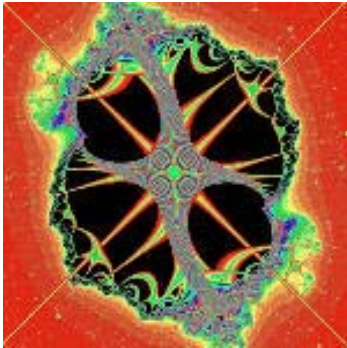




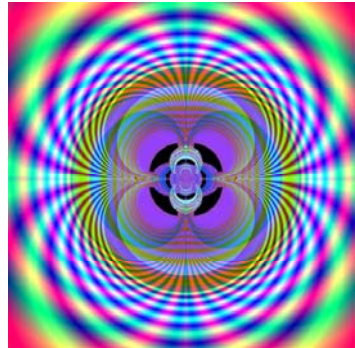
Contact

The members' newsletter of the Brisbane Theosophical Society
2008 Issue 3 – July-August-September

Visionary digital art work from The Abstract Digital Art Gallery



Nuclear Tree of Life



Nexus of the new vibration



The radiant glow of ascended matter



The cosmic cross: squaring the circle

Jack Haas writes: The experience of flesh being 'enlightened' and transfigured into a new vibration is an event in one of Jiddu Krishnamurti's books; Krishnamurti states that the cellular structure of the body changes completely at a certain point in our spiritual growth. When this happens, and the flesh is elevated into the spirit, we have once again attained unity with the all: matter and consciousness are now the same thing, and an eternal, ethereal-like realm of unity takes the place of the old dualistic paradigm. In such a transfiguration, the artist felt compelled to begin working on some digital art pieces. There was no knowledge as to why the artist was being drawn and guided to undertake such an expression, but as the art pieces began to unfold, the artist realized that he was retrospectively documenting the molecular transformation of the body through art. The above images are examples of this artistic documentation of the transfiguration which comes about through the union of spirit and flesh.

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Brisbane Theosophical Society

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BOOKSHOP & LIBRARY:

Closed on Public Holidays

Monday	10:30 am to 2:30 pm
Tuesday	10:30 am to 2:30 pm
Wednesday	10:30 am to 2:30 pm
Thursday	10:30 am to 2:30 pm
Friday	1.00 pm to 4.00 pm
Friday	6.30 pm to 7.30 pm

The programme of Lodge meetings is enclosed and is also placed on the Lodge.

The Theosophical Society has no official statements of belief. It encourages members to seek the truth by various avenues, but always subject to respect for others. Hence, all views expressed in these pages are entirely those of the authors – not of the Society.

President's Notes – Noel Bertelle

Dear Members and Friends, as you well know Theosophy is a vastly interesting subject. It winds along many avenues of spiritual and philosophical thought and in doing so presents us with such variety that we sometimes find ourselves confronted by a maze of pathways; there are some which might lead us in a positive direction and others towards a seeming dead-end. And there are times we feel we could use a little help in negotiating this maze, particularly as we take our early exploratory steps or later when we reach what may seem to be a brick wall or a particularly perplexing cross-road. As we pursue our quest for Truth we may also find confusion and/or doubt starting to enter our mind.

Thinking about this recently I realized how fortunate we are to be part of the Theosophical Society, simply because it can provide us with so much help as we proceed on our journey. All we need is an open and a curious mind to take advantage of the many benefits available to us. Needless to say there are the Spiritual Classics and other related literature which is readily available for our study; Lectures and Study Groups to attend and Retreats where we are able take a little extra time for reflection, all led by informed people unselfishly sharing their knowledge for our benefit and for the furtherance, through us, of theosophical understanding within the community..

You may have noticed how certain teachings seem to receive increased attention from time to time and how the emphasis then tends to shift so that over time we are exposed to a wide variety of theosophical thought - that is if we have indeed kept our minds 'open and curious'. And that's a very healthy situation isn't it? A case in point is the recent interest shown in that great spiritual classic, The Bhagavad Gita. It wasn't that long ago here in Brisbane that Dr. Arunachalam moderated a weekly, extended study group, and just a few months back Yvonne Malykke led a weekend study group at Springbrook and now, commencing July 11th, Dr. Dara Tatray, one of the official TS national lecturers, will conduct a three day event on the theme of 'The Bhagavad Gita; Tools for Flourishing and Survival in the Twenty-First Century'. Why do I draw this to your attention? Simply to make the point that each group, though it may have a slightly different focus, will nevertheless provide us with the essence of the accumulated knowledge which each of the group leaders has derived from their theosophical study and reflection over the years. It is up to each of us to take advantage of these opportunities as they

occur.

I wrote of how theosophical emphasis seems to change periodically, almost as if certain teachings become fashionable for a while, then to be replaced by others as they receive a boost in general interest, so quickening our own interest in them. This can create a situation whereby at times one could be forgiven for concluding that a particular Lodge is biased toward Eastern philosophy, which of course should not be the case. The Path we tread is neither 'Eastern' nor 'Western', nor is it a path of any particular religion; it is to be found in all religions – even apart from formal religion. The Bhagavad Gita is simply one guide to the treading of this Path.

Sri Krishna Prem in the introduction to his book, "*The Yoga of the Bhagavat Gita*", draws our attention to 'A few aphorisms from "*The Precepts of the Gurus*"...which (he says) are so relevant that they may as well be set down...'

- *One should acquire practical knowledge of the Path by treading it and not be as are the multitude.*
- *Weakness of faith combined with strength of intellect are apt to lead to the error of talkativeness.*
- *Strength of faith combined with weakness of intellect are apt to lead to the error of narrow-minded dogmatism.*
- *Desire may be mistaken for faith.*
- *Attachment may be mistaken for benevolence and compassion.*
- *Sense perceptions may be mistaken for glimpses of Reality.*
- *A philosophy comprehensive enough to embrace the whole of knowledge is indispensable.*
- *A system of meditation which will produce the power of concentrating the mind on anything whatsoever is indispensable.*
- *An art of living which will enable one to utilize each activity (of body, mind and speech) as an aid on the Path is indispensable.*

Clearly these Aphorisms will not only be a help to a student studying the Gita but equally to one studying the Bible or other Holy Scripture. Perhaps such purposeful study and of course the proper understanding of it, would free us all from literal interpretations (without real understanding) of spiritual text, and from teachings based on narrow-minded and self-serving interpretations. Thankfully, as students of the Divine Wisdom, we have the God-given opportunity to engage in our studies with open mind and with open hearts, which of course brings with it certain responsibilities ...

I mentioned in the last 'President's Notes' that the Friday evening programme, that is for April/May/June, would be exciting as it included such a wealth of talented speakers, local, interstate and international. It certainly was and Edi Bilimoria lived up to his international reputation giving us a thought-provoking evening, moving on then to be the guest speaker at the School of Theosophy at Springbrook where I understand he was immensely popular. (Local member Dennis Armstrong, who attended, will give us his impressions of the event in a few weeks time). The committee would also like to thank all the local speakers for providing us with so many inspiring thoughts and for giving of their time to keep us so well informed. The next programme which is enclosed, will be of a similar standard (no pressure on the featured speakers of course). Our National Education Coordinator, Pedro Oliveira, will visit us in September not only to speak to us on the Friday night, but also to facilitate a Study Group on the following Saturday which should certainly not be missed. Finally, I ask you to please keep in mind that we are still looking for volunteers to assist with the various tasks involved in the smooth running of our Lodge - your interest would be warmly welcomed.



New Books added to the library in the last few months:

The Lost Teachings of Lama Govinda,
edited by Richard Power, Quest Books.

The Scientific Foundations of Jainism
by KV Mardia, Motilal Banarsidass

Also: several donated books on aspects of Rosicrucianism.

Please note that the 2008 Convention Lectures and Talks have now been added to the library's Audio CD collection.

- Patricia Ossenberg.

Book Review:

***“Self Realization Through Love”* - by I.K.Taimini**

Publisher: Theosophical Publishing House Adyar

Dr.I.K.Taimini was Professor of Chemistry in the Allahabad University in India for several years. This book Contains the Sanskrit version of Narada Bhakti Sutras, the transliteration in English and commentary by the author. It is the result of his intensive study of Kashmir Saivism and Theosophy.

Self-Realization or Self-Knowledge could be achieved through the following paths. (1) the Path of Bhakthi (Devotion) (2) the Path Karma (Selfless Service) and(3) the Path of Jnanam (Wisdom). The path of Bakthi or Devotion is the path of unconditional surrender to the Deity of one's choice. The result of Bhakti is that the consciousness of the individual fuses with the Divine Consciousness acquiring all the attributes of the latter which is Divine Love. Once this state of Self-Realization occurs there is nothing but Love and none else matters. Intense Love leads to Devotion and at the same time intense Devotion leads to Love.

Whether devotion should be directed towards a personal or impersonal God is a problem that many face. Some need a personal figure to arouse their emotions and feel it incongruous to worship a transcendental principle. It is, however, possible to direct one's devotion to and cultivate it to the highest degree towards an impersonal Reality. For, invariably, the place of duality is taken over gradually by non-duality and the objective relationship gives way to non-objective relationship. In this non-duality there is no separation between God and the devotee, and, he (devotee) becomes the seat of Divine Love.

There are many path to Self-Realization or Self-Knowledge. Reference is made to the *Bakthi-Sutras* of Narada of the 4th century. Bakthi (Devotion) is the path that is characterized by the complete unconditional submission and merging into the deity of one's choice. The result of this is that the consciousness of the individual fuses with the Divine Consciousness thus acquiring the attribute of the deity which is Divine Love.

“Some very interesting stories in the *Bhagavata* throws light on this unification of consciousness and its results. In one Radha, the ideal lover of Krishna, is shown seeking him when he disappears from her side, leaving her in the agony of separation. She runs from place to place in the woods of Vrdevana and asks every cow-herdess whom she meets as to the

whereabouts of Krisna. But the question she asks is not “Where is Krisna” but “Where is Radha” Her consciousness has become so fused with the consciousness of Krisna that she loses the sense of her own identity and mixes it up with that of Krisna. Only those who have experienced the ecstasy of intense love can experience the beauty of this story. Its profound significance will hardly be noticed by the hard-boiled, intellectual philosopher who talks of God from the academic point of view and analyses the nature of this Reality like a biologist dissecting an animal on his table.”

The means of developing devotion is by renouncing worldly objects combined with personal contact with and adoration towards the Great Ones. Evil company should be shunned as far as is possible at all times. One should avoid the chain of events of cause and effect by performing action without any desire for personal gain and exercising discriminative discernment at all times. The devotee then becomes the vehicle for the reception of Divine Love through Self-Realization.

Dr. K.Arunachalam



Some new additions and requests that have been added to the Bookshop

Sacred Paths for Modern Men (A Wake Up Call from Your 12 Archetypes) by Dagonet Dewr
Llewlynn Publications. Price \$24

Roar, Rule, Laugh, Create, Destroy, Love.....and lay claim to your true masculine nature and spiritual heritage. According to Dragonet Dewr, a writer and activist in the men's spirituality movement. We have forgotten how to cry, to love, to honour, to teach, to initiate.

Funny and direct, this guide explores twelve powerful male archetypes and their relevance for men today: Divine Child, Lover, Warrior, Trickster, Green Man, Guide, Craftsman, Magician, Destroyer, King, Healer and Sacrificed One.

Please Note: One second hand set of Volume 1 & 2 of the Secret Doctrine for sale in the bookshop. In good condition. Price \$30

Articles on Yoga and the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali

What is Yoga? – by Swami Nirmalananda Giri. - A brief study of both the philosophical and practical nature of Yoga as the capstone of self-culture and enlightenment.

Foundations of Yoga – by Swami Nirmalananda Giri. - The basis of all Yoga practice are the “Ten Commandments of Yoga”—the principles of Yama and Niyama outlined by Patanjali in the Yoga Sutras. This booklet considers the various aspects of each principle as well as the spiritual power which is developed through each one.

The Science of Yoga – by I. K. Taimni. A PDF download. 391 pages, 10.6 MB - A masterful exposition of the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali. Dr. Taimni, a professor of chemistry and physics, elucidates some of the more difficult but important concepts in the sutras with examples drawn from modern scientific research.

The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali, translated by Raghavan Iyer, edited by Swami Nirmalananda. The Yoga Darshana (Yoga Sutras) of Patanjali is usually presented as two hundred brief aphorisms and commented upon accordingly, splitting them apart and thereby losing the original continuity of thought. This loss of continuity has enabled commentators to set forth their own private ideas on Yoga which are often, even usually, at variance with the intentions of Patanjali. Without changing the order of the sentences in any way, Swami Nirmalananda has arranged them so a reader can see that the Yoga Darshana is really a brief and coherent essay on Yoga. When read in this way, Patanjali's teachings can be easily seen free of extraneous concepts.

Commentary on the Yoga Sutras and Essays on the Yoga Sutras I & II – by Raghavan Iyer
Dharana, Dhyana, Samadhi, and Meditation – by Swami Nirmalananda Giri.

To ponder on.....

The Clown scientists have found that all our problems can be placed under the heading: Seriousness. Seriousness is the leading cause of everything from Cancer to Reincarnation. Scientists from the Clown Academy have already discovered a new source of healing. It is a psychic energy point located between the heart chakra and the throat chakra. It is called the clown charka.

If people are feeling miserable; if they have financial problems; if their relationship is in the pits; if they are in ill health; if they need to sue people; if they find fault with their brother; then obviously their clown chakra is closed. When this happens, the scientists have observed under a high-powered microscope that the cells of every organ display a sad face; and when the clown chakra is open and functioning normally, the cells display a happy face.

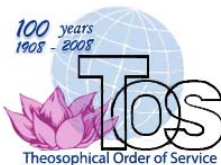
The scientists realized that if a person is ill, it is because his mind has projected guilt onto the cells of his/her body and has forced out the Love that is normally found in each cell of the body. The cells are therefore saying, "I Lack Love", or ILL for short. The scientists also discovered that all disease is due to the fact that the cells are "out of ease" or "dis-eased".

When the clown chakra is opened and working well (or rather, playing) properly, the psychic mechanism sucks up misery, pain, anger, resentment, grievances, unhappiness and so on, and converts the energy into tiny red heart-shaped balloons. The red heart balloons contain God's love and joy. These balloons are directed to the "diseased" cell or situation, and a happy face appears instantly. When the light enters the darkness, the darkness is gone.

Sometimes these red heart balloons are called endorphins, due to the fact that when anyone experiences them the feeling of separation ends – they experience being back home with the Divine and hence are no longer an orphan. This is the well known "end orphan" (endorphin) effect. So if you think someone is attacking you, Clown scientists recommend that you visualize sending that person red heart shaped balloons filled with God's Love and Joy.

Remember to keep your clown chakra open and remember to laugh – seriousness causes reincarnation.

Author Unknown.



T.O.S. news

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Email: lynettermuller@yahoo.com.au

President: Lynette Muller

Vice President: Astrid Arunachalam

Why did Annie Besant found the TOS?

Dr Besant was International President of the Theosophical Society when, inspired by the teachings of the Masters of the Wisdom, she saw the need for an avenue within the Theosophical Society for members '*wishing to organize themselves for various lines of service, to actively promote the first object of the Society.*'

When she founded the TOS, Dr Annie Besant set its direction in this explanation, '*It is to make our profession of brotherhood a real and practical one. Our ideal should inspire our minds, hearts and hands to endeavour to carry useful and efficient service to all around us, human and non-human. We should all be anxious to relieve pain, suffering and cruelty and remove ugliness in every form.*' In her vision, '*the object is to keep the whole movement permeated by theosophical ideals, but also to permeate the outside world with the same ideals*'

How can you get involved?

➤ **Donate food items for our project for homeless women**

We are collecting non-perishable groceries for women at the New Farm refuge who are moving into long-term housing. If you would like to donate some grocery items for the next bags being delivered, please ask Lynette Muller or Astrid Arunachalam about what is needed. Most items on the list cost from \$1 to \$3. Your support for this project will not only help a woman get through her first week in her new accommodation, but will show her how she can eat healthily on a budget.

➤ **Support our environmental project**

All interested members and friends are invited to join in an afternoon of planting and maintenance at the Moorhen Flats Environmental Area. We work from 2pm to

5pm and meet on the corner of Deshon Street & Turbo Drive, Wooloongabba. Please bring gardening tools, hat, sunscreen, a cup and something to drink. Dates for the second half of the year: 5 July, 2 Aug, 6 Sep, 4 Oct, 1 Nov.

➤ **Attend our fundraising painting workshop**

Have fun, create a T-shirt, meet old and new friends and contribute to TOS educational and social projects in developing countries!

The second TOS painting workshop will be held in the Brisbane Theosophical Society rooms (355 Wickham Tce) on Saturday 19th July from 10.30 am to 2.30pm.

Cost: \$10.00 (50% of this will be donated to TOS charities) This fee will cover the cost of a Tee shirt and the printing materials used to decorate the garment.

Participants are invited to bring a vegetarian lunch contribution to share. Tea and coffee will be available.

To register, talk to Lynette Muller or email Karen Cipressi: cipressi@bigpond.com

➤ **Do your bit for climate change**

Pick up a brochure from the library about simple things that we can do to help reduce our impact on our environment.

➤ **Participate in our planning meetings**

Planning meetings are held quarterly on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 10.00 to 11:30 am in the T.S. rooms. All interested people are invited to attend. Remaining meeting dates in 2008 are: Saturday 13



The Theosophical Society

A worldwide body whose primary object is to promote Universal Brotherhood. The Society imposes no belief upon its members, who are united by a common search for truth. Its constitution declares three objects:

1. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.
2. To encourage the study of comparative religion, philosophy and science.
3. To investigate unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in the human being.

The Theosophical Society has no official doctrine. All philosophies, religions and methods of spiritual practice are within its scope of interest but not endorsed. Material published in this journal therefore does not carry any endorsement or represent any official viewpoint of the organisation.

The Motto of the Society is "There is no religion higher than Truth".

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