



THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL BULLETIN

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ADYAR DAY 17TH FEBRUARY

We members of the Theosophical Society have no particular common faith or creed, except our assertion of belief in a Universal Brotherhood of Humanity. Our sense of Brotherhood impels us to feel a unity with all that lives, and most particularly with all mankind. Therefore, to be a Theosophist means to be acutely conscious of any kind of distress in the world, and to be reformers ever striving to know in what way we can diminish the world's misery. Our prime duty as Theosophists is to go out into the world to abolish or minimize suffering wherever we find it, and in order to do our work efficiently we have a great body of thought called Theosophy to guide us.

C.JINARAJADASA

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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INDIA SECTION TS AMENDMENT RE ANNUAL DUES

First: Good News

Indian Section TS at its Virtual Council Meeting held during the 146th TS Convention on 20th December 2021 passed the Amendment, in view of increase in Indian Section Income, to the effect that **there will not be Annual Dues**. There was lot of time consumed in collection of annual membership fees by lodges, than transfer to Federation and then to Indian Section. There were clerical errors. In view of this it was decided that **there will not be any Fees for New and old members. Even New Members are relieved from Admission Fees. Also, The Indian Theosophist will be sent to all members without any subscription charge.** The Indian Theosophist which is published in English will be translated in Hindi. **Members will be given option whether they want English Indian Theosophist or Hindi Translated Indian Theosophist.** The amendment is **approved by International President Mr. Tim**

Acting Editor – Sis. Mahazaver 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 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.

Boyd and is applicable from 1st January 2022. According to the amendment every year in September Life Member / Ordinary Member will have to send an e-mail to Indian Section on E-mail ID: theosophyvns@gmail.com informing about his / her participation in Theosophical activities and wish to continue membership. Those who have difficulty can request someone else to send email on their behalf. Even that is not possible than a letter can be sent by member to Indian Section stating they want to continue their membership of TS. **Indian Section as per their Membership Records as of 30th September will give Rs.75/- per Ordinary Member to Federations every year.**

Second: Responsibility of Member

It is every member's responsibility to send the required e-mail to Indian Section in early September every year. Please keep copy of your e-mail and request Indian Section for acceptance of your e-mail. Failure to send e-mail in time or non-delivery of e-mail will result in dropped membership.

Dropped Membership means that a member needs to apply to Indian Section President Shri Pradeep Gohil for Revalidation of his membership. The member will be able to vote only after two years from the Revalidation Date. Federation will not get Rs.75/- for dropped member. Number of memberships required for electing Federation Representative to Indian Section Council will also get affected. Bombay Theosophical Federation had two Representatives, but as BTF membership in Good Standing dropped below 250 in 2019, now BTF qualifies for only One Representative on Indian Section Council.

For Revival Application guidance you are welcome to contact BFT President Bro. Vinayak Pandya (M):7021778977, BFT Secretary Sis. Mahazaver Dalal(M):9833131216 or your Lodge President / Secretary.

Ordinary Member will have to pay his Lodge Fees annually. Annual Lodge Fees are paid up to 30th September 2022. Please check with your Lodges when Lodge Fees are to be paid, i.e. in September 2022 or in October 2022, when TS Year begins.

BTF requests members of all Nine Lodges of BTF to comply with the requirements of Indian Section TS Membership Rules. It is further requested that membership of all lodges should be increased. We should reach out to other likeminded people to join TS. Except fees all other formalities will continue for new membership.

Mahazaver Rustom Dalal
Hon. Secretary

NEWS & NOTES

Congratulations, Bro. Arni Narendran for your International Reach outs:

Bro Arni Narendran , Hon Treasurer of Blavatsky lodge was a special Christmas invitee at the Theosophical Society (Adyar) Moscow lodge. He delivered a talk on 'Demystifying Patanjali yoga sutra'. The meeting was attended by about 60 attendees on a Christmas Day from Belarus, Ukraine, Brazil, Philippines, United Kingdom India, and Russia who interacted with an array of Q and A

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. The talks were translated in Russian by Bro Svetoslav Lipsky. Sr. Isis Resende from Brazil was a co- host of the event. Bro Alexey Bas Putin, President of the Lodge welcomed the gathering and also **complimented Blavatsky Lodge member, Dr. Rajam Pillai for publication of the 'Synergy ' magazine'.**

Bro Arni Narendran, conducted 'GUIDED MEDITATION' for planetary Healing at the 146th International Theosophical Convention of Adyar Chennai, which was held virtually. The Convention was a resounding success with translation in over 14 languages and spread over four days. As many as 150 volunteers from around the world contributed, which was inaugurated by President Bro Tim Boyd, with an illuminating talk during the conference. The team led by Sr. Marja Artma; International Secretary did an exemplary job in formatting a vibrant content for the conference with the Theme *'Living in the NOW- Challenges of inner life'*

**BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION
90TH ANNUAL VIRTUAL SESSION
Held on 22nd & 23rd October 2021**

With Theme:
*Transformative Education:
Flowering Wisdom & Spirituality*

**Graced by Chief Guest
Ms Sonal Murali
National Lecturer
& Director of Adyar Theosophical Academy
Opening Day Friday 2nd October 2021**

The 90th BTF Annual Session conducted by **Bro. Taral Munshi** had a novelty of his touch with '*Kala ki Udaan Har Disha*'. There were special Annual Session Invitation flyers and the Banner in honour of Chief Guest Ms Sonal Murali by Bro. Taral. With his warm introductory words the curtain was raised with display of inspiring pictures for Bhajan '*Tera Mangal, Mera Mangal, Sabka Mangal*'. The Universal Prayer was recited by **Blavatsky Lodge President Sis. Kashmira Khambatta**.

BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya Opening the 90th Annual Session of BTF said, 'We are passing through the toughest time of Pandemic. However, Pandemic has inspired us to adept to Change and here we are meeting virtually for the Second time for our Annual Session. BTF has reached out to 52 College / University Libraries with subscription of five Years for 'The Theosophist' sponsored by Bro. Ram Kalra'. He welcomed International, National & Federation Dignitaries who had virtually joined Delegates of Bombay for Annual Session.

BTF secretary **Sis. Mahazaver Dalal** conveyed the **Greetings of Indian Section President Shri Pradeep Gohil**, International Vice-President Dr. Deepa Padhi, International Lecturers Prof. C. A. Shinde and Shri Shikhar Agnihotri, Ex-General secretary Bro. s. Sundaram, National Lecturer Shri U. S. Pandey, Federation Presidents / Secretaries, TOS Secretary Sis. Parinaz Gandhi and Bro. Fali Engineer of TS Lodge Huston, USA.

Sis. Dr. Rajam Pillai was invited to share her **Theosophical Journey**. During her active participation at Mani Bhavan she learnt about Dr. Annie Besant, which inspired her to come to Blavatsky Lodge. She wanted to start a publication for good of College students. For that she formed Synergy Trust and with Bro. Arni Narendran's article on 'Art & Theosophy' and back cover with Dr. Annie Besant's photo got the First Issue of 'Synergy' released at the BTF Annual Session by the Chief Guest Dr. Deepa Padhi, International Vice-

President. With her zeal to spread Theosophy, her ‘Synergy’ publications containing Theosophical & Spiritual articles are sent from Japan to USA. A special Theosophical Calendar created by International Lecturer Shri Agnihotri of Pragya CS Studio was also printed and distributed. She even distributed Volumes of Dhammapada compiled by Shri H. K. Sharan to College & University and other Public Libraries.

Sis. Archana Munshi introducing the Chief Guest Ms Sonal Murali said she a Postgraduate in English with a Gold Medal joined the Theosophical Society while in College. She came to Adyar as a young volunteer and served for many years working closely with Radhaji for theosophical publications. She was Secretary of ‘New Life for India Movement’ and Editor of its magazine, ‘Wake Up India’. While at Adyar, she founded the Chapter of ‘Beauty without Cruelty – Chennai’. Ms. Sonal is a passionate educator interested in exploring a compassionate way of living. She worked for Krishnamurthy’s school for a decade. She, a gold medalist for Creative Methodology in teaching learning process, returned to Adyar to set up a theosophical school - Adyar Theosophical Academy as the Director under the guidance of Bro Vic Hao Chin, Jr. of Philippines. She as the National Lecturer has given talks on Triveni Tuesday Meets also.

Chief Guest Ms Sonal Murali had prepared special Power Points for her both talks for our Annual Session. Her Opening Day Presentation was on *‘Learning and Growing through transformative Education’*. Quoting the great Educationists, she conveyed that Students absorb from Nature and experience sense of wonder. They learn through doing things. What they need is a Holistic approach, not fragmentation. What they need is Approval and not disapproval. Make them realize, e.g., how food comes to table. Make them realize that they are part of one Earth and part of one community starting from home, school to community. Students & Teachers are co-

learners. Their Relationship is unique. School is not preparation for life, *School is Life*. Environment is the Teacher. Students are capable of extra-ordinary things. Entering a class-room child becomes aware of world around him. He learns to walk together. Also starts realizing what he wants to be. Sense of accomplishment is important for him. Today lot is taught but little is understood. What needed are experiments, experiences, observations. For evolving child learning, sharing, and caring are important.

Ms Sonal Murli sharing **Teachings at ATA – Adyar Theosophist** a magical experience with inspiring gratitude from within and making kindness visible. She showed slides of the project they had for little children on *‘Where I would like to be as a drop of water/’*. Their caring, gratifying observations were from their hearts. The song *‘The Way I see Water’* they sang had a beautiful message to appreciate and care for water.

Ms. Sonal Murli answering to one of the questions about – ‘How to handle unmanageable child?’ said, that she would try to understand home background and would start with counseling Parents and Family. **Bro Vic Hao Chin, Jr.** sharing his experience of a student of his Golden Link College narrated how he gave an opportunity to a student who was to be dismissed from school and how the student responded to his firm but positive expectations.

Prof. C. A Shinde as an educationist added that Teacher’s role is very important. He has to bring out good in childlike honesty, appreciation of beauty etc.

Proposing the **Vote of Thanks Bro. Navin Kumar** said as per HPB ‘All are Your Teachers & Life is a School’. He wished that as The Masters have predicted, may with beginning of ATA Adyar becomes a great University. He ended the evening with recitation of Sanskrit Prayer.

Closing Day Saturday 23rd October 2021

Bro. Taral Munshi opened the Closing Session with Bhajan '*Aye Malik Terre Bande Hum*' with photos of Religious symbols leading to TS Symbol to convey oneness of One Reality.

The Universal Prayer was recited by Blavatsky Lodge President **Sis. Kashmira Khambatta**.

Dr. Ajay Hora was requested to share his '*Theosophical Journey*'. He shared his nostalgic memory of 70 years of Theosophical Journey. His birth was like a miracle. It was a difficult delivery for his Mother, but Mother had told his Father that 'It is White Lotus Day. A Theosophist is to be born so all will be well'. And it was so! From the age of 5 years, he has been in contact with International Presidents – from the 3rd President George Arundale to the 8th President Tim Boyd. As a child he had observed Radhaji's Brother talking to Trees and conveying their complaints to the Gardner. At the young age he had learnt about 'Karma' from his Mother Mugdhaben. He fondly remembered vibrancy of Theosophical Stalwarts of Blavatsky Lodge and Juhu Theosophical Colony. His son in USA had taken him to Ojai Valley TS Centre in California, where according to Radhaji's instructions he had received very caring warm reception. At the age of 86 years, he is very keen to visit Adyar with his son who is coming from USA.

'The Golden Glow – TOS in Mumbai' a video created with great difficulty under Pandemic was an inspiring surprise for all. TOS Mumbai **President Sis. Thrity Dalal** said that this presentation honors 50 Golden Years of Humanitarian Service of TOS Mumbai Region. **The video** was filmed at Blavatsky Lodge tracing TOS Mumbai history with photos of founding pillars Rusi & Homai

Toddywalla and greetings of Sis. Freny Toddywalla, President Sis. Thrity Dalal, Secretary Sis. Parinaz Gandhi, Senior Members Bro. Umesh Kashikar, Bro. Parvez Gandhi, Sis. Meherangiz Baria and many more. On youth front Sis. Rashna Jehani, Farhad Dalal and quite a few young members & volunteers shared their experiences. Video also covered TOS Educational & Service projects and Colloquiums at Deolali. **Secretary Sis. Parinaz Gandhi** added that even under Pandemic Online Education of students was sponsored. She urged to support TOS financially and with helping hands by becoming Patron, Life or Ordinary Members.

Sis. Meherangiz Baria lucidly introduced the Chief Guest Ms. Sonal Murali.

Ms. Sonal Murali's talk with PPt was on *“Education for Life: A Theosophical perspective”*. Explaining what Education is, she said that *‘the Knowledge of the World is not Education; the Knowledge which liberates is Education.’* As J. Krishnamurthy says, *‘Education is to create human beings, who are integrated and free to flower in Love & Goodness’*. According to Annie Besant, *the child is an immortal individual*, who needs to be understood and tenderly helped to develop insight and intuition. A child has a great potential. He has to be encouraged to reflect on things and even to write down to become aware of his thoughts and feelings. A child has to be given a larger picture of time and should be prepared to cross the bridges by him. A child should enjoy learning. A Teacher / Parent are custodians of culture and not owners. They are the giver of culture to child.

Mindfulness is to be developed with art of Looking, Listening & Learning. As Lord Buddha says Awareness has to be developed and as Aurobindo says Body, Mind & Soul should be united. Yoga helps in this process. A child should be relating to environment in holistic

way, which will make him care for all creations and he will be elevated to higher feelings from within.

Unconditional mind gives freedom and frees from fear. To develop right character with values & behavior and to nourish higher mind of child is most needed. Ms. Sonal Murali had **ended her presentation with a video of 3 girls singing** a song with a message of caring, gratitude and invoicing Bliss.

During Q&A Ms. Sonal gave guidelines regarding problems related to ‘Labeled Child’, ‘Siblings’ problems’ and ‘Hyperactive Child’. **Bro Vic Hao Chin, Jr.** added, that what is relevant to one child, will not be for another child. Add fun & happiness in life of child. Creativity unfolds their potential. Love & appreciation they need, but firmness is important. **Bro. Navin Kumar** read out from Khalil Gibran’s book ‘Prophet’ about children and role of parents.

BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya greatly appreciated the discourse full of Theosophical Values. **Bro. Arni Narendran** profusely thanked **Chief Guest Ms. Sonal Murali and Distinguished Guest Bro Vic Hao Chin, Jr.** for their insight into Education for Life. He wished that ATA is opened in Mumbai also. He closed the Annual Session with recitation of the Universal Prayer.

THE 90TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BTF held Virtually on 25th October 2021 at 5.00 pm

The 90th AGM chaired by BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya was attended by about 30 Brethren. Silence was observed sending out thoughts of love & peace for Dear Departed Members. For the Official Business of adopting the Minutes, Secretary’s Report and

Audited Accounts Bro. Vinayak had shared matters on Screen. Highlights of Secretary's Report and main features of Accounts were conveyed by President. Resolutions for International & National Leaders and Dedicated Old Members were passed. **AGM recorded thanks to Bro. Ram Kalra** for sponsoring 'The Theosophist' for five years for about 52 College & University Libraries. **At Open Forum: Bro. Navin Kumar** had suggested to continue with Virtual meetings at least alternately to physical meetings. **Bro. Vinayak Pandya** said that thanks to virtual Meetings he has been able to attend many meetings. He also announced likelihood of Indian Section Amendment to do away with Annual Dues and to give Rs.75/- per member to Federations. **Dr. Ajay Hora**, the senior most member and living encyclopedia of TS in Mumbai was keen that joint meetings of Vasanta-Ganesh-Jyoti Lodges are held with Anand Lodge at Anand Lodge Premises in Juhu Theosophical Colony. To revive Centenary Lodge was also discussed. The AGM had ended with a **Vote of Thanks to the Chair**.

FOUNDATION DAY AT BLAVATSKY LODGE

On 17th November 2021 evening Brethren had gathered in Green Room for **Hybrid physical-cum-virtual Meeting**. It was heartening to have, after about two years, The Prayers of All Religions recited by members at Blavatsky Lodge. Blavatsky Lodge President **Sis. Kashmira Khambatta** welcomed all and said that the Foundation was according to the Divine Plan when materialism was at its high in the world. **Bro. Arni Narendran** paid tributes to Light Bringers Madam H. P. Blavatsky and Col. H. S. Olcott. He added, 'Theosophy is thanks to HPB and Theosophical Society is thanks to HSO'. He also remembered co-founder William Q. Judge. **Dr. Rajam Pillai** shared a poem about Foundation Roots of Tree with Divine Energy and it being nurtured by sublime Mother earth. Similarly there should be gratitude for our Founders. **Sis. Aban Patel** quoted HPB, '*First*

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