

Annie Besant's Birthday

On 1 October 2010, as it happens every year, the commemoration of Dr Besant's birthday was held at a special meeting in the Headquarters Hall at Adyar, the same Hall in which she had assumed office as President of the Society in 1907. The meeting, which attracted a number of residents and other members of the TS, was presided over by Mrs Linda Oliveira, International Vice-President, who highlighted the enduring contribution of Dr Besant to many fields of human endeavour. Three short talks followed, by Mrs Kusum Satapathy, International Secretary, Dr R. Revathy, a long-time resident at Adyar, and Prof. C. A. Shinde, Librarian of the Adyar Library and Research Centre, respectively.

The Theosophical Society owes to Dr Annie Besant a great debt of gratitude that can never be paid. During her Presidency the TS experienced unprecedented growth around the world. Her inspired oratory electrified audiences in India and in many other countries, helping to bring to them the life-altering and living understanding of Theosophy as the age-less and ever new Wisdom Teaching. Her untiring work for the political, social, religious and educational life of India stands grafted in the nation's soul. She was indeed, in a very real sense, a Diamond Soul.