad.

Bro. Pandey conducted a study camp from 8 to 10 July at Bhubaneswar. The book taken up for study was '*Yoga Vashishtha*'. He dealt with several subjects related to this book like 'Vairagya of Ram', 'Realization of the Absolute', 'Existence of Destiny', 'Bondage

and Liberation’, ‘The way of Liberation’, ‘Seven Stages on the Path of Realization’ and the general teachings of *Yoga Vashishtha*.

Bro. Pandey delivered a public lecture on ‘Mystery of Life’ in the auditorium of Utkal Federation at Bhubaneswar on 11 July 2016. Besides, he spoke on ‘The obligatory journey of the soul’ before the elderly people on 12 July in the Bhimatangi Vikas Parishad Hall, Bhubaneswar. He visited Lucknow on 30-31 July to participate in a two-day study camp organized by Pragya Lodge on C. Jinarajadasa’s book ‘*First Principles of Theosophy*’. Besides, he attended the North Zone Conference of the Theosophical Order of Service on 3-4 of August at Noida and delivered a talk there on ‘Man, the helper of Man’.

Bro. Pandey was one of the resource persons in a study camp on Geoffrey Hudson’s book *The Path Way to Perfection*, held at Gwalior in the second week of April. He delivered lectures there on ‘Discipleship’, ‘The First Initiation’ and ‘Difficulties and Dangers of the Path’.

He delivered the inaugural address in a study camp organized by the Indian Section at the Himalayan Center for Theosophical Study at Bhowali on 30-31 May, 2016. Bro. Pandey was one of the resource persons in the study conducted on *First Principles of Theosophy* in the last week of July at Lucknow.

Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri delivered a public lecture at Satya Marg Lodge in Lucknow on 3rd April. The subject of his talk was “Ashtavakra Gita- A Theosophical View”. In order to rejuvenate theosophy in Barabanki, Gyanodaya Lodge, a talk was delivered by him on the topic, “Allegory in Durgasaptashati” based on the book “Introduction to Hindu Symbolism” by Dr. I.K. Taimni. He spoke on “Theosophy: Introduction and Yoga of Durgasaptashati” at National Public School in Lakhimpur.

Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri was actively involved in many programmes at Bhowali in the month of May. He helped as a resource person in the study of the book *Light on the Path* which was directed

by Prof. C.A. Shinde. He presented his views in the study organized by Utkal Federation at Bhowali on *The Way of Wisdom* by N. Sri Ram. A new Theosophical Lodge (Tri Risheshwar) was inaugurated at Nainital on 28 May. Bro. Agnihotri addressed the gathering on this occasion on the ‘Foundation of TS and its Three Objects’. He spoke on thought power and thought forms during the Uttarakhand study camp at Bhowali, organized by the Indian Section.

The two chapters entitled ‘The Work of Trinity’ and ‘Evolution of animals’ in the book *First Principles of Theosophy* by C. Jinarajadasa were taken up by Bro. Agnihotri in a study camp organized by U.P. Federation in Lucknow in July. He was the director of the study camp held at Bhubaneswar in the first week of August. The book taken up for study was *Seven Principle of Man*. Besides, he spoke there on ‘Looking Ahead’ at the 56th Anniversary of Sanatkumar Lodge. The subject of his public lecture at Cuttack Lodge was ‘Yoga of Durgasaptashati’

Bro. Agnihotri dealt with four chapters of the book *Meditations on Occult Life* by Geoffrey Hodson in a study camp held at Kanpur in the last week of August. He delivered two talks ‘Theosophy and Regeneration: Key to World Peace’ and ‘Theosophy, Brotherhood and Real Tolerance’ respectively at the seminar held in Chapra (in Bihar) on the theme ‘Theosophy as a catalyst of world peace’. This was held in the last week of September.

Dr. L. Nagesh, National Lecturer, delivered a talk on ‘Brotherhood, Truth and Freedom’ in a National Seminar organized by the Indian Section at Delhi in the last week of July. The theme was ‘Theosophy and the Modern World’. His other talk was on ‘Theosophy: Synthesis of Philosophy, Science and Religion’.

Smt. Avantikaben U. Mehta directed a day-long study organized by Rewa Lodge, Vadodara, on 7 February. The theme of the study was ‘Man and His Bodies’.

Smt. Avantika explained about the various bodies and their functions, with special emphasis on Etheric & Astral Bodies. In the

post-lunch session she threw light on Mental Body, lower four divisions known as Mental Body and on Causal Body.

VISITORS

The International President Mr. Tim Boyd and his wife Mrs. Lily Boyd were in Bombay for the 84th annual session of Bombay Federation. The Chief Guest Mr. Tim Boyd delivered the inaugural address on 'The Illumined Mind'. He opened his address in the evening on 'The Root of all Problems' with the words 'What I look for is the Solution for all problems'. In a day-long session at Juhu on 1st November the International President spoke on 'Applying Theosophical Principles'.

The International President, Mr. Tim Boyd directed the study on 'The Three Objects' at the Section Headquarters, Varanasi, from 17-20 October 2015. The International President and his wife were invited to the Besant Theosophical School on 20 October 2015. The President inaugurated the new building there which has been named as **BASANTA GEHA** (the Abode of Besant). Mrs. Lily Boyd was requested by the Manager and Principal of the School to plant a sapling of *nagalingam* tree near the assembly ground. They both met the members of the Managing Committee, Teachers and Students of the school. Then, the International President addressed the students. The function was attended by the members of the TS, Besant Education Fellowship and the delegates who had come to attend the study camp.

All the people at the Indian Section Headquarters were happy to have the International President at the campus in Varanasi on his birthday the 22nd October, 2015. On this occasion, the President and his wife Mrs. Lily Boyd planted sapling of *parijat* tree in the lawn in front of Shantikunj. Many other members and participants also joined in tree plantation. The Section also organized a lunch for the President, his wife and all the residents, workers and guests in the Bhojanshala to celebrate the joyous occasion.

Thirty-Five members of eight countries attended the School of the Wisdom at Bhowali in September 2016.

A group of six members of the Spanish Section visited the Indian Section HQ from 17 to 19 September 2016. They saw the entire premises and had a meeting in the Annie Besant Hall where Bro. V. Narayanan informed them in detail about the history of the Indian Section.

Bro. Chittranjan Satapathy, International Vice-President was the chief guest on the occasion of the 51st Annual Convention of Utkal Theosophical Federation held at Cuttack in the second week of February. He inaugurated the School of the Wisdom of the Spanish Group held at Bhowali in September.

Dr. Almasur of Bangladesh presented the review report of his region during the TOS programme of the 14th East Zone Conference at Guwahati on 3 April. Besides, he was one of the speakers and delivered a short talk on 'Theosophic Life in Harmony with Nature'.

VISITS

Bro. M.P. Singhal attended the Annual Conference of TS at Cebu in Manila (Philippines) from 18-20 November. He was invited to deliver the keynote address on 'Relevance of TS in the Modern World'. Besides, he delivered a talk there on 'Nature, Bio-diversity and Human Welfare'.

Bro. M.P. Singhal was invited by Scientific Community of the University of Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine (birth place of HPB), on May 5-10. He delivered the keynote address there in the inaugural session on 'H.P. Blavatsky: Her vision, work and teachings'. Besides, he addressed the members of HPB Lodge in Dnepropetrovsk on the occasion of White Lotus Day.

Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya visited Dhaka and Comilla in Bangladesh from 1-8 December 2015. On 1st Dec. Dr. Mohammad Abdul Hye formed a new Lodge at Dhaka with 20 members. Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya gave a talk on this occasion on the Motto of the TS i.e. 'There is no Religion higher than Truth'. Next day, Dr. Hye arranged a meeting with Vice-Chancellor and professors of Dhaka University where Bro. Bhattacharya explained the relevance of

Theosophy in modern world. On 3rd Dec. Bro. Bhattacharya met the members of Olcott Lodge and spoke on Universal Brotherhood. On 4th Dec. there was a meeting at Nanaksahi Gurudwara, Dhaka. On 5th Dec. Bro. Bhattacharya visited Comilla with 10 members of Olcott Lodge including Adv. Subrata Chowdhury, Coordinator, and attended the meeting as Chief Guest. Bro. Bhattacharya spoke on ‘Theosophy and Theosophical Society’ on the occasion of forming a new Lodge at Comilla. He was the chief speaker in the seminar on ‘Compassion and Universal Responsibility’, organized by Olcott Lodge on 6 December. A new Lodge ‘Proactive TS Lodge’ was formed at Dhaka where Bro. Bhattacharya explained the three objectives of the TS.

Bro. U.S. Pandey, during his visit to USA, visited Krotona Institute of Theosophy in Ojai and Long Beach Lodge in Los Angeles. He met and interacted with the office bearers at these places. Besides, he spoke on esoteric aspects of “Hinduism” in the light of Upanishads and Bhagavadgita in a meeting at Baltimore Lodge.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Indian Section Council, in its meeting held on 27 December 2014 at Adyar, decided to dissolve all Zonal Property Committees and constituted a Central Property Committee (CPC) at the Section Headquarters with three members to be nominated by the Executive Committee. This was done with a view to accelerate the process of decision taking in matters of properties of the Section, Federations and Lodges. Accordingly, the Executive Committee appointed the following three members to the CPC; (1) Bro. V. Narayanan, (2) Bro. Pradip Kumar Mahapatra and (3) Bro. P.S. Panchakshari.

The CPC took action to revive four Lodges at Rajahmundry, Trichy, Kumbakonam and Delhi, during the year under review. At all the above mentioned places, it was decided to restructure the existing facilities and create new buildings and facilities. All the above mentioned restructuring was approved by the Section Council. Immediate action is envisaged for two Lodges at Peddapuram and Dawaleshwaram in

Telugu Federation. Enhanced rent is settled for Eluru and Dewas properties of the Section. Active cooperation of the Presidents of Tamil and Telugu Federation is acknowledged in this matter.

Along with the aforesaid work, the CPC is in the process of creating a Database of all the properties of the Section, Federation and Lodges. A new Software is being designed for this purpose.

FINANCIAL POSITION & REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer has given the details of the Financial Year 2015-16, which show an increase of income by Rs. 30.58 lakhs. It is due to the grant of Rs. 30.00 lakhs received from International Headquarters, Adyar, for the renovation of the buildings etc. during the 125th year of the Indian Section. The expenses during 2015-16 have gone up by Rs. 41.67 lakhs due to building renovation at the Indian Section, Headquarters.

Investments are down by Rs. 50.74 lakhs due to addition of 8 Deluxe Rooms constructed at Bhowali, and furnishing etc. We had to spend Rs. 83.51 lakhs. This was partly financed by way of repayable amount of Rs. 50.00 lakhs, from the International Headquarters. We have repaid Rs. 20.00 lakhs by 31/3/2016.

Outlook for 2016-17 is not that bright as the Interest Rate on present investment will show a fall. The Section has to curtail expenses to that extent.

EAST ZONE CONFERENCE

The 14th East Zone Conference of TS and TOS was hosted this year by the Assam Theosophical Federation (ATF) and was organized in the premises of Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra, Panjabari, Guwahati, from 1-3 April 2016. Bro. S. Sundaram, General Secretary of the Indian Section, was the chief guest and Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya, National Director, TOS, India, was the Guest of Honour. Smt Manju Sundaram, special invitee, also took active part in the conference. The members from Assam, Bengal and Bihar attended it. Besides, there were four members from Bangladesh. The members from Utkal

Federation could not attend the conference due to some unavoidable reasons. So, they sent their greetings. Bro. P.K. Mahapatra, Assistant General Secretary of the Indian Section, could not come because the train was cancelled. In all, 114 members attended the conference. Many members of Assam could not participate in the conference perhaps because of the dates of the Assembly Elections of the State.

Bro. Dharendra Nath Chakravorty, President of Assam Federation, guided the members of Reception Committee headed by Bro. J.N. Patowary. The theme of the conference was 'Peace Harmony & Service'. The conference started with the Prayers of All Faiths on April 1. Bro. J. N. Patowary read out the welcome address. Bro. D. N. Chakravorty spoke on 'Oneness of life and destination of mankind'. He also shared views on 'Peace and Harmony' of all and explained the significance of 'Service'.

Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya spoke very highly about Srimanta Sankardev, the Neo-Vaishnavite Guru and social reformer of Assam. Bro. S. Sundaram, in his talk, explained the concept of love and harmony and how it is linked with service. It was followed by the presentation of the reports of the four Federations and Bro. Sundaram reviewed and spoke on how we can overcome the difficulty.

The afternoon session was presided over by Dr. Kunju Medhi, Vice-President of ATF. In this session, the souvenir edited by Dr. C.P. Bhuyan was released by Smt. Manju Sundaram. She gave a thought provoking short talk on 'Theosophy-a Catalyst for World Peace'. It was followed by a talk of Dr. Nirmal Kumar Chowdhury- Vice Chancellor of Guwahati University. The other speakers of the session were Bro. Asik Ray from Bengal and Bro. Suresh Prasad from Bihar. Dr. Kunju Medhi too addressed the gathering.

In the evening, on invitation of University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya, the delegates along with the guests visited the campus of the University at Jorahat where a cultural evening was organized.

The programme of TOS was held on April 3 and the session was chaired by the National Director Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya. Bro. A.K. Baruah from Assam, Bro. Rajkishore Prasad from Bihar, Sis.

Chandana Nandi of Bengal and Dr. Almasur Rahman of Bangladesh presented the review reports of their respective regions. The difficulties regarding the work of TOS were also discussed. Then, the General Secretary of the Indian Section presented Theosophical Books to the four participants. A song was rendered by a child artist Basundhra Bhuyan. The National Director of TOS addressed the gathering on 'Service and Sacrifice'. It was followed by short talks on the same subject in which representatives of different Federations presented their views. The State Bank of India, Dispur Branch of Guwahati, offered Rs. 51500/- in order to buy and distribute mobility aids to the differently abled persons. As such, 6 wheelchairs, 3 crutches, 4 hearing aids, some tool boxes and repairing kits were presented to the needy people.

Short talks were held in the afternoon session in which Dr. Almasur Rahman of Bangladesh, Bro. Bipul Sharma of Assam, Bro. A.N. Chakravorty from Bengal and Bro. Rajkishore Prasad of Bihar were the speakers. The theme of the session was 'Theosophic Life in Harmony with Nature'. This session was presided over by Bro. Nagendra C. Dutta.

Bro. Bimal Kumar Hazarika from Assam, Sis. Chandana Nandi from Bengal and Bro. N.C. Sinha from Bihar took part in another session of short talks.

The venue (Chapra) for the next Zonal Conference was announced in the closing session. The coordination committee of the Zonal Conference remained the same: Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya as chairman, Bro. Pradip Mahapatra as chief coordinator and the Presidents and Secretaries of the Federations as the members. The vote of thanks was given by Smt. Arunima Baruah and then the meeting came to a close with the recitation of *Shanti Path*.

THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

1 National TOS camp held at the Indian Section Headquarters: The National TOS camp was held at the Indian Section Headquarters, Varanasi on 15-16 March 2016. The camp was organized on the

personal initiative of the National Director, TOS, Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya and the National Secretary, Bro. T.K. Nair. About 35 members from various parts of the country representing their respective regions participated in it. The purpose of holding the camp was to understand and share experience of various projects and social service being undertaken by the regions to ameliorate the sufferings of the underprivileged and to know the difficulties being faced at the ground level.

Beginning the session with Universal Prayer the National Director welcomed the distinguished members representing various regions and highlighted the purpose of creating TOS by Dr. Annie Besant. He underlined the need for the T.S. and TOS members to work in harmony with each other so that the knowledge gained could be applied for the welfare of society. Bro. Bhattacharya lauded the efforts made by the regions in the area of service which is being recognized at the international level. He further brought to the notice of participants that the TOS activities are spreading in Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir region as well. Bro. Bhattacharya reminded the gathering that TOS workers need to work hard to serve the humanity. Through heart to heart conversation, representatives from different regions can share their feelings, experiences and various activities with each other which will help in working together unitedly for the service of poor and needy.

In his inaugural address, the General Secretary of the Indian Section, Bro. S. Sundaram, welcomed the participants and pointed out that this is the first occasion in the history of TOS that so many members from all over the country have come to Indian Section Headquarters. Tracing the history of TOS, he revealed that after formation of TOS by Dr. Annie Besant in 1908, it was revived in 1947 again as it had become dormant in the intervening period. It was revived and the work of the TOS was divided into four sections: “(1) Healing and Hospital Work; (2) Work for civic reforms and communal harmony; (3) Work for the social emancipation of women and masses; and (4) Work along educational and cultural lines”. Drawing attention

to the pathetic state of today’s world infested with hatred and selfishness, he emphasized on the need to transform ourselves from within. Referring to Dr. Annie Besant, an embodiment of love and empathy, the General Secretary maintained that we have such enlightened role-models from whom we can imbibe strong values and bring about a change in the world. He summed up by pointing out that instead of reacting if we respond to the situation we can render service in real sense. The National Secretary, Dr. T.K. Nair, expressed his concern about the future of TOS and endeavoured to inspire all representatives from various regions to dedicate themselves for the service of poor and needy. On the advice of National Director, representatives from different regions presented detailed report highlighting various activities and projects being undertaken at their regional and group level. Some new and simple ideas to improve the life of villagers came up from Gujarat region presented by Bro. Pradeep H. Gohil.

In the concluding session two important issues i.e. teachers’ training programme and fund raising were discussed in which participants were apprised by the National Director about teachers’ training programme to be held at Bhubaneswar in September 2016. Its great relevance in the modern-day education system was highlighted by Smt. Uma Bhattacharyya, Astt. Secretary, T.O.S. Avenues to raise funds for TOS activities were explored and it was highlighted by the National Director that Assam region, with the initiative of Bro. J.N. Patowary, is procuring fund from Nationalised Banks for their key projects. Special mention was made by the National Director about the deep commitment of Dr. Deepa Padhi from Odisha region towards compassionate service to the downtrodden and helpless people of that region.

2. The North Zone Conference of TOS for the year 2015-16, was sponsored by Noida Sanatan TOS Group and was organized at B-6 Sector 55, Noida (at the residence of Bro O. P. Aneja) on 3-4 August 2016.

The selection of speakers as also the subjects of expositions were co-related to conform to the theme – **“We Care – We Share”**.

The conference started with Lighting of Ceremonial Lamp with Universal Prayer. The first and most enriching item was a Welcome Song”SWAGATAM” chanted by the students of S D Baal Vidya Mandir, Khoda/Noida. Bro. O. P. Aneja, President Noida Sanatan TOS Group, welcomed all, in his opening address, outlining the Two Day Conference Details & Activities. Honourable Guest Shri O P Goyal, a Patron Member of TOS, an Industrialist, a Social Scientist and a Philanthropist of Noida, felicitated the participants and all TOS members world over for their selfless service to the community keeping with the Motto of the TOS. Bro. Goyal specifically lauded the accomplishments and extended felicitations to all TOS participants.

Bro. B L Bhattacharya, National Director TOS in India, spoke about the “The Global Scenario”. This was followed with a talk by Bro M.P Singhal on ‘My Experiments on Service Projects’.

After the Tea Break, Bro O.P. Aneja, in his highly inspiring portrayal, narrated the ‘Success Story’ of, “Sanatan Dharma Baal Vidya Mandir”, a school for economically disadvantaged community of Noida, started and jointly managed by Sanatan Noida TOS Group. This was followed by a visit to the School and other projects managed and organized by Sanatan Noida TOS Group.

3. Kerala, Tamilnadu & Puducherry, Chennai, Karnataka, Rayalaseema and Telugu regions come under the South Zone of TOS. The South Zone Conference of TOS was held on 10-11 September at Salem in Tamilnadu in which 28 members of TOS were present. Representatives of Kerala & Karnataka could not come. Welcome address was extended by Bro. Narayanan, Regional Secy. of Tamilnadu & Puducherry region.

In the Inaugural address Dr. M.V. Rengarajan, President of Tamilnadu & Puducherry TOS region highlighted the need of TOS and said that the members should involve in service and help is to be rendered without asking by anyone.

Bro. L.P. Deva Rajan from Dharmapuri spoke on ‘What is Service? Bro. Raghurama Rao, Secretary of Telugu region spoke of the need of scaling up the TOS activities.

Bro. Arvind Ramanujan from Chennai said that how he joined TOS and getting constant inspiration from other elder members at Chennai. Bro. Sriram from Chennai group also spoke on how he is learning and contributing to the TOS work in Chennai. Bro. K. Sivaprasad, Regional Secy. of Rayalaseema and a member of National Committee, TOS, shared the views on empowering of TOS. The major challenge facing by the TOS as an institution is the formation of TOS groups as many T.S. lodges have not formed TOS groups. This needs attention of all the members to inspire and work in this direction. At many places T.S lodges are also dormant, so revival of such lodges is also a priority to spread theosophical teachings.

On behalf of Tamilnadu & Puducherry region Rs.10000 cheque was handed over to Vellore group to carry out the service programme for physically handicapped people in that region. Besides, another cheque for Rs.5000 was also given to Vellore group towards the construction of a new Buddha temple.

On the second day of the meeting, Dr. Rengarajan explained how Annie Besant wanted TOS as a separate body to render service. Bro. T.K. Nair, National Secretary, thanked Dr. Rengarajan and Bro. Narayanan for convening this conference and then explained the significance of Zonal conference. Members should have interest and will to help and serve because our purpose is to minimise pain. Service can be of any kind. It is not that one can help only by donating money. Enabling role can be played for the service activity by networking and creating linkages. Then he read out the NOIDA group activities covering entire west UP and also in Uttarakhand State. In Tamilnadu only five TOS groups are working whereas there are 25 Theosophical Lodges. It is to be noted that every T.S. lodge should have TOS group. One new group was formed in J&K and one old school repaired in Uttarakhand with the support from the International TOS section.

In the feedback session, Bro. K. Sivaprasad emphasized the need for revival of dormant T.S. Lodges and formation of groups in the region as priority role of TOS.

BESANT EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP

The Besant Education Fellowship was established on 27 November 1950 at Varanasi and registered under regulation of Societies Act. XXI of January 1955 and regulated according to the provisions contained in the Societies Registration (U.P. Amendment) Act. 1875.

Presently it has five institutions in Varanasi, in the TS' campus, and three in Hospet, Karnataka.

The institutions in Varanasi are:

1. Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya (VKM), a P.G. College for women, having 1651 students including 45 Ph.D. Students.
2. Vasant Kanya Inter College, a college up to class 12, only for girls, having 740 students, aided by the Government of U.P.
3. Besant Theosophical High School (BTS), up to class 10, only for boys, having 473 students, aided by the Government of U.P.
4. Annie Besant School, up to Class 8, co-educational, having 231 students, unaided, run by collecting fee from the students.
5. Vasant Balika Vihar, a hostel for girls of both VKM and VK Inter, having 106 students this year

The land and building of all the institutions are the property for Indian Section of the Theosophical Society, except a small portion of land and the building owned by VKM. It is given on lease on a nominal rent.

For each institution, a manager and managing committee is appointed by the BEF in its annual meeting for a period of three years. But for VK Inter College and BTS, the managing committee is elected by the Governing Body, which is approved by the BEF.

Every year, the BEF organizes a common programme in October to commemorate the birth anniversary of Annie Besant, with staff and students of all the institutions in order to cultivate a feeling of oneness among them, that they are members of one family, the BEF, which can further be extended to the universal brotherhood of humanity. The

one programme organized as “Vasantotsav” in November 2015 was appreciated by one and all.

THE INDIAN THEOSOPHIST

The Section's journal *The Indian Theosophist* was published every month. The average monthly circulation was 3200.

Keeping the 125th Year of the Indian Section in view a Special Number of *The Indian Theosophist* was published. This was a combined number for October-November 2015.

'The Indian Theosophist Corpus Fund' remains at Rs. 1,92,246 as on 31 March 2015.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

A Special No. entitled **ATTRIBUTES** was released in September 2016. It contains one article/write up by each General Secretary of the Indian Section from 1890-2016.

Keeping the 125th Year of the Indian Section in view a seminar on 'Looking Ahead' was organized at the Section Headquarters on 18-19 November 2015. The papers presented by the participants were brought out in a Special Number entitled **LOOKING AHEAD**.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Section on 30 September, 2016, was 11323. As compared to the figures of 2015 the Number of members has decreased by 4. There were 874 cases of members being dropped from the role due to non-payment of Annual Dues.

There were 970 new members, 49 cases of revival of membership and 144 members passed to peace during the year under review.

GONE TO PEACE

Bro. R.S. Gupta (Diploma No. 31124) of Vikarm Lodge, Ujjain (M.P. & Rajasthan Federation), passed to peace on 28 December 2015. He was a member of the Indian Section Council and also President of M.P. & Rajasthan Federation for some years. Bro. Gupta had studied Theosophical literature in great depth and had translated some of the Theosophical literature in Hindi. Besides, in 1980s he helped in the work of the Indian Section at Varanasi as well as the International HQ at Adyar.

Sister Bana Mehta (Diploma No. 47560) of Blavatsky Lodge, Bombay Federation, passed to peace in July. She was a very devoted member and helped the Lodge and Federation in various ways. Besides, she carried the responsibilities during the International Convention till 2010.

In all, 144 members passed to peace during the year under review.

TASKS AHEAD

The details given in Part I & II of this Report will give some idea to the readers about the work done in various parts of the Section during 2015-16. Much remains to be done and as I mentioned a few years ago, the tasks before the Indian Section are very great indeed but this also gives more opportunity to serve.

As compared to 906 members dropped during the year 2014-15 the number of cases dropped during the year under review were 874. Effort must be made to locate the causes thereof and the remedies must be worked out. The office bearers at the Lodge level should report to the Federation and the Section Headquarters as to how this trend can be checked and taken care of.

The members should be made sufficiently aware with the basic knowledge of Theosophy and also the working systems of TS. So, while making efforts to increase the number of the members it is necessary to give priority to popularize the teachings and concepts of Theosophy and their practice in daily life. Besides, the language used should be one which may be followed by the common members/people otherwise it will remain confine only to a selected few persons.

In order to reach people in general a few seminars in association with like-minded organizations and educational institutions were held at the Indian Section HQ during the last few years. Such efforts must be made at the Federations' level as well.

Karnataka, Marathi and Utkal Federation had organized study camp at Bhowali during last summer. Other Federations too can work out plan to have their programme at the Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali.

In order to attract youth to the teachings of Theosophy and to the activities of the TS it is necessary to work out an intensive action plan. In this regard, some suggestions were made in the seminar organized at the Section HQ in November, 2015. A few Federations

are taking care to attract youth to their programmes. Such activities should not remain confine to a few selected pockets only. Federations all over the country must work out plan in this direction. As it was stated a few years ago, we will have to draw up a set of plans which may focus on themes towards which the youth are convincingly attracted and yet care will have to be taken that such themes come under the purview of theosophical ideas and work. More Federations will have to think and work on these lines.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank all those who were source of strength for the work done by the Indian Section during the year under review.

Bro. Pradip K. Mahapatra, Asst. General Secretary, apart from taking care of several matters at the Section HQ, visited some Lodges in connection with the property matters. Besides, he played a vital role in organizing a national seminar at Delhi and also delivered talks at some Lodges of the Section as well as in the annual conference of a few Federations.

I am thankful to Bro. P.S. Panchakshari, who apart from carrying out the responsibilities as a National Treasurer, helped me in the matters regarding the educational institutions and organizing the conference and the study camp at the Section Headquarters. Besides, he immensely helped in organizing study camps and meetings at Bhowali during April and May. I sincerely thank him for his meticulous work and valuable advice.

Bro. V. Narayanan has been working hard to solve the legal matters pertaining to the property at the Section Headquarters as well as elsewhere in the Section. He helped in various ways during the study camps held at Bhowali.

I am grateful to all the members of the Executive Committee for having given invaluable help and advice from time to time.

As once I mentioned, any mission gains strength when it operates from the base. In this regard, I thank all the Federation Secretaries and other office bearers for having made efforts in their respective regions.

The National Lecturers helped in the propagation of Theosophy by conducting studies and delivering lectures on Theosophical themes at various places.

Dr. T.K. Nair, worked very hard to take care of the work related to the educational institutions at the Section HQ. Besides, he regularly conducted the Bharat Samaj Pooja at the Section HQ.

Bro. Pradeep H. Gohil worked hard in order to draft the Amendments in the Section's Constitution, Rules etc. which are going to be discussed in the meeting of the Indian Section Council in December 2016.

Prof. Sushila Singh was involved in organizing the seminar on '**Looking Ahead**' at the Section HQ and also prepared the proceedings of the seminar in detail. Besides, she prepared the report of the functions organized on the occasion of Dr. Annie Besant's birthday and the Foundation Day of the TS.

Smt. Uma Bhattacharyya drafted the report of the North India Study Camp as well as the report of the National TOS Camp held at the Indian Section HQ.

Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri, Bro. Kuldip Singh and Smt. Nandita Singh helped and took care of several things at Bhowali during the School of the Wisdom held in Spanish language in September 2016.

Mr. A.N. Singh, Accountant at the Section Headquarters, apart from his responsibilities in the Account Section, worked very hard to make the garden more beautiful and also looked after the cleanliness of the campus. Mr. Om Prakash, besides attending to the work of the General Secretary's office, devoted time for updating the records in Membership Department. Similarly, Mr. Rajkumar Pandey, Mr. Kanchan Jaitely, and Mr. Gulab Chand sincerely took care of more than one responsibility and helped in many ways in the work at the Section Headquarters. Mrs. Panchakshari helped greatly in taking care of Bhojashala at the Section HQ. The other honorary workers and the staff worked silently and yet with enthusiasm. I thank them all sincerely from depth of heart for their kind cooperation and for constantly providing strength to me. I am sure that their spirit to work for the welfare of the organization will make it stronger day by day.

16.11.2016
Varanasi

S. Sundaram
General Secretary

ANNEXURE - I Details of Members at the end of the year

	2015-2016		2015-2016
Admission	970	Lapse	874
Readmission	49	Death/Resignation	144
		Cancellation	5
Transfer from other Section	Nil	Transfer to Other Section	Nil
Total :	1019	Total	1023

1	No. of members	1.10.2015	11327	Incoming	1019
2	No. of members	1.10.2016	11323	Outgoing	1023

S.No.	Federation	1.10.2015	1.10.2016	Gain	Loss
1	Assam	412	435	23	
2	Bengal	319	336	17	
3	Bihar	325	337	12	
4	Bombay	303	298		5
5	Delhi	172	173	1	
6	Gujarat	748	798	50	
7	Karnataka	3111	3034		77
8	Kerala	353	360	7	
9	M.P& Raj.	442	452	10	
10	Madras	959	891		68
11	Marathi	573	552		21
12	Rayalaseema	454	527	73	
13	Tamilnadu	818	809		9
14	Telugu	1025	997		28
15	Utkal	244	252	8	
16	Uttar Pradesh	854	868	14	
17	Headquarters	215	204		11
		11327	11323	215	219

* The Total membership as on 2014-15 in the previous year was 11327. After verification of records the figures as on 1.10.2016 stands at 11323.

**ANNEXURE - II
NEW LODGES FORMED DURING 2015-2016**

Nil

LODGES REVIVED DURING 2015-2016

NIL

LODGES

1. Number of Lodges and Centres at the beginning of the year	459
2. New Lodges for which Charters issued	
3. Lodges Dissolved	51
Number of Lodges & Centres at the closing of the year	<u>408</u>

**ANNEXURE - III
DETAILS OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES HELD**

S.No	Federation	Confer- ence	Month	Place	Chief Guest / President
1	Assam	38th	21 Nov.2015	Guwahati	Bro. Gokul Ch. Deka
2	Bengal	96th	28 August 2016	Kolkata	Bro. B.D. Tendulkar
3	Bihar	111th	15-16 April 2016	Patna	Bro. P.K. Mahapatra
4	Bombay	84th	30-31 Oct. & 1 Nov. 2015	Mumbai	Bro. Tim Boyd.
5	Delhi		8 Oct. 2016	Delhi	Dr. Rajeev Gupta
6	Gujarat	88th	20-22 Nov. 2016	Raj Pipla	Bro.Mansukh bhai Ram
7	Karnataka	107th	16 Oct. 2016	Huliyar	Bro. B.V. Thippeswami
8	Kerala	86th	2 Oct. 2016	Alleppey	Bro. Tim Boyd.
9	M.P.& Rajasthan	91st	31 Oct.& 1Nov. 2015	Ratlam	Bro. S. Sundaram
10	Madras				
11	Marathi	85th	22-25 Sept. 2016	Nagpur	Bro. S. Sundaram
12	Rayala- seema	104th	8 & 9 Oct. 2016	Hyderabad	Dr. T.V.R.K. Subba Rao
13	Tamil	89th	28-29 Nov. 2015	Kumbakonam	Prof. C.A. Shinde
14	Telugu	96th	20,21 & 22	Anakappali	Prof. C.A. Shinde
15	Utkal	51st	13-14 Feb	Cuttack 2016	Dr. Chittaranjan Satapahty
16	Uttar Pradesh	97th	1-2 Oct. 2016	Agra	Dr. H.S. Dwivedi

ANNEXURE - IV
LIST OF FEDERATION JOURNALS
2015-2016

S.No	Federation Name of Journal	Periodicity
1	Assam <i>Jnana- Jeuti</i>	Yearly
2	Bengal <i>The Bengal Theosophical Federation Bulletin</i> <i>Theosophy Barta</i>	Monthly Qtrly.
3	Bihar and M.P. & Raj. <i>Adhyatma Jyoti</i>	Qtrly.
4	Bombay <i>The Bombay Theosophical Bulletin</i>	Monthly
5	Gujarat <i>Theosophical Jyoti</i>	Monthly
6	Karnataka <i>Theosophy Vani</i>	Monthly
7	Madras <i>The Madras Theosophical Federation Bulletin</i>	Monthly
8	Marathi <i>Vishwa Bandhuttva (Jagriti)</i>	Once in two months
9	Rayala-seema & Telugu <i>Divya Jnana Dipika</i>	Monthly
10	Tamil <i>Tamizhaga Brahma Jnani</i>	Monthly
11	Utkal <i>Viswadhara</i> <i>Utkal Theosophical Federation Bulletin</i>	Qtrly. Monthly
12.	Uttar Pradesh <i>Dharma Path</i> <i>Federation Bulletin</i>	Qtrly. Qtrly.

Adhyatma Jyoti, a Qtrly journal in Hindi is published from Allahabad. A number of members from Bihar, M.P.& Rajasthan, U.P. and a few others from non-Hindi speaking areas are subscribers of this journal.

PART-II
WORK IN THE FEDERATIONS

ASSAM THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

President: Sri Dharendra N. Chakravorty
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Mobile No. 9435112968

Secretary: Bro. Anil Kumar Barua
Sneha Nivas, S.R.S. Road
Uzan Bazaar, Guwahati-781 001
Email: banil6090@gmail.com
Mobile No.09435145132

Members: 481 Lodges: 29 Centres: Nil

Annual Conference:

The Annual General Meeting of the Federation (ATF) was held on 21 November 2015 in the auditorium of Bishnu Nirmala Trust Bhavan at Latasil, Uzanbazaar, Guwahati. The subject committee meeting was held at 9.45 a.m. with Bro Gokul Ch. Deka, Vice-President of A.T.F., in the Chair.

Bro. R. N. Choudhury led the Universal Prayer. The object of the meeting was explained by the Joint Secretary (i/c) Bro. A.K Barua. *A borgeet* was presented by Sis Manju Malakar of Nalbari.

Bro. Barua presented the Secretary's report for 2014-15 and Bro P.N. Das, Treasurer, presented his report which was duly audited by the Chartered Accountant for the Financial Year 2014-15. The unaudited a/c for the period 01.04.15 to 30.09.15(6 months) and the budget for 2015-16 were also presented by him. After discussion both the reports and the budget were duly passed in the meeting and later on in the A.G.M.

Bro. R.C. Devsarma expressed his inability to continue as the Secretary of ATF, because of his ill health. So by a resolution Bro. Anil Kumar Barua, Joint Secretary, was made full-fledged Secretary of the A.T.F. for the remaining period of present term of the E.C. This resolution was passed formally in the A.G.M. as well.

It was resolved that a new councilor in the person of Dr. Bipul Sarma may be recommended to the Indian Section in place of Bro. Devsarma, subject to approval by the President.

The inaugural session of the A.G.M. was started at 11-30 a.m. with All Religion Prayers. Bro. D.N Chakravarty, President of A.T.F., was in the chair. The annual magazine of the Federation *Inana Jeuti* (2015) was presented by the Editor Dr. Chandra Prabha Bhuyan and was released by the Guest of Honour Sri Prafulla Goswami, Retd. Professor of Krishna Kanta Handique Sanskrit College, Guwahati. Shri Goswami, in absence of the Chief Guest of A.G.M, delivered a thought provoking lecture on the Role of Theosophy (*Brahmavidya*) in bringing peace to the crisis-ridden world.

Bro. N.C. Dutta also spoke on the importance of Theosophy to fight the imbalances in the world today. A song was rendered by Sis. Pratibha Choudhury of Silver Jubilee Lodge. Dr. Bipul Sarma and Bro. Harinath Hazarika from Jorhat Sampriiti Lodge and Sri Indrajit Barua a reputed person from the audience also presented their views in brief.

In his Presidential address Bro D.N. Chakravorty gave a talk on ethical aspects of Theosophy and invited all the members to work for and live with Theosophy so that we can derive the ideas and higher values of life by our own Karma. The vote of thanks was extended by Bro A.K. Barua.

The meeting concluded with *Shanti Mantra* recited by Bro. Ramesh Dev Sarma.

Programmes held during 2015-16

A symposium was organized at Nalbari in the local Anandapuram Ashram hall at Gopal Bazaar. It was held on 22 November, 2015, with Bro G.C. Deka, Vice-President of A.T.F., in the chair. Bro. J.N Patowary, Regional President T.O.S, Assam & Arunachal region was the Director of the symposium. The topic of the symposium was

“Theosophy and Human Values”. It was attended by about 70 members coming from different Lodges of the district, apart from several members from Guwahati.

The meeting started with the Universal Prayer. A song was presented by Sister Manju Malakar. The following speakers Bro. Raghu Nath Choudhury, Bro. Anil Kumar Barua, Secy., A.T.F., Dr. C.P. Bhuyan and Bro. Jogen Kalita dealt with the subject and elaborately discussed it and established that the ‘Human Values’ go hand in hand with Theosophical concept and are the most important aspect of Theosophy.

From the audience Bro. Md. Mokibul Rahman spoke about how “Human Values” have eroded in the present day life and how killing of fellow beings is carried out in the name of religions. He asserted that only Theosophy with all its ethical and moral teachings can bring about a positive change in the world. Sister Renuka Sarma also spoke in brief in appreciation of the Wisdom Religion (Theosophy). Director Bro. J.N. Patowary summed up all the points raised by the participants and concluded the discussion adding his own point of view. The closing prayer was performed by Bro. Iswar Goswami.

The 40th Annual General meeting of Pragjyotishpur Lodge and the annual meet of Prag T.O.S group was jointly convened on 23 Nov. 2015 with Bro Raghu Nath Choudhury in the chair. Prof. Mohini Kumar Bordoloi, chief guest, spoke on ethical values of religion and the harmony amongst them. About 50 members and public attended the meeting.

A seminar was organized by UPPER ASSAM THEOSOPHICAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE on 25 Nov. in Jorhat at the Sanskrit Parishad complex, where a permanent office building of the Co-ordination Committee is under construction. Bro. J.N. Patowary, President, T.O.S Assam & Arunachal region inaugurated the seminar followed by an inaugural address. He spoke on the topic of the seminar “Theosophy & Human Values”.

Bro. R.N Choudhury, former Secretary, A.T.F. released the 1st issue of the bilingual magazine “Antar Jyoti” of Upper Assam Co-ordination Committee edited jointly by Dr. Bipul Sarma & Bro Prabin

Sarma. Bro. Mridu Paban Goswami, President of Sampriti Lodge and a renowned educationist was the Director of the seminar. The speakers were Bro. Purna Chandra Dole, Bro. R.N. Choudhury, Bro. A.K. Barua and Bro. Hari Nath Hazarika.

A public meeting was organized on 27 Nov. at Tinsukia where about 25 people were present. Dr. Bipul Sarma and Bro Anil Barua explained the subject "Theosophy", The audience was very much interested and decided to form a new lodge with 10 like-minded persons. Requisite application duly signed by them was handed over to the Secretary for onward transmission to National HQ for obtaining permission.

Milan Jyoti club of Dibrugarh invited Dr. Bipul Sarma and Anil Barua on 28 Nov. to the ongoing Dibrugarh Bookfair where a public meeting was organized for the propagation of Theosophy. Dr. Bipul Sarma and Bro A.K. Barua deliberated on the subject. The meeting presided by the club's President generated great enthusiasm among the public and it was proposed to organize one Theosophical lodge at Dibrugarh.

A symposium was held in the Federation's office on "Sabda Brahma and Theosophy." It was held on 29 November. The symposium started with Bro Nagen Chandra Dutta in the chair. Dr. Rajendra Nath Sarma, retired HOD of Sanskrit of Guwahati University & a reputed scholar Sri Uma Kanta Sarma were the resource persons. Both the scholars deliberated on the subject and kept the audience spellbound.

Dr. Annie Besant's birthday, Foundation Day of the TS, White Lotus Day and Buddh Poornima were observed at the HQ office of the Federation as well as by many Lodges.

East Zone Conference

The 14th East Zone Conference of TS and TOS was hosted by Assam Theosophical Federation at Guwahati from 1-3 April 2016. The theme of the conference was 'Peace, Harmony and Service'. Bro. S. Sundaram, General Secretary of the Indian Section, was the chief guest and Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya, National Director, TOS, India, was the Guest of Honour. Smt Manju Sundaram, special invitee, also took active part in the conference. The members from Assam, Bengal

and Bihar attended it. Besides, there were four members from Bangladesh. The members from Utkal Federation could not attend the conference due to some unavoidable reasons. So, they sent their greetings. Bro. P.K. Mahapatra, Assistant General Secretary of the Indian Section, could not come because the train was cancelled. In all, 114 members attended the conference. Many members of Assam could not participate in the conference perhaps because of the dates of the Assembly Elections of the State. A report of the conference in detail has been published in July (2016) issue of *The Indian Theosophist*. (Also see page 26-28 of Part-I of this Report).

Visitors

Bro. B.D. Tendulkar, National Lecturer directed the study of *Practical Occultism* on 23 and 24 May.

Publication-Books and Jurnal

The book '*Buddhist and The Theosophical Movements 1873-2001*' by C.V. Agrawal translated by Bro R.C. Dev Sarma was released by reputed scholar Dr Promod Ch Bhattacharya on the occasion of Buddh Poornima. The meeting was attended by the members of ATF.

A souvenir of East Zone Conference was released on 1st April.

The magazines *Janan Jeuti* and *Antarjyoti* were published during the year under review.

Deep Sikha was published by Nalbari District Co-ordination Committee.

BENGAL THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 345 **Lodges: 13** **Centres: 2**

Annual Conference

The 96th Annual Conference of Bengal Theosophical Federation was held at BTS Hall on 29.05.2016 with Bro. B.D. Tendulkar, National Lecturer of the Indian Section, as Chief Guest. Bro. B. L. Bhattacharya presided.

The meeting started with prayers of all faiths followed by one minute's silence for world peace Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya welcomed the guest speakers, the audience and highlighted the glorious past tradition of BTF. Bro. Niharendu Roy, Jt. Secretary, presented the activity report of Federation. The theme of the conference was "Religion and Science" on which the chief guest gave an informative and illuminative talk. Bro. S. Ravinder Singh, Bro. Asit Roy, Sis. Vinodini Goenka and Sis. Arati Nandi also spoke on the aforesaid theme. Bro. Ratan Das, Bro. Amal Mandal, Dr. Jayshree Das, Sis. Chandana Nandi played important role to make the programme a success. A small souvenir was published to commemorate the occasion.

Anniversary Programme: Most of the Lodges celebrated their Anniversary programmes, detailed reports of which were published in BTF Bulletin.

Mayfair Lodge and Bharadwaja Lodge observed their Anniversary Programme on 3 & 4 October 2015 respectively with Bro. Chittaranjan Satapathy, International Vice-President of TS as Chief Guest. Bally Lodge observed its 101st Anniversary on 6.11.2015 with Ex-chief justice of Sikkim Bro. Molay Sengupta as Chief Guest and Dr. K. P. Sarkar as Special Guest. Behala Lodge observed its Anniversary on 5.6.2016 with Bro. B. L. Bhattacharya as Chief Guest. Jnanamarga Lodge Celebrated its 43rd anniversary at BTS Hall with Dr. P. K. Sarkar as Chief Guest.

Visitors

Bro. Chittaranjan Satapathy International Vice President of the Theosophical Society visited Kolkata on 3-4 October 2015 and spoke at the anniversary programme of Mayfair Lodge and Bharadwaja Lodge as Chief Guest.

Bro. B. D. Tendulkar visited Kolkata on 28 May to 2nd June 2016 and gave talks at the Meetings organized by BTS, Mayfair Lodge, Bharadwaja Lodge, and Azad Lodge. He was the Chief Guest of the 96th Annual Conference of Bengal Theosophical Federation held on 29.05.2016.

Publications

BTF Bulletin (English, Monthly) and BTF Quarterly Magazine *Theosophy Barta* in Bengali were published regularly. Besides the following books were translated into Bengali and published during the year with the financial help from the Indian Section:

Principles of Theosophical Work by I. K. Taimni, *Thought Power, Its Control & Culture* by Annie Besant, *Beauty of Islam* by Annie Besant and *Rishi Debapi O Moru* published by TS Indian Sec.

Copies of these aforesaid books have been distributed to all Lodges to sell among their members and well wishers.

Annual General Body Meeting

The AGM of Bengal Theosophical Federation was held on 28.08.2016 at BTS Hall where accounts were passed, new executive committee of BTF (Members) for 2016-17 to 2019 and Internal Auditor of BTF and members for the Indian Section Council were elected and their names were published in *BTF Bulletin*, October 2016.

Theosophy through TOS

TOS in West Bengal is doing very good work. Theosophical books have been given to all TOS groups for study by their members. In West Bengal 30 TOS members applied for membership of TS and formed 3 TS Lodges namely (1) Azad Lodge (2) Besant Lodge and (3) Sundarban Lodge.

A day-long conference was held at the meeting hall of Vedanta Vidyashram School at Mahesh on 21.08.2016 with Bro. B. L. Bhattacharya as the chief speaker. He spoke on “Theosophical Education”. Teachers of five TOS Schools and some TOS members attended the programme. Bro. Vicente Hao Chin Jr. of Philippines had sent 33 pages write up on the subject which was translated into Bengali and explained to the Teachers and other members.

Ten teachers from five TOS schools from West Bengal attended the National Conference on “Theosophical Education” held on 23-24 September 2016 at Bhubaneswar.

BIHAR THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Secretary: Prof. (Dr.) Raj Krishore Prasad
East of Bihar Talkies
Mohalla- Dharampur
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Email: rkprasadsamastipur@gmail.com
Mobile No.09835643048

Members: 367 Lodges: 16 Centres: Nil

Annual Conference:

The 111th Annual Conference of BTF & TOS, Bihar Region was held on 15 & 16 April 2016 at Bihar Theosophical Federation HQ-Hall, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Patna-4. Bro. Pradip Kumar

Mahapatra, Assistant General Secretary, Indian Section, was the Chief Guest and Bro. S.S. Gautam, a former National Lecturer, Indian Section, was Guest of Honour. The theme of the conference was ‘Universal Brotherhood’.

On 15 April, the conference started with ‘Universal Prayer’ and welcome address was given by Bro. Chitaranjan Sinha “Kanak”, President, BTF. It was inaugurated by Bro. P.K. Mahapatra, who gave his inaugural address on the topic “Universal Brotherhood is the Saviour of Humanity”. Then short lectures on the subject- “Brotherhood” were organized under the chairmanship of Bro. S.S. Gautam. The speakers were: Bro. S.P. Srivastava, Vice-President, BTF & TOS, Bihar Region; Prof. R.K. Prasad, Secretary, BTF & TOS, Bihar Region; Bro. B.B. Sinha, Joint Secretary, TOS, Bihar Region; and Bro. Rup Narayan Srivastava, Assistant Secretary, BTF.

In the evening, Mahendra Prasad Memorial Lecture was delivered by Bro. S.S. Gautam.

Short Lectures on the subject- “Divine Love” were organized under the chairmanship of Bro. P.K. Mahapatra on 16 April. The speakers were: Bro. Manoranjan Kumar Sinha, C.T.S. Lodge, Chapra; Bro. Anil Kumar Srivastava, C.T.S. Lodge Chapra; Prof. R.K. Prasad, Secretary, BTF, & TOS, Bihar Region and a few others who shared their views on the theme of the session. The concluding remarks were given by the chairperson.

The Secretary of the Federation, Prof. Raj Kishore Prasad, presented the proceedings of the previous annual general body meeting held on 26 April 2016. Then, he presented the Annual Report for the year 2015-16. The proceedings and the Annual Report were approved by the members.

In the evening a public talk was given by Bro. S.S. Gautam on ‘Universal Brotherhood’.

In the meeting of the General Body of the Federation some important decisions were taken.

In the General Body of the TOS a new Executive Committee was formed unanimously.

Seminar

A seminar on the theme, "Theosophy as a catalyst of World Peace" was organized by Chandra Deo Theosophical Lodge (of Bihar Theosophical Federation) on 24-25 Sept. 2016, at Chapra.

The seminar started with Universal Prayer followed by the inaugural address by the chief guest Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri, National Lecturer. After welcome and inauguration Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri delivered a talk on the subject, "Theosophy and Regeneration: Key to world peace". In his talk Bro. Shikhar gave emphasis on the three pillars of Theosophic life which are Study, Meditation and Service. It was followed by lectures delivered by Bro. K.K. Dwivedi, Bro. Chitranjan Sinha, Prof. Mridul Sharan, Bro. Brij Kishore Prasad, and Bro. Hari Shankar Prasad.

The second day of the seminar started with the talk by Bro. S.S. Gautam on the subject, "The role of Theosophy in establishing peace in the present world scenario". Bro. Gautam emphasized on deep understanding of theosophical principles for world peace. Then Bro. Shikhar delivered a talk on the subject, "Theosophy, Brotherhood and Real Tolerance". In his talk Bro. Shikhar emphasized that the real tolerance can dawn upon only by realizing and practising brotherhood and in understanding how meditation is an integral part of life which helps in realizing unity. It was followed by talks of Bro. Raj Kishore Prasad, Bro. Manoranjan Sinha and Bro. Manzoor Ahmad. In the end, Bro. S.S. Gautam delivered a talk on "Theosophical Brotherhood". In this talk Bro. Gautam explained how the term brotherhood in theosophy is much deeper than a common day usage of the word.

With the above deliberations the seminar concluded and the vote of thanks was given by Bro. Suresh Chandra Srivastava.

Visitors

Bro. Pradip K. Mahapatra, Assit. General Secretary of the Indian Section and Bro. S.S. Gautam of Kanpur participated in the Annual Conference of the Federation in April 2016.

Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri, National Lecturer, and Bro. S.S. Gautam participated in the seminar held at Chhapra in the last week of September.

BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 320

Lodges: 9

Centres: Nil

Annual Conference

The 84th Annual Session of Bombay Theosophical Federation was held on 30 & 31 October and 1 November 2015. On the opening day of the conference Brethren of Bombay Theosophical Federation gathered in a big number in Besant Hall of Blavatsky Lodge, TS, to welcome the 8th International President Mr. Tim Boyd and his wife Mrs. Lily Boyd. The 84th BTF Annual Session was opened with Lighting of lamp, the Prayers of All Religions & the Universal Prayer led by President Tim Boyd. BTF President Dr. Ajay Hora welcomed and introduced the International President Mr. Tim Boyd and his wife Mrs. Lily Boyd. Greetings received from International TS, Indian Section and other Federations were conveyed. Sis. Deepa Kapur,

daughter of Sis. Manjula Kanabar personally conveyed the greetings of Dar-e-salaam Lodge and TS of East & Central Africa.

Mr. Tim Boyd in his Inaugural Address spoke about ‘The Illumined Mind’. In his lucid manner he inspired Brethren to think along with him about the question of Transformation. From the moment a child is born he is given one identity after another leading from boy or girl to family, to community, to birthplace to his Nation. A Mind subject to such identities is not able to perceive Reality beyond these identities. The scriptures say that the Transformation is immediate, but for a lay person it is step by step reaching a point, when suddenly the mind is illuminated. The perception of the Reality has to begin from Lower Mind to Higher Mind. When the Mind is illumined by Buddhi, the transformation takes place. It is the process of information leading to knowledge, to widening of mind to be ready to listen to one’s Higher Self. For this focused effort should be made to widen the Mind and create an atmosphere around oneself, which is uplifting.

Sis. Thrity Dalal and Sis. Freny Jubilee were presented a Memento & Certificate by Mr. Tim Boyd for their dedication and commitment to TS and Theosophy for over 40 years.

The evening ended with Maitreya Round Table Group singing an inspirational *bhajan* of Meerabai ‘*Mane chakar rakhoji*’.

The evening session on 31 October started with the Universal Prayer led by the Chief Guest Mr. Tim Boyd. The participants of Mullan & Dani Elocution Competitions were also present. The Mystic Star Ritual Group rendered the Hymn ‘Gather us in, Thou Love filled all’. BTF Vice-President Bro. Vinayak Pandya welcomed the chief guest.

Mr. Tim Boyd opened his address on ‘The Root of All Problems’ with the words ‘What I look for is the Solution for all problems’. Always there are problems like personal, financial, job related, economic inequality, difficulties of life and many more. There is no problem with a Sunrise. The problems are with Human beings. The root causes are very deep, like the causes of erupting Volcanoes are deep down in the Earth. The built up pressure is so much that the Volcano erupts.

In this competitive world one wants to be better/the best in different fields of life, but what is needed is to become a better member of the world. One must ask, ‘Who am I?’. Contemplating on it, one realizes that one is a Spiritual Being beyond Earthly Beings. In the process one layer after another of Identity peels off bringing one back to its Spiritual Beings.

‘Truth is a Pathless Land’, but the process begins with gradual expansion of the consciousness. Compassion is not just an Attribute. It is the Law of Laws. Compassion desires to release suffering and expand positiveness. It is not limited to family or friends, it expands to all. Compassion is the law of Oneness and the Solution to all problems.

Mr. Tim Boyd presented prizes to the Winners of Minoo Mullan Memorial Essay Competition for College students and Jamubhai & Suryaben Dani Memorial Essay Competition for school students.

The evening ended with an inspiring Hymn ‘Lord from Thine all strengthening Presence, Gifts of Peace we take away’ by Mystic Star Ritual Group.

On Sunday, 1 November 2015, a full day session was held at Juhu in which about 100 Brethren gathered in a beautiful Pandal surrounded by beauty & serenity of Juhu Theosophical Colony. The Vasanta Theosophical Co-operative Housing Society (VTCHS) had made special arrangement to welcome the 8th International TS President Mr. Tim Boyd with his wife Mrs. Lily Boyd.

After a refreshing breakfast, the morning session was opened with invoking the Blessings of the Divinity with the Bharat Samaj Pooja. Bro. Navin Kumar recited the Shlokas and Bro. Navin Patel performed the rituals.

BTF President Dr. Ajay Hora welcomed the chief guest and his wife on behalf of BTF & VTCHS with flowers and gifts. VTCHS Secretary Dr. Shaunak Hora introduced the chief guest with the words, ‘He lives Theosophy and he has given back to the community’.

Mr. Tim Boyd speaking on ‘Applying Theosophical Principles’ said, ‘Ageless principles on which we plan our living, but how do we do?’ He narrated a story of a Tibetan Rinpoche (a title for a Lama) who has a precious source of wisdom gathered over earlier lives, who

had lived with him in Chicago. The Tibetan Rinpoche had not left Tibet and so had gone through torture. Every morning he was made to walk round a circle of people who would physically and emotionally humiliate him. He tried out different teachings to face humiliation, but they did not work. Finally he tried the teaching of Love & Compassion towards the people who humiliated him and that worked. Jesus Christ also has said on the cross, “Forgive them, as they know not what they do”.

If we do not have wisdom to understand the principles, we will be blown away. In 1875 all were thinking about one’s own nation. India was part of the British Colony and in USA slavery had been removed only 10 years back in 1865. With the formation of the Theosophical Society in 1875 the seeds were planted in humanity for spiritual upliftment. At that time Theosophical ideas were radical and unacceptable. There were five profound ideas:

1. ‘Universal Brotherhood’ which was not like a Civil Right. It was a different way of seeing every single person. Only an Illumined Mind makes it possible to see unity in all beings.

2. We are Multidimensional beings in a Multidimensional World. We function at different levels, i.e. physical, emotional, mental and higher levels.

3. There is no empty space. What we think as empty space, Ageless Wisdom says it is filled with Intelligent Energy.

4. Each person is responsible for his own actions. He is the dispenser of his own destiny.

5. Evolution has been accepted in Ageless Wisdom. Buddhism talks about Buddha nature. Krishna speaks about Inner Ruler. It is a process of upliftment and compassion cultivates Unity in a Real Sense.

There is a reason why someone is attracted to Spirituality. There is an unfoldment, a reminder springs up from early lives and the realization that one is incomplete and the missing part has to be found to become whole.

At this stage no one is complete, but unfoldment has started. There is a moment of feeling one with the beauty of Nature, e.g. sunrise. It is a moment of happiness, peace and feeling free. It is an experience

of ‘Wonder of Silence’. It is a moment to realize, ‘Who we were, who we are and who we will be’. But such moments come and pass away so Meditation is recommended. Meditation is not postures and what one thinks. As one Lama has said, ‘as long as we are engaged in process of thoughts, it is not meditation. It needs ability to cease from thinking, cease from doing things.’

One of the questions was, “Where have things gone wrong?” Mr. Tim Boyd’s answer: No problems can be solved at the level it surfaces. We do not need scientific theories or inventions to learn why problems have not been solved. The solution has to be found by removing the obstruction in seeing the Reality. The pride which we have in knowledge does not permit us to see beyond. A break is needed from worshipping one’s own ideas. The need is that each person understands his problem and chooses to address it with self-responsible action.

At the request of Mr. Tim Boyd, Sis. Padmaben Mehta sang ‘Adyar Song’, which was written by Dr. Ajay Hora’s mother Mugdhaben Hora in 1947, i.e. 7 years after she became blind.

Sis. Feny Sethana, Sis. Gool Vazifdar and Sis. Katy Marolia were presented a Memento & Certificate by Mr. Tim Boyd for their dedication and commitment to TS and Theosophy for over 40 years

The 84th Annual General Meeting of BTF held at 12.15 pm was attended by 57 members. Tributes were paid to the Brethren who passed away during the year. As per the Agenda the Minutes, Secretary’s Annual Report and Audited Statement of accounts were passed. Resolutions of regards and good wishes were passed for the Leaders of TS International & Indian Section and for the Old & Ailing Members. Bro. Navin Kumar proposed a resolution expressing sincere thanks to the Vasanta Theosophical Office Bearers and Committee Members for their generous hospitality, sponsorship of the 84th Annual Session of BTF and making special arrangements with a beautiful Pandal to welcome the International President Mr. Tim Boyd. All Brethren unanimously acclaimed their thanks to VTCHS. The AGM ended with a vote of thanks to President Dr. Ajay Hora for his motivating leadership in making this Annual Session a memorable one.

Blavatsky book depot counter was patronized during the day and according to book depot manager Sis. Freny Paghdiwala there was a sale of around Rs. 3,00/-.

Bro. Taral Munshi covered the Juhu session video.

In the afternoon session, there was a symposium on 'Today's Youth & Practical Theosophy'. President Tim Boyd was in the Chair. Bros. Farhad Dala, Berthram Redwood, Taral Munshi, Arnie Narendra and Dhananjay Singh were the speakers.

Closing of the 84th Annual Session: BTF President Dr. Ajay Hora expressed sincere thanks to the International President Mr. Tim Boyd for gracing the Annual Session with his wife Mrs. Lily Boyd and for his words of wisdom. His addresses have been like speaking to Brethren, which have guided even a person new to Theosophy to understand the Ageless Wisdom. Dr. Hora expressed thanks to VTCHS for their generous hospitality. He also thanked all present for their participation.

Special Meeting/Conferences During 2015-16

Jamubhai & Suryaben Dani Memorial Interschool easy competition: There were 115 participants from 40 schools of Mumbai. The subjects for essays were: 'I Love My Nation'; 'Today's Education'; 'If there were No exams'; 'Love Thy Neighbour as Thyself'.

The first prize of Rs. 1,000/-, second prize of Rs. 750/- (there was a tie) & Third prize of Rs. 500/- were given.

In the Minoo Mullan Memorial Inter College essay competition: There were 17 participants from 35 colleges. The subjects for Essays were: 'Be a Light unto Yourself'; 'Religion Unites or Divides'; 'Freedom with dignity for Women'; 'Terrorism'.

The First Prize of Rs. 1,000/-, Second Prize of Rs. 750/- & Third Prize of Rs. 500/- (there was a tie) were given.

Prize distribution for Dani and Mullan Memorial Essay Competitions: It was on the Saturday 31st October 2015, i.e. the second day of the 84th Annual session of Bombay Theosophical Federation after the talk of International President Mr. Tim Boyd at Blavatsky Lodge. Essay Competition Judge Sis. Aban Patel addressed

the students. She appreciated their work & their beautiful handwritings. She advised them to gather information from net or other sources, but to write in their own language with their own thoughts and observations. The prizes were given to the winners by the Chief Guest Mr. Tim Boyd. All participants were given participation certificates and 'Short Biography of Annie Besant' by C. Jinarajadasa.

Support Convention was organized from 1-5 January 2016. The news of passing away of Sis. Joy Mills, a senior and experienced Theosophist, was received at Adyar on 29 December 2015. After the Prayers in the Support Convention high tributes were paid to the departed soul by Bro. Arni Narendran. The members of the Federation remembered her with great respect and prayed for her peaceful journey.

Bro. Navin Kumar showed the video of the Presidential Address delivered by Mr. Tim Boyd at the Opening of the 140th International Convention at Adyar on 31st December 2015. Speaking on the theme of the Convention 'Compassion and Universal Responsibility' Mr. Tim Boyd said that Brethren should develop responsibility to take Compassionate Action. The World is interconnected and Life is not separate. Reading is good, but one has to experience beyond reading. There is an expression that, 'You must not only learn the Truth; you must suffer it.'

A cultural evening was organized on 2 January. Bro. Zinoo Master delivered a talk on '*Tani Ravani, geti Minoani*- in the Light of Theosophy' on January 3.

Inspiring uplifting ceremony of the Ritual of the Mystic Star was performed on 4 January with Sis. Jasmine Cawasji as 'Power' and all other officers. Sis. Mahazaver Dalal explained the salient features and purpose of the Ritual written by C. Jinarajadasa.

Bro. Navin Kumar screened a specially prepared overview of the 140th International Convention on 5 January.

Bro. Vinayak Pandya, Vice- President of BTF, attended the 140th International Convention at Adyar. He had prepared a special PP Presentation with around 50 slides. He tried to show, what was not covered by the screening for U-Tube and there were many firsts at

this Convention, starting with the Lighting of Lamp and prayers by Olcott School students. There were PP Presentations and a live talk on screen by a speaker who could not come to Adyar. At Q & A Session, this time all four members of the Panel had to give answers. He showed the induction of New Members by President Mr. Tim Boyd. One of them was Vinayak Bhai's wife Malti Pandya, who was touched by this Convention and after many years had decided to join TS.

Visitor

Bro. David of Madrid of Spain had a day in Mumbai, before taking a flight to Varanasi for attending a TS Study Camp there. From the Net he found the location of Blavatsky Lodge and was there to visit it. From the pictures on the Notice Board he recognized Bro. Rustom Dalal and asked the permission to see the Lodge. His impressions are compliments to Blavatsky Lodge; "Thanks for allowing me to enter this marvelous place. I can feel the history here. Hope, more people arrive here for Theosophical Teachings. I am very interested in Theosophical teachings and always when I am travelling have tried to visit Theosophical places like in Adyar, New York and Colombo. Thanks for preserving the Light!"

Bro. U.S. Pandey, Secretary of U.P. Federation gave a talk at Blavatsky Lodge on 'Glimpses of Chinese Religions'. It was held on 1 April.

Allied to other Activities

Celebration of spring festival Jamshedi Navroze at Shanti Lodge on 24 March 2016: Guest Speaker Mrs. Meher Contractor gave a talk on 'Sarosh Yezad'.

White Lotus Day Meeting on 8 May 2016 at Ananda Lodge, Juhu Theosophical Conlony: It was the 125th Death Anniversary of HPB. Ananda Lodge, Jyoti Lodge, Ganesh Lodge & Vasanta Lodge of North Mumbai welcomed all the members. About 60 members attended it.

A meeting to observe Weshak Poornima was held on 20 May at Blavatsky Lodge. After the Universal Prayer, there were readings from the Ritual of the Mystic Star about the Teachings of Lord Buddha and recitations of Hymns and 'The Greatest Blessings'. Bro. Keki Palkahiwalla with The Great Invocation and In His Name spoke about the significance of the Weshak Ceremony and told Brethren that we have much to learn and we should be ready with fresh mind to absorb the Teachings.

The meeting ended with recitation of Buddhist Prayer and symbolical partaking of water kept near Lord Buddha's statue.

Vaishakh Ceremony by Maitreya Round Table was observed on Sunday 22 May, 2016, in Besant Hall at their Annual Meeting: The officiating leading Knight Rashna Jehani welcomed all. Kt. Thrity Dalal explained the significance of each office, morals of Round Table for 'Universal Love & Compassion' and the message of the Compassionate One Lord Buddha through Vaishakh Ceremony. The ceremony was beautifully performed by young officers accompanied by Sis. Freny Paghdwalla on piano. Before the closing of the ceremony Officiating Knight Rashna Jehani invited the Knights and others to share their thoughts.

A short film containing the pictures of Masters, the Founders, the Leaders and the Past Presidents of the Theosophical Society was screened by Bro Navin Kumar. This film also contained photographs of senior members of the Blavatsky Lodge along with the present activities including the recent visit of Bro Tim Boyd to Mumbai.

ASALA PURNIMA FESTIVAL Meeting was held at Blavatsky Lodge on Friday 15th July 2016 evening in Green Room. Sis. Navaz Dhalla had prepared a traditional table with Diva near Lord Buddha's statue. The Meeting was opened with the Universal Prayer. Bro. Zinoo Master Conducted the meeting starting with recitation of the Buddhist Prayer. He expounded on Lord Buddha's Teachings of the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. It was an inspiring and uplifting Meeting ending with partaking of water from a bowl kept on the Asala Festival Table.

Sis Bana D. Mehta, a Life Member and former President of Blavatsky Lodge and a Council Member of Bombay Theosophical Federation having served TS for 52 years passed away to Light Eternal on 11th July 2016. A Teacher at Heart, she had shared Theosophical Teachings as a Federation Lecturer with members of Centenary Lodge (Bandra), Radiance Lodge (Byculla), Vimadalal Bilia Lodge (Dadar), Besant Lodge (Princess Street), and Jamshed Lodge (Colaba).

She had taken keen interest in the activities of Shanti Lodge. She had served as Manager of Blavatsky Lodge Book Depot for a long time. She was a Volunteer year after year at TS International Conventions at Adyar & Varanasi. She was an active participant of Bharat Samaj Pooja, Mystic Star Ritual & Round Table and a Co-Freemason of High Degree. She used to participate in TOS activities also. On the Red Letter Days, the programmes would not be complete without her songs for the day, of which some were even composed by her.

Dr. Annie Besant's birthday, Foundation Day of the TS, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day were observed in a befitting manner by the Lodges.

Weekly Study Class: Blavatsky Lodge Programmes

'Happiness Unlimited' by Brihmakumari Shivani: There was a screening of about 28 talks of Brihmakumari Shivani followed by discussions. At the end of the series of talks, Bro. Navin Kumar screened PPP of summarized talks with captions of key messages. Study of 'Demystifying Patanjali Yoga': Bro. Arnie Narendran is currently conducting the study. Bro. Navin Kumar at the following meetings presents PPP on the portions covered with summary of explanations.

In month of March 2016 the Movie 'Anna Karenina' based on Tolstoy's Novel was screened over four turns, with a purpose to understand how a person creates his own Destiny. Sis Kashmira Khambatta presented 'Introduction to The Lives of Alcyone'. Now the stories of his lives will be read and discussed by

the members at Tuesday meetings from April 2016 on Fridays, Sis. Aban Patel is conducting the study of Annie Besant & C.W. Leadebeater's occult book 'MAN. Whence, How and Whither'. This great book is out of print.

Dr. Darius Umrigar continued monthly presentations on topics related to Health & Holistic Living and allied subjects, e.g. Mind over Immunity.

Visits of Federation Lecturers/other members of the Federation

Our main Federation Speakers are: Bros. Ajay Hora, Keki Palkhiwala, Zinoo Master, Darius Umrigar, Navin Kumar, and Vinayak Pandya. They give weekly/monthly talks at various Lodges of the Federation. Bro. Princey Mehta, Sis. Kashmira Khambatta, Aban Patel, Navaz Dhalla gave talks with DVD/PP presentations at Blavatsky Lodge, Vimadalal & Bilia Lodge. For weekly Study Classes several members prepare talks/presentations on allotted chapters

Propagation and Publication of Books/ Journals/Articles

BTF acknowledges with thanks the kind donation given by the Indian Section, TS, for the propagation of Theosophy. The pamphlets on Theosophy are given to inquirers and New Members.

Federation and Lodge programmes are open to sympathizers & public. Bro. Navin Kumar sends SMSs to interested persons.

Blavatsky Lodge is also giving books for propagation to members for their Study Classes and is presenting books to intellectuals interested in ethics and spiritual studies.

SIS. VILOO ADAJANIA'S ARTICLES : She is a regular contributor to Free Press Journal News Paper and the Bombay Bulletin with her Theosophical Articles meant for people interested in Spiritual knowledge.

Basic Course Papers in Theosophy compiled by a former President of Blavatsky Lodge, Bro. D P Sabnis, author of articles published in 'The Theosophist' have been given to the Lodges of the Federation.

BTF BULLETIN

BTF Bulletin is a monthly periodical with Theosophical articles and news regarding the activities of Bombay Federation and its Lodges. Dr. Darius H. Umrigar, Bro. Navin Kumar, Bro. CA Rustom Dalal, Sis. Kashmira Khambatta, Bro. Janardana Sherigar and Bro. Kushrov Pavri e-mail our Bulletins to TS members and sympathizers and their e-mail friends in India and abroad. Daressalam Lodge, East Africa has regular readings from our Bulletins which are e-mailed to Sis. Deepa, daughter of Sis. Manjulaben Kanabar and our former member. Forthcoming special programmes are announced and their proceedings reported. Members who cannot attend programmes look forward to the Bulletins. Members are coming forward with articles written by them or other inspiring matter they want to share. Our members' articles, printed in 'The Theosophist' and 'The Indian Theosophist', are reprinted for the benefits of brethren who do not subscribe to these magazines. Sis. Kashmira Khambatta and Bro. Janardana Sherigar continue to do art work for the Bulletin Cover Page, with suitable quotations chosen by Sis Kashmira. Observations & suggestions of readers are welcomed. Sympathizers also subscribe to our Bulletin. *News & Notes* of our Federation and the Lodges printed in the Bulletin are forwarded to The Editor of 'The Indian Theosophist' to reprint extracts in their *News & Notes*. The Bulletin is also mailed to TS Adyar, Indian Section TS, and to some of the Federations.

BTF BULLETIN ON LODGE PROGRAMME BLOG from April 2016

Bro. Navin Kumar, from the month of April 2016, has put the entire BTF Bulletin below the Programme Table. This can be searched on the net by typing 'Blavatsky Lodge TS Mumbai'. The link for the blog is as under: <http://blavatskylodgetsmumbai.blogspot.in/> For the benefit of other members and interested friends in India and abroad Bulletin Editor Bro. Rustom Dalal continues to send BTF Bulletins by E-mail.

Efforts made for the Sale of Books

Blavatsky Lodge Book-Depot: The Book Depot sold books at Blavatsky Lodge and Juhu Theosophical Colony at Seminars, Public Talks and BTF Annual Session. The Lodge also buys books from the Book Depot and lends them to members attending the regular Study Classes. Members of other spiritual and alternative medicines organizations also buy a number of titles from our Book-Depot. The books are given as prizes for Essay & Elocution Competitions. Quite a few members & sympathizers use TS books as gifts. They are encouraged to place bulk orders.

Blavatsky Lodge Library

Blavatsky Lodge has one of the oldest Theosophical libraries with more than 10000 books for TS & Library members. Ananda, Shanti and Vimadalal Bilva Lodges also have their small collections of books for their members. The Project for rearranging and weeding out Library Books is a continuing one as it gets donations of members' private libraries. Selected books on Theosophy & Religion were rearranged to facilitate lending of books.

General Remark

We have been trying to pass on the Theosophical Teachings to youth. Sis. Soonoo Vesuna encourages her students with readings, enactments and power point presentations. Shanti Lodge and Blavatsky Lodge give them platforms to share their presentations

The Red Letter Days, Symposium and Members' Meetings help to prepare a second line of speakers. The Diplomas were presented to members at the Annual Session of BTF, on Red Letter Days and at Special Members' Meetings.

Networking through e-mails and SMS have definitely encouraged members to attend Lodge's Regular & Special Meetings in large numbers.

DELHI THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 188 **Lodges: 10** **Centres: 1**

Brief account of Study Camps conducted during the year

Delhi Theosophical Federation (DTF) organized a Study Camp on “THE PATH OF DISCIPLESHIP” on 13 December 2015 at DTF Headquarter, 24, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi. It was directed by Dr. Rajiv Gupta, President, Delhi Theosophical Federation.

The Federation also organized study classes on “SELF REALIZATION THROUGH STUDY, MEDITATION AND LOVE” on 14 February 2016 at DTF Headquarter. It was directed by Bro. M P Singhal, President, Besant Lodge.

A study class on “MYSTERY OF LIFE AND HOW THEOSOPHY UNVEILS IT” was held on 5-6 March 2016 at DTF Headquarter It was conducted by Bro. U S Pandey, Secretary, U P Federation.

A study class on “SELF CULTURE IN THE LIGHT OF ANCIENT WISDOM” was directed by Bro. B D Tendulkar, National Lecturer, on 19-20 March 2016.

Bro. P. S. Mittal of Anand Lodge, Allahabad, delivered a talk on ‘Nishkam Karma’ on 15 October 2015.

A lecture on “YOGA OF DURGASAPTASHATI” was delivered by Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri, National Lecturer, at DTF Headquarter, on 13 August 2016

A lecture on “THEOSOPHY AND UPANISHADS” was delivered by Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy, International Vice-President of the TS, at the Federation HQ on 3rd September 2016

Apart from the aforesaid, Camp/Classes/Lectures, at Shankar Lodge, 24, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi, the talks of Dr. Rajiv Gupta were held on topics, “FINAL STAGES OF HUMAN EVOLUTION”, “FOUR NOBLE TRUTHS OF LORD BUDDHA”, “CAUSAL BODY”, “REWIRING OURSELVES”, “KLESHAS” & “ASTRAL PLANE”.

Dr. D K Satsanghi gave talks on “VIVEK CHUDAMANI (CREST JEWEL OF WISDOM)” & “BRAHM SUTRA”. Bro. Harbans Singh’s subject of talk was “SOME REFLECTIONS FROM JAJI SAHAB”.

Sis. Meena Thakur gave a talk on “AT THE FEET OF THE MASTER”, whereas Bro. Saurabh Ranjan delivered talk on “AS A MAN THINKETH” BY JAMES ALLEN and Sis. Aruna Sehgal spoke on “USE OF THOUGHT POWER IN HEALING”.

Besant Lodge regularly organizes lectures, group discussion and study of Theosophical literature.

Delhi Federation hosted a two-day National Seminar, on ‘Theosophy and the Modern World’. It was organized by the Indian Section at DTF Headquarters on 30-31 July 2016. (Details given on pp. 13-15, Part-I of this Report).

Visitors

Bro. Chittarajan Satapathy, Bro. Pradip Mahapatra, Bro. U.S. Pandey, Bro. P.S. Mittal, Bro. B.D. Tendulkar, Dr. L. Nagesh, and

Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri, delivered lectures/directed study class at the Federation HQ during the year under review.

Visits

Bro. M.P. Singhal delivered Dr. Taimni Memorial Lecture at Allahabad on 16 February 2016. He spoke on 'Self-Realization through Rajyoga'. His visit to Philippines and Ukraine have been mentioned on page 24, Part-I of this report.

GUJARAT THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 792 **Lodges: 22** **Centres: Nil**

Annual Conference

Kantindra, a small village in the very interior of Narmada District of Gujarat, decided to host the 88th Annual Conference of

Gujarat Federation during November 2015. The Annual Conference of Gujarat Theosophical Federation was held there from 20-22 November 2015. Shabari Lodge which has completed 70 years of its existence was the host for the Conference. The theme was 'There is no Religion higher than Truth'. The delegates were accommodated at the "Narmada Buniyadishala" at Rajpara near the town of Rajpipla District of Narmada.

The programme started on 1st day with Bharat Samaj Pooja. Prayers of all religions were recited in the opening session followed by the welcome address by Shri Somabhai Vasava, President of Shabari Lodge. Bro. Darshan Modi, Secretary of Gujarat Federation (GTF), read out messages received from various Federations. It was followed by the inaugural address by Bro. Nareshbhai Trivedi, President GTF. Then, Shri Mansukhbhai Rajyoguru, guest of honour, spoke on the theme of the conference "There is no religion higher than Truth." The other talks held on the same day were: 'Brotherhood in the Co-operative Societies' by Sri Ghanshyambhai Patel; 'Our attitude towards Theosophical Society' by Bro. Darshan Modi; 'Importance of interpersonal relation' by Narendrabhai Patel; 'Practical Theosophy' by Sri Ashwinbhai Vasava; 'Right Thinking and Right Living' by Bro. Kantilal Patel; and 'Theosophical Society as per my perception' by Sri Jivanbhai Kakloter.

The programme on the second day started with meditation. It was followed by Sri Yogendrabhai Desai's talk on 'My life after becoming the member of TS'. The short talks held in that session were on 'Contribution of Theosophy in family-as envisaged by women' by Mrs. Prabhaven Trivedi; 'Theosophy-Key to Happy Life' by Mrs. Daminiben Modi; and 'Importance of Nature as per Theosophy' by Mrs. Deepikaben Pathak.

The meeting of the newly elected Executive Committee was held in the afternoon in which report of TOS Gujarat Region was presented by Sri. Kantilal P. Patel and Pratibhaben Parekh.

Sri Nayanbhai Purohit spoke in the evening session on *Jeevan Sandhya*. It was presided over by Sri Kantilal P. Patel. The other talk was delivered by Sri Nareshbhai Trivedi who spoke on 'The first

object the Theosophical Society'. This was presided over by Mrs. Avantika Mehta.

The following talks were held on the last day (22 Nov.) of the conference: 'Spiritual or Occult Healing' by Mrs. Avantikaben Mehta; 'The search of Truth as envisaged by Dr. Annie Besant' by Shri Kantbhai of Bhavnagar Lodge; and 'Journey on The Path' by Shri Natubhai Thakker.

In the last session of the conference, the students securing high rank in 12th Standard and the members who have completed 50 years of membership were honoured by the Federation. The President of GTF, in his valedictory address, welcomed the newly admitted members. The vote of thanks was given to all those who contributed in the success of the conference.

Study Camp

Rewa Lodge, Vadodara, organized a day-long programme on the subject: 'Man and His Bodies'. It was held on 7 February, 2016. The subject chosen was very useful and the members were deeply interested and participated in lively discussion.

The study was directed by Mrs. Avatikaben U. Mehta, National Lecturer & former President of Gujarat Federation. The participants were grateful to Mrs. Avantikaben Mehta not only for accepting to direct the study but also for making such a subject very easy to be understood by all the participants. Even the new members also could understand it without any difficulty.

The morning session started at about 9.30 a.m. Welcome address was given by the President of Rewa Lodge, Dr. Parikh. During the two pre-lunch sessions Sister Avantika explained about the various bodies and their functions, with special emphasis on Etheric & Astral Bodies. In the post-lunch session she threw light on Mental Body, lower four divisions known as mental body and on Causal Body.

Visits

The President and Secretary of GTF visited various Lodges of the Federation during the year under review.

Publication

The Federation publishes a magazine '*Theosophical Jyoti*'. This monthly journal is published from Ahmedabad and given free to the members of Gujarat Federation.

KARNATAKA THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 3354 **Lodges: 78** **Centres: 4**

Special Programmes held during the year

Brother B.V. Thippeswamy, President, KTF, directed the Workers' - cum- Lecturers' training camp from 11 to 19 October 2015 at Gavirangapura. Twenty Workers and 50 Lecturers participated in the training camp.

Bro B.V. Thippeswamy directed the study camp at Bhowali, Uttarakhand, from 2 to 10 May 2016. Fifty members from Karnataka participated in it.

(see details on p. 9, Part-I of this Report)

In all, 14 study camps of two/three days were conducted at various Lodges of the Federation during the year under review. The themes and subjects taken up for the study were related to Theosophy and TS. Seven of these were directed by the President of the Federation Bro. B.V. Thippeswamy. Two were directed by Sis. G.S. Lalitha Nataraj. The remaining five were directed by Bro. G. Dakshinamoorthy, Dr. L. Nagesh, Bro. S. C. Jagadish, Bro. K.L. Thyagaraja and Sis. K. Parvathamma.

Efforts made for the sale of books.

For the sale of Theosophical books, some members display the books for sale in their respectively Lodges.

Bro. K.L. Thyagaraja Shetty took interest to sell the Theosophical books at Dharwad.

Bro. Yogesh and Bro. Lakshman Rao, are displaying both English and Kannada Theosophical books for sale wherever study camps are head at different places in Karnataka.

T.P.S.S. has a separate Sale's wing in Bangalore. It is maintained by Bro. K.L. Nanjunda Shetty and Bro. A.C. Sriramaiah Shetty.

Spiritual Organizations in Bangalore, Mangalore and Udupi are in contact with the Sale's wing of Bangalore and purchasing many Theosophical Books.

Visitors

Bro. Chittaranjan Satapathy, International Vice-President, TS, visited the Bangalore City Lodge. He spoke on '*Eswarapranidhana*' on April 3rd 2016.

Prof C. A. Shinde, National Lecturer, directed a study camp on 10 April at Chitradurga Theosophical Lodge.

Bro. B.D. Tendulkar, National Lecturer, delivered talk on Theosophy at Gowribidanur, Kondenahalli and Bangarpet. These talks were held in the second week of January.

Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya, National Director of TOS, visited Bangalore in the third week of April in connection with the programme of TOS.

Visits

The President, Secretary, Zonal Organizers, Joint Secretary of the Federation and the Federation Lecturers, visited various Lodges of the Federation to deliver lecture, and to direct study camp.

Highlights of special activities undertaken by the Federation during the year 2015-16

Lotus youth wing:

Bangalore lotus youth wing is active. Every Sunday from 8.30 to 9.30 am study class on Ancient Wisdom, Devachan and J.K. Teachings was conducted by Bro. Uday Kumar and Sis. Yamunavathy. The Round Table and the Ritual of the Mystic Star are performed quarterly under the guidance of Bro. S.U. Mahesh & Bro. Uday Kumar.

Ladies' wing

Ladies' wing is active only in Bangalore City Lodge, Daily Bharat Samja Pooja is performed by the Ladies' wing & on every Friday healing Meditation being performed to the Sufferers. Two study camps were conducted this year under the Directorship of Sis. K. Parvathamma in the month of October 2015 & February 2016 at Bengaluru City Lodge and also outside Bengaluru.

TOS

There are 21 TOS units in the Karnataka region. Quarterly programmers were conducted by the Regional TOS in Bangalore. They are serving the public by distribution of school fees, school bags, uniforms, note books, and writing materials to the poor deserving students, mobility aids to handicaps, tape recorders to blind students and sewing machines to unemployed poor people. TOS at different places conducted free medical check-up camps in slum areas and also in villages distributing free medicines and free spectacles.

Some TOS units are conducting essay competition on Dr. Annie Besant, every year.

Publications of Books /Journals

Theosophy Prachara Mattu Shikshana Samithi is a publication wing of KTF. During this year, Bro. V.V. Chalam's *Enlightful Living* has been translated into Kannada by Bro. G. Dakshinamoorthy.

Gayathri, *Self Culture* and *Blissful Living* were reprinted.

Our official monthly Magazine *Theosophy Vani* is edited by Bro. B.V. Thippeswamy, President KTF. Joint Editor Sis. K. Parvathamma, Secretary and Sub-editors Bro. K. Mahadevappa and Bro. M.V. Rudrappa are assisting in the printing and distribution of the magazine. Nearly 2000 copies are mailed to members and complimentary copies are sent to District Libraries and to some Educational and Spiritual Organizations in order to propagate Theosophy.

General Remarks

Sincere efforts have been made to prevent lapses by reminding the secretaries of the concerned Lodges and the individual members as well.

For the propagation of Theosophy, the office bearers and Federation Lecturers visited the educational institutions to deliver talks with the aid of audio visual power point slides.

KERALA THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 381 **Lodges: 20** **Centres: Nil**

Annul Conference

The 87th Annual Conference of the Kerala Theosophical Federation was held at Alleppey on 1st and 2nd October 2016. Bro. Tim Boyd, International President, was the Chief Guest. The **Theme of the Conference was "Man – The problem and the solution."**

On 1st October the function commenced at 4.45 p.m. with flag hoisting by the Chief Guest followed by the song which praises the TS flag which flutters in more than 50 countries of the world. When nation to nation different flags are hoisted, this TS flag -- the symbol of Universal Brotherhood is hoisted at the temple of *Brhamavidyalaya* where man unites without the distinction of caste, creed, sex or religion. Meeting commenced with prayers of religions followed by the Universal Prayer. Bro. P.T. Krishnadas, Secretary, read out the greetings received from various federations, lodges and theosophists. Welcome address was given by Bro. K.M. Vasudevan, President of the Annapoorni Lodge, which is one of the oldest TS Lodges in Kerala. Federation's President Bro. S. Sivadas presided over the meeting.

Bro. Tim Boyd inaugurated the conference and said that the prediction of Col. Olcott when he inaugurated the Theosophical Society on 17th November 1875 in America came true and now the work of the Theosophical Society during the last 141 years cannot be ignored by any historian. The main work of the Theosophical Society is to make known to the world that such a thing as Theosophy exists. Theosophical Society has contributed a global vocabulary such as *Karma*, *Dharma*, Reincarnation etc. which were foreign to the West.

Meditation and unfoldment of consciousness was unknown to the West before Theosophical Society started functioning there. The Ageless Wisdom promulgated by H.P. Blavatsky, C.W. Leadbeater, Annie Besant and others were rendered to the world through its new agency the Theosophical Society. All the great movements of the world were started by a few people who had the vision and commitment. Theosophical Society was founded by a few dedicated servants of humanity. Christ had only a dozen followers when he was alive. The freedom struggle of India was started only by a group of people who had an urge for freedom. The fundamental teaching of Theosophy is that the Spark within you is the same as in every living creature. You have to fan it into a flame for the welfare of humanity and society at large.

Prof. R.C Tampi spoke on the subject “*Theosophy in India-Yesterday and Today*” as part of the observation of Dr. Annie Besant’s Jayanthi and the 125th year of the Indian Section of TS.

The programme on 2nd October started with *Bharat Samaj Pooja*. At 9.30 a.m. Bro. Tim Boyd delivered the keynote address “**Man- The Problem and the Solution**”. He also released a CD on *Bharat Samaj Pooja* rendered by Sis. Lakshmi Bai and Bro. Madhusudanan Pillai of Annapoorni Lodge. In the second session Br. M.N. Sasikumar spoke on “Karma-the choice between Effort and Destiny”. Bro. N. Bhaskaran Nair spoke on “*Theosophy and Ecological World View*”. Dr. M.A. Raveendran’s subject was “*The Choice between Goodness and Success*”. Sis. Sitalaxmi spoke on “*The Path of Taking Vs. The Path of Giving.*” There was also a theme based discussion and Br. Tim Boyd answered questions raised by the delegates.

A replica of an oil paint of Dr. Annie Besant kept at the Lodge was presented to Bro. Tim Boyd by the Lodge’s President Bro. K.M. Vasudevan and Bro. S. Madhusudanan Pillai. Various lodges honoured the president by putting a *Ponnada* (an upper cloth made out of golden silk threads) on him. An *Aranmula Kannadi* (Aranamula Mirror- A handmade metal alloy mirror made in Aranamula, a village of

traditional artisans in Kerala. It is a front surface mirror which eliminates secondary reflections and aberrations (typical of back surface mirrors) was presented to Mrs. Lilly Tim Boyd.

The valedictory address was given by the newly elected President Dr. M.A. Raveendran. New Vice-President Dr. K.K. Haridas also spoke. K.T.F.’s newly elected Secretary Bro.K. Dinakaran proposed vote of thanks.

125th Anniversary Celebration of Sree Sankara Lodge Ernakulam, Kerala on 3rd October 2016.

Sree Sankara Theosophical Lodge, Ernakulam, celebrated its 125th Anniversary on 2 and 3 October 2016. Bro. Tim Boyd International President was the chief guest. On 2nd evening a classical music concert was arranged in honour of the President and Mrs. Lilly Tim Boyd. The *Guru* – the music teacher was honoured by the International President by garlanding him a *ponnada* in the traditional Kerala style. There was an interaction with the members of the lodge in which the Lodge’s President Dr. T.P. Babu and Br. K. Dinakaran. also participated. Bro. Tim Boyd answered the questions raised by the members of the lodge.

On 3 October the programme of the day commenced at 8.00 a.m with *Bharat Samaj Pooja*. At 10.00 a.m. the programme started with Prayers of Religions followed by the Universal Prayer. Sis. A.V. Seethalaxmi welcomed the President, Mrs. Lilly Boyd, all the members and invitees who had come to attend the programme. Dr. T.P. Babu, President of the Lodge, briefly described the history of Sree Sankara Lodge in the 19th century in the erstwhile princely state of Cochin by stalwarts like Pallyil Gopalamenon and Cochin Diwan Sankarayya. He also mentioned about the various activities of the lodge like free Homeopathic treatment, naturopathy classes etc. The lodge is also the venue of the J. Krishnamurti Study Centre at Ernakulam. Br. T.S Usman narrated the history of the Sree Sankara Lodge since its inception and the various hurdles it had to face during this period such as encroachment and long battle which finally met

with success. All these happened only due to the will power and thought power of its sincere members.

Bro. Tim Boyd inaugurated the function by lighting the lamp. His subject for the talk was **“How Theosophy is unique and can it be a panacea for human misery?”** He said : One of the unique teachings of Theosophy is that there is no empty space. We live in an intelligent universe where there is no empty space but inhabited by intelligent beings such as *devas*, angels and *Boddhisatvas* and they are constantly interacting with all of us knowingly or unknowingly. This idea was lost during the modern-so called scientific world. Physical Science itself is limited, since it will approve things that it can smell, taste, experience and touch with its instruments of measurement.

Another important teaching of Theosophy is the Self Responsibility of Man. There is no divine being that will determine your future. But the inner man in you is solely responsible for your actions in the present and in the future. In the little but profound book *Idyl of the White Lotus* three Great Truths are mentioned. The Third Truth says. “Each man is his own absolute law-giver, the dispenser of glory or gloom to himself; the decreer of his life, his reward, his punishment.”

Bro. K. Dinakaran felicitated the members of the Lodge for organizing the function and wished that this will be a beginning of a year full of theosophical activities. Bro. S. Sivadas, former President of K.T.F also spoke on the occasion. Bro. M.B. Priyakumar, S. Zoe Secy. KTF gave vote of thanks. Members from various lodges and public took this opportunity to take selfies and group photos with Bro. Tim Boyd and Lilly Tim Boyd. The President was also honoured by the Lodge’s President Dr. T.P. Babu by garlanding him with the *Ponnada*. The whole programme was videographed and will be available in U Tube for the public later on.

Visits

Federation’s President Bro. S. Sivadas visited the Lodges at Alleppy, Calicut Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Kozhikode, Kodungallur and Perinjanam during the year under review.

He delivered talks and conducted study classes there. Besides, he delivered a lecture for students at Pazhaveedu Library on 14 November (Children’s Day) on the subject ‘Students and their Environment’. Students from ten schools attended it.

Vice-President Bro. G. Ramanathan, visited Lodges at Alappuzha, Kodungallur, Kozhikode and Perinjanam.

Bro. P.T. Krishnadas, Federation Secretary, visited Alappuzha Lodge.

Brief account of the meetings held during the year

Trichur Lodge conducted a public seminar on “Theosophy & Swami Sree Narayana Guru” at Changampuzha Hall, Thrissur, on 28 February 2016. Members from the Lodges of Trichur, Annapoorni, Gauthama, Blavatsky – Besant and Perinjanam participated in it. Dr. Geetha Suraj, Retd. Principal, SNM College Maliankara, Ernakulam, was the Chief Guest. Bro. S Sivadas, welcomed the members and guests. He inaugurated the seminar. Bro. G Ramanathan, President of the Lodge, welcomed the members and guests. Dr. P.U. Asokan, Sister Sobha Prakash and Bro. K.N. Unnikrishnan gave short talks. Brother P T Krishnadas, Secretary, proposed Vote of Thanks.

Blavatsky-Besant T. S. Lodge, Pullut, Kodungallur organized an Aspirants’ Awareness meet as a pre-noon session on Tuesday, 10 Nov.2015 at Kodungallur to coincide with the anniversary of the B-B Lodge Raising Day. The meet was intended to popularise Theosophy amidst public. Bro. K. N. Unnikrishnan, President of the Lodge, Bro. S Sivadas, and Dr. MA Raveendran, President, Upasika Lodge, spoke on the occasion. Merit gifts were awarded to School Students of Pullut and N’ mangalam for their Academic achievements.

Perinjanam Theosophical Lodge organized a get-together based on the subject “The importance of the IIIrd Object of TS and its applications” (to investigate unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in man) on 15 May 2016. Members from Trichur Thrissur, Upasika Irinjalakda, Besant Blavatsky Kodungallur, Asoka Sankara Ernakulam and non-members of TS from different parts of Thrissur,

participated in it. Bro. G. Ramanathan, Vice President, KTF, spoke on the occasion and the Lodge's President Bro. Suresh Babu coordinated both the sessions

Most of the Lodges are conducting regular study classes based on Theosophical subjects. Our President Bro. S. Sivadas gave regular talks on Theosophical subjects at Lodges in Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha and Ernakulam. Important days like Adyar Day, Besant Day, White Lotus Day and Foundation Day were observed by most of the Lodges. Anantha Theosophical Lodge, Thiruvananthapuram, celebrated the Foundation Day in a befitting manner.

General Remarks

KTF is now very active on the Face-book at Kerala Theosophical Federation. We are well maintaining the official website of the Federation www.keralatheosophist.org which will enable public and the members to know more about the activities of the Federation.

M.P. & RAJASTHAN THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 448 **Lodges: 25** **Centres: Nil**

Annul Conference

The 91st Annual Conference of M.P. & Rajasthan Federation was held on 31 October and 1 November 2015 in the Lion's Club at Ratlam. The theme of the conference was "The flowering of Love is Meditation". About 80 delegates from various lodges participated in it. In the inaugural session, Prayer of All Religions was held and it was followed by welcome address by Dr. Leela Joshi, President of Vedant Lodge, Ratlam. Prof. H.S. Dwivedi, Federation Secretary of M.P. & Rajasthan and President Dr. Kamal Mahnot gave greetings while welcoming the delegates, chief guest and other special invitees. Mrs. Manju Sundaram presided over the inaugural session. Bro. S. Sundaram, General Secretary of the Indian Section, was the chief guest. He delivered the inaugural address. Bro. M.P. Singhal, former International Vice-President of the Theosophical Society, was a special invitee. He delivered a public lecture on Nov. 1 on the topic: 'Love as the highest universal law of life'. In his inaugural address Bro. Sundaram analysed beautifully the topic 'The flowering of love is meditation'. He said that the process "flowering" gradually shapes itself into love which reflects the selfless motives of human life beyond the physical senses, breaking the bonds of *Vasana*. Bro. U.S. Pandey, Secretary of U.P. Federation, delivered a talk on "i E vlg /; ku vll; l; kf Jr gñ" (Love and Meditation are Interdependent). The lecture delivered by Bro. Pandey highlighted the importance of love and meditation- Love that generates and creates the feeling of dedication and the submission of personal "I ness" in the broader vision of the cosmic reality, inseparable from the higher mode of Sadhana that is known as meditation or the process of Dhyana. The theme of Mrs. Manju Sundaram's talk was 0; fDr l sfjW ch vlg (From Individual to Universal). The talk of Bro. Singhal remained operative on the topic. 'Love is the highest universal law of life'. When one talks of such love he excels the peripheral and territorial limits of the physical world and makes it an inner property of the spirit. He analysed such ingredients of love which show an inseparable bond between Atma and Parmatma between the soul and the cosmic reality. There was an interesting session of short talks on fuey thou (A Clean Life) presided by Bro. Ashok Lokhande, President of Marathi Federation. Tribute was paid to Mrs. Radha Burnier, former President

of the Theosophical Society, on her 2nd *Punnya Tithi* (31 October 2016). Bro. Sanad Kumar Vyas of Ratlam Lodge gave a power point presentation on reincarnation and also on man and his bodies. A short documentary film in Hindi was also shown by him on “Beauty without cruelty”. The closing ceremony was presided and addressed by Bro. M.P. Singhal. The conference concluded with a vote of thanks given by Prof. H. S. Dwivedi.

Study Camp

Under the auspices of Gwalior Lodge, a study camp was jointly organized by M.P. & Rajasthan and U.P. Federation at Gwalior on 9 and 10 April. The book taken up for study was *The Pathway to Perfection* by Geoffrey Hodson.

(For details see page 8 in the Part-I of this report)

Other Activities

Study camps were conducted and lectures were delivered at Theosophical Lodge of Ratlam, Ujjain, Raipur Jodhpur, Gwalior and Udaipur.

Almost all the Lodges of the Federation organize public lectures and study class.

There is a special feature of the Lodge at Jodhpur. There is a school for the physically handicapped children within the premises of the Lodge. There are 22 students in the school.

Bharat Samaj Pooja is performed on 1st Sunday of every month at Vikaram Lodge, Ujjain. It is followed by a symposium in which members participate. Besides, public lectures are organized. On the last Sunday of every month general discussion on Theosophical themes are organized.

All the four significant days –Dr. Annie Besant’s Birthday, Foundation Day of the TS, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day are observed by most of the Lodges.

Visitors

Bro. B.D. Tendukar, National Lecturer, visited Gwalior in the 3rd week of March and delivered lectures on three topics – ‘Spiritual Life’, ‘Ancient Wisdom’, and ‘Self Culture’ respectively.

Bro. U.S. Pandey, Secretary of U.P. Federation, Bro. S.K. Pandey National Lecturer, and Bro. S.S. Gautam of Kanpur were the resource persons of the study camp held at Gwalior in the 2nd week of April.

Bro. S. Sundaram, Bro. M.P. Singhal, Bro. U.S. Pandey and Mrs. Manju Sundaram attended and spoke in the Annual Conference of the Federation held at Ratlam.

MADRAS THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 826 **Lodges: 14** **Centres: Nil**

Inter Lodge Meetings

The Federation is functioning normally with Inter-Lodge Meetings conducted every month with eminent speakers from various walks of life interacting with the members on Theosophical subjects.

In the aforesaid meetings during 2015-16 the following talks were held: ‘Welcome and Goodbye’ by Mr. Harihara Raghavan, General Manager of the Theosophical Society, Adyar; ‘Theosophy through the Eyes of Bharathanatyam’ by Mrs. Jyotsna Narayana; ‘Reincarnation and Karma- Edgar Cayce Perspective’ by Mr. J. Srinivasan; ‘Universal Brotherhood’ by Mr. M.A. Ravindran (Former President of Kerala Federation); ‘The Central Focus of Theosophy’ by Dr. N.C. Ramanujachary; ‘The Cosmic Connections of Hindu Symbolism’ by Dr. Venkatakrishnan Anand; and ‘Self Knowledge and the Quest for Truth’ by Ms. Clemice Petter.

Lodge Activities

Some Lodges have been active and are meeting regularly. The Adyar Lodge and the Adyar Ladies Lodge meeting twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. The Besant Lodge meets once a month. The Kilpauk Lodge is meeting every Saturday. The Besant Centenary Lodge meets on first and second Sundays of the month. Gandhi Nagar Lodge conducts group discussion on 2nd Sunday. Mylapore Lodge conducts two meetings a month. Sriram Lodge meets once a month. T. Nagar Lodge meets once a month. Vasanta Youth Lodge conducts meeting on 2nd Sunday which involves group interactions.

Publications

Few copies of the monthly Bulletin consisting of four pages is being printed and distributed regularly and emails of the bulletins are being sent to the members through the Secretaries of the Lodges.

MARATHI THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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* Elected on 24 September, 2016. Prior to that, Bro. Ashok P. Lohande was the President and Bro. R.C. Mali was the Secretary of Marathi Theosophical Federation for the year 2015-16.

Members: 601

Lodges: 20

Centres: Nil

Annual Conference

The 85th Annual Conference of Marathi Theosophical Federation (MTF) was held on 23-25, September, 2016, at Nagpur. The theme of the conference was 'Open Mind.

The programme started with the Prayers of All Faiths. Bro. M.N. Natu, President of Nagpur Lodge, welcomed all the delegates and the guests. Bro. Ashok P. Lokhande, President of Marathi Theosophical Federation, presented the report regarding the work done during the year 2015-16. Bro. R.C. Mali, Secretary of Marathi Federation, read out the greetings received from the International President Bro. Tim Boyd, office bearers of the various Federations of the Indian Section and the members of various Lodges of MTF.

Bro. S. Sundaram, General Secretary of the Indian Section was the Chief Guest. He delivered the Inaugural Address on the theme of the conference. Prof. C.A. Shinde, National Lecturer of the Indian Section and Librarian of Adyar Library & Research Centre, and Bro. U.S. Pandey, Secretary of U.P. Federation, were also present in the conference. Prof. C.A. Shinde being the chairperson of the inaugural session gave his Presidential remarks. Bro. Rajendra Kumbhare, Treasurer of Nagpur Lodge, gave vote of thanks.

A symposium on 'Utilization of open mindedness in day-to-day life' was held in the second session. The speakers were Bro. N.N. Raut (Akola), Bro. S.K. Visale (Malegaon) and Bro. M.N. Natu (Nagpur). Prof. C.A. Shinde presided over this session. The aforesaid session was followed by a session on TOS conducted by Bro. Sanjay Pote, President of TOS, Maharashtra region. Group leaders presented the report of the work done in their respective regions under TOS during the year under review. The local social workers were felicitated in this session.

Bro. S. Sundaram delivered a public lecture in the evening session. The theme of his talk was 'Morality is the Foundation of Spiritual Life'.

The programme on the second day of the conference started with Bharat Samaj Pooja conducted by Bro. Sunil Wagdeo, Joint Secretary of Nagpur Lodge, Dhantoli. It was followed by short talks in which the participants were Bro. R.C. Mali (Sangli Lodge), Bro. O.H. Chillal (Miraj Lodge) and Bro. S.T. Jog (Dombiwali Lodge). Bro. U.S. Pandey chaired this session.

A very heart touching talk was delivered by Smt. Manju Sundaram in the evening session. The subject of her talk was 'Basic Theosophy'.

The last day of the conference started with Bharat Samaj Pooja. It was followed by a feedback session in which some delegates gave their impressions about the conference. Then the newly elected office bearers and members of the Executive Committee expressed their views regarding the propagation of Theosophy in Maharashtra region at large.

Bro. S. Sundaram, Prof. C.A. Shinde, Smt. Manju Sundaram and Bro. Ashok P. Lokhande spoke in the valedictory session on how to strengthen the work of the TS.

The vote of thanks was given by the President of Nagpur Lodge, Dhantoli, Bro. M.N. Natu.

Other Activities

The Maitreya Lodge, Nagpur, observed Adyar Day on 17 February. The meeting was presided over by the Lodge's President Bro. Bhalchandra. The programme commenced with Universal Prayer and was addressed by Lodge's Secretary Bro. Sunil Selokar. He spoke about the importance & significance of Adyar Day. The meeting was attended by the members of the Lodge.

The following programmes were held at Poona Lodge between June and September 2016: Bro. S.D. Burse conducted the study of the fifth theosophical manual 'The Astral Plane' by C.W. Leadbeater. In all, eleven classes were held on the aforesaid subject during these four months. Bro. B.D. Tendulkar gave three talks on 'Practical Occultism'. Theosophy Science Meet was conducted by Bro. S.S. Vaidya on 24 July and 21 August. Annual Business Meeting was held

on 26 June. Hindu Congregational Pooja was performed by Bro. Kaustubh Bhadbhade. 'OM' recital was guided by Bro. M.A. Daftardar and Healing Ritual was conducted by Bro. Deshpande Arun. These three programmes were held on every Sunday.

English books worth Rs. 2952/- and Marathi Books worth Rs. 1710/- were sold during the aforesaid four months.

Publication of Federation Journals

The Marathi Theosophical Federation regularly publishes bi-monthly journal *Vishva Bandhuttva* for circulation among the Lodges & members.

The Poona Lodge publishes monthly news bulletin for circulation among members and libraries of the Maharashtra Region.

Book Sale

Theosophical publications/Books worth Rs. 25786/- were sold by Poona Lodge and Nagpur Lodge during the year 2015-16.

RAYALASEEMA THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 588

Lodges: 29

Centres: Nil

Annual Conference

The 104th Annual Conference of Rayalaseema Theosophical Federation was held at the Hyderabad Theosophical Society, Hanuman Tekdi, Hyderabad, on 8–9 October 2016. The theme of the Conference was ‘The Future of Humanity’. Prof. K.V.K. Nehru, Retd. Professor of JNTUH was the Chief Guest and Dr. T.V.R.K. Subba Rao, Retd. Station Director – AIR & Former Editor – *Divyajnana Deepika* was the Guest of Honor. Bro. K. Narasimha Rao, President of the Federation & International Treasurer of the T.S., Adyar, Chennai, presided over the conference. Bro. K.S. Ramachandra Rao, President of the Telugu Theosophical Federation also graced the occasion and chaired one of the sessions.

The conference started at 9.30 a.m. on 8th October 2016 with Prayers of various Religions. Bro. K. Narasimha Rao, Federation President and Bro. N.C. Krishna, President of the Hyderabad T.S. welcomed the delegates. Bro. K.V.L. Kantha Rao, Federation Secretary, read out the messages received from various Federations, Lodges and individuals. Prof. K.V.K. Nehru delivered the inaugural address on the theme of the conference. A book entitled *Kundalini* written by G.S. Arundale was translated by Dr. P.L.N. Prasad into Telugu, and was jointly published by both Rayalaseema and Telugu Federation, was released on this occasion. Dr. T.V.R.K. Subba Rao, was honoured by the Federation for his long services rendered to the Hyderabad Theosophical Society and *Divyajnana Deepika*.

During the conference the speakers shared their views on various facets of the theme. The speakers were Bro. P.L.N. Prasad, Bro. A.I. Baswaraja Reddy, Sis. J. Satyavathi, Bro. H. Eeranna, Bro. K. Ramakanth, Bro. G. Dhanunjaya Yadav, Bro. M.V. Varadacharyulu, Bro. N.C. Krishna, Bro. S. Rangaiah Setty and Sis. U. Ramana Kumari. These sessions were chaired by Bro. A.I. Baswaraj Reddy, Bro. N.C. Krishna, Bro. K.V. Raju-Guntur and Bro. D.S.R. Anjaneyulu-Editor, *Divyajnana Deepika*.

Brief account of the study camps conducted during the year

A Study Camp on 31 July, 2016, was conducted by Sri Gurukrupa Theosophical Lodge, Amarapuram, Ananthapur Dist. Bro. K.V.L. Kantha Rao, Federation Secretary, explained the ‘Constituents of Theosophical Emblem (Logo)’ and HPB’s diagram of Meditation. Bro. S. Rangaiah Setty from Bellary also participated and explained a few Sanskrit slokas of Bhagavadgita in the light of Annie Besant’s commentaries.

A day-long study camp on *At the Feet of the Master* was held at Sanmarga Lodge, Bellary, on 14 February. Bro. A.I. Basavaraj Reddy dealt with the subject ‘Viveka’, Bro. R.V. Vastrad talked about ‘Vairagya’, Sis. K. Parvathamma explained ‘Sadachar’ and Bro. K.L. Nanjunda Setty and S. Rangaiah Setty dealt with the topic ‘Love’. These were followed by question-answer session. The vote of thanks was given by Bro. Medehal Basavaraj, Secretary of the Lodge.

Visitors

Bro. U.S. Pandey, Secretary of U.P. Federation, visited the Lodge at Secunderabad on 3rd February and gave a talk there on ‘Gratitude & Spirituality’.

Dr. N. C. Ramanujachary visited the Lodge at Secunderabad in July and August and gave talks on Theosophy which was well attended.

Sis. K. Parvathamma, Secretary of Karnataka Federation, Bro. K. Nanjunda Setty and Bro. R.V. Vastrad from Karnataka Federation were the resource persons in the study of *At the Feet of the Master* conducted at Bellary Lodge in February.

Visits

Bro. K.V.L. Kantha Rao, Federation Secretary delivered a talk on ‘Powers of Man in Search of Truth’ on 12.3.2016 during the 96th Annual Conference of Telugu Theosophical Federation held at Anakapalli, A.P. He also visited twice a place called Piglipur, near Deshmukhi, R.R. Dist., Hyderabad and explained basic principles of

Theosophy and its Aims & Objects to a congregation of interested people who were planning to start a Lodge of the Theosophical Society. Bro. K. Ramakanth, of Bellary, visited Singapore on 11.6.2016. On an invitation from the President of the Singapore T.S., Bro. Chong Sanne (situated at Geylang, SIMS Avenue) Bro. Ramakanth delivered a talk on 'Bliss and How to Get it' which was well received.

Other Activities

Vasishta Theosophical Lodge celebrated the 168th birth anniversary of Dr. Annie Besant with much devotion and enthusiasm. The young students of higher class of the Medha School were encouraged to participate in it. The school functions in the premises of Vasishta Trust. G. Vaishnavi, S. Anuveda, Sri. K. Pooja and Ch. Chitra of class XI spoke on the various aspects of Dr. Annie Besant and the multifarious services rendered by her to our country. Then, some senior members and members of the Trust Bro. A.M. Vatcha spoke about Dr. Besant's unique personality and her being a 'Diamond Soul'. Dr. Pannanganty Krishna Murthy, Secretary of the Lodge, spoke about Dr. Besant's unique personality, particularly her service orientation, courage and discipline. He spoke about her authorship of nearly 300 books particularly, *The Seven Great Religions*. Bro. A.M. Vatcha presented gifts to four students who spoke on this occasion. The principal and the staff of the school helped a lot in making the function a success.

A family get-together was organized by Secundrabad Lodge on the occasion of the renovation of Lodge with colours and painting. It was held on 30 January. The members of all Lodges were invited. Bro N C Krishna of HTS and Bro Krishnamohan Rao Jnanabharathi gave short and inspiring talks for carrying Theosophy to younger generation.

Publication

TPH clearance was obtained for printing and publishing a Telugu translation of the book *KUNDALINI* by G.S. Arundale, the 3rd International President of TS. Dr. P.L.N. Prasad, Warangal, translated it into Telugu and the book was released on 8 October

2016 at Hyderabad during the 104th Annual Conference of the Federation. Since the event pertains to next year reporting, more details will be provided during 2016-17.

Divyajnana Deepika (a monthly journal) Trust, jointly run by Rayalaseema and Telugu Federation brought out a compendium of valuable talks, messages, speeches and articles, published in its journal during the previous 50 years upto 1990, in the form of a book named *Divyajnana Deepika Kadambam*. It has been brought out for the benefit of the members in general and youth in particular in order to expose them to those values.

Participation in Book Fairs/efforts made for the sale of books

Dr. P.L.N. Prasad gave a lecture on Theosophy to the members of Pyramid Spiritual Society at Kadtal, Mahboobnagar, near Hyderabad during December 2015. A few Telugu books of the Federation were sold during their exhibition. Books were also made available for sale at the venues of conferences and study camps.

TAMIL THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 836

Lodges: 22

Centres: Nil

Annual Conference

The 89th Annual Conference of Tamil Federation was held on 28-29 November 2015 at Sri Brahma Vidhya Lodge, Kumbakonam. Due to heavy rain, the venue was shifted to Ahovilamut Auditorium in TSR Big Street. Dr. M.V. Rengarajan, Federation President, presided over the meeting and welcomed the gathering. Prof. M. Natarajan, Federation Secretary, gave the Introductory talk. Bro. Raghava Narayanan, President of the host Lodge, explained the history and activities of the Kumbakonam TS Lodge. The chief guest Pro. C.A. Shinde, National Lecturer and Librarian of Adyar Library & Research Centre, delivered the Inaugural Address, highlighting the theme of the conference. Later in the evening, he delivered a public lecture on 'Life and Service'. Sixty-eight members from 19 Lodges, 17 students, teachers and special invitees attended the conference

The following short talks were delivered during the conference: 'Theosophy and Purity of Heart' by Dr. R. Krishnamoorthi (President, Madurai TS Lodge); 'Theosophy and Humanism' by Bro. V.L. Satchidanandan (Federation Lecturer, Raja Lodge, Gandhinagar); 'Activities of the TOS', by Bro. V. Narayanan, (TOS Representative of Tamil Region); 'Theosophy and Selfless Service' by Bro. L.P. Devarajan (Federation Lecturer, Dharmapuri TS Lodge); 'Theosophy and Karma Yoga' by Bro. N. Arthanari (Federation Lecturer, Sri Krishna TS Lodge, Pudducherry), 'Theosophy in daily Life' by Bro. A. Rengasamy (Federation Lecturer, Porunai TS Lodge, Ambasamudram); 'Altruism is the essence of Theosophy' by Bro. N. Rathinam (Federation Lecturer, Lotus Lodge, Vellore).

The Bharat Samaj Pooja was performed in the morning on both days of the conference. Bro. E.T. Sarveswariah (Secretary Krishnagiri TS. Lodge) recited the Bhagavadgita in Tamil with musical notes and rendered some devotional songs. Theosophical books and merit certificates were presented to school students who won in

Elocution and Essay-writing competitions conducted on topics related to Theosophy.

The General Body Meeting and the meeting of the Governing Council of Tamil Federation were held on 28.11.2015. The new office bearers of the Federation were duly elected for the next three years. Towards the closing of the Annual Conference, Prof. C.A. Shinde delivered the valedictory address focusing on 'Theosophy is Altruism', Sis. C. Kanmani, Secretary of Sri Brahma Vidhya Lodge, proposed vote of thanks and rendered some devotional songs.

Theosophical Seminar & Study Classes

A two-day seminar on 'Theosophical values in the fast changing society' was organized at Sri Besant Theosophical Lodge building in Thanjavur on 9-10 April 2016. It was meticulously conducted by the chief guest Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy, International Vice-President, TS. The Bharat Samaj Pooja was performed in the morning on both days by Sis. M. Vijaya Lakshmi of Salem TS Lodge. In the beginning, a new building G. Swaminathan Memorial – Meditation Hall, named after a former President of the Lodge, was inaugurated by Bro. K.B. Swaminathan, President of Sri Besant TS Lodge, Thanjavur.

The inaugural session was presided over by Dr. M.V. Rengarajan (President, Tamil Federation). Introductory talk was given by Prof. M. Natarajan (Secretary, Tamil Federation). Dr. Chittarajan Satapathy delivered the inaugural address, highlighting the Theosophical values. Later in the evening, he gave a public lecture on 'The Essence of Theosophy'. A special talk was on 'Reverence of life' given by Sri. S. Harihara Raghavan (General Manager, T.S. Headquarters, Adyar).

Sis. Kala Ravichandran, daughter of Ex- President (late) Bro. G.S. Swaminathan, narrated the sweet memories of her father who lived Theosophy and contributed a lot to the growth of the T.S. at Thanjavur. Tribute and felicitations were offered by some of the senior members of the Lodges in Tamil Federation.

There were some interesting short talks on various topics related to Theosophy: 'Need to infuse principles of Theosophy in

Education’ - by Bro. R. A. Azhagappam (former Rotary District Governer), ‘The Relevance of Theosophy’ by N. Arthanari (Federation Lecturer, Sri Krishna TS Lodge, Puducherry); ‘Theosophy and Philosophy’ - by Bro. L.P. Devarajan (Federation Lecturer, Dharmapuri); ‘Theosophy and Human Regeneration’ - by Bro. A. Rengaswamy (Federation Lecturer, Ambasamudram TS Lodge), ‘Theosophy and Religious co-existence’ - by Bro. Raghava Narayanan (President, Sri Brahma Vidhya Lodge, Kumbakonam); ‘Theosophy and Universal Brotherhood’ - by Bro. V.L. Satchidanandan (Federation Lecturer, Raja Lodge, Gandhinagar); ‘Practising Theosophy in daily Life’ - by Bro. M. Palaniappan (Federation Lecturer, Porunai Lodge, Ambasamudaram); ‘Theosophic Principles’ by Bro. N. Rathinam (Federation Lecturer, Lotus Lodge Vellore); ‘Theosophical Values’ by Dr. S. Ravindhari (Thanjavur).

Regular Study classes

The following Theosophical Lodges of Tamil Federation are conducting regular weekly/ monthly study classes:

Dharmapuri: ‘Theosophical Order of Service’ - conducted by Bro. L.P. Devarajan (TOS President), Krishnagiri: ‘Theosophy and Bhagavadgita’ conducted by Bro. E.T. Sarveswariah (Secretary); Nagercoil main: ‘The Light on the Path’ - conducted by Bro. Mahadevan (Secretary), N.G.O. Colony, Nogercoil-2; ‘The Key to Theosophy’ - conducted by Bro. S. Maharaja Pillai (President), Raja Lodge, Gandhinagar, Vellore; ‘Man, God and the Universe’ – conducted by Bro. J. Murgugesan (Secretary), Salem TS Lodge; ‘At the Feet of the Master’ - conducted by Bro. M.S. Chandrahasan.

Note; Time is allotted for Questions & Answers during each class of study. Non-members also are invited to attend such study classes and the regular meetings of the Lodge.

Visitors

Prof. C.A. Shinde, National Lecturer (Librarian, Adyar Library & Research Centre) was the chief guest, accompanied by his wife, to

the 89th Annual Conference of Tamil Federation, held on 28-29 November 2015 at Sri Brahma Vidhya Lodge, Kumbakonam.

Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy, International Vice-President, accompanied by his wife Mrs. Kusum Satapathy was the chief guest to conduct a two-day seminar on ‘Theosophical Values in the fast changing society’ which was held on 9-10 April 2016 at Sri Besant Lodge, Thanjavur.

Sri S. Harihara Raghavan, General Manager, TS Headquarters, Adyar was a Guest of Honour on the occasion of the opening of the new building- ‘Bro. G. Sivaminathan Memorial, Meditation Hall’ and also spoke in the two-day seminar on ‘Theosophical Values in the fast changing society’ held on 9-10 April 2016 at Sri Besant Lodge, Thanjavur. He gave a special talk on ‘Reverence of Life’. Besides, as a holder of the Power of Attorney, he paid visits to the Krishnagiri TS Lodge regarding the property management there.

Bro. V. Narayanan, member of the Central Property Committee, Varanasi, accompanied by Bro. S. Harihara Raghavan visited the TS Lodges at Tiruchirapally, Thanjavur and Kumbakonam to examine the Indian Section’s properties there. Further, Bro. V. Narayanan convened a special advisory committee’s meeting at Salem TS Lodge on 24-7-2016 to discuss about the part-sale of vacant lands near the Lodges of Tiruchirapally and Kumbakonam, in order to reconstruct the buildings of the Lodge there.

Bro. Aravind Ramanujam (Chennai Region), Bro. P. Raghurama Rao (Telugu Region), Bro. K. Siva Prasad (Rayalaseema Region) and Bro. T. Krishnankutty Nair (National Secretary, TOS in India, Varanasi) attended and delivered talks in the TOS South Zone conference held at Salem on 1 September, 2016.

Visits

Prof. M. Natarajan, Secretary, Tamil Federation, accompanied by Bro. M. Palaniappan (Federation Lecturer, Porunai TS Lodge,

Ambasamudram) and Prof. R. Balashanmugam (Kilpauk TS Lodge, Madras Federation) visited Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School at Adyar on 6-1-2016 and addressed the students and teachers on the chosen topic 'Motivation and Creativity'. Besides, he paid visits to the TS Lodges at Madurai, Dharapuram, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur, Tenkasi and Salem and gave talks on theosophical topics. On 23rd July he was invited to address the students and teachers of Rajaji Polytechnic College, Salem on the topic 'Self-Development and Selfless Service'. He was a guest speaker at the Rotary Club in Tirunelveli and spoke on 'Brotherhood and Service'. He addressed the students and teachers of Boovigesh Matric Higher Secondary School Mukkunda on 'Perseverance bears the Fruits of Success'. He gave a special talk on 'Theosophy in Thirukural' at Alwakurichi Thiruvalluvar Mantram.

Dr. M.V. Rengarajan, President, Tamil Federation, as a holder of the Power of Attorney made frequent visits to Krishnagiri TS Lodge, regarding the property management there. He accompanied Bro. V. Narayanan (Member, Central Property Committee, Varanasi) and Bro. S. Harihara Raghavan (General Manager, T.S. Headquarters, Adyar) to the TS Lodge at Trichinapally, Thanjavur and Kumbakonam. Besides, he presided over the Federation's Annual Conference, General Body & Governing Council meetings held at Kumbakonam on 28-29 November 2015 and the two-day Theosophical seminar held at Thanjavur on 9-10 April 2016.

Bro. M. Palaniappan, (Federation Lecturer) presented a research paper titled 'The Relevance of Tamil Literature in the present context' at the International Seminar held on 21 May at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Besides, he gave a special talk on the 'Evolution of the Modern Literature' at the Tamil Library Association in Singapore held on 24 May 2016.

The active team of 6 Federation lecturers namely Bro. V.L. Satchidanandan Bro. N. Ratnam, Bro. N. Arthanari and Bro. A. Rengasamy delivered special talks on Theosophical topics at study camps, seminars, annual conference of the Federation, regular meetings of various TS Lodges and educational institutions.

The attendance of the members in the meetings at other venues was quite encouraging. Sixty-eight members from 9 Lodges attended the 89th Annual Conference of the Federation at Kumbakonam; 36 delegates from 14 Lodges of the Tamil Federation attended the 140th International Convention held at Adyar from 31 December 2015 to 5 January 2016; 39 members from 13 Lodges attended the 93rd South India Conference held on 25,26,27 March 2016 at Adyar; 76 members from 16 Lodges attended the Theosophical seminar & opening of the new building meditation hall held at Thanjavur on 9,10 April 2016.

Sis. M. Vijayalakshmi (Federation's Joint Secretary) Bro. K. Muralitharan and Bro. V. Mohamed Sidhique of Salem TS Lodge visited Dharmapuri TS Lodge on 17.10.2015 in order to perform the Bharat Samaj Pooja there, explaining the different stages and aspects of the rituals and their benefits

Publication Books/Journals

Nine hundred copies of the monthly journal 'Tamizhaga Brahma Gnani', are printed every month. Printed 200 copies of the pamphlets/leaflets on 'Fundamental of Theosophy' - by C. Jinarajadasa, being translated in the regional language Tamil, for free distribution among members, non-members and students so as to propagate Theosophy among the public at large.

Efforts made for the sale of books

The following Theosophical books translated in Tamil and made available for sale at the TPH & TS bookshop, Adyar:

'At the Feet of the Master'; *'The Light on the Path'*; *'The Voice of the Silence'*; *'The Three Jewels of Theosophy'*-combined edition; *'Human Regeneration'* by N. Sri ram, ; *'The Art of Living Theosophy'* by Bro. Ratnam (Federation Lecturer).

The copies of the aforesaid books are also sold during the regular Lodge meetings, study camps, seminars, workshops and annual conference of the Federation, giving reasonable discount of 30%.

Special Activities undertaken by the Federation

Much importance was given for performing Meditation and Yoga in order to develop the fitness of the body and mind. Mr. T. Samgeetha and Dr. K.V. Venkatachalam gave demonstration and training in Yoga practices to the members of Dharmapuri TS Lodge.

Bro. P. Ravikumar, Sis. Rajini Subramaniam and Mr. M. Krishna conducted Yoga & Meditation classes with demonstrations for two batches of 26 women and 51 men at Raja TS Lodge, Gandhi Nagar, organized by the Vellore TOS Group. A new meditation hall is under construction in the Lodge campus there. The newly built Meditation hall of Sri Besant Lodge, Thanjavur, was opened on 9 April 2016, in the presence of Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy, International Vice-President.

Free medical camp were conducted and necessary medicines and tonics were distributed to poor patients at the Lodge level in Dharmapuri, Vellore and Nagarecoil. Bro. (Dr.) C. Anand Jyothi and Dr. G. Padmanabhan, members of Porunai TS Lodge, Ambasamudram, both regularly visited nearby villages on Sundays and gave free medical check-up and treatment to poor patients and children. Besides, Dr. Padmanabhan and his wife Sis. Dr. Gomathi Annapurani are meticulously maintaining a 'Home for the aged destitutes' at Kallidaikurichi village with proper medical care and prompt attention.

Preference was given for 'Tree Planting Project' so as to protect and improve the environment. Saplings were planted in the vacant lands of TS Lodges at Salem, Thanjavur, Gandhi Nagar- Vellore, Madurai, Kanchipuram and Kumbakonam, assisted by the EXNORA volunteers. Women members of the TS Lodges were encouraged to raise Kitchen gardens in their residential areas and also to harvest rain waters.

TS. Lodges in Tamil Federation are advised to conduct joint meetings with social clubs and service organization, whenever possible, in order to project the image of Theosophy in the proper perspective. Besides, guest speakers are invited from different walks of life, to address the regular meetings of the Lodges.

With a view to spread Theosophy among the Yonth, various programmes such as elocution contest essay-writing and quiz programme based on Theosophical topics are often conducted for the students of local schools and colleges. Books on Theosophy and merit certificates are presented to the winners in the various contests. Besides, the top-scoring students are asked to give short talk on the topic of their interest.

Top preference is given to 'Propagation of Theosophy' among the budding youth and the public at large, through free distribution of Theosophical pamphlets, leaflets, and brochures and hand-out. Copies of book on Theosophy and monthly journal 'Tamizhaga Brahma Gnani' are given free to the local libraries and educational institutions.

Federation Secretary, Prof. M. Natarajan, organized some fruitful programmes for the benefit of school students such as: 'Self development', 'Increasing Memory Power', 'Divergent Thinking', 'Creativity' and 'Motivation'. Short talks, free dialogues, participation, interaction, questions & answers were aptly applied and administered in proper perspective. Accordingly, he addressed the students on 'motivation and creativity' at Olcott School, Adyar on 6 January.

TOS Welfare Programme and Service Activities

The South Zone Conference of the TOS was hosted by Salem TS Lodge on 10-11 September 2016 on behalf of the Tamil Federation, for the Six Southern regions consisting of Chennai, Karnataka, Kerala, Rayalaseema, Telugu, Tamilnadu & Puducherry. Under the guidance and suggestion of Bro. T. Krishnankutty Nair (National Secretary, TOS in India), the following new team of officers for the Tamil TOS Group was appointed, President- Bro. L.P. Devarajan, Secretary- Bro. V.A. Nagappan & Treasurer- Bro. K.A. Manickam (Dharmapuri TOS Group).

On behalf of Vellore TOS Group, Bro. V.A. Nagappan collected Rs. 23000/- towards the Cheenai Flood Relief Fund. Besides, he distributed Rs. 3600/- as educational aid to poor village school

students. He conducted a free medical camp and organized Yoga & Meditation programme.

Bro. Lt. Col. T. Dorai Raman (President, Lotus Lodge, Vellore) donated Rs. 1 lakh to the Indian Section Corpus Fund, the interest to be utilized for the maintenance of the Lotus Lodge, Vellore.

On behalf of Dharmapuri TOS Group, Mr. M. Murugappan donated Rs. 5000/- towards the welfare fund of Nagerkudal Puritham Education Centre looking after physically challenged children. Besides, Rs. 3300 worth pillows & bed sheets were donated to Chelliampatty Snekhya Sathan Home, caring HIV attacked children. Bro. L.P. Devarajan and Bro. L.P. Thangavel donated Rs. 4000/- to the Hosour ABALA- Home for the mentally retarded children. Bro. Er. K. Thyagarajan & Sis. Bharathi Venkatachalam donated 60 kg rice & cooking oil to an orphanage in Dharmapuri. Bro. M. Panduramgam donated 20 saris and 20 towels to the Home for the aged destitute.

Nagerecoil TS Lodge donated Rs. 5000 worth groceries and Dhal packets to the Kattuvilai Anugraha Home for the mentally restarted people.

Prof. M. Natarajan and Sis. R. Victoira Rajan donated Rs. 4000 worth notebooks, slates, geometry boxes and pens to the poor students of the village schools.

Coimbatore Main T.S. Lodge donated Rs. 3000 cash, as educational aid for the higher study of a poor Muslim girl student.

TELUGU THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 961 **Lodges: 34** **Centres: 2**

Annual Conference

The 96th Annual Conference of Telugu Federation, was held at Agastya Theosophical Lodge, Anakapalli, Visakhapattanam Dist. from 11-13 March 2016. The theme of the conference was 'Man and his Hidden Power'. Prof. C.A. Shinde, National Lecturer and Librarian of Olcott Memorial Library (Adyar) was the chief guest. Dr. S. Humantha Rao, President of Agastya Lodge, welcomed all the delegates and the chief guest. Federation's President Bro. K.S. Ramchandra Rao delivered the welcome address. Bro. K. Murali Krishna, local Lodge's Secretary and Bro. G. Subrahmanyam, Federation Secretary, read out the messages received for the occasion. Prof. C.A. Shinde delivered the inaugural address on the theme of the conference and also a public lecture on 'Life is Song-Not Cry'. The other lectures delivered during the conference were: 'The Role of Latent Powers for Self Knowledge' by Sis. M. Lakshmi; 'Human Talent Power Effect' by Bro. D. Varaha Murthy; 'Sacred Qualities' by Bro. J.S. Raghupathi Rao; 'Powers of man in search of Truth' by Bro. K.V.L. Kantha Rao; 'Powers Latent in Man' by Bro. K.S. Ramachandra Rao; 'Man and his Powers' by Bro. N. Durga Prasada Rao; 'Mumukshatvamu-Love' by Dr. P.L. N. Prasad.

Telugu version of '*At the Feet of the Master*' - Talks on the Path of Occultism, commentaries by Dr. Annie Besant and C.W.

Leadbeater- translated by Dr. P.L. N. Prasad were released on this occasion by the chief guest Prof. C.A. Shinde.

Members from 16 Lodges of the Federation and a few members from Chennai, Tirupathi, Guntur, Narsipattanam, Hyderabad, Bellary and Munayapaka as well attended the conference.

The vote of thanks was given by the Federation Secretary Bro. G. Subrahmanyam in the concluding session. Bro. K.S. Ramachandra Rao, Federation President, thanked the chief guest all the speakers and all the participants who made the conference a grand success and then declared the conference closed.

Special Conferences

“*Jnana Yagnam*” was conducted on 3 and 4 October, 2015, at Pamuru Theosophical Lodge, Pamuru, Prakasam Dist. Sis. M. Laxmi, Federation Lecturer spoke on this occasion on ‘Law of Karma & Reincarnation’. Besides, she delivered a public lecture on ‘Laws of Nature and Powers Latent in Man’. Bro. N. Durgaprasada Rao, Federation Lecturer, gave a talk on ‘Mahatma Letters’. Members from the Lodges of Nellore, Pamuru, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam and Vijayanagaram attended this programme. The vote of thanks was given by the Federation Secretary, Bro. G. Subrahmanyam.

Visitors

Prof. C.A. Shinde, National Lecturer, was the chief guest of the Federation’s 96th Annual Conference. Bro. K.V.L.Kantha Rao Secretary of Rayalaseema Federation was one of the speakers in the annual conference.

Bro. Pradip K. Mahapatra, Assit. General Secretary and Bro. V. Narayanan, member of Central Property Committee, visited Rajahumundry Lodge on 26 April 2016 in connection with a meeting on property matters. They both visited the Lodges at Dowleswaram and Peddapuram as well to verify the condition of the old building.

Publication

Telugu Federation and Rayalaseema Federation are jointly publishing a monthly journal *Divyajnana Deepika*.

UTKAL THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 243 **Lodges: 13** **Centres: 1**

Annual Conference

The 51st Annual Conference of UTF and the Centenary celebration of Cuttack Lodge was held on 13-14 February 2016 at Cuttack Lodge, Kaligali, Cuttack. The Theme of the conference was “**Brahmavidya - The Eternal Wisdom**”. Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy, International Vice President of the Theosophical Society was the Chief Guest. Bro. S. Sundaram, Gen. Secy, Indian Section was the Guest of Honour and Sis. Manju Sundaram was the Chief Speaker.

On **13.2.2016**, the conference was opened by hoisting of the Theosophical Flag by the Chief Guest Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy. Bro. S. Sundarain, Guest of Honour, inaugurated the newly built caretaker’s room. Bro. Ashish Kumar Kar, Secy. UTF, gave welcome address. It was followed with the introductory address given by Bro. B. B. Palai, Vice President, UTF, followed by the address of Dr. Satapathy, Chief Guest and address by Bro. S. Sundaram, Guest of Honour.

Prof. Sahadev Patra, Prof. K. P. Padhi, Dr. Chinmayee Mohapatra and Bro. P. K. Mahapatra delivered short talks on “**Quest for Truth**”. In the afternoon session, there was a symposium on “**Theosophy & the Modern World**” wherein Bro. Ashok Kumar

Mohapatra, Bro. R. C. Pattnaik, Sis. Mitalini Mahapatra, Bro. Ashok Pattnaik & Bro. Partha Sarathi Sarangi expressed views on the subject.

There was also a Theosophy - Science lecture on “**Science & Spirituality**”. Dr. Gouri Shankar Sahoo, Ravenshaw University spoke on the subject through power point presentation. Bro. B. B. Palai, Vice-President of UTF, presided over the meeting. Bro. B. S. Mohanty, Secretary, Barabati Lodge, introduced the Guest.

In the evening Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy delivered an illuminating public lecture on ‘**Enlightenment through Self Surrender.**’ There was also a music programme as “**Bhajan Sandhya**”. It was performed by Bro. Biswanath Mishra & Sathi.

On **14.2.2016**, a seminar was held wherein Bro. B. S. Mohanty, Sis. Purnamasi Pattnaik, Bro. Ashis Kumar Kar and Prof. Deepa Padhi spoke on “**Theosophy in Practice**”. Bro. P. K. Mahapatra, Asst. Gen. Secy., chaired the session. In the T.O.S. lecture Bro. S. Sundaram, Gen. Secretary delivered an inspiring talk on “**Prem aur Seva, Vishwabandhutta Ki Disha aur Drishti**”. Prof. Deepa Padhi, President T.O.S. Odisha Region made a power point presentation on TOS activities in Odisha. Prof. Dr. Bidyut Dash, SCB Medical College was felicitated by the TOS, Odisha Region for his selfless services. Study materials were also distributed by the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour & Chief Speaker to poor and needy students.

In the afternoon a power point presentation on “**Adyar**” was made by Bro. P. K. Mahapatra. There was also a youth seminar on ‘**Manav Dharma**’. The students of Ravenshaw University and members like Swastisikha Mahapatra, Debabrata Panda participated and presented their views. The session was chaired by Sis. Manju Sundaram, who also addressed the youth in a very inspiring way.

In the evening the **Centenary Celebration of Cuttack Lodge**, was held. Sis. Amiyabala Mohapatra, President, Cuttack Lodge delivered the welcome address. Bro. Ashutosh Pati, Secretary, Cuttack Lodge read out the messages received from different Federations, Sections & Lodges. Bro. J. K. Sahu spoke about the

history of the Cuttack Lodge. Prizes were distributed to different school/college students and mementos were also distributed to the senior members (who have completed 35yrs. & above membership of Cuttack Lodge).

The book *Infinity & Beyond* written by Prof. Sahadev Patra was released on the same day. On the occasion of Centenary celebration a souvenir was also released by the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour & Chief Speaker. Diplomas were also distributed to the new members. Bro. S. Sundaram addressed the new members.

Prof. Fakir Mohana Sahoo of Xavier Institute of Management delivered a talk on “Relevance of Theosophy”. Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy also addressed the audience. Sis. Manju Sundaram delivered the public lecture on “Theosophy: The Path of Unfoldment”. The Conference and the Centenary celebration concluded with vote of thanks offered by Bro. Sudhansu Sekhar Pati of Cuttack Lodge

Other Activities

Both Sis. Manju Sundaram and Bro. S. Sundaram attended a meeting organized by Siddharth Lodge, Bhubaneswar, in its premises on 9 February. The inmates of AUM Girls Hostel also attended it. Sis. Manju Sundaram delivered a talk on effect of ‘PRAYER’. Then Bro. S. Sundaram delivered a talk on ‘Relevance of Gandhi in today’s world’.

Study Camps

In all, 9 study camps were held during the year under review, out of which six were held in Bhubaneswar, two in Cuttack and one in Bhowali. Sis. Manju Sundaram conducted a three day study class in the premises of Utkal Federation at Brhma Vidya Bhawan, Gautam Nagar, Bhubaneswar. The book taken up for study was *The Principles of Theosophical Work* written by Dr. I K Taimni. The study class was held from 10 to 12 February in memory of Dr. Ramachandra Rath who was the first President of the Utkal Theosophical Federation. The study class was attended by 25 to 30 members and sympathizers. Sis Manju Sundaram very lucidly described the purpose for formation

of the Theosophical Society, the Devine Plan and the Divine Purpose behind every action. Further, she pointed out the role of sincere member and what all he can do for the Theosophical Society. With the joint effort of the family members of Dr. Ramachandra Rath, Debapi Lodge and with the active cooperation of Utkal Federation the study class was successful. Bro. Binod B. Palai conveyed vote of thanks to Sis. Manju Sundaram for her presentation of theosophical ideas during the study class.

A study camp on the book *The Way of Wisdom* by N. Sri Ram was organized by Utkal Theosophical Federation at the Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali, from 15-20 May, 2016. (for details see page 10, Part-I of this Report)

The subject of other studies and the name of the directors are as follows. 'The Secret of Self Realisation' by Sis. Sandhyarani; The book of Annie Besant on 'The Doctrines of Heart' by Sis. Varsha Patel; The book of Annie Besant on 'The Inner Govt. of the World' by Bro. B.D. Tendulkar; 'Yoga Vasistha' by Bro. S.K. Pandey; 'The Seven Principles of Man' by Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri; 'Listen to the Songs of Life' by Bro. G. Dakshinamoorthy; 'The Secret of Self Realisation' by Members of Cuttack Lodge & UTF, BBSR.

Study classes are being regularly organized by several Lodges of UTF.

Visitors

Sis. Sandhyarani of Karnataka Federation, three National Lecturers namely, Bro. B.D. Tendulkar, Bro. S.K. Pandey, and Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri, Sri. S. Sundaram, Smt. Manju Sundaram, and Bro. Vicente Hao Chine Jr. (of Philipines) visited Bhubaneswar and Cuttack to deliver talks and to conduct study on Theosophical themes.

Visits

Bro. P.K. Mahapatra, Assit. General Secretary, Bro. J.K. Sahoo, Sis. Purnamasi Pattnaik and Bro. Satyabrath Rath visited a few Lodges of UTF to deliver talks and to conduct study.

Publication of books/journals

The monthly journal, 'Utkal Theosophical Federation Bulletin' is distributed free to the members through Lodge Secretaries. Our quarterly Odia Theosophical Magazine 'Viswadhara' is regularly published.

The following books / souvenir on Theosophical literature were published by the Federation / Lodge in 2015-16.

- i. Reprint of Odia Book *Brahma Vidya Byakhan*.
- ii. Release of Souvenir for Centenary Celebration of Cuttack Lodge.
- iii. Published Compilation of Biographies of HPB, H.S. Olcott, and Dr. Annie Besant

Participation in Book Fairs / Efforts to sell books

There is a bookshop in the Federation building at HQ, Bhubaneswar. A number of English & Odia books were sold during the year. A Library is also run by the Federation at its premises.

There is a bookshop at Cuttack Lodge as well.

UTTAR PRADESH THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Members: 912 **Lodges: 23** **Centres: 3**

Annual Conference

The 97th Annual Conference of U.P. Federation was held at Agra on 01-02 October, 2016. After the Prayers of All Faiths and Universal Prayer in the morning of 01 October, members paid tribute

to Annie Besant on her birthday. Bro. Gyanesh Kumar Chaturvedi and Bro. U.S. Pandey while welcoming the delegates spoke about life and contribution of Annie Besant in social, political, educational and spiritual field. Thereafter the proceedings of the annual conference began.

Bro. L.S. Sengar, President of Agra Lodge, welcomed the delegates. Bro. U.S. Pandey, Federation Secretary, offered his greetings and read out the greeting and messages received from International President, Vice-President and Secretary, General Secretary- Indian Section, Prof. C.A. Shinde and others. Then the representatives of lodges of U.P. Federation and representative of Gwalior Lodge offered their greetings. Dr. Hari Shankar Dwivedi, Secretary of M.P. & Rajasthan Federation was the chief guest. .Dr. Dwivedi in his inaugural address offered his warm greetings and appreciated the theme of the conference “Duty is that which is due to Humanity”. He explained the principles of real duty involving selfless service of the needy without any distinction and without any desire for fruits. Bro. R.P. Sharma proposed vote of thanks.

The meeting of the General Body of the Federation was held in the afternoon which was presided over by Bro. Ashok Chaturvedi of Etawah Lodge. First of all homage was paid to the members who passed to peace during the preceding year.

Thereafter, Bro. U.S. Pandey introduced annual report for the year 2015-16 and the full text of the report was read out by Bro. K.K. Srivastava, the Joint Secretary. Bro. S.K. Pandey presented ‘Income-Expenditure’ statements for the Federation and also for the journal “Dharm Path” for the financial year 2015-16. Both, the annual reports of activities and income-expenditure statements were accepted by the General Body.

The General Body elected Bro. L.S. Sengar and Bro. S.K. Pandey as representatives of U.P. Federation for the Indian Section Council and also elected seven members of Federation Council for the next term of three years (2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19).

In the evening a public talk on “Obstacles and Duty” was delivered by Bro. U.S. Pandey. Thereafter cultural activities were organized and coordinated by Bro. Gyaneesh Kumar Chaturvedi.

On 02 October, Bro. U.S. Pandey, offered tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 147th birthday. A seminar on the theme “Duty is that which is due to Humanity” was held and presided over by Bro. S.K. Pandey. Bro. S.S. Gautam, Bro. Gyanesh Kumar Chaturvedi, Bro. H.B. Pandey, Bro. S.B.R. Misra and Bro. H.K. Upadhyay spoke on the theme from different perspectives. Bro. S.K. Pandey while summarizing the views of the speakers presented his observations on the theme.

In the afternoon the newly elected Federation Council co-opted three additional members and elected Bro. U.S. Pandey and Bro. K.K. Srivastava as Secretary and Joint Secretary respectively for the next term of three years (2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19). Bro. U.S. Pandey will be ex-officio third representative of the Federation in the Indian Section Council.

The council also nominated Group Secretaries and Federation Lecturers.

Second meeting of the General Body was held in the afternoon of 02 October and was presided over by Bro. L.S. Sengar. The decisions of the council regarding co-opting additional members, election of Secretary, Joint Secretary, nomination of Group Secretaries and Federation Lecturers were informed. Certain suggestions for the activities to be taken up during coming year and centenary celebrations to be held in the year 2019 were made by the delegates. Following this a concluding session was held when delegates expressed appreciation of the work done by the Federation Secretary during past years, and appreciated the arrangements made by Nirvan Lodge for the annual conference.

Bro. K.K. Srivastava and Gyanesh Chaturvedi proposed vote of thanks on behalf of the Federation and Agra Lodge respectively.

Study Camp and Seminar

Under the auspices of Gwalior Lodge, a study camp was jointly organized by M.P. & Rajasthan and U.P. Federation at Gwalior on 9 and 10 April. The book taken up for study was *The Pathway to Perfection* by Geoffrey Hodson. (See page 8, Part-I of this Report)

A study camp was organized at NOIDA on 14-15 November. The book *The Riddle of Life* by Annie Besant was taken up for study, About 30 persons-including members from the Lodges of Gorakhpur, Barabanki, Lucknow, Kanpur, Ghaziabad, Agra, Noida and from Delhi Federation and also some non-members participated in it.

A study camp at Lucknow was organized on 20-21 February by Satya Marg Lodge on the theme “From Self Culture to Self Transformation”. It was held as a memorial programme for Dr. I.K. Taimni, a distinguished theosophist. His three books namely, *Self-Culture, Man, God and Universe* and *The Science of Yoga* were taken up for study. . The camp was jointly managed by all the three lodges namely, Satyamarg, Dharma and Pragma Lodge of Lucknow. About 70 persons including members from Gorakhpur, Sitapur, Kanpur, Shuklaganj (Unnao), Rampur, Orai, Lucknow and Delhi participated in it. Besides, some non- members also attended it.

A study camp on 12 and 13 March was organized at Ghaziabad on the book *Astavakra Samhita*. The camp started on the morning of 12 March with recitation of Universal Prayer. Bro. Bhuvaneshwar Singh, President of Besant Lodge, welcomed the participants and resource persons. About 50 persons including members from Lodges at Gorakhpur, Barabanki, Lucknow, Kanpur, Agra, and Ghaziabad and a member of Delhi Federation participated in it.

Apart from the aforesaid study camps the following camps were held during the year under review: ‘Life and Work of Annie Besant’ , ‘Work and Life of H.S. Olcott’ , ‘Hints for Study of Bhagavadgita and Ashtavakra’ were conducted at Rampur, Lucknow and Barabanki respectively.

The study of the book *The Basic Principles of Theosophy* by C. Jinarajadasa was organized at Lucknow on 30-31 July. About 50 members from various Lodges of U.P. Federation attended it.

Study of the book *Meditations on the Occult Life* by Geoffrey Hoston was taken up at Kanpur in which 50 members participated.

Study of some Theosophical Literature was organized at Basti in order to make the new members aware of Theosophical concepts and teachings.

A day-long study camp was taken up by the following Lodges during the year under review. ‘Brotherhood’ at Kanpur; ‘The philosophy of The-Tao-Te-King’ at Gorkhapur; ‘The Practical Aspect of Theosophy’ at Noida.

Study of Theosophical classics are being taken up regularly by some Lodges of the Federation at their respective places.

Visitors

Bro. M.P. Singhal, President of Besant Lodge ,New Delhi, participated in and delivered the valedictory address in the study camp on ‘From Self Culture to Self Transformation’ organized by Satya Marg Lodge of Lucknow on 20-21 February.

Bro. B.D. Tendulkar, National Lecturer, addressed the students of two schools at Noida in the 1st week of August. He addressed the members of Kashi Tattva Sabha at Varanasi on ‘Science and Spirituality’ on 5 August.

Visits

Bro. U.S. Pandey was invited by M.P. & Rajsthan Federation in the Annual Conference at Ratlam in November 2015. He delivered a talk in the conference on ‘Love & Meditation are Interdependent’. He was invited to Secunderabad to address a group of about 40 young probationary engineers of Indian Railway Institute of Signal and Telecom Engineers there. He spoke on the theme “Science of Life” in Feb. 2016. He addressed a group of students at Mirzapur, Basti, Orai, Varanasi (DLW), Rampur, and Gonda. Besides, he delivered a talk at Hyderabad on ‘Idol & Idolatry’ and spoke at Secunderabad Lodge on the topic “Gratitude and Spirituality

On the request of Delhi Federation, Bro. U.S. Pandey conducted a study camp at Delhi on 5 and 6 March. The book *The*

Mystery of Life and How Theosophy Unveils It written by Clara M. Codd formed the basis of study.

Bro. U.S. Pandey delivered a talk at Pune Lodge on 27 March on the topic “Teachings in Astavakra Samhita”. Besides, he addressed a group of about 60 trainee officers and faculty members of Indian Railway Institute of Civil Engineering (IRICEN) on the theme “Science of Life” in the background of Theosophical teachings.

Regarding his visit to U.S.A. see page 25, Part-I of this Report.

Apart from the aforesaid activities, Bro. U.S. Pandey visited several Lodges of the Federation in order to deliver talk, conduct study class and in connection with administrative matters.

Bro. S.K. Pandey, National Lecturer, and Bro. S.S. Gautam were the resource persons in the study camp held at Gwalior in the second week of April.

Publication

Four issues of the Quarterly Bulletin (in Hindi) were published during the year under review. Some portions of the teachings of Theosophy are published in this Bulletin.

Four issues of the Federation’s Quarterly Journal *Dharmapath* were published during the year under review.

UNATTACHED LODGES

Sukhana Lodge of Chandigarh (16 Members); Palwal (in Haryana, 35 Members); and Bhowali Lodge (in Uttarakhand, 14 Members) are directly attached to the Indian Section Headquarters.

Uttarakhand

A meeting of Nanda Devi Lodge of Almora was held on 9 January, 2016 in which nine members were present. The members

expressed their views on the relationship between materialism and spiritualism. They discussed about the future plan of action and in this connection it was decided to start a study circle in order to spread the message and philosophy of Theosophy and keeping this in view some theosophical literature were given to the members. It was further resolved to meet once in two months, turn wise at the residence of each member. Besides, it was decided to invite lecturers of national and international repute so that the general public too may be made aware of the knowledge and benefit one can get from the principles and ideas of Theosophy and the work of the Theosophical Society.

The aforesaid meeting was chaired by the Lodge’s President Bro. Girish Sharma and was conducted by the Lodge’s Secretary Bro. Pradeep Kumar Gururani.

The inauguration ceremony of a new Theosophical Lodge by the name of TRI-RISHESHWAR Lodge was held at Nainital Municipal Corporation Auditorium on 28 May 2016. National Lecturers Bro. S.K. Pandey & Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri and Federation Lecturer of U.P., Ms. Preeti Tiwari along with the Uttarakhand State Co-ordinator Bro. Sanit Joshi were present on the occasion.

The welcome address by Bro. Sanit Joshi was followed by short speech on “Foundation of the TS and The Three Objects of TS” by Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri; “Why to join the TS?” by Sis. Preeti Tiwari; and “The Three Great Truths and Organizational Aspect of the TS” by Bro. S.K. Pandey. The message of good wishes from the General Secretary, Indian Section, was conveyed by Bro. S. K. Pandey.

On this occasion Shri Suresh Chandra Gururani (President), Dr. G.L. Shah (Vice-President), Shri Surhid Sudarshan Shah (Secretary), Shri Kailash Chandra Suyal (Treasurer), were elected as office bearers.