

Firstly, what is Theosophy? In the famous message called The Mahā Chohan's Letter [1: 9] it is said in substance that religion and philosophy, if true, must offer an answer to all human problems. These problems have not found any satisfactory answer in the organized religions so far practiced. The current moral state of humanity is evidence that the significance of a true spiritual teaching has not been understood by most people.

Why is it that Theosophy, which is meant to be the source of solutions, has not provided at first sight the expected answers to benefit ailing humanity? The Theosophical doctrine does not contain any dogma, or any literature having the imprimatur seal. Also, it does not have any established authority. At first glance it looks like a disassembled body. This causes Theosophy to be accused of syncretism. Nevertheless, when the inner vision of a student has grown and widened through study and reflection, concepts can be better constructed into a harmonious theory which satisfies reason.

Yet, with all the knowledge acquired, nobody can define Theosophy. And that is perhaps for the better, because to define is to confine, whilst Theosophy, which deals with the Divine Wisdom, is limitless. How then can one experiment with a theory that cannot be defined?

Although it cannot be defined, the Theosophical doctrine is based on a few fundamental verities. To proclaim the One-Life is to affirm one of those verities. To deny separateness is to assert the same truth. To form a nucleus of Universal Brotherhood without distinction of race, caste, sex, color, or creed, constitutes the experience of this truth that is the One-Life. This truth remains theoretical as long as the experience of forming a nucleus of Brotherhood is not completed by the students.

How then to evaluate the degree of success or failure of the experience in order to testify to the genuineness of the doctrine? The testimony can be lived at least at two levels: the collective one, concerning the Theosophical Society as a group of individuals, and the individual level, concerning each of its members. Though it is difficult to judge the collective level, since this necessitates a global vision of its actual state on the subtle planes, one can say that on the visible plane the theosophical ideas have been well disseminated for more than a century. They have given birth to a multitude of movements, some of which claim their affiliation to the TS, whilst others