

# Adyar, Mon Amour

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Readers of Theosophy Forward were recently invited to share thoughts regarding the succession of leadership in the Theosophical Society Adyar. Reactions were marginal or insignificant, almost as if the writers feared even to consider this subject.

The third quarter issue of Theosophy Forward contained an article entitled “Theosophical Leadership.” In the introduction to that article, among other things, I wrote:

“Before long, at the latest in 2015, once more an International President will have to be chosen, and it is quite possible that this time more than one candidate will be on the ballot. But having learned from the 2008 debacle, and looking forward to the future, even if there should be only one candidate, it is a good exercise to ponder the subject of Theosophical leadership. What are the requirements and challenges for a modern leadership that will enable the largest Theosophical organization to find its rightful place in the world, serving humanity? Who could be suitable candidates? And how should members prepare themselves for that inevitable election looming on the horizon?”

When one looks at the phrase above: “Before long, and at the latest in 2015,” it was a kind of forecast. Unfortunately it so happened that on Thursday, October 31, 2013, the seventh International President of the Theosophical Society Adyar, Radha Burnier, died.

When we go back in time, it is clear that 2008 was not a very good year for the Theosophical Society Adyar and its members. It became painfully clear how divided and vulnerable the organization had become. During the