

3. *How did your first learn about Theosophy or come in contact with the Society?*

It was in Amsterdam during the famous sixties, then a long-haired hippie, when I first heard about Theosophy from a Jewish violinist with whom I had become acquainted. I was fascinated by his stories about the laws of cause and effect, our place in the universe, the one-life, and his sublime interpretation of what compassion is all about. It took me more than twenty-six years, a lot of soul searching and a few travels around the world actually to become a member.

4. *What does Theosophy mean to you?*

Theosophy is a coherent system of thought. The esoteric doctrine embraces the three pillars of our thinking: science, religion, and philosophy. For me personally Theosophy became the ultimate eye-opener, for which I am forever grateful.

5. *What is your favourite Theosophical book and why?*

This is a very difficult question. Let me just say that I am in particular touched by the writings of William Judge and Robert Crosbie because of their profound simplicity, here I refer to their complete oeuvre. Annie Besant's *In the Outer Court* and especially *Thought Power* are gems; also the works of Gottfried de Purucker such as *Fountain Source of Occultism* and *The Esoteric Tradition* are invaluable. The wonderful essays by Boris de Zirkoff are a joy to go through, and from the typical Adyar authors I enjoy reading I. K. Taimni's books as well as some of C. Jinerajadasa's earlier publications. *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett* and all that H.P.B. wrote, especially *The Voice of the Silence* and *The Key to Theosophy*, are all-time study books that I greatly appreciate.

6. *What in your opinion is the biggest challenge the TS is facing at the moment?*

In 2010, I was fortunate enough to get to know Sally and Jim Colbert from Julian in California, who had been working for International Theosophy Conferences (ITC) for many years. Through them I was introduced to this organization. This unique initiative offers a platform on which Theosophists from all the various traditions can meet. In the past, attempts were made to come to a "constitutional" unity, one large Theosophical organization. This