true or lasting solution to problems, especially in the present day when all the peoples and nations of the world are interconnected. So it is important to free the mind of its tragic tendency to look at everything piecemeal

We also said that if man cannot find out more about himself, and understand himself as he is and also what he will be, his own wonderful, boundless potential he cannot know what is good for him. So he constantly works for what he thinks is good, but he actually creates suffering. Theosophy and the Theosophical Society must and can offer the direction and guidelines in regard to this. We will discuss the objects and the work of the Society later. Today we shall consider the nature of the fundamental change.

Questions have arisen about what is fundamental. Is anything fundamental? Is there a difference between the subsidiary and the basic? We may say that a fundamental change is one which resolves the many different problems with one sweep, so to speak. It is like rooting out a weed. If you cut the branches of the weed, they may sprout again. In Hindu mythology there is the demon or anti-god called Ravana, who has ten heads. He was unconquerable for ages because when a head or two were cut off, they grew again. Finally, the divine incarnation, Rama, struck off all the heads at one stroke and put an end to the evil.

In our personal lives, as well as in the community around us, we find continuing problems. There are countries in which there is little orderliness, people throw rubbish everywhere. This is of course a subsidiary problem, for you may remove the rubbish and the next day they will throw more. Obviously the more basic problem is the mentality. If people realized that what they are doing is unpleasant for themselves as well as for everybody else, if they saw that if everyone behaves exactly as they do, nothing would improve, in other words if their attitude changed, the outside situation would change. So we come to something a little more fundamental than merely removing rubbish. If you go still further, you will find that this attitude is essentially self-centered, and self-centeredness may express itself in many other ways besides throwing rubbish. If you deal with that self-centeredness, not only· this problem, but many other problems would also be solved.

So the fundamental cause, the source of the problems must be identified and resolved. Only this brings about a fundamental change, with a