

## THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

(Chennai, Karnataka, Kerala, Rayalaseema, Tamilnadu & Puducherry, Telugu Regions)

### South Zone Conference - 2017

8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July



Organised by

**TOS in India, Telugu Region**

Hosted by Gowthama Theosophical Lodge  
& Kakinada TOS Group

Theme

Individual Initiative & Collective Responsibility in the  
Contemporary World

Venue

Gowthama Theosophical Lodge  
Raja Rammohan Roy Road, Opp. to Govt General Hospital,  
Beside DRDA Office, Near Hotel Shanthi Bhavan,  
**KAKINADA - 533 001**

### Saturday, 8th July 2017

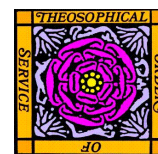
- 09.00 - 09.30 am : Breakfast
- 09.30 - 10.00 am : Registration
- 10.00 - 10.05 am : Universal Prayer
- 10.05 - 10.15 am : Welcome address by  
Bro. P. Raghu Rama Rao,  
Regional Secretary TOS Telugu Region
- 10.15 - 10.25 am : Address by  
Bro. V. Achyutaramaiah,  
President Gowthama Theosophical Lodge
- 10.25 - 10.35 am : Address by  
Bro. K.V.V. Satyanarayana Murthy,  
President TOS Kakinada Group
- 10.35 - 11.00 am : Inaugural Address by  
Bro. K.S. Ramachandra Rao  
Regional President TOS Telugu Region
- 11.00 - 11.20 am : Tea Break
- 11.20 - 12.30 pm : Presentations From TOS Regions :  
Dr. R. Revati - Chennai Region  
Bro. G.K. Nataraj - Karnataka Region  
Bro. Edwin Fernandez - Kerala Region  
Bro. V.A.Nagappan - TN&Puducherry Region  
Bro. K. Siva Prasad - Rayalaseema Region  
Bro. P. Raghu Rama Rao - Telugu Region  
Secunderabad Group
- 12.30 - 01.00 pm : Address of Chief Guest  
Sister Ms. Nancy Secrest, USA  
International Secretary TOS on  
"Compassionate Service"
- 01.00 - 01.20 pm : Release of Souvenir
- 01.20 - 02.00 pm : Lunch Break

### Afternoon Session :

- 04.00 - 04.20 pm : Tea Time  
04.20 - 05.00 pm : Address by Sister Dr. R. Revati  
"Service is a Great Illuminator"  
05.00 - 05.30 pm : Address by Bro. K. Siva Prasad  
National Secretary TOS  
"TOS for Rural India"  
05.30 - 06.00 pm : Address by Dr. A.I. Basavaraja Reddy  
President Rayalaseema Federation  
"Animal Instincts to Human Values"  
06.00 - 07.00 pm : Classical Music Program  
Bro. P. Subbarao & Party

### Sunday, 9th July 2017 :

- 09.00 - 09.30 am : Breakfast  
09.30 - 10.00 am : Annual Business Meeting of  
Telugu Region TOS  
10.00 - 10.15 am : Address by Bro. K.S. Ramachandra Rao  
Regional President TOS Telugu Region  
10.15 - 10.30 am : Inauguration of TOS India Website  
[www.indiatos.org](http://www.indiatos.org) by the Chief Guest  
Sister Ms. Nancy Secrest  
International Secretary TOS  
10.30 - 11.15 am : TOS March Forward - New Ideas from  
One Brother Delegate from each Region  
5 minutes each  
11.15 - 11.30 am : Tea Break  
11.30 - 12.15 pm : Feedback from Delegates & Participants  
12.15 - 12.45 pm : Service Activity  
12.45 - 01.00 pm : Vote of Thanks by  
Bro. P. Raghu Rama Rao  
01.00 - 02.00 pm : Lunch Break  
02.00 pm : Closing of Conference



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We, the Brother's of TOS Telugu Region, TOS Kakinada Group & Gowthama Theosophical Lodge have very great pleasure in inviting you all to the South Zone Conference 2017 to be held at Gowthama Theosophical Lodge Campus. We solicit your esteemed presence at the Conference along with your Co-Brothers of your Region and make this Zonal Conference a grand Success.

Bro. **K.S. Ramachandra Rao**  
Regional President  
TOS Telugu Region  
Mobile : +91 98493 05384

Bro. **P. Raghu Rama Rao**  
Regional Secretary  
TOS Telugu Region  
Mobile : +91 9177557792  
8309 100 125

Email : [iiiiraghu@gmail.com](mailto:iiiiraghu@gmail.com)

**Treasurer & Members of Executive Committee of Telugu Region**

**Delegate Fees : Rs. 200/- at the time of Registration**

**"A Union of all who love  
in the Service of all that suffers"**

## MESSEGE

CHENNAI

03-07-2017

Brother **K. SIVAPRASAD**

Regional Secretary  
Rayalaseema Region  
Andhra Pradesh

Dear Brother Sivaprasad,

On the occasion of initiating TOS India website (indiatos.org) at your South Zone TOS Conference, I send my best wishes to all the members from the Karnataka, Kerala, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, Telugu, and Rayalaseema regions.

The world in which we are living is in crisis, a crisis created by the inadequate unfoldment of our consciousness. The new ways of seeing and interacting with each other are forming and require responsible, stable individuals to bring them into the world.

Peace and blessings,

**TIM BOYD**

International President  
The Theosophical Society Adyar  
Chennai, India

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## MESSEGE

20-5-2017

Kolkata

Dear Brother,

Sub. : South Zone TOS Conference 2017.

I am very glad to know that South Zone TOS conference 2017 will be jointly hosted by Gouthama T.S. Lodge and Kankinara TOS group on 8th to 9th July at KAKINADA.

It is also a matter of great delight to know that our International Secretary Sister Nancy Secrest will be the Chief Guest of the conference.

South Zone in India has highest number of TS and TOS members and varieties of TOS activities. Both you and Bro. K.S. Rama Chandra Rao are doing excellent work in both the fields.

I am going to Delhi on 29/5 to meet with the members of Delhi Region. From there I will go to Bhawati to attend EST retreat and TOS camp upto 8.6.2017. I shall go to Srinagar Capital of Jammu & Kashmir on 10/6 to inspect and inaugurate newly constructed school building which was badly damaged by last un-precedent flood. I have already given my consent to attend TOS Programms to be held at Sundarband on two Sundays i.e. on 9th + 16th July for which it will not be possible for me to attend South Zone TOS conference 2017.

Please excuse me for my absence and convey my best wishes and love to all guests and delegates.

It is my conference, so I must wish the conference all success.

Yours fraternally,  
**B.L. Bhattacharjee**

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## MESSEGE

Hyderabad  
04-07-2017

THE SECRETARY

TELUGU REGION T O S

I came to know that you conduct a conference of T O S South zone 2017 at kakinada A.P. on 8th and 9th July 2017. I am sending my best wishes and thoughts to strengthen the conference successfully .

Convey my greetings to all participants and dignitaries in this conference.

yours fraternally

M. V. VARADACHARYULU  
Treasurer  
Rayalaseema Region T O S  
HYDERABAD

Adress;-

**M.V.VARADACHARYULU**  
Plot no.38/2 , sushma sainagar  
Vanasthalipuram  
HYDERABAD-- 500070  
CELL NO.09246270934

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Hyderabad

5-7-2017

## Message

**Br.A.M.VATCHA**

President

TOS Rayalaseema Region

I am very happy to learn that you are holding the South Zone Conference of TOS at Kakinada with the theme Individual Initiation and collective responsibility.It is an all comprehensive theme and what is needed for the members of the TOS .

There is somuch misery,sorrow and unhappiness in the world everywhere today, that whatever little done to alleviate the suffering of humanity , so also there are a number of awareness opportunities TOS members to gird their loins and put their shoulders to the task ahead.There can be no end to the help that can be rendered.I hope the conference will address themselves to the work at hand . I wish the conference every success.

\* \* \*

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## MESSEGE

To  
Sri **P.RAGHURAMARAO**  
Regional Secretary  
Telugu Region, TOS in India  
Kakinada.

Dear Esteemed Brother,

Hearty greetings and good wishes to you.

I am very happy to know that TOS in India, Kakinada group along with Gowthami TS, is hosting the South zone conference of this year under your able and energetic guidance.

One of our Masters once remarked that if you want to serve us serve the Community.

It is a well known fact that HP Blavatsky and HS Olcott never spared an occasion to serve the needy. All know that the ship incident in which HPB helped a ticket less poor lady to travel. HS Olcott cured many patients in India and Sri Lanka by mesmerism.

The present international president of TS and TOS is well known for his TOS activities.

On this joyous occasion of conference, I greet every delegate and urge all of them to rededicate to our TOS motto "A Union of all who love in the Service of all that Suffers" in the presence of Nancy Secrest, International Secretary, TOS.

I wish the Conference all success and delegates very useful time.

Thanking You.  
Yours fraternally  
G.V.L.N.Sanjeeva Rao  
Former Regional Secretary,  
Rayalaseema Region

## MESSEGE

06-07-2017

**Dr. T K NAIR**  
Former National Secretary  
TOS in India

Dear Brother,

I am happy to know that the South Zone TOS Conference is to be held in Kakinada this year.

My hearty Greetings and Good Wishes.

May the conference be a good success.

\* \* \*

## MESSEGE

**V. ACHYUTA RAMAIAH**  
President  
The Theosophical Society  
Gowthama Lodge  
Kakinada

06-07-2017

I am very happy to say that we are hosting the South Zone TOS Conference 2017 in the premises of our Gowthama Theosophical Lodge, Kakinada on 8th & 9th July 2017. I wish the delegates may go with sweet remembrances of the serene and pleasant moments of this great occasion.

## COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

Ms. NANCY SECREST  
TOS International Secretar

### **Theosophy is often thought of as a “heady” study.**

Theosophists love their books. The early theosophists were prolific writers, a fact we are grateful for as they set down the complex systems of seven fold principles, cosmogenesis, anthropogenesis, philosophy and ethics taught first by Madame Blavatsky in *Isis Unveiled* then later in *The Secret Doctrine, Key to Theosophy* and *Voice of the Silence*. Col. Olcott, Annie Besant, Leadbeatter, Judge and others followed suit giving us the vast collection of literature on Theosophy and related topics that now aid us in our study of man, the universe, our place in it on many levels and our journey toward self-awareness and spiritual unfoldment.

The Theosophical Order of Service was formed to put the First Object of the Theosophical Society into action. The First Object is: **To form a nucleus of the universal brotherhood of humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste, or color.**

**Living Theosophy** requires that we live each day recognizing the Oneness of all life, inherent in the First Object of the Theosophical Society, through compassionate action and selfless service.

In an article entitled “Reflection” written by David Bruce, the current National Secretary of the TSA, he says that “In her writings, H. P. Blavatsky repeatedly emphasized the importance of brotherhood as a guiding principle: **‘It is only by all men becoming**

**brothers and all women sisters, and by all practicing in their daily lives**[bold and italics added] **true brotherhood and true sisterhood, that the real human solidarity . . . can ever be attained’ (The Key to Theosophy).** No matter how learned or erudite we may become in the metaphysics of Theosophy, let us not forget that the true measure of a Theosophist lies not in a proud and self-centered intellect, but in an open and loving heart.”

The First Object of the Society speaks to the actualization of Universal Brotherhood, but it means even more than this. **According to Theosophy, Universal Brotherhood is not merely a high and lofty ideal but is eternally a fact in Nature because of the oneness and divineness of all life.** Many religions and philosophies speak of brotherhood and of helping those less fortunate than ourselves. This is the Golden Rule of Confucianism, also stated by Jesus, as “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” These are good and true reasons for brotherhood and methods for carrying it out, but **the theosophical meaning speaks to the Oneness of all life, not just in a metaphorical sense but actual Oneness. I like to think of it as each of us being a drop in the ocean. Once the drop enters the ocean it is blended with all other drops in the true sense of Oneness.**

I was talking with Joy Mills a few years ago.(Joy was a very prominent theosophical teacher, speaker and writer who just recently passed away. Beloved by many.) She said that **the focus of our existence as human beings is self-realization. Learning who we are, who we really are.** That’s what we’re supposed to be doing here. This, she said, is the central point of the *Mahatma Letters*. **Blavarsky made this point in her writings as well calling it spiritual unfoldment. She taught that self-responsibility, ethics and altruism (service to others) are essential to true spiritual unfoldment.**



**As we progress along the path of self-realization, or spiritual unfoldment, we eventually awaken, or become aware of, our Buddhi nature.** (The Buddhic is one of the seven principles, or bodies, of humankind which are: the physical, the etheric, the astral, the lower and higher mental, the buddhic and the atmic. I'm not going to go into these as that is a whole separate talk. If you are new to Theosophy, suffice it to say that the buddhi nature is beyond thought even on the conceptual level. It is the seat of intuition and all that is universally compassionate and noble within us.) With this awakening or awareness, **compassion based on a sense of responsibility for all beings becomes a driving force in our lives, and we act as a bodhisattva acts, for the good of all.**" In Theosophy the term [bodhisattva] is used to denote an individual who has reached enlightenment and may pass beyond the 'wheel of rebirth', but elects to reincarnate for the good of all." (*Theosophical Encyclopedia*, p. 110, TPH, The Philippines, 2006) In other words, **a bodhisattva sacrifices his or her reward of transition into Nirvana to help other sentient beings until all reach enlightenment.**

I do not presume to say that any of us here are already bodhisattvas. But, are you familiar with the term, 'fake it until you make it'? What that means, and what I am saying is that all of us can work *as if* we are bodhisattvas. All of us can help each other and humanity at large right now.

Blavatsky said that, **"He who does not practice altruism: he who is not prepared to share his last morsel with a weaker or poorer than himself; he who neglects to help his brother man, of whatever race, nation, or creed, whenever and wherever he meets suffering, and who turns a deaf ear to the cry of human misery; he who hears an innocent person slandered, whether a brother Theosophist or**

**not, and does not undertake his defense as he would undertake his own – is no Theosophist."** (*Lucifer*, Vol. I, p 169)

Later these words, from Annie Besant, tied together Blavatsky's altruism, already a high ideal, with the sense of Oneness alluded to in the Society's First Object by saying. **"The spiritual man must lead a higher life than the life of altruism. He must lead the life of self-identification with all that lives and moves. There is no "other" in this world; we are all one. Each is a separate form, but one Spirit moves and lives in all."**

We've stated that it is our quest for self-realization that touches the Buddhi nature within us and ignites our sense of compassion.

#### **So what is compassion?**

Although stated in different ways, various viewpoints, scientific, psychological and Buddhist agreed that **compassion, simply put, is the response to the suffering of others that motivates a desire to help.**

**Compassion literally means "to suffer together."** Among emotion researchers, it is defined as the feeling that arises when you are confronted with another's suffering and feel motivated to relieve that suffering. Compassion is not the same as empathy or altruism, though the concepts are related. While empathy refers to our ability to take the perspective of and feel the emotions of another person, compassion is when those feelings and thoughts include the desire to help. Altruism is kind, selfless behavior often, but not always, prompted by feelings of compassion. **Scientists have started to map the biological basis of compassion.** This research has shown that when we feel compassion, **our heart rate slows down, we secrete the "bonding hormone" oxytocin, and regions of the brain linked to empathy, caregiving, and feelings of**

**pleasure light up, which often results in our wanting to approach and care for other people.**

According to the Buddhist view, true compassion is necessarily based on cherishing others. **Compassion is a mind that is motivated by cherishing other living beings and wishes to release them from their suffering.**

Earlier we spoke of the Bodhisattva path. We may not be there yet, but most of us already have **some degree of compassion**, albeit biased and limited. We feel compassion for the suffering of our **family and friends**, but we find it more difficult to feel sympathy for **people we find unpleasant or for strangers**. We may feel compassion for those who are experiencing a great deal of pain, but not for those who are enjoying good conditions, and especially not for **those who may be trying to harm us or others**. If we genuinely want to realize our potential by attaining full enlightenment, **we need to develop universal compassion** that embraces all beings whether beloved, family, friend, stranger or someone who engages in harmful activity. **Universal compassion comes at the Buddhist level of our being and can be cultivated through meditation.**

Another way of saying this is: **“Compassion is seeing someone as they are and loving them anyway.”** ([www.ehkhealing.com](http://www.ehkhealing.com))

Compassion comprises all the best qualities in human beings, like sharing, readiness to give comfort, sympathy, concern and caring - all are manifestations of compassion. You will notice also that in the compassionate person, **care and love towards others has its origins in care and love for oneself**. We can best understand others when we really understand ourselves. We will know what's best for others when we know what's best for ourselves. We can feel for others when we feel for ourselves. Therefore, **one's own spiritual development blossoms quite naturally into concern for the welfare of others, and vice versa.**

**Compassion is the very essence of a spiritual life, and the main practice of those who have devoted their lives to attaining enlightenment.** In the book, *Stages of Meditation*, the Dalai Lama states that, **“Compassion is essential in the initial state, in the intermediate state and in the final state of spiritual development.”** And, the question is asked, **“How should we meditate on it?”** The answer is given, **“You should begin the process by attempting to develop loving-kindness toward beings who are in misery.”**

**Loving-kindness is unconditional, inclusive love**, a love with wisdom. It does not depend on whether one “deserves” it or not. It is **not restricted to those we love**. It extends out from the personal to **include all living beings**. It harbors **no expectations of return**. It is the **ideal, pure, universal love held by everyone in potential**. One way to do this is through the Loving-Kindness meditation practice also known as Metta Meditation. (flyers that explain this practice are available here today.)

We've said that compassion generates in us the desire to help others. To say this another way compassion generates the desire to be of service to suffering beings.

#### **What of service?**

HPB said that, **“Theosophy teaches that altruism, selfless service to humanity, living solely to help and benefit others, and the pursuit of the Bodhisattva ideal, are all just as important for our spiritual evolution and development as meditation and aspiring to higher levels of inner unfoldment in our quest to attain Union with our Higher Self, which is ONE Infinite Divine Life.”**

I was recently interviewed on the question of service and was asked “if someone asked you **how to serve**, what would you emphasize?” I said that I'd tell them to **“grow where they are**



**planted**". In other words, look at where you are in life and attend first to whatever is needed in your immediate circle. **We do not have to do great things** to be of service. Service to one's family is just as important as service to a nation. It's also important to **take care of yourself**, to the extent possible, so that you will be fit enough to be of service to others. In the little book *At the Feet of the Master* we are told to take care of our body, to keep it clean and healthy, as it is "the horse upon which we ride." And, as the airlines tell us, "put on your own oxygen mask first, before helping others."

It's also important to remember to help someone in such a way as to **preserve their dignity** and ensure that they can continue to help themselves. Recently it was pointed out to me that it is better to give a woman a small loan to buy a piece of equipment that allows her to go into business, or set it up in such a way that she earns the equipment in some manner rather than simply giving it to her. This way she can feel good about herself because of the effort she has to put out, and she gains self confidence in the process. It's the old adage of not giving a man a fish, but **teaching him to fish**.

It **doesn't take much effort** to be of service to others, often a simple smile can be of great benefit. **It's mostly a matter of attitude**, of being alert and aware of people or situations to or about which we can be of help, and **using our discernment** to know when and how that can best be accomplished. We also need to **know and respect our own limits**. Obviously, one does not give all of their money to charity and let their own children starve, or walk into dangerous situations that they are neither physically, mentally nor emotionally able to handle.

The **Theosophical Order of Service (TOS is a service or charitable organization**. It was **founded by Annie Besant**, the second president of the Theosophical Society, **in 1908** as a way **to put the**

**first object of the Theosophical Society (TS) into action**. It fosters a practical living application of theosophical principles, and is a way to **demonstrate and practice the oneness of all life**. The giving of our time, talents, energy, money, advocacy and moral support to those in need is based on compassion and on the acceptance of our responsibility toward those with whom we are One. Our **TOS motto**, "**a union of those who love in the service of all that suffers**", reminds us of our commitment to the Oneness of All Life. These are pretty elevated words about the TOS when on the surface it may seem as though we are simply doing 'good works' as are many other humanitarian service groups.

As I said, **The TOS is a service or charitable organization**. Our activities are many and varied. They include supporting education, healing, efforts toward peace in the world, animal welfare, and emergency relief. Annie Besant said that the chief work of those who profess themselves its votaries will be the work which is most needed at the time. For the past two years, our main international focus has been on women's issues. While this effort continues, we are also currently focused on providing a theosophically based education for children and fund raising for our schools in the Philippines, Pakistan and India.

Many groups do this kind of work. **What makes the TOS different?** Our current President, Tim Boyd, answered that question in an appeal letter he sent out on behalf of the TOS in America back in 2008, when he was its President. Tim said, "There are countless groups doing valuable service work in the world . . . What makes the TOS different? **Being guided by the Theosophical Worldview, sets our service approach apart. We are motivated by a sense that we are all participants in the One Life. Suffering and overcoming suffering are not isolated or regional. We all share in it.**"

The older I become the more I realize that **balance is the key to spiritual growth**. The theosophical triad of **study, meditation and service** exemplifies this. Study utilizes our ability to reason and think logically. Meditation helps us to tap into our Higher Selves, the divine within, and gives us respite from today's hectic world. Service then is the fulcrum – the point of balance. Service is that part of the triad which allows us to demonstrate the divine in the world. Through selfless service we help to heal suffering humanity. We draw attention to the woes of the world, and lead by example in the effort to ease suffering and right wrongs. In the process, we help ourselves. We grow spiritually as we become more and more open to seeing the unity of life wherever we look. Service can manifest itself as simple acts of kindness performed by an individual or a group, or as larger and more organized efforts. It can be aimed at family members, a neighborhood, a community, a country, a gender or other class of people, or at animals and even the planet.

**So let each of us work *as if* we are bodhisattvas. All of us can help each other and humanity at large right now.**

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## **PRACTICAL APPROACH TO THEOSOPHY**

**Pradip Kumar Mahapatra**  
Joint General Secretary  
The Indian Section

1. A member of Theosophical Society or non- member of theosophical Society can become a member of TOS. After becoming a member of TOS, what is duty to the human society? Is it merely an organization where he joined which he can mention in every time that I am so and so or to serve genuinely to the humanity?
2. So in order to serve the Humanity one need sacrifice and renunciation. Sacrifice is relating to the level of visible. One may categorise it as comfort, money and time whereas renunciation is at the level of invisible i.e. power, position, and companion. There are members in the TOS who are the age of 88 years has been moving throughout India spending time and comfort etc. and still he is strong to carry the work for others.
3. So to SERVE the humanity one requires LOVE. There are two types of LOVE. One is Individual Love and another is Universal Love. Individual Love is related to love between two individuals. It may be categorised as animal love, Mother's love or reciprocal love. A beautiful story is relating to a mother's love for her son—'Mother was in sick bed, she had informed her son to come soon so that she can see him. The son who is working at faraway places was coming in a train. While is in deep sleep, he was got up by the tone of like mother's that train has reached the station. So son got down from station and train left the station. But it was found that the station is not correct station. So the son has no alternative than to wait in the station. After few hours it is found that

the train met with an accident most of passengers died due to accident. When son reached home he found that his mother was no more and she dies when son got down from the train before train met with accident. This is a love of mothers' for her only son. One can kill another for love, one doing a thing because he requires something in lieu of the service one renders for others. There is something in demand for the work he has done for others. SO IT IS FULL OF SELFISHNESS. So between individual Loves there is selfishness which demands something from others. It damages others, create difficulties, not like others progresses, and also for his own benefit one can kill others. One is always thinks of one's existence not others

4. Whereas in the universal Love there is no such thing as SELFISHNESS. There is no demand from others no taking from others. One is always helpful to others as well as loving to others. One not only the Humanity but loves the life around him. One has realised the life around him. The universal invocation became practical one and now one has realised some extent what is the meaning of O' Hidden life Vibrant in every atom, one then not only loves the life around him but the plants, animal, environment, water, mountains etc. Great Teachers are they who love the humanity as mothers' love her first child.
5. LOVE and SERVICE are the two sides of same coin. One cannot serve others without love in it so much so love without service has no meaning because it is only individual love and full of selfishness. We all live for the humanity not for ourselves. If we work for others by forgetting ourselves there will be no difficulties in our service and one can serve the better. So the great one says "The first object of the Theosophical Society is philanthropy, the true theosophist is a philanthropist — not for himself but for the world he lives.

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## ANIMAL INSTINCTS TO HUMAN VALUES

Dr.A.I.BASAVARAJA REDDY

President,Rayalaseema T.

FederationHyderabad.

ANIMALS LIVE IN THE SPHERE OF THIRD AND SECOND ELEMENTALS CONSTITUTEING THE PHYSICAL AND ASTRAL WORLDS .THE PHYSICAL WORLD IS SENSATIONAL AND ACTIVE BY MOTIVATION OF INSTINCTS. THE ASTRAL WORLD IS EMOTIONAL AND MOTIVATED BY PASSIONS AND DESIRES.THE INSTINCTS INCLUDE HUNGER,THURST,SEX,FEAR AND SLEEP WHICH ARE OF DENSE PHYSICAL BODY.THE PASSIONS AND DESIRES INCLUDE HUNTING, DOMINATING, GROUPING, CRUELITY ETC. WHICH ARE OF ASTRAL BODY.THE PHYSICAL BODY AND ASTRAL BODY ARE CONNECTED BY THE ETHERIC DOUBLE WHICH IS PRANA ,THE VITAL FORCE OF LIFE. THE LIFE OF ANIMALS DONOT HAVE THE SELF COSCIOUSNESS BUT THE BODIES OF ANIMALS HAVE THE CONSCIOUSNESS TO REACT TO THE ENVIRNOMENT LEADING TO GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WHICH ARE CONFINED TO THE ANIMAL KINGDOM.SINCE ANIMALS HAVE THE GROUP SOUL ,THE INSTINCTS AND EMOTIONS ARE COMMON TO THE EACH SPECIES OF ANIMALS. SO ANIMALS HAVE GROUP QUALIATIES RATHER THAN INDIVIDUAL.

MAN IS ONE WHO HAS MIND.HE LIVES IN THE FIRST ELEMENATAL AS WELL IN THE SECOND AND THIRD ELEMENTALS CONSTITUTAING THE MENATAL, ASTRAL AND PHYSICAL WORLDS RESPECTIVLY. MAN IS DUAL IN NATURE BETWEEN MATTER AND SPIRIT.MATTER IS PREDOMINATLY ANIMAL IN NATURE AND SPIRIT IS DIVINE IN NATURE.SINCE MAN IS HELD IN BETWEEN MATTER AND SPIRIT AND HE IS MOVING FROM LOWER SIDE OF EARTHLY INFLUNCE

,HE IS UNDER THE CLUTHERS OF ANIMALISTIC INSTINCTS MOTIVATED BY ANIMAL EMOTIONS.

MAN'S MIND START WORKING BY TRIAL AND ERROR METHOD. BY REASON OF PLEASURE AND PAIN EXPERIENCE, THE MEMORY IS DEVELOPED. THE MIND HAS SPECIAL CHARACTER OF RECORDING AND STOREING THE EXPERIENCES IN MEMORY AND A CONSTANT REPEATION OF ANY ACTIVITY WILL BECOME A HABIT BY ATTACHMENT. SUCH HABITS ARE VERY DIFFICULT TO GET DETACHED. HENCE HABITS DIE HARD AND REBUILDING OF HUMAN VALUES SUCH AS COMPASSION, KINDNESS, GENEROSITY, SERVICE AND SACRIFICE ARE DIFFICULT TO BE REPLACED BY LOWER ANIMAL INSTINCTS AND EMOTIONS OF EARTHLY MATERIALISTIC SELFISH ORIGIN OF PLEASURE ILLUSION.

AT THIS JUNCTURE, THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE PROVIDES AN OPPURTUNITY TO TRANSFORM HIS LOWER ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR TO HUMAN VALUES. ONE MUST INVOLVE ONESELF IN SUCH ACTIVITIES AS HELPING ALL OTHER LIVES TO RELIEVE THEIR PAIN AND DISCOMFORT AT PHYSICAL, ASTRAL AND MENTAL LEVELS. THIS IS POSSIBLE ONLY WHEN THE PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE IS RIGHTLY UNDERSTOOD BY SELF INTROSPECTION. SINCE MAN HAS PERSONAL SOUL IN CONTRAST TO GROUP SOUL ONE'S OWN EFFORTS AND EXPERIENCES BUILDS UP ONE'S OWN KNOWLEDGE AND STRENGTH TO PROGRESS IN BUILDING ANTHAKARNA (INNER LIGHT OF SPIRIT). SUCH UNSELFISH ACTIVITIES OF HUMAN VALUES FROM SELFISH ACTIVITIES OF ANIMAL NATURE DEVELOPS STRONGLY THE INNER LIGHT OF ANTHAKARANA TO GET LINK WITH DIVINITY BY PROMOTING THE MEDITATIVE STATE OF LIFE.

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## THEOSOPHY AND ALTRUISM

**B.L. BHATTACHARYA**

National Director, TOS in India

Both Theosophy and Altruism are foreign words to us in India. Theosophy is a Greek word derived from Theo & Sophia which we have known as divine wisdom. Altruism is a Latin word derived from "Alteri" meaning to do good to others. Altruism means principle of living and acting for the benefit of others. Altruists are those who serve all living beings selflessly without any expectation. Altruism is opposite of egoism and selfishness. There are two words namely *charity* means to do good to others and *philanthropy* means love of humanity which appear to be identical with Altruism but it is not exactly so. Altruism involves renunciation of the self and exclusive concern for the welfare of others which is identical to TOS.

According to Madam Blavatsky Altruism is an integral part of self development. Dr. Radha Burnier, commonly known as Radhaji said "The Theosophist is one. Who is different because he is characterized by the quality of Altruism". Both Theosophist and Altruists are self contented persons. A unhappy man can not make other happy. Unhappiness arises from unfulfilled desire and sense of separation.

All religions have promoted sense of sacrifice. In India the initiates start their lives on alms, Matha, "Bhiksham Dehi" is the common call of a dwija after thread ceremony which inspire the householders to give alms. Jainism preaches non-hatred and sacrifice for all sentient beings. Islam has prescribed for Zakat. Jesus, the son of God has to sacrifice his life. He was crucified - he prayed to his father. O my Lord, these ignorants don't know what they are doing. Please pardon them.

Jesus did no wrong. Old Testament advocated "Treat for Treat". Jesus said - love thy neighbours. Socrates and G. D. Bruna also had to sacrifice their lives for the sake of truth. Mahatma Gandhi father of Indian Nation was influenced by the Philosophy of Theosophy. He has written in his auto biography - "During my two years stay in London two Theosophists took me to H.P. Blavatsky and at their insistence I had the opportunity to read HPB's - Key to Theosophy which helped me to understand Hinduism more accurately." Mahatma Gandhi was a symbol of a non-hatred but he was shot dead which we all know.



Let us look to the world's scenario before establishment of the Theosophical Society. All the established Religions were there with different groups or sects within the same Religions competing and fighting with each other. Total population was either under foreign rule or under King, Monarch or Dictator. There was no freedom of expression. racial. conflicts, religious dogmas, prejudices, superstitions and slavery prevailed on different parts of the world. In India there were Satidaha System, Caste system and untouchability and killing of animals by the name of Gods & Goddess. The west was also not free from vices & superstitions.

At this moment on 17<sup>th</sup> November 1875 Theosophical Society appeared with noble objectives and great declaration of freedom of thought. Both Madam Blavatsky & Col Olcott travelled different parts of the world for establishing branches of this Society. They were speaking about the glory of all religions and against prejudice, superstitions and dogmas. Col Olcott was highly regarded by the Buddhists in Sri Lanka for his unprecedented contribution for revival of Buddhism there. Col Olcott visited Kolkata during first week of April 1882 and gave an inspiring and illuminative talk on 5<sup>th</sup> April at crowded Town Hall in Kolkata and on 6<sup>th</sup> Bengal Theosophical Society was formed at the hall of Maharaja Jatindra Nath Tagore. Col Olcott's personality and behavior was so altruistic that many people were attracted by him. In Calcutta a renowned Sanskrit scholar Mahamahopadhyay Pandit Taranath Bachaspati arranged a tread ceremony for Col Olcott and declared him of his "Own Grotiya Brahmin". Both HPB and Col Olcott were received warmly by the Maharajas in India and donated for their work. Maharaja of Kashi being pleased with them allowed them to use the Mantras printed at the gate of the palace i.e. - "There is no Religion higher than Truth" as Motto of TS - Col Olcott shifted International H.Q. of T.S. to Adyar and had built Temple, Church, Mosque and Prayer Halls of all religions and invited people of all religions in the opening ceremony. He also established schools for untouchable paramas at Adyar. Both HPB and Col Olcott were true Theosophists and Altruists.

Now there are more than 200 free Nations in the world. Theosophist took active part in formation of UNO and establishment of National Congress in India. Contribution of Dr. Annie Besant, Second International President of TS in the field of education, rights of

women and children, upliftment of the glorious traditions of India, social reform and freedom movement of India can not be forgotten. She established Theosophical order of service to make the 1<sup>st</sup> object of TS practical with the motto. "A union of all who love in the service of all that suffer". She considered India as her mother land and worked for improvement of it till her death.

TOS is practical aspect of Theosophy and it is equivalent to Altruism. Altruistics are those who live not for themselves only but mainly for the benefit of others particularly for those who suffer. They serve all living beings selflessly without any expectation. In Indian term *Altruism* means Paroupakara or Purohitbrata. Dr. Besant was a true Theosophist and Altruist.

Annie Besant said - "Worship Him in all living being, feed Him in hungry, teach Him in ignorants, serve Him in need, make your life His temple and your action His service". All the Presidents of TS lived altruistic life and set examples before the Members. Present International President of TS Bro Tim Boyd became Member of TS at the age of 21 years. He was the President of the Theosophical Order of Service in America and did good work for the benefit of Tibetan Refugees in different part of the world. We noticed his altruistic behavior during his first visit to North-East India.

At the Feet of the Master it has been said - "Discriminate between real and unreal, between right and wrong and selfishness and unselfishness because selfishness is sin. But what is the present scenario of the world? There is tremendous materialistic development, resources have increased, all items of comfort and luxury are available, population also increased. Undivided India had population of 40 crores. Now population of Indian sub-continent has exceeded 150 crores. Some people have become very rich but 30% of Indian population are still below poverty line. People have become selfish and self-centered. Joint family system has been replaced by small family and flat system. The poor people have become poorer. For the comfort of human beings trees are being cut, acts of cruelty are increasing on animals. Daily papers are publishing in front page news of Raping, Looting, Killing due to political conflicts and report of suicide. More than one lakh peasants, poor agriculturists killed themselves for obvious reasons during last 12 years, caste system bribery, dowry system and superstitions of different sorts are still prevailing

in society. Quite large number of people live in inhuman condition in slums. There are miscreants of different kinds in the society. People are running after money, wealth and power overlooking the suffering of millions. Some of political leaders are accused with serious corruptions and some of them are still in jail. Some of Religious Gurus have also been accused with serious corruptions and are in jail.

Under these circumstance the role of the Theosophical Society and TOS have become very much relevant. Members of TS & TOS should set example before other by living altruistic life. India is the land of Masters and many great persons. Even to-day there are many great man, Nobel Laureates, Scientists, Ordinary but honest persons outside TS who are working for the benefits of living beings. APJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India who lived a clean life, had a open mind, a pure heart and who inspired millions of youths of the nation left his mortal coil on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 while addressing to a gathering. He was not a Member of the TS but really he was a True Theosophist and Altruist too. Let us pray our homage to such a great son of mother India.

Only theoretical knowledge will not help. Money and Wealth will not go with us. Theosophy is not only for the Members of TS. Its teachings are for all who try to live for the benefit of others. Such persons will ultimately realize that Theosophy and Altruism are two parts of the same coin.

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## TOS FOR RURAL INDIA

**K.SIVAPRASAD**  
National Secretary  
TOS in India

In India the divide of urban and rural society is very distinct due to socio economic conditions. With the globalised world the trend is towards movement of people from rural to urban cities for their livelihood. In a village community is more cohesive by sharing their joys and sorrow . However the modern urban culture has tendency of individual focus without much interaction with neighbours . In the new habitations residents prefer to confine to their own apartment without bothering much what is happening outside their house. This is leading to secluded life dominated with self-centeredness and narrow outlook.

It is a fact that urban development is taking place at the cost of rural destruction. This is true not only with the depleting natural resource but also moral and ethical human values. The sacred religious feelings were spread during festival seasons in villages. It had rich past with natural surroundings of vegetation and animal life giving peace and harmony to the inhabitants. People had time for spiritual gatherings and prayers at local temple with devotion and closeness. All the time they are occupied in the work including community based needs with wider foresight as perspective consider all beings in mind. It was the practice to contribute for the common good while attending to their own work. The rich biodiversity is exploited by the small number of people from outside the village for their luxurious life styles by consuming valuable bioresources. It is the kind of natural food out of natural farming and organic in quality which is giving vital energy to the rural dwellers for strong physical body. The thought process and actions in turn are depending on the type of food consumed. It is pure and straight forward thinking contributing to ecofriendly sustainable living prevailing in rural India. Childhood growth and development requiring out door nature is immense in a village giving good health and recreation for the



children. Rural people as compared to civilized urban section are more wholistic in comprehension with discipline in life having broadmindedness with altruistic attribute.

The tendency of moving from rural to urban is increasing intensely. How far it is real and healthy is a big question ? many agree that by distress condition they are leaving the rural roots with so much of misery by leaving some times half of the family and meet them at a later date with a long gap of time. Man is moving away from nature and switching to selfish life. Many adapted to urban life suffer from dependency and depression. It is more acute due to bent of mind towards materialistic life. Stress and rest less life is common feature among the city dwellers.

The theosophic life gives us compassionate living with contentment. Brotherhood and one life concept of theosophy will give space for the other lower kingdoms of plant and animals to sustain along with human life. All the TS lodges in the country may kindly consider forming the TOS groups in their respective locations for rendering humanitarian service. This will enable rural development and reduce distress migration to urban conglomerations. Skills can be promoted through TOS training for organic farming practices and sustainable livelihood options for rural unemployed youth.

Gender concern require attention to address women involvement in promoting moral and ethical values for the evolution of man with divine nature guiding constantly. It is the theosophic wisdom and discrimination which can bring confidence and motivation to youth from desperation to right spirit for sustainable living path by protecting environment and strive for biodiversity based livelihoods. The need for reviving degrading bioresources is necessary to meet the needs of underprivileged in rural villages. Theosophy gave the light to look at villages as sacred entities of life full of natural landscapes inspiring with refreshing energy. Leading higher life is one of the direction from theosophy, village surroundings are ideal for such realization and enlightenment. Sensible citizens are already started reversing the journey towards rural set up from urban suffocation and mechanical life.

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## MEASURERS FOR REINVENTING T.O.S.

**P. RAGHU RAMA RAO**

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### \* Vitalization of TOS Movement:

I deem it a privilege to participate as a panel speaker on the designated subject during South Zone Conference of 2014,2015 and 2016. It is true that in the words of our Director and Secretary that considerable work is taking place in TOS, whereas with a critical view we require to place lots of efforts for greater improvement in order to scale higher and better performance.

I consider the membership drive is the prime objective to implement with life membership. Quarterly, Half Yearly and Annual target fixation for annual, life and patron membership drive Youth involvement is the focal point and steps should be in that direction. Mass contact program in colleges, universities, polytechnics, etc.

Adoption of technology - smart mobile, email, web blogs and web sites for speedy exchange of information on programs, schemes, etc.

Group wise identification of calendar of service programs

Annual Budget Coordination and tie up

Registers for recording of activities for data sharing and analysis

Deployment of more staff at National level

Periodical exchange of communications between Head Quarter, Regions, Groups.

Draw out schedule of periodical meetings and adherence to such schedule, recording of minutes, action on such resolutions, and regularity in such schedules

Framing of Uniform Format for the report of activities of Groups to Regions and Regions to Head Quarter.

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Distribution of updated TOS Rules and Regulations to all Regions and Groups

Example of TOS Projects (last cover page of Annual Report -2012.13) should be brought to the notice of all Groups for their guidance and implementation.

Campaign on energy conservation

Any other subject for illustrious replication.

**\* Entrepreneurship & Innovation**

We also place before your good selves about the version of the under- signed in his personal capacity as well as member of Kakinada TOS Group broached during similar deliberations during September, 2011 at Guntur a subject on Entrepreneurship and Innovation to cater to the needs of aspiring graduates and diploma holders to start their careers on their own by establishing an SME - Small Medium Enterprise or SMB - Small Medium Business or SBU - Small Business Units or SSI - Small Scale Industries in manufacturing as well as service sectors on a National level through our TOS In India, which I would like to propose now as a catalyst, as there exist poor coordination amongst relevant ministries at states and central level, polytechnics, industrial training institutes, colleges, universities, management institutes, Banks, RBI, several NGOs, angel investors and venture capitalists, all working on this specific subject but in great isolation. A grand opportunity lies ahead on this evolving subject to work out the modalities for a successful implementation. I also place before your good selves about my humble participation in the proposed resolution, scheme and direction in the matter of Vitalization of TOS Movement.

**\* Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Funds:**

The Govt. of India amended the Companies Act,1956 and incorporated a provision facilitating the corporate bodies to spend an amount equal to two percent per annum from out of their apportionable profits

towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to reach out to the deprived sections of the society towards ameliorating the living standards of the under privileged sections. Companies look forward to implement the CSR scheme through credible and recognized NGOs. TOS in India is providing several services in a humble way across the country through its Regional bodies and the TOS Groups under these Regions. TOS in India through its track record can become a brand unto itself and revitalize the scope and approach the corporate houses with a proper appraisal seeking CSR funds for the service activity and can expand its wings far and wide.

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For brotherhood stretches upward and downward on every side, with endless links of love, of reverence, of compassion, and if we hold out our empty hands to Those above us that They may pour down in to our hands the water of life, then we must remember that only as those hands empty themselves in blessings upon the younger, will they be refilled by the elders of our race.

That is the great qualification for work, to realize the greatness of the work and the multitude of the workers, to recognize our kinship with Those above us and also with those who are younger in evolution than ourselves.

*- Annie Besant*