



THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020, INDIA

November 2015–February 2016

The Purpose of the School of the Wisdom

The School of the Wisdom aims at bringing each student to survey life ‘from the centre’, which is intuitive awareness. An intense sense of Life must always accompany every true student. There can be no Wisdom without an ever increasing sense of Wonder.

Essential in the progress towards Wisdom is a growing intimacy with all aspects of Nature. The message which each tree, flower, animal, meadow, sea, sky, and cloud has, must be listened to and understood.

2 to 13 November 2015

Theme: The Yoga of Theosophy

Director: Dr Pablo Sender

The Theosophical tradition has developed a wealth of teachings about the spiritual life that constitutes a distinctive system of yoga. This path is particularly relevant for today’s world, since it is not meant to be tread in retirement but in the midst of our daily life. Some of its prominent practices are study, meditation, purification, self-observation, and service, all of which stimulates a holistic unfoldment of our physical, moral, mental and spiritual nature. In this session of the School of the Wisdom we will explore the practical aspects of Theosophy and their deep theoretical foundations.

Recommended reading:

The Key to Theosophy by H. P. Blavatsky, *The Inner Group Teachings* by H. P. Blavatsky, *An Introduction to Yoga* by Annie Besant, *The Science of*

Yoga by I. K. Taimni, *The Monad* by C. W. Leadbeater, *Choiceless Awareness* by J. Krishnamurti.

Mr Pablo Sender, PhD, joined the Theosophical Society in 1996 in his native Argentina, where he got his doctorate in Biological Sciences. He is an international speaker who has presented Theosophical lectures, seminars, and classes in India and several countries of Europe and the three Americas. He has published two books in Spanish and many articles, both in Spanish and English, in different Theosophical journals. He is currently living and working at the National Center of the Theosophical Society in America.

16 to 27 November 2015

Theme: Life's Deeper Aspect

Director: Prof. R. C. Tampi

N. Sri Ram, the fifth International President of the Theosophical Society, is noted for his penetrating insight into the serious problems of life and his remarkable lucidity of expression. *Life's Deeper Aspects* is a collection of addresses dealing with various vital aspects of modern life. The course will attempt an exploration into the profound vision of life and its problems presented by Sri Ram.

Recommended reading:

N. Sri Ram — A life of Beneficence and Wisdom by Pedro Oliveira, *The Nature of Our Seeking* by N. Sri Ram, *The Way of Wisdom* by N. Sri Ram, *Seeking Wisdom* by N. Sri Ram, *An Approach to Reality* by N. Sri Ram

Mr R. C. Tampi is a retired Professor of English. He joined the Theosophical Society in 1959. As the Director of The School of the Wisdom he has conducted a number of courses on various theosophical subjects.

2 to 12 December 2015

Theme: Self-Transformation and the Spiritual Life

Director: Mr Vincente Hao Chin Jr.

The course covers an approach to self-transformation that serves as a foundation for an integrated and effective life, as well as an essential preparation for living the spiritual life. It includes exercises in self-awareness and a detailed study of meditation. Other facets of the course are, approaches to daily awareness, the exploration of transcendence, nurturing essential life-skills, probing into the nature of intuition, and the integration of impersonal values into our lives.

Recommended reading:

The Process of Self-Transformation by Vincente Hao Chin Jr., *The First and Last Freedom* by J. Krishnamurti, *The Key to Theosophy* by

H. P. Blavatsky, *Mysticism* by William James (The chapter on *Varieties of Religious Experience*), *Understanding Mysticism* by Richard Woods, *The Science of Yoga* by I. K. Taimni.

Mr Vincente Hao Chin Jr. is a former president of the TS in the Philippines, and a former president of the Indo-Pacific Federation of the TS. He is the author of *The Process of Self-Transformation*, *Why Meditate?*, *On Education*, and other works. He compiled and edited the chronological edition of *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnet*, and is the Associate Editor of the *Theosophical Encyclopedia*.

11 to 22 January 2016

Theme: Glimpses on Chinese Philosophies

in the Light of Theosophy

Director: Ms Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu

Wisdom, the universal heritage, cannot be confined to a particular region on earth. Almost at the same epoch of the flowering of great philosophies in India, another part of the East, namely China, witnessed the blossoming of great philosophical thinkers. This session will tentatively give a broad outline of Chinese philosophies in the light of theosophy.

The first week: will deal with the foundations of Chinese mind before Bodhidharma. There will be exploration into the I-Ching, the Tao Teh King as well as the Analects, while making glimpses on main great Chinese philosophers such as Lao Tzeu, Confucius, Tshuang Tzeu, etc. Approach to theosophical concepts will be tentatively shown.

The second week: will be dedicated to examining the evolution of the Chinese thought under the influence of Bodhidharma's contribution. With the birth of Chan Buddhism and its development, Chinese practical mind grew into metaphysical dimensions. Some aspects of Chan and Zen Buddhism will be examined. The week will end with an exploration into another dimension of the I-Ching as a book of oracle. If time allows, the daily life in Chan Buddhist monasteries will be illustrated.

Recommended reading:

I-Ching, original text translated by Richard Wilhelm & Baynes, Princeton University Press, *Tao Teh King**, *The Analects** by Confucius, Dover Publications, Inc. New York, *Chuang Tzu, Basic Writings**, translated by Burton Watson, Columbia University Press, *Zen Buddhism* by Daisetz Teitaro Suzuki (three volumes), *The network of thought* by Jiddu Krisnamurti*, KFI, *Seeking Wisdom* by N Sri Ram*, TPH Adyar, (*) recommended to read before attending.

Ms Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu post-graduated in pharmaceutical technology. She has been exploring Eastern philosophies and religions in parallel with scientific ideas. She is most drawn to the philosophy of Nagarjuna and

Krishnamurti. She is a member of the TS since 1972 and has been the General Secretary of TS France since 2009. She is also the Chairperson of the European Federation since 1995. She has travelled and lectured all over the world and regularly conducts meditation retreats in Europe.

Classes and Timings

Monday to Friday

Meditation: 8.00 to 8.30 a.m.

Classes: 8.30 to 11.00 a.m. and 3.30 to 5.00 p.m.

Some afternoons will be reserved for presentations by the students, who may spend free afternoons doing research on their own or at the Adyar Library and Research Centre. Applications for Library reading/borrowing cards are available.

Additional Information

- ◆ All sessions are held in Blavatsky Bungalow.
- ◆ Applications, providing membership details and a recommendation from the General Secretary or main Officer in the applicant's country of residence, may be sent to:
The International Secretary,
The Theosophical Society,
Adyar, Chennai 600 020, India
Tel: (+91 44) 2491-2474 Email: study.hq@ts-adyar.org
- ◆ The Application form may be downloaded from the TS website.
- ◆ If you need accommodation, please specifically say so in your application.
- ◆ Students may register for all or some of the sessions and are expected to attend all the classes in the session chosen.
- ◆ Scholarships, full or partial, may be provided for some deserving TS workers. Applications should be made well in advance, providing full details and suitable recommendation.
- ◆ Those members who wish to stay for the International Convention (31 December 2015 to 5 January 2016) are requested to register separately at the Convention Office, and book accommodation separately.