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BROTHERHOOD A FACT

(*Mysteries of the Heart Doctrine* p. 209-11)

The first object of The Theosophical Society is to form the nucleus of a Universal Brotherhood of humanity without distinctions, and this object is set forth and explained by H.P. Blavatsky in *The Key to Theosophy*.

The notion of Universal Brotherhood is very common, but generally speaking, is not studied sufficiently to be understood. So many people view it wrong side up, so to say. This gives the idea a fallacious and unattractive appearance that brings discredit upon the name of Brotherhood, and it suggests to us at once all kinds of impracticable schemes and injudicious enterprises that are either useless or hurtful. And what is this wrong way of viewing the conception of Brotherhood?

It is that we assume the prevalent self-seeking and divided condition of humanity to be normal, and Brotherhood to be something superadded. Hence one hears of establishing Brotherhood as if it were something unnatural to be forced upon humanity.

But Brotherhood is the original and final, the natural and normal condition of human life. Humanity has been *forced out* of this condition by powerful intrusive forces arising in the lower passional and selfish nature of man. *And we have been bound to this fallen state by the false religious and scientific systems that have grown from the distempered brain that goes with an unregulated life.*

Therefore we have not to introduce a new element into life, but to remove obstacles and impediments that choke its natural and healthful flow. To establish Brotherhood we must remove the causes of unbrotherliness. In considering the means of bringing this about, we may briefly enumerate them as two, and illustrate them from the history of The Theosophical Society and Universal Brotherhood.

H.P. Blavatsky stormed the citadel of modern dogmatism and scientific bigotry, fearlessly showing up their tyranny and unworthiness, and sowed the seeds of a true, broad, and ennobling conception of life. In *The Key to Theosophy* she says:

All the unselfishness of the altruistic teachings of Jesus has become merely a theoretical subject for pulpit oratory; while the precepts of practical selfishness taught in the Mosaic Bible, against which Christ so vainly preached, have become ingrained into the innermost life of the Western nations.

These can be eradicated by

demonstrating on logical, philosophical, metaphysical, and even scientific grounds that:

(a) All men have spiritually and physically the same origin.

(b) As mankind is essentially of one and the same essence . .

nothing can therefore affect one nation or man without affecting all other nations and all other men.
