



teozofija v sloveniji



Annie Besant

SOCIAL REFORM IN INDIA

Herald of the Star, 11.01.2014

Prispevki k raziskovanju zgodovine Teozofskega gibanja - v izvirniku

AN important step has been taken, over here in India, with regard to certain matters of Social Reform, and I would ask my brethren in Great Britain and Ireland and in the Colonies to stretch out to us a helping hand.

At a meeting of "E.S." members, held at Adyar last month (I write in October), it was resolved to make an attack on the worst of the barriers which check the advance of India along the road of progress, and some of our brethren heroically resolved to sacrifice themselves to this end. They have taken the following promises: —

"Believing that the best interests of India lie in her rising into ordered freedom under the British Crown, in the casting away of every custom which prevents union among all who dwell within her borders, and in the restoration to Hinduism of social flexibility and brotherly feeling, I promise: —

- (1) To disregard all restrictions based on Caste.
- (2) Not to marry my sons while they are still minors, nor my daughters till they have entered their seventeenth year. ("Marry" includes any ceremony which widows one party on the death of the other.)
- (3) To educate my wife and daughters — and the other women of my family, so far as they will permit — to promote girls' education, and to discountenance the seclusion of women.
- (4) To promote the education of the masses as far as lies in my power.
- (5) To ignore all colour distinctions in social and political life, and to do what I can to promote the free entry of coloured races into all countries on the same footing as white immigrants.
- (6) To actively oppose any social ostracism of widows who re-marry.
- (7) To promote union among the workers in the fields of spiritual, educational, social, and political progress, under the headship and direction of the Indian National Congress."

Others who cannot take the whole promise take such parts of it as they feel they can carry out. Clause 5 is the one that I would press on the attention of all who would help us in the Empire outside India.

Such helpers will resolutely ignore the Colour Bar in their own lives, and will earnestly work in their respective countries to support those who, in and out of Parliament and other legislative assemblies, are endeavouring to level the barriers erected by prejudice against coloured citizens. Men like Sir William Wedderburn, M.P., Sir Henry Cotton, M.P., and Lord Ampthill, should have their hands strengthened in every way. In South Africa, in Canada, in Australia, our members should sign Clause 5 and work for it. Very much can be done for this outside India.

Clause 7 depends, of course, on the willingness of the Indian National Congress to assume the headship of a movement which combines religious, educational, and social reform with political. If it be unwilling to do so, then some man or other organisation must be found to take the lead. D. Graham Pole, Esq., Theosophical Society, Edinburgh, will take the names of all willing to work within the United Kingdom. T. H. Martyn, Esq., 132, Phillip Street, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, will take them for Australasia. I have not, as yet, found agents for South Africa and Canada, or for other Colonies. The movement is, of course, confined to the Empire, as it is intended to draw all races together into an Imperial Unity.

I propose, with the Editor's permission, to keep the readers of the Herald informed as to our progress.

Annie Besant.

6

THE HERALD OF THE STAR.



Photo.

F. A. Saville.

MRS. ANNIE BESANT.



The Herald of the Star.

VOL. III. No. 1.

January 11th, 1914.

645435

CONTENTS

	Page.
SONNET. <i>By E. A. W.</i>	3
IN THE STARLIGHT. <i>By J. Krishnamurti</i>	4
THE NEW TEACHER. <i>By Ralph Waldo Emerson</i>	5
IDEALS OF THE FUTURE. <i>By Mrs. Annie Besant</i>	7
ORGANISATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ORDER OF THE STAR IN THE EAST. <i>By G. S. Arundale</i>	8
BEFORE A LECTURE. <i>By a Worker for the Star</i>	15
THE COMING OF A WORLD-TEACHER AND THE TEACHING OF CHRIST. <i>By An Anglican Priest</i>	16
A NEW ATTITUDE. <i>By C. W. Leadbeater</i>	19
MY CONCEPTION OF A WORLD-TEACHER. <i>By Lady Emily Lutyens</i>	21
OMAR KHAYYAM	23
THE FOUR TRAVELLERS. <i>By Sir Edwin Arnold</i>	25
A WORLD-TEACHER. <i>By C. Jinarajadasa</i>	27
WHAT IS THE ORDER OF THE STAR IN THE EAST?	36
SOCIAL REFORM IN INDIA. <i>By Mrs. Annie Besant</i>	38
A GREAT TRUTH AND EVERY-DAY LIFE. <i>By G. S. Arundale</i>	39
THE SOUL OF MAN	45
SERVANTS OF THE STAR. <i>By Barbara Lutyens</i>	46
RELIGIONS AND THEIR SYMBOLS. <i>By C. Jinarajadasa</i>	49
GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT. <i>By E. A. Wodehouse</i>	56
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE ORDER	63
FRENCH TRANSLATION OF ORGANISATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ORDER OF THE STAR IN THE EAST. <i>By G. S. Arundale</i> ... Supplement	

NOTICE ABOUT CONTRIBUTORS

As The Herald of The Star proposes to include articles from many different sources on topics of widely varied interest, it is clearly understood that the writing of such an article for the "Herald" in no way involves its author in any kind of assent to, or recognition of, the particular views for which this Magazine, or the Order of The Star in the East, may stand.





AN important step has been taken, over here in India, with regard to certain matters of Social Reform, and I would ask my brethren in Great Britain and Ireland and in the Colonies to stretch out to us a helping hand.

At a meeting of "E.S." members, held at Adyar last month (I write in October), it was resolved to make an attack on the worst of the barriers which check the advance of India along the road of progress, and some of our brethren heroically resolved to sacrifice themselves to this end. They have taken the following promises:—

"Believing that the best interests of India lie in her rising into ordered freedom under the British Crown, in the casting away of every custom which prevents union among all who dwell within her borders, and in the restoration to Hinduism of social flexibility and brotherly feeling,

I promise:—

- (1) To disregard all restrictions based on Caste.
- (2) Not to marry my sons while they are still minors, nor my daughters till they have entered their seventeenth year. ("Marry" includes any ceremony which widows one party on the death of the other.)
- (3) To educate my wife and daughters—and the other women of my family, so far as they will permit—to promote girls' education, and to discountenance the seclusion of women.
- (4) To promote the education of the masses as far as lies in my power.
- (5) To ignore all colour distinctions in social and political life, and to do what I can to promote the free entry of coloured races into all countries on the same footing as white immigrants.
- (6) To actively oppose any social ostracism of widows who re-marry.
- (7) To promote union among the workers in the fields of spiritual, educational, social, and political progress, under the headship and direction of the Indian National Congress."

Others who cannot take the whole promise take such parts of it as they feel they can carry out. *Clause 5* is the one that I would press on the attention of all who would help us in the Empire outside India. Such helpers will resolutely ignore the Colour Bar in their own lives, and will earnestly work in their respective countries to support those who, in and out of Parliament and other legislative assemblies, are endeavouring to level the barriers erected by prejudice against coloured citizens. Men like Sir William Wedderburn, M.P., Sir Henry Cotton, M.P., and Lord Ampthill, should have their hands strengthened in every way. In South Africa, in Canada, in Australia, our members should sign *Clause 5* and work for it. Very much can be done for this outside India.

Clause 7 depends, of course, on the willingness of the Indian National Congress to assume the headship of a movement which combines religious, educational, and social reform with political. If it be unwilling to do so, then some man or other organisation must be found to take the lead.

D. Graham Pole, Esq., Theosophical Society, Edinburgh, will take the names of all willing to work within the United Kingdom. T. H. Martyn, Esq., 132, Phillip Street, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, will take them for Australasia. I have not, as yet, found agents for South Africa and Canada, or for other Colonies. The movement is, of course, confined to the Empire, as it is intended to draw all races together into an Imperial Unity.

I propose, with the Editor's permission, to keep the readers of the *Herald* informed as to our progress. ANNIE BESANT.