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CONTENTS

	Page No.
INVOCATION	86
Editorial	87
Life Sketches	89
Missionaries of the Past - Banga Chandra Roy By Ashit Sarkar	96
191st Maghotsava Programme of Sadharan Brahmo Samaj	97
Women and Science (Part - 2) - Sudakshina Kundu Mookerjee	98
NEWS	103
Acknowledgement	106

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in agreement with it.

INVOCATION

The more tranquil a man becomes, the greater is his success, his influence, his power for good. Calmness of mind is one of the beautiful jewels of wisdom.

- James Allen

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Violence can only breed more violence and suffering. Our struggle must remain non-violent and free of hatred.

- Dalai Lama

* * * * *

Nothing bears true existence except God. The existence of whatever things that appear to us, relies on the existence of God.

- Raja Rammohun Roy

Editorial

A year is about to bow out and we are expectantly waiting for another, hoping it may bring about good tidings. Although the year 2020 has been wrought with a devastating pandemic and its shattering aftermath, let us try to look back at other events that have been eclipsed by it. The COVID crisis has infected over 77 million people across the globe and 1.7 million have lost their lives. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has estimated that over 400 full-time jobs have been lost across the world with the income of the workforce falling by more than 10%. This has severely affected the global economy.

However among this gloom, there are rays of hope as Israel and some of the Arab states have decided to shake off the burden of their decades-long enmity and move towards a more cordial and peaceful neighbourly relationship. The Anti-Racist sentiments in the US have received a boost after the unfortunate killing of George Floyd of Minneapolis.

If we look at our own country, the year has started with a mass movement against the Citizens' Amendment Bill in Shaheen Bag in Delhi which was followed up in other parts of the country. The year is ending with the Farmers' Agitation against the new Farm Bill, which though started in Punjab has now find support amongst not only the farmers but other Indians as well. I bring up these two specific incidents as both mark shifts from the usual mode of any agitation in the past which have mostly turned to violence and loss of public properties. But these protests are peaceful. The protesters of Shaheen Bag are mostly women who have come to the forefront while citizens of all gender and age groups are participating in the Farmers' agitation who are showing the greatest restraint, dignity, determination and fortitude.

In this connection a very beautiful post in a social medium comes to my mind and I wish to share it verbatim.

‘Four candles slowly burned. The ambiance was so soft, one could almost hear them talking.

The first candle said ‘I am Peace. The world is full of anger and fighting. Nobody can keep me lit’ Then the flame of peace went out completely.

The second candle said: “I am Faith. I am no longer indispensable. It doesn’t make a sense that I stay lit another moment.” Just then a breeze softly blew Faith’s flame.

Sadly the third candle began to speak: “I am Love! People don’t understand the importance so they simply put me aside. They even forget to love those who are nearest to them.” And waiting no longer Love’s flame went out.

Suddenly a child entered the room and saw the three unlit candles. “Why aren’t you burning? You’re supposed to stay lit till the end.” Saying this, the child began to cry. Then the fourth candle answered: “Don’t be afraid. I am Hope! While I am still burning we can re-lit the other candles.”

With shining eyes the child took the candle of hope and lit the other candles. The Greatest of these is Love... but the flame of Hope should never go out of your life! With hope each of us can live in Peace, Faith and Love.”

In December the world celebrates the message of love Jesus brought unto this world. We too remember this great message.

We expectantly wait for a new year to begin with a new resolve of love, peace and faith in the Almighty. Let us renew our bond with the fellow human beings and invite all to the Maghotsava to share that love, happiness and sense of brotherhood. Let our prayer be ‘Dear God, You are my light and hope. Please fill my heart with Peace and Faith in You. Please make me an instrument of Your love and let Your light to shine on all my efforts.’.

Life Sketches

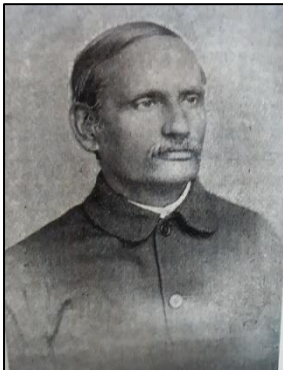
We remember with respect and admiration the men and women who have dedicated their lives to the cause and ideals of the Brahma Samaj and its counterparts across India. We are presenting short life sketches of those who were born or had died between the month of December.

Sasipada Banerjee

Born 2 February, 1840,

Died 15 December 1925

(Taken from a Bengali article by Shreyashi Sen)



Sasipada Banerjee was born on 2 February, 1840, at Baranagar and died on 15 December 1925. Sasipada was a Lawyer by Profession and a Social Reformer by passion. He was greatly influenced by Brahmananda Keshab Chandra Sen and was drawn to the Brahma Samaj. He dedicated his life for the emancipation and empowerment of women. During his

lifetime he gave shelter to many destitute women and helped them to become independent and earn their livelihood with dignity. She educated his wife Rajkumari and after her untimely death he opened a school named Rajkumari Vidyalaya in her name. The school proudly exists even today.

He was one of the pioneers of Labour Welfare activities. He was deeply distressed by the destitute condition of the jute mill workers in the areas around Baranagar, like Ariadaha, Kamarhati etc. There was disparity in wages and no scope for improving their working conditions. Further the workers were under many evil habits like drinking and often became entrapped in debt. Sasipada started a movement to improve the lifestyle of the Jute Mill workers. In fact he was one of the first Indians who worked for labour welfare, started a magazine

for the mill workers, tried to educate them and teach them the importance of saving. He started a night school in a jute mill for the mill workers in November 1866 which was the first Working Men's Night School in India. Initially this free school was run by Sasipada and his brother Kedarnath but after four years it started receiving government funding as well. Sasipada tried to eradicate the ill habit of drinking which was one of the main reasons of trouble for the workers. He tried to wean them from this bad habit. He therefore started a Working Men's Club in 1870 and a Temperance Association under it to curb the evil habit. This club was perhaps the first trade union of its kind. In order to build up the healthy practice of saving he started an "Anna Bank" where the workers were needed to save an 'anna' each per day to build up a corpus for their rainy days. This was the first micro-finance inspired small savings bank in our country.

He started publishing a monthly magazine called 'Bharat Shramajeebi' in order to make the well-to-do classes aware of the plight of the mill workers and influence

them to support their cause with fund and other help. The magazine helped to improve the morals and working ethics of the workers and soon its subscriber strength touched 15000. This magazine gained immense popularity.

Although his Night School was open to all irrespective of caste, creed and religion yet he also started a Madrassa for the Muslim workers on the request of the latter. Sasipada was the first Indian to work for the upliftment of the toiling masses, much before the Communist ideals reached this country.

Abinash Chandra Majumdar

Born October 1855;

Died December 1925

By Sanjoy Chanda

In the early days of Brahmo movement it had attracted many dedicated followers. Their piety, their devotion, their dedication in serving the less fortunate – these exemplary qualities made them beloved of the societies they served and helped spread the message of the Brahmo Samaj. They practiced what they

preached and their truthfulness and their simple lifestyle following the doctrines of Brahmo faith and their courage of conviction enabled them to surpass the many obstacles that confronted them.

Shree Abinash Chandra Majumdar was one such dedicated Brahmo.

He was born in Kanpur on the 14th of October, 1855. His family originally belonged to Chandannagar I Bengal. But his ancestors had migrated to North India generations ago. Some of them had gone to Afghanistan during the first Afghan war. His father's name was Biswanath Majumdar. He spent his childhood in Kanpur with his parents. When he was 9 years old, he was sent to Benaras to live with his grand uncle Nemaicharan Majumdar. His student life was spent there and he earned his BA degree from the Queen's College.

In 1869, at the age of 13, Abinash Chandra was married to the 7 year old daughter of Chandranath Mitra. He had educated and brought her up himself and she had been a true companion for him in all his social and spiritual work.

At the age of 22 he came to Lahore and got a job in the Examiner's Office of the NW Railways. He retired from the same office in 1909. At work, he was reputed to be an honest and careful officer. His superior officers held him in great respect and those below him looked up to him as a friend and a guide. He was a father figure to his attendants. Shortly after his death an old blind chaprasi came weeping to his house. When he had lost his sight and could not work any longer, his kind master provided for him.

Though Abinash Chandra was known for his earnest and diligent work in his office, that did not come in the way of his service to God and the community. His liberal college education and reading the works of Theodore Parker which he had received from his father-in-law, had freed his mind from orthodoxy. During the early part of his career, he used to visit the Brahmo Samaj there. He had got transferred to Rawalpindi for a few years (1881 – 1886) and while there he accepted the principles of Brahmoism as the guiding tenets of his life. Sadhu Aghor Nath Gupta once visited Rawalpindi and his

discussions with him helped him. He met and became friendly with some young men with similar belief such as Devi Chand (later known as Bhai Prakash Dev), Madhusudan Sarkar and Lala Har Bhagwan Anand. They started a Brahma Samaj there. The divine service was mostly conducted by Abinash Chandra. The Theosophical Society, which had been started some years ago with the idea of establishing the brotherhood of religions, appealed to him and he became its member. He was always in touch with worthy movements. It was in Rawalpindi that Abinash Chandra started his active service in the cause of God and humanity.

When he came back to Lahore, he immediately plunged into various activities. In November 1886 he was elected Jt. Secretary of the Punjab Brahma Samaj and a Minister. Since then till his death he served the Samaj in various capacities. In 1889 he was elected Secretary of the Samaj. During this period The Punjab Samaj went through a crisis. In 1886 a prominent member of the Samaj, Pandit Shiv Narayan Agnihotri left the Samaj and started his own movement called Dev Samaj. His

charisma and powerful eloquence attracted a large number of active members of the Samaj who left it to join his movement. Even Bhai Prakash Dev had left. Through the crisis Abinash Chandra maintained good relationship with his friends and remembered them in his prayers. Though Dev Samaj began as a movement similar to Brahma Samaj, it gradually deteriorated into something very different. Subsequently Prakash Devji came back to the Samaj to join hands with his friend. He had remained the Secretary and President of the Samaj for a number of years. He used to carry out ministerial service on a regular basis. He helped to erect Brahma Mandirs at Rawalpindi and Sialkot. The Brahma Sadhana Ashram in Lahore was founded by Abinash Chandra and Bhai Prakash Dev.

Abinash Chandra had completely surrendered himself to the service of God and the community. He would not undertake any task for which he had not received the approval of the voice within and whatever he undertook he did with heart and soul. He was systematic and methodical in

his office work as well as in all his social and philanthropic activities.

He started in 1891 the Purity Association, a movement with threefold objective:

- (1) Purity – to disseminate the ideas of purity and morality among the people.
- (2) Temperance – to persuade and prevent people from drinking liquor and from the use of other intoxicants.
- (3) Charity – to create sympathy for the poor and work for the general welfare of the society.

Members of the association had to sign a pledge vowing to follow the principles of purity and morality. Abinash Chandra used to carry out his campaign against social evils vigorously. Sometimes he along with other members of the association would visit the streets to dissuade young men from falling into evil habits. Their efforts bore fruit and to a great extent evil practices reduced in the city of Lahore. To carry on the propaganda in other parts of the country, he started a fortnightly paper called the “Purity Servant” in 1892. He published it successfully for 15 years. The association carried out

works of charity of various kinds among the sick and the poor. They collected donations for a leper asylum, during influenza and cholera epidemics attended to the poor sick people, provided free food and medicine, blankets and warm clothing were distributed among the destitute, poor students were helped with their fees. A charitable dispensary was started.

Whenever any occasion arose for the service to the needy, Abinash Chandra would be volunteer for it. During the famines in Rajputana he organized relief. He visited Bikaner and Jaipur, brought the affected people to Lahore and started a relief camp. For years he ran an orphanage. When Kangra valley suffered from a terrible earthquake in 1905, Abinash Chandra led a band of volunteers on behalf of the Punjab Brahmo Samaj. In 1907-8 and in 1913-14 there were famines in the United Provinces. He visited the affected places and carried out relief work on behalf of the Brahmo Samaj.

Sirdar Dayal Singh found him a valued friend and advisor. He was made a trustee of the Dayal Singh

College. Abinash Chandra on his part rendered very useful service and remained a trustee almost to the end of his life.

Abinash Chandra used to take leave from his office and travel to different places in India to spread the message of the Brahma Samaj. For a number of years he was the General Secretary of the All-India Theistic Conference. In 1908 he was elected President of the All India Theistic Conference in Madras. The address he delivered there is a model of genuine social worker imbued with deep spirituality. He organized the Theistic Conference in Lahore, Allahabad and other places. During the conference in Allahabad, Sharada Manjari Datta, a highly respected Brahma devotee from Shillong, met Abinash Chandra. I quote a few lines from her autobiography "*MahajatrarPathe*" (translated from original Bengali): "We reached the designated guest accommodation late in the night. There we found that highly revered saintly Abinash Chandra Majumdar along with his wife had taken charge of the guest accommodation. I had heard about Shri Majumdar, but had not met him before. The couple's

calm, dignified appearance and their attitude of selfless service evoked in my heart great respect for them..... There was a group of Bengali guests who did not observe any discipline.....they did not come during the normal mealtimes. At night also they would return very late. Srimati Majumdar, along with a servant, on these cold winter nights of December, wait for them and keep their food and water warm. I would sometimes tell her to go and rest, the servants could feed the guests. But she would reply: 'I cannot do that'.....Abinash Chandra Majumdar was engaged in a senior position in the railways. After retirement he has settled down permanently in Lahore. As a summer house, he had built a nice house in Solan, close to Simla. We were fortunate to have stayed there for a few days. The house had a separate room meant for daily upasana."

Managing the guest accommodation was only a part of the responsibilities held by Abinash Chandra. He managed the devotional exercises and public functions with great care and ability.

Immediately after his retirement in 1909, he got involved in setting up a home for TB patients in Dharampur on the way to Simla. The promoters of this project could not have found a more honest, hardworking and competent person for the job. He spent three years on the project nursing it from conception to completion and at the end he presented the complete account for the project to the State of Patiala. He did not take a single paisa for his own efforts. When the Government proposed to award him a title at the time of the visit of Lord Hardinge to Dharampur, he stoutly refused it. His motivation was service to his countrymen. He used to look after the poor patients with great care, providing them with food, medicine and clothing. After their recovery, he helped them to get a livelihood. He helped the patients not only to regain physical health, there were cases someone had lost all hope of life and he helped revive their hope by tender care and loving guidance. As long as

he was at Dharampur, no fees were charged from the patients.

Abinash Chandra worked in different fields, in the cause of education, social reform and social service. He was an effective preacher and genuine missionary. But within this man of action was hidden a person with childlike simplicity, sincere and genuine. His devotional services were so edifying that many came to listen to his discourses. His chaste Hindi and sweet Bengali had a simple eloquence. He translated Sikh scriptures into Bengali which were printed in *Tatwa Kaumudi*, the Bengali organ of Sadharan Brahma Samaj.

Abinash Chandra Majumdar passed away at the age of 71 in December, 1925.

Reference:

The above article is sourced from a booklet titled "IN MEMORIAM: Abinash Chandra Majumdar."

Missionaries of the Past

Banga Chandra Roy

By Ashit Sarkar

Banga Chandra Roy was one of the foremost leaders of the Brahmo movement in East Bengal in the late nineteenth & early twentieth centuries. He was born in a village near Dacca but unfortunately lost his father in his infancy. During his school days, he became a member of the ‘Manoranjini Sabha’ – an association of local boys for attaining moral improvement. Whilst there, Brahmananda Keshub Chandra Sen’s inspiring pamphlet ‘Young Bengal: This is for you’ inspired him greatly and provided him moral and spiritual guidance. He thereafter felt irresistibly drawn towards Brahmoism. During his college life at Dacca he came into close association with the prominent members of the Brahmo community and their encouragement won his whole hearted respect and admiration for the Brahmo samaj and led to his conversion to the faith. His close interaction later with Brahmananda Keshub Chandra Sen inspired his spiritual life and he was entrusted by

him to become a missionary in East Bengal. He thereafter spearheaded the Brahmo movement extending over half a century in East Bengal from Dacca facing many adversities.

Banga Chandra was a teacher by profession and also distinguished himself as a journalist. He taught English as one of his subjects and published a weekly English newspaper called “The East” which had a fairly extensive circulation, even amongst the British outside Dacca. His semantic skill and confident style of writing brought him into contact with many Indians and non-Indians in different walks of life and society. Like all true missionaries, Banga Babu never hankered after wealth or worldly possessions or pleasures. But his strained resources never stood in the way of his dedication towards the cause of the Brahmo Samaj.

His 1922 autobiography was republished in 1999 in English and was translated by Prof Dilip Kumar

Biswas, a former President of Sadharan Brahma Samaj and the Asiatic Society of India, at the instances of his great grandsons

Sitangshu Roy (Witten, Germany), Ashish Ghosh (Wrentham, MA, USA), Pradip Das (Kolkata) and supported by Ashit Sarkar (Bangalore).

191st Maghotsava Programme of Sadharan Brahma Samaj

20th January, 2021 (6th Magh, 1427)

6:30 PM *Worship through Songs*

Prayer : Sourav De & Hymns : Conducted by Supratim Chakrabarty

23rd January, 2021 (9th Magh, 1427)

Mahila Utsav (Women's gathering)

10:00 AM Baitalik

10:30 AM Divine Service by Sunanda (Rakhi) Roy Choudhuri

Hymns : Ladies of Brahma Samaj

24th January, 2021 (10th Magh, 1427)

Nagar Sankirtan – Conducted by Supratim Chakrabarty

6:30 PM Utsav of Calcutta Congregation

Service : Sourav De & Hymns: Conducted by Supratim Chakrabarty

25th January, 2021 (11th Magh,1427)

Brahma Mandir Foundation Day

9:00 AM Kirtan – Conducted by Supratim Chakraborty

9:30 AM Baitalik

10:30 AM Divine Service by Sanjib Mukherjee

Hymns : Conducted by Koushik De

3:30 PM *Combined Divine Service at Maharshi Bhavan*

Udbodhan: Salil Hajra - Sadharan Brahma Samaj

Aaradhana: Sunanda (Rakhi) Roychowdhury - Brahma Sammilan Samaj

Nibedan: Sourav De - Bharatbarshiya Brohmo Mandir

Hymns: Baitanik

28th January, 2021 (14th Magh, 1427)

6:30PM *Santivachan (Conclusion)*

Service : Tapabrata Brahmachari

Hymns : Conducted by Tania Ghosh

Women and Science

Part - 2

By Sudakshina Kundu Mookerjee

There have been several trail blazers in the history who have made outstanding contributions of women to Scientific studies. In the eighteenth century women had little opportunities for university education and yet some of the brilliant minds outshined their male counterparts.

We may begin with **Gabriel Emilie Le Tonnelier de Breteuil, Marquise du Châtelet** or simply **Emilie du Châtelet** (1706 – 1749) who was a French scholar of Mathematics and Physics. She translated Newton's Principia in French. She met with an untimely death while giving birth to her child.

Caroline Herschel (1750-1848) was a renowned German Astronomer who discovered eight comets in her lifetime.

Mary Anning (1799-1847) was an English Palaeontologist. She was also a scholar of anatomy, geology and palaeontology. She excelled in scientific illustrations and was an authority on fossils.

Mary Farefax Sommerville (1780-1872) was born in Scotland. She experimented with magnetism and left invaluable writings on Astronomy, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics.

Maria Mitchell (1818-1889), an American, was an authority on Astronomy. She was a naturalist and an educator. She discovered a comet that came to be known as 'Miss Mitchell's Comet'.

Although few of these women born in the eighteenth century Europe had left their indelible mark in the scientific world, yet women in general remained alien to this male dominated community till the Madam Curie became the first woman to receive recognition as a Nobel Laureate.

Marie Slodowska Curie: The first woman ever to win the Nobel Prize in science, not one but twice in her life time – first time in Physics in 1903 and in Chemistry in 1929. She discovered the radioactive elements Polonium and Radium.

Madam Curie was born on November 7, 1867, in Warsaw, Poland. Her father was a teacher of Physics and Mathematics. She started her education in local schools but her father inspired her to scientific enquiry. Poland was then part of the Russian Empire and Marie, like many other young students of her time got involved in revolutionary movement and relocated to Cracow, which was then under the Austrian rule. Her father's fortunes having suffered badly owing to a bad investment, Marie and her elder sister Bronislawa took turns in their higher studies, one worked while the other studied. Marie's turn came in 1891 when she went to Paris to study at the Sorbonne. There she earned Licentiatehips in Physics and Mathematics. Marie was awarded with the doctoral degree in 1903.

She met Professor Pierre Curie, the Head of the Physics Laboratory at the Sorbonne in 1894 and the couple were married on July 25, 1895. They had two daughters, Irene in 1897 and Eve in 1904. The responsibilities of motherhood did not deter Marie from her scientific pursuits. She was unwavering in her care for her

daughters and according to Eve Curie, she even made dresses from them. But her domestic bliss was short lived as she lost her husband Pierre tragically in a road accident in 1906. She started her career as a Lecturer in Physics in École Normale Supérieure for girls in Sèvres in 1900 where she introduced the mode of teaching through experimentations. After Pierre's death she succeeded in his place as the Head of the Professor of General Physics in the Sorbonne and became the first woman to hold such honour.

Madam Curie and Professor Pierre Curie were inspired by Henry Becquerel's discovery of radioactivity (1896) and pursued their research in the same field under



trying circumstances and severe lack of infrastructural support. However

they were undaunted in their tireless work with radioactive minerals and substances and discovered the radioactive elements polonium (1898) and radium for which Marie and Pierre were jointly awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903. After the death of her husband Marie carried on their research work and successfully produced Radium as a pure metal in 1910. She published her fundamental treatise on radioactivity in 1910. She was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in the year 1911 and her citation read "in recognition of her services to the advancement of chemistry by the discovery of the elements radium and polonium, by the isolation of radium and the study of the nature and compounds of this remarkable element."

Her discovery revolutionised the treatment of malignancy and became a watershed in the history of medicine. Marie Curie organised a mobile X-ray team during the First World War. She died on July 4, 1934, in Sallanches, France.

Madam Marie Curie shattered the glass ceiling and several outstanding women scientists left their mark in history. True most of these

outstanding personalities belonged to the western world but India was also preparing the ground for female education and women were knocking at the closed doors of the newly founded Universities to stake their claim, thanks to the awakened spirit of the new generation of Indians.

Let us acknowledge the contributions to the scientific community by some of the women scientists of the western world before we pay our tribute to the pioneers of our own nation. Fortunately, the west started acknowledging their contributions but the struggle for getting a foothold in the male dominated world continued.

Lise Meitner (1878-1968) was an outstanding researcher in atomic Physics and is credited with the first theoretical explanation of the process of atomic fission. Unfortunately she was overlooked when Otto Han was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1945 although Lisa collaborated with him in the research for which he received the prestigious recognition. Although she was unjustly called the 'mother of the atom bomb' she had no role in designing the devastating weapon for mass destruction. She can

rightly be credited with providing the explanation of an enigmatic scientific phenomenon that was unknown at her times. Lise was not only a woman she was born to Jewish parents and had to flee her country of birth Austria during the World War II, although she converted to Protestant Christianity. In her childhood, higher education to women were denied in Austria and Lise went to Berlin for her University education. Here she was indoctrinated into the wonderful world of atomic Physics by none other than Boltzman.

Irène Curie- Joliot (1897-1956) was the daughter of the famous scientist couple Marie and Pierre Curie. She was awarded the Nobel prize for Chemistry for her untiring work in radioactivity in 1935.

Barbara McClintock (1902-1992) was a Botanist who is remembered for her outstanding work in Genetic Engineering and was honoured with the Nobel Prize in 1983.

Dorothy Mary Crowfoot Hodgkin OM, FRS, Hon FRCS (1910 -1994) was a British Chemist and a Nobel Laureate. She pioneered the use of x-ray crystallography for studying Biological molecules and made it an

essential tool for the study of structural biology.

Rosalind Franklin (1920-1958), the English Chemist, has left her mark in determining the structure of the DNA. Unfortunately she has not received her due recognition.

While the twentieth century found more participation of women in scientific studies and their contributions to science started getting the due acknowledgement, India also started opening the gates to the women from late nineteenth century. This became apparent as many brilliant minds found the opportunity to prove their worth and inspire the younger generations of Indian women to come forward and pave the way to a world with more scientific temperament.

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NEWS

Online Conference

A Conference of the Brahmos on virtual platform was organized by Pune Prarthana Samaj, held in Pune on December 4-5, 2020. The programme started with flag hoisting. The prayer was offered by Dr. Ashoka Gurudas of Bangaluru and hymns were sung by members of Pune Prarthana Samaj with Dr. Sushama Joag, the Secretary of Pune Prarthana Samaj, leading the choir. Mr. Sanjoy Chanda of Delhi, President of the Conference, inaugurated the programme. He was followed by illuminating lectures of Dr. Raja Dixit, the Chief Guest, and Dr. Basudha Apte, the Guest of Honour. The theme of the conference was orienting Brahmo and Prarthana Samajes to connect with the youth so they could become the new torch bearers. Special discussion sessions were held on both the days where the young generations shared their views and ideas with the seniors. The second day started with a wonderful sermon delivered by Abhi Janamanchi of Maryland, USA. Prof. Dr. Dilip Joag, President Pune Prarthana Samaj, and Dr. Sushama Joag, Secretary, published a Souvenir as a special issue of the proceedings of the Conference. The evenings were made sublime through devotional songs (Aadhyaatmik Sangeet) and prayer through dance (Nrityopasana). Several eminent social workers persons were honoured for their notable philanthropic work.

Matrimonial

Alliance invited for a Kolkata based Brahmo Girl, 25 years, B. Tech, 5 ft, software professional.

Contact: 9433070710

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Brahmo Bengali Girl (27 years) residing in Delhi, Post graduated with MSW. Educated and established groom desirable.

Contact: 9818329210

Online Programmes

Following are the online programmes that have been organized and published in “Brahmo Samaj” facebook group during May to November 2020:

16-May-2020 - Songs of Debendranath, Jyotirindranath & Rabindranath. We remembered these pillars of Brahmasangeet through their writings and sings. Dr. Sunrit Mullick spoke on Debendranath, while Baidurya Sengupta remembered Jyotirindranath Tagore. Manoshi Barua read out from Rabindranath's Religion of Man. The songs were sung by various artistes across the Globe. Shobhon Ahmed, Jayanta Ray and Sujoya Ray participated from UK, Shakuntala Sen participated from US. The artistes from India included Debashis Raychaudhuri, Susmita Raychaudhuri, Rohini Raychaudhuri, Rinadolon Bandyopadhyay, Pradip Dutta, & Suman Majumdar

22-May-2020 - 248th birth anniversary of Raja Rammohun Roy in association with Raja Rammohun Roy Memorial Musuem and Rammohan College. Speaker was Prof Barun Chattopadhyay

27-Jun-2020 - Barsha O Paribesh, a programme on Tagore's message on environment. Prof Manabendra Mukhopadhyay explained Tagore's vision on the environment, while Sounak Chattopadhyay shared his message. Sumanto Chatterjee, Jayanta Ray and Arindrajit Saha read out from Tagore's works, while the artistes included Sujoya Ray (UK), Debashis Raychaudhuri, Susmita Raychaudhuri, Rohini Raychaudhuri, Ritoja Chowdhury, Rajnath Das, Romil Majumdar, Kamalika Mukhopadhyay, Arun Gangopadhyay, Saikat Sekhaheswar Ray

18-Jul-2020 - Celebrating the birth bi centenary of Akshyay Kumar Dutta - the speakers were Prof Barun Chattopadhyay & Arnab Nag. The discussion was moderated by Prof Sakti Sadhan Mukhopadhyay

08-Aug-2020 - Remembering the life and works of Lady Abala Basu. The speakers were Prof. Barun Chattopadhyay and Damayanti Dasgupta and the discussion was moderated by Prof Aparna Bandyopadhyay

27-Sep-2020 - Commemorating the 187th Death Anniversary of Raja Rammohun Roy - jointly with the Arnos Vale Cemetery Trust. Janine Marriott of the Arnos Vale Trust took us on a virtual walk to the chattri at Arnos Vale. The speakers were Rosinka Chaudhuri - Director - Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Prof. Suman Gupta - Subject Leader, Film and Media Bath Spa University and Alan Ruston - Lecturer, Speaker and Writer - Unitarian Association

02-Oct-2020 - A programme on Brahmasangeet - Musical expressions of a common quest through the ages. Concept, Script and Direction by Sharmila Roy Pommot. Artistes were primarily with a Shantiniketan connection. They were Pramita Mallick, Sarani Bose, Krishna Dutta, Anandvardhan, Ranjini Ramachandran, Romil Majumdar, Prakriti Mukhopadhyay, Ptayush Mukhopadhyay, Ritoja Chowdhury, Rajnath Das, Shreetoma Ray, Saibal Guha, Madhuja Chattoraj, Jayita Sengupta, Mahua Manjari Mahua Manjari Sunanda, narration by Sukalyan Chanda

30-Oct-2020 - Celebrating 133rd birth anniversary of Sukumar Ray. Noted artist and illustrator Debashis Deb spoke about Sukumar Ray - the artist, Sri Prasad Ranjan Ray - spoke about Sukumar's contribution to the Sandesh magazine, while Arnab Nag spoke Sukumar's organizational capabilities.

28-Nov-2020 - Celebrating 175th birth anniversary of Nagendranath Chattopadhyay. The speakers were Arnab Nag and Prof Tapati Sengupta. Arnab spoke about Nagendranath's contribution to Brahma Samaj, while Prof Tapati Sengupta discussed Nagendranath's literary prowess

Acknowledgement
For the month of November, 2020
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GL - 1418	Mumbai Prarthana Samaj		Relief Fund	25,000/-
GL - 1428	Norbert Vadas		Publication Fund	2,553/-
GL - 1429	Sabita Moitra		I.B.F. Fund	12,000/-

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