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- 11. LETTER FROM MADAM A. POBLOCKI TO THE BULGARIAN EMBASSY AND TO THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE.

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich, eminent artist and humanist, has just returned to his adopted home, Bangalore (India), after a four-month tour of Bulgaria and the Soviet Union.

Honours were showered on Dr.Roerich during his visit to both the countries. He was unanimously elected Fellow of the Fine Art Academies of Bulgaria and U.S.S.R.

These coveted fellowships were conferred on him at largely attended colourful ceremonies in Sofia and Moscow.

In Bulgaria, he was awarded the Medal of the Veliko-Tyrnovo University, Doctorate of the University of Cyril and Methodius and the Order of Cyril and Methodius - Highest Class. Dr. Roerich and Mme. Devika Rani Roerich, who had accompanied him, were also presented with the Centenary Medals on the occasion of Bulgaria's 100th Independence Day.

The citation of the University of Cyril and Methodius praised Dr. Roerich for his "remarkable and meaningful life as an artist, explorer and cultural worker of our contemporary life."

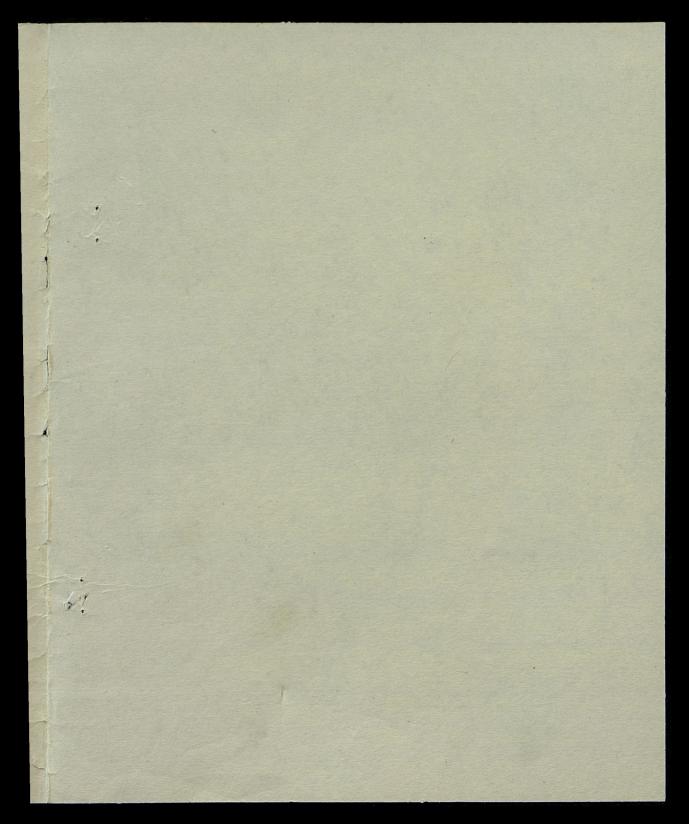
"Your art and extensive work embody the ideas of Humanism, Peace and Progress," said Mr. Peter Demichev, Minister of Culture of the U.S.S.R., in congratulating Dr. Roerich on his election as Fellow of the Academy of Fine Arts of the U.S.S.R.

It was exactly 70 years ago that Svetoslav's illustrious father, Prof. Nicholas Roerich, received the same honour from the U.S.S.R. Academy of Fine Arts.

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich left for Bulgaria in March at the Invitation of the Bulgarian Minister of Culture, Mme.Ludmila Zhivkova. Earlier the Bulgarian Government had airlifted some of his own as well as his father's - Prof. Nicholas Roerich's paintings from Bangalore to Sofia in a special plane. The "precious cargo" was accompanied by Mr. George Stefanov Varlinkov, Chief of the Bulgarian Department of "Popularisation of Art Values," and Mr. Stephen Christov, Member, Committee of Culture.

Exhibitions of the paintings of both father and son attracted thousands of visitors at Sofia. They were inaugurated in the presence of a distinguished gathering of Ministers, Diplomats, Cultural Leaders and Art Critics.

Opening Dr. Svetoslav Roerich's exhibition, Mr. Peyo Berbenliev, Vice-President of the Committee of Culture, spoke of the artists' contribution to human understanding through his cultural insight. Dr. Roerich discussed his paintings in Press and television interview, lectures and public meetings. A beautiful colour film on Dr. Roerich and his exhibition was broadcast through the national television network in Bulgaria.



Foremost Bulgarian Sculptors, Mr. Dalchev and Mr. Varlinkov made sculptures of Mme. Devika Rani Roerich and Dr. Roerich.

Part of Dr. Roerich's exhibition went from Sofia to Vienna and the entire exhibition was reassembled and is being shown throughout Bulgaria till October when about 2 million people would have seen the exhibition. Thereafter, it will be displayed at many leading centres in the Soviet Union.

(Mme. DEVIKA RANI ROERICH)

Bangalore

Date:

HONOURS RECEIVED BY DR. SVETOSLAV ROERICH

BULGARIA

SOFIA: 31st March 1978.

Svetoslav Roerich unanimously elected HONORARY FELLOW of the Bulgarian Academy of Fine Arts, Sofia. THE FIRST FOREIGNER TO RECEIVE THE FELLOWSHIP.

VELIKO-TYRNOVO - THE OLDEST UNIVERSITY OF BULGARIA 8th May 1978.

Svetoslav Roerich received the following honours:

- (1) The Medal of the Veliko-Tyrnovo University of Cyril and Methodius.
- (2) Doctorate of the Veliko-Tyrnovo University of Cyril and Methodius.
- (3) The Order of Cyril and Methodius Highest Class.
- (4) The Medal of One Hundred Years of Bulgaria's Independence.

Madam Devika Rani Roerich also received the Medal of One Hundred Years of Bulgaria's Independence.

U. S. S. R.

MOSCOW: 7th June 1978:

Svetoslav Roerich unanimously elected HONORARY FELLOW of the Academy of Fine Arts of the U.S.S.R.

FELLOWSHIP TO MR.SVETOSLAV ROERICH

MUCH RESPECTED MR. SVETOSLAV ROERICH,

The Members of the Academic Council of the Academy of Fine Arts of Sofia have the honour to receive you as a Member, the great artist of our time, the recipient of the Soviet Nehru Award, the Indian Order of Padma Bhushan and the Spiritual Heir of your great Father - Nicholas Roerich.

At the meeting of March 31st 1978 of the Academic Council, you have been elected an Honorary Fellow.

Herewith we express to you our respect and high appreciation of your Art and creative achievements.

Sd/.. PROF. MINEKOV CHANCELLOR OF THE ACADEMY.

SOFIA 31st March 1978. COMMITTEE FOR ART AND CULTURE. THE HIGHEST INSTITUTE FOR THE FINE ARTS - "NICHOLAI PAVLOVICH"

SOFIA - 31st March 1978.

SOFIA/BULGARIA

COPY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING

PROTOCOL NO.9

On the 31st of March 1978 has taken place the meeting of the Academic Council and the following resolutions have been passed:

- 1. Information about the inclusion into the Academic Year the Report of Prof. Vasil Ionchev.
- 2. Information about conducting an open air meeting at Vrshtz 1978 the Report of Prof. Stoyan Domuschiev.
- 3. The nomination of the famous artist Svetoslav Roerich with the title of "HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL" in the presence of all the Members of the Academic Council.

The meeting was conducted by Prof. Vasil Ionchev.

3. The Peoples Artist Prof. Velichko Minekov (President of the Fine Arts Academy) was presiding at the Academy meeting. The Academy was visited by the famous artist Svetoslav Roerich and his wife. He is the recipient of the Nehru Award of the U.S.S.R. The introduction of the artist and the announcement of the resolution about his election as the Honorary Fellow to the Academic Council of the VIII - "N. PAVLOVICH".

The Academic Council has voted and accepted this proposal unanimously.

Friend Svetoslav Roerich is herewith nominated with the title "HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL".

Certified by:

Sd/-. (SECRETARY)

Sd/-....(PROF. V. MINEKOV)
PEOPLES ARTIST.

3.5.1978

GREAT-TYRNOVO
UNIVERSITY
CYRIL AND METHODIUS.

SOFIA
BUL. STAMBOLISKOGO 17
COMMITTEE OF CULTURE
OF
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
ROERICH S.N.

DEEPLY RESPECTED SVETOSLAV NICHOLAYEVICH,

I have the honour to inform you that at the meeting of the Learned Council of the Velikotyrnovo University of Cyril and Methodius which had taken place the 3rd of May of this year, you were unanimously elected HONORARY DOCTOR of the Velikotyrnovo University. I am happy to inform you that your remarkable and deeply meaningful life work as a remarkable artist, explorer and cultural worker of our contemporary life has received the highest evaluation of the scientific circles of the University.

Permit me to invite you to the solemn meeting of the Velikotyrnovo University which will take place on the 8th of May 1978 in order to receive the Diploma of the HONORARY DOCTOR of the University. We shall be glad to receive you at any convenient for you time.

In expectation of meeting you in the City of Velikotyrnovo, I request you to accept our most cordial well wishes.

With deep respect.

Sd/-...(PROF. DR. D.D. PHILIPOV)
CHANCELLOR OF THE VELIKOTYRNOVO UNIVERSITY OF CYRIL AND
METHODIUS.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CYRIL AND METHODIUS
IN VELIKOTYRNOVO WHICH HIGHLY EVALUATES THE ARTISTIC
AND SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. SVETOSLAV ROERICH HAVE
NOMINATED HIM HONORARY DOCTOR -

LET ART AND SCIENCE FLOURISH IN OUR WORLD.

VELIKOTYRNOVO 8th May 1978. Sd/-. (CHANCELLOR - PHILIPOV)
PROF. DR. DIMITR PHILIPOV

Sd/-.(DR. NIKOLA HADZHITANEV)
THE DECCAN OF THE UNIVERSITY.

ORIGINAL SEAL OF VELIKOTYRNOVO UNIVERSITY
CYRIL AND METHODIUS.

ATTACHED TO IT THE SEAL OF THE UNIVERSITY ON THE SEAL ARE THE INITIALS VTU.

(NOTIFICATION ABOUT FELLOWSHIP - OFFICIAL TELEGRAM)

RESPECTED SVETOSLAV NICHOLAYEVICH

The Ministry of Culture of the Soviet Union very warmly congratulates you with the unanimous election as HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS OF THE U.S.S.R.

Your Art and extensive public work embody the ideas of Humanism, Peace and Progress. They have become outstanding events of the leading contemporary culture.

Accept our hearty wishes of good health, happiness and new wonderful creative achievements.

Sd/-....(PETER DEMICHEV)
MINISTER OF CULTURE OF THE U.S.S.R.

26 April 1978. MOSCOW. The Academy of Fine Arts of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in pursuit of the Statute of the Academy has elected at its XXXV Session of April 21, 1978 -

SVETOSLAV NICHOLAYEVICH ROERICH HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS OF THE U.S.S.R.

Sd/-....(N. TOMSKY)
President of the Academy
of Fine Arts of the U.S.S.R.

(N. SYSOYEV)
The Principal Learned
Secretary of the
Academy of Fine Arts
of the U.S.S.R.

TELECRAM FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE FINE ARTS ACADEMY, U.S.S.R. AND THE VICE-PRESIDENTS AND THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

Dear Svetoslav Nicholayevich

The Presidium of the Academy of Fine Arts of the U.S.S.R. and all the Members present at the 35th Session of the Academy, heartily congratulate you with the election as 'HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS".

In the land of the Soviets your remarkable Art which serves the cause of progress, Humanism and Peace as well as your public life are well known and appreciated.

From our entire heart we wish you health and new creative successes.

TOMSKY, KEMENOV, RESHETNIKOV, SYSOEV, ANIKUSHIN, GRITZAI, KIBALNIKOV, KIBRIC, NALBADJAN, SHMARIKOV.

SPEECH AT THE TIME OF THE FELLOWSHIP CEREMONY

by

Academician Nicholai V. Tomsky President, Academy of Fine Arts of U. S. S. R.

Dear Svetoslav Nicholaevich, Dear Devika Rani, respected Mr. Counsellor of the Indian Embassy in U.S.S.R., Dear Guests, Friends,

Today we handover the Diploma of the Honorary Fellowship of the Academy of Arts of U.S.S.R. to one of the greatest artists of India, an outstanding social worker, a Laureate of the Nehru Award, to the Scientist-Scholar, Svetoslav Nicholaevich Roerich.

Son and pupil of the great Russian artist, thinker, and philosopher - Nicholas Roerich, Svetoslav Nicholaevich personifies a living link of generations through his manifold activities and Art which is humanistic and truthful, sincere and inspired, an Art which serves to bring together the people of the world and to strengthen the brotherly ties between the great Indian and Soviet people.

Svetoslav Roerich is a believer and convinced follower of the realistic school of Art.

The creative work of Svetoslav Roerich is many-faceted and brilliant. In his creations is revealed the beautiful, incomparable, colourful world of the life and labour of the Indian people and he evokes the images of the most talented representatives of Indian Culture, social workers, the industrious people and the marvellous landscapes of India.

Especially often and with great inspiration he paints the beckoning and calling to us mountain world of the Himalayas, the snow covered peaks rising into the clouds, lit up in the rays of the rising sun, glistening with all the multi-colourfulness of their colours. In this aspect of his Art, Svetoslav Nicholaevich is the follower of the tradition of the realistic Art of Nicholas Roerich.

But Svetoslav Nicholaevich has facets in his creative work which are primarily his own, this is first of all his deep interest in man which permitted him to create a whole gallery of brilliant and living portraits. A special place among them is the portrait of Jawaharlal Nehru. Warm and friendly ties have for a long time brought together the Roerich family with this remarkable son of the Indian people. The portrait was painted in 1946 when the country was at the threshold of its Independence and before it unfolded the broadest horizons of an unhampered development. Remarkable are the portraits of Nicholas Roerich, Devika Rani and Dr. Radhakrishnan.

Equally remarkable are the portraits of the simple people, to them Svetoslav Nicholaevich dedicates many genre compositions which express his admiration for his second Motherland - India and her people. "My Country is Very Beautiful" - thus is called one of the paintings of the artist which seems to symbolize the colourful image of India's labour.

With great philosophic depth, with a concern for the preservation of peace on earth, civilization and nature are filled his great allegorical compositions which assert ideas of humanism and progress.

By birth, upbringing and his artistic education Svetoslav Nicholaevich is a Russian, by the assimilation of the tradition of Indian culture, by his merging into the public and artistic life of India and his marriage with the remarkable Indian actress, one of the stars of the National Indian Cinema - Devika Rani - he belongs to India, symbolizing the living bridge of human ties, that most lasting and powerful bridge which was begun by the brilliant rich creative work of his Father Nicholas Roerich.

During the years of the great patriotic war the entire Roerich family expressed its deep patriotism and admiration for the great achievements of the Soviet people and has contributed to the common cause of the victory over the enemy.

The exhibitions of paintings of Svetoslav Nicholaevich, his many public utterances at meetings in honour of Indo-Soviet friendship during the war and post war periods were a brilliant testimony of his deep sympathies towards our countries.

The election of Svetoslav Nicholaevich as Honorary Member of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Art is only an affirmation of his great contribution as an outstanding contemporary artist, as a fighter for the great ideals of humanism and progress and as an ardent advocate of the brotherly friendship between the people of India and of the Soviet Union.

SPEECH AT THE TIME OF THE FELLOWSHIP CEREMONY

by

SHRI KRISHNAN RAGHUNATH Counsellor, Embassy of India, MOSCOW.

Mr. President, Smt. Devika Rani, Dr. Roerich and other distinguished guests:

It is a great pleasure and an honour to say a few words on behalf of the Embassy of India on this occasion. Dr. Roerich and Smt. Devika Rani need no introduction to this or any other audience concerned with basic human values, international understanding and friendship between our two countries. Dr. Roerich's life is a record of unique distinction and quality - as an artist and humanist who has a very special place in the artistic and cultural resurgence of India and in world art, amd as a public figure of international stature who has contributed in a singular manner to the understanding between peoples and the strengthening of world peace. He is a part of the great and brilliant tradition of a family which has made a profound impact in the world of painting, culture and learning and represents the most vital and universal elements in art and international understanding. There are many rich and eloquent tributes that have been paid to him over the years which do proper justice to his life and art. I will not attempt to match these. I would only recall here the apt comment made recently that Dr. Roerich is Russia's gift to India. This is a gift which we deeply honour and cherish.

Mr. President, the period in which we are living has been noted for the remarkable growth of a close friendship between India and the Soviet Union and the deepening and widening of cooperation between our two countries in a vast number of fields. This is one of the most important developments on the international scene today and a process which has greatly enriched the lives of both our peoples and is an important factor in the promotion of world peace and stability. In this context, one can hardly think of a more vivid symbol and a representation of the bonds of friendship and understanding between our two countries than the art and personality of Dr. Roerich and the Roerich tradition. The event we are celebrating here today is of great significance in the cultural relations between our two countries. We take it as an affirmation of this friendship. In conclusion Mr. President, permit me to express on behalf of my colleagues in the Embassy of India and myself our felicitations and heartfelt good wishes to Dr. Roerich and Smt. Devika Rani on the occasion of the conferment on him of the Honorary Membership of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Arts.

SVETOSLAV ROERICH - HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS, U. S. S. R.

(News Item in Weekly Newspaper - ACROSS THE BORDER - REVIEW OF FOREIGN PRESS - dated 30th June to 6th July 1978 - MOSCOW. Page 22.)

At the Invitation of the Ministry of Culture of the U.S.S.R. from May 31st till June 14th in Moscow was staying the artist of World Wide Fame, the Laureate of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award Svetoslav Nicholayevich with his wife Mme. Devika Rani Roerich.

On June the 7th at a solemn function he received the Diploma of Honorary Fellow of the Academy of Fine Arts of the U.S.S.R.

This high and so well deserved Award - Svetoslav Roerich received as an universally recognised remarkable Master of the Brush, a Scholar, an outstanding public figure and a champion of the ideals of Humanism and Peace which has been emphasised throughout the speech of the President of the Academy of Arts of U.S.S.R. and the other leaders of Art and Culture, who participated in this solemn function. It was emphasised that Svetoslav Roerich continues the traditions of Nicholas Roerich, the famous artist, the realist and great multifaceted genius of culture and science.

The Soviet lovers of Art are acquainted with the Art of Svetoslav Roerich through two large exhibitions of his paintings in 1960 and 1974-76 as well as through the paintings which are exhibited in the State Hermitage Museum and the Museums of Riga, Novosibirsk and other cities. The paintings of the artist are represented in many museums of the world, as for instance India, U.S.A., France, Belgium, Czechoslovakia. The Soviet Union possesses more than sixty of his canvases.

Sunlit India where Svetoslav Roerich lives and works is depicted in his works with life-asserting power and truthfulness. The onlooker does not simply look at this brilliant and unique country, he feels himself as if present in India amidst its surroundings, nature, people, its contemporary life, which reflect so closely popular tales and legends.

The convincing quality of the images created by the brush of the artist, the realism of his Art which is imbued with poetry and touches of lyricism and romanticism, the knowledge to see and reveal the beauty which is present everywhere and the luminescent colours of his palette - irresistibly attract lovers of art, the flood of which

never diminishes and cannot be contained within the exhibition halls. The visitors to the exhibition carry away with them the feeling of something Beautiful, a love for India, for everything that lives. One is amazed at the masterly depiction of the union of man and nature in which lives and labours the greater population of India. It fully conforms to the foundations of Indian philosophy, the Unity of the Universe.

In his rendering of the scenes of everyday life the artist reveals the great ideals of humanism.

HAMBURG, 8th July, 1978.

To:

THE BULGARIAN EMBASSY - CULLURAL DEPARTMENT - VIENNA AUSTRIA.

EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY NICHOLAS ROERICH AND SVETOSLAV ROERICH IN VIENNA.

This grand Evhibition showing lofty works of art of fascinating beauty will certainly be remembered by all visitors as a delightful event of art. The masterpieces of Nicholas and Svetoslav Roerich are indeed a Feast of Art to every visitor.

My heartfelt thanks to the BULGARIAN EMBASSY - CULTURAL DEPARTMENT - in Vienna for organizing this Exhibition. May this wonderful contribution with the aim to make the high cultural works of the ROERICHS accessible to mankind, induce other Countries to follow your example:

For your information, please find enclosed a copy of my today's letter giving thanks to the MINISTRY OF CULTURE in Sofia.

Sd/-. (A. POBLOCKI)

HAMBURG, 8th July, 1978.

To:

THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE SOFIA BULGARIA.

EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY NICHOLAS ROERICH AND SVETOSLAV ROERICH

To Friends of the ROERICH ART in Germany and Austria the Paintings of these Geniuses have so far been known only from reproductions on postcards or from art books published in the USSR, India, and the USA.

So, what a great joy it was to get through the BULGARIAN EMBASSY - CULTURAL DEPARTMENT - in Vienna a chance of admiring there 57 original paintings in all their gleaming splendour of colours; their beauty is indescribable. A magnificent, unforgettable Exhibition of Works of Art which will open new paths to the Art of Paintings. Such cultural values are a great treasure for the whole of humanity.

In the name of many visitors of the Exhibition, let me thank you with all my heart for the really high contribution towards the promotion of culture among nations. May your good example incite also other Countries to organize Exhibitions of ROERICH Paintings to the joy and cultural evolution of the people.

Since I had been prevented from visiting the complete Exhibition in Sofia in April, and from meeting there Mme. Devika Rani Roerich and Dr. Svetoslav Roerich, I now intend to go to Bulgaria in September, in order to admire the ROERICH Paintings in Sofia and other cities, and also the beauty of your Country. May I request you to kindly let me know,

(a) in which of the cities of Bulgaria and until when will the ROERICH ART EXHIBITION take place, and

(b) where catalogues, reproductions and/or slides of ROERICH Paintings may be obtained in Bulgaria.

In gratitude for the ROERICH ART EXHIBITION in Vienna I have the pleasure of sending you enclosed my booklet

"KNOWLEDGE AND BEAUTY WILL RENEW THE WORLD.

In Honour to the ROERICHS."

It was published in 1974 for numerous Art Friends in the world who highly revere the epoch-making works of the ROERICH - FAMILY done in service and for the good of numanity. Enclosed herewith you will also find a copy of my today's letter giving thanks to your Embassy in Vienna.

Again, heartfelt thanks for your very important, high cultural deed, by which you have given joy to many people; they all will know to appreciate your contribution to culture.

SOFIA - BULGARIA

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HONOURS FOR DR. SVETOSLAV ROERICH

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U. S. S. R.

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At the meeting of March 31st 1978 of the Academic Council, you have been elected an Honorary Fellow.

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Sd/.. PROF. MINEKOV CHANCELLOR OF THE ACADEMY.

SOFIA 31st March 1978. COMMITTEE FOR ART AND CULTURE. THE HIGHEST INSTITUTE FOR THE FINE ARTS - "NICHOLAI PAVLOVICH"

SOFIA - 31st March 1978.

SOFIA/BULGARIA

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- 3. The nomination of the famous artist Svetoslav Roerich with the title of "HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL" in the presence of all the Members of the Academic Council.

The meeting was conducted by Prof. Vasil Ionchev.

3. The Peeples Artist Prof. Velichko Minekov (President of the Fine Arts Academy) was presiding at the Academy meeting. The Academy was visited by the famous artist Svetoslav Roerich and his wife. He is the recipient of the Nehru Award of the U.S.S.R. The introduction of the artist and the announcement of the resolution about his election as the Honorary Fellow to the Academic Council of the VIII - "N. PAVLOVICH".

The Academic Council has voted and accepted this proposal unanimously.

Friend Svetoslav Roerich is herewith nominated with the title "HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL".

Certified by:

Sd/-. (SECRETARY)

Sd/-....(PROF. V. MINEKOV) PEOPLES ARTIST.

Official Stamp of ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS, SOFIA.

3.5.1978

GREAT-TYRNOVO
UNIVERSITY
CYRIL AND METHODIUS.

SOFIA
BUL. STAMBOLISKOGO 17
COMMITTEE OF CULTURE
OF
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
ROERICH S.N.

DEEPLY RESPECTED SVETOSLAV NICHOLAYEVICH,

I have the honour to inform you that at the meeting of the Learned Council of the Velikotyrnovo University of Cyril and Methodius which had taken place the 3rd of May of this year, you were unanimously elected HONORARY DOCTOR of the Velikotyrnovo University. I am happy to inform you that your remarkable and deeply meaningful life work as a remarkable artist, explorer and cultural worker of our contemporary life has received the highest evaluation of the scientific circles of the University.

Permit me to invite you to the solemn meeting of the Velikotyrnovo University which will take place on the 8th of May 1978 in order to receive the Diploma of the HONORARY DOCTOR of the University. We shall be glad to receive you at any convenient for you time.

In expectation of meeting you in the City of Velikotyrnovo, I request you to accept our most cordial well wishes.

With deep respect.

Sd/-....(PROF. DR. D.D. PHILIPOV)
CHANCELLOR OF THE VELIKOTYRNOVO UNIVERSITY OF CYRIL AND
METHODIUS.

DOCTORATE ON A SCROLL OF PARCHMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF CYRIL AND METHODIUS
IN VELIKOTYRNOVO WHICH HIGHLY EVALUATES THE ARTISTIC
AND SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. SVETOSLAV ROERICH HAVE
NOMINATED HIM HONORARY DOCTOR -

LET ART AND SCIENCE FLOURISH IN OUR WORLD.

VELIKOTYRNOVO 8th May 1978. Sd/-. (CHANCELLOR - PHILIPOV)
PROF. DR. DIMITR PHILIPOV

Sd/-.(DR. NIKOLA HADZHITANEV)
THE DECCAN OF THE UNIVERSITY

ORIGINAL SEAL OF VELIKOTYRNOVO UNIVERSITY

CYRIL AND METHODIUS.

ATTACHED TO IT THE SEAL OF THE UNIVERSITY ON THE SEAL ARE THE INITIALS VTU.

(NOTIFICATION ABOUT FELLOWSHIP - OFFICIAL TELEGRAM)

RESPECTED SVETOSLAV NICHOLAYEVICH

The Ministry of Culture of the Soviet Union very warmly congratulates you with the unanimous election as HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS OF THE U.S.S.R.

Your Art and extensive public work embody the ideas of Humanism, Peace and Progress. They have become outstanding events of the leading contemporary culture.

Accept our hearty wishes of good health, happiness and new wonderful creative achievements.

Sd/-....(PETER DEMICHEV)
MINISTER OF CULTURE OF THE U.S.S.R.

26 April 1978. MOSCOW. The Academy of Fine Arts of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in pursuit of the Statute of the Academy has elected at its XXXV Session of April 21, 1978 -

SVETOSLAV NICHOLAYEVICH ROERICH
HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS OF
THE U.S.S.R.

Sd/-....(N. TOMSKY)
President of the Academy
of Fine Arts of the U.S.S.R.

Sd/-....

(N. SYSOYEV)

The Principal Learned Secretary of the Academy of Fine Arts of the U.S.S.R.

TELEGRAM FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE FINE ARTS ACADEMY, U.S.S.R. AND THE VICE-PRESIDENTS AND THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

Dear Svetoslav Nicholayevich

The Presidium of the Academy of Fine Arts of the U.S.S.R. and all the Members present at the 35th Session of the Academy, heartily congratulate you with the election as "HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS".

In the land of the Soviets your remarkable Art which serves the cause of progress, Humanism and Peace as well as your public life are well known and appreciated.

From our entire heart we wish you health and new creative successes.

TOMSKY, KEMENOV, RESHETNIKOV, SYSOEV, ANIKUSHIN, GRITZAI, KIBALNIKOV, KIBRIC, NALBADJAN, SHMARIKOV.

SPEECH AT THE TIME OF THE FELLOWSHIP CEREMONY

by

Academician Nicholai V. Tomsky President, Academy of Fine Arts of U. S. S. R.

Dear Svetoslav Nicholaevich, Dear Devika Rani, respected Mr. Counsellor of the Indian Embassy in U.S.S.R., Dear Guests, Friends,

Today we handover the Diploma of the Honorary Fellowship of the Academy of Arts of U.S.S.R. to one of the greatest artists of India, an outstanding social worker, a Laureate of the Nehru Award, to the Scientist-Scholar, Svetoslav Nicholaevich Roerich.

Son and pupil of the great Russian artist, thinker, and philosopher - Nicholas Roerich, Svetoslav Nicholaevich personifies a living link of generations through his manifold activities and Art which is humanistic and truthful, sincere and inspired, an Art which serves to bring together the people of the world and to strengthen the brotherly ties between the great Indian and Soviet people.

Svetoslav Roerich is a believer and convinced follower of the realistic school of Art.

The creative work of Svetoslav Roerich is many-faceted and brilliant. In his creations is revealed the beautiful, incomparable, colourful world of the life and labour of the Indian people and he evokes the images of the most talented representatives of Indian Culture, social workers, the industrious people and the marvellous landscapes of India.

Especially often and with great inspiration he paints the beckoning and calling to us mountain world of the Himalayas, the snow covered peaks rising into the clouds, lit up in the rays of the rising sun, glistening with all the multi-colourfulness of their colours. In this aspect of his Art, Svetoslav Nicholaevich is the follower of the tradition of the realistic Art of Nicholas Roerich.

But Svetoslav Nicholaevich has facets in his creative work which are primarily his own, this is first of all his deep interest in man which permitted him to create a whole gallery of brilliant and living portraits. A special place among them is the portrait of Jawaharlal Nehru. Warm and friendly ties have for long time brought together the Roerich family with this remarkable son of the Indian people. The portrait was painted in 1946 when the country was at the threshold of its Independence and before it unfolded the broadest horizons of an unhampered development. Remarkable are the portraits of Nicholas Roerich, Devika Rani and Dr. Radhakrishnan.

Equally remarkable are the portraits of the simple people, to them Svetoslav Nicholaevich dedicates many genre compositions which express his admiration for his second Motherland - India and her people. "My Country is Very Beautiful" - thus is called one of the paintings of the artist which seems to symbolize the colourful image of India's labour.

With great philosophic depth, with a concern for the preservation of peace on earth, civilization and nature are filled his great allegorical compositions which assert ideas of humanism and progress.

By birth, upbringing and his artistic education Svetoslav Nicholaevich is a Russian, by the assimilation of the tradition of Indian culture, by his merging into the public and artistic life of India and his marriage with the remarkable Indian actress, one of the stars of the National Indian Cinema - Devika Rani - he belongs to India, symbolizing the living bridge of human ties, that most lasting and powerful bridge which was begun by the brilliant rich creative work of his Father Nicholas Roerich.

During the years of the great patriotic war the entire Roerich family expressed its deep patriotism and admiration for the great achievements of the Soviet people and has contributed to the common cause of the victory over the enemy.

The exhibitions of paintings of Svetoslav Nicholaevich, his many public utterances at meetings in honour of Indo-Soviet friendship during the war and post war periods were a brilliant testimony of his deep sympathies towards our countries.

The election of Svetoslav Nicholaevich as Honorary Member of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Art is only an affirmation of his great contribution as an outstanding contemporary artist, as a fighter for the great ideals of humanism and progress and as an ardent advocate of the brotherly friendship between the people of India and of the Soviet Union.

SPEECH AT THE TIME OF THE FELLOWSHIP CEREMONY

by

SHRI KRISHNAN RAGHUNATH Counsellor, Embassy of India, MOSCOW.

Mr. President, Smt. Devika Rani, Dr. Roerich and other distinguished guests:

It is a great pleasure and an honour to say a few words on behalf of the Embassy of India on this occasion. Dr. Roerich and Smt. Devika Rani need no introduction to this or any other audience concerned with basic human values, international understanding and friendship between our two countries. Dr. Roerich's life is a record of unique distinction and quality - as an artist and humanist who has a very special place in the artistic and cultural resurgence of India and in world art, am as a public figure of international stature who has contributed in a singular manner to the understanding between peoples and the strengthening of world peace. He is a part of the great and brilliant tradition of a family which has made a profound impact in the world of painting, culture and learning and represents the most vital and universal elements in art and international understanding. There are many rich and eloquent tributes that have been paid to him over the years which do proper justice to his life and art. I will not attempt to match these. I would only recall here the apt comment made recently that Dr. Roerich is Russia's gift to India. This is a gift which we deeply honour and cherish.

Mr. President, the period in which we are living has been noted for the remarkable growth of a close friendship between India and the Soviet Union and the deepening and widening of cooperation between our two countries in a vast number of fields. This is one of the most important developments on the international scene today and a process which has greatly enriched the lives of both our peoples and is an important factor in the promotion of world peace and stability. In this context, one can hardly think of a more vivid symbol and a representation of the bonds of friendship and understanding between our two countries than the art and personality of Dr. Roerich and the Roerich tradition. The event we are celebrating here today is of great significance in the cultural relations between our two countries. We take it as an affirmation of this friendship. In conclusion Mr. President, permit me to express on behalf of my colleagues in the Embassy of India and myself our felicitations and heartfelt good wishes to Dr. Roerich and Smt. Devika Rani on the occasion of the conferment on him of the Honorary Membership of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Arts.

SVETOSLAV ROERICH - HONORARY FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS, U. S. S. R.

(News Item in Weekly Newspaper - ACROSS THE BORDER - REVIEW OF FOREIGN PRESS - dated 30th June to 6th July 1978 - MOSCOW. Page 22.)

At the Invitation of the Ministry of Culture of the U.S.S.R. from May 31st till June 14th in Moscow was staying the artist of World Wide Fame, the Laureate of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award Svetoslav Nicholayevich with his wife Mme. Devika Rani Roerich.

On June the 7th at a solemn function he received the Diploma of Honorary Fellow of the Academy of Fine Arts of the U.S.S.R.

This high and so well deserved Award - Svetoslav Roerich received as an universally recognised remarkable Master of the Brush, a Scholar, an outstanding public figure and a champion of the ideals of Humanism and Peace which has been emphasised throughout the speech of the President of the Academy of Arts of U.S.S.R. and the other leaders of Art and Culture, who participated in this solemn function. It was emphasised that Svetoslav Roerich continues the traditions of Nicholas Roerich, the famous artist, the realist and great multifaceted genius of culture and science.

The Soviet lovers of Art are acquainted with the Art of Svetoslav Roerich through two large exhibitions of his paintings in 1960 and 1974-76 as well as through the paintings which are exhibited in the State Hermitage Museum and the Museums of Riga, Novosibirsk and other cities. The paintings of the artist are represented in many museums of the world, as for instance India, U.S.A., France, Belgium, Czechoslovakia. The Soviet Union possesses more than sixty of his canvases.

Sunlit India where Svetoslav Roerich lives and works is depicted in his works with life-asserting power and truthfulness. The onlooker does not simply look at this brilliant and unique country, he feels himself as if present in India amidst its surroundings, nature, people, its contemporary life, which reflect so closely popular tales and legends.

The convincing quality of the images created by the brush of the artist, the realism of his Art which is imbued with poetry and touches of lyricism and romanticism, the knowledge to see and reveal the beauty which is present everywhere and the luminescent colours of his palette - irresistibly attract lovers of art, the flood of which

never diminishes and cannot be contained within the exhibition halls. The visitors to the exhibition carry away with them the feeling of something Beautiful, a love for India, for everything that lives. One is amazed at the masterly depiction of the union of man and nature in which lives and labours the greater population of India. It fully conforms to the foundations of Indian philosophy, the Unity of the Universe.

In his rendering of the scenes of everyday life the artist reveals the great ideals of humanism.

HAMBURG, 8th July, 1978.

To:

THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE SOFIA BULGARIA.

EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY NICHOLAS ROERICH AND SVETOSLAV ROERICH.

To Friends of the ROERICH ART in Germany and Austria the Paintings of these Geniuses have so far been known only from reproductions on postcards or from art books published in the USSR, India, and the USA.

So, what a great joy it was to get through the BULGARIAN EMBASSY - CULTURAL DEPARTMENT - in Vienna a chance of admiring there 57 original paintings in all their gleaming splendour of colours; their beauty is indescribable. A magnificent, unforgettable Exhibition of Works of Art which will open new paths to the Art of Paintings. Such cultural values are a great treasure for the whole of humanity.

In the name of many visitors of the Exhibition, let me thank you with all my heart for the really high contribution towards the promotion of culture among nations. May your good example incite also other Countries to organize Exhibitions of ROERICH Paintings to the joy and cultural evolution of the people.

Since I had been prevented from visiting the complete Exhibition in Sofia in April, and from meeting there Mme. Devika Rani Roerich and Dr. Svetoslav Roerich, I now intend to go to Bulgaria in September, in order to admire the ROERICH Paintings in Sofia and other cities, and also the beauty of your Country. May I request you to kindly let me know,

- (a) in which of the cities of Bulgaria and until when will the ROERICH ART EXHIBITION take place, and
- (b) where catalogues, reproductions and/or slides of ROERICH Paintings may be obtained in Bulgaria.

In gratitude for the ROERICH ART EXHIBITION in Vienna I have the pleasure of sending you enclosed my booklet

"KNOWLEDGE AND BEAUTY WILL RENEW THE WORLD.

In Honour to the ROERICHS."

It was published in 1974 for numerous Art Friends in the world who highly revere the epoch-making works of the ROERICH-FAMILY done in service and for the good of humanity. Enclosed herewith you will also find a copy of my today's letter giving thanks to your EMBASSY in Vienna.

Again, heartfelt thanks for your very important, high cultural deed, by which you have given joy to many people; they all will know to appreciate your contribution to culture.

