

A special article
in TAINADU on 14th
October 1964 by
Mr. Rumale.

KALA TAPASWI DR. SVETOSLAV ROERICH

For devotional artists of India Dr. S. Roerich and Shrimati Devika Rani are very familiar since 1943. Since 1947 they are staying in a place 10 miles from Bangalore in an inspiring environment with perfect calmness for the study of Art, after acquiring such a place, they have developed it to an ideal place.

Dr. Annie Beasant, Dr. Arundel, Dr. C.F. Androse, Maharashi Nicholas Roerich and his eminent son Dr. Svetoslav Roerich though born in other countries, they have assimilated Indian Culture and have become Indians. They belong to the group of very important people of universal man-hood.

By the good fortune of Mysore State, Dr. S. Roerich and Shrimati Devika Rani Roerich are living amongst us and thus are attracting many well known personalities of the world; this great privilege is to be harnessed by Government of Mysore and art devotees of the State for their benefit.

In 1961 Dr. S. Roerich and Shrimati Devika Rani Roerich on the invitation of the Premier Nikita Krushchov visited Russia. Russian Government sent a special plane to carry the great paintings of Dr. Roerich. Exhibition of these paintings were held in Moscow and Leningrad and four and a half lakh of people visited the two exhibitions.

Till now, sorry to mention that, no proper effort is made either from Government of Mysore or from art lovers of the State to organize an exhibition in Bangalore, the paintings of Dr. Roerich (though he is with us since 1947) This is only an instance to evaluate the progress of art between Russia and India! Though this is a sad affair, yet this is thought-provoking.

STATE - HONOUR

Yet, all this is a past thing. Hon. Chief Minister, Shri S. Nijalingappa and Hon. Home Minister Shri R.M. Patil have created an opportunity to honour Dr. S. Roerich in Mysore on 16.10.1964 and thus have evinced new rays of hope in the art field; thus they deserve our gratitude.

To, speak about Dr. S. Roerich alone will not make us understand to know his full-life. In the field of screen world Shrimati Devika Rani established a progressive path, served it with devotion, later on entrusted this great task for other devotional artists and even now guiding them when ever such opportunity occurs. We have to view the life of these artist-couple to understand them. Great responsibility now rests on Government of India and Mysore Government to see that the Gandharva Dampatis Service to the art world continues in an organised way. This "couple" belongs to the group of uncrowned leaders of humanity is to be very well known to the Government of Mysore.

Dr. S. Roerich belongs to the great catagory of Maharshis as his father, who is a powerful Atma (Prabalatmar). To attain perfection of life "art devotion" is his chosen straight path. He has captured the beauty and the splendour of natural scenery of Himalayas through several paintings of his. He has captured the beauty of hidden life of the Rural India and painted with charm. He has enriched the art world through these eternal creative works.

Dr. S. Roerich's life is evolving by undergoing the purifying process in the burning-melting pot of "Truth". Dr. S. Roerich is utilizing the struggling of life for its purification. This progressive life's activity is divided into two important ways. First one is the creative work of painting. Dr. S. Roerich's one thousand paintings of oils and tempera are well preserved in different art museums of the world. (Late) Father Nicholas Roerich and (late) Mother Madam Helena have written

great literature in different fields. In America and in Russia to publish their literature great organisations are working. Dr. S. Roerich is guiding these organisations besides doing paintings. Also son Roerich is carrying on the follow-up work of his father Nicholas Roerich in the field of other cultural activities.

State Government should decide to lay firm foundation of painting and sculpture in Mysore State and could have the services of guidance of Dr. S. Roerich.

Dr. S. Roerich's abridged life as as:-

Svetoslav Roerich's father is Maharashi Nicholas Roerich; mother, great "Jnani" Madame Helena. This couple had two sons. First son is late Mr. George, second son is Dr. Svetoslav Roerich. Born in 1904 in Russia at Petersburg (now Leningrad) studied in Russia, Sweden, England and America. Lived for very many years in Himalayas with Father Roerich. 1937 father and son Roerich's paintings exhibited separately in Dasara Exhibition - Mysore. Married famous film star Shrimati Devika Rani in 1945. Since 1947 they have adopted Bangalore as their Home place. 1960 held exhibition in Delhi then his paintings exhibition was held in Russia, 1961 Govt. of India awarded "Padma Bhushan" very recently Russia Government has named two galciars after father and son Roerich's name. Dr. S. Roerich has painted one thousand paintings till now..

Dr. S. Roerich is now 60 years. State Government is honouring him on 16-10-1964 during Dasara Festival in Mysore City.

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By the good fortune of Mysore
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- Rani Roerich are living amongst us,
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This great privilege is to be harnessed
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In 1961 Dr. S. Roerich &
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