

# The greetings to the 96th Southern African Convention in Pretoria

Pavel Malakhov

Presidential Representative in Russia Theosophical Society (Adyar, India)

On behalf of the theosophists of Russia I am glad to welcome the 96th Southern African Convention in Pretoria.

The evolution of Consciousness – the subject the Convention intends to consider is very important and actual at any time. As we know from the theosophical sources every living being possesses consciousness and everything is alive!

Evolution of consciousness begins long before the moment when a person notices this consciousness in himself, i.e. finds self-consciousness. The consciousness, proceeding from an unknown uniform state, passes stages of a mineral, a plant, an animal, and then it receives rationality in a human being. During the evolution human mind becomes more and more differentiated, splitting up One Whole Knowledge into many opinions on it or beliefs. And now, having passed a median point in the 4th sub-race of the 4th Race, our consciousness is on its way back into wholeness, but now it is already going to be a well-considered unity. Coming nearer to the 6th Race, we spiritualize our mind, we develop the ability to understand subtle matters, to perceive subtle vibrations, thus to understand deeply the world we live in.

It is very good that this Convention comprises both esoteric and scientific approaches to knowledge. The human intelligence needs to be convinced in practical correctness of the esoteric doctrine, to see the proof of this correctness with its own eyes, to exteriorise ancient parables into rigorous formulas and to confirm with logic that what has been prior achieved by revelation. Scientific confirmations of an archaic wisdom are necessary for a modern thinker in order to build a bridge between the recent and prehistoric researches, to understand and accept the thought that from the very moment when a spark of intelligence appears in a human brain, passing through a modern analytical way of thinking and disappearing in future synthetic broad-based worldview, the human thought doesn't cease to develop. Beginning from prehuman unconscious existence, passing through a stage of human consciousness and continuing the way into the superhuman being, the consciousness is in everlasting movement.

Demonstrating our own individual consciousness, we at the same time consist of a set of smaller units of consciousness that constitute our bodies, as well as we are only a particle of some other more developed Consciousness. The understanding of this multiplicity gives the fine grounds for assimilation the idea of brotherhood. Being divided by huge spaces both densely populated, and deserted, we are all nevertheless connected by the magnetic thoughts stretching to each other on spiritual affinity. Our brotherhood is not a brotherhood by blood, but by thought. Sharing the same ideas, accepting them in all variety of forms, we represent the universal brotherhood based on thought.

Let the spirit of this brotherhood fill the Convention! Let the aspiration to the Truth uniting all the participants of the Convention be clearly visible behind the variety of verbal and terminological forms. Let it be a demonstration of evolution of consciousness in practice!

*2014.03.10*