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THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

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Never allow any unnecessary or vain thought to occupy your mind. This is more easily said than done. You cannot make your mind a blank all at once. So in the beginning try to prevent evil or idle thoughts by occupying your mind with the analysis of your own faults, or the contemplation of the Perfect Ones. Helena Blavatsky

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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PRESIDENT TIM BOYD DECLARED RE-ELECTED INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT of Theosophical Society for a Second Term of Office of 7 years from 27th April 2021

BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya and many Brethren of our Federation sent e-mails of Congratulations to him. President Tim Boyd personally acknowledged greetings and very kindly added, *'Lily and I send all best wishes to my brothers and sisters in the Bombay Federation.'*

ADYAR DAY 2021 CONTRIBUTION OF BTF BRETHREN

BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya's appeal to donate generously towards Adyar Day 2021 contribution, for supporting a cause of Education dear to Founder President Col. H. S. Olcott, was spontaneously responded by Brethren of Bombay. The Donations were collected through Blavatsky Lodge TS for which Blavatsky

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. <u>Note: News, Notes and Programs to be printed in the Bulletin be</u>

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forwarded by e-mail to <u>kashmira.khambatta@gmail.com</u> latest by16th each month. Readers' Views are invited.

Lodge Receipts with 80G Exemption will be issued. As per Bro. Vinayak Pandya's appeal, the collection of Rs.34,500/- is sent to TS Adyar for *Adyar Theosophical Academy*, the First Theosophical School started under President Tim Boyd's initiative in June 2019. BTF expresses sincere thanks to following generous donors:

Bro. Vinayak Pandya	Rs.5,000/-
Vasanta Lodge TS	Rs.5,000/-
Bro. Arni Narendran	Rs.1,000/-
Sis. Aban Amroliwalla	Rs.1,000/-
Dr. Rajam Pillai	Rs.2,000/-
Sis. Thrity Cyrus Dalal	Rs.5,000/-
Sis. Aban Patel	Rs.2,000/-
Sis. Meherangiz Baria	Rs. 500/-
Sis. Mahazaver Dalal	Rs,5,000/-
Bro. Rustom Dalal	Rs.3,000/-
Sis. Kashmira Khambatta	Rs.500/-
Sis. Jasmine Cawasji	Rs.500/-
Sis. Villoo Adajania	Rs.4,000/-

BLAVATSKY LODGE WITH GRATITUDE ACKNOWLEDGES FURTHER CORPUS DONATIONS OF:

Sis. Kashmira Khambatta	Rs. 5,000/-
Well Wisher Brother	Rs.75,000/-
Sis. Villoo Adajania	Rs. 2,000/-
Dr. Varsha Dinesh Vadera	Rs. 5,000/-
Sis. Jasmine Cawasji	Rs.15,000/-
Sis. Maharukh Shroff	Rs. 2,000/-
Bro. Govind Raju	Rs. 5,000/-
Sis. Zeena Rastomjee	Rs. 5,000/-
Sis. Aban Master	Rs.10,000/-

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Rs. 5,000/-
Rs. 5,000/-
Rs.10,000/-
Rs. 1,000/-
Rs.10,000/-

Donations acknowledged in this issue are of Rs.1,55,000/-. These donations added to the Donations of Rs.1,59,000/- announced in BTF Bulletin of May 2021 Total up to Rs.3,14,000/-. Blavatsky Lodge expresses sincere thanks to all generous donors for standing by the Lodge under COVID 19 Pandemic.

BLAVATSKY LODGE FRIDAY MEETINGS

Sis, Aban Patel completed conducting the Study of C. W. Leadbeater's book '*The Power and Use of Thought*' on 9th April 2021. From next Friday 16th April 2021, she will conduct the study of C. W. Leadbeater's book '*Inner Life – Second Volume*'.

OBITUARY

Sis. Khorshed Mistry, Past President of Shanti Lodge T.S. with membership of 56 years passed away on 26th March 2021. She was a very dedicated member and a keen student of Theosophy even at the age of 91 years. She had learnt Theosophy from Late Mehra Dhalla. Despite failing eyesight, she had courage to commute alone to attend meetings of Shanti Lodge, Red Letter Day Programs & Support Convention at Blavatsky Lodge and musical programs in the city. She encouraged musical programs to convey Theosophy. She was keen that we learn Theosophy from her brother Homi Mistry, who though not a TS member had in-depth knowledge of Theosophy. Even when she turned blind, she with a help attended Shanti Lodge. When

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Lockdown of March 2020 was announced, then only she had agreed to her niece Armaity to go and stay with her. May her soul be happy surrounded by heavenly Light & Music.

KEEP THE LINK UNBROKEN Talk by Prof. C. A. Shinde At Ukraian Conference on HPB's 189th Birthday

I am happy to participate by Zoom at Ukrainian conference *"Bringing the Light"* devoted to 189th anniversary of HPB's birthday 12th August 2020, the day of Herald of Light!

It is difficult to describe in a few words Madame Blavatsky who was chosen by members of the Great Brotherhood to represent the wisdom tradition of ages in a universal idiom that would appeal to a new world and a person who was acting under occult order and of many qualities, talents, facets of her life.

Dr Annie Besant described with beautiful words "HPB gave to the world Theosophy and Col. H.S. Olcott gave to the world The Theosophical Society. Each was chosen by the Masters which brought the greater gift."

In true sense she brought new light to the world that changed the world thought and she became not only the revealer of divine Will but a savior of humanity. It is for this reason she will be respected by many future generations as well. She could do all this because of Wisdom and protection of the Master who was always there. She proved herself an 'UPASIKA', a trusted disciple.

'Keep the link unbroken 'are her last words to the world. It is essential to recollect her message on this day of **Herald of Light** as it inspires to take one to inner attunement, connecting with our Higher Selves and understanding our Lower Selves.

It is with this '*Keeping the link unbroken*', she became not only brave but traveled extensively at the age of 23 to India —Kashmir, Ladakh,

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parts of Tibet and Burma and wrote a book "From the Caves and Jungles of Hindustan". Her teachers did not regard her as perfect, but she was the only one fit for their work in uplifting the humanity. With her Master's help in 1888 the first two volumes of 'The Secret Doctrine 'were published by her in Europe which is synthesis of Science, Religion and Philosophy. - Science of spirituality, Religion of responsibility and Philosophy of perfection. A great scientist, Einstein found this Secret Doctrine a most inspiring and insightful and told to his fellow physicist Prof. Heisenberg to get a copy of the book and urged to delve into it when get handicapped by some problems. Mahatma K.H writes about the Book, that it is a more valuable work that its predecessor, an epitome of occult truths that will make it a source of information of instruction for the earnest student for long years to come."

In the Secret Doctrine she mentioned Three Fundamental Propositions in summary to mention here they are:

1. There is One absolute, eternal principle "The unknown Root" the One Reality Be-ness.

2. Creation is cyclic at all levels The Law of Periodicity.

3. One Life, and all expressions of it must pass through all cycles according to law. There is fundamental identity of all souls with the Universal over soul.

There is a detailed discussion of all **the past history of religions in** her two books 'Isis Unveiled' and '*The Secret Doctrine* 'and the important point to mention here are:

a) The Simultaneous evolution of seven groups on seven different parts of obi globe

b) The birth of the astral body before the physical

c) The man in this round preceded every mammalian of animal kingdom.

In the book 'Key to Theosophy' published in 1889 she clarifies all the doubts of Theosophy and Theosophical Society. "Theosophy is the

shore less ocean of Universal Truth, Love and Wisdom, reflecting its radiance on the earth, while the Theosophical Society is only a visible bubble on that reflection. Theosophy is divine nature, visible and invisible, and its society human nature trying to ascent to its divine parent. Theosophy finally is the fixed eternal sun, and its society the evanescent comet trying to settle in an orbit to become a planet, ever evolving within the altercation of the sun of truth. It was formed to assist in showing to men that such a thing as Theosophy exists and to help them to ascent toward it by studying and assimilating its eternal verities".

It is this philosophy which gives us the key enabling us to unlock the mysteries of the human soul, to penetrate deeper than surface appearances of mere events but to know the hidden motives and reasons. In this sense **HPB is breaker of the molds of human mind, mover of the hearts and souls of men, producer of a new system of world thought and real messenger of great sages and seers.** I personally agree the fact that one needs great mind to understand great minds of sages and seers and HPB kept her link unbroken.

Following the teachings of the Mahatmas HPB brought a new to the world seven stages of human evolution following the 3 stages evolution of Elemental Kingdom (I, II & III).

- 1. The Mineral Kingdom
- 2. Vegetable Kingdom
- 3. The Beast Kingdom. Dawning of individualized existence
- 4. The Human Kingdom

5. The Great Ones – Full grown individuality with Divine Consciousness

6. Devine Beings – Perfected individuals 'Dawning of Cosmical Consciousness'

7. Impersonal Individuality with Cosmical Consciousness

In the Key to Theosophy, she gave five-point program for members to help the society as duty. **She also said, 'Duty is due to humanity'** and to establish your link with humanity through T.S. Lodges is the prime duty.

1. First by **studying and comprehending** the theosophical doctrines, so that they may teach others, especially the young people.

2. Secondly by taking every **opportunity of talking to others and explaining to them** what Theosophy is and what it is not; by removing misconceptions and spreading an interest in this subject.

3. Thirdly by **assisting in circulating our literature,** (online or) by buying books when they have the means, by lending and giving them and by inducing their friends to do so.

4. Fourthly by **defending the Society from the unjust aspersions** cast upon it, by every legitimate device in their power.

5. Fifth and most important of all, by the example of their own lives.

You cannot do good to yourself without doing good to others so live to give or live to benefit mankind is the first step and to be virtuous is 2nd step.

She was criticized by some against her but she faced courageously with certainty of her link unbroken and her inner guidance. One may think of as *'The Steps of Golden Stairs''* that is the courageous endurance and a loyal sense of duty to the Teacher. The teacher carries no other identity than to live the teaching. Loyalty comes naturally when one begins to live the teaching.

HPB proved herself an UPASIKA a trusted disciple of her teacher and gave guidelines for understanding how to work and lead the clean life with open mind and pure heart as the steps of Golden Stairs leading to the temple of Divine Wisdom.

To err is human - man makes mistakes as he can't be perfect without making mistakes. He can't get success without facing failures and he can't feel happiness without being sad as well. So, **everything comes**

in a pair and you can't get one without facing the other. Spirit and matter are two poles. So HPB in the Voice of the Silence says the self of Spirit can't meet the self of Matter. One has to subdue the lower self to communicate with higher self and become the self-reliant which is the message of HPB to all who wish to tread the spiritual path.

She skillfully utilized the keys of astrology, etymology and cycles of time to unlock wisdom from the most ancient manuscripts of cave temples that exist in Himalayas. She was as much in the subtle world as she was on physical for keeping the link unbroken.

HPB's last words are 'to keep the link unbroken' and her last literal gift to the world is 'The Voice of the Silence 'that provides linking into the pursuit of Insight and Intuition. The evolutionary journey of soul from latency to potency from cage to sage a process of compassion wisdom she unfoldment of and mentions metaphorically that the journey is through three halls that leads to the end of toils. The literal meaning of the word toil is a net, snare, trap, nose used in hunting fishing, etc. But human toils are his images based on his ideals, ambition, habits and behavior which need to end to seek the Truth.

Madame HPB is not only the co-founder of the T.S. but also founder of Esoteric School of Theosophy in 1888, for determinant men and women, gave the guidance through her golden stairs to tread the spiritual path - *Path of Razor edge*. In fact, HPB's life is itself a demonstration of the Golden Stairs that leads to divine wisdom. She is therefore regarded as the Messenger, Revelator of Divine and most importantly savior of humanity and did bold statement that penetrated in the human consciousness *"you can't do good to yourself without doing good to others"*. It is practically true that the more one does for others the more he gets. With her tireless work, with her altruistic vision, she globalized her mission. Mission of globalizing the ancient teaching of one human family or Universal Brotherhood without any distinction. She was brave enough to destroy the dogmas of the East and the west. She did many miracles to attract and convince the individuals of the age. She lived in Adyar (India) and magnetized it with her link with Great Ones, and courageously endured baseless attacks and thus proved herself a Diamond Soul.

Keep the link unbroken with Nature also she said in The Voice of Silence. Compassion is Nature's fundamental law - Law of the Laws. So, it is the bounden duty of every human being to help Nature and to work with Nature. Help nature and work with her, and Nature will regard thee as one of her creators and make obeisance. Gentleness, kindness, pity, compassion, love, mercy, in fact all the fine and ennobling attributes are the expression of altruistic attitude. Altruism is Key to Theosophy she said. It is through Altruistic activities one can help humanity truly and lift a heavy burden of karmic responsibility. Then Nature in its reestablishment of harmony will visit upon him to the uttermost and regarding him as one of her creators.

We all bow HPB the great Diamond Soul in Homage and Adoration on this day of her 189th Birthday celebration and I think it is important to contemplate on great statements always for vitality and general human health statements like Keep the link unbroken (HPB). To benefit mankind is the first step (HPB) First step is the last step (J.K.). Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Yes, even physical health as well (Lord Buddha).

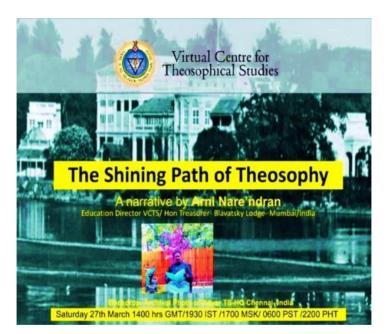
Let us remember on this day that everybody wants to be a Diamond but how many of us are really willing to get cut by Karma and dare to carry on the task undertaken? Are we really beneficial to globe Earth or are we also harmful like Corona virus through our thoughts, feelings and behavior? *It should be our prime concern says H.P. Blavatsky*.

In The Secret Doctrine, Blavatsky states:

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"Verily mankind is 'of one blood,' but not of the same essence." Yet, she also said: "True, again, that if the characteristics are accepted literally". (The Secret Doctrine, Vol. 1, p. 255).

The Shining Path to Theosophy



Sat, Mar 27 · Online Event https://fb.me/e/LiO8qL0n?ti=wa

Bro Arni Narendran, Hon Treasurer of the Blavatsky Lodge, delivered a talk on the Virtual Centre of Theosophical Studies platform, London. The session was a narrative of his journey along the Theosophical Path. The program was curated by Ms.Tapashri Ganguli and Mr. Lyndon Smith, London. Ms. Ananda Writer, Brazil did the initial prayers and Mr. Justin Tranksley from the Theosophical Society, Wheaton Illinois rendered the concluding prayer.

The talk highlighted his experience at Adyar as a young Theosophist and touched upon the Objectives of the Theosophical Society, which when followed and practiced to the core would unravel a 'New Dawn' in ones life. He especially stated that unless the gender disparity is not resolved , it will be difficult to move forward to the next root race. He quoted incidents from the life of Madam Blavatsky, Dr.Annie Besant, Mary Magdalene and the Hollywood star Ms Marlene Dietrich. He further stated that it is wrong to believe that Theosophy is at loggerhead with Science, which the Hodgson report wrongly believed while passing judgement on Madam Blavatsky, who was wronged by History. He talked about how we have to transcend gradually from the Kama Manas to the Buddhi Manas and Theosophy facilitates the same through its rich body of literature. Also, individually we must strive to develop our core Divine creative nature to discover the powers latent in us.

Bro Nathaniel Altman, founder of the Theosophical Youth Centre, Adyar(1975)was a surprise guest from New York, reconnecting on the virtual with Theosophists after forty years. He is author of various Books on wellness and Theosophy. His Book on 'Ahimsa ' and 'Vegetarian for Life' are Best sellers. Ms. Sharada Srinivasan a scientist from Bangalore, turned up at the event on seeing the FB post. She is a Bharatanatyam Dancer and a world-renowned authority on metalurgical Archeology. She was recounting how her Great Grandfather, Sir C.P.Ramaswami Iyer, Dewan of Travancore, wrote a Book on Dr.Annie Besant and was in the forefront of the Home Rule movement. He along with Ravindra Nath Tagore was involved in the Besant Educational Institutions.

The meeting ended with a scintillating recorded rendering of the Healing chant from Mritanjeneya Mantra- Om Triyambakam

performed by Deva Premal and Mitten. The speaker narrated how the same prayer was handed over to his wife, by Mr. Jenny Baker, President of the English Theosophical Society, during the visit to Blavatsky Lodge, London. It is used by Healing groups at the Lodge.

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