



THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

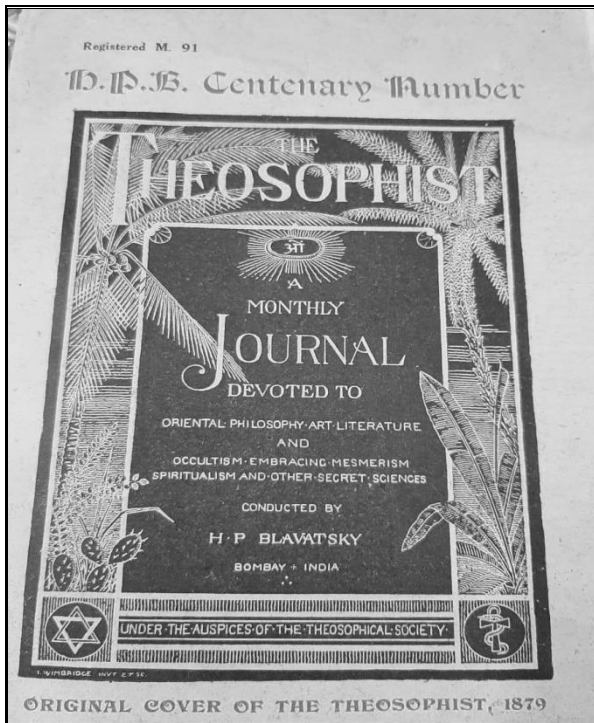
Volume 88



No.12



September 2019



**In the year 1879 TS Headquarters was in Bombay
(Mumbai).**

Photo thanks to Prof. C.A. SHINDE

Librarian of The Adyar Library and Research Centre

MISSION OF TS

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

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The Blavatsky Lodge Theosophical Society

7, French Bridge, Chowpatty, Mumbai 400007. Tel: 2368 5026

NOTICE

Date:19-07-2019

Dear Sisters/Brothers,

The 139th Annual General Meeting of the Blavatsky Lodge T.S. will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, 22nd September, 2019, in the Blavatsky Lodge premises when your presence is earnestly solicited.

Yours fraternally,

Jasmine Canasji

HON. SECRETARY

P.S. The General Body Meeting will be followed by lunch for members. Senior Citizens of age 75 years and above will be reimbursed Taxi Fare up to Rs.200/-. Please give your names to Sis. Asha Tel: 23685026 to facilitate lunch arrangements.

Editor – Bro. Rustom R. Dalal **Cover Page By:** Sis. Kashmira Khambatta
Editorial Committee –Sis.Mahazaver Dalal (Reporter & in charge of Mailing List),
 Sis. Kashmira Khambatta, Sis. Aban Patel and **Ex-Officio:** President Bro.
 VinayakPandya. **Note:** News, Notes and Programmes to be printed in the

Bulletin be forwarded by e-mail to: rrpdalal@hotmail.com or kashmirakhambatta@yahoo.com latest by 16th each month. Readers' Views are invited.

**PROGRAMME OF THE 88TH ANNUAL SESSION
OF
THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION
18th, 19th & 20th October 2019**

CHIEF GUEST
Shri Shikhar Agnihotri
International Lecturer
Theosophical Society

THEME
From Intelligence To Intuition

Friday 18th October 2019

Opening of Annual Session

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

5.30 p.m. Welcome Tea

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

6.30 p.m. **Opening Address by Chief Guest Shri Shikhar Agnihotri on '*Homing Signals Within*'**

7.15 p.m. Prize Distribution for Dani & Mullan Elocution
Competitions with speeches of First Prize Winners

Saturday 19th October 2019

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

5.30 p.m. Welcome Tea

6.00 p.m. Universal Prayer

6.05 p.m. Introduction of the Chief Guest

6.10 pm Address by **Chief Guest Shri Shikhar Agnihotri on '*Assessing The Homing Signal Within*'**

7.00 pm Round Table Maitreya **Ceremony**

Sunday 20th October 2019 –

Session at Juhu

Venue: Juhu Theosophical Colony, Mumbai 400049

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

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

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

Registration for Juhu Session (with or without Bus):Rs.100/-

Register your names latest by 10th October 2019

with Blavatsky Lodge Assistant Sis. Asha Tel: 23685026 or at Juhu
with Dr. Ajay Hora Tel: 26151060

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

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

THE 144TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

at INDIAN SECTION TS, VARANASI

31st December 2019 to 5th January 2020:

Theme: Nurturing the Divine Seed

Convention Officer: Shri Shikhar Agnihotri:

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

E-mail: tsvnsconvention@gmail.com

Mehta Hostel Registration with full board:

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

Indian Style Accommodation Registration with full board:

Registration Rs.500/- + Food Rs.1750/- = Rs.2250/-

Last Date for Registration: 1st December 2019

Cheques / Bank Drafts in name of:

Indian Section, The Theosophical Society

Registration Form available on Websites:

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

SCHOOL OF WISDOM ADYAR 2019-2020

18 to 29 November 2019

Self-Awareness and Awareness

Director: Dr José Foglia MD, Uruguay

It will consider the subjects of *Homo lux*. The book is an essay building a bridge between neuroscience and philosophy.

The course is designed in a dynamic way depending on the interest and enthusiasm of the audience.

2 to 13 December 2019

Discovering Dialogue - In Freedom From The Known

Director: Mr Paul Smith from the UK

In this ten days exploration into discovering dialogue, inspired by the teachings of Jiddu Krishnamurti, it will explore the workings of the mind. It will look at how our beliefs, opinions, thoughts and conclusions limit, distort and fragment perception, dividing us from one another and destroying relationships.

9 to 22 January 2020

Deeper into Meditation

Director: Venerable Olande Ananda Thera from Sri Lanka

In this SOW course we hope to go deeper into Meditation. Both the theoretical background, based on the Buddha's original Teachings (Dhamma) and by practical Guided Meditations on a daily basis.

27 January to 7 February 2020

Key Teachings in *The Secret Doctrine* and Their Relevance Today

Director: Mrs Elena Dovalsantos from Krotona, USA

In this course, we will take up some of the important concepts in *The Secret Doctrine* and see how philosophies from various cultures around the world suggest the same things. We will also look into how theories in modern science are starting to parallel some of *The Secret Doctrine* claims and explore how the teachings are relevant to our

lives.

To Download Registration Form: www.ts-adyar.org

**THE 14TH TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF INDO-PACIFIC
FEDERATION IN MANILA, PHILIPPINES
9TH TO 12TH NOVEMBER 2019**

Mr. Gerard Brennan, President, Indo-Pacific Federation of The Theosophical Society, extends warm invitation to all members of the Theosophical Society in the IPF region (which includes India). He adds, **Arrivals should be on 8th November and Departures on 13th November.**

To find out more, including how **to register**, visit the TS Adyar website www.ts-adyar.org

In addition the information can be found on the IPF website ipf-ts.org

Please note that **payment** should be made on or before September 15, 2019.

Mr. Gerard Brennan hopes that some of our Bombay Theosophical Federation members will be able to join in Manila for this wonderful event. All the best!

Brethren, you can contact Mr. Gerard Brennan on his E-mail: president@ipf-ts.org

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NEWS & NOTES

ASALA PURNIMA MEETING at Blavatsky Lodge on 17th July 2019: In Green Room near Lord Buddha's statue Sis. Kashmira Khambatta had prepared the Alter Table and Lodge Assistant Sis. Asha had done Rangoli for Guru Vabdana. The Meeting was started with lighting of the Lamp and recitation of The Universal Prayer and Buddhist Prayer by all present.

Bro. Arni Narendran in his talk said: Asala Purnima – Guru Purnima is a day to invoke the grace with gratitude starting with Parents, Guru and God. In Hindu calendar there are 53 Purnima and

each has a life supplying energy wave. Guru means 'Darkness Shifted'. Each religion pays respect to Guru, God & Grace. Guru gives a wakeup call to ego (soul) of Chela, who has to experience Love & Divinity. HPB's search for Master through Himalayas had led her to Sikkim, where the Master had told her 'waiting for you'. This shows what effort a Chela has to make. There should not be doubt & disparity of mind. Courage, desirelessness, discrimination, wisdom, love -goodwill for all, sacrifice and complete surrender to Guru is needed. 'Sat-Chit-Anand' is achieved when Chela is connected with the Guru.

To be attuned to the Asala Purnima Ceremony taking place in the Himalayas in the house of Lord Maitreya, members in turn did the reading from booklet on '*The First Sermon of Lord Buddha on Asala Purnima*' compiled by Late Sis. Khorshed D. Avari. Bro. Arni after reading English translation of Buddhist Prayer conducted Meditation invoking the Grace and Love, Peace & Joy. Meditation ended with chanting of Aum and recitation of Sanskrit Prayer. As Lord Buddha's Blessings, the flowers offered on the Alter Table near His statue were distributed to Brethren.

DANI NOTE BOOKS PROJECT

BTF annually prints Note Books for needy students **in memory of Late Suryaben and Late Jamubhai Dani from their Memorial Fund with TS Seal on Front Cover and The Universal Prayer on Back Cover.** Both husband and wife were great Teachers and knew how to instill Theosophical and Gandhian values in young flowering minds.

This year 1500 Note Books were printed thanks to the propagation Grant of Indian Section TS. 300 Note Books were given to TOS Mumbai Region for giving to needy students whom they give annual Educational Aid. Note books were also distributed to students of 3 South Mumbai School, 1 Adiwasi School in a village and some through Brethren.

It was heartening to see students in Besant Hall of Blavatsky Lodge, when Convener Bro. Ram Kalra distributed Dani NoteBooks to them. As per the wish of BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya, two copies of Dani Note Book were sent to International President Mr. Tim Boyd and Indian Section General Secretary Shri Pradeep Gohil. **GS Shri Pradeep Gohil in his letter of appreciation writes, “Helping the needy students to get proper education is the best community service that can be done.”**

BTF RAISED FUNDS FOR

Leadbeater Chamber at Adyar: Sponsorship of Rs.3.50 Lakh each for renovation of 3 Rooms, i.e. Rs.10.50 Lakh

Adyar Theosophical Academy at Adyar: To date donations of Rs.1.11Lakh

BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya has motivated Brethren and Sympathizers to support these worthy causes. Donation of any amount is most welcome. Interested donors please contact Bro. Vinayak Pandya (M): 9821342252 / 7021778977 for formalities and remittance guidance.

BTF expresses sincere thanks to generous Sponsors & Donors for total donation to date of Rs.11.61 Lakh.

DIGITAL BOOK LINK BY BRO. NAVIN KUMAR

The most important book for us in the TS has been ‘At the Feet of the Master’. It contains the teachings given by Master KH and approved by Lord Maitreya for Alcyone when he was only 13 years. Commentaries on this book by Dr AB and Bishop Leadbeater have been published in book form under the title **‘Talks on the Path of Occultism - At the Feet of the Master’**. This book has been digitized in a sufficiently big font to enable one to read it on kindle or cell phone. The same is **available on the following link for downloading on your cell phone or kindle:**

https://1drv.ms/b/s!An8B_o4bVjr9iN9JN3GT61m3J96ejQ?e=HFYPrA

SIS. DEEPA KAPOOR & GROUP BLESSED BY DALAI LAMA: It was once in a life time experience for Sis. Deepa Kapoor and her Group to meet Dalai Lama. She was privileged to present him Tanzanian Scarf. She shares on WhatsApp, 'He spoke to us for 50 minutes!'

***CELEBRATING COMPASSION
WITH HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA***

By Sis. Deepa Kapur

26th July, 2019 marked a Red Letter Day in my life! A dream had translated into reality! As a child I grew up reading about the adventurous and courageous spiritual leader, Dalai Lama, who had fled Tibet on horseback to reach the land that is now home for him...India. My imagination was fuelled by exotic stories of his fearlessness that stemmed from his quest to spread the wisdom of Buddhism and spirituality. Little did I know that my childhood dream of seeing Dalai Lama would one day, be translated into a magical meeting with His Holiness Dalai Lama!

A group of pilgrims and I had travelled from Mumbai to North India and the Himalayas to visit holy shrines. Our special day came when we visited the Dalai Lama Tibetan Temple at Dharamsala, amidst the McLeod range of mountains, almost 6000 feet high. Through our group leader, my *Rakhi Brother* and Past Rotary District Governor, Ajay Gupta, we had been granted brief audience with the Dala Lama. However, **what was to be a ten minute 'greet and take blessings' meeting turned into a full fledged 50 minute interactive dialogue!**

Dalai Lama is a simple man whose compassion flows from the heart to touch everyone! So childlike and yet so knowledgeable about the world! He gave several messages! As I stood close to him, I felt transfixed, almost as if I had entered an alternate universe. His aura exuded love and we felt suffused with vibrations of compassion. He touched upon various aspects of life. He averred that these days, **science and spirituality are merging.** He was very excited to learn about discoveries in science, especially about the brain and the energy field. He said that he firmly upholds that **a seeker of truth must always have a questioning mind.**

A great attribute for seekers and monks is logic. He meant to say that only when you experience something yourself, it becomes real. He spoke passionately about **introducing the value of compassion into the education system.** The current system teaches us knowledge, but does it teach us compassion? Do we learn how to get along with people? Does it teach us how to stay calm? How to meditate? Why do so many of us get so angry when others give opinions? After all we are 7 billion people on the planet. Everyone cannot be the same. *So he teaches the monks that....you must interact with others according to their nature.....then everything becomes simple.* We try to think of our own opinions as most important but do not show compassion for others who also have their ideas. He was emphatic and urged each one of us to take this message forward to our city and embark on creating a holistic education ecosystem.

I specifically asked him **about the cycle of life and death** as my uncle had very recently passed away suddenly. He gave a beautiful answer saying we are all scientifically energy. Everything physical in the universe comes to an end. *The atoms and particles come into creation and dissolvebut the energy stays forever!* The Atman is permanent.

I had the good fortune of presenting him with a Tanzanian long scarf with motifs of zebras on it. I, then, sought his **views on Africa,** especially Tanzania. He said Mahatma Gandhi had a special relation with Africa and we all know the story of Gandhiji's journey. He said

that although Africa is too big a continent ...we should create communities for South, East, West, North. I told him ...yes we do have an East African community comprising Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

His dream is that the 7 billion people on our planet should live as One World Community.

Instinctively, I said “Your Holiness, the THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, which has had great leaders like Annie Besant, Radha Burnier and now Tim Boyd, rests on the very principle of global Human Brotherhood!” He responded immediately ***with a lovely smile, saying to us that Theosophy teaches that there should be no discrimination and shows openness to all religions.***

His spontaneous response seemed to have stemmed from his closeness to theosophical teachings and the Theosophical Society, which had been evident with his special visit to the International Headquarters at Adyar, Chennai, in 1956 and his meeting with International President Tim Boyd in 2010.

History records that when the Dalai Lama visited Adyar in 1956, **he presented three Tibetan Manuscripts to the Adyar Library and Research Centre.** That the Dalai Lama was influenced by Theosophical teachings and the ageless wisdom, is amply evident in his own words, which can be read in the link <https://www.theosophical.org/news/dalai-lama-2011/history-of-this-event>

“Looking back to this trip in 1956, I realize that my visit to the Theosophical Society in Chennai (then Madras) left a powerful impression. There I was first directly exposed to people, and to a movement, that attempted to bring together the wisdom of the world’s spiritual traditions as well as science. I felt among the members a sense of tremendous openness to the world’s great religions and a genuine embracing of pluralism.”

Toward a True Kinship of Faiths, 2010

His Holiness then extolled **the virtue of ‘Ahimsa’.** He made a reference to the Jain community, saying that even an ant is not killed.

Throughout his dialogue with us *he kept emphasizing that although we all have different cultural religious backgrounds we are actually one big human race.* No one is different WE ARE ONE HUMAN WORLD FAMILY!

Then **he asked us: “Are you all from Mumbai?”** We said: “Yes,” He said: **“There is a PARSEE community there....small in number....quiet....but they live like a harmonious community!”** I was so thrilled to hear that! I said, “Yes, yes Your Holiness! I will surely convey your blessings to all my Parsee friends!”

Another question came from one of our group members who asked **about Tibetan medicine. Dalai Lama described how it began** and how it has been influenced by Unani Medicine and Ayurveda. Our group member said he was so inspired a friend of his was cured of a terminal illness, that his family is going to set up a Tibetan Medicine Centre in New Mumbai.

Our 50 minute dialogue with His Holiness flew quickly. We were in a timeless space. **He made us laugh several times**, too, and his dialogue was sprinkled with dollops of good cheer and humour. His innocent, beguiling ways put a stamp on our hearts forever. **He was kindness and humility personified**, helping two of our group members get up on their feet, from their kneeling position.

It seemed that His Holiness was in a great mood. Even as we wrapped up, it appeared that **he could have go on speaking because he felt such an urgency to convey his messages to us.**

We left his beautiful abode and garden, walking in a trance towards the gate. Each one of us was speechless, a state that comes from having felt something so profound, so pure, so divine that words could not justify the ecstasy. Our lives were changed forever! ***This was not just an once-in-a-lifetime experience; it was an all pervading experience for life!***

May the Almighty grant His Holiness Dalai Lama greater strength, good health and many more years on earth....for it is illumined souls

like him who benevolently shine the light of wisdom on our planet and thus aiding our human evolution to its leap to the next level!

GOOD IDEA TO INTRODUCE THEOSOPHY TO CHILDREN & VILLAGERS

The Indian Theosophist 2019 Issue under ‘News & Notes’ covers a programme of Utter Pradesh Theosophical Federation: Bro. U.S.Pandey, National Lecturer & UPTF Secretary, Bro. Pramil Dwivedi and two other members from Lucknow visited Kabir Shanti Satsang Ashram in village Kamalapur (near Sitapur) on 10 February 2019. A short programme for children and adults from poor families of village was held in the Ashram. About 80 children of the age group of 6 to 14 and 20 adults participated in it. After lighting the lamp, chanting of holy word ‘Om’, raising slogans of ‘Bharat Mata ki Jai’ and a devotional song liked and sung by Mahatma Gandhi was rendered. Bro. Dwivedi told children about **Five Sutras regarding Prayer, Study, Service, Cleanliness and love.**

Bro. Pandey explained the **meaning of slogan ‘Bharat Mata ki Jai’**. He said that just a mother nourishes children and takes care of the members of her family, such nourishing faculties, i.e. capacity for helping the needy people is in all of us. **Such faculties/capacities in all residents of Bharat collectively is ‘Bharat Mata’**. When we say ‘Bharat Mata ki Jai’ all of us awaken our nourishing and helping faculties/capacities in service of all beings. Bro. Pandey explaining **the meaning of ‘Mother Earth’** said that earth produces everything needed for sustenance of all its habitants. Further explaining **meaning of ‘Ishwer-Allah Tero Nam’** he said, **‘Ishwar’ means ‘The Lord’ and ‘Allah’ means ‘The Great’** and entire life pervading in universe is that power by which the world and its all beings are sustained. As this power pervades in all beings each of us should be respectful, considerate and helpful to all others. The programme ended with rendering of songs by children and distribution of fruits to all participants.

Note:

This is shared as Late Bro. Jalbhai Sanjana used to say that we must learn from activities of other Federations & Lodges.

BTF & LODGE PROGRAMMES SEPTEMBER 2019

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

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

DAY	TIME	DETAILS
Sun 1	10.00 am	Bharat Samaj Pooja
Fri 6	6.00 pm	Reading of 'Guidelines in Meditation' by Vicente Hao Chin Jr. of Philippines
Fri 13	6.00 pm	Study of CWL's book 'Inner Life' conducted by Sis. Aban Patel
Fri 20	6.00 pm	Reading of 'Guidelines in Meditation' by Vicente Hao Chin Jr. of Philippines
Satur 21	10.00 am	Dani Inter-School Elocution Competition
Sun 22	11.30 am	Blavatsky Lodge AGM
Fri 27	4.30 pm 6.00 pm	Blavatsky Lodge MC Meeting Study of CWL's book 'Inner Life' conducted by Sis. Aban Patel
Satur 28	10.00 am	Mullan Inter-College Elocution Competition
Sun 29	10.45 am	Maitreya Round Table
Tues 9, 16, 23, 30	5.45 pm	'Autobiography of a Yogi' by Parmahans Yogananda' - conducted by Bro. Arni Narendran (Note: 2nd Sept Ganesh Chaturthy)

3. CENTENARY LODGE:

Please contact Sis. NajmaDewan (M): 9987204038 for meetings

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

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

Thurs	5	Study of CWL's book 'The Power and Use of Thought'
Thurs	12	Study of CWL's book 'The Power and Use of Thought'
Thurs	19	Study of CWL's book 'The Power and Use of Thought'
Thurs	26	Study of CWL's book 'The Power and Use of Thought'

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

Wed	5.30	Theosophical readings guided by Sis. SoonooVesuna at her residence Vijay Niwas, 4th Floor, Sleater Road
18	pm	

7 & 8 **VASANTA LODGE & GANESH LODGE:**C/O Mrs. Padmaben Mehta, Abenezzer -102 – 1st Floor, Tagore Road, Santacruz (West), Mumbai 400054

Wednesday	6.30	Study of Gujarati Book on Annie Besant's book 'Path of Discipleship' conducted by Bro. Bhavesh Pandya
4, 11, 18 & 25	pm	

9. **VIMADALAL BILIA LODGE:** Family House, Parsi Colony, Dadar, Mumbai 400014

Thurs	5	5.45	Lodge Members' Meeting
Thurs	12	6.00	Talk by Bro. Rustom Chothia
Thurs	19	6.00	Talk by Sis. Meher Contractor
Thurs	26	6.00	Lodge Members' Meeting

Theosophical Society in India is due entirely to its principle of wise and respectful toleration of each other's' opinions and beliefs. Not even the President-Founder has the right directly or indirectly to interfere with the freedom of thought of the humblest member, least of all to seek to influence his personal opinion.

The Mahatma's Letters, Letter 120, chron.ed.(ML-85)
 Courtesy: The Theosophist October 2018

