

**THE “H.P. BLAVATSKY AND HER
FAMILY MUSEUM CENTER” CREATION PROJECT
BASED ON THE DNIPROPETROVSK NATIONAL
HISTORICAL MUSEUM NAMED AFTER
D.I. YAVORNYTSKY**

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In 1990, a public initiative group was created at the Dnipropetrovsk Historical Museum named after D.I. Yavornytsky to study the heritage of the prominent native Prydniprovyie citizen H.P. Blavatsky and to create dedicated to her Museum and Science Center it in the city (now Dnipro) on the territory of the historical estate where she was born (Dnipro, 11, Knyaz Yaroslav the Wise St.).

The project was named “H.P. Blavatsky and her Family Museum Center” and began to develop due to the joined efforts of the international community. The core of the initiative group was the Scientific and Cultural Association “Universum of Helena Blavatsky”, which included scientists, museums, cultural scientists, theosophists, local historians.

Since 1991 and up to now scientific conferences under the general name “H.P. Blavatsky and Modernity” are held annually in Dnipro with relevant topics for each year by the initiative group supported by the international community. The conferences are held on May, 8 and are dedicated to the H.P. Blavatsky day, generally known as White Lotus Day. On August, 12, H.P. Blavatsky birthday, scientific readings dedicated to her are held in Dnipro; at the late March – “H. P. Blavatsky Studios”, during the year - summer and winter series of scientific and educational lectures and club meetings.

In 2002, a research and exposition departments were formed with the aim of creating a Museum Center based on the Historical Museum named after D.I. Yavornitsky.

In 2004, 4/5 areas of the monument house, preserved on the territory of the historical estate of the state and public personality A.M. Fadeyev (1789 - 1867), were transferred to the balance of the Historical Museum.

Here, on July, 31 (August, 12), 1831, his eldest granddaughter, O.P. Blavatsky (1831 - 1891), was born.

In the early 2000s the 19th-century the homestead house where Blavatsky was born and the Fadeyev dynasty lived was in an emergency condition. Over the next few years, it was brought into working condition by patrons and volunteers (it was not possible to renew the heating system only).

In 2005 the pilot project of the “Zero Cycle Museum” was launched in the building: experimental exhibitions, a lecture hall for scientific, educational and club work, were created in four halls.

In 2018, the owner of 1/5 of the building donated the area he possessed as a gift to the museum (the legal transfer procedure is not completed).

On January 25, 2018 the status of the Monument of National Importance No. 040025 was given to the building, where the H.P. Blavatsky and her family Museum Center was created.

The results of thirty years work on the H.P. Blavatsky and her family Museum Center creation are:

- systematic focused work on the H.P. Blavatsky's heritage returning to the context of national science and culture, which made the name of our distinguished countrywoman widely known in the Motherland, her worldview attracted the attention of the Ukrainian society and specialists;

- creation of a launching pad for the implementation of the “H. P. Blavatsky and her family Museum Center” project, all directions of its activity development;

- scientific understanding, creation of the “H.P. Blavatsky and her family Museum Center” concept, which was supported by experts, at both Ukrainian and international scientific forums;

- international community of H.P. Blavatsky's heritage researchers formation, whose joined efforts annually hold a number of international scientific and cultural forums in Dnipro, and scientific collections are published;

- creation of a scientific library with a collection of research and first-source literature dedicated to H.P. Blavatsky, with the works of her followers, the works of related philosophical teachings and public directions representatives (7 thousand volumes);

- creation of a number of public Ukrainian and international associations in support of the H.P. Blavatsky and her family Museum Center.

Thus, on the basis of thirty years activity, as a creation of a thorough scientific-museum-cultural base and formation of a domestic and foreign researchers community, we consider it appropriate to strengthen and continue the public activity in the way introduced in the state the Dnipropetrovsk Historical Museum named after D. I. Yavornytsky as a structural unit of the H.P. BLAVATSKY SCIENTIFIC CENTER.

The main purpose of the Scientific Center is to systematically study the heritage of Helena Petrivna Blavatsky and to comprehend it in the context of 21st Century worldviews, with the aim of value foundations and paradigmatic attitudes formation in accordance with contemporary challenges of the world and national cultural space.

The tasks of the center:

- comprehensive understanding and scientific study of the place and significance of H.P. Blavatsky's heritage in the domestic and world context;
- study of the significance of H.P. Blavatsky personality of and her family members in the cultural space of Ukraine and the Dnipro region;
- research of H.P. Blavatsky's ideas (as well as of her associates, students and followers) and their influence on scientific and socio-cultural spheres. Studying the history of the Theosophical movement in the world;
- comparative study of ancient and modern world religious and philosophical doctrines on the basis of H.P. Blavatsky synthetic view in order to form an ethics of tolerance, a new system of understanding;
- study of little-researched, scientifically perspective views on the nature of Man and the Universe;
- consolidation of international research efforts and creation of an international scientific association of H.P. Blavatsky's and her followers heritage researchers;
- integration of Blavatsky's ideas into the modern field of scientific research;
- justification of the newest methodology of knowledge and modern thinking in the context of the post-classical paradigm of science.

Areas of activity:

- creation of research groups, sections, laboratories to fulfill the tasks of the Center;
- cooperation with foreign researchers involvement. Establishment of cooperation with domestic and foreign scientific institutes and organizations;

- preparation and holding of conferences, scientific readings, seminars (May, 8 - the H.P. Blavatsky Remembrance Day), August, 12 - the H.P. Blavatsky birthday.

- H.P. Blavatsky and her family Museum Center Scientific Library development; scientific catalogs, biobibliographic indexes creation; holding conferences and seminars;

- scientific-methodical and scientific-educational programs development;

- carrying out scientific researches on the activity topic in archives, museums, libraries, private collections;

- publishing;

- exhibitions;

- scientific-methodical, scientific-educational and popularization work. Thematic programs development and implementation.

GANDHI ON THEOSOPHY AND THE "GLOBAL CIVILIZATION OF TOMORROW

by James Tenfer

USA

Associate, United Lodge of Theosophists

Invocation

"Common be your prayer:
Common be your goal:
Common be your purpose:
Common be your deliberation.

Common be your wishes.
Your hearts in concord.
Your intentions in concord.
Perfect be the union amongst you."
*Rig Veda*¹⁷⁹

Dedication

Let me begin this evening by honoring the ancient and noble practice of saluting those who have made this talk possible. I have drawn

¹⁷⁹ As quoted in: *The Jewel in the Lotus*, Concord Grove Press, 1983, facing page.