

## BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

Publications of The Theosophical Publishing House,  
Adyar, Madras, India:

*Annie Besant, President of the Theosophical Society,  
and the Changing World*, by Bhagavan Das.

*The Third Object of the Theosophical Society*, by C. W.  
Leadbeater, Adyar Pamphlet No. 184.

*Life as Ceremonial*, by M. Besant-Scott, Adyar Pamphlet  
No. 185.

*Dr Besant as a Comrade and a Leader*, by Sir C. P.  
Ramaswami Aiyar, Adyar Pamphlet No. 186.

*Our Elder Brethren: The Great Ones in the World's  
Service*, edited by Annie Besant, D. L., President of  
the Theosophical Society, 1907-1933.

The first of these is a booklet of 84 pages and is devoted to the appreciation of the work of the late president of the Theosophical Society, Dr Annie Besant. It traces this work of hers in its different forms and believes that the keynote of her life lay in the fact that she not only spread precious spiritual knowledge for the inner betterment of men, but also gave strenuous action for their outer betterment. As she believed herself to be a humble servant and missioner of the Spiritual Hierarchy which guides the evolution of humanity she was ever active in promoting the welfare of men whether in her work as president of the Theosophical Society, in her political work for Home Rule for India, or in the educational work of establishing colleges and schools. Theosophy was the guiding star of her life and the scattering of its seed was close to her heart and much of her energy was devoted to this by the writing of hundreds of books and pamphlets and the giving of her thousands of lectures. She had many devoted followers all over the world and when she passed away in September 1933 she was sincerely mourned by thousands of persons in India, in Europe, in the Americas. She was a great leader, possessed of wonderful eloquence, high aspiration, generous in nature and with a magnetic personality which attracted to her and kept attached to her friends and adherents. When she died, the

world lost a great spiritual force. Sir Ranaswami Aiyar considers her as comrade and leader for India and reviews her work in politics, in journalism, and in education.

*Life as Ceremonial* by M. Besant Scott was a lecture delivered at the European Federation of the Theosophical Society held at Vienna, July 1923. The author considers that life itself is ceremonial in which the liver endeavours to carry out the great plan of the Great Hierarchy. The author believes that certain ceremonial forms in life and religion are helpful and writes specially of Masonry and its advantages to the aspiring Soul.

*The Third Object of the Theosophical Society* by C. W. Leadbeater takes problems connected with the third object which is to investigate the powers latent in man and he advises the development of one's own powers and to be active not passive in practising them and developing them.

*Communalism and Its Cure by Theosophy* by Bhagavan Das is centered upon the thesis that Spiritual Wholeness, Health, is the only sure basis of all Material Welfare, Wealth. He urges that Moslems and Hindus should drop denominational and communal names and character and become simply and surely religious, scientific, rational and national. Separateness is disastrous, synthesis is needed and Humanist Patriotism under the influence of universal religion is the remedy for all troubles in India and elsewhere. There should be a spiritual league of all religions as complement of the League of All Nations. The author believes that the Theosophical Society and other associations with similar objects can make valuable contribution to the work of applying theoretical, philosophical, and psychological principles of scientific religion to human affairs. The material welfare of all depends upon the right performance of individual duties and several duties which should bring about a true Universal Brotherhood.

*Our Elder Brethren: The Great Ones in the World's Service*, edited by Annie Besant, D. L., President of the Theosophical Society, 1907-1933. It is stated that this book is an attempt to convey in words a faint reflection of the beauty and splendor of the Great Servants of the World. Every religion has a founder, the World Teacher, and he

has around him his immediate pupils called by different names in different religions, rishis, disciples, apostles, saints, Bodhisattvas, and so on, and recognised as teachers and organisers of the religion of which the foundations were laid by their head. This contributes to the Hierarchy of Masters. The members of the Hierarchy who are treated of in this book are Shri Shankaracharya, the Lord Buddha, the Great Sage of Hinduism; Tehuti; Zarathustra; Orpheus; the Supreme Singer; Shri Krishna the Bodhisattva or the Christ; the Lord Vaivasvata Manu; the Rishi Agastya; Pythagoras; a Future World-Teacher; Confucius; the Lord Muhammad; the Lord Chaitanya; the Noble Army of Martyrs; Giordano Bruno; Guru Nanak; Asoka, the Buddhist Emperor of India.

In an Appendix further considered are Jesus, Apollonius of Tyana, Shri Ramanuja, and the Master Rakoczi. It is an interesting and suggestive exposition of the lives of these great teachers.

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Magazines received in exchange for the *Eastern Buddhist: Buddhism in England*, London; *The Maha-Bodhi*, Calcutta; *The Aryan Path*, Bombay; *Message of the East*, Boston; *Vedanta Darpana*, New York; *Vedanta Kesari*, India; *Shrine of Wisdom*, London; *Mythic Magazine*, India; *Theosophical Quarterly*, New York; *Bulletin of Oriental Studies*, London; *Bulletin of Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute*, Poona, India; *Journal of Religion*, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.; *The Epoch*, Ilfracombe, England; *Le Lotus Bleu*, Paris; *The Liberal Catholic*, London; *The Theosophical Messenger*, Wheaton, Ill., U.S.A.; *The Kalpaka*, India, Calamus, Dublin, Ireland; *Indian Historical Quarterly*, Calcutta, India; *Il Progresso Religioso*, Rome; *Litterae Orientales*, Leipzig; *Zeitschrift für Indologie und Iranistik*; *Journal Asiatique*, Paris; *Journal of Urusvati*, Himalayan Research Institute, Urusvati, Punjab; *Wiener Beiträge zur Kulturgeschichte und Linguistik Veröffentlichungen des Institutes für Völkerkunde an der Universität Wien*, Vienna; *Yoga*, edited by Shri Yogendra Yoga Institute, Bombay, India; *L'Asie Nouvelle*, Saigon.

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