

Theosophy Forward

Moving
ahead in
the 21st
century

**All roads lead to New York
August 8 - 11, 2013**

**International Theosophy
Conferences, Inc.**

Photo Gallery



Theosophy Forward

Theosophy Forward is an independent Theosophical periodical and was first published in 2009. In its four years of service it has reached out to Theosophists all over the world and it has currently readers on all continents. Members from the various Theosophical traditions contribute to it as well as those who are unaligned but carry Theosophy in their hearts.

All Theosophical Societies and Associations are esteemed vehicles that have, over the years, earned their own place under the sun. Although on the surface our interpretation and understanding of what H.P.B. gave us may differ, on a higher level there is so much to share that, if indeed the imaginary obstacles are taken away, a real communion comes in sight.

Theosophy doesn't teach in the conventional sense, but often functions as a pointer bringing about renewal in our way of thinking. If we make our diversity a binder instead of a divider and work in a true religious spirit, and if we are aware of the pitfalls that are undeniably there, we will learn from each other.

It needs to be underscored that strong ties are maintained with all the existing Theosophical Societies, but Theosophy Forward's commitment lies with Theosophy only and not with individuals or groups representing these various vehicles.

Acknowledgements and more:

Gratitude goes first of all out to all those who came to the Big Apple to "celebrate" Theosophy and contributed with their mere presence. For all speakers and participants: "Hats off", let's all meet again during next year's gathering in Naarden, Holland."

Thanks also to: Helena Kerekhazi, Garrett Riegg, Herman C. Vermeulen, Judy Saltzman, Eugene Jennings, Vijay and Jim Colbert, Ben den Hartogh, Joma Sipe, Swami Beyondanana, the helpful staff at the Bohemian National, the security officers, the entire Dutch crew and all hardworking volunteers.

Special thanks to Helena Blavatsky for being such a rich source and inspiration and to dear Sally Colbert for watching over us; her presence was certainly felt.

The enduring support and tireless labor of Anton Rozman in Slovenia made it possible to produce an excellent high quality brochure and this notable photo gallery.

Our time line covers centuries, not decades, so we must learn to think in centuries; we've only just begun. If there is one question we really should be concerned with now, it is the question of how we can continue doing Theosophical work, and how each of the traditions could play an active role in this and finally how International Theosophy Conferences can bring all of us together. By doing the work unconditionally, respectfully in oneness, breaking new grounds, each of the groups and all independent Theosophists will come up with answers.

As we do the work, all our doubts will eventually ebb away.

Jan Nicolaas Kind



ITC website: <http://www.theosconf.org/>

Archived events 1 click here: [....](#)

Archived events 2 click here: [....](#)

THE LOCATION



The famous New York skyline



Like that old Beatles song: "I saw her standing there", she's been standing there ever since 1886



The Bohemian National Hall on
Thursday morning August 10

BNH

**INTERNATIONAL
THEOSOPHY
CONFERENCE 2013**

3RD FLOOR

WELCOME TO THE BOHEMIAN NATIONAL HALL

Announcement inside the Hall



The entrance looking from the inside out



Early arrivals at the famous staircase,
on the far left Vijay Colbert

PREPARING THE STAGE



Getting things ready for live transmissions



Checking last minute program changes



Bouke van den Noort (left) and Ben den Hartogh
establishing the necessary connections



Live stream crew in the Library waiting for the proceedings to unfold



First guests looking at a display
in the Multi-Functional Room



Setting up one of the book tables

CHECK IN



Registration: filling in forms, receiving name tags and information, the table is decorated with a bunch of exquisite flowers



There is more at the door



Meeting old friends and ever smiling faces



An informal gathering by the Dutch in the Library,
in Dutch: “ONDERONSJE”...
what are they talking about..?

BOARD MEETING



Before the Conference gets on the rails
ITC's Board assembles



Board members preparing themselves,
going over the minutes of the last held meeting



ITC's President Garrett Riegg welcomes all board members and advisors



Next year's meeting in Naarden, The Netherlands
is being discussed



Garrett Riegg (left)
and
Herman C. Vermeulen



While talking to ITC's treasurer David Grossman, Conference organizer Helena Kerekhazi is about to open her very first bottle of mineral water, there are more to follow

Program

**THURSDAY AUGUST 8
MULTIFUNCTIONAL ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR**

Welcome by Conference Organizer Helena Kerekhazi.

Official opening by ITC President Garrett Riegg.

Greetings from around the world

Tribute to former President Sally Colbert: -

a presentation of **The Path To Theosophical Unity**

Keynote address:

Theosophy and Compassion In The World Today,

by Barend Voorham

Stretch break

Panel:

Unity In Diversity – How we promote Theosophy in our different Theosophical Traditions,

with Ed Abdill, Jerry Hejka-Ekins, Garrett Riegg,

Carolyn Dorrance and Erwin Bomas

Greetings from around the world

Mixer, social time, and refreshments



The Multifunctional Room is slowly filling up
for the grand opening



Helena Kerekhazi, after many months of very intensive and dedicated work can finally welcome participants and introduce ITC's President



Official opening by Garrett Riegg

GREETINGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Dear friends,

The members of the Vasanta Youth Lodge in Adyar-India send their warm greetings to the International Theosophy Conference and wish it success.

The three objects of the Society are the guiding principles in our lives. At every moment we strive to become 'Theosophists' in the true sense of the word. The three objects are the manifestation of the values of many people and this is what attracts many people to join The Theosophical Society. What attracts them are the fraternal emotions they encounter when they enter the society. We all hope to succeed in our quest for the 'Truth' & 'self-realization' and enjoy the companionship of the brothers and sisters who share the same path. We hope to spread love and joy wherever we go.

Kind regards.

Members of the Vasanta Youth Lodge

Greetings from Europe and France

Dear participants to the 15th International Theosophical Conference, Almost at the same dates, we will be having in Europe our annual meeting of The European Federation of the Theosophical Society (Adyar) during which the preparation of the European Congress 2014 in Paris will be furthered. Therefore I have to content myself in sending, on behalf of the European Federation and the Theosophical Society in France, all warmest greetings.

For fifteen years the organizers have been endeavoring to carry on the International Theosophical Conference. This enterprise deserves admiration and congratulations!

The chosen theme “How to Awaken Compassion? H. P. Blavatsky and the Eternal Secret Doctrine” hints to the invaluable work of HPB who successfully rendered to the present world the Eternal Teaching. The question “how to awaken compassion” indicates that compassion is already there, in the very heart of the Universe and of oneself; otherwise how can one awaken something which does not exist? Although in the heart of oneself it is dormant, in the heart of the Universe it is all alive and active because it is the core of the universal dynamics. One may equally ask: “Could the Universe come into existence without compassion?”...

“How to awaken compassion” may then read “How to move towards the core that makes things live?” This journey is a pilgrimage which is also equivalent to a great enterprise... the enterprise of one’s own path to the discovery of one’s core, the core of the Universe. This enterprise will benefit all sentient beings. With the words of the Rig-Veda, I wish you a very fruitful gathering:

“May enterprise be blessed!

May endeavor be blessed!”

Trần-Thi-Kim Diêu

Chair of the Council of the European Federation

President of the Theosophical Society in France

The undersigned, on behalf of all the members of the Theosophical Society, Adyar, meeting in Uruguay convey to all the attendants to the International Theosophy Conference, our most fraternal greetings.

It is now well known that the writings of H. P. Blavatsky, especially THE SECRET DOCTRINE has called the attention of many thoughtful minds who,

although specialized in different fields of knowledge, their main interest is the welfare of all living creatures.

This situation confirms the importance of THE SECRET DOCTRINE and we are sure that all of us who have been doing some kind of work trying to understand and live the guidance presented by HPB are very glad to know that it is possible to meet with students coming from different groups, but all nurtured by the same source.

The main theme of the Conference, divided into two parts points first to what is still an absent aspect in the world as a whole. The lack of compassion is in our opinion, one of the causes of great suffering.

And, therefore as students of theosophy we have a great responsibility.

THE SECRET DOCTRINE gives a wealth of knowledge, but becoming an expert on its contents does not bring much change. Let us all remember that our challenge is to show that such knowledge turns into wisdom, only then HPB's dream may become a reality.

Our most fraternal greetings,

Mrs. Dolores Gago

**President, The Theosophical Society, Adyar in
URUGUAY, South America**

On behalf of the Italian Theosophical Society I'm very pleased to send our fraternal greetings and best wishes to you and to all the participants at the event organized by the International Theosophy Conferences, scheduled in New York from August 8th.

The subject "How to Awaken Compassion? H. P. Blavatsky and the Eternal Secret Doctrine" is on three important themes for the Theosophical thinking: Compassion, as a result of deep understanding of Karma and Dharma; Eternal Wisdom, as expressed in the Secret Doctrine; and H. P. Blavatsky's consistent way of living as great pioneer of Theosophy in modern times.

May the New York event be rich with spiritual gifts and true Brotherhood.

Yours fraternally,

Antonio Girardi

(General Secretary ITS)

Greetings to all participants in I.T.C. 2013 on - Awakening to Compassion.

May your exploration of the living power of true compassion, be fruitful.

With all good wishes,

Dorothy Bell

Dear friends,

Please convey my warmest and most heart-felt greetings to all attending the 15th annual ITC meeting, in New York City! I deeply regret that physical problems prevent me from being with all of you in person, but I can assure you that I will be there in spirit, rejoicing in the bonds that unite us in gratitude to the life and work of H.P.B.!

Your theme reminds me of the 1888 message of H.P.B. to her colleagues in America, in which she spoke not of the metaphysics of Theosophy but of its "essence" as "the harmonizing of the divine with the human in man, the adjustment of [our] god-like qualities and aspirations and their sway over....the animal passions..."

That was the year The Secret Doctrine was first published, sublime teachings indeed, but her emphasis was on "charity, good-will to all beings, and perfect justice to others as to oneself..." The key-note of her message was truly compassion, how we live and how we act, a message that still echoes in the heart of every Theosophist. To awaken compassion in the heart of every sentient being: this was for H.P.B. the true work, for it is compassion that harmonizes the divine with the human in us. And it is compassion that will heal the world's sorrows and bring light, peace, and truth to humankind!

May the Conference be productive of new insights, renewed dedication to the ideals for which we all work, and rich discoveries as we travel on the Path; may it be a glorious journey!

Joy Mills

Dear friends,

As we are unable to be with you we want to send our best wishes and trust that this Conference 2013 will be as successful as the one last year. May the theosophical voice of toleration and understanding reach places on earth where it is most needed.

May compassion and loving-kindness become a living reality in the life of man everywhere – especially now when violence and fanaticism seem to have the upper hand in too many places. We sincerely hope that this conference will bring us closer to our first object:

To form a nucleus of the universal brotherhood of humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or color.

Greetings from sisters and brothers of the TS in Iceland

Dear Brothers and Sisters, The Theosophical Society has been encouraging and inspiring mankind to deepen and expand their understanding regarding the eternal values of life. The Motto of the T.S., the Three Declared Objects and the Basic Principles of Theosophy— they all motivate to discover Truth, to study and understand Truth and to lead a life in complete harmony with Truth.

Keeping the present world scenario in view, the theme of the conference is extremely relevant. Compassion is a manifestation of feeling guided by the voice of conscience. Perception of truth along with the realization of the situation awakens compassion.

Wishing for the success of the conference.

S. Sundaram, General Secretary Indian Section

Dear brothers and sisters,

On behalf of the Brazilian Theosophists I would like to send best wishes to all attendees of the conference, including speakers and delegates.

The theme chosen 'How to Awaken Compassion? H. P. Blavatsky and the Secret Doctrine' sounds extremely inspiring.

We are sure that the discussions involving this enticing topic will enhance reflections all around the world, motivating similar conferences to take place.

This is particularly appropriate to mark the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the publication of the Secret Doctrine.

Fraternal regards,

Marcos Resende,

General Secretary The Theosophical Society (Adyar) in Brazil

Dear friends,

Our little group sends all at the ITC our best wishes for a harmonious gathering. We are members of TS Adyar, TS Pt. Loma, ULT and independent students - a microcosm of ITC, in fact.

Warm Regards,

Elena Dovalsantos, Pattie Milow, Idarmis Rodrigues, Eldon Tucker, Richard Hiltner, Gerry Kiffe, Brigitta Lopez, Sandy Knapp, Patrice Hughes, Olga Omlin, Sharisse Stauss, Gaspar Torres, Pablo Minniti, Nicholas Weeks, and Dara Eklund

Secret Doctrine Study Group

Moorpark, California

Dear brothers and sisters, on behalf of the English Section I send greetings and best wishes for a truly inspiring event. It is important that Theosophists work together to bring about a greater awareness and enlightenment in this troubled world. And so the work that you do benefits all.

Although I cannot be with you in person my thoughts are with you at this special time.

Blessings

Eric McGough, President English TS

Dear participants,

Perhaps there is no more important undertaking than awakening compassion for we know from our Theosophical studies that "Compassion is no attribute. It is the LAW of laws -eternal harmony, Alaya's SELF;..".

When we listen to the news and read history it appears that the conflicts and differences that arise between organizations with which human beings identify themselves with such as nations, religions etc. are as difficult to overcome as those of a more personal nature.

To overcome both them requires awakening compassion through identifying with the All, Alaya in the Arya tradition, the source of compassion and de-identifying with anything which separates us from each other. I wish you every success with the convention.

Fraternal greetings,

Roger Price, Belgium.

Dear Friends, Brothers and Sisters, dear Theosophists from all traditions, now together at the ITC in New York.

We are very sorry that it is not possible for the Board of the Dutch Section of the Theosophical Society Adyar to join you at the 15th annual meeting of the International Theosophy Conference in the city where it all started: New York!

Please understand that we feel very linked and connected with all of you. It will be a big honor and a great pleasure that we might meet all of you next year in Naarden, in The Netherlands: the ITC at the ITC, The International Theosophy Conference at the European Home of the TS, the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden.

For now, we wish you excellent meetings at this excellent conference How to Awaken Compassion? H.P. Blavatsky and the Eternal Secret Doctrine, with excellent speakers from all traditions.

All the best, dear sisters, brothers and friends!

Warm greetings from members and Board in The Netherlands,

Els Rijneker

**General Secretary of the Dutch Section of the Theosophical Society
Adyar, de Theosofische Vereniging in Nederland.**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden, the Netherlands, I send you warm greetings and wish you a very fruitful conference. I trust it will result in a deeper understanding of Compassion, and thus helps to uplift all that lives.

We very much look forward to the Conference next year which will be organized at our Centre: the ITC at the ITC.

Arend Heijbroek
Chairman ITC

Dear friends,

From Sweden we send our greetings to the participants of the 2013 ITC meeting in New York.

It's a grand occasion when Theosophists from various traditions and societies gather together, to work for a better understanding and mutual respect. The program tells us that you will have several interesting days ahead.

We wish you all the best and much success.

Carl Ek, National President

National Section in Sweden of the Theosophical Society, Point Loma

International headquarters Blavatskyhouse, The Hague, The Netherlands

I would like to convey my greetings to the International Theosophy Conference. Your theme is an important one and you have a very interesting line-up of speakers. I wish you success in your gathering.

With warm greetings from members of the Theosophical Society in the Philippines.

Very sincerely,

Vic Hao Chin Jr.

Dear friends,

I convey my best wishes to the blended family gathering at the ITC. The quality of the program, the key speakers, the location, and the underlying aims all appeal to me greatly.

Warm greetings to all, and a remote hug for Michael Gomes.

Dara Tatray

National Secretary

TS in Australia

Dear friends,

Warwick and I send our private, warm wishes to you and we have the best expectations for a very special International Theosophy Conference in August.

May you all be blessed in many ways.

Warm wishes

Pamela and Warwick Keys (New Zealand)

Dear Friends,

We send our best wishes for successful outcome to the important conference. We are looking forward to read the proceedings of the conference.

ULT India

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

2013. It is important to constantly expand the circle of inclusiveness and be compassionate to all life around. One of the first steps is to have a united circle of Theosophical organisations around the world. This conference is a positive step in this direction.

My family joins me in sending greetings to all present.

Kind regards.

Yours fraternally,

Chaganti V.K.Maithreya, F.T.S. – Adyar, Chennai-India

Dear sisters and brothers,

A Theosophical meeting always offers great opportunities to share the common goals of our work, making it possible to improve the diffusion of Theosophical teachings in our regions.

The world is suffering enormously and all our work is absolutely essential to help to diminish those torments.

Although it is not possible for me to be with you personally, it is an honor as a representative of the Spanish Section of the Theosophical Society to send you warm greetings and a fraternal embrace in our members' and my name. We wish you fruitful elaborations of your conference theme which deals with such a significant subject: Compassion.

May the Divine Compassion be constantly present in our lives, being the instigator of all our actions.

Fraternally,

Sociedad Teosófica Española

Clarisa Elósegui Navarro

Secretaria General

International Theosophy Conference – August 8 – 11, 2013, NYC – USA.

“How to Awaken Compassion? H. P. Blavatsky and the Eternal Secret Doctrine.”

Thank you for your e-mail of 06 June 2013 with information for the forthcoming ITC Conference at New York from 08 to 11 August 2013.

We send you greetings for all the delegates who will be attending this – 15th ITC Conference.

We are sure the delegates will have fruitful deliberations on the Theme of the Conference whose central point is awakening of compassion. The Conference will have renowned and well-versed speakers with a solid Theosophical background who will explore the conference theme of compassion. This itself is indicative of the importance that is being paid to this important Theme.

This conference indeed is a unique event as it brings together Theosophists from all traditions on a shared platform.

We applaud the purposes of ITC which include support for the Three Objects as expressed in the writings of H. P. Blavatsky; and most important, the fostering of intercommunication among all Theosophical traditions.

Once again wishing you a successful and fruitful conference.

Yours fraternally,

Navin B. Shah

Immediate Past General Secretary

The Theosophical Society in East & Central Africa.

Dear Friends,

The theme for the ITC convention 'How to Awaken Compassion' is of the greatest importance. May it inspire all of you attending, and continue to help you with your work in the different sections all over the world. It is a pity regret that nobody from Sweden will be able to attend. Hopefully the next conference will take place closer to us. We send you all our very best wishes for a successful conference and convey our warm greetings to old and new friends.

Perti Spets

General Secretary for the Swedish Section

Greetings to the ITC meeting in NYC

Voice of the Silence, verse 300: "Compassion is no attribute. It is the LAW of laws — eternal Harmony, Alaya's SELF, a shoreless universal essence, the light of everlasting Right, and fitness of all things, the law of love eternal." Verse 48 of *Voice of the Silence* tells of the thunder as the voice of the divine spirit within us. A story in the Brihad-aranyaka Upanishad recounts that the divine father, Prajapati, had three sorts of children: the gods, human beings, and demons. When they had all completed their studies with their father, they each came to him to receive the special instruction appropriate for them. The heavenly Voice repeated to all of them: *DA! DA! DA!* Control yourselves, give, be compassionate. Those are the three great virtues: self-control, giving, and compassion. When we "feel with" others, we too are divine.

John Algeo

Dear friends,

On behalf of the members of the Scottish Section I wish to extend our greetings to everyone attending the conference which, wonderfully, is being held where our society began in New York. We are in no doubt that this event

shall serve to inform and inspire all involved towards furthering their efforts towards the pursuit of our society's objects, and especially the realization of the primary objective of our society of Universal Brotherhood which is, of course, based upon knowledge of the timeless spiritual truths contained within our teachings which illustrate both the presence and the purpose of the One Divine Life within all of creation.

It is truly wonderful to witness the selflessness and tireless efforts of those who work within our society as they seek to implement its purpose by following the same path trodden by its founders and by those who inspired them.

Best Wishes

Gary Kidgell,
Organizing Secretary of the TS in Scotland

Greetings to This 15th annual gathering of the ITC.

Your chosen theme, "How to Awaken Compassion?" is one near and dear to my heart. H. P. B. made it most clear in her writings that altruism—or an active compassionate attitude toward all—is the cornerstone for being a student of Theosophy. Although we can acknowledge that H. P. B. had her faults, lack of compassion was never one of them. In this meeting and with all the interactions of our several groups, may compassion reign supreme, and thereby honor the great Theosophical tradition handed down to us. .

With all good wishes for a successful and harmonious meeting,

Betty Bland

To the International Theosophy Conference

I send you greeting from the members of the Indo-Pacific Federation of the Theosophical Society for a successful conference in New York from the 8 to 11 August 2013.

Your themes for the conference "How to Awaken Compassion? H.P. Blavatsky and the Eternal Secret Doctrine." is one that will attract many scholars and by the look of the speakers list I can see you have indeed done so. It is an inspiration to see such a gathering taking place.

Kind regards

John Vorstermans

President of the Indo-Pacific Federation of the TS

Dear Friends,

The theme of the 15th Annual International Theosophy Conference is extremely enticing, unfortunately living in South Africa, the time involved makes attendance this year difficult for me but hopefully it will be feasible for some of this section's members.

However on behalf of the members of the Southern African Section and me personally, I send to all attendees of the conference, the sincere wish that the educational input to and the ambience of, the Conference fulfils their expectations of such a meaningful thematic topic. May this be indicative of many, many more similar conferences.

Jack Hartmann

General Secretary

The Theosophical Society in Southern Africa

The Theosophical Order of Service sends friendly greetings to you all on the occasion of the New York ITC Conference.

ITC President, Garrett Riegg, says that ITC Inc. is still a challenging experiment that is developing with new twists each year. New twists yes, and yet already set to have a major impact on the theosophical movement in the long term. The ITC's work is quite simply a blessing to us all!

Heartfelt thanks to all present in New York for helping us unite in this way for more effective communication of Theosophy.

With every best wish,

**Diana Dunningham Chapotin,
International Secretary, Theosophical Order of Service**

Dear Friends and Fellow Theosophists,

I regret that I am not able to attend the conference this year, but I want to send a note of whole hearted support for the meeting. On behalf of the Theosophical Society in America I send you all best wishes for a successful gathering. May your noble effort be empowered by those inner forces that brought our movement into being.

**Tim Boyd,
President The Theosophical Society in America**

Dear Friends,

It might be that nobody can attend the ITC meeting in New York from Finland, but I convey my best wishes and great success for the Conference from this part of the world.

Compassion is an important aspect in life. It concerns and embraces ourselves, our fellow-beings and the humanity as a whole. Compassion is there (exists), but at times we need to awaken it and we can awaken it.

Warmest regards to all participants,

**Marja Artamaa,
General Secretary of the Theosophical Society (Adyar) in Finland**

Dear Theosophists,

We didn't know that there were so many of us Theosophists. We are happy to

see that people in seven big groups are trying to carry the Theosophical philosophy forward, united above differences.

N. Sri Ram, an International President of the Adyar TS, was once asked why he so often sounded just like Krishnamurti. He answered: "If there is truth in what I say, and if there is truth in what Krishnamurti says, then, there must be a similarity in our expressions of that truth."

Rephrasing these words:

If there is truth in the Wisdom we share, and if there is truth in the Wisdom all the groups share, we are talking the same language and obviously we must understand each other.

In our hearts we are with you in New York. Enjoy yourselves!

Ernesto & María Rosa Martínez García

Theosophical Centre in San Rafael, San Rafael –Mza.- Argentina

Dear friends,

The contemporary world is ridden with distrust, disharmony and discontent, There is poverty, hunger, pestilence, disease, malnutrition and violence. We are moving forward very quickly technologically as a species, but we are not evolving that quickly in terms of our cultural empathy and our ability to live together. Love and compassion can redeem the world. But words alone cannot redeem. Unless love and compassion are reflected in our behavior there is no hope for humanity. It all starts with Thought. If our thoughts are right; our words will be right; if words are right our actions will be right; our habits will be right; our character will be right and with that our destiny will be right. There will be peace and harmony, love and compassion all round.

May this reverberate in our consciousness. My greetings for useful deliberations. Love, peace, compassion and harmony.

Mahendra Singhal,

International Vice President TS Adyar

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the members of the Welsh Region of the Theosophical Society in Wales we send you our greetings and good wishes for an inspiring and successful convention.

May the light of truth, peace and love be with you.

Julie Cunningham

The Regional Association of the Theosophical Society in Wales

Dear Friends,

I wish the International Theosophy Conference in New York, with its interesting and important theme, every success.

Warm regards to all,

Mary Anderson

(former International Secretary and International Vice-President of the TS Adyar)

Dear participants,

On behalf of all the Irish Theosophists, I send heartfelt greetings from Ireland to you, to the speakers, and to all the delegates gathered together on the occasion of the 2013 International Theosophy Conference taking place in the Bohemian Hotel, New York City.

The theme chosen 'How to Awaken Compassion? H. P. Blavatsky and the Secret Doctrine' sounds most interesting and promises to truly inspire and elicit many shared Theosophical insights. This is particularly fitting to mark the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the publication of the Secret Doctrine. Unfortunately I am unable to be physically present, but rest assured will be attuned to you in mind, heart and spirit. We are already magnetically linked

together at a subtle level through our shared commitment and dedication to the work for the Theosophical Society.

May the wonderful warmth, forces and energies raised during these special days, radiate outwards to inspire and uplift all beings, not only on the American Continent but worldwide, and may this event be overshadowed by the love, guidance and blessing of The Holy Ones.

Warmest fraternal regards to you all,

Marie (Harkness)

Organising Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Ireland





Reading greetings from around the world,
there are many



Emotional encounter with Jim Colbert via Skype,
introducing the tribute to former ITC President
Sally Colbert



The presentation of “The Path To Theosophical Unity”



Anton Rozman from Slovenia speaks, Jim Colbert in faraway Julian-California, on the screen, follows the proceedings with great interest



The keynote address by Barend Voorham: clear, strong and certainly setting the tone



The audience is being prepared for things to come and full concentration is required



The first panel with representatives from four different Theosophical traditions: Unity in Diversity



Garrett Riegg leads the way



New Yorker, Ed Abdill, Vice President of the Theosophical Society in America sharing his thoughts on the panel's theme



Erwin Bomas explains how his organization, The Point Loma Society based in The Hague The Netherlands, looks at this diversity and unity



Carolyn Dorrance from Santa Barbara - California
and co-editor of an excellent periodical called
[Vidya](#) presents the ULT's point of view



Jerry Hejka-Ekins, the driving force behind an independent initiative called Alexandria West and known as a knowledgeable Theosophical historian sheds his light on the subject



The first interval, a quick get-together
to check if technically all goes
according to plan



Two friends meet: Janet Kerschner (left), archivist at Olcott in Wheaton and Elisabeth Trumpler, who for many years ran the Henry S. Olcott Memorial Library there



Time to talk to old friends, time to reminisce



It is very warm in the Big Apple, nice and cool inside the Bohemian National Hall and participants take a deep breath “in between”, going over some handouts



Socializing and on the foreground
Myrra Lee is reading the program



Refreshments, snacks and meeting
with people from all over the world



There is enough for everyone; Helena Kerekhazi
(at the far end) keeps an eye on things



Jerry Hejka-Ekins chats with Elisabeth Trumpler
(seen on the back)

Program

**FRIDAY MORNING AUGUST 9
MULTIFUNCTIONAL ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR**

Announcements

Occult New York: Gotham's Hidden History,

by Mitch Horowitz

Wisdom And Compassion, by Nandini Iyer

How We Study The Gita, by Vicky Prinz

LIBRARY ON THE THIRD FLOOR

Theosophy Pure And Simple, an introduction to Theosophy for newcomers by members of the TS Point Loma / Blavatskyhouse, The Hague, Holland

Taboo Topics And The Third Object Of Theosophy,

by Ruth Richards

Workshop: **Experiencing Our Inner Dimensions,** with Ed Abdill

Lunch



Friday August 9, the first full day,
all is set and ready to begin



Occult New York; it isn't that occult any longer after Mitch Horowitz reveals some of its secrets



Wow ... Mitch are you going to tell us even more ..?



In the Library the TS Point Loma/Blavatskyhouse
presents its introductory program
"Theosophy Pure and Simple" for newcomers



Agreed, Theosophy is not that simple,
but Jos Peeters makes it all better accessible,
great initiative



Getting together, talking together ... sharing



Exchanges, points of view
and so many different backgrounds



The Library is an excellent location for workshops



There is no doubt: Jenny van der Tak is the friendliest and loveliest floor manager ever ... here she carefully pins a microphone on Nandini Iyer's wonderful sari



Garret Riegg introduces Nandini Iyer



A regular speaker during ITC events:
Ruth Richards



For those who haven't gotten into it as yet:
Vicky Prinz shows how to find one's way
while studying the Bhagavad Gita



Many events are going on at the same time, here is Ed Abdill during his workshop



While the proceedings take place tables with refreshments are made available for thirsty and hungry souls



A big mystery, why are all Theosophists, no matter what tradition they belong to so fond of coffee and cookies?



It is what makes Theosophical gatherings so special:
that what happens in the corridors and foyer,
after or just before a talk



Excellent food, pleasant conversations
and getting to know each other



On the left Anton Rozman meeting an old friend again:
Jerry Hejka-Ekins



What a nice picture: Mr. and Mrs. Clancy McKenzie from the USA and Terezinha Franca-Kind from Brazil on the far left. Dr. McKenzie is scheduled to talk in the Projection room on Saturday

Program

FRIDAY AFTERNOON AUGUST 9

MULTIFUNCTIONAL ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR

Announcements

Panel: **Unity**, with Herman C. Vermeulen, Jim Colbert, Eugene Jennings and Jan Nicolaas Kind

Stretch break

Compassion Is Everywhere – Do you see it?,

by Leslie Pochos

H.P.B. And The Altruistic Heart, by Ananya Rajan

Supernormal: Science, Yoga, And The Evidence For Extraordinary Psychic Abilities, by Dean Radin

LIBRARY ON THE THIRD FLOOR

Workshop: **Theosophy And Science Are One. A Theosophical Approach To Addressing Scientific Issues**,

with Joop Smits

Stretch break

H. P. Blavatsky's Proof That You Can Develop

Compassion, by Bianca Peeters

The Secret Doctrine; Elements Enhancing Empathic

Healing, by Richard Hiltner

Compassionate Energetic Care, by Anton Baraschi

Banquet



Unity panel, Herman C. Vermeulen speaks



Herman is still there, while Jim Colbert from Julian in California also participates in the discussion thanks to Skype



Gene Jennings' input on Unity,
always driven and profound



Three panel speakers live in New York
and Jim Colbert on the big screen,
answering questions



Your editor reads more greetings



In the Library a workshop introduced and conducted by Joop Smits



It is so true: Science is our greatest ally,
Theosophy and Science are One



Listeners are following Leslie Pochos' contribution with great interest



Difficult to make choices, so much is happening; here is Bianca Peeters in the Library



From Chicago Illinois a motivated
Ananya Rajan is inspiring her listeners



Another regular ITC speaker from the West Coast of the USA, Richard Hiltner



The Library offers great events, here is Anton Baraschi



Odin Townley, known for his work for [Theosophy Watch](#) finally stepping into the limelight, introducing Dean Radin



Well, Dean Radin takes us on quite a journey, doesn't he? Now, was Buddha just a nice guy?



Many are fascinated and intrigued about what Dean is able to prove and bring across



Friday evening: it is time to relax with a nice meal, acknowledgements and some fun...



Long-time ITC supporter and ITC Secretary
Judy Saltzman with your editor enjoying a short break



After three years working for ITC in the background, Anton Rozman from Slovenia receives a Certificate of Appreciation



Via Skype some "Swami" speaks to ITC's audience, poking fun at himself and his listeners ... well, different he certainly is this Swami ...

Program

SATURDAY MORNING AUGUST 9

MULTIFUNCTIONAL ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR

Announcements

Yoga Of Compassion, by Ramu Sudarsan

For Mind Is Like A Mirror, by Michael Gomes

Are We Hard-wired For Compassion: The Neuroscience Of Altruism, by Helena Kerekhazi

LIBRARY ON THE THIRD FLOOR

Battles Fought For Space, by Jeff Clark

From Nirvana To Compassion, by Orest Bedrij

Awakened Compassion For Animals, by Judy Saltzman

PROJECTION ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR

Theosophy Pure And Simple, an introduction to Theosophy for newcomers by members of the TS Point Loma / Blavatskyhouse, The Hague, Holland

Religion, Mysticism, Education And Compassion, by Barend Voorham

Lunch



Saturday August 9, the foyer is filling up again and those beautiful flowers are still there in all their glory ... it is going to be a busy day



Every picture tells a story: in the middle - Garrett Riegg greets Jeff Clark, in the forefront - Dean Radin collects his name tag, while Helena Kerekhazi on the right talks to a member of the Dutch crew



In the Multi-Functional Room
it is time for announcements



Ramu Sudarsan from Adyar - India in the Multi-Functional Room talks about the Yoga of Compassion, while ...



Jeff Clark does his presentation in the Library, while ...



Erwin Bomas gets Theosophy Pure and Simple in the Projection Room on the rails ... isn't that something ... all at the same time



Michael Gomes is ... Michael Gomes: his discourses are always pleasant, uplifting and deep at the same time



Michael now seen from a different angle
and his keen audience



Nel and Wouter van Beers (second row), from Holland and for many years active at the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden, are carefully listening



Another highlight in the Library, Orest Bedrij:
From Nirvana To Compassion



The man of the keynote address, now in the Projection Room: Barend Voorham



She's really everywhere, organizer Helena Kerekhazi is now presenting her own talk!
How does she do it?



Judy Saltzman ITC's most respected secretary
and wonderfully dressed talks



Getting ready for a lunch break, the cozy foyer is turning into a global meeting place



As stated previously: every picture tells a story, here Michael Gomes exchanges ideas with Helena Kerekhazi, and there is much more ...



Gene Jennings and Elly Teeuwen talk things over ...
over some bottles of mineral water



The Dutch are not only big coffee drinkers they are also specialized in serving it. Marian Gijssbers from The Netherlands serves Jacques Mahnich from France



Silent and almost invisible, but definitely present:
one of the excellent security officers



David Grossman (left) and Keith Pritsker who is getting ready for his contribution, both happy and smiling



A wonderful presentation in the Multi-Functional Room:
Art Unveils Isis



Back in the Library:
It is Steven Levy's turn



Confusing perhaps, but at the same time April Hejka-Ekins is doing her workshop in the Projection Room downstairs ... and ...



... at last, Johanna Vermeulen is able to finish the presentation she started with at Olcott in Wheaton last year, and next to that she has even more to share



Saturday the busiest day of the Conference,
here Keith Pritsker in the Library



In Projection Room Odin Townley now speaks about dreams and will introduce Clancy McKenzie (a nice picture of him and his wife on page 87)



The presentation of Gene Jennings closes the Saturday program in the Multi-Functional Room



Ken Small in action



Frankie Hutton speaks in the Library



A look at Frankie's attentive listeners



Jan Jelle Keppler in the Projection Room is Dutch but lives in both Belgium and Adyar - India and speaks after just having visited Brazil ... well that's quite international, isn't it?



Another workshop, now with Jane Gignoux
in the Library closes the activities there



Two wonderful young ladies sipping coffee and who is that ... around the corner?



On the global meeting place, Michael Gomes wondering if the paparazzi are around, walks into Vicky Prinz



Well, this image really illustrates the overall ambiance of the Conference: Ananya Rajan and Jacques Mahnich wonderfully in dialogue



Janet Kerschner (middle) talking to April and Jerry Hejka-Ekins and a constellation in the background; nothing goes by unnoticed in the universe

Program

SUNDAY MORNING AUGUST 11

MULTIFUNCTIONAL ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR

Announcements and Director nominations

Workshop: **Compassionate Communication: Integrating Theosophy and Modern Psychology In Daily Life**,
with Marijn Gijsbers and Garrett Riegg

Closing Ceremonies with ITC Officers;
Speakers ITC Membership meeting;
Naarden 2014 Preview;
Elections



Sunday, August 11
the last day of the Conference is about to start



Unsuspecting participants don't know it yet,
but they will be put to work on this last day



Garrett Riegg is slowly preparing the ground
for this final exercise



Marijn Gijsbers who puts this workshop together with Garrett Riegg leaves no room for doubt, now it is the participants' turn, and they know it: a lesson in compassionate communication



Marijn makes clear that he has done this before, a kind of Flying Dutchman, but no double Dutch and straight to the point, while participants "come together" indeed



All in the Multi-Functional Room get ready for the final proceedings of this Conference



A fine atmosphere on this Sunday morning,
but some are a little tired, no wonder



ITC President Garrett Riegg addresses for the last time a full house, thanking all who came and those who made this memorable event possible



Your editor receives a special Certificate of Appreciation, a rare copy of *The Voice of the Silence* and ... a T-shirt, Helena Kerekhazi, always very practical, checks if it is the right size



A good but also a significant tradition, after each ITC event an "open" membership meeting



Herman C. Vermeulen chairs that meeting



Well everybody is still so energetic and full of what takes
photo, look at all those smiling faces. Thank you New
Theosophical Centre in Na



akes place that now all gather for the traditional group
w York, let's meet again in 2014 at the International
arden – The Netherlands



One cannot leave the Big Apple without looking at its famous skyline from the other side, so let's take that boat ride



A magnificent view and ... yes
... all those Theosophists are looking
into the same direction, great!

This electronic edition of

Theosophy Forward

was created by the Rman Institute,
a non-for-profit private organization owning
the Theosophical web site

THEOSOPHY IN SLOVENIA

in collaboration with the
Editor of the Theosophical e-magazine

THEOSOPHY FORWARD

If you are interested in having an electronic version
of your Theosophical publication,
please send an e-mail message to
webmaster@teozofija.info
with the subject
Theosophical E-publication.

NAARDEN



In 2014 all roads will lead to Naarden, The Netherlands
To watch the Naarden video click here: [www](#)