



THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL BULLETIN

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Volume 91



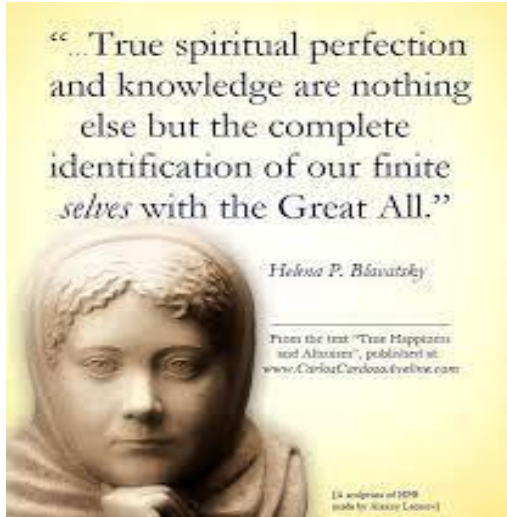
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MISSION OF TS

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

CONTENTS

Quote of HPB and White Lotus day Meeting	Cover - 2
Blavatsky Lodge Bldg. opens for TS Activities	3 - 4
VCTS – ‘Zoroastrianism’ & Deepa’s Book	5 - 7
Secrete Doctrine – Sloka #9 / Stanza - I	8 - 11
Theosophical Bond – E&C Africa and BTF	11 - 12

**BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION
& BLAVATSKY LODGE TS MUMBAI
INVITES ONE & ALL TO CELEBRATE
WHITE LOTUS DAY**



DATE: SUNDAY 8th MAY 2022 TIME: 11.00 AM – 12.00 NOON

PROGRAM: PRAYERS OF ALL RELIGIONS

SIGNIFICANCE OF WHITE LOTUS DAY: BRO. VINAYAK PANDYA

PASSAGES READ FROM

BHAGWAD GEETA: BY VP BRO. NAVIN KUMAR

VOICE OF SILENCE: BY SIS. MEHERANGIZ BARIA

THE LIGHT OF ASIA: BY BRO. RUSTOM COOPER

12.00 NOON – 12.30 PM SPECIAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

12.30 PM RICE BIRYANI, SWEET MEATS & TEA

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

BLAVATSKY LODGE OPENS TO WELCOME BRETHREN AFTER PANDEMIC

It was 1st April 2022 evening, when about 15 Brethren present in Green Room and 5-6 joining virtually from Canada, USA and other parts of the World had made the good beginning to revitalize Blavatsky Lodge Building with Theosophical Activities. The Meeting was started with recitation of the Prayers of All Religions and The Universal Prayer to thank Almighty for the world gradually coming out of Corona Pandemic and praying for peace in Ukraine soon.

Bro. Navin Kumar requested Sis Aban Patel to place a cabinet size photo of Late Bro. Rustom Dalal in Green Room. She paid fond tributes to Late Bro. Rustom Dalal.

Bro. Navin Kumar Released SYNERGY issue of Year 4 January – June 2022 with cover story ‘SUFISM – in Search of the Mystic Rose’ by Bro. Arni Narendran. A pictorial issue produced by Editor Dr. Rajam Pillai from her Synergy Trust has other articles on Art, Communicating with Devas in Daily Life, A Tamil Poet Arunachala Kavirayar, An Ancient Ruin The Last of the Marsh Arabs, Historical Architectural Goldmine and Bro. Ulisses Riedel.

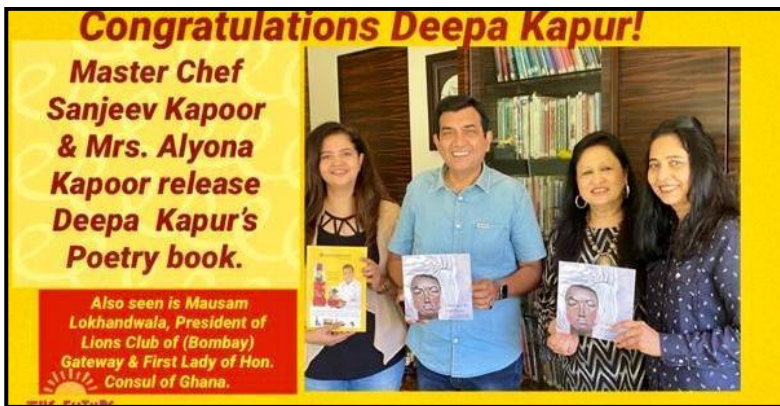


Vagdhara Navratna Sanman with Hema Maliniji by H. E. Bhagat Singh Koshyari, Governor of Maharashtra


The prestigious news in this issue of Synergy with photos is of **Dr. Rajam Pillai receiving Vagdhara Navratna Sanman (Hindi Literacy Award) conferred on her by H. E. Bhagat Singh Koshyari, Governor of Maharashtra.** She was recognized for her yogan to Hindi Language, though her mother tongue is Tamil, as the Head of Hindi Department at SIES College, Mumbai and Editor of the Gandhian Hindi Journal – *Gandhi Pravah*. She has many books and articles to her credit and has attended International Hindi Conferences in USA < United Kingdom, Suriname and Germany. She had received

this Award with Bollywood Diva and Member of Parliament Hema Malini. **Dr. Rajam Pillai** from Synergy Trust also printed ‘Universal Theosophical Calendar 2022’ designed by Pragma CS Studios, Adyar. Theme of the Calendar is: *Glimpses of Adyar – The International Headquarters of TS.*

After these special Agenda, the meeting had continued with the study of CWL “s book ‘Inner Life’ conducted by Sis. Aban Patel. Her presentation with a touch of inborn teacher is greatly appreciated by her virtual listeners and there was even a suggestion by Vimal Balachandran of USA to record her study sessions.



For Felicitation at Lions Club of (Bombay) Gateway as Editor of ‘Wonder chef’ and for launch of her book ‘*Painting Life with Poetry*’ at the same function

 <p>ZOROASTRIANISM AND THE PARSİ ENCHANTMENT TO THEOSOPIHY</p> <p>Arni Narendran Education Director VCTS</p> <p>Meherangiz Baria Hon Treasurer TOS, Mumbai Region</p> <p>A two-part talk exploring the connections between Zoroastrianism, the Parsi community, and Theosophy.</p> <p>16 April 2022 15:00 GMT 20:30 IST</p> <p>ONLINE ZOOM EVENT</p> <p>Virtual Centre for Theosophical Studies</p>	<p>VIRTUAL CENTRE FOR THEOSOPIICAL STUDIES</p> <p>16th April 2022</p> <p>Presentation on ZOROASTRIANISM</p>
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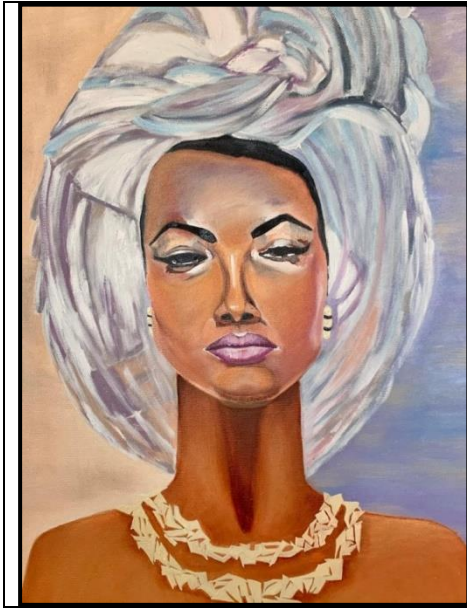
Sis. Meherangiz Baria, Ho, Treasurer TOS Mumbai Region spoke on Teachings of Zoroastrianism sharing power point which she had prepared for the First Wisdom Capsule of VSTS launched at the 89th Bombay TF Annual Session.

Bro. Arni Narendran, Education Director VCTS traced Parsi Community Enchantment to Theosophy, which was information even for Parsi Members of today.

The Zoom programme was initiated by Bro Luke Ironside from his base in Dilijan Armenia. It was well attended from participants from Manila to Washington, Singapore to Spain, spanning continents. Bro Jerome Guamagay from Manila hosted the programme and Sr. Miriam Martinez from Madrid delivered the closing invocation.

VCTS thanks all the participants from various countries for showing their enthusiasm for knowing more about the Zoroastrian faith. Special Thanks to attendees who beat the compatible time zones and took that extra effort- Ms Mary and El Abdil - Ms Desiree Sherini National Speakers in the United States. Ms. Pearl and Anthony from New York - Joseph Gan of Singapore, Ms Rekha , Christopher and the Host of the

evening programme - Jerome Gamaguay- from Manila, Philippines, who were well into their midnights.



PANDEMIC FLOWER

*Painting Life
With Poetry*

*Paintings by
Marina*

Poems

&

Limericks

by

Deepa Kapur

At the First physical meeting of Blavatsky Lodge after Pandemic on 1st April 2022 in Green Room, Sis. Deepa Kapur presented her first book to Sis Aban Patel, who was conducting study of CWL's book 'Inner Life'.

Deepa of the plains of the Serengeti stretch of Africa, learning William Wordsworth & William Shakespeare during schooling in Mumbai started capturing words in verses and stanzas. A tryst with destiny brought her in touch with Marina Sidhu, a talented painter and owner of 'Himalayan Outback', an exotic jungle resort of Jim Corbett National Reserve of India

About her book *'Painting Life with Poetry'* Sis Deepa writes, 'The Magic Began! During the 'Stay at Home' phase of the Pandemic we reconnected. Marina would send me her latest paintings and voila! I would feel a set of impressions that seem like 'downloads from the universe'! My fingers kept tapping away at the key of my laptop, almost automatically!!! Words kept flowing and weaving themselves into patterns of poems and limericks! There was no 'effort' or, 'deliberate thinking' involved in the writing. It felt like an outpouring from some dimension of creativity.

LADY WITH A TURBAN

(Cover Page Painting Poem)

She dons an attitude, a persona, a style
 With bewitching looks meant to beguile
 A chiseled outer visage to reflect the sharp inner
 A spirit that's born to be a winner!

Non-negotiable are her convictions from the core
 Mired firmly in the truths that she stands for
 Interlaced with her beauty, she succeeds in casting
 A magical spell that is everlasting

Is it a tiara of lifetimes morphed into a turban?
 A royalty that existed in planetary exurban?
 Was it Venus or Mars, where this goddess reigned
 Now traversing earth with a spiritual message ingrained?

Her slender long neck stretches up to speak
 As her brows lift her emotions to a peak
 An intensity beneath the beauty she exudes
 A visitor from an ancient world she alludes

The veil is lifted from another world
 'Tis the one she wears on her head, furred

The 'pearls' of wisdom upon her chest are stringed
To a call of unity for a planet infringed

"The perfection you seek is within you", she claims
Unravelling a universe full of joyful plans and aims
"Be a co-creator and play along with its rhythm
Humans will stay afloat, each and every one of them!"

THE SECRET DOCTRINE

SLOKA #9 / STANZA I

At International Online Research Seminar presentation by

Bro. Arni Narendran

Hon Treasurer Blavatsky Lodge, Mumbai-India
Education Director, Virtual Centre of Theosophical studies.

The 9th *Sloka* is the final in the series under Stanza I, wherein the Cosmic Evolution and its genesis has been enumerated and explained. In the previous Sloka we could understand the concept of *DANGMA*, the 'Opened eye of Consciousness'. In esoteric phraseology it is referred as the '*EYE OF SIVA*'. In this sloka the concept of *ALAYA* and *PARAMARTHA* has been explained. It may help us in understanding its Sanskrit etymology. We may have to delve on its esoteric meaning as well.

Alaya in Sanskrit canoes - Abode. In the Buddhist Yogacara School, it is referred as *Alaya Vijnana - Store- House of consciousness* (Tib.kun gzhi yeshes). It is referred as *Astavijnana- the eighth kind of consciousness*. Yogacarins sustained attention to issues such as cognition, consciousness, perception and epistemology (pramanayavad). In Theosophy it refers to the 6th Principle - The Universal over -Soul or *Anima Mundi*. HPB writes, "In the Mahayana School Alaya is both a Universal soul and Self of a progressed Adept.

To quote, Arya Sangha ' It is Akasa in the mystic sense and mula prakriti in its essence. **Mahat** - the Universal mind is said to be the **Manavantaric aspect of Alaya**, the universal soul. It is considered the basis of all. Alaya reflected in Prakriti planes is attainable by Yogis. Alaya is intrinsically eternal which is a difficult level to be attained even by Dhyani Buddhas, but at its lower levels can undergo changes, which is attained by Dharmakayas (yogis). Yet this state of consciousness is considered one step lower than Nirvana. Further only a reflection of the state can be perceived and experienced, like the reflection of the moon in tranquil waters. Alaya is the womb of the Universe, the plenum or the fullness that is the source of life. Alaya has an absolute eternal existence – Pradhana as explained by Aryasangha. It is also explained in Vishnu purana it is the original base and that which is eternal.

Paramartha is the other concept that has to be understood in this sloka it has its origins in the Vedanta philosophy and evolved in later day Buddhism. In terms of Monnier-Williams, Sanskrit – English dictionary - Param which means above everything and artha (comprehension or meaning). The word Sathya in Sanskrit means Truth.

This term too is subject to interpretations. Madam Blavatsky states that the Yogacharas interpret it as that which is dependent upon other things (**paratantra**, dependent or relative nature). In the Madhyamik Buddhist school the term is interpreted and is synonymous with **Paranishpanna** or absolute perfection. Madam Blavatsky talks of Paramartha as “True Self Consciousness” This is not associated with any sense of egotism which can be inferred by the following definition “Absolute Being and Consciousness and absolute Nonbeing and Unconsciousness. This is sometimes referred as TWO TRUTHS. Let us see how Madam Blavatsky explains the duality - to quote her “There is a difference in the interpretation of the meaning of Paramartha between the

The Theosophical Society of Russia, Adamant lodge organized the Virtual International Theosophical Congress at Sochi, a resort city in Russia on the 27th and 28th of November. The Visionary couple of Bro Vladimir Yayri and Sr. Ewegeniya Shabpoornikova, left no stone unturned with their resourceful team pulling off **a memorable event on the 190th Birth Anniversary of Madam Helena Petrovna Blavatsky. The Panel of research contributors were from Russia, United, States, England, Finland, France, India, Australia, and Portugal.** There was an Exhibition of Crystals, Poetry Painting and Music Competition where participants from across the world took part. The World Premier -Part 1 of the biographical film on Madam HPB was released during the Congress. - The film directed by Mr. O. F. Martino was breathtaking and covers the period from her days in Philadelphia to her arrival in Bombay in 1879. To sum up, the event, the congress took Theosophy to the next level of research, deliberations, and propagation. The paper presented by Bro Arni Narendran; Honorary treasurer of Blavatsky lodge is made available to the Bombay Theosophical Bulletin readers.

***THEOSOPHICAL BOND
BETWEEN TWO SHORES OF ARBIAN SEA***

Nostalgic memories shared in Bombay TF Message by Secretary Mahazaver Dalal to General Secretary Shri Narendra M. Shah and Convention Convener Shri Navin Shah for the 49th Convention of East & Central African Section held on 15th -17th April 2022

Your stalwarts like Late Shri Harkisan Shah and Late Shri Jayanti Bhai Shah on settling down in Bombay used to be a motivating & guiding force for Bombay Theosophical Federation.

Today, Shri Bhupendra R. Vora even from London thinks of Bombay. We also appreciate the Centenarian Bro. Amubhai Raval, who while in Bombay had transferred his membership to Blavatsky Lodge and even after shifting to USA used to send contributions to Blavatsky Lodge. We fondly remember visit of Shri Narendra M. Shah with his wife and his inspiring speech in Green Room of Blavatsky Lodge.

How can we forget our Dear Senior Member Sis. Manjulaben Kannabar of Tanzania? Her membership for ages has been with Blavatsky Lodge, Bombay. We greatly admire her dedication to

Theosophy and her spirit to live life purposefully. We are happy that now her daughter Deepa Kapur is also an Associate Member of Blavatsky Lodge. Bro. Navinchandra Patel of Blavatsky Lodge is also from Africa.

We are sure that there will be inspiring and guiding deliberations on *the 49th Convention Theme 'World at the Threshold of Change'*. We do need to understand what we TS members should do for Humanity.

We are happy that Sis. Deepa Kapur will be speaking on *'Transformation through Altruism'* at the Convention. Through her we, Brethren of Bombay will be also with you all.

May the Blessings of the Great Ones be on all TS Members of Eastern and Central African Section.

WESAK PURNIMA MEETING
Monday 16th May 6.00 pm onwards

Corrigendum

The Bombay Theosophical Bulletin April 2022 Vol.91, No.7 ~~Volume 89~~
No.8 April 2020

BTF Bulletin April 2022, Page No.8 last but one Paragraph – Sis. Aban Patel has pointed out correction in her article on ***‘Parsee Religion in Light of Theosophy’*** that, ‘the words were not of Homi Bhabha, but were of a gentleman who was working as a scientist for Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and who was an ordained priest.’

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