

THE INDIAN THEOSOPHIST

DECEMBER 2023

VOI. 121

NO. 12

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Editor

PRADEEP H. GOHIL

A STEP FORWARD

There comes a time in one's life when he feels that things happening around him are more than what he understands. There is a direct connection between what is spiritual awareness and the connection of one's life with the spiritual energy and life forces related to it. Spiritual energy exists through different ways of understanding life and thus, passes from people to people but, when one reaches a certain point, one will realize how achieving spiritual enlightenment can actually help in the transformation of life.

Enlightenment is a state that people have experienced in the past. It is difficult but not impossible to experience the same even today. It is a spiritual state. It can be experienced at a physical plane. In this state one can see the difference between him and his mind in the physical plane, just like the physical distance between him and others. In this state he does not do anything, as he is simply witnessing "a person with a separate mind". He witnesses everything that he does and see. Witnessing it as 'see-er'. For example, when one goes to watch a movie, he does not change the hero or the story but just watch. So, it is simply watching everything. However, it is unable to change the outer reality. Thoughts will always continue but one is separate from them.

Transformation is different. A transformed state is mentioned in the Vedas as *Amrit* state. In this state one is flowing with his mind but he is purifying his mind while he is with it. For example, in the case of Ravana, being enlightened he did not change his ambivalent mind. But Transformations would amount to his mind becoming like Lord Rama's mind— a divine mind. When one sees others' mind, he sees it as a mixture of pure and impure. However, one can see in Buddha's case, his mind was completely pure, he was beyond enlightenment. He was in a transformed state.

Transformed mind is completely pure. People think that this is not possible and hence the path of enlightenment. One should never be frustrated, angry or irritated with his mind or try to run away from it. If one's mind is transformed, the entire creation will get transformed. Today's requirement is not enlightenment because problems cannot be solved through it. It is only through transformation that the world will change. When one sits for meditation, the mind automatically transforms as it connects with the Divine within. When the Divine and its positive energies are awakened and flow into one's mind, it will cause the mind to transform. One's mind will feel pure and his thoughts and actions will be likewise Meditation is the path to transformation.

Ten (10) steps to Spiritual Enlightenment:

1. One of the first steps to spiritual enlightenment is through observation and intuition. Start living your life with more interest and intent of dedication towards things, happening around you. What, why and such questions can help one open the door to the spiritual life. This is how one's awareness can help one to be aware of his spiritual enlightenment. That is the first and foremost step to the path of spiritual enlightenment.

2. The second step is a sense of connection. A connection can be shared with the things one wants to be connected to. To reach spiritual enlightenment, one needs to communicate and find a way to share his energy with other humans.

3. The third step is to leave your attachments behind. When one has attachments, it becomes difficult for him to be aware of the other things happening around him. Thus, once when one starts to focus on the journey to 'spiritual enlightenment, he can leave all materialistic things or emotions behind. This will bring out his true self as well as his thoughts and beliefs.

4. The fourth step is to look for inner peace and calmness even in a crisis. Sometimes one will have many different emotions going in his head but he will try to focus on greater things in life and solutions to

problems he is facing. This is how his journey to spiritual enlightenment will start.

5. The fifth step is to develop your intuition. It will keep your spiritual enlightenment easy. There is energy present in all the things around you. Try to connect with this energy on a regular basis.

6. The sixth step is to show compassion and kindness towards others as well as oneself. Empathy increases one's ability to feel the spiritual energy around him.

7. The seventh step is to accept your fears like losing your things, the near and dearness and your own death. Fear decreases one's ability to spiritual enlightenment. When one stops worrying about such petty issues and focuses on real life, he would get spiritually enlightened and began his path towards his spiritual journey.

8. Being authentic, accepting the real self and becoming your true self can actually be a guide to spiritual enlightenment. With this will come confidence and a deep sense of self-worth.

9. Everyone should keep flourishing, keep learning and enjoy the spiritual growth. People with spiritual enlightenment have a level of energy that can be used in the well-being of others for evolution.

10. Enhance life and energy in every possible way by the practices of meditation, charity, volunteering and helping others. Then as you grow you will achieve spiritual enlightenment leading to transformation.

To think and act on these lines from right now will be a step forward in the right direction in life.

TIMBOYD

THE POWER OF SACRED PLACES

THERE is a fundamental principle that defines spirituality. It can be expressed in one word — Unity, or Oneness, or interdependence. Reconnecting with a lost, or dimmed sense of Oneness is the basis of a genuine spiritual path. Any attempt at the spiritual life is challenging. There are certain inherent difficulties associated with it. The initial challenge we face is becoming aware of a lifetime of misdirected self-training, then trying to reverse the flow of our life energies. The vast majority of our time during this life has been spent pouring enormous effort into training ourselves in a direction that takes us away from a spiritual approach to living.

When we look at the way that the normal life is lived, its primary focus is self-centered. The daily scope of our activity and thinking is *my* life, body, thoughts, family, nation, plans, happiness, future, health, and so on. It is a list with which we are all too familiar — an endless emphasis on our personal wants and needs. For many people reincarnation is a fact of existence, but even without the compounding effect of multiple lives engaged in the karma-producing activity of self-centered living, an honest analysis of solely this present lifetime should convince us of the manner in which we condition ourselves.

Whenever we reach a point that our attention turns toward the possibility of the spiritual, there are difficulties and hurdles that we have to face. Sooner or later, in this life or some future one, we are exposed to some expression of the spiritual which breaks through upon us. It might be a person that triggers it, a book, or a personal crisis. Finally a vision of a different possibility dawns on us. Although it is not something that has ever been hidden, for some reason the possibility becomes apparent to us in a way that seems new. Many describe the experience in dramatic terms—a rebirth, an awakening, a restoration from blindness.

We become aware that there is a *need* for something more. First of all, there is a need for guidance along this path. Throughout human history many people have come and given guidance on reconnecting

with this deeper, ever-present dimension of our being. One thing we become aware of is the need to develop some pattern of behaviour that enhances our access to this deeper dimension.

In many spiritual traditions great teachers tell us that in order to fully experience the spiritual life we need to step out of “your world and into ours” — the “ours” being the reality of the teacher. We need tools to help us in this effort. One such tool is the power of sacred places. We all know of, or at least have heard of sacred places — spots on the Earth, where anyone who goes there experiences an energy of sacredness and blessing. On the west coast of the United States there is the famous Redwood Parks populated by some of the largest and oldest trees on the planet. As a child, my father took my brothers and me there. Being typical boys we would play and laugh and shout. I remember how when we first set foot in the forest our conversations became whispers. Without direction, without thought, the response of even a child was to speak softly in the presence of the sacred.

Such spaces exist all around the world. Some of them are features of the natural world— mountains, lakes, rivers, forests, and caves. These are created by lines of energies in the earth that attract inner forces and beings to those places. Then there are places that become sacred because of human use and interaction. In many ways such places are designed for a particular work. The focused presence of generations of people who commit their lives and understanding to work in that place draws forces of the spiritual nature.

The history of the Theosophical Society (TS) and its place in Adyar is like that. The Masters of the Wisdom and their agents appeared to gatherings on the terrace at its Headquarters building, precipitated letters in its shrine, and advised and assisted in the work of the TS to such an extent that Annie Besant termed the TS in Adyar “The Masters’ Home”. Places such as this become sanctified from human use — a creative alignment with deep and purposeful forces. It can be of great value to place ourselves in connection with such places, and bathe in those energies and presences.

There is a story from the Buddhist tradition that can illustrate this. There is a powerful and well-known form of practice called loving-

kindness, or *metta* meditation. Simply described, it involves generating and projecting the wish that all beings, including ourselves, have a sense of safety, security, peace, happiness, and health. The *metta* meditation came about in this way: During the rainy months, when the Buddha’s disciples could not travel, they would set up camp in one place. It would be a time of meditative retreat. At one time, a group of his monks found a lovely spot in a forest, near running water — a perfect place. Once they settled in, they found that their meditation and peace of mind were constantly disturbed.

Apparently their presence was upsetting to certain local Nature spirits. The spirits (elementals) would constantly harass the monks by making strange and frightening sounds, foul odours, anything to drive the monks away. The monks went to the Buddha seeking his approval to leave the place and find a more harmonious location for their retreat. The Buddha told them to stay put and taught them the *metta* meditation daily to generate the wish for peace, happiness, security, freedom from harm, and safety of these upsetting spirits and of all beings. They did it, and with time everything became pacified. It became a holy place.

Human involvement in creating sacred spaces is something that we have some control over. These same spaces must be created where we live. Yes, we can go to a temple for peace and upliftment of spirit, but we should not have to leave our own homes to find it. So how do we do that? How do we create a connection to a constant source of spiritual influence?

An example: Someone has a very fine incense and they burn it in a particular place. If we are approaching that place, we smell the fragrance before we enter the space. When we enter the place we find ourselves bathed in it. If we remain long enough in that place, we barely even notice it anymore; it becomes the norm for us. Whenever we do leave, that fragrance has permeated our clothing, our hair, our skin, our atmosphere, and without any thought we carry it to others.

In our own spaces we have to provide ourselves with spiritual reminders. We will always need specific places where we eat, sleep, where we bathe, but always we should have some space, even if it is a corner of a room that is dedicated to our connection with the spiritual

life. We have rooms dedicated to every activity in our lives, but the highest and most profitable activity, meditation, quieting the mind, goes without. Create a space where this energy can become concentrated in our own homes. When I was in college, sharing a dormitory room, I remember I made a space behind a chair in a corner of the room where regularly I experimented with deepening a sense of quiet.

Pictures of profound people or iconic images are reminders of possibilities. Even unconsciously, when we walk past them they react upon us. These are the things that we can do. It is said that when we practice meditation, and when we actually do become quiet, that state is extremely attractive to a variety of unseen life, and according to the depth of our stillness, it can draw magnificent orders of beings to us (or more correctly, it can draw us to magnificent orders of beings).

The colour and fragrance of a flower attracts honeybees and butterflies. A pile of garbage is equally attractive, but to other forms of life less conducive to our health. We need to treat our thoughts as material of a similar nature. According to the focus and awareness of our thinking process we are accompanied in this world.

In the first of the Mahatma Letters written to A. O. Hume the point is made that in response to our thinking we are continually “peopling our current in space”. At every moment we are creating an atmosphere a “crowd” that accompanies us through life. Normal parental advice to children is to choose their friends wisely because of the influence they have on their life. Diligence in that choosing is the challenge.

If we take that advice to heart about the quality of thoughts we befriend, at a certain point we become established in another world. We have not gone anywhere, but the company that we keep changes dramatically, and in that change we find ourselves influenced and influencing. Moving among people, without saying a word, they are touched. This is the result of our own awareness, our own focus, our own practice committed over time. It does not happen today because I thought of it yesterday. It is a process. With time, patience, and intelligent effort we become effective instruments for a new direction in this world.

(Courtesy: *The Theosophist*, Nov. 2023)

SUVRALINA MOHANTY*

SEPARATENESS COMES OUT OF IGNORANCE**

As we look around us we see people at all stages of evolution, some are in advanced stage than others — in one way or other. Some of us in the process of development have already succeeded in unfolding some of the higher senses which are latent in us.

We find that there are different stages in the earlier evolution — the vegetable above the mineral, the animal above the vegetable and the human above the animal. In the same way the human kingdom has a definite end, a boundary at which it passes into a kingdom distinctly higher than itself, that beyond men there are the Supermen. Human progress is slow, but it is constant; therefore, the number of the Perfect and matured men is increasing. In normal times we need many births before we could reach that level but it is possible for us to hasten our progress on the Path, to compress into a few lives the evolution, which otherwise would take many thousands of years.

The Theosophical Society is a movement, launched in the world by some members of the White Brotherhood with a definite purpose. The first object of the TS is to form a nucleus of the universal brotherhood of humanity.

We are dispensers of sunlight in this lower world, so we too, at our level, must be radiant suns of love and joy. The world may be unappreciative, uncomprehending but our duty is to shine. As rightly said by an Adept: Think less about your rights and more about your duties.

* National Lecturer of the Indian Section and Secretary of Prays Lodge, Ghaziabad, U.P.

** Talk delivered in a symposium held on 29 Oct. during the Indian Section Convention in Varanasi.

The personality which we have been building up for many thousands of years has grown strong and is often self-assertive, and it is one of the hardest tasks to reverse its attitude and compel it to acquire the habit of looking at things from the others' point of view. We don't simply get ready to expand our being. There is so much an "I-ness". If we don't realize it and work on it, we will not be able to progress.

There is a fundamental concept in Buddhism: *Sakkāyaditth*, a Pali term meaning "the illusion that a person is a separate personal identity.", According to the Patanjali Yoga Sutra ignorance, I-ness, liking and disliking - these all are causes of suffering. *Avidya-Asmita-Raga-Dwesa-Abhinivesah*.

So *Avidya* – Ignorance is the first thing out of which I-ness develops and also all our likes and dislikes. Due to these likes/dislikes we form tendencies of separation. *Avidya* has nothing to do with the knowledge which we acquire through the intellect and which refers to the things concerning the phenomenal worlds. A man may be a great scholar and yet may be completely immersed in illusions created by the mind. Since there is this absence of awareness of our true nature, most of us are unable to distinguish between the eternal, pure Self and the impure non-Self.

Scientists tell us that man evolved some 70 million years ago from apes. Before that, the planet existed for millions of years without our presence and we must ask ourselves whether we can really claim that evolution has moved in the right direction. In some respect man has done phenomenal things on the constructive side, but all that comes to very little because in another sense he has remained extremely primitive. A million years ago also — man was divided into tribes, groups protecting his own group and attacking other groups, he was loving his own people and hating others. Psychologically aren't we still the same?

The principle of the Brotherhood of Humanity is one of the eternal truths that govern the world's progress on the lines which distinguish human nature from brute nature. What is also needed is to impress

men with the idea that, if the root of mankind is one, then there must also be one truth which finds expression in all the various religions. Unless every man is brought to understand and accept as an axiomatic truth that by creating wrong impression or image about one man we are not only proving ourselves wrong but misguiding all human beings. And then, no brotherly feelings as preached by all the great Reformers can be developed.

Divisions and hatreds grow out of ignorance, and suspicions flourish in the atmosphere of separation. All the great religions might vary in their outward rites and ceremonies but the heart of all is one, the love of the Supreme and humans.

Different religions are merely different approaches to the same truth. The greatest threat to the creation of a universal brotherhood of man is his tendency to identify himself with only those who appear to hold similar views. This has divided mankind into a large number of groups – religious groups, national groups, ethnic groups, linguistic groups, caste groups, professional groups, political groups, family groups all of which from time to time become antagonistic to other groups when they perceive that their self-interest needs to be protected. The desire of an individual to belong to a group is born out of the sense of security which he feels in belonging to it. Yet, it is obvious that this very division into groups has created the greatest insecurity for all human beings on earth, through war, riots and competition.

All divisions among people arise from a feeling that we are separate from others, which in turn arise from the feeling of being different. Are we really different from each other in our consciousness or do we merely differ in our ideas? If we look beyond the superficial things we find that every human being has the same feelings, the sense of fear, of insecurity, of loneliness and the desire to succeed in life. We have given tremendous importance to the superficial things that is why we feel and think that we are different from each other. If we were aware of the depths of our consciousness, of what we are as human beings, not just the superficial ideas of knowledge in the conscious mind but the whole of our being, it would be like the wave in an ocean.

It is made up of water, it has seven miles depth of ocean in common with all other waves, but it feels different just because on the surface it is a little different. So there is no division, we are divided out of ignorance, and it is the ignorance which has to be dispelled. So it is our illusions, our ignorance that divides us. Actually speaking there is no division and if we dispel our ignorance there will be no need to integrate or to propagate universal brotherhood.

What is our responsibility in a world that is divided like this? We must examine what has gone wrong? And why are we still moving in the direction of so-called progress? Which is the right direction? Let us look at the kind of individual that we are creating, because the world is built up of individuals like you and me. We can do what we like, all of which have a tremendous effect on the future generations, influencing their minds.

We create the younger generation according to our own image. There may be a little change in ideas here and there but by and large the younger generation is created in the image of the older generation which means we successfully transmit all our prejudices to them. We are not only passing on our prejudices but we are creating groups around a common prejudice. Thus different groups are formed and we feel the separateness. But we also know that with time and experience our ideas, our conditioning, keep changing and the difference between two separate groups is also due to the difference in our conditioning.

In school we teach them to be ambitious. We admire the child who has capacity, who is talented, we look down upon the child who is dull. This is the pattern right through the world. We are pushing the individual in what we consider as the right direction. Instead of teaching the child to do that which he loves to do we are teaching him to do that which will get him the best paid-job, the highest reward, the highest appreciation. So he learns to pursue not what is his own natural urge or talent, but that which the world demands of him. No wonder the individual becomes egoistic, ruthless, and ambitious.

Students should be encouraged to interact with various age groups

to have a balanced interaction with them, Through this interaction they will develop flexibility and acceptance. Making a new friend every day can make student-life a great fun. Let's say there are 30 students in a class, Would they be on friendly terms and close to everybody in the class? Most probably not. If they cannot be friendly with everybody in the class how can they be friendly with the whole world when they leave school? School is a place where they can enhance their ability. Basic human values need to be encouraged in the classroom. A child is born with these values and teachers need to uncover them. The human values are compassion, co-operation, friendliness, smile, laughter, lightness, helping nature, belongingness and caring for each other. Just coming to class and learning a few lessons is not really the education that a child needs. We must try for the total development of the body and the mind because they are linked.

“There is a short story: ‘Darkness of Ignorance’

There was a teacher and people from nearby villages used to meet him in order to seek advice for their problems. The teacher and his students used to listen, ponder, and offer solutions.

One of the students, who participated in many of these discussions, became impatient.

“These people are so ignorant.” He used to shake his head, then cry out with frustration. “There is so much ignorance in the world!”

His teacher noticed this. He advised his student against his behaviour of looking down on other people. But in vain.

One day, the student and the teacher were on their daily stroll. They came across a large hall, and went in. It was evening, and the hall was dark inside.

“There is so much darkness in here!” said the teacher.

“Yes, there is.” The student agreed.

“Oh, there is so much darkness in here!” the teacher repeated, there was frustration in his voice.

The student was confused. He looked at his teacher, and repeated “Yes teacher, indeed, there is much darkness.”

His teacher did not seem to hear, and repeated. “So much darkness. Oh, so much darkness in this hall!”

The teacher kept on complaining, louder and louder. He sounded very frustrated.

This went on for quite a while. Finally, the student was out of his wits. Irritated, he asked: “Yes, there is darkness, master. But why are you complaining about it again and again?”

“Because I want this darkness to go away.”

The student laughed. “We need lamps to brighten this place. Standing here, shouting and complaining, will not make the darkness go away.”

The teacher smiled. “The same is with the ignorance — it will not go away by complaining aloud. We have to spread the knowledge. With the help of knowledge, even the most ignorant person can become Scholar.”

Thereafter the student never complained about the villagers’ ignorance. Rather, he helped his teacher in his work.”¹

Either we think that a saviour has to come and protect mankind or we accept the responsibility. If we are not increasing our understanding, if we are not producing better human beings, then this problem will continue to be there as an endless process.

If all are the rays of the Universal Light
Against whom do we fret and fight?
Is ignorance the cause of all strife?
Is happiness by-product of a noble life?
The earthly distinctions are man-made,
Rays of the Sun don’t differentiate.

अयं निजः परो वेति गणना लघु चेतसाम् । उदारचरितानां तु वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् ।

This is mine, this is his; Such thinking is of narrow minded people; On the contrary, for the liberal people, this whole earth is like a family. *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* is a philosophy that inculcates an understanding that the whole world is one family. It is a social philosophy emanating from a spiritual understanding that the whole of humanity is made of one life energy.

If the Divine source is one then how we as individuals are different? If the whole ocean is one then how a drop of the ocean is different from the ocean? If the drop is different from the ocean how then can it ultimately be dissolved in the ocean?

Diversity of culture and tradition is our pride. A garden with diverse flowers with diverse fragrances, colours and adoration looks beautiful and gives divinity to the garden.

Oneness in diversity is exhibited in nature with the appearance of a rainbow, which is an aggregation of diverse synchronous colours in the ethereal sky. When colours are separate they disperse and are not visible. By the magical prismatic effect of sun and rain clouds the concerted reflection forms sublime rainbow signifying harmony and equanimity.

Let’s open our hearts, open our arms to embrace, inculcate universal love and peace for universal family.

All Pervading Consciousness in the whole Humanity is the Universal Consciousness present in each one of us. We all emanate from one supreme source to merge back to the same source.

“Be Universal in your Love. You will see the Universe as picture of your own Being.”

Reference:

1. The story ‘*Darkness of Ignorance*’ authored by Shon Mehta was published in 2017 on her official site: <https://www.shonmehta.com/2017/03/darkness.html>

NEWS AND NOTES

Bombay

Dr Annie Besant's birthday was jointly organized by BTF and Blavatsky Lodge on 1st October 2023. Sis. Aban Patel, Master of Ceremony, welcomed the Guest Speaker Sis. Christine Gwin of Australia and all at the Besant Hall of Blavatsky Lodge, where Dr. Annie Besant had given talks and people were standing even on road to listen to her. The Prayers of All Religions and the Universal Prayer were recited by the Members.

Bro. Navin Kumar, BTF Council Member & Blavatsky Lodge Vice-President welcomed and introduced Guest Speaker Sis. Christine Gwin, Coordinator of Logan Certified Group of Queensland, Australia. With reverence & gratitude he narrated what Annie Besant did for her 'Motherland India' and for Theosophy & the Theosophical Society.

Guest Speaker Sis. Christine Gwin made it an interactive session. First she spoke about TS in Australia and the Books which inspired her to study Theosophy. She posed a question – '*Who are Occultists and What is Occultism?*'. To her according to Annie Besant, it is: (1) Be controlled in Thoughts & Emotions (2) Doctrine of the Heart, i.e. sympathy & compassion in everyday life. The thoughts shared were like: *True Occultist is stern with self & compassionate with others. *To empathies with the person seeking help to understand what he needs. *Lower 'self' has to be trained to be in communion with the Higher 'SELF'. *Be alert about what The Masters would like you to do. *Just do not study Theosophy, put it into practice. Sis. Deepa Kapur shared how TOS inspires to empathies and act. BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya said that we should get inspiration from life of Annie Besant for path of Occultism.

Ms. Bhoomika Nitin More, Minoo Mullan Competition College Student with her father offered flowers to Dr. Annie Besant's statue.

Blavatsky Lodge President Sis. Kashmira Khambatta thanked the Guest Speaker for her talk and motivating all to share Theosophy.

'Enabling a Brighter Future with Equitable Opportunities for Children':

Non-Governmental Organizations - *NGOs strive to address social concerns and promote social welfare by filling the gap between what is needed by society and what is delivered by the Government.* Being non-profit by nature, NGOs apply their surplus funds towards promotion of their objectives rather than distribution amongst its members.

An overview of the educational sponsorship programme followed by the NGO Indian Association for Promotion of Adoption and Child Welfare (IAPA) and the Theosophical Order of Service (TOS) – Mumbai revealed how a modest financial support when combined with allied supportive services, can significantly transform the lives of children from lower socio-economic strata.

A strange Synchronicity – The UNIVERSE IS AMAZING The Blavatsky Lodge celebrated the 176th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Annie Besant on 1st October 2023. At the programme SYNERGY magazine was presented to the visiting Chief Guest Ms. Christine Gwin, President of the Logan Theosophical Group near Brisbane, Australia. It was a strange coincidence that Bro. Simon Webber of the Wellington, New Zealand Lodge, handed over the SYNERGY magazine to Hamilton Lodge President Bro. Mike Dunn on the same day, though the magazine had reached Wellington, months ago. THE UNIVERSE LINKS ALL GOOD HAPPENINGS OF COSMIC RESONANCE.

Minoo Mullan Inter-College Elocution Competition 2023 jointly organized by Bombay TF & Youth Red Cross Maharashtra Saturday on 30th September 2023 at Blavatsky Lodge.

This year Minoo Mullan Elocution Competition attracted more Colleges. There were 27 students from 15 Colleges. Sis. Aban Patel Master of Ceremony welcomed all and told students about Stalwart Theosophist Minoo Mullan in whose memory the competition was held to inspire youth to think with Ethical Values. BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya led the Universal Prayer and then boosted up the spirit of competitors. He welcomed Youth Red Cross Chairman Rtn Godrej Dotivala and the Judges with presentation of Theosophical Books. Rtn Godrej Dotivala encouraged students and appreciated their long association with BTF for giving a platform to youth to share their thoughts.

The Judges' Panel had Ms Daisee Boga (Speech & Drama Teacher), Ms. Huzan Wadia (Lawyer & Theater Personality) and Ms. Nidhi Joshi (Banker & Visiting Faculty). The Judges were introduced by BTF Council Member Sis. Archana Munshi.

The subject Options for 5 Minute Speech were:

1. Your Attitude decides your Altitude
2. Command Respect does not demand it
3. Artificial Intelligence – Boon or Bane
4. Globalization and its impacts

Youth of Digital Age mostly spoke on '*Your Attitude decides your Altitude*' and '*Artificial Intelligence – Boon or Bane*'. However, the Winners spoke on other two subjects. Prize Winning Speech is published in the November issue of Bombay Theosophist Bulletin. All the participants were given books *Living Wisdom* by P. Pavri and *O Hidden Life* by Joy Mills with Participation Certificate and Snacks Box.

Youth Red Cross Maharashtra State Coordinator Shri Bhavesh Sao and Secretary Ms Joyce Pinto – the Key Organizers were thanked with presentation of books. Other Youth Red Cross Maharashtra Volunteers and Lodge Member Volunteers were also appreciated with presentation of books. BTF Council Member Sis. Meherangiz Baria proposed the Vote of Thanks.

Gone to Peace

Sis. Freny Firoze Paghdiwala Pianist of Blavatsky Lodge and Book Depot Manager passed away to Light Eternal on 17th October 2023. She spread Theosophy with Music to her students and Parents & Friends who attended her Concerts in Besant Hall of Blavatsky Lodge

Bro. Beji Darab Manjra - a member of Vimadalal Bilia Lodge passed away to Light Eternal on 27th September 2023. On becoming a member in 2018 he had taken up the responsibility of Vimadalal Bilia Lodge Representative to Bombay Theosophical Federation till his health permitted him. May his soul be blessed with peace.

Karnataka

On-line lectures are being given on every Sunday and Thursday evening at 6.55pm. The book selected for the purpose is '*Self Culture*'.

Sis. D. J. Pemaleela gave lecture on "The Role of the Buddhi in our daily Life", Sis. Lalitha Nataraj's subject of talk was 'Intuition and Genios'. Bro. A. Venkata Reddy gave lecture on the "Role of the Soul in our Life" and Sis. K. A. Ushaprakash explained "The development of will-power of Spirituality".

The following lectures were held on Thursday in July: Sis. Navarathanamma spoke on 'Purification'. Bro. Y. A. Vasudeva lectured on 'The possession of the mind' Bro. Venkatachalapathi explained "Spiritual alchemy" and Sis. A. N. Puttamma spoke on "Construction of Virtue".

Lectures were given at Huliya Lodge by Bro. M. R. Gopal, Bro. A.I. Basavaraja Reddy, Bro. Dhanajaya, and Bro. H. C. Jagadish, Bro. K. N. Lakshmeesha is helping to get their lectures Video graphed. The book selected for the programme was "*Gayathri*".

Bro. M. P. Venkataramanappa gave a lecture at Bengaluru City Lodge and the subject of his talk was late Bro. K. V. Rajagopala Setty. who had played an important role in the development of City Lodge. It was held on 2 July in Commemoration of Rajagopala Setty's Birthday.

The other talks held at the same venue in July were:

'Ashadha Poornima and Four Noble Truths' by Sis. K. Parvathamma; Sis. Kamal Rajagopal spoke on '*Dhamma chakka Pravarthana Sutra*'; Sis. B. Sandhya Rani spoke about 'Sis. Radhaji'; Bro. Venkatachalapathi delivered lecture on 'One Will and the principles of Spiritual Life'. The Foundation Day of the City Lodge, was observed on 23 July in which Sis. Lalitha Nataraj gave a talk on 'The History of City Lodge' and Sis. K. Parvathamma also spoke on the same topic in Vijayanagar Lodge, Bengaluru.

Bro. Sridhara Chakrabhavi spoke about J. Krishnamurti's views

on 'Education and Life'. On the same day Sis. A. N. Puttamma gave lecture on "Theosophic Life" in B'lore Malleswaram Lodge. Bro. A. G Rangadhamaiah explained 'Viveka' from "*At the Feet of Master*".

Bro. D. B Channabasavaraj gave lecture on 'Chakras' at Davangere Lodge on 2 July. He also conducted Chakradhyana classes up to 8 July. Bro. G. B. Naganagowda gave lecture on 16 July on 'J. Krishnamurti's Life'.

Dr. Thimmaraju gave a demonstrative lecture on 'Pranic Healing' and Bro. Omkarappa spoke on 'Viveka' from '*At the Feet of Master*' on 13 July.

Bro. N. Hampanna's subject of lecture at Kottur Lodge was "The Source of Spiritual Energy". Ashada Poornima was observed there on 8 July 2023 where Bro. Sahankaranna gave lecture on the same subject.

Bro. Kotreshappa spoke on 'Live in the Present' on 23 July Bro. Hanumantappa directed a study camp on 23 July and gave a talk on "The Human Regeneration" and then Bro. Hampamma spoke on the same day on '*Yadbhavam Tadbhavati*'.

Sis. Lalitha Nataraj directed a camp at Srinivaspura Lodge on 2-7-23. She spoke on the subject "Why do we want Buddhist Religion" Bro. G. K. Nataraj explained 'The importance of Ashada Poornima'.

Ashada Poornima was observed at Bellary Lodge on 3-7-23 in which Bro. A. I. Basavaraja Reddy gave a talk on Buddha's teachings.

Ashada Poornima was observed on 3-7-23 in Gavirangapura Lodge. Bro. M. Reddppachar directed a day-long T. S. Camp in which members of 10 Lodges participated. Bro. R Gopalakrishna Setty, Bro. H. C. Narayanappa, and Bro. H. Y. Billappa gave talks on 'The Four Noble Truths and Eightfold Path', Bro. B. K. Nagarajappa gave a talk on "Mahamangala Sutta".

Dr. L. Nagesh directed a camp at Tumkur Lodge on 8 and 9 July where he gave a lecture on "The Study of Vachana Sahitya in the light of Theosophy", Bro. H. C. Jagadeesh gave talks on '*Shatsthala Shastra*'.

Sis. Dr. Jyothi Nagesh delivered a lecture on 'Vachanamruta' on 9 July.

The 116th Foundation Day of Chintamani Lodge was observed on 9 July. Bro. M. A. Venakataswamy conducted the function in which Sis. Padmamma gave talks on H. S. Olcott, and Bro. M. Sonnappa Reddy presented the report on the history of the Lodge.

Dr. N. Sanjeeva Reddy directed a day-long study camp at Gowribidnaur Lodge on 23 July in which Sis. N. Shashikala spoke on '*Ishavasya Upanishad*' and the Director spoke on "*Purusha Sukti*".

Bro. B. K. Nagarajappa directed a day-long study camp at Chitradurga Lodge on 30-7-23. He spoke on 'The Outer Court'. Bro. Subramanyam Setty gave talks on 'The Control of Mind and Virtue' and Bro. Thippeswamy spoke on "Spiritual Alchemy".

Sis. K. Parvathamma directed a T.S study camp at Bangarpet Lodge on 28, 29 & 30 July 2023. The book selected for study was "*The Human Regeneration*". Bro. M. Reddappachar delivered a lecture on "The Work of T. S and the Fundamental change in man and Society" The director gave talk on 'The Regeneration and the objects of the T. S'. Bro. M. S Pradeep spoke about 'The Service to humanity is the Service to God'. Sis. R. Madhavi gave talk on 'The Source of spiritual energy' and Sis. Shashikala spoke on 'The Nature of the Change'.

Bro. M. A. Venkataswamy directed a day-long camp at Konakuntlu Lodge on 23 July in which he spoke on Bhagavadgita. Bro. M. Reddappachar lectured on '*Shraddhatraya Vibhagayoga*' and Bro. Y. A Vasudeva gave talk on '*Gunatraya Vibhagayoga*'.

Sis. Madhavi directed a day-long camp at Devalapalli Lodge in which she spoke on '*Ashtangapatha*', Bro. Ramachandra spoke on "Ashada Utsava" and Bro. A. Venkata Reddy lectured on 'Buddha Poornima'.

Bro. Dakshinammurthy directed a camp at Hassan Lodge on 25 June in which Bro. A. R. Janardhana Gupta, Bro. H.P Raghavendrachar and Bro. Narayana were present and gave talks on

“Theosophy”. Besides, Ashada Poornima was observed on 3 July. Bro. Gurulingappa, Bro. M. R. Chandrashekhara and Bro. Kalachar gave talks on this occasion on the importance of Ashada Festival.

Utkal

The following activities were conducted in the HQ Building in Bhubaneswar:

Study class on *God, Man and Universe* on every Sunday.

Bro Khageswar Routray Memorial study class was conducted by National Lecturer Sis. Purnamasi Pattanaik on 12 and 13 August. The book taken up for study was “*No Other Path To Go*”.

A study class was held in memory of Bro Chintamani Mohapatra on 23 and 24 September. It was conducted by National Lecturer Bro Pradip Kumar Mahapatra on the book “*Human Regeneration*”.

Revival of Lodge

Berhampur Theosophical Lodge was revived. President Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy, Secretary Sis Mitalini Choudhury, and Treasurer Bro Satyabrat Rath visited Berhampur and 16 new members joined it.

Jagatsinghpur Theosophical Lodge was revived with the effort of Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy, Bro Pradip Kumar Mahapatra, Sis Mitalini Choudhury and Bro Durjodhan Sahoo. Nine new members joined it.

Formation of New Lodge

Ashok Theosophical Lodge was formed in Cuttack, Telanga Bazar, with the sincere efforts of Sis Chinmayee Mohapatra and Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy.

Gopal Jee Theosophical Lodge was formed at ALANA with the efforts of Sis Mitalini Choudhury and Bro Pradip Kumar Mahapatra. Fifteen (15) new members have joined it.

Other Activities

On-line lectures were held at Barabati Lodge in which Bro

Dhruba Prasad Panda spoke on Katha Upnishad. Bro. P.C. Mishra spoke about ‘Heritage of India’ and National Lecturer Bro B.D Tendulkar’s subject of talk was ‘Turning point in life’ from ‘*Pravruti to Nivrutti*’.

Dr Patanjali Tripathy delivered lecture on the topic Seven Paramita at UTF Hall. It was organized by Maru Lodge.

Sidharth Lodge organized a seminar on 24 July on the topic ‘We live not for ourselves but for others’, in which Sis Mitalini, Purnamasi. Singdha, Nilendri, Bandana, Swarna and Saila participated.

There was discussion on 28 August on the topic ‘Our good intentions must be followed by effective action’. The speakers were Sis Kalpana Padhi, Rina, Kasturi, Singdha and Bro Dhruba Prasad Panda.

The 24th Foundation Day of Sambalpur Lodge was held on 15 August. Prof. Surendra Panda delivered lecture on this occasion on ‘Comparative study of Stanzas of Dzyan’. Every member participated in the discussion.

Weekly study class at Baleswar Lodge was conducted by National Lecturer Bro Partha Sarathi Sarangi. The book taken up for study was *The Seven Principle of Man*.

Study classes on the book “*Punaravartan*” are conducted at Cuttack Lodge from Monday to Friday.

Sanat Kumar Lodge celebrated its Foundation Day on 9 August. President Bro. R.C. Pattanaik and Secretary Bro Satyabrat Rath conducted the programme. Dr K.P. Padhi and Sis Mitalini Choudhury spoke on this occasion on the topic “Intellect and Wisdom.”

Bhubaneswar Lodge celebrated its Foundation Day on 16 September at UTF Hall. President Dr K.P. Padhi presided over the meeting. Sis Purnamasi Pattanaik and Sis Mitalini Choudhury spoke on the topic ‘Search for Happiness’. Sis Swarnalata Das gave vote of thanks to all.

Vice-President of Bhubaneswar Lodge, Sis Swarna Lata Das organized study class at Vivekananda Vihar on every Thursday and Saturday. The class was conducted by Sis Purnamasi and Mitalini on the book *Brahma Vidya Byakhyan*.

U.P. & Uttarakhand

Dharma Lodge, Lucknow, had a special meeting on 01 October to commemorate the birthday of Dr Annie Besant, in which Bro. U. S. Pandey spoke about life and multifaceted work of this great Theosophical Leader. At the end of talk homage was paid to her. During the meeting of the Lodge held on 04, and 11 October talks were delivered on the topics 'Period between two reincarnations and Devachan', and 'Game of Life' by Bro. Pramil Dwivedi, and Bro. U. S. Pandey, respectively. In the meeting held on 18 and 25 October, study of the book "*The Way of Self-Knowledge*" by Radha Burnier was conducted by Bro. B. K. Pandey.

A symposium on the topic 'Causes of Happiness' was organized at Nirvan Lodge, Agra, on 5 October. In the meetings held on 19 and 26 October talks were delivered on topics '*Vedanta- ek jeevan darshan*' and 'Shivshkti - Adhyatmatak journey'. The speakers were Bro. Vijay Srivastava and Bro. Shyam Kumar Sharm respectively.

Sarvahitkari Lodge, Gorakhpur, observed Annie Besant's birthday on 01 October when Bro. S. B. R. Mishra spoke on 'Life and work of Annie Besant.' In the meetings of the Lodge held on 11, 18 and 25 October, talks were delivered on topics 'Man - Visible and Invisible', 'Yahudi Religion' and 'Five Koshas' by Bro. Arvind Rai, Bro. A. P. Srivastava and Bro. S. B. R. Mishra respectively.

Bro. S. B. R. Mishra spoke on 'Advait Brahman' at Bansgaon Chaturbhuj Lodge (Distt. Gorakhpur). It was held on 3 October.

Sis. Suvralina Mohanty conducted study of the books '*Biography of Annie Besant*' and '*An Approach to Reality*' respectively at Prayas Lodge, Ghaziabad. These study classes were held on 8 and 15 October 2023.

Sis. Pranshee Mohanta helped in compiling and designing e-newsletter of the Indian Section for the quarter July- September 2023.

Dr Annie Besant's birthday was observed on 01 October at Noida Lodge when short talks were given on "Life and Work of Annie Besant." Besides, group study of the book '*Nirvana*' (Ch.8) continued at the Lodge.

The birthday of Dr Annie Besant was observed at Chohan Lodge, Kanpur on 1st October. A group discussion on the theme 'Knowledge of Self is Wisdom itself' was organized on 15 October. During the meetings held on 22 and 29 October talks were delivered on topics 'Sufism' and 'Real and Unreal' by Sis. Sushma Srivastav and Bro. S. S. Gautam respectively.

Sis. Archana Pandey delivered a talk on the topic "Science of Breaths" at Anand Lodge, Prayag Raj on 29 October.

Kashi Tattva Sabha, Varanasi observed Annie Besant's birthday on 01 October. Besides a talk on the topic 'Exploring and Understanding Universal Intelligence' was delivered by Bro. Pradip Mahapatra on 20 October.

A discussion and interactive session on the content of the book, "*The Ultimate Reality and Real*" - Chapter '*Saktopaya*' was continued at Annie Besant Lodge, Varanasi.

A talk was delivered on '*Pratibhijna Hridyam*' by Bro. D.K. Satsangi at Maitreya Lodge, Noida on 8 October.

Dr Annie Besant's birthday was observed at Pragya Lodge, Lucknow on 01 October. Besides, Sis. Vasumati Agnihotri conducted study of the book "*At the feet of the Master*" on 8 and 22 October.

Annual Conference of the Federation: The 104th Annual Conference of U.P. & Uttarakhand Federation was held on 07 and 08 October 2023 at the Indian Section Headquarters, TS, Varanasi and it was hosted by Kashi Tattva Sabha Lodge. The inaugural session started in the morning of 07 October with recitation of prayers of all religions followed by universal prayer. Thereafter Bro. U. S. Pandey, Federation President welcomed all participants and offered his warm

greetings. He, then, read out the greeting/messages received from International President Bro. Tim Boyd, International Vice-President Sis. Deepa Padhi, International Secretary Sis. Marja Artamaa, Bro. Pradeep H. Gohil, President of the Indian Section, and Bro. C. A. Shinde from Adyar Thereafter Bro. S. K. Pandey Federation Secretary welcomed the participants and offered his greetings. The representatives from lodges who were present on the occasion were from Nirvan lodge, Agra, Anand lodge Ghaziabad, Sarvhitakari lodge Gorakhpur, Chohan lodge Kanpur, Dharma lodge Lucknow, Narayan lodge Mirzapur, Brahavidya lodge Orai, Anand lodge Prayagraj, Annie Besant lodge Varanasi, and Kashi Tattva Sabha lodge Varanasi- they all offered of greetings on behalf of their respective Lodge. Besides Principals of Vasant Kanya Inter College and of Besant Theosophical Higher School as representatives of theosophical groups under KTS lodge also offered their greetings. Then, Bro. U. S Pandey requested the National Treasurer Bro. V. Narayanan to inaugurate the conference. Bro. Narayanan in his inaugural address mentioned about the significance of theme of the conference “The Knowledge of Self is Wisdom Itself” and congratulated the federation for various important works being done by it for the propagation of theosophy.

Thereafter general body meeting was held in which Bro. S. K. Pandey presented the activity report of federation for the year 2022-23 and Sis. Preeti Tiwari, Federation Treasurer, presented income-expenditure reports of federation and of *Dharmapath* journal for FY 2022-23. All these three reports were adopted unanimously by the delegates. Bro. S. K. Pandey proposed vote of thanks before closing the session.

A seminar was held on the theme of the conference in the afternoon of 7 October when all the four speakers namely Bro. S.B.R. Mishra, Sis. Rachna Srivastava, Sis. Sushma Srivastava and Bro. Chakit Swarup delivered short talks covering various aspects of the theme. Bro. U. S. Pandey congratulated all the four speakers for their able presentation and also elaborated some of the points covered by them.

On 8 October, study of the book “*The Way of Self- Knowledge*” by Radha Burnier was conducted by Bro. U.S.Pandey with association of Bro. S. K. Pandey, Bro. S.B.R. Mishra and Sis. Preeti Tiwari. The

participants took keen interest in the subject. Before closing the programme Bro. S. K. Pandey, Federation Secretary thanked all the participants for their cooperation and also thanked the President of KTS Dr. Kumud Ranjan, along with other officials of the KTS for organizing the event successfully.

Contribution to the Indian Section’s Work/ Programme

Bro. S. S. Gautam translated the section’s journal “*The Indian Theosophist*” of November 2023 in Hindi.

Contribution to other Forums

Institution of Engineers, Gorakhpur: During a programme organized on 29 October, Br. S.B.R. Mishra spoke on “Contribution of Annie Besant in BHU.”

New Lodge: A new lodge named “Satya Darshan Lodge” was started in Gorakhpur.

National Lecturer

Joint Lodge meeting of Rewa and Rohit Lodge of Gujarat Federation and Jyoti lodge of Bombay Federation: Bro. U. S. Pandey delivered an on-line talk on ‘Some facts and esoteric knowledge about Ramayana and Avatara’. It was held on 24 October.

On invitation by Shankar Lodge, Delhi Sis. Vibha Saxena delivered an on-line talk on ‘Man, Mind and Monad’. It was held on 21 October.

Bro. U. S. Pandey conducted study of *The Secret Doctrine* – Proem- -part I on 22 October.

Contribution to Young Indian Theosophists (Indian Section): Bro. U. S. Pandey delivered an on-line talk on 01 October on the topic “Morality, Emotions, Virtues and Vices”.

Indian Section Headquarters

The 176th Birth Anniversary of social reformist and visionary Dr. Annie Besant was celebrated by the Indian Section, The Theosophical Society, on 1st October at the Section HQ, Varanasi. On this occasion,

floral tributes were offered to Dr. Besant in the Annie Besant Hall of the Theosophical Society by the President of KTS and others. Besides, an on-line programme was organized by Bro. Pradip Mahapatra in which speakers expressed their thoughts on different aspects of the personality of Dr. Annie Besant.

The first speaker on the occasion was Bro. Arni Narendran, Treasurer & Trustee, Blavatsky Lodge, Mumbai and his topic was 'Annie Besant: A luminous star in India's History'. He gave a glimpse of diverse, vivid and strong personality of Dr. Annie Besant. He briefly discussed Annie Besant's contribution in establishing BHU and elaborated that in the history of human generation, Dr. Besant's contribution to humanitarian cause will always be remembered.

The second speaker was Dr. Sushma Srivastava, Life Member of the Theosophical Society and Secretary of Anand Lodge, Allahabad. Her topic was 'Annie Besant: an Occultist'. She extensively discussed the etymology, synonym and interpretation of the word occult in the light of personality of Dr. Besant. As per Dr. Besant the power to know the hidden energy of Universe is called occultism. She further added that Dr. Besant was a true occultist and devoted her whole life to the cause of welfare of Society.

The third speaker on the occasion was Sis. Sripriya Raghavan, Treasurer, Madras Theosophical Federation. She spoke on the topic 'Dr. Annie Besant - A Social Reformer'. In her words Dr. Besant was a warrior who fought for India's freedom. She had been acclaimed as an educationist, theosophist, writer and activist. She was a farsighted visionary and laid emphasis on self-control, which according to Dr. Besant was the foundation of true freedom.

The programme was moderated by Sis. Suvarlina Mohanty and she gave Vote of thanks.

On the occasion of birth anniversary of Dr Annie Besant, the Progression of Dr. Annie Besant Spirit Committee of Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Kamachha also organized an on-line programme on 1st October, 2023 and celebrated it with enthusiasm and fervour.

Indian Section Study Camp

The Indian Section Study Camp of the year 2023 was held in Varanasi at the Indian Section Headquarters, TS, from 29 to 31 October.

The Birth Centenary of our Seventh International President Smt. Radha Burnier was observed.

Rev. Radhaji delivered the **Blavatsky Lecture** at the Annual Convention of the TS in England in May 1979. The subject of her talk was **THE WAY OF SELF-KNOWLEDGE**, which was later published by the Theosophical Publishing House. This book was chosen for study at the Indian Section HQ and the study was conducted by National Lecturer Bro. N.C. Krishna from 29 to 31 October 2023.

The study camp was inaugurated by the President of the Indian Section, Bro. Pradeep. H. Gohil. Daily two study sessions, one in the morning and one study session in the afternoon, were arranged. More than one hundred members from various federations attended the camp. The study sessions were made available on-line, for the benefit of those who were unable to physically attend the camp.

The small book, full of Wisdom, contained twelve segments, including the introduction. Smt. Radhaji had derivatively, discussed, the process and methods of the inward journey to get to know the 'self'. There were so many valid points which were studied and discussed very carefully. The book "*The Way of Self-Knowledge*" has many important and valuable suggestions. One Gem of the suggestion mentioned by Radhaji was that of one should practice "Freedom from Attachment". That was the **Key** to open the doors of the Eternal Wisdom of Self and obtain or get nearer to "Self-Knowledge".

The study was followed by the interactive sessions in which members participated, and question and answer sessions were held. The participants appreciated the content presented and discussed during the study camp.

Bro. Pradip Mahapatra, the camp officer, assisted by other staff and volunteers of the Indian Section, made the study camp into a memorable event.

Smt. Manju Sundaram delivered a talk on 31st October afternoon at 3p.m. The subject of her talk was 'Remembering Radhaji with our offering of Gratitude'. It was a lecture full of reminiscences and anecdotes about Rev. Radhaji. It was a moving presentation by Sis. Manju Sundaram of all that Smt. Radhaji was as a 'private person'.

The special number of '*The Indian Theosophist*', brought out, on the occasion of the Birth Centenary of Rev. Radhaji was released by Bro. S. Sundaram.

The ritual of the 'Mystic Star' was conducted on the evening of 29th October.

A get-together of all the delegates was also arranged by The Indian Section on 29th evening.

The 100th Easter Conference

The 100th EASTER CONFERENCE will be held from 29 to 31 March 2024 at Theosophical Society, Adyar. The Convention Officer - Brother Shikhar Agnihotri. Programme Co-ordinator - Pradip Mahapatra.

The Treasury Dept at TS Adyar, Chennai, is looking for an Accounting Supervisor. Applicant must be an experienced accountant with working knowledge and procedural experience with Indian Accounting Standards, direct tax, GST, payroll procedures/laws, including their filing. Working knowledge of Tally accounting software, Excel and Word are mandatory. Must be fluent in Tamil and English. Must work from TS Adyar. Please send resume to Nancy Secrest at treasurer.tsadyar@gmail.com.

To

All Members of the Indian Section,
The Theosophical Society

Sub: The 12th World Congress of the Theosophical Society will be held from 23 to 27 July 2025 at Vancouver, Canada.

The Indian Section of Theosophical Society has decided to sponsor 100 members of the Indian Section, the Theosophical Society, to participate in the 12th World Congress of the Theosophical Society to be held at Vancouver in Canada from 23-27 July 2025.

Members willing to participate may submit application by email to the Indian Section by 31.01.2024 in enclosed proforma.

Individual members finally selected by the Indian Section Selection Committee will have to apply for the Visa to the High Commission of Canada in India and the applicant will bear the Visa application charges.

Air Tickets for all 100 selected members will be arranged and paid by the Indian Section along with board and lodging and registration charges.

Please ensure that applications for consideration in the selection as a delegate to the World Congress in Vancouver, during 2025 is only sent to "**indiansectionworldcongress@gmail.com**". Any application sent to 'theosophyvn@gmail.com' may not be considered.

Pradeep H. Gohil
President
Indian Section

**12th World Congress of the Theosophical Society
23-27 July 2025 at Vancouver, Canada
Application of members to be sponsored by the Indian
Section TS for participation**

*To be filled by the applicant

Sl. No.	Item	Details		
1.	Name			
2.	Birth Year/Age			
3.	Address			
4.	Mob. Phone			
5.	Email ID			
6.	Diploma No.			
7.	Lodge/Federation			
8.	Theosophical Activities involved in	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Attending Lodge Meeting Yes/No</td> <td>Participated at Federation/ Indian Section/ International HQ level Study camps / Conferences at Bhowali, Varanasi, Adyar Yes/No</td> </tr> </table>	Attending Lodge Meeting Yes/No	Participated at Federation/ Indian Section/ International HQ level Study camps / Conferences at Bhowali, Varanasi, Adyar Yes/No
Attending Lodge Meeting Yes/No	Participated at Federation/ Indian Section/ International HQ level Study camps / Conferences at Bhowali, Varanasi, Adyar Yes/No			
9.	Comfortable in English Conversation?	Yes / No		
10.	Passport available (Valid at least till Jan 2026)	Yes/No but will be available by time		
11.	Any health issues			
12.	Do you consider yourself physically fit for long air travel?			
13.	Contact Details of the person to be informed in case of emergency.	Name Phone		

Signature and Date

Optional - Recommendation by President/Secretary of the Federation