# THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE IN INDIA

(FOUNDED BY DR. ANNIE BESANT IN 1908)



#### **MOTTO:**

A Union of all who love in the service of all that suffers

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

2016-2017



"Worship Him in all livlng beings, feed Him in hungry, teach Him in ignorance, serve Him in need, make your life his temple, and your action His service"

—Annie Besant

#### What is the TOS?

The Theosophical Order of Service (TOS) is a world-wide organisation based on recognition of the unity of all life and aimed at reducing suffering and injustice at all levels—human, animal and environmental.

The TOS was founded in 1908 by Dr. Annie Besant, then International President of the Theosophical Society, to provide an opportunity for participation in activities which promote the first Object of the Theosophical Society: "to form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour."

The TOS is a separate organisation from the Theosophical Society but is closely linked with it. Study, meditation and service are the three components of theosophical living. The TOS provides a framework in which theosophical principles can be applied in daily life and to issues of contemporary concern.

The distinctive, two-fold purpose of the TOS is selfless service to the needy and suffering and the inner transformation of the server that this requires. Dr. Besant summarised the mission of the TOS in its motto:

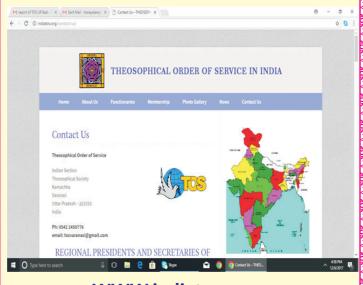
#### A union of all who love in the service of all that suffers

Today there are many active TOS groups around the world, united in their ideal of selfless service.

The TOS is a non-profit organisation whose members are its greatest resource. They work as unpaid volunteers and donations are used for service projects, not for administration.



Financial help to a worker affected by flood at Adyar



WWW.indiatos.org

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Delegates of TOS workers camp in Bhowali, Uttarakhand



**East Zone TOS conference** 

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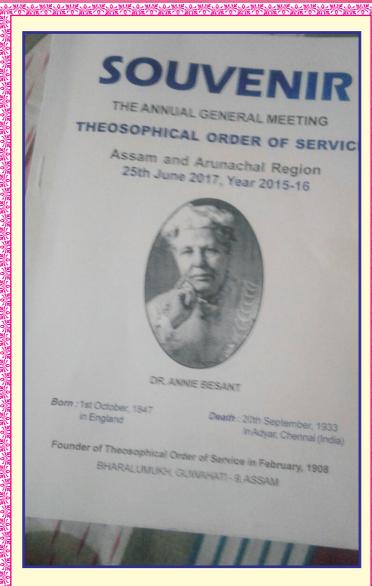
Save the girl child programme in Jammu,Shakthi Group



**Jammu School programme** 



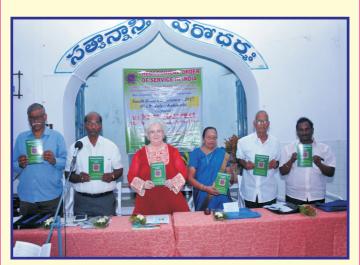
T.O.S. Office at Varanasi



Secretary TOS india participated in this Annual General Body Meeting in Assam



Karnataka region distribution of Sewing machine



South Zone TOS conference at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh



School Disaster preparedness, Sara E Kashmir Group, J&k



Peace building through youth empowerment, Sara E Kashmir group, J&K



North Zone Conference-2017, in Varanasi



Participants of North Zone conference August 2017



Theosophical Order of Service's enigmatic emblem reminds us to be fair and upright in our dealings with all concerned. We can explain it in the following manner.

The square indicates simple, fair and pure feelings towards all beings, or whom we are serving. This is clear from phrases like 'A Square Person', 'Square deal' etc. It represents equality (equal sides & angles).

In four corners there are four Lotuses, which remind us of universal brotherhood in all four corners of the earth. The Lotus indicates full blooming, that is "Nirvan" which is the highest aim of human life. Though these flowers are rooted in mud and dirt, still they retain their purity, 'पुष्कर पलासवन निर्लेप'— (Lotus leaf, though in pond does not get wet). Like it we too may live in the world, doing 'निष्काम कर्म' (Selfless acts) despite being surrounded by selfishness. As lotus always faces the sun, selfless service too invokes God's blessing.

In the Centre, the full blossomed rose indicates happiness and fulfillment, achieving the central aim of this service.

The emblem of TOS, full of flowers gives us the message of love, as flowers always do. They also represent selfless service (spreading fragrance all around). Thus emblem represents Truth, Beauty and Goodness. 'निष्काम सेवा' (Selfless service) being dedication to God is Satyam, 'The Truth', think of happiness of others is Shivam, (goodness), to serve with love is 'Sundaram' (the beauty)

Flowers give us message of unfoldment towards higher life, and create an atmosphere of beauty. That means we must prepare ourselves for good actions without any form of discrimination. (To bloom into perfection)

(Mrs. G.K.Ajeet, by courtesy "Seva Ki Triveni")

"Flowers shed their fragrance upon all passer-by alike, not asking whether one appreciates that fragrance or not."

"TOS is a stronger activity within the larger work of Theosophical Society"

-Radha Burnier

# WHAT ARE THE ACTIVITIES OF TO S IN INDIA?

#### 1. EDUCATION:

- a) Schools at slum areas and remote villages
- b) Providing study materials and school uniforms to poor students
- c) Creating awareness through camps.
- d) Programmes for the removal of illiteracy.
- e) Sponsorship programmes.
- f) Programme for awarding meritorious poor students.
- g) Free coaching classes.

#### 2. HEALTH:

- a) Health checkup programme and medical camps.
- b) Medical aid to poor people by selected doctors.
- c) Visit to hospitals with fruits and snacks.
- d) Heart surgery and cataract operation of poor people with the help from like minded NGOs.
- e) Providing mobility aid to physically challenged persons.
- f) Financial help

#### 3. OTHERS:

- a) Orphanages.
- b) Crisis relief work.
- c) Animal welfare.
- d) Rural Development.
- e) Distribution of clothes.
- g) Planting of trees.
- h) Distribution of drinking water during summer and fire wood during winter.
- 4. PROPAGATING THEOSOPHY THROUGH SERVICE

