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**THE INDIAN SECTION
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
2018-2019**

Part-I

I. Bird's-Eye View of Indian Section's Work

I am again very pleased to report to you all that the state of the Indian Section is very healthy. Let me give you a bird's eye-view of Indian Section's work in the past year.

The Indian Section had emphasized on improvement in the administrative matters during 2017-18. Fortunately, good results were observed in several areas. The Indian Section Management System Software now allows all Federations and Lodges to see the status of membership dues with a click of a button. There are no disputes like in the past for Federations and Lodges that use the software to see the status of membership dues of their members. The diplomas to new members are now sent in a matter of days rather than weeks. The Indian Theosophist is delivered without fail to those who have subscribed for the registered book post option by paying Rs 300 for 12 issues. Even for others that pay Rs 30 for 12 issues, the ordinary delivery has improved after our continuous complaints to the post office. The packaging of our Diplomas sent to the Federation have significantly improved and so there are very few complaints of soiled, mutilated or crushed diplomas. Improvements in the overall administration took place in many other matters to serve the members better and save money at the headquarters. Better quality of service at lower cost!!

This year it was our goal to motivate Federations, Lodges and all members to achieve true propagation of Theosophy. This was mainly achieved by organizing a unique Goal Setting Meet for all Federation Presidents and Secretaries of the Indian Section on 6-7 October 2018 at Bhowali. Our International President Tim Boyd and his wife Lily Boyd attended the meet. Tim was most

impressed by the sincerity and involvement of all participants in setting 7 to 10 excellent SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Trackable) goals. He mentioned that the Federation officers grasped the technique of goal setting fast and developed a good grip on the subject. A booklet on the goals of the Indian Section and all the 16 Federations was compiled and distributed to all concerned. The objective of continuously keeping the goals in focus was achieved by tracking and reviewing the percentage achieved of each goal on a monthly basis in the Indian Theosophist. This meeting of all Presidents and Secretaries for two working days itself turned out to be very useful for them to exchange ideas and success stories. At the end of the year, the final review of goals for all the Federations took place at Varanasi in the presence of all Federation Presidents and Secretaries. The overall average, consolidated achievement for all the Federations and Indian Section was 63%. The highest achievers were the Indian Section (stand alone) at 93%, U.P. & Uttarakhand at 90% and Marathi Federation at 88%.

After motivating all the federation leaders through goal setting, who in turn motivated their respective lodge Presidents and Secretaries, who eventually motivated the members in their lodges, it was turn to motivate our employees at the Indian Section. All the employees were given a bonus of 8.33% of their salary or wages, a week before Diwali. They were all very happy and grateful. During the year under review arrangements were also made for all residences of staff and workers of the Indian Section, living within the campus, to get water supplied round the clock from two large 15,000 liter tanks installed at the highest point in the campus. All families were very happy with this facility because earlier water was given for 3 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the evening.

The Annual National Study Camp at the Indian Section Headquarters was held from 23 to 25 November 2018. It was conducted by Bro. Vicente (Vic) Hao Chin Jr. on 'Self-Transformation'. A total of 105 persons attended the camp and benefited from the very simplistic but effective method of teaching by Vic. He explained why one should concentrate on self-

transformation of reality, clarification and integration of values, self-mastery and transcendence. He first explained why Self-Transformation is required. Then he elaborated on the four aspects of self-transformation viz 1) Review of the map of Reality; 2) Clarification and Integration of Values; 3) Self Mastery and 4) Transcendence. He concluded by explaining how the pursuit of Self-Transformation can help us in life. During the camp the food served by Shahi Restaurant was appreciated by all delegates.

An International Workshop on Teachers' Training was organized along with our college (VKM) on 26-27 Nov. One hundred twenty delegates from 9 colleges of Varanasi and 20 delegates from all over India sponsored by TOS attended the workshop. Ven. M. Medhankara Thero of Sri Lanka and Vicente (Vic) Hao Chin Jr. were the resource persons.

The highlight of the year was the completion of construction and inauguration of the elegant Rohit Mehta Bhavan (Hostel) having 146 bed (73 rooms) in place of the dilapidated Ram Nivas Building. The fears spread by people about the loss of serenity of the place have turned out to be dupes. The serenity has in fact improved. This hostel was completed in a record 16 months at a cost of only Rs 2.8 crores. Every double seated room has two imported beds, mattresses, sheets, pillow with pillow cover, tables, chairs and cupboards. (obtained from a cruise ship). Every room has a fan, two LED lights, broom, dust pan, a sling for hanging washed clothes, Velvet touch paint and 2' x2' Vitrified tiles. The hostel has a sprawling common room with 40 chairs, a table tennis table, a 56" smart television, 3 desk top computers with Wi-Fi facility which can be used in all the 73 rooms of the hostel. The hostel has geysers in the spacious bathrooms, an inverter for continuous power supply, a R.O. unit and water cooler. The hostel was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor of BHU who publicly acknowledged that it was better than his BHU hostel and arguably the best in Varanasi. He could not believe how it could be made at such a low cost! In the first year itself it has 130 students out of a capacity of 146. The Vasant Balika Vihar Hostel of the Indian Section has 275 students out of a capacity of 310.

Another highlight of the year was the decision to hold the

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next international convention at Varanasi for the first time after a gap of about 30 years. The Indian Section Council fully supported the decision of the Section President to host the convention. International President Tim Boyd, the General Council and the International Executive Committee were unanimous in holding the convention at Varanasi. The planning had started in May 2019 with Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri as the Convention officer and Mrs. Uma Bhattacharyya painfully organizing all aspects of hosting upto 1500 delegates even though it is unlikely that so many will come. Everyone will be able to experience the Varanasi flavor in this convention and its taste will linger on. Hosting a convention in Varanasi will allow Leabeater Chambers at Adyar to be repaired, strengthened and upgraded in a period of 18 months. It is not possible for a convention to be held at Adyar without the Ledbeater Chambers.

Another major accomplishment was to get all the buildings of the Indian Section campus authorized by Varanasi Development Authority (VDA). In the past approval for making extension of an existing building or making a new building was not received. Because of this no construction took place at the Indian Section for several years. The approval was obtained after friendly but aggressive follow-up with VDA.

It is because of the above mentioned approval that we could demolish the largely non-functional dispensary and construct the Harmony building with ground plus 3 floors. At present the ground floor of the building with 1524 sq. ft. carpet area has been leased to a clothing show room for more than Rs 2 lakhs per month. The rent of Rs 2,05,740 is being regularly received since May 2019. The first floor with about 2300 sq. ft. carpet area has been leased to Bank of Baroda for about Rs 2,53,000 per month. The second and third floors of the building are kept as dormitory for our delegates attending various study camps and conferences. It will provide clean accommodation along with sufficient toilets and bathrooms. There is a race with time to complete the second and third floor of the building by 31st December 2019.

The Indian Section has fully supported the activities of TOS in India. The Indian Section and TOS International together

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contributed Rs 6 lakhs for the Kerala flood relief work. TOS in India and Odisha region contributed for cyclone relief work in Odisha. TOS in Odisha donated Rs 1 lakh for CM relief fund. TOS East Zone Conference was held at Kolkata, West Zone Conference at Amravati in Maharashtra and South Zone Conference at Bangalore.

The Indian Section Management System (ISMS) website has turned out to be very useful for instant membership and financial data of lodges, Federations and the Indian Section. The website of the Indian Section is working very well with membership forms, monthly access to Indian Theosophist, several Federation magazines, etc are being put up on it.

The delivery of *The Indian Theosophist* has vastly been improved. There are many members who are taking advantage of guaranteed delivery through registered book post after paying Rs 300 per year rather than Rs 30 per year. At least, they now have a choice. The delivery of new member's diploma has been shortened significantly and there are very few complaints for delay.

During the year, the District Magistrate along with Police support, captured Indian Section's property of about 50,000 sq. ft. at Gorakhpur. The reason given for this was that the 30 years lease was not renewed and that Gorakhpur Lodge earned rental income from this property against the terms of the lease. We are pursuing this in the Allahabad High Court but do not stand much of a chance to retain the property. The district administration point out that they need to construct a court building there. The same kind of situation may arise at Gwalior Lodge where we have 70,000 sq. ft of land which is rarely used and within which the Secretary of M.P. and Rajasthan Federation lives. A resolution by circulation has been passed by 31 votes in favour and 1 vote against to sell 50,000 sq. ft of the land. A hall for the Lodge, library, guest room, shrine room and residence of Federation Secretary will be constructed by the buyer. Unfortunately, the Federation Secretary residing there turned hostile to this idea and has managed to drive away the prospective buyer. We are searching for new buyers now. Such property that we cannot protect must be sold or else we

will end up losing it like in Gorakhpur.

We are fully compliant with GST now. There has been no progress with the SDO and Nayab Tehsildar in getting the name of the owner of land at Varanasi changed from that of Upendranath Basu to Indian Section, The Theosophical Society. It appears that we will have to take the case to the Allahabad High Court.

Another major achievement was the successful installation and operation of a 100 kilowatt Solar Power Generator put on the top of our inter college and degree college buildings. The 50 lakhs project ran through lot of difficulties due to corrupt officers expecting something from us. Fortunately, absolutely nothing was given and with help of Dr. Sandeep Pandey even the troublesome No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Electrical Safety Department was obtained. The Electricity Board officials fully cooperated with us. This project will generate a saving of about Rs 10 lakhs per year.

The Indian Section continues to run the Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya (VKM) whose motto is 'Education as Service' and strives to bring up students as responsible citizens who are keen to serve the community. Presently, the college is offering 14 subjects in Arts and Social Science at undergraduate (U.G.) level to 1357 students and 5 subjects at postgraduate (PG) level to 295 students to form a total strength of 1652 students. After taking over the administration of the college directly under the Indian Section and appointing Mrs. Uma Bhattacharyya as the manager, the college will be introducing Geography at U.G. level and P.G. in 6 more subjects from the 2020-'21 academic session. Approval from Banaras Hindu University (BHU) has been received for it. VKM has a very competent and dynamic principal in Dr. Rachna Srivastava and an outstanding faculty leading to excellent results. During the previous academic year they organized one International Seminar, two national seminars, three college level workshops, 30 lectures, 11 department and committee level workshops, 2 fairs and 14 educational tours. Three ICSSR projects were sanctioned to the faculty members. Construction of a new academic block is in progress to accommodate more students. The college also

promotes various extra-curricular activities for fostering creativity and overall development of students.

II. Indian Section Convention

The 127th Convention-I of the Indian Section was held at Adyar Theatre on 1 January 2019. The International President of the Theosophical Society, Bro. Tim Boyd, was the chief guest and Vice-President, Dr. Deepa Padhi was the chairperson. The current President of the Indian Section welcomed Tim Boyd, Deepa Padhi and all the delegates. He then read the greetings from the well-wishers. Then the President or Secretary or Representative of each Federation gave greetings. The International President gave his inaugural address followed by the State of the Indian Section Address along with a slide show by the Indian Section President, Pradeep Gohil. The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read out by Mr. V. Narayanan and the concluding remarks were given by the chairperson, Dr. Deepa Padhi. After vote of thanks by Pradeep Gohil the session was declared closed.

The Indian Section Convention - II was held on 3 January, 2019 at Adyar Theatre and was chaired by Brother Yogendra Desai. He welcomed the delegates and then introduced the five speakers:

1. Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri spoke on “Harmony and Brotherhood”.
2. Bro. S.U. Mahesh spoke on “Regeneration”.
3. Bro. N.C. Krishna spoke on “Reincarnation and Spiritual Evolution”.
4. Sis. S.P. Malini spoke on “Self-Awareness and Human Welfare”.
5. Dr. M.A. Ravindran spoke on “Evolution of Consciousness”.

Finally, the chairman gave his concluding remarks.

III. Election

There was no election of the Section President or Treasurer this time.

IV. Indian Section Headquarters

1. A meeting to celebrate Dr. Annie Besant’s 171st birth anniversary was organized at the Section HQ, Varanasi, on 1 October 2018. Bro. U.S. Pandey, National Lecturer, was the guest speaker on this occasion.

Sister Uma Bhattacharyya introduced the speaker and welcomed him and the participants. Bro. U.S. Pandey in his talk delivered before the members and students mentioned about multi-dimensional and extraordinary personality of Dr. Besant covering certain significant events and aspects from her life and work in all fields i.e. personal, social, religious, theosophical and political. He quoted the opening paragraph of her inspiring address delivered to the Indian National Congress in December 1917 at Calcutta in which she had said, “...India, who has been verily the crucified among nations, now stands on her resurrection morning, the Immortal, the Glorious, the Ever-young; and India shall soon be seen, proud and self-reliant, strong and free, the radiant Splendour of Asia, as the Light and the Benediction of the world.” In this address her exalted aspiration for India was reflected. Bro. Pandey also quoted her last address during the 56th International Convention of the Theosophical Society in which her concluding paragraph was “—it is no good to talk Theosophy unless we live what we talk” and also about her statement elsewhere that “The First step of all, without which no approach is possible... may be summed up in four brief words: ‘the service of man’”. Smt. Uma Bhattacharyya gave vote of thanks.

2. A meeting to celebrate the 143rd Foundation Day of the TS was held at the Indian Section HQ on 17 November, 2018. It started with the Universal Prayer led by Bro. Pradeep Gohil, General Secretary, Indian Section. Then Bro. Gohil welcomed all the members and introduced the Guest Speaker Bro. N.C. Krishna, National Lecturer. Bro. N.C. Krishna, in his talk, traced the early history of the formation of the Theosophical Society. He mentioned the efforts the founders, Madam H.P. Blavatsky and H.S. Olcott, put in to form the Theosophical Society. H.P.B. was instrumental

in creating a platform for the spreading of wisdom religion, and to take forward the universal message of Theosophy to form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood, and to promote the study of comparative Religion, Philosophy and Science, and to explore the latent powers in man. The founders made lot of personal sacrifices and took lot of pains in establishing and spreading the essence of Theosophy and the message of Theosophical Society.

3. The Support Convention was held at the Section HQ, Varanasi, on 31 December 2018 and 5 January 2019. Smt. Uma Bhattacharyya conducted the meeting, on both the days. Sri Jwala Prasad Mishra, Manager of Vasant Kanya Inter College, spoke on 31 December on the theme of the International Convention 'Truth & Beauty: A Field Beyond'. He said that in Bhagwat Maha Puran, Brahma and Shankar along with Narad and other Rishis explained that Truth is God who is vibrant in every atom. The face of Truth (i.e. God) was hidden by the lid of golden orb and to reach Him we had to continuously practice endurance, follow spiritual and higher values of life and do our duty without attachment at physical, mental and spiritual level. The sole object of life is to obtain *that truth*. It would be possible if we understandingly realize that our body and soul are separate. Then this valuable life would be beautiful and spiritually prosperous. This was the essence of different Upanishads. Truth is valuable and beautiful body as bright light in a beautiful palace.

There were two speakers on January 5. Dr. Shanta Chatterji, Head, Department of Sanskrit in Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya (VKM), spoke on 'A journey from Shiva and Sundara to Satya'. She explained that in Ishopanishad, the Rishi says that Satya is covered or concealed, yet it is possible to see or perceive it. Secondly, it is neither darkness nor smoke nor misery that veils or conceals Satya; it is, many a time, covered by Sundara or Shiva also. In this triad – Satya, Shiva and Sundara- Sundara must always be connected with Shiva and Shiva must always be together with Satya. It is this essential blend of togetherness of Sundara and

Shiva with Satya that will bring about the Good or the *Mangala* — not just for a few but for all beings. Shiva & Sundara must always follow Satya. *Sat* is that which is cognizable at all times, unobstructed, which is beyond the past, present and future. *Sat* is that Real, Pure, Supreme Being. *Rita (Rta)* also is the perceptible form of Satya. The immutable laws of the Universe are known as *Rta*. The Principles of creation and destruction, of action and fruits of action and so on, the universal laws by which the innumerable stars, planets exist and move about freely in the infinite space – all these are known as *Rta*. Man also, in his life, through mind, body and action, sincerely trying to live in accordance with the principles and laws of universe can have the direct perception of Truth.

Dr. Niharika Lal, Associate Professor, Department of English, VKM, spoke on "Beyond Truth and Beauty: Some Ruminations in English Literature". Truth and Beauty are twin concepts that have evaded precise definition over the years. While, according to some, truth is factual, for others, it is intuitive, all pervading and beyond facts and rituals. Swami Vivekananda said, "Truth can be stated in a thousand different ways, yet each can be true."

The same is the case with Beauty. Like Truth, Beauty is an experience and cannot be put within the confines of the physical; it transcends it and helps us get in touch with our own divinity.

Beauty and Truth cannot essentially be separated because the bliss that one attains while perceiving beautiful natural scenes, sends our imagination in search of the Ultimate Truth. It gives us inner delight and makes us believe that there is a divine presence in the manifestations of Nature. When there is Confluence of Beauty and Truth, there arises Godliness or Calmness i.e. the Hindu triune of Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram.

A study of literary texts reveals that writers viz- Bacon, Keats and the transcendentalists, especially Emerson, have always been aware of the importance of truth and beauty in human life and lay

stress that both are not things that exist on a physical or superficial plane but are mediums which help man to realize his inner self and become united with the Ultimate Being transcending the mundane. As Emerson says.

“The rolling river, the morning bird-
Beauty through my senses stole;
I yielded myself to the perfect whole”.

4. A meeting to observe Adyar Day was held at the Indian Section HQ on 17 February, 2019, to commemorate the ‘Nirvana Day’ of Col. Olcott and J. Krishnamurti and birthday of C.W. Leadbeater. The meeting started with the Prayers of All Faiths followed by Universal Prayer. On this occasion the students of Vasant Balika Vihar presented Adyar song, under the guidance of Smt. Manju Sundaram. The song written by Smt. Mugdhaben Hora, unfolded the unsurpassable natural beauty and relevance of Adyar, which houses the International Headquarters of the Theosophical Society. The meaning of the song was beautifully explained by Dr. Bina Singh, President, KTS.

Dr. Pushpalata Pratap, a very senior member of Kashi Tattva Sabha, spoke on this occasion. Dr. Pratap in her talk explained the significance of theosophy and its motto – “There is no Religion higher than Truth”, in the contemporary world. The need to follow truth and to imbibe it in one’s character is the utmost need of the hour. She explained how our former theosophists were noted for their truthfulness and are still looked upon with great veneration. In this degenerating age full of deceit and pretence, their truthfulness and honesty give us the motivation to absorb the virtue of truthfulness, thus paving our path to become a real theosophist.

The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Smt. Uma Bhattacharyya.

5. A meeting to observe the White Lotus Day was held at the Section HQ, Varanasi, on 8 May. The programme started with Prayers of All Faiths followed by the Universal Prayer. Smt. Uma

Bhattacharyya, welcomed the guests. Excerpts from the books *Bhagwadgita*, *The Light of Asia* and *The Voice of the Silence* were read by Sri Jwala Prasad Mishra, Smt. Bharati Chattopadhyay and Dr. Bina Singh respectively. In continuation to her reading, Dr. Bina Singh, President, Kashi Tattva Sabha, delivered her address on the topic “Contemporary Chaos: The Voice of the Silence”. In her talk she beautifully explained the journey of self from materialistic world to spiritual world and the sublimity of the thoughts of Madame Blavatsky in the present world. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Kumud Ranjan, Vice-President, KTS.

The members and the guests paid homage to HPB by offering flowers at her portrait.

V. Easter Theosophical Conference

The 96th Easter Theosophical Conference was held at Adyar from 19 April to 21 April 2019. The theme of the conference was “**The Real Purpose of the Theosophical Society**”. The book recommended for study was “**Theosophy as the Masters See It**” by Clara M Codd. The venue of the conference was the recently renovated Blavatsky Bungalow near the Great Banyan Tree.

On Friday, 19 April, the programme commenced with the Universal Prayer and Meditation followed by the chanting by Sis. Laxmibai and Sis. Jaishree. International President Bro. Tim Boyd Presided. Dr. M.A. Raveendran, President Kerala Theosophical Federation, welcomed the gathering. Bro. Tim Boyd in his presidential address stated that ‘The Real Mission of the Theosophical Society is to serve humanity by cultivating an ever-deepening understanding and realization of the Ageless Wisdom, spiritual self-transformation and the Unity of all Life’. He added that we should realize this Mission during the Easter Conference when the Spiritual Power all over the world is trying to save humanity from the limitations of matter. The story of Jesus the Christ teaches us that ultimate triumph will be for the Spirit though it was nailed in the cross of matter.

The International Treasurer Sis. Nancy Secrest inaugurated the conference and stated that even after sixty-six years of the publication of “**Theosophy as the Masters See It**” it is still relevant because Universal Brotherhood is not an idle phrase but a fact in Nature. She quoted the Mission Statement of TS and said that everyone who wishes to be a Theosophist shall have to live Theosophy.

Bro. N.C. Ramanujachary talked on the topic “**Why the Masters founded the Theosophical Society**”. He said that the Masters did not want TS to be a cult. Theosophical Society is principle oriented and not person oriented. The real founding of the TS took place when HPB had the vision of her spiritual teacher at Hide Park, London. TS spread the value of Occult Truths in the daily life of man. During the period 1875 to 1891 HPB wrote many remarkable books on Theosophy and her collected works consist of numerous volumes, which demand serious study and meditation by the members. We are asked “*to Keep the Link Unbroken.*”

At 11.15 a.m., there was a class on the mantras of Bharat Samaj Pooja, their relevance and deeper meaning. Bro. Umakant Rao, Sis. Vijayalaxmi, Sis. Laxmi Bai, Bro. Harihara Raghavan and Dr. M.A. Raveendran led the session.

The afternoon session at 3.30 p.m. was chaired by Sis. Sonal Murali, National Lecturer. The speakers were Bro. Krishnamurti and Dr. M.A. Raveendran. The former spoke on **Religion Vs. Superstition** and the latter on **Science is our Best Ally**.

At 7.30 p.m. the Ritual of the Mystic Star was conducted at the Headquarters Hall. Dr. R. Revathy explained the meaning and relevance of the ceremony designed by Bro. C. Jinarajadasa. The Mystic Star is a designation for the Divine whom people in the West call God, *Iswara* in India and *Allah* in Muslim countries. In the ceremony, five aspects of the Divine are considered - Power of the Star, Wisdom of the Star, Joy of the Star, Beauty of the Star and Love of the Star.

On the second day the programme commenced with Universal Prayer and Meditation followed by chanting by Sis. Jaishree. Bro. Umakant Rao, former GS of the Indian Section, chaired the session. Sis. Sripriya Harihara Raghavan spoke on **Latent Powers Beyond Science**, Sis. Sandhya Rani spoke on **Yoga, Practical Realization** and Dr. R. Revathy on **What are the things to be discussed?**

The session at 9.30 a.m. was chaired by Bro. Narasimha Rao - former International Treasurer of TS. Sis. Upasika Maithreya spoke on **Finding New Avenues of Work from Particulars**. Sis. Marja Artamaa, International Secretary, spoke on **Towards Unification in Theosophical Attempts**. Bro. K. Dinakaran, Secretary, Kerala Theosophical Federation, spoke on **Dogma, Authority and Discipline**.

At 11.15 a.m., the class on Bharat Samaj Pooja was conducted by Bro. Harihara Raghavan. He chanted the mantras and emphasized on the need of knowing their meaning.

The afternoon session was chaired by Sis. Jaishree in which Sis. Lakshmi spoke on **Loyalty**, Sis. Geetha Subramanian on **Discretion** and Sis. Veena Ramachandran on **Zeal**. In the evening Bro. Vinay kumar Patri made a Power Point Presentation on “**Nature of Consciousness**”, a recorded talk of Bro. N. Sri Ram.

On 21st April the morning session commenced at 9.30 a.m. with Universal Prayer and meditation followed by chanting by Sis. Jaishree. Bro. S. Raman, Secretary Madras Theosophical Federation, chaired the session. The speaker Bro. N.C. Krishna, National Lecturer, Indian Section, spoke on **The People the Master Wants**. Sis. Vijayalaxmi spoke on **The Hindrances of the Way** and Bro. C. Nandakumar spoke on **The Joy of the Way**.

The closing session was held in the afternoon in which Bro. Tim Boyd spoke about his impressions regarding the conference and Bro. Harihara Raghavan gave the closing address. Bro. K. Dinakaran, Secretary K.T.F., proposed vote of thanks.

The reference books of the conference were available at the venue of the conference and TPH provided 40% discount on the selected books. A total of 124 registered delegates from various Federations, including Assam Federation, attended the conference.

VI. Indian Section Study Camp

The North India Study Camp was held at the Indian Section Headquarters from 23 to 25 November 2018. Mr. Vicente Hao Chin Jr.(Vic), former General Secretary of TS in The Philippines, and a former President of the Indo-Pacific Federation, directed the study on 'Self-transformation'. Ninety-nine members of the Indian Section got themselves registered for the camp.

The content of the study has been published in the form of an article entitled '**The Stages of Self-Transformation**' by Vicente Hao Chin Jr. in the March 2019 issue of *The Indian Theosophist*.

VII. Study Camps at Bhowali (Himalayan Study Centre)

A study camp under the auspices of Kerala Theosophical Federation was held in Bhowali from 27 April to 3 May, 2019. The book taken up for study was *The Key to Theosophy* by HP Blavatsky. The camp was inaugurated on 27th morning by the Federation's President Dr. M.A. Raveendran by lighting the lamp, followed by Universal Prayer.

Bro. K. Dinakaran, Secy. K.T.F., welcomed the members from different lodges of Kerala and explained the importance of the book- *The Key to Theosophy* which has reference in Mahatma Gandhi's autobiography – *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*. Gandhi mentioned that it was H.P. Blavatsky's book which stimulated in him the desire to read books on Hinduism and freed him from the misconceptions on Hinduism fostered by the Missionaries.

The Camp Director Dr. Raveendran spoke on the contents of the book and requested everyone to make a serious study

of the book. He explained Theosophy and the Theosophical Society, Exoteric and Esoteric Theosophy. He also spoke on OM and Reincarnation and The Constitution of Man.

In the afternoon session Prof. Gopinathan, Sis. Vrinda and Bro. Mohandas spoke on *Advaita* and on J.Krishnamurti respectively.

The programme commenced every day at 7.30 a.m. with *Bharat Samaj Pooja* conducted by Sis. Lakshmibai and Bro. Madhusoodanan Pillai. In the evening at 7.00 p.m. there was Meditation for the members.

Bro. Dinakaran spoke on 'The Fundamental Teachings of Theosophy'. Sis. Sheela Raveendran spoke on 'Education and Theosophy'.

Discussion on the following subjects were conducted and Bro. Dinakaran led the discussion:

1. How Members can help the Theosophical Society
2. The Future of the Theosophical Society
3. Theosophy and Marriage

The members also had the opportunity to visit the various places in and around Bhowali which included Nainital, Bhimtal, and Golu Temple. The camp was a memorable one for all the ten participants. Bro. Dinakaran thanked the Indian Section for the excellent arrangements made for the members during their stay. He also expected that more members from South, especially from Kerala, could attend the Bhowali Camp in future.

2. Marathi Theosophical Federation organized a study camp on *Light on the Path* at Bhowali from 10-05-2019 to 15-05-2019. It was directed by Bro. C.A. Shinde, National Lecturer, Indian Section, TS. Twenty-four delegates from various lodges of Maharashtra participated in it.

The camp was inaugurated by Bro. V. Narayanan, Treasurer, Indian Section, TS. Bro. N.N. Raut, President, Marathi Theosophical Federation, welcomed Bro. C.A. Shinde, Director of study camp, Bro. V. Narayanan and the participants.

The study camp was conducted in two sessions daily with morning and evening meditation. "Bharat Samaj Pooja" was also performed daily by Bro. Jagdish, Bro. Madhukar Wankhade and Mrs. Meenakshi Wankhade, assisted by Bro. C.S. Mirajkar.

On the first two days, study on *Light on the Path* was conducted.

During the two days' period of the study camp, the Director Bro. C.A. Shinde covered the study of various rules. He divided the participants in three groups and they were named after three young participants like Deepali group, Anjali group and Monica group. On the first day Deepali group was assigned Rule No.(1) for studies and group discussion. Rule No.(1) 'Kill out ambition but work as those work who are ambitious'. Each group selected their group leader first for presentation in the afternoon session and then their group discussion was held. Anjali group was assigned Rule No.(2) which was 'Kill out desire of Life but respect Life as those do who desire it.' Monica group was assigned Rule No.(3) which was 'Kill out desire of comfort but be happy as those are who live for happiness.'

Bro. R.C. Mali, Bro. O.H. Chillal, Bro. C.S. Mirajkar, Bro. Karkhanis and Bro. S.K. Kadam presented the points of discussion in the afternoon session.

On the second day, studies of groups started with Rules No.(8) - Stand alone and isolated, (12) - Within you is the light of the world and (20) - Seek it not by any one road, for each temperament there is one road. Bro. Chillal, Bro. R.V. Vastrad (National Lecturer, Indian Section), Bro. A.S. Sonone and Bro. Karkhanis presented their points of discussion in the afternoon session.

3. A study camp on the theme 'Present Moment Awareness' (Meditation) was held under the auspices of Karnataka Theosophical Federation from 17 to 23 May 2019. The President of KTF Bro. B.V. Thippeswamy, directed the study which was attended by 60 members of the Federation. It was inaugurated by Bro. V. Narayanan, Treasurer, Indian Section, by lighting the lamp. He conveyed the greetings from Bro. Pradeep Gohil, President, Indian Section, on this occasion. He also stressed on meditation which brought inner awareness and Divine presence and it was the responsibility of each member of the TS to live and to propagate universal brotherhood.

In the introductory speech the Director of the camp highlighted the teachings of Lord Buddha: "There is one and the only path for salvation, i.e.; Sati Pattana – Establishment of awareness". Buddha taught four ways of meditation – *Kayanu Pashana, Vedananu Pashana, Chittanu Pashana* and *Dhammanu Pashana*.

In this regard various topics were prescribed and presented by the lecturers and discussed in depth by the participants. The important topics well designed by the Director in relation to the theme were : What is meditation, Silence, Awareness, Mind and its functions, Nature and functions of the Brain, Brain waves, Nature and Emotional Pain, Astanga Yoga of Patanjali, Sati Pattana, How to attain present moment Awareness, Science of Meditation, Hormones and its functions, the structure of Brain waves during Meditation, Abdominal Breathing, Awareness and Attention, the experiences of Meditation, The power of awareness, Characteristics of Self Actualized person, Self- knowledge and Religious Life, Eight Stages of Meditation as explained by Buddha.

The resource persons who put their sincere efforts to communicate their thoughts effectively were: Bro. B.V. Thippeswamy, President, KTF, Bro. G. Dakshinamurthy, Vice President, KTF, Sis. K. Parvathamma, Secretary, KTF, Bro. R.V.

Vastrad, National Lecturer, Bro. M.S. Sridhar, Bro. B.C. Narasingappa, Bro. H.C. Jagadeesh, Bro. T. Srinivas and Bro. Venkatachalapati.

Greater emphasis was given for practical sessions during the camp. Everyday two sessions of 2 hours each on practicing of various types of meditation (Vipashyana, Writing, Counting and Abdominal Breathing) were conducted by Bro. B.C. Narasingappa. The participants were delighted by the experience that they gained through practical meditation sessions and expressed their awareness towards meditation which they are willing to continue in their daily life.

The valedictory function was held on 23 May. Sis. K. Parvathamma conveyed her sincere thanks to all participants, resource persons, Director of the camp and to the Indian Section for providing all amenities for comfortable stay at the Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali. The camp was very useful with its practical approach.

4. A study camp under the auspices of Gujarat Theosophical Federation was held from 28 May to 30 May, 2019. The book taken up for study was *Light on the Path* and it was directed by the Federation Secretary of Uttar Pradesh and National Lecturer Bro. U.S. Pandey. In all, 23 members participated in it – 14 from Gujarat, 6 from Bombay and 3 from Marathi Federation.

Daily five sessions were conducted by Bro. U.S. Pandey. Besides, half an hour meditation was daily led by him. In the evening, after dinner, members recited devotional songs, poetry etc. The camp was a great learning experience for the participants under the guidance of Bro. U.S. Pandey who shared his deep knowledge with the participants.

Arrangements at Bhowali were excellent under the supervision of the National Treasurer Bro. V. Narayanan. He was ably supported by Shri Ganga Singh and his team to take care of

food & housekeeping of the premises. Brother Laxman Rao, an old Theosophist from Bangalore, had set up a bookstall.

5. Utkal Theosophical Federation, along with Assam, Bengal and Bihar Theosophical Federation organized a Study Camp from 1 to 5 June 2019. The book selected for the study was *Glimpses into the Psychology of Yoga* written by I.K. Taimni. Bro P.K. Mahapatra was the coordinator of the programme.

6. U.P. Federation and M.P./Rajasthan Federation jointly organized a three-day study camp on *Isis Unveiled* from 07 to 09 June, 2019. The study was directed by the National Lecturer Bro. U.S. Pandey. In all, 37 members (25 from U.P., 8 from M.P./Rajasthan, one from Delhi and 3 from Marathi Federation) participated in it. On the first day, after invocation of the Universal Prayer, Bro. Pandey explained the importance and need for study of *Isis Unveiled* as part of *The Secret Doctrine*. During the 15 sessions spread over three days he covered the following topics from the book: 'Introductory'; 'Ten Fundamental Propositions'; 'Old things with new names'; 'The Aether, or Astral Light'; 'Psycho-Physical phenomena'; 'India - the Cradle of the Race'; 'Oriental Cosmogonies and Bible Records'; 'Mysteries of the Kabala'; 'Krishna, Buddha and Christ'; 'Moon'; 'Free Masonry', and 'Conclusions and illustrations', etc. The study in all the sessions was participative and interactive. Guided meditation was practiced every day by the participants in the morning and evening. In the concluding session the participants expressed their appreciation for the matter covered in the camp and the way the content was presented and dealt with in every session.

7. A four-day study camp was organized by Tamil Federation at Bhowali from 17 to 20 June 2019. The opening session was presided by Federation President Dr. M.V. Rengarajan, who welcomed the gathering. Sis. Uma Bhattacharyya, TOS India, Varanasi lighted the *Kuttu Vilakku*-spiritual lamp. Bro. N.C. Krishna, National Lecturer, gave the introductory speech. Bro. Bro. V. Narayanan, Treasurer, Indian Section, was the director of

the study camp. He conducted 8 sessions focusing on the theme: 'Self-Transformation Through Self-Awareness'. Sufficient time was allotted for Questions-Answers and group discussion.

There were two short talks by the participants- 1. 'The Principles of Theosophy in various Literatures' by Sis. R. Kasthuri, Federation Lecturer, Sri Krishna TS Lodge, Puducherry and 2. 'Universal Brotherhood and the Sprint of Oneness' by Bro. R. Krishnamoorthy, Vice-President of Tamil Federation & TS Lodge's President at Madurai.

Sis. M. Vijayalakshmi, Federation's Jt. Secretary, performed the Bharat Samaj Pooja in the mornings. In the free time, sightseeing programme was arranged for the benefit of the delegates. A team of 27 members from 8 TS Lodges attended the study camp.

8. The Rayalseema Federation organized a study camp from 16-21 September 2019. Twenty delegates attended the camp. The books taken up for study were *The Key to Theosophy* and *Letters from the Masters of Wisdom*. The study was directed by Federation Secretary and National Lecturer Bro. N.C. Krishna.

9. The Telugu Federation conducted a study camp from 30 March to 3 April 2019. Thirty-eight delegates attended the camp. The book studied was *Masters and the Path*. Bro. P.L. N. Prasad and Bro. KVL Kantha Rao conducted the camp.

Every day two sessions in the morning and two sessions in the evening, were conducted followed by questions and answers. The directors of the camp enlightened the participants about the cosmogenesis and anthropogenesis. The Federation Secretary gave vote of thanks in the concluding session and the study camp came to a close with closing remarks of the Federation's President.

10. The Indian Section organized a study camp for students of VKM (college) at Bhowali from 21 to 22 March 2019. It was attended by 50 students and 8 staff members of VKM.

The camp was inaugurated by Dr. Kumud Ranjan, Head,

Department of Sociology, VKM. The two-day study camp was divided into four sessions and the lectures were delivered by Sri V. Narayanan, Treasurer, Indian Section, The Theosophical Society, Varanasi.

During the study camp, the students were exposed to aims and objectives of the Theosophical Society with great emphasis on meditation. Students who attended the camp narrated their experiences and learning in the meeting of Kashi Tattva Sabha held on 5.4.2019 where they spoke about their unique experience and understanding of the subject dealt with during the camp. From their narration, it emerged that the study camp has contributed immensely in understanding of theosophical values and spirituality by the students.

The students talked about their experiences during meditation, understanding of self-awareness and realization of existence of consciousness in them. They shared their experience of learning meditation in the Bhowali camp and in Sri Aurobindo Ashram at Bhowali and maintained that after attending the camp they realized a deeper meaning of life and spiritual essence in them. They revealed that learning during the camp helped them in controlling their emotions, desires, distractions, thus enriching and empowering their personality. They understood that serving humanity was important in attaining real happiness and spiritual growth.

It was indeed heartening to see how a closer relationship between the Indian Section and the college led to the study camp which helped our students to understand life and its essence contributing in the enrichment of their personality and self-transformation.

VIII. Workshop at the Section HQ

The Indian Section of the TS organized a three-day workshop on the theme 'Regenerating Practical Brotherhood through Study-Meditation-Selfless Service'. It was held on 23-25 Feb. 2019 at

Varanasi. About 40 students attended the workshop. The workshop was directed by Bro. Shikhar Agnihotir. Mrs Vasumati Agnihotri took a session on introduction of TS and Bharat Samaj Pooja. Mrs Uma Bhattacharyya took session on meditation.

IX. Propagation of Theosophy in new Areas

An initiative was taken to propagate Theosophy amongst students. The idea was to inculcate Theosophical and moral values amongst students and expose them to the aims and objectives of the Theosophical Society. A Certificate Course was designed on Self- Realization through Theosophy in October 2018.

The aim of the course is Value Education, Self-Awareness and Self-Transformation. The curriculum for the above course emphasizes on character-building aspects, life skills, imbibing right values and practising right behaviour. The course also aims at helping the students to prepare themselves for challenges of life and deal with the outside world competently. The course was started in October, 2018 with the Orientation Programme conducted by Mrs. Uma Bhattacharyya, Mr. V. Narayanan, Dr. Rachna Srivastava and Dr. Madhuri Agrawal. The course coordinators were Dr. Kumud Ranjan, Dr. Tripti Rani Jaiswal, Dr. Bina Singh and Dr. Swarvandana Sharma. Fifty students had enrolled for the course.

Time duration for Certificate Course in 2018-19 is 6 months. It commenced in October, 2018 and ended in April, 2019. After the completion of the course, students were awarded a certificate by the college.

The syllabus of the course for this short period of 6 months is – a. Self-Awareness, b. Personality Development, c. Familiarization with the Aims and Objectives of Theosophical Society and d. Book reading. The syllabus was completed in time period of 15 hours.

During this course, Sri V. Narayanan delivered lectures on Self-Awareness. Mrs. Uma Bhattacharyya delivered a lecture on

Personality Development and also conducted the Meditation class. Dr. Bina Singh did group book reading of J. Krishnamurti's *At the Feet of the Master*. In the concluding session, General Secretary Brother Pradeep Gohil exposed the students to aims and objectives of the Theosophical Society with stress on theosophical values.

X. Indian Section President's Visits

1. The President of the Indian Section, Pradeep Gohil attended the 99th Annual Conference of Uttar Pradesh Federation at Lucknow on 14 October 2018. He delivered the inaugural address on the theme of the Conference "Thoughts and Motives are wonderful Power".

2. He was invited to address the Belgian Section at Brussels where he spoke on "The Source of Spiritual Energy" on 26th June 2019.

3. He visited Naarden, The Netherlands to attend the Strategic Planning Meeting.

XI. National Lecturers' Visits

1. Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri

a) 5th Oct 2018 — Lecture on 'Holistic Health and Thought Power' for the students and teacher of GB Pant Inter college at Bhowali.

b) 27-28th Oct 2018 — Directed the seminar at Gwalior on the theme 'Satyam-Shivam-Sundaram in the light of Theosophy'.

c) 23-25th Nov 2018 — Camp Officer at Varanasi for the study camp on Self-Transformation workshop by Bro. Vicente Hao Chin Jr. from Philippines.

d) 29-30 Nov-01Dec 2018 — Three sessions of two hours each at Chhapra Lodge, Bihar. The subjects were:- 'Symbology of Sivalinga', 'Law of Karma and Daily Life' & 'Allegory in Durgasaptshati'.

e) 02nd Dec 2018 — Two sessions of two hours each at Muzaffarpur Lodge, Bihar, in which the subjects were as follows:- ‘Meditation-Theory and Practical’, ‘Law of Karma and Daily Life’.

f) 03rd Dec 2018 — One lecture on Holistic health and thought power was delivered at Dayanand Kanya high School in Muzaffarpur, Bihar.

g) 02nd Jan 2019 — Lecture delivered at Adyar during 143rd International Convention of the TS on the subject ‘Truth and Beauty’.

h) 03rd Jan 2019 — Lecture delivered at Adyar during the Indian Section Convention on the subject Harmony and Brotherhood.

i) 23-24-25 Feb 2019 — Directed a camp at Varanasi on the theme ‘Regenerating Practical Brotherhood through Study-Meditation-Selfless Service’. About 40 students of graduation level attended the camp.

j) 11th Aug 2019 — Delivered Lecture on “The Homing Signal Within” at Adyar in a meeting of Gandhinagar Lodge.

k) 23-24-25 Aug 2019 — Directed a study camp at Patna, Bihar on the book *The Key to Theosophy*.

2. Bro. U.S. Pandey

a) Delivered Public Talks at:

i) The Indian Section HQ on 01 October, 2018 on the occasion of 171st birth anniversary of Annie Besant.

ii) A symposium organized by Pragya International Trust at Lucknow on 25 October, 18 on the theme “Role of Spirituality in reducing poverty and hunger.”

iii) Delivered a public lecturer on Self-Transformation: Bro. U. S. Pandey was invited on 13 November to address the trainee officers and faculty members of the Indian Railway Institute of

Traffic Management (IRITM), Lucknow. The theme of the talk was “Rejuvenation and Self-Transformation by Awareness”. He spoke on the same theme in a seminar before a group of students and faculty members of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Lucknow on 29 November; before the students and faculty members of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Lucknow; seminar before a group of employees of “United Technical and Economic Services” (UNITES) on 11 December 2018; and before a group of trainee officers and faculty of Indian National Academy of Indian Railways (NAIR) Vadodara on 18 March 2019.

iv) At “Inner Government” seminar in Lucknow on 16 December, 2018.

v) On invitation of Bihar Federation Bro. U.S. Pandey, National Lecturer, visited Chhapra Lodge from 19 to 21 April, 2019. During this period he delivered the following talks there-

19 April- on the theme ‘Symbolism and Allegory in Religious Narrations’. This was held in the lodge, (ii) 20 April- on ‘Basic points of Theosophy and Self-Transformation’ before a group of graduate and postgraduate students in a coaching centre named ‘Study Point’ in FN; He addressed the members of the Lodge in the evening on the theme ‘Idols and Idolatry’, and (iii) He delivered a public talk on 21 April on the theme ‘Spirituality in daily life.’

vi) At Rotary Club of Lucknow on “Self-Management” before members on 8 May 2019.

vii) At Baba Thakurdas Inter college, Lucknow on “Role of Teachers” on 20 May 2019. At Almora on “Thought Power and its Uses” on 31 May 2019. At Indian Institute of Management Technology (IIIT) on 13 June 2019 at Haldwani.

b. **Theosophy to students and Teachers** –Delivered talks: on “How to live a healthy, happy, successful and peaceful life” for a group of students and teachers of Besant Higher Secondary School, Varanasi on 15 November, 2018; on “Fundamentals of Theosophy” before a group of students and their teachers in Vasant

Kanya Inter college Varanasi on 22 November, 2018; on “Oneness” and “Self-Transformation” before a group of students and teachers in Salsabeel Green School near Thrissur (Kerala) 11 January 2019; on “Education in light of Theosophical principles” before a group of teachers of Praxis Vidyapeeth at Basti on 26 March; on “Thought power and its uses” before a group of students of Praxis Vidyapeeth at Basti; on 27 March; on “Oneness” before a group of students of Praxis Vidyapeeth at Rudhauri (near Basti); on 27 March evening; on “Basic points of Theosophy and self-transformation” before group of students of a coaching centre named ‘Study Point’ at Chhapra on 20 April 2019; on “Oneness” before a group of students of Sanatan Dharm Bal Vidya Mandir in Khoda village on 11 July 2019; on “Main points of theosophical teachings, their scientific basis and their application in becoming oneself a better human being and in giving impetus to progress of whole humanity” before a group of students of class 12 in Dayanand Inter College Lucknow on 17 August 2019.

c. Programme in a village: Addressed a group of about 80 children of age group 6 to 14 years and 20 adults in Kabir Shanti Satsang Ashram located in village Kamalapur (near Sitapur) on 10 February 2019- covering the points like inner meaning of slogan ‘Bharat Mata ki Jai’- i.e. all residents of Bharat to awaken and nourish their faculty and capacity for helping others, meaning of Ishwar/ Allah- the great life pervading and sustaining the universe in simple language and in light of the theosophical teachings.

d. Visited Kolkata (in Bengal Federation) from 18 to 20 November 2018 and delivered the following three talks in a study camp : “Man is his own maker”, “Occult Functions of some Human Organs”, and “Chains, Rounds and Races”.

e. Visited Rajahmundry (in Telugu Federation) on 06 January 2019 and delivered two talks on the themes “Key Concepts of Theosophy” and “Human Evolution on Earth.”

f. Visited Kakinada (in Telugu Federation) on 07 and 08

January and delivered four talks on the themes “Human Happiness”, “Mahatmas and their Letters”, “Viveka-Chudamani”, and “The Secret Doctrine-an Introduction.”

g. Visited Thrissur (in Kerala Federation) from 10 to 12 January and delivered two talks on the themes “Human Happiness” and “Shiva in the Secret Doctrine.”

h. Visited Bangalore (in Karnataka Federation) and delivered talks on the theme “Stoicism, Aurelius and Meditations” in Bangalore City Lodge on 14 January FN and on same evening at Malleswaram lodge on the theme “Shiva in the Secret Doctrine.”

i. Conducted a study camp on *The Secret Doctrine* at Amravati lodge (in Marathi Federation) from 16 to 22 February 2019.

j. Delivered two talks on “Meditation-its precepts and practice” and “Human Happiness” at Akola Lodge (in Marathi Federation) and also guided a meditation session there on 23 February.

k. Delivered talk on “Practical Occultism” at Rewa lodge in Vadodara (in Gujarat Federation) on 18 March 2019.

l. Delivered talks on “Symbolism and allegory in Religious narration”, “Idols and Idolatry” and “Spirituality in daily life” at Chhapra (in Bihar Federation) from 19 to 21 April 2019.

m. Directed a study camp on “Light on the Path” organized by the Gujarat and Mumbai Federations in Himalayan Study Centre at Bhowali from 28 to 30 May, 2019.

n. Directed a study camp on “Isis Unveiled” organized by U.P. and M.P./Rajasthan Federations in Himalayan Study Centre at Bhowali from 07 to 09 June, 2019.

o. Conducted study on “Basic Theosophy” at Patna (in Bihar Federation) from 01 to 03 July, 2019.

p. Conducted “Theosophical Workers’ Training Camp”

organized by the Indian Section at Varanasi on 28-29 September 2019.

q. Directed 1, 2 and 3 days Study Camps in U.P.- One day's study on "Practical suggestions in Daily life" from the book "Practical Occultism" at Lucknow on 13 October 2018; on "Self-Transformation by Awareness" at Ghaziabad on 02-03 November 2018; on "Mahatma Letters" at Lucknow on 01-02 December, 2018; on "Law of Karma" in NOIDA on 09 December; on "Trust yourself to Life" at Barabanki on 09 February 2019; on "Angelic Kingdom" and "Allegory of churning the ocean" at Sitapur on 10 February; on "The Sun" and "the Shiva in the Secret doctrine" at Orai on 24 February; on "Self-transformation by awareness" at Shukla Ganj on 09-10 March 2019; on the book "Occult powers in Nature and in man" at Agra from 05 to 07 April 2019; on 'Insight into teachings of the Bhagavad Gita', 'Allegory in Mahabharat and Gita', and 'Practical Theosophy' at Gorakhpur from 22 to 24 April 2019; on 'The Voice of the Silence' at Varanasi from 05 to 07 July, 2019; and three days' study on "Self-transformation through awareness" at NOIDA from 12 to 14 July 2019.

r. Delivered following talks in lodges of U.P. Federation during the year under review: on "Heart and Eye Doctrine" at Basti, on "Occult functions of some human organs and their correspondence" at Agra, on "Theosophy and Theosophical Society" and "Reincarnation" at Almora, on "Theosophy and Theosophical Society" and on "Basic principles of Theosophy" at Bhowali, on "Theosophy and Objects of Theosophical Society" and "Reincarnation" at Nainital. Besides, he delivered the following talks on different dates in Lucknow: "Astral Body", "Man is his own maker", "The world of thought and thought power", "Insight into teachings of the Upanishads", "A Theosophy for tomorrow", "Question of Evil", "Deva Kingdom", "Universal Brotherhood", "Universal Prayer and Self-transformation", "Man, God and Universe", "The Theosophy-The Divine Wisdom", "Song of Life and practical Theosophy", "Light on the Path-Four basic rules", "Castes in India", "Meditation", "Mission of T.S"., "Raj

Yoga-Study, Meditation and Service".

s. Wrote a book in Hindi titled "*Theosophy ke Ayam*" consisting of 21 articles on important theosophical themes. Copies of this book were sent to some lodges, Federations and individuals.

3. Prof. C.A. Shinde

a) Delivered a Lecture at Karnataka Federation's Annual Meeting held from 12 to 15 Oct. 2018 at Bengaluru.

b) Gave a talk on 'Your are the World' at Gujarat Federation's Annual Meeting held in Surat on 15-16 Nov. 2018.

c) Participated in the pannel discussion held during the International Convention on 2nd Jan. 2019.

d) Visited Bangarpeth, Huliya, Hosdurg, Davangiri, Dharwar, Bangalore in the third week of January and gave lectures there on various topics related to Theosophy.

e) Delivered a talk on HSO & J. Krishnamurti on the occasion of Adyar Day. It was held at International HQ of TS, Adyar.

f) Spoke at Amaravati on 'Synthesis of Science, Philosophy and Religion', on 20 Feb. 2019.

g) Spoke on 'Occult Chemistry' at Ahmedabad TS Lodge on 18 March.

h) Visited Sri Lanka between 20-25 April 2019 and gave a talk there on 'Henry Steele Olcott'.

i) He spoke on *Light on the Path* at Bhowali Study Camp in May.

j) Directed the Federation Workers' Training Camp at Vasanta Lodge, Mumbai, from 2 to 25 June 2019.

k) Spoke on "Deepening of Understanding" at Madras Federation's seminar on Mission Statement of T.S. held on 31 August 2019.

l) Spoke on 'Masters and the Path' on 21 September.

4. Sri. B.D. Tendulkar

a) He directed the Khageswar Rautry Memorial Study class from 13 to 15 July 2019 at the UTF Hall, Bhubaneswar. The book selected for the study was '*In the Outer Court*' by Annie Besant.

b) He delivered a brief talk on Ashal Festival at UTF Hall, Bhubaneswar on 16 July 2019.

c) Addressed the students and teachers of Venkateswar English Medium School in Bhubaneswar on 18 July, 2019.

5. Sri. S.K. Pandey

a) Participated as a resource person in a study camp on 'Occult Power in Nature and Man' held from 5 to 7 April 2019 at Agra.

b) Conducted a study camp on *The Voice of the Silence* at Varanasi on 5 to 7 July, 2019.

c) Delivered a lecture on *At the Feet of the Master* at the Kanchan Singh Bhulidevi P.G. College in Kanpur, Dehat on 20 August 2019.

6. Sri. G. Dakhinamoorthy

a) Directed a study camp at Srinivaspura Theosophical Lodge from 27 to 29 April, 2019 on the book *Life is for Living*' by Bro. Surendra Narayan. About 250 members participated in the camp.

7. Sri. Ashok P. Lokhande

a) Directed a National Seminar at Gwalior Theosophical Lodge and spoke on 'Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram' in the light of Theosophy on 27 October 2018.

b) Spoke on *Masters and the Path* at the 88th Annual Conference of Marathi Theosophical Federation at Khamgaon on 21st September 2019.

8. Sri. N.C. Krishna

a) He visited the Bengal Theosophical Federation, on 17

and 18 August 2019. Conducted two day study programme at B.T.S. Hall. The topics taken up for study and lectures were: 1. Life After Death; 2. Theosophical Way of Life and 3. Self-Transformation.

9. Dr. L. Nagesh

a) He gave a talk on 'Shambala' at Vijayanagar Lodge on 29 January 2019.

b) Directed a day-long study camp at Bangarpet Lodge on 17 Feb. 2019 (Adyar Day). He spoke there on 'Cosmogogenesis and the Secret of World Manifestation'.

c) Spoke on 'Sadhana' at Kottur Lodge on 16 March 2019.

10. Dr. Bipul Sarmah

Despite his ill-health throughout the year with two major operations he contributed well to the Theosophical Society.

a) He conducted a study class on "Mahatma Letters 42/43/44/45" at Assam Theosophical Federation (HQ), Bhangagarh, Guwahati.

b) Spoke on "Propagation of Theosophy in Upper Assam" at the Annual General Meeting of Assam Theosophical Federation on 18 November, 2019 at Pensioners Bhawan, Chandmari, in Guwahati.

c) Delivered a talk on 27 March at Sampriti Lodge, Tarajan, Jorhat on "God and Our World" based on the book *The Living Wisdom* by P. Pavri.

d) Delivered a lecture in the first week of April at Pragati Lodge in Jorhat on "Dhyana Mantra of Mahesha" (meditation of the manifest Deity) as given in the book *Glimpses into the Psychology of Yoga* by I.K. Taimni.

e) Gave a talk on 'A Short Introduction of a few Theosophical Books' at the Annual Business Meeting of Pragati Lodge in Jorhat. It was held on 25 September 2019.

11. Sri. R.V. Vastrad

a) He was one of the resource persons of a study camp at Bhowali on the theme: “Present Moment Awareness”- Meditation held from 17 May to 23 May 2019: He spoke there on ‘Emotional Pain and Its Eradication’ on 19 May, ‘Dhyana Yoga’ on 21.5.2019, ‘Self Actualisation’ on 22 May, and ‘Self-knowledge and religious life’ on 23 May.

b) Delivered a talk on ‘Spiritual Laws for Success’ followed by prize distribution to the students who participated in the debate. It was held on the occasion of 59th Annual Day of Sanath Kumar on 9th August Lodge at UTF Hall Bhubaneswar.

Shyamparasad Memorial study class was conducted by him from 10 to 12 Aug. 2019 at UTF Hall. The study was on the book of JK *The First and Last Freedom* at UTF.

c) ‘Introduction to JK’s Teachings on 10.8.2019, ‘Truth is a pathless Land’ on 11.8.2019, ‘Self Knowledge’ on 12.8.2019.

d) He spoke on the ‘Principles of Theosophy’ at Hospet Theosophical Lodge on February 3.

e) Directed a study camp at Mangalore Theosophical Lodge on 24 Feb 2019.

f) He presided over Kottur Theosophical Lodge’s Annual Meeting on 16-17 March 2019.

12. Sri. S. Harihara Raghavan

a) He continued to conduct in-depth study on the book “*Outline of Theosophy*” for new members of Adyar Lodge, Gandhinagar Lodge and Adyar Ladies Lodge.

b) Delivered the inaugural address in the annual conference of Tamil Federation highlighting the theme ‘Ageless Wisdom, Spiritual Transformation and Unity of Life. Three talks at the Annual Conference of Tamilnadu held at Madurai from 13 to 14 October 2018. Later in the evening, he delivered a public lecture on ‘Human Regeneration’.

c) Delivered the keynote address while presiding over the Kerala Theosophical Federation’s annual conference at Trivandrum from 16 to 18 November 2018.

d) Conducted a study camp on the book *Life’s Deeper Aspects* by N. Sriram at Utkal Theosophical Federation in Bhubaneswar from 28 to 30 June, 2019.

13. Smt. Sonal Murali

She gave a talk on ‘*Seekers After Truth*’ at the Headquarters Hall, Adyar, on the occasion of Founders’ Day.

Gave a talk on ‘*Living from the Centre*’ at Manila, HQ of Philippines TS. It was held on 27 January.

On 31 March she spoke at the Adyar Lodge, on the topic *Transformative Education*.

Delivered a talk on *Transformative Education* before the Staff and Research Scholars of MS Swaminathan Research Foundation on 3rd April. This was covered by media and featured in two newspapers, *The Hindu* and *The Times of India*.

During the Easter Conference on 19-20 April 2019, chaired a session of Short Talks on ‘Religion vs Superstition’ and ‘Science is our Best Ally’ respectively.

She explained ‘Spiritual Self-Transformation’ in a seminar on ‘Mission Statement 2019’ which was held under the auspices of Madras Theosophical Federation on 31 August 2019.

14. Sri. Narsinh Thakariya

a) Participated in the study camp on *Light on the Path* at Bhowali from 28-30 May, 2019.

b) Gave a lecture on *Light on the Path* at the Sanatan Lodge, Surat in June 2019.

XII. Besant Education Fellowship (BEF)

As proposed in the last Year's Annual Report, certain follow-up actions have taken place as envisaged:

a. It was decided by both BEF Governing Body and the Indian Section Council that two educational institutions, mentioned below, under the management of BEF should be contributed to the Indian Section for more efficient management and possibilities of expansion. The two institutions are 1. Vasant Kanya Maha Vidyalaya (VKM Degree College for women) and 2. Annie Besant School. Both the institutions are situated within the campus of the Indian Section HQ.

b. There is no more need to give land on lease to these institutions since they are now directly owned and managed by the Indian Section. This has enabled the Indian Section to allot more land to the VKM Degree College where new Post-Graduate courses were sanctioned by the Banaras Hindu University. An additional building block for this purpose is fast progressing and would be ready for occupation from next academic year.

c. As there was a greater demand for hostel accommodation for girl students, the BEF was not in a position to create additional accommodation because of paucity of funds and land availability. The Indian Section has now created a new hostel for Girl Students, Rohit Mehta Bhavan, with a capacity of 144 beds, all in double room format with all modern facilities.

d. Two schools are under the management of BEF; 1. The Besant Theosophical School and The VKM Inter College, both are in the premises of the Indian Section Campus.

XIII. Board of Studies

The Board of Studies was dissolved in October 2018 and it was decided to move to Goal Setting of all Federations. It would help all Lodges and Federations to focus on study camp, etc which have been taken as their goals.

XIV. Visitors

Brother Vicente (Vic) Hao Chin Jr. visited the Varanasi Campus of the Indian Section from 22nd to 29th November, 2018. He conducted a study camp from 23 to 25 November and a Teacher's Training Camp from 26 to 27 November.

The Curator of the San Fransisco Art Gallery was in Varanasi to see the paintings on 'Thoughts Forms' by Dr. Annie Besant. We showed him the replica that have been exhibited in a room at Santi-kunj.

The International Secretary of the Theosophical Society, Marja Artamaa visited Varanasi from 21 to 28 August to participate in the Convention Planning Meeting on 26th August. She saw the accommodation arrangements that were to be made for the convention. She also visited the Dr. Radha Burnier Amphitheatre that was under construction at that time. Finally, she saw the menu that was fixed for the food at the time of the Convention.

XV. Membership

The membership of the Indian Section on 30 September 2019 was 10703 compared to the membership of 111,44 on 30th September, 2018. There was a net decrease of 441 members. The number of members in good standing is 8,417. In all, 1206 members were dropped due to non-payment of fees. A total of 134 members passed to peace and there was cancellation of Diploma of one member. This way we lost 1,341 members against only 903 members brought in our fold. There were 785 new members and 118 revived members. At present there are 486 Lodges and Centres under 16 Federation and Headquarters (for unattached members)

Unfortunately, in the past twenty years or so, a number of members had passed to peace but in some cases it was not reported to the Indian Section HQ. Now when we are putting pressure to improve the accuracy of reporting, we find Federation Secretaries reporting the names of persons who have passed to peace. While 785 new members joined this year (Oct 2018 to Sept. 2019) against

658 last year, membership of 1206 members had lapsed this year as compared to 971 last year. Maximum efforts will have to be put by all Federations to reverse the decline and achieve a net growth in membership.

XVI. a) The Indian Theosophist (IT)

The Section's Journal 'The Indian Theosophist' was published every month regularly from October 2018 to September 2019. There were no special issues this time.

A change has been made on the back cover of the IT. The Mission Statement of the Theosophical Society is printed just below its three Objects.

The complaints of non-receipt of IT have reduced very significantly. The Indian Postal Department was not the only reason for this problem. Members had often changed their residence and not informed the Indian Section. Similarly, many times the members had not paid Rs 30 subscription for the IT. Lodge Secretaries and Federation Secretaries do not inform the Indian Section most of the time when a member has passed to peace. We continue to post the IT every month and would stop only when we come to know about it or when the IT is returned to us. A little more care by the Federation Secretaries in sending such information would be very helpful.

It has also been found that Post Office related problems are only reduced; not completely solved. Any member who wants guaranteed delivery will be sent the IT by Registered Book Post at a cost of Rs. 300 per year.

b. Indian Section Website

The Indian Section Website, "Theosophy-India.Org" attracted good traffic during the year. The contents of the website is frequently uploaded to notify new events and news. It is hosting

regional publications of different Federations, like the *Bombay Theosophical Bulletin*, "*Theosophic Jyoti*" from Gujarat etc. The monthly publication of the Indian Section "*The Indian Theosophist*" is readily available every month on the web site. All the Federations are encouraged to utilize pages allotted to them in the web site.

On an average about 250 visits per month are recorded. About 25% of the new visitors return to the site again. It is envisaged to publish more relevant material in the sight, taking into consideration the vast developments in the field of Psychology and Science.

XVII. The Theosophical Order of Service

This year 201 new Life and Patron members enrolled in TOS in India to strengthen the work of service activities. Bro. B.L. Bhattacharya and Bro. Pradeep Gohil gave valuable direction in the East Zone conference held at Kolkata on 9-10 of February 2019 with a theme of Live and let Live. TOS annual camp was held at Bhowali on 11-13 June 2019. Indian Section and TOS International together contributed six lakh for the Kerala flood relief. TOS in India and Odisha region contributed for cyclone relief work. Odisha region donated one lakh for CM relief fund.

TOS West Zone meeting was organized at Amravati in Maharashtra on 24 and 25 August. Bro. Sanjay Potey organized this and Sis. Nancy Secrest participated and spoke about the work around globe and service spirit. South Zone conference was held at Bangalore on 17-18 August organized by Karnataka region and Sr. Nancy participated in this event and graced the meeting. Regular medical relief, school scholarships, help for physically challenged, old age homes, children's education and poverty relief works are in progress by the groups, regional level and at National level. TOS in India is grateful to all the members for their contribution for the service activities and disaster relief works.

XVIII. Status of the College and Hostel Run by Indian Section

1. Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalay (VKM)

The college was inaugurated on 10 July, 1954 by Dr. C.P. Ramaswamy Aiyer, the then Vice-Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University(BHU). Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya, a postgraduate institution has withstood the challenges of time to leave its imprint in the world of women's education. With a holistic end in mind, the college pursues the motto 'education as service', so that the students become responsible citizens, able to serve the community.

At present the College has a group of 46 extremely efficient, committed and qualified teachers under the able administration of an open minded Principal and manager. Presently, the college is offering 14 subjects in Arts and Social Sciences at UG level and 5 subjects at PG level. However from the session 2020-21, with the approval of BHU, the college will be introducing Geography at UG level and Postgraduation in AIHC & Archeology, Philosophy, Sanskrit, Economics, History & Political Science.

The college also runs two certificate courses under self-financing scheme –spoken English and Fashion Designing.

A new building of the college to accommodate new classes is coming up in an area of 635 sq.mt. in the premises of the Theosophical Society, Indian Section. The building comprises 19 rooms (11 classrooms, 3 labs, 1 staff room, 4 storerooms, with lift and stilt parking facility.) A new hostel building, Rohit Mehta Bhavan, was constructed in the premises of the Theosophical Society, with a capacity to accommodate more than 150 college students. The hostel was inaugurated on 24.7.2019 by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, BHU, Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar.

In the academic session 2018-19, 1296 students were enrolled in the undergraduate and 268 students were enrolled in the Post-graduate courses, whereas in the current session 2019-20, 1357

students were enrolled in UG and 295 students in PB level.

Besides, 21 students were enrolled in Fashion Designing certificate course and 15 students in Spoken English Certificate course in the session 2018-19.

In 2018-19, one new Research Scholar was enrolled in the Department of Home Science and at present the total number of Research Scholars is 59.

Each year, prestigious scholarships and gold medal awarded by alumni and retired teachers of the College, are given to meritorious students. Eighteen such prizes and scholarships were given in 2018-19.

Four students of the college were awarded BHU gold medals in the convocation for securing highest marks in their respective subjects – English, Music Vocal, Home Science and Psychology.

Apart from being scholars in their respective fields, the faculty members of the College are always in continuous pursuit to enhance and update their subject knowledge. This year 3 research projects were awarded by ICSSR under IMPRESS Scheme to our faculty members. Prof. Rachna Srivastava, Principal was awarded a project in Political Science; Dr. Anshu Shukla and Dr. Sunita Dixit in Home Science. Four books, 40 chapters in books and 20 papers in peer reviewed journals were published by faculty members. Besides, 180 papers were presented by our faculty in National and International seminars.

Various lectures, workshop and visits were organized, both at the UG and PG levels, to impart latest information to the students and to spread awareness among them regarding recent trends, so as to enlighten and empower them in their academic pursuits. In all 30 lectures and 11 workshops were organized by various departments and committees in 2018-19. Apart from this 2 fairs were organized by department of Home Science and a Book Fair by the Library.

Two National Seminars were organized during this academic session, one of them being sponsored by ICSSR and the other by NAAC viz. Land Acquisition, Development and Social Justice on 5-6 October, 2018 (ICSSR).

Fostering Global Competencies along with Value System among Students; Role of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) on 24-25 January, 2019, (NAAC)

One International Workshop on Teachers' Training was organized on 26-27 November, 2018 in collaboration with Theosophical Society, Varanasi. Two seven-day workshops were organized namely, Yoga Workshop organized by Department of Philosophy and E-content Development organized by IQAC. A one day workshop on Life-skill Training for Geriatric Mental Health was organized by the Department of Psychology. These workshops proved beneficial for the students and the faculty members.

These seminars and workshops were graced by eminent guests and resource persons as well as participants from and outside Varanasi making the events successful.

Various outreach programme and educational visits were organized by the college to make the learning more sustainable and interesting. This session, 14 educational tours were organized including a visit to Ardh Kumbha, Prayagraj and Himalyan Study Centre, Bhowali.

2. Vasant Kanya Inter College (VKIC)

Vasant Kanya Inter College is run under the control of "Besant Education Fellowship", a constituent body of Theosophical Society (Indian Section, Varanasi since 1955). It is a Hindi medium girls Inter College from class VIth to XIIth undergraduate under grant in aid by U.P. Intermediate Board of Education of U.P. government.

The total strength of college was 768 last year (2018-19)

and increased to 794 this year (2019-20). It has teaching strength of 1 Principal, 6 lecturers, 6 Assistant Teachers and 7 supporting staff.

Results of academic year 2018-19 were excellent. In the High School (xth), 100% of the 124 students that appeared had passed with 109 in first class and 38 with honours. In the Intermediate Section (xiith), the result was 96.29% with 37 first class and 3 honours. In the Science Stream, the result was 100% with all 43 students passing. There were 34 first class and 2 honours. In the Trade Section the result was 94.44% where 80 students appeared, 70 received first class with 6 getting honours.

Apart from academics students take part in extracurricular activities such as sports (Volleyball, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, swimming, athletics), Science exhibition, debates, quiz programmes at all levels upto Zonal and state level. They have won many prizes. Our students take part in almost all the cultural programme organized by State and Central Government throughout the year. Scout and Red Cross programmes are regularly conducted in the college.

Last year (2018-19) the school was able to construct new class costing Rs 6 lakhs. The Principal's room and Teacher's room were renovated. In the current year (2019-20) it is planned to change temporary roof of 3 classrooms to RCC roof costing Rs 11.50 lakhs as the school has applied for a new course of commerce in High School and Social Science and Commerce for, intermediate.

3. Besant Theosophical Higher Secondary School (BTS)

Besant Theosophical Higher Secondary School known as BTS was established by the Indian Section in 1939 as Theosophical Boys School. In 1954 it was changed into BTS. In 1955 a separate constitutional body of Indian Section was registered as Besant Education Fellowship. The control of school was handed over to BEF. Since 1955 BTS is functioning under the control of BEF,

affiliated to High School Board of U.P. Government as grant in aid school from class VI to X (Hindi Medium Boys School).

Last year (2018-19) the total number of students was 482 and this year (2019-20) it is 500. Total number of teachers including Principal is 14 and other staff is 10. Last year class xth Board results were 94.19% .

Last year (2018-19) the BTS school was able to establish new modern computer lab at a cost of Rs 5 lakhs. All the classrooms and campus is equipped with CCTV with voice recording system. The old building “Gyan Geha” was renovated at a cost of Rs 8 lakhs.

In the current year 2019-20, work is in progress to convert and construct six new classrooms costing Rs 16.5 lakhs. This is required as school is planning to upgrade itself from high school to intermediate college by adding XIth and XIIth Standard in Arts, Science and Computer Science.

An RO plant has been installed in the school and with the help of old students a water cooler and 8 ceiling fans have also been installed.

Apart from academic studies several extracurricular activities such as Scouting, Red Cross, Science Exhibitions, Debates and Quiz programmes, Sports, etc are organized throughout the year and students actively participate in different programmes and championships organized by the State and Central Government at District level, Zone level and State level. The school always encourage the students to take part in aforementioned activities so that their overall development takes place.

4. Annie Besant School (ABS)

Annie Besant School, came into existence in the year 2005 as a result of merging “Shishu Vihar” and “Annie Besant Primary School”. Initially this English medium, co-education school was

run from Prep. to class 5 but from the year 2015 it was upgraded to class 8th. Since its incorporation it was under the control of Besant Education Fellowship (BEF) but from 1st April 2018. The Theosophical Society (Indian Section) took direct control of it. The Annie Besant School follows the CBSE Pattern curriculum. In the last session 2018-19 the total strength of the school was 281. In this current session 2019-20 the total strength of the school is 334. At present there is one Principal, fifteen teachers, two office staffs and five subordinate staff members. Apart from academic studies several extra-curricular activities such as Exhibition - cum - Fete, hand writing competition. Rakhi Making, Rangoli and Diya making, debates on current issues etc. are held from time to time. Besides these activities several functions are also celebrated in the school such as Basant Panchami, Holi, Independence Day, Diwali, etc. Last year we celebrated “Umang” the Annual Function of the school. The school encourages its students to take part in these activities which contributes to the overall development of the personality of the students. Last year one new conference hall “Anusmriti hall” was constructed in our new building ground floor to encourage and host the various in-house functions that are organized by the school from time to time.

5. Vasant Balika Vihar Hostel

Vasant Balika Vihar Hostel is being run under the Indian Section for providing hostel facilities to the Degree College (VKM) students. There is great demand as it is in heart of city along with the college. This hostel meets the crucial requirement of such girl students who are keen on pursuing their studies in Varanasi but stay in far off places.

To meet higher demand of girl students a new Rohit Mehta Hostel building has been constructed which was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor of BHU on 27/7/2019. Number of students in the hostel have considerably increased during this academic session. A chart reflecting the occupancy this year and last year in

the various building of Vasant Balika Vihar is given below:

Name of the Build.	Total No. Seats		No. of occupied	
	2018-19:	2019-20	2018-19:	2018-2019
Anand Bhavan	39	41	39	35
Vinay Bhavan	14	14	14	13
Shanti Bhavan	15	14	15	13
Maitrey Bhavan	30	30	30	26
Blavatsky Bhavan	46	44	46	39
Dhruv Bhavan	6	09	06	07
Bhojanshala Bhavan	16	16	16	13
Rohit Mehta Bhavan	0	144	0	129
Total	166	312	166	275

Number of students is likely to increase as 6 more P.G courses in Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya are to commence from 2020-2021.

A new executive manager, Mrs. Nita Rai, has been appointed from this session. All the hostels are well furnished with cot, mattress, table, chair, cupboard, bed, lights, fans, inverter facilities, television, wi-fi and computer with internet facility.

Vasant Balika Vihar has two mess - Maitry Mess, & Sri Devi Mehta Mess. They serve healthy & hygienic food to the students along with good quality milk and fruits.

XIX. Review of Financial Position

The Treasurer has given a review of the financial position of the Indian Section for the Year ending 31 March 2019. Before considering the financial aspects for the year under review, it is necessary to summarize the changes effected on the ground by the President of the Indian Section and his team.

1. As members are already aware, the Indian Section has taken over the management of the three institutions, i.e...VKM Degree College, Annie Besant School & Vasant Balika Vihar(Girls Hostel) and has properly planned their efficient running and expansion. As a result, a new girls Hostel was planned and work on additional college block is in progress. These activities will also reflect in the financial position of the Indian Section in a positive way by way of increase in revenue.

2. Secondly, for the proper propagation of Theosophy, a Goal Setting Session was conducted at Bhowali, in October 2018, in which all the Presidents and Secretaries of the Federations of the Indian Section participated. Proper goals were set for each federation and the financial support was assured to them to achieve the same.

3. During the Year under review, an amount of Rs.24,62,989 was given as grants to various Federations for the purpose of Propagation of Theosophy. This is an increase of 45% compared to the grants given in the previous year. This includes grants for publication in regional languages amounting to Rs.2,10,400.

4. A new head of expenditure towards Staff P.F & E.S.I was an addition from the current year under review. An amount of Rs.3,66,125 was spent under this head, complying with the Law of the Land.

5. After making the increased disbursal for propagation during the current year and additional expenditure on P.F & E.S.I for the staff, the section has achieved a surplus of Rs.35,42,801, which reflects the efficient financial planning and proper asset utilization.

When the ongoing projects of the (1)Girls Hostel, (2)Additional College Block and (3)Harmony Building are completed in 2019-20, there will be a substantial increase in the revenue of the Section, as the President has promised to the Officers of the Federations at the Goal Setting Session at Bhowali in October 2018.

XX. Report of the Central Property Committee (CPC)

The CPC has identified some properties of the Section/Lodges to be dealt with during the period. Two properties in Telugu Federation, at Peddapuram and Dawaleswaram, where lodge activities can be revived is under process. As for the Rajahmundry Property of the Indian Section, the Lodge Secretary was allegedly misusing the property. The Delhi Property of the Indian Section is on 99 Years Lease and efforts are being made to possess it in freehold for proper development of the same in the capital of the country. We are looking for potential buyers of 50,000 sq.ft. of Gwalior

Property of the Indian Section. We are already armed with a resolution by circulation of the Indian Section to sell the property with an overwhelming majority of 31:1.

The property of the Section in Patna is under consideration for reconstruction and development. The properties at Trichy and Triplicane(Chennai) are being cleared of all legal shortcomings for further dealings with it. Overall, the CPC will be in a position to develop or dispose off some of the above mentioned assets in order to create new properties for further expansion of Theosophical activities in the coming years.

XXI. Gone To Peace

1. Dr. A. Kannan (Dip. No. 38088) passed to peace on 3 January 2019. He became a member of the TS on 1 Feb. 1951 and was its Life Member since 19 Oct. 1979.

Dr. Kannan obtained a doctorate in Chemistry from Bombay University and had specialized in the chemistry of foods, drugs and water. He did his post-doctoral research on Dairy Chemistry at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Subsequently, he worked at the Dairy Institute, Bangalore and at the Delhi Municipal Corporation as a Public Analyst. In December 1964, he moved with his family to TS Adyar. In 1973, he started the Theosophy Science Study Group and was its Convener till 2009. He was the Editor of 'Theosophy, Science and Yoga', the Bulletin of Theosophy and Science and the journal on Holistic Science. Was the author of the books, *Impact of Theosophy and Science* and *The One Life and Functional Forms*. He wrote several articles in various Theosophical journals.

As a National Lecturer, Dr. Kannan travelled throughout India for many years, conducting study classes and delivering lectures on the themes related to Theosophy. He was the General Secretary of the Indian Section of the T.S. for one year (1983). Along with T. S. work Dr. Kannan also attended to the work of the Esoteric School of Theosophy and Co-freemasonry. Besides, he was a member of the Besant Education Fellowship for several years.

2. Sis. Usha Ahwin Shroff, a Life Member of Vasanta Lodge with TS Membership of 27 years passed away to Light Eternal on

29-4-2019. A dynamic Lady, whose contribution in corporate sector to Excel Industries Ltd. led by her husband Ashwin and in Theosophical Society to Vasanta Theosophical Co-operative Housing Society, is praiseworthy. May her soul be blessed with peace.

3. Bro. Sri Raman (Dip. No. 70574), a member of Kashi Tattva Sabha (KTS) Varanasi, passed to peace on 16 October 2018. He was President of Annie Besant Youth Lodge during 1958-59 and helped the organization even during later years - especially during the International Conventions held at Varanasi.

4. Sri Gulab Chand (Dip. No. 97525) passed to peace on 9 November. He was a member of KTS and also working in the Membership Department at the Section HQ, Varanasi. Besides, he was helping in the work of TOS.

5. Smt. Raj Vij (Dip. 78190) of Samveti Lodge Pilibhit passed to peace on 30.03.2019. She was a very good poet and wrote many poems on theosophical subjects.

In all, 137 passed to peace during the under review.

XXII. Tasks Ahead

I will let you all be the judge on whether a lot of good work both administratively as well as in propagation of theosophy have been done. However, a lot remains to be done. We have to further intensify our efforts on propagation of Theosophy and turn around the slow decline in our membership. Innovative methods of promotion have to be employed. Youth programmes and membership drive should be given priority.

The Indian Section must even further improve in their goal achievements both as standalone and as consolidated.

I wish a very productive and eventful year ahead for the Indian Section.

XXIII. Gratitude

As I proceed to conclude this annual report I must extend my gratitude to all my colleagues in the Indian Section, to all the employees of the various headquarters and to all those who have

worked voluntarily to make everything I have described possible.

Brother Narayanan, a source of positive energy all the time, continued to improve the Himalayan Study Centre at Bhowali. He also contributed immensely in all legal and property related work. Of course, he has kept the finance and accounts in good shape despite GST and considerable increase in the financial work.

Sister Uma Bhattacharyya has contributed immensely to all aspects of the Indian Section work. It is well known that she is the architect of the excellent relationship with the college and hostel. She has managed difficult situation exceedingly well. Now she is the one who is most concerned in the planning of the International Convention.

Bro. S. Sundaram has been outstanding in the regularity of Indian Theosophist editing and publication. I am very grateful to him for his voluntary contribution.

I must convey my gratitude to the Indian Section Council and the Executive Committee for having supported me in all my endeavours. All the Federation Presidents and Secretaries have done a marvelous job in achieving a high percentage of goals and supporting me all the time. I must thank them all.

I must make a mention of the most sincere and hard working contractor. Mr. Jagannath Singh Chauhan. He has completed the Rohit Mehta Bhavan (Hostel) in recorded time at a most reasonable cost. I am sure he will complete the Radha Burnier Amphitheatre, extension and upgradation of Suryashram and all the four floors of Harmony building before the Convention. He has not taken a single Sunday or Holiday in the last 18 months of tireless toil. I thank him heartily.

How can I forget Mr. Om Prakash Yadav, Mr. A. N. Singh and Mr. Raj Kumar Pandey along with all the employees of our Indian Section family. You must all be proud of your outstanding contributions. Thank you.

Date 29.10.2019
Varanasi

Pradeep H. Gohil
President

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

	2018-2019		2018-2019
Admission	785	Lapse	1206
Readmission	118	Death/Resignation	137
		Cancellation	1
Transfer from other Section		Transfer to Other Section	Nil
Total :	903	Total	1344

1	No. of members	1.10.2018	11144	Incoming	903
2	No. of members	1.10.2019	10703	Outgoing	1344

S.No.	Federation	1.10.2018	1.10.2019	Gain	Loss
1	Assam	442	407		15
2	Bengal	269	258		11
3	Bihar	279	275		4
4	Bombay	286	279		7
5	Delhi	129	141	12	
6	Gujarat	863	795		68
7	Karnataka	3180	3122		58
8	Kerala	319	289		30
9	M.P& Raj.	370	372	2	
10	Madras	887	790		97
11	Marathi	502	487		15
12	Rayalaseema	579	553		26
13	Tamilnadu	749	677		72
14	Telugu	961	947		14
15	Utkal	281	340	59	
16	Uttar Pradesh	867	836		31
17	Headquarters	201	135		66
		11144	10703	73	514

* The total membership as on 2017-18 in the previous year was 11144.
After verification of records the figure as on 1.10.2019 stands at 10703.

**ANNEXURE - II
NEW LODGES FORMED DURING 2018-2019**

S. No	Charter No.	Date	Federation	Name of Lodge
1.	1501	29.08.19	U.P. & Uttarakhand	Basti
2.	1502	29.08.19	Karnataka	Koppal

LODGES REVIVED DURING 2018-2019

S. No	Charter No.	Date	Federation	Name of Lodge
NIL				

LODGES

1. Number of Lodges and Centres at the beginning of the year	472+10=482
2. Increase in number of Lodges and Centres at end of the year	03+01=04
3. Chartered issued for the Lodges	02
4. Lodges Dissolved	0
Number of Lodges & Centres at the closing of the year	475+11= 486
Number of chartered Lodges at the closing of the year	389

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

S.No	Federation	Conference	Month	Place	Chief Guest
1	Assam	41st	18 Nov. 2018	Guwahati	Prof. C.A. Shinde
2	Bengal	99th	7 Sept. 2019	Kolkata	Bro. Shyamal Kumar Sen
3	Bihar	114th	23-25 Aug. 2019	Patna	Bro. Pradip Mahapatra
4	Bombay	87th	26-28 Oct. 2018	Mumbai	Dr. Deepa Padhi
5	Delhi	96th	03 March 2019	Delhi	Bro. R.N. Shukla
6	Gujarat	91st	16-17 Nov. 2018	Surat	Prof. C.A. Shinde
7	Karnataka	110th	20-22 Sept. 2019	Hosadurga	Bro. Tim Boyd
8	Kerala	89th	16-18 Nov. 2018	Trivanduram	Bro. Harihara Raghavan
9	M.P.& Raj.	94th	2-3 Nov. 2019	Gwalior	Pradip Mahapatra
10	Madras	80th	28 Oct. 2018	Adyar	Sis. Marja Artmaa
11	Marathi	88th	21-23 Sept. 2019	Khamagaon	Prof. C.A. Shinde
12	Rayala-seema	107th	Oct. 2018	Hospet	Dr. N.C. Ramanujachary
13	Tamil	92th	13-14 Oct. 2018	Madurai	Hon. J. S.R. Swaminathan
14	Telugu	99th	15-16 March 19	Machili-patnam	Bro. C.V.K. Maitreya
15	Utkal	54th	09-10 Feb. 2019	Bhubaneswar	Sis. Nancy Secrest
16	Uttar Pradesh	100th	14 Oct. 2018	Lucknow	Pradeep H. Gohil

ANNEXURE - IV
LIST OF FEDERATION JOURNALS
2018-2019

S.No	Federation	Name of Journal	Periodicity
1	Assam	<i>Jnana- Jeuti</i> <i>Prashar Patrika</i>	Yearly Half 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 Federation Bulletin</i>	Qtrly. Qtrly.