

# Some Reflections On Unity

by David Grossman – USA

When unity is looked at from a metaphysical perspective, I am reminded of the following statements from *The Secret Doctrine*: “The fundamental identity of all Souls with the Universal Over-Soul, the latter being itself an aspect of the Unknown Root; and the obligatory pilgrimage for every Soul — a spark of the former — through the Cycle of Incarnation (or “Necessity”) in accordance with Cyclic and Karmic law, during the whole term” (1:17). “The radical unity of the ultimate essence of each constituent part of compounds in Nature — from Star to mineral Atom, from the highest Dhyani-Chohan to the smallest infusoria, in the fullest acceptation of the term, and whether applied to the spiritual, intellectual, or physical worlds” (1:120).

The implication here is that unity is a cause rather than an effect or outcome of fitting together. So the question becomes: How do we work from a basis of unity? First, we realize that we are all on the same team, attempting to be conscious coworkers with nature. Robert Crosbie, founder of the United Lodge of Theosophists (ULT), in writing on this subject pointed out that the basis for union among Theosophists is “similarity of aim purpose, and teaching.” Through this triplicity we become “magnetically united” even if our methods of work differ, as they naturally will.

One way we can work in unity is by getting to know each other. Most individuals from a particular Theosophical tradition don't really know much about the other traditions. I have found that some students in the Theosophical Society, serious thinkers, have never read any writings by William Q. Judge, which is their loss. And likewise ULT students know little about the real work of Colonel H. S. Olcott (original cofounder and first president), or have read any of Annie Besant, Gottfried de Purucker, or even *The Mahatma Letters*. So a unifying factor might be a bit of unbiased exploration of the valuable resources in the various traditions, putting aside historical prejudices, which will only be dissipated by transforming the present. There is no need to rewrite history. It seems to me that, when we spend time debating history, we are losing