

# Theosophy

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International President: Radha Burnier  
International Vice-President: M.P. Singhal  
International Secretary: Kusum Satapathy  
International Treasurer: T.S. Jambunathan

## **NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS:**

4th Floor, 484 Kent Street, Sydney, NSW 2000  
Phone: +61 02 9264 7056  
Fax: +61 02 9264 5857  
www.austheos.org.au  
email: tshq@austheos.org.au

National President: Linda Oliveira  
email: pres@austheos.org.au

National Vice-President: Geoffrey Harrod  
email: geoffrey.harrod@gmail.com

National Secretary: Dara Tatray  
email: natsec@austheos.org.au

National Treasurer: vacant  
email: treasurer@austheos.org.au

Acting Education Coordinator: Pedro Oliveira  
email: edcoord@austheos.org.au

State Representatives:  
Travis James - SA/NT  
email: tajames@ozemail.com.au  
Dianne Kynaston - NSW/ACT  
George Wester - WA  
email: westerconsult@gmail.com  
Denise Frost - TAS  
email: tstasrep@gmail.com  
Geoffrey Harrod - QLD  
email: geoffrey.harrod@gmail.com  
Kari Torgersen - VIC  
email: meltheos@netspace.net.au

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Editor: Linda Oliveira  
email: pres@austheos.org.au  
Editorial Committee: Janice Scarabottolo,  
Olga Gostin, Dianne Kynaston, Patricia Ossenberg

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## *Freedom of Thought*

As the Theosophical Society has spread far and wide over the world, and as members of all religions have become members of it without surrendering the special dogmas, teachings and beliefs of their respective faiths, it is thought desirable to emphasise the fact that there is no doctrine, no opinion, by whomsoever taught or held, that is in any way binding on any member of the Society, none of which any member is not free to accept or reject. Approval of its three Objects is the sole condition of membership. No teacher, or writer, from H.P. Blavatsky onwards, has any authority to impose his or her teachings or opinions on members. Every member has an equal right to follow any school of thought, but has no right to force the choice on any other. Neither a candidate for any office nor any voter can be rendered ineligible to stand or to vote, because of any opinion held, or because of membership in any school of thought. Opinions or beliefs neither bestow privileges nor inflict penalties.

The Members of the General Council earnestly request every member of the Theosophical Society to maintain, defend and act upon these fundamental principles of the Society, and also fearlessly to exercise the right of liberty of thought and of expression thereof, within the limits of courtesy and consideration for others.

*Resolution passed by the General Council of the Theosophical Society (1924)*

## *Freedom of the Society*

The Theosophical Society, while cooperating with all other bodies whose aims and activities make such cooperation possible, is and must remain an organisation entirely independent of them, not committed to any objects save its own, and intent on developing its own work on the broadest and most inclusive lines, so as to move towards its own goal as indicated in and by the pursuit of those objects and that Divine Wisdom which in the abstract is implicit in the title, 'The Theosophical Society'.

Since Universal Brotherhood and the Wisdom are undefined and unlimited, and since there is complete freedom for each and every member of the Society in thought and action, the Society seeks ever to maintain its own distinctive and unique character by remaining free of affiliation or identification with any other organisation.

*Resolution passed by the General Council of the Theosophical Society (1949)*