

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU'S  
TRIBUTE TO ROERICH

Nicholas Roerich Memorial Exhibition,  
December, 1947 - New Delhi.

Pandit Nehru, Prime Minister, opening an exhibition of paintings by the late Nicholas Roerich, referred to the importance of paying special attention to India's cultural monuments. "I hope that when we are a little freer from the cares of the moment, we shall pay very special attention to the ancient cultural monuments of the country, not only just to protect them from decay but somehow to bring them more in line with our education, with our lives, so that we may imbibe something of the inspiration that they have."

Paying a tribute to Roerich, Pandit Nehru said: "When I think of Nicholas Roerich I am astounded at the scope and abundance of his activities and creative genius. A great artist, a great scholar and writer, archaeologist and explorer, he touched and lighted up so many aspects of human endeavour. The very quantity is stupendous - thousands of paintings and each one of them a great work of art. When you look at these paintings, so many of them of the Himalayas, you seem to catch the spirit of those great mountains which have towered over the Indian plain and been our sentinels for ages past. They remind us of so much in our history, our thought, our cultural and spiritual heritage so much not merely of the India of the past but of something that is permanent and eternal about India, that we cannot help feeling a great sense of indebtedness to Nicholas Roerich who has enshrined that spirit in these magnificent canvases.

"It was right that this exhibition should be held in spite of the sad fact that the creator of these canvases has died because art and the kind of work Roerich did have and ought to have little to do with the life or death of an individual. It is superior to that, it lives on and is in fact much more permanent than human lives.

"One other fact so many of you may know about him and which is very pertinent in India especially, is his conception of preserving artistic and cultural monuments and the like. He started a kind of a pact between nations for the preservation of these cultural and artistic monuments. Many nations agreed to it. I do not know exactly what the value of their agreement was because we agree to many things which we forget in times of war and trouble. We have seen recently in the late war the destruction of so many great monuments of culture in spite of all the previous agreement to protect them. Nevertheless, the fact remains that it is a tragedy for destruction to overtake these great cultural monuments of the past. We in India have a great number of them and it should be our duty to respect them, honour them and imbibe their inspiration."

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DECEMBER 1947.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

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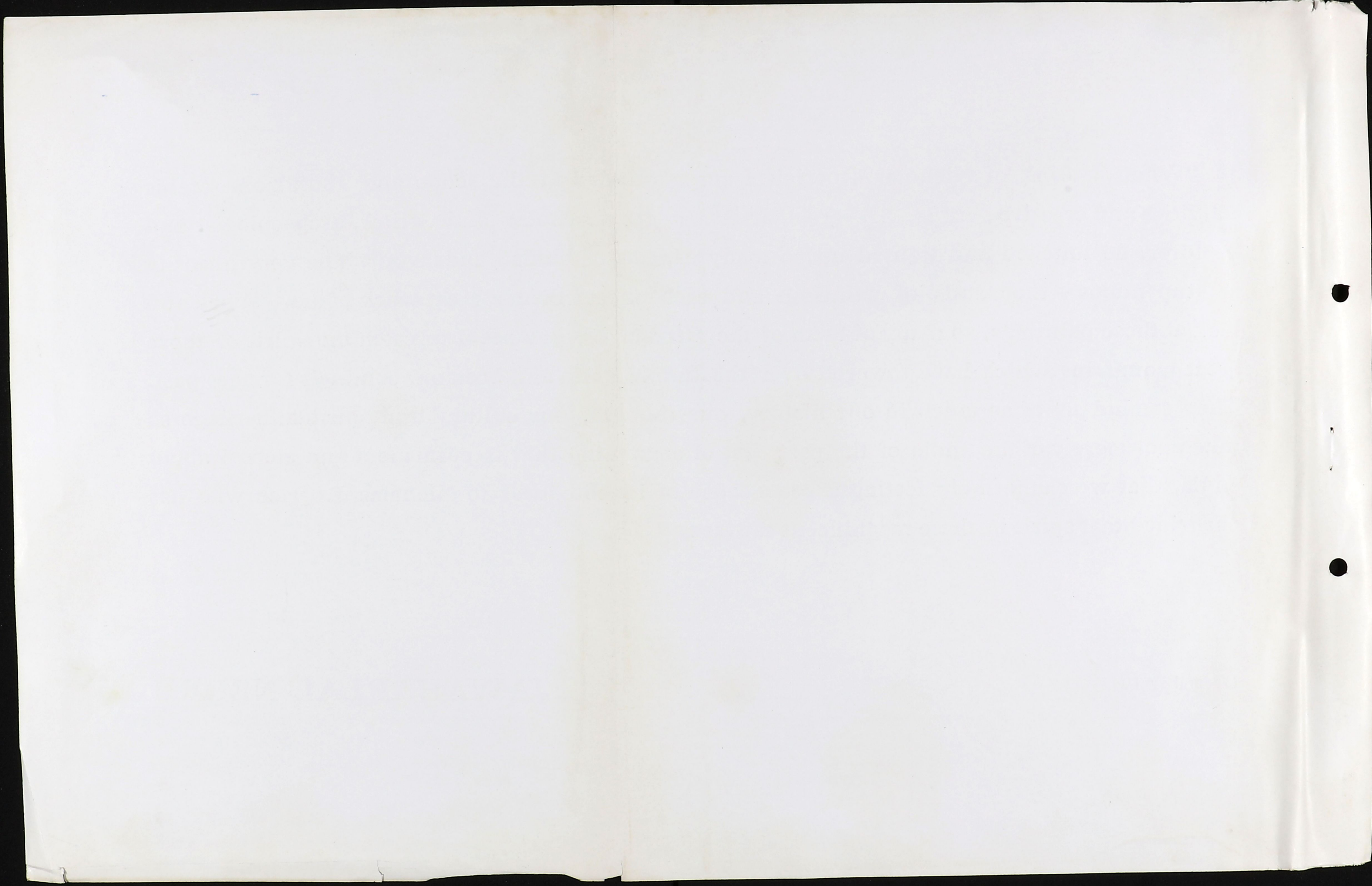
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*Rejected as colours  
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1. The first part of the report is a general statement of the purpose and scope of the study.

2. The second part of the report is a description of the methods used in the study.

3. The third part of the report is a description of the results of the study.

4. The fourth part of the report is a discussion of the results of the study.

5. The fifth part of the report is a conclusion of the study.

6. The sixth part of the report is a list of references.

7. The seventh part of the report is a list of appendices.

8. The eighth part of the report is a list of figures.

9. The ninth part of the report is a list of tables.

10. The tenth part of the report is a list of footnotes.

11. The eleventh part of the report is a list of acknowledgments.

12. The twelfth part of the report is a list of abbreviations.

13. The thirteenth part of the report is a list of symbols.

14. The fourteenth part of the report is a list of units.

15. The fifteenth part of the report is a list of definitions.

16. The sixteenth part of the report is a list of acronyms.

17. The seventeenth part of the report is a list of terms.

18. The eighteenth part of the report is a list of phrases.

19. The nineteenth part of the report is a list of sentences.

20. The twentieth part of the report is a list of paragraphs.