



THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

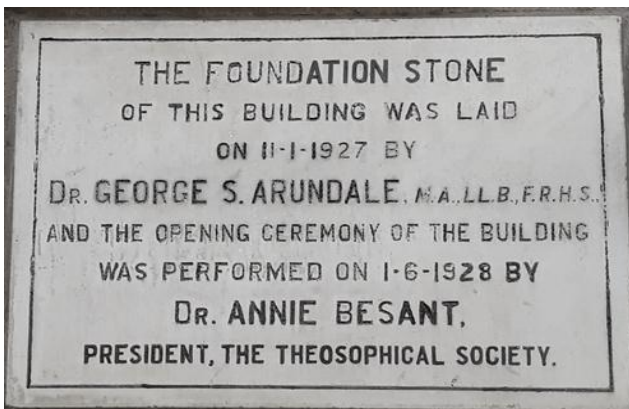
Volume 89



No.5



February 2020



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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SUPPORT CONVENTION 2019-2020

**For Brethren of Bombay to be in tune with
The 144th International TS Convention, Varanasi
31st December 2019 to 5th January 2020
on Theme: 'Nurturing the Divine Seed'**

The Support Convention organized by BTF and Blavatsky Lodge was **opened on 1st January 2020 in Besant Hall** decked up with Christmas & New Year decorations by **Sis. Navaz Dhalla**. After Lighting the Lamp and Brethren recited Prayers of All Religions & the Universal Prayer. **Bro. Navin Kumar in his Opening Address** said that the Sixth Root Race which is gradually evolving in places like Western Coast of USA and New Zealand will be the Seed for the Future Races, about 800 years from now. TS membership though small, has spread over 120 countries, so one should not be disheartened. One should continue to live and spread Theosophy.

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

Bro. Navin Kumar screened the **Opening of the 144th International Convention held in Varanasi, Spiritual Capital of India, after 30 years, which he had kindly downloaded from the Live Telecast.** It was heart-warming to see about 1500 Delegates in heavy winter clothes gathered in Radha Burnier Amphitheater at Indian Section TS HQ. Welcome by Indian Section President and Greetings by General Secretary of Sections around the world reflected the warm Bond of Brotherhood. **International President Mr. Tim Boyd's pictorial report** covered activities of Indian Section including photos of earlier Conventions, of Sections around the world and of TS HQ Adyar. It was very interesting, informative and inspiring. To see photos of originally painted Thought Forms, which were exhibited at the Convention, was a rare opportunity. The programme had ended taking home *President Tim Boyd's message 'to lead life of altruism'* with recitation of Sanskrit Prayer.

CULTURAL EVENING on 3RD JANUARY 2020

Sis. Aban Patel, Master of Ceremonies, after recitation of **The Universal Prayer,** welcomed Brethren to an evening to understand the Convention Theme through varied cultural presentations. **Speaking on the Theme she said:** In today's turbulent times that the entire world is facing, with too many forest fires, melting of the glaciers, rising of the sea levels, and Global warming, one wonders, whether it is again the time for Mother Earth to call out to the Universe, to the Almighty Creator - *Dharti Ma pookar rahi hai.* We humans on this earth are with a spark of Monad or God within us, which we need to nurture, so that it grows into a Bright Light & Spirit capable of taking care of our Environment and our lower brethren like minerals, vegetation and animals along with humans.

Maitreya Round Table Group with other Brethren sang the opening song of their ceremony – *Meerabai's Bhajan 'Mane Chakar Rakhoji'* to offer oneself in Divine service.

Bro. Arni Narendran spoke about how the Founders Madam H. P. Blavatsky and Col. H. S. Olcott were directed to come to India and how they had founded the very first Lodge in India – Blavatsky

Lodge TS. Initially it was called Bombay Lodge and had shifted to many premises before the magnificent building of Blavatsky Lodge was built with donations of Brethren. Bro. Arni also spoke about Col. Olcott's speech on 'Zoroastrianism' in the Town Hall, where he had urged the community to live according to the essence of the Teachings of their religion.

Sis. Mahazaver Dalal added that *Blavatsky Lodge's Charter is dated 20th February 1880 and is signed by Col. H. S. Olcott as President and Madam H. P. Blavatsky as Secretary.* In year 2020, Blavatsky Lodge should celebrate its 140th Anniversary.

Bro. Berthram Redwood sang a famous Hymn '*Here we come, Here we go*' to convey what one should do in life.

Dr. Rajam Pillai in Hindi spoke on '*The Saint Poetesses of India: Their Concept of Divine Love*'. Covering Poetesses of 6th Century to 16th-17th Century she spoke about Andal, Karaikkal Ammeyar of Tamilnadu, Akka Mahadevi of Karnatak, Mirabai of Rajasthan, Lallede of Kashmir and Mahadansa, Muktabai, Janabai, Bahinabai and Venabai of Maharashtra. They in a way stood out from the Traditional Social Life & Customs, but did not disrupt the social structure. In spite of their strife and struggle they gave positive thoughts & values to Society. They are our Collective Heritage.

Bro. Navin Kumar lilted everyone by singing a sentimental song he used to sing in his young days - '*Lena hamen janam kai kai bar*'.

Sis. Shernaz Vatchha with demonstration, inviting all to try it out, spoke about '*Acupressure*' to align the body through chakras and flow of energy. She gave many useful tips for improving health. A surprise item was, a song by **Bro. Rustom Dalal**, again a song of yester years - '*Your eyes are the eyes of a woman in love*'.

It was then Magic Time. Bro. Navin Kumar with his Rope, Page & Word and Dice Tricks enthralled everyone.

Sis. Navaz Dhalla & Sis. Shernaz Vatchha, with their Teacher Sis. Freny Paghdiwala of Crystal Corale sang inspiring songs (1) It's a Small World after all (2) Tumb-Balalaika (3) Born Free & (4) Side by Side.

Our Guest Artistes, Former Director of Police Mr. Tukaram Chaudhari and his wife Rajeshwari Chaudhari regaled all with their lilting mesmerizing songs like '*Mere dukh ki koi daya na karo, Mujhe mujse juda na karo*'

Sis. Zeena Rastomjee with her dancing shoes and sweet voice singing song '**LOVE**' inspired Theosophists to radiate 'Love'.

Finale was highlight of the evening: the Line dance choreographed by Sis. Zeena Rastomjee and performed by her and talented young in spirit Brethren. Arni Narendran, Navin Kumar, Berthram Redwood, Sisters Kashmira Khambatta, Jasmine Cawasji, Aban Amroliwalla & Ruby Khan. With *the Climate Song* the dancers echoed the message of **Greta Thunberg, the Swedish 16-year teenager**, who became the voice of Conscience for a generation facing the Climate emergency. She was announced as Time Magazine's 2019 Person of the Year.

The call was:

CLIMATE SONG

Call to 'Nurture the Divine Seed'

*We need to wake up
We need to wise up
We need to open our eyes
And do it Now, Now, Now!*

*We need to build a better future
And we need to start right Now!*

*We're on a planet
That has a problem
We've got to solve it, get involved
And do it Now, Now, Now!*

*We need to build a better future
And we need to start right Now!*

*Make it greener, make it greener
Make it cleaner, make it cleaner
Make it last, make it last
And do it Now, Now, Now!*

*We need to build a better future
And we need to start right Now!*

*No point in waiting
Or hesitating
We must get wise, take no more lies
And do it Now, Now, Now!*

*We need to build a better future
And we need to start Now, Now, Now!*

Sis. Mahazaver Dalal thanked all talented performers for heralding New Year 2020 in an artistic way to convey the message '*Nurture the Divine Seed*'.

The evening ended with recitation of **the Sanskrit Prayer**.

**SYMPOSIUM on 4TH JANUARY 2020
Theme: Nurturing the Divine Seed**

Sis. Aban Patel graced the Chair and meeting was opened with recitation of the Universal Prayer.

Sis. Mahazaver Dalal in response to a question '*What* is the Divine Seed?' explained how the Divine Seed originates with The Three Outpourings and evolves through Mineral, Vegetable & Animal Kingdom to Human Kingdom. To understand '*Why*' to nurture Divine Seed she **requested Sis. Aban Patel** to share her thoughts on today's turbulent times and devastation of environment leading to climate change, which will once again make Mother Earth to cry out for the savior. **Sis. Mahazaver in continuation spoke** about need to nurture the Divine Seed in each kingdom as it progresses to Human

Kingdom. Man is blessed with intelligence and is climbing Jacob's ladder where, as he receives helping hand from above has to help his younger Brethren from Mineral up to Human Kingdom. For '**How**' to nurture the Divine Seed, an individual has to first nurture his own Divine Seed living the Spiritual & Theosophical Teachings. With Study & Meditation with alert awareness he has to prepare himself for selfless service thinking with his heart and not just his head

Bro. Berthram Redwood said that today even Corporates are caring about human development and environment protection. Shivling and coconut symbolize ever present Divine Seed. When Trinity manifests as Monadic Spark it is '*The word was made flesh.*' Nature is the best Teacher. It is important '*to know Thyself*' and to *develop Christ Consciousness*. For actions use your heart feelings.

Sis. Aban Amroliwalla shared her observations & experiences of her family life of nurturing Divine Seed of child by mother; caring for plants on home balcony as children; seeing from Toronto that the family dog in Mumbai is taken care of; Mr. Amroliwalla touching Mother Earth after landing from flight in Mumbai or Toronto and nurturing fellow Brethren of Lodge with love & compassion.

Dr. Rajam Pillai said '*O! Hidden Life*' indicates that seed is hidden in a shell and vibrating with hidden energy it germinates and sprouts. The seed of Dr. Annie Besant had gone through tormenting experiences, but when it surfaced it reached out to humanity with her love, compassion and greatness. Be grateful to parents & teachers who nurture you.

Sis. Shernaz Vatchha, a teacher of Yoga said: in Yoga, Trinity of Body, Mind & Soul is aligned through Chakras to raise consciousness from Atma to Parmatma. When we bow down, we respect Divinity in each other and raise the consciousness of other with his own. Yoga is universal and so brings people together. We have to start with nurturing children. Every child is a leading soul.

Shri Tanmay Mhatre mentioned that in Jainism to progress on spiritual path one has to come over negativities like anger, ego, greed etc. With Yoga and Brihmacharya divine energy rises from Kundalini

to Sahastra Chakra. One must nurture divine spark - inner consciousness with spiritual practice.

The meeting ended invoking inner-self with recitation of ‘O! Hidden Life’.

MYSTIC STAR RITUAL on 5TH JANUARY 2020

On Sunday morning beautiful uplifting ceremony of Mystic Star Ritual was performed **with Sis. Jasmine Cawasji doing the main office of ‘Power’ and Sis. Freny Paghdiwala playing Hymns on piano.** In between the ceremony where there is a pause, **Bro. Berthram Redwood** explaining ‘*Purpose of the Mystic Star Ritual*’ said: In the Ritual of Mystic Star we offer a candle to each of the Great Teachers remembering their messages. We also light a candle for the Great Teacher who is to come, who is already present in mystic ways in the world today. The Ritual also conveys that all professions and activities among men are considered as both an offering to and worship of the Divine. Mystic Star is a five pointed star. Each point symbolizes an aspect of the Divine – Power, Wisdom, Joy, Beauty & Love. The professions (with their reflective professions) chosen are: Ruler (Judge), Priest (scientist), Merchant (Servant), Artist (Craftsman) and Teacher (Healer). The Ritual ended with the Hymn giving a message at the Closing of the Support Convention:

*Lord, from Thine All-strengthening Presence,
 Gifts of peace we take away;
 Shedding where the darkness fastens,
 Light from Wisdom’s brightening ray,
 We, Thy children, pledge our duty,
 Heart and hand for service true.*

IMPRESSIONS OF THE 144TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, VARANASI

31st December 2019 to 5th January 2020

Meeting in Green Room on 10th January 2020

BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya with PP presentation made Brethren feel they were part of the Convention. **East & Central Africa General Secretary Shri Narendra Shah and his wife** graced

the meeting. They and other Delegates of BTF Sis. Malti Pandya, Sis. Thrity Dalal, Sis. Meenaben Chawda and Bro. Bhavesh Pandya, who had gone a week ago to serve as volunteer, shared what they experienced and what touched their heart in the midst of freezing cold of Varanasi. Please see BTF Bulletin of March 2020 for detailed coverage.

NEWS & NOTES

BTF ACCOMPLISHES 2019-2020 GOAL NO.7

To raise Rs.15 Lakhs for TS Activities from CSR Funds

BTF expresses sincere thanks to individual donors:

.No.	Donor's Name	Donation for	Rs.
1	Dr. Ajay Hora	Leadbeater Chamber Renovated Room, Adyar	3,50,000/-
2	Shri Kishore Mehta	Adyar Theosophical Academy (ATA)	1,00,000/-
3	Bro. Nilesh Mehta	Adyar Theosophical Academy (ATA)	25,000/-
4	Bro. Ashvin Shroff	Indian Section Radha Burnier Amphitheater	15,00,000/-
5	Bro. Pratik Mehta	Indian Section Radha Burnier Amphitheater	1,00,000/-
6	Bro. Rustom Dalal & Sis. Freny Paghdiwala, Executors of Estate of Late Purviz Homi Banaji	Leadbeater Chamber Renovated Room, Adyar	3,50,000/-
	TOTAL		24,25,000/-

THE GOLDEN STAIRS

Behold The Truth

*A clean life, an open mind
A pure heart, an eager intellect
An unveiled spiritual perception,
A Brotherliness for all,*

*A readiness to give and receive
Advice and instruction,
A courageous endurance of personal
injustice,
A brave declaration of principles,
A valiant defense of those
who are unjustly attacked,*

*and a constant eye to the ideal of
human progression and perfection,
which the secret science depicts,*

*These are the Golden Stairs
up the steps of which,
the learner may climb
to the Temple of Divine Wisdom.*

STUDY OF HPB'S SECRET DOCTRINE

At Blavatsky Lodge

On Tuesday 14th January 2020 the Study of HPB's Secret Doctrine conducted by Bro. Arni Narendran was started with Lighting of Lamp and recitation of HPB's The Golden Stairs by all. Years ago Late Bro. Rustom Aria had conducted study of 'Secret Doctrine' and later Sis. Yasmin Kapadia had conducted study of G.A. Barbork's 'The Divine Plan' based on Secret Doctrine. As Bro. Arni said *Secret Doctrine is not a book jut to read, it is a spiritual journey to be experienced.* Blavatsky Lodge members are blessed to study this book sitting round the carved table of HPB and her other carved

furniture in Green Room, which is from ‘Crow’s Nest’ her residence in Bombay. Please **book Tuesdays to avail of this opportun**

OBITUARY

Sis. Mani Rustom Patell, member of Blavatsky Lodge with membership of 69 years passed away **on 23rd December 2019**. A very dedicated TS member and a Co-Freemason of high degree. She was always ready to help with her expertise in stitching and making of Parsi Beaded Torans. Despite her leg problem she used to climb to attend ES & Masonic meetings. In later years when she was in an Infirmary in Navsari, she wanted her BTF Bulletin regularly.

Sis. Khorshed Pherozshaw, member of Blavatsky Lodge with membership of 46 years passed away **in early 2019**. Unfortunately, despite making many inquiries about her well-being, we learnt only few days back that she had passed away a year ago. She was Secretary of Blavatsky Lodge and used to conduct regularly Members’ Meeting for Vimadalal Bilia Lodge of Dadar sharing her deep understanding of Theosophical Teachings.

Stalwart Theosophist of Bombay Bro. Khurshed P. Sanjana Life Member of Shanti Lodge and Associate Member of Blavatsky Lodge passed away to light eternal at the age of 98 years **on 11th January 2020**. He dedicated 70 years of his life to Theosophy. He was Past President of Shanti Lodge. He served BTF as Secretary and Treasurer and a very supportive member to Managing Committee of Blavatsky Lodge. He was a teacher of Theosophy for all age groups with his talks and personal guidance. He conducted Study Camps and motivated Brethren to attend International Conventions and even Indian Section Study Camp at Bhowali. He groomed members to be proficient in performing Mystic Star Ritual and Masonic Ceremonies. He was a Co-Freemason of High Degree. Commemoration Meeting to pay tributes to him is to be organized on 24th January 2020.

May their souls blessed with Eternal Peace continue their noble work on Higher Planes.

REALIZING THE DIVINE WITHIN

*Talk by Bro. Vinayak Pandya at the Symposium
during the 144th International Convention, Varanasi*

Have you ever experienced a moment of complete clarity? Our mind is always struggling/changing. We are unable to focus on what we want to be. Our mind is always confused. While I am talking to you, my mind thinks of anticipated problems while leaving Varanasi & reaching back to my home. I must live in present. Many a time we think of problems of our physical body. Late Dr. Manu Kothari use to say that our body is the best creature of Almighty. In case of any problem in our body, it is capable of resolving it. He used to say we doctors cannot prevent death. Money cannot buy life. There is a divine law which makes our body function. Try to live in every day. What do I understand by the word divine? Generally divine gives me thought of some god or deity or some power. This is what our third principle of Theosophical Society says. “To investigate the unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in man”.

The Buddha said, “Do not dwell in the past, do not dream of the future, concentrate the mind on the present moment.” We humans have a bad habit of constantly hanging on to things gone by, and anxiously worrying about what’s next. But these are fantasies. They do not exist except within our minds. You cannot relive the past, and the future never comes. The only truth, the only reality is NOW. It’s all we ever have. And it is so deliciously rich and beautiful if you allow it into your life. Understand, you do not have to DO anything. ***You must allow your consciousness to align with the eternal present.*** **We have to make attempts to understand ourselves.** No one can do spoon feeding to us. During our Convention and at many talks we listen to quotes. These Quotes are with reference to particular situations But we use what we like and try to use them to prove/confirm our views. It is an individual opinion. I have heard that our late President was against photos or recording of talks. But if I see the positive side of this, it is that the efforts the made by the speaker can be used by many people including those who are not present

physically or mentally as audience here. If I have missed something I can go back to recording & understand what I missed.

Generally, we expect someone to do for us. I have to realize divine in myself. I must try to forget the past. **What I cannot change, I must cultivate the habit of ignoring it.** It does not go out of me. I must train myself to understand that I am a divine creature. **I am capable of taking care of all situations. I must stop worrying about future.** Many times we feel it is not possible for us to understand/ digest the Divine. It is extremely difficult to live in present. It needs constant efforts on my part to train myself. *I must keep doors open to watch / Experience divine within me. I must practice what I preach.* If I go back to past or to future, I must cultivate habit of coming back to present.

How do I realize divine within me? Is it automatic? I must train myself and observe things. We all know about invisible helpers. This I must correlate with what's happening. I must constantly put efforts to understand. It's not overnight I will realize divine. I must cultivate habit of study. This I can do by reading / listening books, attending meetings, listening to some talks. But I have to constantly revisit & understand and realize. One has to grill constantly to realize the divine within.

How do I go about? Here comes the role of practical theosophy. I always believe that there are two sets of theosophy. One is divine wisdom, written by our great leaders and fellow theosophists. Another is practically using this divine wisdom in our daily life and experience ourselves.

We must make serious attempt to control our anger. Ships don't sink because of the water around them; **ships sink because of the water that gets in them.** Don't let what's happening around you and your circumstances get inside you in your mind and weigh you down. Just because you're angry that doesn't give you any right to be cruel. Anger on the other hand doesn't solve anything, it builds nothing, but it can destroy everything. Neurologists claim that every time you resist acting on your anger, you're actually rewiring your brain to be calmer and more loving. The less you respond to rude, critical, argumentative people... the more peaceful your life becomes.

***Explain your anger instead of expressing it, and you will find solutions instead of arguments....** * Easier to criticize than to improve.

Once upon a time there was a painter who had just completed his course. He painted beautiful scenery. He wanted people's opinion about his caliber and painting skills. He put his creation at a busy street-crossing. And just down below a board which read - "I have painted this piece. Since I'm new to this profession I might have committed some mistakes in my strokes etc. Please put a cross wherever you see a mistake." When he came back in the evening to collect his painting he was completely shattered to see that whole canvass was filled with Xs (crosses) and some people had even written their comments on the painting.

Disheartened and broken completely he ran to his master's place and burst into tears. This young artist was breathing heavily saying "I'm useless and if this is what I have learnt to paint I'm not worth becoming a painter. People have rejected me completely. I feel like dying" Master smiled and suggested "My Son, I will prove that you are a great artist and have learnt flawless painting. Do as I say without questioning it. It WILL work."

Young artist reluctantly agreed and two days later early morning he presented a replica of his earlier painting to his master. Master took that gracefully and smiled. "Come with me" master said. They reached the same street-square early morning and displayed the same painting exactly at the same place. Now master took out another board which read "Gentlemen, I have painted this piece. Since I'm new to this profession I might have committed some mistakes in my strokes etc. I have put a box with colours and brushes just below. Please do a favor. If you see a mistake, kindly pick up the brush and correct it."

Master and disciple walked back home. They both visited the place same evening. Young painter was surprised to see that actually there was not a single correction done so far. Next day again they visited and found painting remained untouched. One monthno correction came in!

Moral of the story* *It is easier to criticize, but DIFFICULT TO IMPROVE. So don't get carried away or judge yourself by someone else's criticism and feel depressed..... Take criticism With a Pinch of Sugar! Critics are Useful till you Limit Them to positive lessons only! It's all well and good to conceptualize this, but the most important thing is putting it into practice. The simplest and most accessible way is to notice your breath. This takes thirty seconds and can be done at any time of day. **Simply focus all of your attention on the passage of air in and out of your body. If your mind wanders, gently lead it back to the breath.** Try to practice this as many times in a day, you will understand the difference. You'll see how far those thirty seconds will reach into the rest of your day. If you have more time and motivation I always **recommend meditation**. Ten minutes a day can literally change the way you see the world. My brother Bhavesh Pandya, has advised / guided many BP / Diabetic patients to overcome by practice of meditation. Find a practice that works for you. **Other possibilities are contemplation, prayer, yoga, and living meditation**. What I mean is singing song or listening song or **totally concentrating on whatever I do. I have to constantly recharge myself.** If I practice more I will realize divine within. My simple advice to my fellow brothers and sisters is to do what makes you happy with full concentration. **Give 100% attention in whatever we are doing, without bothering for results.** Results are not in our hands.

Let me take you to our motto of TS "There is no religion higher than Truth". Truth is pathless. I will say Truth is a relative term. Everyone feels what they do is true. One has to practice truth in their daily life.

Let me tell you the curious case of □7. The Nobel Laureate Prof. C. V. Raman after retirement wished to open a Research Institute in Bangalore. So he gave an advertisement in the news papers for recruiting three physicists. Lots of eager Scientists applied thinking that even if they were not selected, they would at least get an opportunity to meet the Nobel Laureate. In the preliminary selection, five candidates were selected and the final interview was to be taken by Prof. C V Raman himself. Three were selected out of the five.

Next day Prof. Raman was taking a walk and found one young man waiting to meet him. He realized that it was the same man who was not selected. The Prof. asked him what was the problem and he replied that there was no problem at all, but after finishing the interview the office had paid him ₹7 extra than his claim and he wanted to return it. But because the accounts had closed, they could not take back the amount and asked him to enjoy. The man said that it is not right for him to accept the money which did not belong to him. Prof. C V Raman told him so you wish to return the ₹7 and he took the money from him.

After going few steps forward, the Prof. asked the young man to meet him the next day at 10.30 am. The man was happy that he would get an opportunity to meet the great man again. When he met the Prof. next day the Nobel Laureate told the young man "Son, you failed in the Physics test but you have passed the honesty test. So I have created another post for you".

The young man was surprised and very happy to join.

This young man was *Prof. Subrahmanyan Chandrashekhar* (US Citizen of Indian Origin). Later on he too became a Nobel Laureate in 1983. He has written a book on how the seven rupees changed his life. This was how honesty made a great scientist.

Reflection What is lacking in talent can most often be made up for, with hard work, guidance and help from others, but what is lacking in character and values can't be made up for with anything ever. Which is why *Einstein said - *Do not try to be a man of success, but always be a man of value**.

Let me conclude my talk by saying **practice love in life**.

Let me share with you Selfless Real Love Story Narrated by P. Narayan Murthy. "My wife called, 'How long will you be with that newspaper? Will you come here and make your darling daughter eat her food?' "I tossed the paper away and rushed to the scene. My only daughter, Sindu, looked frightened; tears were welling up in her eyes. In front of her was a bowl filled to its brim with curd rice. Sindu is a nice child, quiet and intelligent for her age.

“I picked up the bowl. 'Sindu, darling, why don't you take a few mouthful of this curd rice? Just for Dad's sake, dear'. Sindhu softened a bit and wiped her tears with the back of her hands. 'Ok, Dad. I will eat - not just a few mouthfuls, but the whole lot of this. But, you should...' Sindu hesitated..... 'Dad, if I eat this entire curd Rice, will you give me whatever I ask for?' 'Promise', I covered the pink soft hand extended by my daughter with mine, and clinched the deal. Now I became a bit anxious. 'Sindu, dear, you shouldn't insist on getting a computer or any such expensive items. Dad does not have that kind of money right now. Ok?' 'No, Dad. I do not want anything expensive.'

“Slowly and painfully, she finished eating the whole quantity. I was silently angry with my wife and my mother for forcing my child to eat something that she detested. “After the ordeal was through, Sindu came to me with her eyes wide with expectation. All our attention was on her. 'Dad, I want to have my head shaved off, this Sunday!' was her demand. 'Atrocious!' shouted my wife, 'A girl child having her head shaved off? Impossible!' 'Never in our family!' My mother rasped. 'She has been watching too much of television. Our culture is getting totally spoiled with these TV programs!' 'Sindu, darling, why don't you ask for something else? We will be sad seeing you with a clean-shaven head.' 'Please, Sindu, why don't you try to understand our feelings?' I tried to plead with her. 'Dad, you saw how difficult it was for me to eat that Curd Rice'. Sindu was in tears. 'And you promised to grant whatever I ask for. Now, you are going back on your words. Was it not you who told me the story of King Harishchandra, and its moral that we should honor our promises no matter what?'

“It was time for me to call the shots. 'Our promise must be kept.' 'Are you out of your mind?' chorused my mother and wife. 'No. If we go back on our promises, she will never learn to honour her own. Sindu, your wish will be fulfilled.' With her head clean-shaven, Sindu had a round-face, and her eyes looked big and beautiful.

“On Monday morning, I dropped her at her school. It was a sight to watch my hairless Sindu walking towards her classroom. She turned around and waved. I waved back with a smile.

“Just then, a boy alighted from a car, and shouted, 'Sinduja, please wait for me!' What struck me was the hairless head of that boy. 'May be, that is the in-stuff', I thought. “A lady got out of car and came to me. She said 'Sir, your daughter Sinduja is great indeed! That boy who is walking along with your daughter is my son, Harish. He is suffering from... leukemia'. She paused to muffle her sobs.

Harish could not attend the school for the whole of the last month. He lost all his hair due to the side effects of the chemotherapy. He refused to come back to school fearing the unintentional but cruel teasing of the schoolmates. Sinduja visited him last week, and promised him that she will take care of the teasing issue..... But, I never imagined she would sacrifice her lovely hair for the sake of my son! Sir, you and your wife are blessed to have such a noble soul as your daughter.'

I stood transfixed with tears 'My little Angel, you are teaching me how selfless real love is!'

The happiest people on this planet are not those who live on their own terms but are those who change their terms for others !!!* If this is done one will realize divine within.



***Blavatsky Lodge 140th Charter Anniversary Celebration
on 20th February 2020 with Group Photography at
Blavatsky Lodge. 'History of Blavatsky Lodge' by Bro.
Arni Narendran. Members of TS are welcome to
participate on this special day.***

BTF & LODGE PROGRAMES FEBRUARY 2020

ADYAR DAY MEETING JOINTLY by BTF & Blavatsky Lodge on Monday 17th February 2020 at 6.00 pm in Besant Hall

BLAVATSKY LODGE 140TH ANNIVERSARY GROUP PHOTO

Brethren do come for memorable Group Photo on Thursday 20th February 2020 at 5.30 pm at Blavatsky Lodge.

1. ANANDA LODGE: Theosophical Colony, Juhu, Mumbai 400049. Contact Ananda Lodge Secretary Sis. Zenobia Khodaiji (M): 9820308163 for Meeting of February 2020

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

DAY	TIME	DETAILS
Sun 2	10.00 am 11.00 am	Bharat Samaj Pooja (In Green Room) Mystic Star Ritual
Fri 7	6.00 pm	Readings from 144th Convention NewsLetters
Fri 14	6.00 pm	Study of CWL's book 'Inner Life' conducted by Sis. Aban Patel
Mon 17	6.00 pm	Adyar Day Meeting jointly with BTF
Thur 20	5.30 pm	Blavatsky Lodge 140th Charter Anniversary Celebration with Group Photography at Blavatsky Lodge. 'History of Blavatsky Lodge' by Bro. Arni Narendran
Fri 21	6.00 pm	Theosophical Readings
Sun 23	10.45 am	Maitreya Round Table
Fri 28	4.30 pm 6.00 pm	Blavatsky Lodge MC Meeting Study of CWL's book 'Inner Life' conducted by Sis. Aban Patel
Fri 28	4.30 pm 6.00 pm	Blavatsky Lodge MC Meeting Study of CWL's book 'Inner Life' conducted by Sis. Aban Patel
Tues 4, 11,18,25	5.45 pm	Study of HPB's 'The Secrete Doctrine' conducted by Bro. Arni Narendran

3. CENTENARY LODGE:

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

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

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

Thurs 6	Study of CWL's book ' <i>The Power and Use of Thought</i> '
Thurs 13	Readings from 144th Convention News letters
Thurs 20	Study of CWL's book ' <i>The Power and Use of Thought</i> '
Thurs 27	Study of book ' <i>Zoroastrianism in Light of Theosophy</i> '

6. **UNITY YOUTH LODGE:** Sis. Soonoo Vesuna (M): 9619339787
Please contact her for Third Wednesday Meetings at 5.30 pm

7 & 8 **VASANTA LODGE & GANESH LODGE:** C/O Sis. Kalpana Pramod Jani, 804, Ajanta, Tilak Road, opp. Shabari Hotel, Santacruz (West), Mumbai 400054

Wednesday 5, 12, 19, 26	6.30 pm	Study of Gujarati Translation of Annie Besant's book ' <i>Path of Discipleship</i> ' conducted by Bro. Bhavesh Pandya
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9. **VIMADALAL BILIA LODGE:** Family House, Parsi Colony, Dadar, Mumbai 400014

Thurs 6	5.45	Healing Group
Thurs 13	6.00	Talk by Bro. Rustom Chothia
Thurs 20	6.00	Talk by Sis. Meher Contractor
Thurs 27	6.00	Lodge Members' Meeting

All the happiness that exists,
Arises from wishing joy for others,
And all the misery that exists,
Arises from wishing happiness for oneself alone.

What more need be said?

The spiritually immature think of themselves alone,

The Buddhas think only of others. – *Shanti Deva*

Courtesy: Diary of Bro. Navin Kumar's Mother Manorama Saxena

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