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Editor

PRADEEP H. GOHIL

A STEP FORWARD

One has to realize that the human being in the early part of the twenty first century has yet to discover how to live and get related with the life around him and within him. Then and only then we will be able to appreciate the necessity of transformation in our life. Transformation can take place by setting of a clear goal to that effect.

On the one hand, there are people who have no goals in life, who are mild and ready to accept what life brings to them. Some members of the Theosophical Society consider such people to be good members. On the other hand, there are people who have set goals for themselves and they aggressively work in order to achieve them. As long as the person is aggressive without any trace of selfishness, without harming anyone, without violence and without any wrong doing, working solely for achieving something for the common good, then one should look at him or her as a good member of the T.S. Just as the practice of austerity in the life of a member of the Theosophical Society may not be a necessary condition for spiritual development, aggressive persuasion in achieving selfless good for humanity may not be a negative sign in involvement of the person. There are members of the Theosophical Society who feel that sitting and not doing anything, never pursuing things aggressively, is a necessary condition for evolution. They say “how can a Theosophist be aggressive?” There are other members who feel that aggressive persuasion of their spiritual goals in life is a necessary condition for their spiritual progress. It may be that spiritual progress can be achieved by both.

Transformation in consciousness or in our way of living is not a theory. Its urgency cannot be intellectually argued and debated. It is something that gets stimulated in the heart when one watches the misery, the suffering around oneself and one sees that relationship at home or in society, pri-

vately with one’s own body or brain, or with the things that one uses - the animal, the birds, the human beings with which one has to live. When all these appear to be obstacles, obstruction, problems, and release a kind of fear, then naturally, one may live in all the affluence, but there will be no love, no tenderness, no affection or concern, because one is lost within oneself.

So how does one go through a transformation where to get related will not be a problem; where relationships will become extensions of the substance of our being; where getting related to the birds, the animals, the trees, the mountains, the rivers, will be an extension of one’s being; where speech will become an extension of the inner silence and not a manipulation of words to hide things from other people, to pretend what one is not, or to hide what one is, where movement will become an extension of peace.

Transformation in the way of living and transformation in the content of consciousness is a way to discover the secret of living and is certainly a step forward in our evolution.

What is the difference between reason and wisdom? Reason is the use of the intellect to comprehend. It is only a tool given to us by God, but how we use that tool will depend on the values to which we subscribe. Reason plus values become wisdom..... So it is the duty of all those who believe in certain values to use the intellect for promoting those values, and that will be wisdom.

**Asghar Ali Engineer
“A Sufi Way to World Peace”
Besant Lecture, Adyar 26 Dec. 2005
The Theosophist, May 2006**

THE ESSENCE OF ANNIE BESANT

IT has been 171 years today since Annie Besant was born, and it is significant that a person's memory continues in the way that Besant's has. Most of us try to live a good life, treat each other well, and make an impact on this world in the ways which we can. But for most of us, once our children and grandchildren have moved on, our name fades away. The works that we have done during our time here on Earth, although they have their impact, are mostly forgotten. It is the characteristic of great people that their lives matter in ways that extend far beyond the time that they have lived among us. Such is the case with Annie Besant.

Although we know she has had an impact that has spread quite far, because today we are speaking in India, we tend to focus on the great benefit that she was to this nation. In fact, the great benefit that she was in making it possible for there to even *be* such a thing as the nation of India is undisputed. But her time in India only began in the second half of her life.

The woman that we came to know as the great Annie Besant had her beginnings as "little Annie", the daughter of Irish parents, born in England. One of the factors that contributed to her greatness was the fact that she had the opportunity to experience life from its very bottom to its very heights. She was not a person who had the advantage of wealth or power simply by virtue of the household into which she was born. Her greatness became established because of the way she was able to meet and transcend many losses in her life.

We think of her as a champion of many causes. At her memorial service that was held at Adyar when she died in 1933, the person who became the next President of the Theosophical Society, George Arundale, had an

*Talk given at the TS Adyar, Chennai, on 1 October 2018

opportunity to speak about her. He had worked closely with her for 30 years, had even been interned with her when she was detained in a hill house due to her agitation for India's independence. The characteristic of Annie Besant that he dwelt on in his eulogy was her nature as a "warrior". She was without a doubt someone who fought, but what did she fight for?

In terms of the history, as we read it in India particularly, she fought for an independent Indian nation. She was an organizer at heart. In England she organized people to strike for the protection of children against the abuse of their rights as workers, and the freedom of speech to publish books that expand people's minds but others would try to censor. She fought and suffered for these rights, but she also thrived in her efforts to secure them for all. So in India we think of her as a warrior for a new nation. But how did she wage that war? How was that battle conducted? How was it won?

We are fortunate in today's programme because some of the outcomes of Annie Besant's vision are included in our programme, honoring her life. One strong element of her vision was that women in India required a voice. That the conditions of women in India must be not only appreciated, but must be heard from the mouths of those very women and solved with the participation of women. So where there was a condition where that was not the case, what did she do? She got together with other prominent women in India and formed the Women's Indian Association (WIA) to advocate for women's empowerment. One of our speakers today will be the current President of the WIA, formed 101 years ago, and still alive and strong.

Another speaker today is the result of Annie Besant's organizing strategies in fighting the battle for truth in India: the Young Men's Indian Association (YMIA). Annie Besant founded and donated property to the YMIA as a place intended to train and develop the leaders for the independent Indian nation which at that time was yet to come, but which in Besant's vision was already fully formed. She believed that the people who came to lead the new India had to be people of character, whose thought had been developed, who were willing to act and serve on behalf of this new forming

nation. So she organized, planned, and provided a place for this training to take root.

Knowing that institutions outlive individuals, she founded many — the Boy Scouts, educational institutions at all levels across India—not just for male education, but women’s schools and colleges. In recent American history there was another great warrior for human rights, from a similar mould to Annie Besant — a gentleman by the name of Martin Luther King. He made many profound statements during his too brief life. One of them that applies to the life of Annie Besant was: “The ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand in moments of comfort and convenience, but where they stand in times of challenge and controversy.”

Annie Besant’s record speaks for itself, she was a person who did not just put her ideas out into the public for consideration, but she put herself, her body in harm’s way for the causes she believed in. All of it was given, and especially in time of challenge and controversy. During her lifetime she had many people who became dear and devoted friends, also those who became bitter enemies. Her enemies may have questioned her opinions, they may have differed with her in terms of her ideas, but in terms of the person, the Truth, of the integrity of her character, nowhere will you hear or read about anyone who ever doubted them. Having lived a life of 85 years, that is remarkable. She fought with many, but never on a personal basis, always in the name of something higher, the Truth.

Annie Besant died in 1933, and so in the world today there is not a person left who had a meaningful relationship with her. I consider myself very fortunate that along the way I have had the opportunity to meet and talk with some people who, though young at the time, actually spoke with her and worked with her. All of their reports were consistent with the written histories.

Someone I considered as a good friend was a former President of the Theosophical Society in America, Dora Kunz. She died in her 90s in 1999. Her husband had been the personal secretary to Annie Besant and Dora herself had numerous occasions to not just be in her presence but to dia-

logue and work with her. So from time to time some impressions of Annie Besant would come out from Dora. One of the things that she said is worth mentioning.

Dora said that Besant was continually engaged on many different levels with projects and people around the world. She was a constant focus for the attention, energies, plans, and movements of others. But Dora said the impression that she would come away with, having been around Besant through all these different experiences, was that always when one was in her presence there was the sense of a profound stillness. In the midst of this intensive activity, all the battles going on, the primary thing one came away with was a sense of a profound stillness that she carried in the midst of battle.

Besant described herself as “a daughter of India”. She was very clear that India was her motherland: her work and her ashes are here. But at this point of stillness, from which she was able to do the work and to project these ideas and movement in to the world, she was not a child of any particular nation. Her repeatedly affirmed view was that humanity is one: not divided, not separated, but one. The fact that she found herself in India meant that her work was done to promote the Oneness within the context of India.

She felt that India should be the model, because here as in no other place was there a diversity of so many religions, all in one nation. It also had diversity of people, and if India could realize a measure of mutual respect and understanding, it would be a model that could spread into the world. But her vision was and always had been universal. It is this vision that allowed her to pen a beautiful prayer, the Invocation to Unity, or Universal Prayer.

This prayer is most expressive of her inner state. It is not a meditation, but it is subject for a meditation. The words and meaning that come from and lead to that point of stillness are worth considering. If we are seeking to find the essence of this great woman, there are many places we can find it. We will see traces of it in her political life, in her social activity, in her embrace of religion. But the place in which we will see the true

News and Notes

Bombay

Mullan & Dani Elocution Competitions

The Bombay Theosophical Federation and Youth Red Cross Maharashtra jointly organized Minoo Mullan Inter-College Elocution Competition on 21st September 2019 at Besant Hall of Blavatsky Lodge.

It started with recitation of the Universal Prayer. Then, Bro. Vinayak Pandya, President of Bombay Theosophical Federation, welcomed all and spoke about character building with Theosophical Values. The Master of Ceremony Sis. Aban Patel said that the competition was in memory of a great Theosophist Minoo Mullan. She introduced the Judges Mr. Errick Elavia, Principal Lady Engineer High School, Ms Pasheen Kasad, well-known Theatre Artist and Ms Behnaz Mody, Teacher & Stage Actress.

Students from twelve colleges spoke with concern about the subjects: (1) Compassion (2) Human Development & Peace and (3) Challenges of Youth. Theosophical Books and Participation Certificates were given to all participants. Theosophical Books were presented to the Judges and Team of Youth Red Cross headed by Shri Bhavesh Sao and Miss Joyce Pinto. Youth Red Cross Chairman Rtn Godrej Dotivala presented memento 'The Best Partner In Academia 2018-2019 The Bombay Theosophical Federation' to BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya.

The Bombay Theosophical Federation and Junior Red Cross Maharashtra jointly organized Jamubhai & Suryaben Dani Inter-School Elocution Competition on 28 September 2019 at Besant Hall of Blavatsky Lodge.

The participants were told that this Elocution Competition was in memory of 'Guru-Dampati' Jamubhai & Suryaben Dani, who were great Teachers with Gandhian & Theosophical values and wanted ethical values and original thinking to be inculcated in students.

essence, and experience it most deeply, is in her Universal Prayer. In many ways it is a distillation of her life, work, thought, and more so, her stillness.

“O hidden Life, vibrant in every atom.” Every *atom*, and we do not even have to talk about every person, is inhabited by an ever-present life to which we have somehow managed to blind ourselves, an all-embracing hidden life.

“O hidden Light, shining in every creature.” Light, by its very nature, diffuses itself, it is necessarily *everywhere*. There is a light to which we are blinded by the separations that we embrace of religion, race, nationality, gender, and so on. The list is unfortunately very long. Each of the identities to which we attach ourselves forms a barrier to the shining of the hidden Light.

“O hidden Love, embracing all in Oneness.” This is the root, that behind the Life, behind the Light, is a Love that embraces all things in Oneness. Our closest understanding of the meaning of Oneness comes to us in those moments of genuine love we experience for another, for a nation, for those great ones who model and teach the power of love, for humanity as a whole.

“May each who feels themselves as one with Thee”, one with the Life, the Light, the Love, may they “Know they are therefore one with every other”. This is the essence of Annie Besant.

A Theosophist is a man who has feeling of friendliness in his heart, who seeks truth, and does not chase nor is satisfied with illusions. He is a person whose real interest in life is to make life more beautiful, better and happier for all concerned. Anyone who satisfies these conditions is a real Theosophist whether he is a member of the Theosophical Society or not.

**N. Sri Ram
“Theosophists in Truth”
The Theosophist, Feb., 2011**

The subjects for Junior Group of Std. 5th, 6th & 7th were: (1) When I found a Stray Dog or Cat (2) Study Subject I like and Why (3) Nature Outing & Inspiring Experience (4) Gandhi Babu & Children. The subjects for Senior Group of Std. 8th, 9th & 10th were: (1) My Environment, My Concern (2) Ethical Values in Education (3) Wonder of No.7 in Creation (4) Harmony. Mr. Ajeet Bhide, who has judged the competition for three years, remarked that the standard of eloquence has gone up. Theosophical Books and participation Certificates were given to all the 39 students. The books were presented to Judges as well.

DOORDARSHAN – HINDI CHANNEL on 1st October 2019 at 9.00 a.m. broadcasted (for worldwide viewing):

'ANNIE WOOD SE DR. ANNIE BESANT BANANE KA SAFARNAMA' covering 8 hour shoot over two days at Blavatsky Lodge TS Building with Telecast of 20 minutes. It opened with recitation of the Universal Prayer by Brethren. Their young woman Anchor - with a back drop of Besant Hall, Green Room, Library with Besant's Books, Dr. Annie Besant's portrait on staircase and shots of our Blavatsky Lodge building-narrated the life and greatness of Annie Besant. She was a Reformist, Activist for Labourers' Rights, Author, Orator, Activist for Women Empowerment and Educationist. She was Second International President of Theosophical Society. With interviews of our Office Bearers, the Anchor brought out different facets of Dr. Anne Besant's life.

Blavatsky Lodge greatly appreciates dedication & research of the Door-Darshan Team of Script Writer, Director, Anchor, Photographer and others to produce a documentary on *'Annie Wood Se Dr. Annie Besant Banane ka Safarnama'* at Blavatsky Lodge.

Bro. Navin Kumar downloaded the Telecast and showed it to Brethren at Annie Besant's Birthday Meeting on 1 October at Blavatsky Lodge.

Vasanta Lodge TS Meeting on 30 September 2019 at Sis. Kalpanaben Jani's place: The Meeting was chaired by Dr. Ajay Hora. The Guest Speaker Bro. Bhavesh Pandya conducted deliberations on Gujarati version of Dr. Annie Besant's book *Path of Discipleship*.

Joint Meeting of BTF & Blavatsky Lodge on 1 October 2019: The Meeting started with the Prayers of All Religions and the Universal Prayer. Then, Bro. Navin Kumar spoke about multifaceted personality of Dr. Annie Besant. Sis. Jasmine Cawasji read out Dr. Besant's own words about her Parents and the values they had instilled in her. Bro. Arni Narendran said HPB was spiritual knowledge giver, while Dr. Besant had exemplified spirituality. She reached out to outside world. There are many First Reforms to her credit like Voting Rights for Women, Labourers' Rights. Reviewing of *The Secrete Doctrine* brought her close to HPB, whom she accepted as her Teacher. Banaras was home for her. She started schools and college there. For India's freedom she founded Home Rule League and for developing consciousness of people of India she started New Life India Movement. She said that India has a role to play in the world with its spirituality.

Dr. Rajam Pillai spoke about Dr. Annie Besant's life journey from 'Storm to Peace' and the trauma she had gone through for being deprived of her children and many other things in the life. Yet she gave her life for the good of humanity. Her words were, 'I speak the Truth as I see it'.

BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya said AB believed that nothing is impossible. She was perfectionist, compassionate and cared to reply personally to all her mail. She treated servants as fellow human beings, who were there to help her in her life journey. For her cook she built Hanuman Temple in Adyar. At the end of each year she would empty her coffer to help the needy.

Bro. Navin Kumar showed the downloaded Telecast of Door-Darshan Hindi film on *'Annie Wood Se Dr. Annie Besant Banane ka Safarnama'*. The meeting ended with recitation of a Sanskrit Prayer.

INDIAN SECTION TS' GOAL SETTING MEET 2019 ATTENDED BY BTF's Representatives: Sis. Kashmira Khambatta & Sis. Aban Patel attended the meet held at the Indian Section HQ on 30 Sept. and 1st October 2019. It was a Meet to review the accomplishments of the Indian Section and Federation Goals of 2018-2019 and to set the Goals for 2019-2020.

Visit to 'TS SRI LANKA' in COLOMBO by Sis. Mahazaver Dalal. Sis. Mahazaver Dalal had a rare opportunity to meet Ven. Olande Ananda of Pagoda Meditation Centre and to visit 'TS Sri Lanka' in Colombo on 3rd October 2019. Ven. Olande Ananda, who is greatly revered in Sri Lanka was very kind and caring. First he took Sis. Mahazaver to Ananda Collge (for boys) to see *the statue of 'National Hero of Sri Lanka – Col. H. S. Olcott'*. Next he took her to Musaeus Buddhist Girls' College to show one more statue of Col. H. S. Olcott. Unfortunately the statue had broken while shifting during renovation and was under restoration. However, Col. Olcott's portrait painted by a student was impressive. The College Archives' display of Theosophical photos & literature was very informative. After lunch, there was a meeting with members of 'TS Sri Lanka' at their Centre. It was an interactive meeting sharing of Theosophical thoughts with President Mr. Duminda A. L. and other members.

Karnataka

Bro. R. V. Vastrad, National Lecturer, directed a study camp on 'Ancient Wisdom in Upanishads' from 12 to 15 July 2019, at Bangarpet T S Lodge. Sis. K. Parvathamma, Bro. A. Venkata Reddy, Sis. Rathnakara Madhavi, Bro. M.S Sreedhar and the Director Vastrad spoke on *Bruhadaranyaka, Mundaka, Ishavasya, Shwetashwatara & Prashnopanishad* and Kenopanishad respectively. Bro. T. Rajendrappa conducted classes on Meditation & Pranayam which was attended by 170 members.

Bro. Y. A. Vasudeva directed a study camp at Konakuntlu on 28 July 2019. The theme for study was 'Eightfold Path' in which Bro. M. Reddappachari & Sis. Padma were the resource persons.

Bro. B. C. Narasingappa directed study camp on 'Meditation' on 15 August 2019 at B'lore Malleswaram T.S. Lodge. Bro. M. Reddappachari spoke in a meeting at the same venue on the occasion of Dr. Annie Besant's birthday.

Sis. K. Parvathamma, Secretary KTF, directed a study camp for the

members of Bangalore Ladies' Wing on 4th August 2019. The theme was 'Seven Rays'. The study was organized at Suvarna Mukhi Cultural Centre B'lore. Sis. Parvathamma and Sis. N. Shashikala spoke on Seven Rays, Sis. Shantha Sathynarayana President of B'lore Ladies Wing welcomed the gathering. Sis. Kamala Rajgopal gave vote of thanks. About 70 members participated in it.

Bro. M. S. Seedhar, Federation Lecturer, directed a study camp at Chintamani on 16 and 17 July 2019 on the theme 'Work of Trinity'. Bro. M. A. Venkataswamy, Bro. C. Rajashivashankar East Zonal Organizer and Bro. A. Venkata Reddy President of Srinivasapura Lodge and Bro. B. C. Narasingappa spoke on Life of Goutam Buddha, Work of Trinity, Evolution of Animals, & Dharma Chakra Pravarthana Sutras respectively. Meditation & Pranayama were conducted by Bro. B. C. Narasingappa.

Bro. M.S Sreedhar directed a study camp at Chintamani T. S. Lodge on 18 August on 'First Principles of Theosophy' in which Bro. A. Venkata Reddy & Bro. M. P. Venkatachalapathy delivered talks on the theme.

Bro. M. Reddappachari, Federation Lecturer, directed a study camp on 15 September 2019 at Chintamani Raghava Mandir on the theme 'First Principles of Theosophy'. Bro. A. Venkata Reddy & Bro. Venkataswamy delivered talks on this occasion on Message of Nature's beauty, Inner Government & Path of Discipleship.

Sis. K. Parvathamma directed a study camp on the occasion of birthday celebration of Dr. Annie Besant at Chintamani Lodge. Sis. Rathnakar Madhvi spoke on 'Theosophy & Annie Besant', Bro. A. Venkata Reddy Spoke on 'Annie Besant & Politics' and Sis. K. Parvathamma delivered a talk on 'Social Reformation by Besant'. Prizes were distributed to 5 students who stood first in essay competition on 'Life history of Annie Besant'. It was held on the eve of 172 birthday celebrations of Dr. Besant. Free medical check-up camp was arranged for Heart, ENT, orthopedics and Eye on 19 October 2019 by the Lodge.

Bro. H. C. Jagadeesh directed study camp on 7 July 2019 at

Chitradurga on 'Pathanjali Yoga Sutras' (Sadhana pada) in which Bro. M.S. Sreedhar and the Director of study spoke on Sutras 1 to 10 respectively. Bro. M. Gangadharappa welcomed the gathering and Bro. Chandrashekara Shastri proposed vote of thanks to the speakers on behalf of the Lodge. Fifty members participated in it.

Bro. G. B. Nagangowder directed a study camp on 25 August 2019 at Chitradurga on the theme 'Bramha Vidya Sagar'. Bro. Nagangowder, Bro. K. A. Adikeswa Prakash & Sis. Usha Prakash spoke on 'White Brotherhood', 'Man and his Bodies' respectively. Forty-five members participated in it.

Sis. H.N.Navarathnamma directed a study camp on 'Self-realization' at Chitradurga T.S Lodge on 15 Sept 2019. The director of the camp, Sis. Sudha and Bro. Gurunath Budhihal delivered talks on the theme in which 43 members participated.

Bro. N. Chokka Reddy, Joint Secretary KTF, directed study camp at Chitradurga on 20 October 2019 on the book *Masters & The Path*. He conducted a study camp on the same subject at Dharwar on 19 August.

Bro. M. Reddappachari directed a study camp at Davangere on 7th July 2019. The theme for study was 'Human Regeneration'.

Bro. M. R. Gopal, Central Zonal Organizer, directed a study camp at Davangere. T.S. Lodge on 15 Sept 2019. The theme for study was 'Path of Detachment' in which Bro. M. R. Gopal, Bro. H. C. Jagadeesh & Sis. Usha Prakash delivered talks on Master, Disciples' initiation and Right understanding.

Bro. G. B. Naganagowdar directed the study camp from 15 to 17 July 2019, on the theme 'First Principles of Theosophy'. It was organized at Gavirangapura. Bro. Naganagowdar along with Federation Lecturers Bro. H. C. Jagadeesh, Bro. B. K. Nagarajappa, Dr. Gopalkrishna, Bro. Adikeshawa Prakash, Sis. Usha Prakash & Bro. H. C. Narayanappa spoke on the work of Trinity and Evolution of Consciousness, Evolution of Life & Bodies, Reincarnation, and Karma respectively. About 100 members participated in it.

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Prof. K. Varahamurthy directed a study camp on 'Path of Occultism' Vol 1. It was held on 18 August 2019 at the T.S. Lodge of Gowribidanur. Bro. G. Nagabhushana Reddy, Bro. A. Subba Reddy, Bro. K. N. Naga Reddy, spoke on 'Discrimination', 'Desirelessness', 'Good Conduct and Love' respectively. Sixty members attended it.

Bro. M. P. Venkataramanappa directed a study on the book '*An Approach to Reality*' at Bellala Bommasandra on 15 September 2019. Bro. N. Gangadharappa, Bro. K. S Prakash and, Bro. H. Rajappa delivered talks on the theme of the study.

Sis. G. S. Lalitha directed a study camp on 'Ashada Poornima' at Gundlakottur T. S. Lodge. It was held on 21 July in which Bro. G. K. Nataraj and Sis. G.S Lalitha spoke on significance of Ashada Poornima, Dhamapada and Dharma Chakra Pravarthana Sutra respectively.

Dr. L. Nagesh, National Lecturer, directed a study on the theme 'The Path of Practice'. It was held at Huliyaar on 18 August 2019 in which Dr. L. Nagesh & Dr. K. N. Jyothi Nagesh gave spiritual talk along with Musical Concert.

Federation Lecturer Bro. H. P Raghavendrachari delivered a talk on 'Expression of personality through Language' to First grade Collage Students at Halebeedu.

Bro. G. Dakshina Murthy, Vice-President of KTF, directed a study on the theme 'Mind its Control & Culture'. It was held at Hassanamba T. S. Lodge from 14 to 16 September 2019 : Bro. M. S Sreedhar, Bro. A. R. Janardhana Gupta, Sis. Srikala, Sis. Jalaja, Bro. Venkatachalapathi, Bro. S. Narayan & Bro H. P. Rahavendruchar delivered talks on different topics of the Mind and its Control. About 200 members participated in the camp.

Central Zonal Organizer Bro. M. R. Gopal directed a study camp on the theme 'Theosophical living in Sharanara Philosophy'. It was held at Jayasuvarnapura on 12 August 2019. Bro. H. C. Narayanappa, Bro. B. K. Nagarajappa, Federation Lecturer, & Bro. B. K. Nagarajappa, Federation Lecturer & Bro. Shama Sundar spoke on the theme.

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Sis. B. Sandhya Rani directed a study camp on the eve of 115th Celebration of Kolar Lodge on 28 July 2019. She spoke on Spirituality and Sis. Chandrika Mehta gave musical concert.

Bro. M. A. Venkataswamy directed the study on 'Nivaruthi Marga - Path of Detachment'. It was organized on 11 August at Kolar. The director, Sis. Ambujakshi and Bro. Sonnappa Reddy spoke on *Thithekshu, Uparathi and Shama* respectively.

Bro. M. Reddappachari, Federation Lecturer, directed a study camp on 13 October 2019 at Kolar T. S. Lodge in which Bro. Parameshwar and Sis. Vimala delivered talks on Theosophy

Bro. M. Reddappachari directed a study on 'Human Seven Temperaments' at Srinivaspura T. S. Lodge. It was held on August 4, in which President of the Lodge Bro. A. Venkata Reddy & Sis. Rathanakar Madhavi (Secretary of the Lodge) spoke on the aforementioned theme.

Rev Sri Nareppa Swamiji delivered a talk on 'Message of Upnishads' at the T. S. Lodge in Srinivaspura on 15 Sept 2019.

Bro. M. P. Venkataramanappa, Federation Lecturer, directed the study camp on the occasion of Annie Besant's birthday celebrations at Srinivaspura Lodge. Bro. C. Rajashivashankar and Sis. Rathnakar Madhavi spoke on life history of Annie Besant, contributions of Annie Besant to the world, Political & Social Contributions respectively. It was attended by 150 members.

Sis. K. Parvathamma directed study camp at Tumkur from 20 to 22 July 2019. It was on the theme 'Meditation, Brain & Mind'. Sis. K. Parvathamma, Bro. B. C. Narasingappa, Bro. C. Rajashivashankar, Bro. M. Reddappachari, Bro. G. Dakshina Murthy and Bro. M. S. Sreedhar spoke on 'Self Knowledge', 'Work & Effect of Harmonies', 'Structure & Work of the Brain', 'Brainwaves', 'Nature of Emotions', 'Mind is the slayer of the Truth', 'Mind - its work' and 'What is Meditation' respectively. About 120 members participated in it.

Central Zonal Organizer Bro. M. R. Gopal & Bro. Veeranna spoke on 'Annie Besant's Personality & Her contributions to the world' in a meeting held at Tumkur on 6th October 2019.

M.P. and Rajasthan

The 94rd Annual Conference of M.P. & Rajasthan Federation was held at Gwalior on 2 and 3 Nov. 2019. The theme of the conference was "Theosophy Teachers Animal Man to become Divine Man". The chief guest was Sri Pradip Mahapatra and the Guest of Honour were Smt Mitalini Mahapatra and Bro. Ashok P. Lokhande. The programme started with Prayers of All Faiths, followed by the welcome address delivered by Sri Keshav Pandey. Dr. Divyanath Dubey read out the greetings and good wishes received from Sri Pradeep Gohil – The General Secretary of the Indian Section. Dr. Dubey also mentioned about the good wishes received from different Federations for the success of the conference.

The chief guest Bro. Pradip Mahapatra delivered a talk on first day of the conference on 'Why Man is not Changing?', Sis. Mitalini Mahapatra spoke on 'Animal Man to Divine Man' and of Sri Ashok Lokhande spoke on the aforementioned theme of the annual conference.

Bharat Samaj Pooja was performed on the second day of the conference. Bro. Pradip Mahapatra gave a talk on second day on 'Simple Life is Divine Life'. Besides, there were some short talks in which the speakers were Sri Mahesh Dev of Jodhpur Lodge, Sri Pradip Gupta from Bhopal Lodge, Sri Ravind Narware from Ujjain and Sri Sanat Vyas from Ratlam Lodge.

Office bearers of the Federation for the next term were elected in the meeting of the General Body held on 3 November.

Utkal

The members of Debapi Lodge organized a day-long seminar for the propagation of Theosophy. It was held in the PG Deptt of Philosophy, Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar. The meeting was attended by more

than a hundred students and faculty members. The speaker was Bro Pranab Mishra. He delivered a talk on 'Theosophy : More a Way of Life'. Prof & HOD of the Deptt, Dr Alaknanda Parid, delivered the welcome address & Sis Purnamasi Pattnaik led the Universal Invocation. The meeting was presided by Prof Sahadeb Patro, President, UTF. Prof. Patro delivered his presidential address on 'Theosophy: More a Way of Life'.

Annie Besant's birthday was celebrated on 1 October 2019 in the UTF Hall, Bhubaneswar. The members of Laxmi Narayan Lodge hosted the function. Bro Ashis Ku.Kar presided over the meeting. Bro. Pramod Ch. Mishra, Bro. Satyabrata Rath, Jt. Secretary, UTF and Bro Srinibas Mahapatra delivered talks on the contribution of Annie Besant to Theosophy.

The members of Bhubaneswar Lodge arranged public propagation programme on 23 October at Prativa Co-educational Residential College, Chhatrapur, Ganjam. Bro Ashok Pattnaik, Secretary, Bhubaneswar Lodge, and Prof Sahadeb Patro addressed the students and members of the staff on the theme 'Oneness of Life'.

Bro Subhendu Pattnaik, a long standing member of KFI, gave a public talk on "Theosophy and Krishnamurti" at Cuttack Lodge on 21 September. The members of the Lodge celebrated Annie Besant's Birthday on 1 October. Study class on 'Srimad Bhagabad Geeta' is being conducted every day in the Lodge's premises.

The members of Barabati Lodge celebrated Annie Besant's birthday in the Lodge's premises on 1 October.

Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand

The following talks were held at Dharma Lodge Lucknow in October: 'Life and work of Annie Besant' delivered by Bro. U.S. Pandey; 'Six points of good conduct' by Bro. B. K. Pandey; 'Principle of the basis of Prayer' by Bro. B. P. Shukla' 'Service' by Bro. B.K. Pandey. Besides, the members were apprised about the annual conference of the Federation by Bro. Pramil Dwivedi and Bro. U.S. Pandey. Thereafter, Bro. U.S. Pandey gave a talk on 'Meditation'

Pt. Damodar Prasad Sharma delivered a talk on 'Veda in Indian Culture' at Nirvan Lodge, Agra, on 5th September 2019. The other talks held at Nirvan Lodge in September and October were 'Mahatma Letters' by Bro. Praveen Malhotra; 'Yoga' by Dr. Rajvir Singh 'Relevance of the Bhagavad Gita'; 'Significance of Ram Charit Manas' by Bro. S. K. Sharma and 'Philosophy of Ravindra Nath Tagore' by Dr. Anurag Paliwal. The Annual General Meeting of the Lodge was held on 26 September, Besides, the Lodge organized two seminars: one was on 'Usefulness of Meditation' held on 19 September in which the speakers were Bro. Harish Sharma, Bro. U.C. Verma, Bro. N.S. Jain, Bro. S.K. Sharma, Bro. H.B. Pandey, Bro. R.P. Sharma, Bro. Hari Om Tewari and Bro. Gyaneesh Chaturvedi. The other seminar was held on 17 October in which the theme was *Sadhana* and the speakers were: Dr. Harish Sharma, Bro. U. C. Verma, Bro. S.K. Sharma, Bro. Hari Om Tewari and Bro. Yashish Kumar.

International Speaker Prof. C .A. Shinde visited Lodges at Allahabad on 2nd October. He delivered a public talk there on the theme 'Ever deepening understanding of the Ageless Wisdom'.

A talk on 'An effort to understand Tagore' was delivered by Dr. Anuradha Banerjee, former Head of Dept. of English, Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalala. It was held under the auspices of Kashi Tattva Sabha on 8 November. The other talk was held on 15 November in which Sri Prasant Pandey spoke on 'Ingredients of Success'.

Centenary Conference of U.P. Federation

Uttar Pradesh Federation of the Indian Section Theosophical Society organized its Centenary Conference at Agra from 11 to 13 October, 2019. On a day before i.e. on 10th October a press conference was held when Bro. U. S. Pandey, Federation Secretary, briefed the media about objects of Theosophical Society, its work and mission, main activities of the U. P. Federation and also about the main events of the centenary conference to be held.

The Inaugural Session was held in the forenoon of 11 October in which lamp was lighted and a bust of Dr. Annie Besant was unveiled. It was followed by prayers of all religions, the universal prayer and a welcome song

rendered by a group of children. Thereafter Bro. L. S. Senger, President of Agra Lodge, and Bro. U. S. Pandey, Federation Secretary, welcomed the Chief Guest Bro. Tim Boyd (International President), Mrs. Lily Boyd, Prof. C. A. Shinde and Bro. Ram Kumar Singh who were special guests on this occasion. Bro. Pandey also welcomed the guests and delegates who had come from other Federations and Lodges. A souvenir and a book titled “*Divya Gyan*” (containing short articles and other content on theosophical teachings) were released by Br. Tim Boyd. A Hindi translation of the book *Buddhist Meditation* was released by Mrs. Lily Boyd.

The greetings were offered by Sis. Pauranmasi Pattanaik, Secretary of Utkal Federation, Smt. Sunita Kanjale of Marathi Federation, Bro. Pradeep Mahapatra- former Jt. General Secretary Indian Section and then the representatives of various Lodges of U. P. Federation. Bro. U. S. Pandey offered his greetings and also read out greeting messages received from some other persons like Bro. Pradeep Gohil - President of the Indian Section, Smt. Deepa Padhi - International Vice-President of TS, Bro. Vicente Hao Chin Jr., - Former President of the Theosophical Society in the Philippines, Bro. S. Sundaram - former General Secretary of the Indian Section, Dr. N.C. Ramanujachary - former Jt. General Secretary of the Indian Section, Bro. K.S. Rama Chandra Rao- President of Telugu Federation, Bro. H. S. Dwivedi - Secretary M.P. & Rajasthan Federation, Sis. Mahazaver Rustom Dalal - Secretary of Bombay Federation, Bro. N. C. Krishna - Secretary of Rayalaseema Federation, Sis. Chandra Prava Bhuyan - Secretary of Assam Federation and few others. Bro. Ram Kumar Singh, Bro. C. A. Shinde and Mrs. Lily Boyd personally offered their greetings. Bro. Tim Boyd delivered the inaugural speech when he offered his greetings to all delegates and mentioned about the importance of the event.

The annual meeting of the General Body of the Federation was held the afternoon on 11 October when decision of the Indian Section to re-designate U.P. Federation as “Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand Federation” was ratified, annual report of activities for the year (01.10.2018 to 30.09.2019) and income-expenditure reports of the U. P. Federation and

also for Federation’s journal ‘Dharm Path’ for the financial year (01.04.2018 to 31.03.2019) were presented, discussed and adopted. Thereafter seven members of Federation Council for the next term of three years (2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22) were elected by the general body.

This was followed by the first meeting of newly elected council in which three members were co-opted. The council then elected Bro. U. S. Pandey as President, Bro. S. K. Pandey as Secretary and Sis. Preeti Tewari as Treasurer for the next term of three years. Thereafter four group secretaries were appointed. In another meeting of the Federation Council, Federation Lecturers were appointed and a resolution for changing the name of the Federation in the bank account and also the same to be operated jointly as per the amended constitution was adopted.

On invitation of St. John’s College, Bro. Tim Boyd addressed a gathering of students and faculty members of the college in the morning of 12th October. The theme of his talk was “OVERCOMING FEAR.”

In the forenoon session of the conference on 12 October, Bro. U. S. Pandey read out the summarized version of the scheduled talk on the theme “I AM THE WHOLE” which was to be delivered by the International Vice-President Sis. Deepa Padhi, who could not come due to her indisposition. Thereafter, Bro. Pandey delivered a talk on the theme of the conference “ONE LIFE ONE CONSCIOUSNESS.”

The second meeting of the General body of U.P. Federation was held in the afternoon of 12th October and was chaired by Bro. U.S. Pandey. During this meeting the decisions of the newly constituted Federation Council were apprised to all members present. Some specific issues and suggestions for propagation of Theosophy and achieving goals etc. were discussed.

A public talk on the theme “THE PROBLEM OF IDENTITY” was delivered by Bro. Tim Boyd in the evening of October 12.

Prof. C. A. Shinde, National Lecturer, delivered a talk on “A CALL TO BE FREE FROM WORLDLINESS”. It was held in the morning of 13 October.

There were three short talks on theme of the conference “ONE LIFE ONE CONSCIOUSNESS” and the speakers were Bro. Ram Kumar Singh, Sis. Preeti Tewari and Bro. Gyaneesh Kumar Chaturvedi.

Lively musical and cultural programmes were organized in the evening of 11 and 12 October.

The closing session was held in the afternoon on 13th October in which Universal Prayer was recited, greetings were offered by the delegates from other Federations and by Prof. C. A. Shinde, the special guest. Bro. U. S. Pandey, the newly elected President of U. P. and Uttarakhand Federation, offered his greetings. Bro. Tim Boyd the Chief Guest in his concluding address expressed appreciation for the work being done by the Federation and also for the arrangements made for the Centenary Conference. Bro. S. K. Pandey, the newly elected Secretary of the Federation, proposed the vote of thanks.

TOS

The 6th Regional Conference of TOS was organized by the TOS Odisha Region at Royal College of Science and Technology, Rasulgar, Bhubaneswar. It was held on 22 September and the theme of the conference was ‘Transform the Self; Transform the World’. Dr Ganeshi Lal, Hon’ble Governor of Odisha, was the Chief Guest and he delivered the keynote address. Bro B L Bhattacharya, National Director, TOS, India, was the Guest of Honour. Dr Deepa Padhi, President Odisha Region, presided over the meeting and gave the welcome address. Regional Secretary Dr K P Padhi, read out the Annual Report. Dr Partha Sarathi Prasad Sarangi, Prof Aditya Mohanty and Prof R K Mishra also delivered talks on the theme of the conference. Dr. Achyut Samant, the Founder of KIIT and KISS, was awarded ‘Besant Selfless Award -2019’.

A tailoring unit at Bhimatangi is patronised by the TOS Odisha Region and Mahabharata TOS group. The learners of the tailoring unit were awarded Course Completion Certificates . Twenty-five poor-cum-merito-

rious students were given Rs10,000/- each by the TOS Odisha Region and Mahabharat TOS group..

Obituary

Bro. R.M. Poduwal () a long standing member of TS passed to peace on 26 October at his brother’s residence in Kerala. He served at the Indian Section Headquarters at Varanasi after his retirement from the Govt. Service. He was active in TOS, Bharat Samaj Pooja Association and various activities of TS.

Bro. (Dr.) Rajendra Prasad Dev aged 95 years (Diploma No.77742) a Life Member and Vice-President of Samastipur Theosophical Lodge and also of TOS group of Samastipur passed to peace on 12 October 2019. He was a Retired Civil Surgeon and a Poet.

Bro. Manoranjan Kumar Sinha; (Diploma no. 65211) Warden of Chapra ES passed to peace on 21 October 2019.

**LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE INDIAN
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2020, 2021 and 2022**

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|-----------------------------|--|---|
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GOALS FOR — 2019-2020

Indian Section Headquarters

1. To conduct a goal setting meet for all Federation Presidents and Secretaries at Varanasi. 100
2. To organize the 144th International Convention from Dec. 31 to Jan.5.
3. To organize five workers' training camps in the North, East, South, West and Central India.
4. To conduct three-day Youth Camp at Varanasi from 04 to 06, September, 2020 with free board & lodging. Rs 500 for food and Transportation will be borne by the Federation. Every Federation will send at least three youth for this camp.
5. To reprint at least ten more Theosophical Books after the six done last year.
6. To construct Amphitheater with a capacity of 1200 for our four educational institutions.
7. To increase the rate of generation of a surplus from Rs 1 Crore to Rs 1.5 Crore by October, 2020.
8. To organize to translate the book "*The Hidden Side of Lodge Meetings*" by C.W. Leadbeater in Hindi and Kannada get 200 copies printed in each language for functioning lodges as requested by Federations.
9. To organize a day-long National Level Orientation Seminar on Theosophy – Science and Occultism for Presidents and Secretaries of all Federations just before the goal setting meet.

Assam Theosophical Federation

1. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
2. To arrange visit to 15 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.
3. To conduct a study camp at Bhowali with about 15 members from the Federation.

4. To arrange visits of good speakers to four schools & four colleges.
5. To organize 12 essay competitions at school college level.
6. To organize 2 one day orientation camps for new members.
7. To conduct 15 study camps at Federation & Lodge level for better understanding of Theosophy.
8. To organize five public talks for exposure of general public to Theosophy.
9. To translate and publish two Theosophical books in Assamese.
10. To increase **NET** membership by **10** members.
11. To organize a National Conference on 15-16 February 2020.

Bengal Theosophical Federation

1. To Increase **NET** membership by 10 members.
2. To open one new lodge during this year.
3. To increase number of members attending our weekly study classes by 30 to 40.
4. To translate, publish and distribute two theosophical books in Bengali. 25
5. To conduct 4 study classes by National Lecturers.
6. To activate one dormant Lodge/Centre by visiting and motivating workers & old members. 50
7. To send at least 15 members for Bhowali study camp to be conducted by Bengal Theosophical Federation. 25
8. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
9. To arrange visit to 15 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.

Bihar Theosophical Federation

1. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
2. To participate in Theosophical meet in Assam with at least 10 members.

3. To arrange visit to 11 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.
4. To conduct a four-day study class at Bhowali in the last week of May-2020 with at least 20 members.
5. To conduct at least two public meetings to introduce theosophy to the people in order to attract new members.
6. To revive and activate at least two dormant Lodges.
7. To conduct 4 study classes of two or three days at Federation & Lodge level.
8. To publish & distribute 500 copies of pamphlets on two Theosophical subjects in Hindi.
9. To publish a book in simple Hindi on basic Theosophy for non-members & new members.
10. To increase the **NET** membership by 15 members.

Bombay Theosophical Federation

1. To increase **NET** membership by 5 members.
2. To create and commission an E-Lodge network through efforts by Bro. Taral Munshi.
3. To ensure that Ananda Lodge will meet at least once in a month.
4. To encourage 20 Young & New Members to speak on Red Letter Days, Annual Session. 40
5. To conduct two “reach out programmes” with students of schools and colleges on Theosophical themes. 100
6. To groom three second line workers. 100
7. To raise Rs 15 lakhs for TS activities from CSR funds.
8. To send at least ten members for study camp at Bhowali along with Gujarat Federation.
9. To organize one Study Camp by National Lecturer.
10. To arrange visit to 8 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.

Delhi Theosophical Federation

1. To publish 1000 pamphlets on introduction to Theosophy in Hindi for general public.

2. To arrange at least 6 lectures on Theosophical subjects at various schools and colleges of Delhi.
3. To increase **NET** membership by **10** members.
4. To organize two study classes of two days’ duration at Lodge and Federation level.
5. To arrange a visit to 4 individual Lodges separately by Dr. N.C. Ramanujachary and Bro. U.S. Pandey.
6. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
7. To conduct a 3-day study camp at Bhowali in the month of June, 2020 with at least 10 members.

Gujarat Theosophical Federation

1. To organize one workers’ training camp where delegates from lodges in western part of India will come (Marathi, Bombay and Gujarat).
2. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
3. To organize one study camp for at least 70 members at one location for three days in order to activate members of the Lodge.
4. To reactivate two dormant lodges/centers by visiting and motivating workers and old members.
5. To publish one thousand pamphlets and two books each on five Theosophical subjects in Gujarati and distribute them to lodges and members.
6. To organize one youth camp, one elocution competition and three essay competitions to encourage youth activities.
7. To arrange visit to 15 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.
8. To increase **NET** membership by **10** members.
9. To conduct a three-day study camp at Bhowali in the last week of May, 2020, with at least thirty-five members.

Karnataka Theosophical Federation

1. To popularize Theosophy amongst students through members who

are in Teaching line, organize one 4-day teachers' training camp according to syllabus relevant to students.

2. To organize ten theosophical lectures in schools and colleges.
3. To organize two 3-day Youth Camps at different places.
4. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
5. To organize two days' Workers' Training Camp for President and Secretary of all Lodges for conducting uniform activities in Lodges.
6. To activate two dormant Lodges.
7. To set-up libraries in five lodges and provide them free books published by the Federation.
8. To visit 25 Lodges individually by President, Secretary and EC Members to strengthen the activities of the Lodge.
9. To conduct 8-day study camp at Adyar with 50 members.
10. To establish a Rs 2 lakhs Lodge Activity & Development Fund made out of voluntary donations.
11. To reprint and publish three Theosophical books in Kannada.
12. To sort out all discrepancies between the membership records of the Indian Section and Karnataka Federation by 15.01.2020.

Kerala Theosophical Federation

1. To organize one 'Wake Up India Youth Camp' in January 2020 with at least thirty students.
2. To organize two 'Reach out' programmes on Theosophical themes for interaction with teachers and students.
3. To organize one Workers' Training camp with at least thirty members.
4. To organize two Theosophical book exhibitions for 10 days each with the co-operation of public libraries & Academies.
5. To publish one Theosophical book in Malayalam during this year.
6. To organize two Retreats/study camps in Kerala and Bhowali with at least 30 members in a camp.
7. To celebrate the 125th Birth Anniversary of J. Krishnamurti at two places in Kerala by exhibiting books on J.K. and Theosophy.

8. To publish one pamphlet on J. Krishnamurti and Theosophical Society in English.
9. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
10. To arrange visit to 10 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.
11. To increase **NET** membership by **10** members.

M.P. & Rajasthan Theosophical Federation

1. To increase **NET** membership by 25 members.
2. To arrange at least 4 orientation sessions for NSS and Scout students at Lodge level.
3. To arrange at least 6 "Yoga and Meditation camps" at different lodges.
4. To conduct one study camp at Bhowali.
5. To conduct 5 Study Camp/Seminar at different lodges (1 day or 2 day as the case may be).
6. To form at least 2 youth groups.
7. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
8. To Create a Website of M.P. & Rajasthan Federation.

Madras Theosophical Federation

1. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
2. To organize two study camps on Theosophy at Adyar.
3. Increase in **NET** membership by 25 members.
4. To organize visits to 5 colleges by good speakers in order to attract young generation towards Theosophy.
5. To form two new Theosophical Lodge.
6. To organize one Workers' Training Camp in Adyar.
7. Dissemination of information in the print media about TS and Theosophy. (Two Special Days like Annie Besant's Birthday.)
8. To arrange visit to 10 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.

9. Guided tour to International Headquarters at Adyar for all the members of all the Affiliated Lodges in a phased manner.

Marathi Theosophical Federation

1. To organize 5 one-day seminars on Theosophical Subjects.
2. To conduct 5 essay competitions /debate competitions/ book reviews based on Theosophical books for Higher Secondary and College level students.
3. To publish 5000 copies of leaflets on 2 topics of Theosophy in Marathi language and distribute them to lodges, schools and general public.
4. To introduce one 3-days' vacation study camp on Theosophical subject for at least 20 students of schools and colleges.
5. To increase the **NET** membership by 10 members.
6. To conduct two 1 day introductory camps or workshops for new members.
7. To establish Theosophical Study Resource Centre in Federation and to prepare at least 5 trainers (resource persons) to propagate Theosophy in the society.
8. To conduct a 3-day study camp at Bhowali in the third week of May 2020, with at least 20 members.
9. To conduct goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
10. To promote Inter-Federation Theosophical study meetings by organizing one day seminar either at Belgaum or at Mumbai.
11. To arrange visit to 10 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.

Rayalaseema Theosophical Federation

1. To arrange visit to 15 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.
2. To activate 4 dormant lodges.
3. To form 1 study centre and 3 new lodges.
4. To enhance the **NET** membership by 25 members.

5. To conduct a study camp at Bhowali during the last week of April, 2020 with participation of 30 members.
6. To visit 2 colleges/schools at least once in every two months for popularizing Theosophy.
7. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
8. To start Theosophical Libraries in 4 lodges of the federation.
9. To conduct 3 training camps to train members to become federation lecturers and resource persons.
10. To print and distribute 4 Theosophical books (500 copies) and 6 Theosophical pamphlets (1000 copies) each in Telugu.

Tamil Theosophical Federation

1. To organize 6 study classes in different lodges.
2. To publish 500 copies each of 10 pamphlets in Tamil on Theosophical subjects for lodges and general public.
3. To increase **NET** membership by **10** members.
4. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
5. To organize 10 debate/essay competitions at school and college levels.
6. To conduct a study camp at Bhowali with at least 10 members.
7. To organize at least six Lectures by Tamil speakers on Theosophical subjects in six schools/colleges.
8. To arrange visit to 10 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.

Telugu Theosophical Federation

1. To increase **NET** membership by 20 members (include women and youth).
2. To revive and activate 2 dormant lodges.
3. To arrange visit to 20 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.
4. To popularize Theosophical literature in 4 colleges and 1 university.

5. To conduct two study camps.
6. To conduct a study camp at Bhowali with about 25 members from the Federation.
7. To conduct atleast two public meetings to introduce Theosophy to the people in order to attract new members.
8. To publish the book “*Invisible Helpers*” by C.W. Leadbeater in Telugu language.
9. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.
10. To create a new website for Telugu Federation.

Utkal Theosophical Federation

1. To form one new lodge and one new centre and revitalize two dormant lodges.
2. To increase **NET** members by 15 members.
3. To invite four National Lecturers for conducting study camps of three day’s duration.
4. To impart Theosophical education once in a month in two different schools.
5. To publish one translated Theosophical book and two reprints in Odia.
6. To participate in the National Book Fair in Bhubaneswar for 7 days to sell books and distribute 500 Odia pamphlets on Theosophy.
7. In order to popularize Theosophy, three public propagation meetings will be held in school/college and in a University through lectures, books and handouts.
8. To arrange visit to 7 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges.
9. To conduct a five-day study camp at Bhowali in June 2020 with 15 members.
10. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge.

U.P. & Uttarakhand Theosophical Federation

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. To develop a website for U.P. & Uttarakhand Federation. | 40 |
| 2. To arrange visit to 15 Lodges either by President, Secretary, or knowledgeable member for better functioning of Lodges. | 07 |
| 3. To organize five programmes/talks for students/ youths on Theosophy. | 20 |
| 4. To organize ten public talks/sessions for exposing general public to Theosophical teachings. | 20 |
| 5. To conduct six study camps of 2-3days’ duration. | 0 |
| 6. To organize seven 1-day Study Camps/Seminar. | 0 |
| 7. To organize five sessions on Guided Meditation. | 0 |
| 8. To organize five days’ study camp in Bhowali in June 2020 (Jointly with M.P./ Rajasthan Federation) with participation of 20 members. | 100 |
| 9. To publish two books on Theosophy in Hindi. | 100 |
| 10. To conduct a goal setting meet for the President & Secretary of every Lodge. | 60 |
| 11. To distribute 100 books & 500 pamphlets on Theosophy to students, youth and general public. | 0 |
| 12. To increase NET membership by 5 members. | |

HEADQUARTERS OF THE INDIAN SECTION, THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

THE 144th INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AT VARANASI

Theme: *Nurturing the Divine Seed*

The 144th International Convention of the Theosophical Society will be held at the National Headquarters, of the Indian Section, Kamachha, Varanasi, **from 31 December 2019 to 5 January 2020**. All members of the Society in good standing are welcome to attend as delegates. **Non-members** may send **requests** for permission to attend, together with a recommendation from an officer of the Federation or the Section, **to the Convention Officer (CO) before 25 November**. Mr. Shikhar Agnihotri (Cell. Phone 91-8840926268, 9839912070) will be the Convention Officer.

Package rates apply from 29 Dec. 2019 dinner to 5 Jan. 2020 dinner. Please pay in package rates only.

A. SURYASHRAM BUILDING - (Only for G.C. & Overseas Members) **Registration with full board (twin sharing rooms with attached bathroom & toilet)**

Basis: US\$(1\$=Rs70), EURO(1€=Rs77), AUD (1AUD= Rs 47)
For extra days, \$35(Rs 2300) per day per bed.

| Western Food | Registration | Accommodation | Total Package |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| \$60(Rs 4200) | \$70(Rs 4900) | \$230(Rs 16,100) | \$360(Rs 25,200) |
| €5 | €4 | €09 | €28 |
| AUD89 | AUD104 | AUD343 | AUD536 |

| Indian Food | Registration | Accommodation | Total Package |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| \$25(Rs1750) | \$70(Rs 4900) | \$230(Rs 16,100) | \$325(Rs22,750) |

B. MEHTA HOSTEL & BHOJANSHALA BHAVAN - **Registration with full board (single & double seated rooms with common bathroom & toilet)**

For extra days, \$35(Rs 850) per day per bed. Overseas delegates

| Western Food | Registration | Accommodation | Total Package |
|---|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| \$60(Rs 4200) | \$70(Rs 4900) | \$85(Rs 5950) | \$215(Rs 15,050) |
| Indian Food | Registration | Accommodation | Total Package |
| \$25(Rs 1750) | \$70(Rs 4900) | \$85(Rs 5950) | \$180(Rs 12,600) |
| Indian and Less Developed Countries' delegates | | | |
| Food | Registration | Accommodation | Total Package |
| (Rs 1750) | (Rs 500) | (Rs 5950) | (Rs 8,200) |
| Includes registration fee, sharing room, mattress, cots, sheets, pillows with covers, blankets, all meals, etc. | | | |

C. INDIAN STYLE ACCOMMODATION- HARMONY BUILDING, ALL HOSTEL BUILDINGS, SOCIETY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS **Registration with full board (Dormitory style)**

For extra days Rs 140/day/bed

| Indian and Less Developed Countries' delegates | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Food | Registration | Accommodation | Total Package |
| Rs 1750 | Rs 500 | Rs 950 | Rs 3200 |
| Includes registration fee, cot, mattress, sheets, pillow with covers blankets, all meals etc. | | | |

Note: 1. Half rate for children of 3-10 years. 2. Charges for non-members will be same as for members.

D. PEOPLE NOT REQUIRING ACCOMMODATION- **Only meals** (Canteen from 29 Dec.2019 to 5 Jan. 2020)

| Food | Registration | Total Package |
|---------|--------------|---------------|
| Rs 1750 | Rs 500 | Rs 2250 |

E. **BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACKS, DINNER FOR ONE DAY IS Rs 600, in addition to one time registration charge of Rs 500.**

Note: half rate for children of 3-10 years

ACCOMMODATION

All Indian style accommodation is dormitory accommodation – that is, shared accommodation, multiple cots and mattress within the same room or hall; no attached bathrooms or toilets; and, no kitchen. No special facilities can be provided for members who are ill or for women with babies. Ordinary medical attention will be available for minor complaints and there are no facilities to treat serious illness. Since accommodation is limited, especially ground floors, preference will be given for very elderly del

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

144th International Convention Varanasi

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES

Delegates who register early, mention their age and request for it. Accommodation availability will be confirmed by the Convention Officer by email. Specific building / room allotment requests cannot be entertained.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENTS

Last date for registration: 1 December 2019

Cancellation: last date 10 December 2019; payment will be refunded, except the Registration fee of Rs.500 or USD 70. After 10 December there will be no refund of any amount. Cancellation request must reach Indian Section, Varanasi by 10th December for refund consideration.

Delegates from India: Send the Registration form with the details (available at www.theosophy-india.org and www.ts-adyar.org), along with the package charges, to the Convention Officer before 1 December 2019. Remittance by crossed **cheques or bank drafts** should be **made payable to Indian Section, The Theosophical Society**. If making online transfers, it is essential to communicate by email to CO, the following details: Delegate(s) Name, Bank name and Branch, Amount, Date of Transfer and Transfer reference number. The online transfer can be made to Bank of Baroda (formerly Vijaya Bank), Kamachha Branch, Varanasi. Account No. 718301010005045, IFSC Code VIJB0007183 in the name of Indian Section, The Theosophical Society.

Delegates from other countries: Make sure you take travel insurance. Send the Registration form (available at www.theosophy-india.org and www.ts-adyar.org) by email. Payment on arrival in foreign currency is accepted. If payment is being made by online bank in Rs at the above mentioned account no., then make sure that it is in Indian Rupees and purpose of payment is marked "donations" and an email is sent to CO with the following details: Delegate(s) name, Bank name, Amount, Date of Transfer and Transfer reference number.

Contact Convention Officer by email: tsvnconvention@gmail.com or By Post: The Convention Officer, Indian Section, The Theosophical Society, Gurubagh, Kamachha, Varanasi - 221 010, India

Marja Artamaa
International Secretary

THE INDIAN THEOSOPHIST, Dec./ 2019 / 593

ENQUIRY OFFICE

The Enquiry Officer and the volunteers in the office will be glad to give you any help they can. Delegates wishing to help in the Enquiry Office, or anywhere else, may give their names and contact number to the Enquiry Office or Convention Officer.

REGISTERING ON ARRIVAL

All delegates can get the keys and Convention material at the Enquiry Office, on mentioning their registration number. There will be two counters, one for Indian and one for Foreign delegates.

BADGES

Please wear your badge to:

1. Ensure your admission to those functions you are entitled to attend.
2. Permit you to go to those places on the Estate not open to the general public.
3. Permit you to enter the Estate at any time of the day or night.

TIMINGS

RECEPTION - REGISTRATION - ENQUIRY OFFICE

Cellphone: 9936089485

INDIAN DELEGATES REGISTRATION COUNTER

28 to 30 December: 24 Hrs.
31 Dec to 3 January: 7:00 am – 12 noon
2:30pm – 5:00 pm
4 & 5 January: 6:00 am – 8:00 pm

FOREIGN DELEGATES REGISTRATION COUNTER

28 TO 30 December: 10am - 12 midnight

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FOREIGN REGISTRATION AND CURRENCY EXCHANGE

28 Dec to 1 Jan: 8:00 am – 12 noon

TREASURY OFFICE, ADMIN BUILDING

FOR DONATIONS (For TS, OES, and Indian Section)

31.12.19 to 03.01.20 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Saturday: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

THOUGHT FORM PAINTINGS EXHIBITION

Venue: Shantikunj

Daily: 9:30 am – 11:30 am and 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

VARANASI TOUR

(29th & 30th Dec 2019)

All the delegates who have registered (as per the date 29th or 30th) for the tour must assemble at Reception office at 06:30am. The bus will leave the campus at 06:50am. Late comers will not be entertained.

MEALS

All delegates will be provided with meal coupons for use at the Canteen. Meals at Sri Devi Mehta Bhojanshala are restricted to those foreign delegates who have registered for it.

CANTEEN TIMINGS

From 29 Dec dinner to 5 Jan dinner

06:30 am - 07:30 am Morning Tea

08:00 am – 09:00 am Breakfast

12:30 pm – 02:30 pm Lunch

05:30 pm – 06:00 pm Snacks

08:00 pm – 09:00 pm Dinner

Morning tea (Not to be paid by delegates) vendor shall visit and take a round (once) of the residential buildings as per schedule mentioned below :-

06:30 am to 06:45 am — Shanti Kunj, Suryashram, Annie Besant School, Blavatsky Hostel, Pandey House, Sudarshan.

06:45 am to 07:30 am — Rohit Mehta Bhawan, Bhojanashala, Dhruv, VKM, VKIC, (Anand+Vinay+Maitreya+Shanti) Bhawan, Harmony building.

FILTERED WATER

Filtered water for drinking is available at Sridevi Mehta Bhojanashala, Harmony, Rohit Mehta Bhawan, VKM, VKIC, BTS, ABS, Reception Office, Shantikunj.

HOT WATER for drinking is available at Sridevi Mehta Bhojanashala & Indian kitchen at Besant Theosophical High School.

CONVENTION BULLETIN

A daily Bulletin will be on sale at the Enquiry Office during the days of the Convention.

CHANGES IN PROGRAMME

Please consult the Notice Board at the Enquiry Office for any changes in the Convention Programme.

Mosquito repellent coils are available at the Enquiry office.

BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY

10:00 am to 04:00 pm

BWC posters are displayed in the lobby (Ground floor) at Annie Besant School. Membership forms & Calendars available.

BATHING HOT WATER

Hot water for bathing is free and will be available from 5am to 8am at convenient locations. Hot water carriers are paid by the Society.

BATHROOMS & SANITATION

Clothes may be washed only after 8 am, when most delegates have finished bathing.

Delegates are requested to cooperate in maintaining the estate in a clean and sanitary condition. Please put all rubbish, including waste paper and fruit peels in the dust bins.

Rubbish must not be put in toilet bowls (WCs). This *is most important as wrong use may cause the whole sanitary system to be blocked.*

TS EMPLOYEES

If anyone, claiming to be a TS worker, requests admission to your residence, please verify at the Enquiry Office before giving permission to entry.

CARE OF VALUABLES

Delegates are requested to be especially careful to guard against

theft, and are cautioned not to leave money, jewellery or valuables lying about. Rooms should always be locked.

MEDICAL AND FIRST AID

Routine and emergency medical aid for common illnesses and accidents is immediately available day and night in the Society at Rohit Mehta Bhawan. All cases of serious infectious illnesses must be reported AT ONCE; patients will have to be sent to care facilities in the city for their treatment.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY NUMBER

7394019335

SILENCE

Silence is to be observed from 10 pm to 5 am and 12 noon to 1:30 pm. At all times unnecessary noise should be avoided. Loud playing of radios, TVs or any other audio/video device is not permitted. Cell phones should be switched off during all meetings, and in and around shrines. If possible avoid using them on the estate.

GARDEN

Delegates and visitors are NOT to pick flowers or fruits of any kind on the Estate.

STALLS NEAR THE MAIN ENTRANCE

- i) Shobha Travel desk
- ii) Book Stall
- iii) Woolen Clothes Stall
- iv) Shoe polish Stall
- v) Lalmaan Laundry Stall
- vi) Mangal fruit stall
- vii) Raju Tea Stall

NO SMOKING, ETC.

Smoking or chewing tobacco and the consumption of flesh, fish or alcohol are strictly prohibited within the Estate.

WHEN LEAVING

Please return the room keys (to get back the security deposit) at the Enquiry Office and notify the Enquiry Office *before* leaving so that your vacated quarters may be locked promptly and the Society's equipment protected from theft.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

- 1) Delegates are requested:
 - a. To avoid wasting water at all times;
 - b. To close taps after use;
 - c. To report leaking taps and broken water pipes urgently to the Enquiry Office;
 - d. Not to let the water run when brushing teeth, washing clothes, and so on.
 - e. To switch off fans, lights when not in use.
- 2) Please lodge complaints at the Enquiry Office only.
- 3) Please throw litter (paper, plastic, and so forth) in the dustbins only.
- 4) Please have with you a torch, candles, matches, mosquito coils.

Your cooperation is essential for the comfort of all

**TPH BOOKS FOR SALE
AT A DISCOUNT DURING 144TH T.S.
CONVENTION AT VARANASI**

During the International Convention at Varanasi from 31 December 2019 to 5 January 2020, Theosophical Publishing House (TPH) Adyar will be exhibiting and offering for sale, a limited number of (TPH published) book titles, at a discount of 33%. Interested delegates can visit the TPH stall at Varanasi and buy the available books; alternatively, should any delegate or intending buyer of any TPH book want to place an advance order for the book, s(he) may email to tphindia@gmail.com on or before 20 December 2019, indicating the book's title, author and the number of copies required, so that these titles can be brought to Varanasi.