

**RUDOLF
STEINER**
A Theosophist who later founded Anthroposophy, an esoteric spiritual movement with roots in German idealist philosophy, Theosophy, Rosicrucianism, and Gnosticism.

H.S. OLCOTT
Co-founder and first President of the Theosophical Society. Olcott helped restore Buddhism and Hinduism to India and South Asia.

**H.P.
BLAVATSKY**
Co-founder of the Theosophical Society in New York in 1875; established with Olcott (1882), the International Headquarters, Adyar, Chennai. Authored *Isis Unveiled*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Voice of the Silence*, etc.

W.Q. JUDGE
Co-founder of the Theosophical Society. Served as President of the American Section and VP of the International Section.

**C.W.
LEADBEATER**
Prominent member of the Theosophical Society who was best known for his clairvoyant observations and teachings. Krishnamurti was one of his pupils.

ANNIE BESANT
President of the Theosophical Society who campaigned for Indian independence throughout her entire career.

**KATHERINE
TINGLEY**
Established the Universal Brotherhood and Theosophical Society and founded the Lomaland community, with its Raja Yoga School and School of Antiquity.

The Founders of Theosophy

Theosophy is a new religious movement, though not a religion, that draws upon occultism, Western Esotericism, Neoplatonism, Hinduism, and Buddhism. The modern Theosophy movement was established in 1875, and H.P. Blavatsky wrote that there are two Theosophies: the first of which is connected with the use and development of spiritual wisdom; and the second is a body of teachings which leads to the realization of truth. The motto of The Theosophical Society is, "There is no Religion Higher than Truth."

For more information about Theosophy and its leaders, please visit:

- [Theosophy and Perennial Wisdom Traditions](#), part of SDSU's *Perennial Wisdom Resources in Special Collections* Libguide
- [SDSU's Perennial Wisdom Resources Online Exhibit](#)