



THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL BULLETIN

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October 2019



**Only according to our ignorance are we
helpless.**

Thought creates Character.

**Annie Besant
(1847-1933)**



MISSION OF TS

To serve humanity by cultivating an ever deepening understanding and realization of the Ageless Wisdom, spiritual self-transformation and the unity of all life

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**PROGRAMME OF BTF 88TH ANNUAL SESSION
18th, 19th & 20th October 2019**

CHIEF GUEST

Shri Shikhar Agnihotri

International Lecturer Theosophical Society

THEME

From Intelligence To Intuition

Friday 18th October 2019 – Opening of Annual Session

Venue: Blavatsky Lodge, 7- French Bridge, Mumbai 400007

5.30 p.m. Welcome Tea

6.00 p.m. Lighting of the Lamp & Prayers of All Religions
Opening of Annual Session, Reading of Greetings
Welcome & Introduction of the Chief Guest
by President Bro. Vinayak Pandya

Editor – Bro. Rustom R. Dalal **Cover Page By:** Sis. Kashmira Khambatta
Editorial Committee – Sis. Mahazaver Dalal (Reporter & in charge of Mailing List),
Sis. Kashmira Khambatta, Sis. Aban Patel and **Ex-Officio:** President Bro.
Vinayak Pandya. **Note:** News, Notes and Programmes to be printed in the
Bulletin be forwarded by e-mail to: rpdalal@hotmail.com or
kashmirakhambatta@yahoo.com latest by 16th each month. **Readers' Views are invited.**

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- 6.30 p.m. **Opening Address by Chief Guest Shri Shikhar Agnihotri on ‘Homing Signals Within’**
- 7.15 p.m. Prize Distribution for Dani & Mullan Elocution Competitions with speeches of First Prize Winners

Saturday 19th October 2019

Venue: Blavatsky Lodge, 7- French Bridge, Mumbai 400007

- 5.30 p.m. Welcome Tea
- 6.00 p.m. Universal Prayer
- 6.05 p.m. Introduction of the Chief Guest
- 6.10 pm Address by **Chief Guest Shri Shikhar Agnihotri on ‘Assessing The Homing Signal Within’**
- 7.00 pm Round Table Maitreya ‘*Flower Ceremony*’

Sunday 20th October 2019 – Session at Juhu

Venue: Juhu Theosophical Colony, Mumbai 400049

- 9.40 a.m. Tea & Snacks
- 10.25 a.m. Bharat Samaj Pooja
- 11.10 a.m. Welcome by BTF President & Juhu T. Colony
- 11.18 a.m. Presentation of Membership Appreciation Mementos
- 11.20 a.m. **Public Talk on ‘Truth, Goodness & Beauty’** by the Chief Guest Shri Shikhar Agnihotri followed by Q & A
- 12.20 p.m. **Annual General Meeting**
(Annual Report & Audited Accounts 2018-2019 will be given at AGM)
- 12.45 p.m. Lunch
- 2.30 p.m. **Symposium on ‘Thinking with the Heart’** by Brethren of BTF
Chaired by Chief Guest Shri Shikhar Agnihotri
- 3.30 p.m. Tea
- 4.00 p.m. Bharat Natyam by Students of Sis. Namita Bodaji
- 4.40 p.m. Vote of Thanks
- 5.00 p.m. Closing of the Annual Session

Blavatsky Lodge Book Depot Counter will be open at Juhu Session. Brethren interested in specific books please inform in advance Blavatsky Lodge Book Depot Manager Sis. Freny Paghdiwala Tel: 23806564

Note: for Symposium there will be 5-6 speakers and each speaker will get 5-7 minutes. BTF wishes that young members and new participate in the Symposium. Please give your names to BTF Secretary Sis. Mahazaver Rustom Dalal (M): 9833131216

Registration for Juhu Session (with or without Bus):Rs.100/- Register your names latest by 10th October 2019
with Blavatsky Lodge Assistant Sis. Asha Tel: 23685026 or
at Juhu with Dr. Ajay Hora Tel: 26151060

Bus Service for Juhu on 20th Oct.-pick-up timings & stops:

6-45 a.m. Colaba – Cusrow Baug
7-00 a.m. Dhobi Talao – Metro Cinema
7-10 a.m. Opera House – Blavatsky Lodge
7-25 a.m. Tardeo – Ganga-Jamuna Theatre
7-30 a.m. Byculla – Ismalia Co-op. Hsg. Society
7-35 a.m. Byculla – Palace Cinema
7-50 a.m. Dadar – Damodardas Mithaiwala
8-00 a.m. Mahim – Paramount Restaurant
8-15 a.m. Bandra – Lucky Restaurant
8-45 a.m. To reach Juhu Theosophical Colony

**THOSOPHICAL YEAR BEGINS ON 1ST OCTOBER
BRETHREN IT IS TIME TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL
DUES. ‘THE INDIAN THEOSOPHIST’
SUBSCRIPTION AND LODGE FEES**

Please contact your Lodge for the payment of Indian Section Annual Dues are Rs.150/-, Subscription of ‘The Indian Theosophist’ Rs.30/- and your Lodge Fees.

THE 144TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
at INDIAN SECTION TS, VARANASI
31st December 2019 to 5th January 2020:
Theme: Nurturing the Divine Seed

Convention Officer: Shri Shikhar Agnihotri:

(M):+91-8840926268 or (M):+91-9839912070

E-mail: tsvnsconvention@gmail.com

Rohit Mehta Hostel Registration with full board:

Registration **Rs.500/-** + Food Rs.1750/- + Accommodation Rs.5950/-
= Rs.8200/-

Indian Style Accommodation Registration with full board:

Registration Rs.500/- + Food Rs.1750/- + Accommodation Rs.950/-=
Rs.3200/-

Last Date for Registration: 1st December 2019

Cheques / Bank Drafts in name of:

Indian Section, The Theosophical Society

Registration Form available on Websites:

(1) www.theosophy-india.org (2) www.ts-adyar.org

NEWS & NOTES

SHANTI LODGE NAVROZE CELEBRATION MEETING on 29th August 2019: Sis Meher Contractor in her talk on ‘Zend –A-Vohumana’- ‘Explanation to Good Mind’ said: Bahman Ameshaspand, One of the Seven Archangels of Ahuramazda, is in charge of Love, Peace & harmony and Animal Kingdom. In Zoroastrian scripture Soul of Mother Earth is represented by Cow. This is the reason why in Zoroastrian calendar month of Bahman, Zoroastrians abstain from eating meat. Ahuramazda’s Creations (both Material & Spiritual) were with the help of Bahman Ameshaspand. Zarthushttra after His revelation was taken to Ahuramazda by Bahman Ameshaspand so it is said Vohu Mana – Good Loving Mind - leads one to Ahuramazda. Thoughts lead to words and words turn into actions. Actions have to be good for entire world so thoughts have to originate from Vohu Mana for all levels of Consciousness. ‘Zend-A-Vohumana’ is a prayer with explanation of Vohumana and it tells

about things to happen during four Ages (Golden, Silver, Copper and Iron) and union with the Creator.

Sis. Ratamai Peer had shared her personal experiences of how Vohumana – Good Loving Mind - helps.

There were refreshments after the meeting.

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OBITUARY: Dr. Jitendra Sanghavi, member of Vasanta Lodge passed away around June 2019. Sorry, we learnt about his passing away late. He was interested in study of Theosophy. May his soul be blessed with peace.

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**COMMEMORATION MEETING FOR
SIS.DOLLY WADIA**

***Montessori Educationist and dedicated TS
Member of 33 years
of Ananda Lodge***

**On 30th August 2019 at Besant Montessori
School, Juhu Theosophical Colony**



Sis. Kavita Rode, Principal of Besant Montessori School pays tributes to ‘Our Dear Aunty Dolly’, who passed on peacefully to her onward journey on Wednesday, 28th August 2019 sharing the sentiments of the Commemoration Meeting

A true Theosophist and Montessorian, Aunty Dolly who was passionate about education will be greatly missed by everyone with whom she was associated. She was a walking encyclopedia on Theosophical ideologies and the Montessori Method of learning. She was an incredibly warm and kind person and touched countless lives at her beloved Besant Montessori School, in her family and beyond. At the prayer meet held in her memory on Friday 30th August, her friends, well-wishers, students and parents attended it in large

numbers despite heavy rains. It was an emotional moment for all present. Those who spoke about her, the words came from their hearts. There was so much to share, so much to say that the time did not seem enough.

In a nutshell, the qualities that came to the fore about her for which she will always be remembered was her gentle nature, her ever smiling face and her special understanding of not only children but parents too, who looked forward to meeting her for her invaluable advice. ‘The precious lessons she taught me were facing adversity with courage and resilience, being truthful irrespective of the consequences and seeing the humour in even the worst of situations’. These were the sentiments shared by her niece Dr Coomi Vevaina

Some messages posted on social media were- a wonderful human being and a pure soul touching millions of young buds with her magical ways. She had unstoppable energy, infectious positive vibes and gigantic love for children. Dr Shaunak Hora and Ms Zenobia Khodaiji said they were blessed to be associated with Auntie first as students, then as parents and finally as co trustees.

Besant School has lost its very soul but we will strive to uphold the principles she lived by and will keep the flame of her memory alive in all our efforts.

BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya paid homage to her recollecting her warm hearted support to BTF Annual Sessions over the years by giving all facilities at Besant School.

She was a Co-Freemason of High Degree. Lodge Concord is grateful to her for attending meetings regularly despite her leg problem . She had served as Treasurer for Juhu Masonic Lodge for many years.

May her soul blessed with Eternal Peace continue her noble work on Higher Planes.

**DR. ANNIE BESANT –
HUMBLE SERVANT OF HUMANITY**

**An extract of article by Prof. C A Shinde
Courtesy: The Theosophist of September 2019**

The Guru Manthra imparted by gurus to their disciples is matchless:
The root of meditation is the form of the guru,
The root of worship is the feet of the guru
The root of Manthra is the word of the guru
The root of liberation is the grace of the guru

Dr Annie Besant gave us a mantra for meditation to have integrity or harmony within, in the form of a Universal Prayer. Dr. Besant composed the Universal Prayer, or invocation, on the request of certain serious students from South India, and gave it to them as the mantra for meditation and contemplation. There are hidden trinities in the Prayer: ‘Life-Light-Love’, ‘Will-Wisdom-Love’, ‘*Atma-Buddhi-Manas*’ or ‘*Sat-Chit-Ananda*’. If one blends his heart and mind together, a masterpiece comes alive.

Dr. Annie Besant, Second International President of the Theosophical Society (TS) from 1907 to 1933, was a reformer, stateswoman, author, and the world’s greatest female orator. *Her essential teaching was that human progress is not only in material advancement but also in the moral foundation and the spiritual insights of the people.* Her service to India and the world are in many ways incomparable. Her life, speeches, and writings considerably moulded many people and their philosophy of life. Her great gift to humanity is the knowledge of Theosophy.

She was not only a Theosophist but also an occultist and all her greatness was rooted in her living faith in the Masters of the Wisdom and her teacher Madame H .P. Blavatsky, the messenger of Theosophy. As a multi faceted personality she worked as a humble servant of humanity. In fact her name has to be inscribed *in Golden*

letters in Indian History as a pioneer in the struggle for Indian freedom and the renaissance of the Hindu Religion

In mid 1909 during series of lectures in London, at one lecture she asked: “**What shall Theosophy do in the coming civilization for Society?** - society as we see it today, which is a battle, not a social order, which is an anarchy, not an organism.” How much truer is this description in India after 72 years of independence!

“You will think me a dreamer, perhaps; and yet I tell you a truth when I say that not by the uprising of the miserable, but **by the self-sacrifice of the comfortable** will the future society be realized on Earth.”

“I tell you there is no joy on Earth like the sacrifice of the lower nature to the higher, and the giving to others of the higher, that asks nothing for itself. Along those lines our social redemption will come ... That is the future to which we look **‘Joy lies in giving, and not in taking’**, saying once again the old truth that only **where self-sacrifice is found, there is also a religion and civilization that can endure.**”

Thinkers of the present day, both philosophical and religious, have often asked the question: ‘What is the place of religion in the modern world?’ All of them are agreed that the influence of religion is on the wane. **True religion is that of love and service.** It solves the many problems that affect mankind in the present day. It is such a religion of love and service that is essential to remove the tensions and conflicts that exist between nations, groups of men, and individuals.

In the present world it is important to understand that spirituality is not identical with religion. ***Spirituality is the direct experience of realizing the divinity within, and religion is to relate with all existence, that is, being in tune with the surroundings.*** The Second Object of the TS encourages the study of comparative religion, so that the student of Theosophy can find the truth the source of all religions is one, and all religions have the common teaching of oneness of life or One Universal Consciousness.

The concept of **God has been expressed in all religions as unmatched embodiment of love and compassion**, and helping to save humanity through different manifestations, incarnations, and prophets.

Dr. Besnt spoke much about man and his bodies and the Law of Karma. Man, as we know, normally lives in three worlds, the physical, emotional and mental. He therefore creates results in each according to their respective laws and powers, and all come within the all-embracing Law of Karma. During his daily life in waking consciousness he is creating karma, that is, results, in these three worlds by action, desire, and thought, while in his sleeping state he is creating karma in two worlds, the emotional and mental. The amount of karma created by him depends on the stage he has reached in evolution.

Let us remember harmony is the Law, order is its beauty and love is its perfume. Life is a song: let us live it joyfully. Where there is law no achievement is impossible, and karma is the guarantee of man's evolution into moral and spiritual aspects.

One of the Elder Brethren said that **Theosophy is the study of the relationship between the mortal and the immortal**, the finite and the infinite, the transitory and the eternal.

Help Nature and work on with her; and Nature will regard thee as one of her creators and make obeisance. And she will open wide before thee the portals of her secret chambers.

*H. P. Blavatsky
The Voice of the Science, I.66-67*

BTF & LODGE PROGRAMMES OCTOBER 2019

ANNIE BESANT'S BIRTHDAY MEETING jointly by BTF and Blavatsky Lodge at Besant Hall on Tuesday 1st October 2019 at 6.00 pm

1. ANANDA LODGE: Theosophical Colony, Juhu, Mumbai 400049. Contact Ananda Lodge Secretary Sis. Zenobia Khodaiji (M): 9820308163 for Meeting of October 2019

2. BLAVATSKY LODGE: 7 - French Bridge, Mumbai 400007 Tel: 23685026 (M): 9821459504 (M): 9819334333

DAY	TIME	DETAILS
Tues 1	6.00 pm	Annie Besant's Birthday Meeting jointly with BTF
Fri 4	6.00 pm	'Autobiography of a Yogi' by Paramhans Yogananda – conducted by Bro. Arni narendran
Sun 6	10.00 am	Bharat Samaj Pooja
Fri 11	6.00 pm	Study of CWL's book 'Inner Life' conducted by Sis. Aban Patel
Fri 18	6.00 pm	Opening of BTF 88th Annual Session
Satur 19	6.00 pm	Second Day of BTF 88th Annual Session
Fri 25	4.30 pm 6.00 pm	Blavatsky Lodge MC Meeting Study of CWL's book 'Inner Life' conducted by Sis. Aban Patel
Tues 8, 15,22, 29	5.45 pm	Theosophical Readings or Presentations with discussion

3. CENTENARY LODGE:

Please contact Sis. Najma Dewan (M): 9987204038 for meetings

4. JYOTI LODGE: Contact Bro. Taral Munshi, C/101, Building No.19, New Mhada, Garden Hill C.H.S., New Mhada Colony, Behind N.P.A., Goregaon (East), Mumbai 400065 (M): 9820187317

5. SHANTI LODGE:

C/o Bro. Rustom Dalal, Vijay Niwas, 2nd Floor, Plot 5, Sleater Road, Mumbai 400007 Tel: 23800422 (M): 9833131216 **Time:** 6.15 p.m.

Thurs 3	Study of CWL's book 'The Power and Use of Thought'
Thurs 10	Study of CWL's book 'The Power and Use of Thought'
Thurs 17	Study of CWL's book 'The Power and Use of Thought'
Thurs 24	Study of CWL's book 'The Power and Use of Thought'
Thurs 31	Study of CWL's book 'The Power and Use of Thought'

6. UNITY YOUTH LODGE: Sis. SoonooVesuna (M): 9619339787

Wed 16	5.30 pm	Theosophical readings guided by Sis. SoonooVesuna at her residence Vijay Niwas, 4th Floor, Sleater Road
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7 & 8 VASANTA LODGE & GANESH LODGE:C/O Sis.Kalpana Promod Jani, 804, Ajanta. Tilak Road, OppShabri Hotel, Santacruz (West), Mumbai 400054

Wednesday 9, 16, 23 & 30 2ndOctober	6.30 pm	Study of Gujarati Book on Annie Besant's book 'Path of Discipleship' conducted by Bro. Bhavesh Pandya Gandhi Jayanti – Lodge closed
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9. VIMADALAL BILIA LODGE: Family House, Parsi Colony, Dadar, Mumbai 400014

Thurs 3	5.45	Lodge Members' Meeting
Thurs 10	6.00	Talk by Bro. Rustom Chothia
Thurs 17	6.00	Talk by Sis. Meher Contractor
Thurs 24	6.00	Lodge Members' Meeting
Thurs 31	6.00	Lodge Members' Meeting

*The mind that is not silent is never free;
And it is only to the silent mind that the heavens are opened.*

J. Krishnamurti

Courtesy: The Theosophist Issue of September 2017

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