

27

NAGGAR,
March 27, 1936.

I, the undersigned, Mme Helena de Roerich, hereby state and certify that I have given at various times for keeping in the Roerich Museum in New-York my original manuscripts, in my own handwriting, in copy-books, beginning with March 24, 1920 up to February 3, 1935. Every of copy books has on its front page the first and last dates of the diary contents, linking it up with the next book, and there is no break in the continuity of this link. The copy books are all in black covers, except the last one, which is blue with guilt.

At first these copy books were kept by Mrs Sina Lichtmann, but later were given in keeping of Mrs Nettie S.Horch, in whose keeping they are up to now. All these manuscripts are my own personal property, were never given as gift, nor sold, nor otherwise deeded over to anyone, and as my property I demand their return to me.

These manuscripts were taken to New-York at various times, first in 1925 by Mr.V.Shibayev, who went from India to Italy and posted them from there to New-York, later by Mrs Sina Lichtmann from Mongolia in 1927, then by Professor Nicholas de Roerich in 1929 and 1934, also by Miss Esther J.Lichtmann in 1931 and 1935, and also by Mrs Nettie S.Horch in 1930 from Naggar. Because of my travels, I had no safe place for their keeping and it had been agreed that they will be kept as my property in New-York, until I shall require them. A vault was taken in my name for their safe keeping, for which purpose I authorized one to be secured from the Chemical Bank in New-York, what is confirmed in Mr.Louis L.Horch's "President's Report" of Oct.29,1932 under his own signature. There is further the following proof in official business documents of the Roerich Museum and of Mr.Louis L.Horch's Diary:

In the Minutes of Roerich Museum, Naggar #20, of April 28, 1931 signed by Prof.N.de Roerich, Miss Esther J.Lichtmann, Georges de Roerich and V.Shibayev, in para 8 it was stated:

"All manuscripts and letters of Prof.and Mme de Roerich must be kept in a special vault, and the original manuscripts of Altai-Himalayas in Prof.de Roerich's own handwriting should be kept in full order. Likewise all manuscripts of all other articles by Prof.de Roerich. Please inform us when this will have been completed".

This was confirmed from New-York in the following documents:

Mr.Louis L.Horch's Diary of May 24, 1931.

Mr.Louis L.Horch's Diary of June 13, 1931

President's Report of October 29, 1932 "Signature of Mme Roerich for Chemical Bank safe deposit vault".

Minutes of the 109th Meeting of Trustees of Roerich Museum, New-York July 1-st, 1931, para 39: "Regarding para 3 of same suggestions (of Mrs N.S.Horch), since the arrival of Prof.and Mme de Roerich's request we have been trying to collect and assort all manuscripts, letters etc. in order to put them into the vault. Already quite a number of letters and manuscripts have been put in there and we hope shortly to complete it". Signed by Louis L.Horch, M.M.Lichtmann, Frances R.Grant, Sina Lichtmann

Report from Mrs Nettie S.Horch, June 26, 1931: para 3 "Before leaving New York for Moriah on June 14th, Mrs Horch asked all Trustees to bring all letters, books and manuscripts of Professor and Mme Roerich to the place agreed upon, so that we can cable a reply to Kulu that this was done as requested.."

Cable from New-York #1185/9, 9th July 1931: "DLT ROERICH Naggar Kulu, India - All manuscripts letters put into safe Stop - Sina" (Lichtmann)

The above clearly proves that the manuscripts etc. which were my property were only in keeping and under no circumstances whatsoever may be regarded as anyone else's property.

I hereby attest the above statement to be true

Helena de Roerich .

WITNESSES:

We, the undersigned, hereby certify and witness, that the above
P.T.O.

#2

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March 27, 1936.

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Minutes of the 100th Meeting of Trustees of Roerich Museum, New-York July 1-st, 1931, para 39: "Regarding para 3 of same suggestions (of Mrs N. S. Horch), since the arrival of Prof. and Mme de Roerich's request we have been trying to collect and assort all manuscripts, letters etc. in order to put them into the vault. Already quite a number of letters and manuscripts have been put in there and we hope shortly to complete it". Signed by Louis L. Horch, M. N. Lichtmann, Frances R. Grant, Sina Lichtmann

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The above clearly proves that the manuscripts etc. which were my property were only in keeping and under no circumstances whatsoever may be regarded as anyone else's property.

I hereby attest the above statement to be true

Helena de Roerich .

WITNESSES:

We, the undersigned, hereby certify and witness, that the above

P.F.O.

X3



NAGGAR,
Kulu, Punjab, Br. India.

Nov. 4th, 1936.

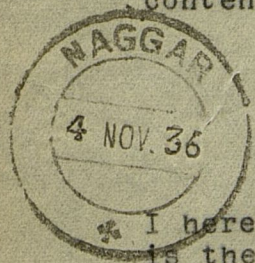
In addition to my statement of March 27th, 1936 concerning my demand for return of my Manuscripts, I have to state that:

1) The first lot of books which was shipped by Mr. V. Shibayev from Italy to Mrs Sina G. Lichtmann, New-York for safe keeping, consisted mostly of copybooks in black cardboard cover, of American make. They were written in large handwriting, in old Russian orthography.

2) The later lot was written in copy books of French make, much thicker, in flexible black oil-cloth covers, and the text was written in the new Russian orthography and in smaller handwriting, in order not to make the sendings too bulky.

3) the last copy-book, which closes on Febr. 3rd 1935, is of larger size, in blue cover, with gilt frame line on the front cover.

4) The manuscripts consist of numerous copy-books and in order to check their completeness, I repeat once more, that being in form of a diary, each subsequent volume is by date a continuation of the previous volume, and there is no break in this continuity - thus the completeness of all manuscripts can be easily checked from beginning to end - viz. from March 24, 1920 to Febr. 3rd 1935. The date on the first page must be checked with the last date on the last page of the previous volume. Should any pages have been removed, this can easily be ascertained by Mrs S. Lichtmann and Mr. M. Lichtmann, since the continuance of the contents would be obviously interrupted.



Helena de Roerich
Mrs Helena de Roerich

* I hereby certify that the above is the true signature of Mme Helena de Roerich, known to me and signed in my presence.

Handwritten notes:
12 Candanthe
Shan
Naggar
h/156

474

611017

Nov. 4th, 1936.

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Mrs Helena de Roerich

I hereby certify that the above is the true signature of Mme Helena de Roerich, known to me and signed in my presence.

COPY

Excerpt from Minutes of the 109th Meeting of the
Trustees of Roerich Museum,

July 1st, 1931

- 39) Regarding paragraph 3 of the same suggestions, since the arrival of Professor and Mme Roerich's request we have been trying to collect and assort all manuscripts, letters etc. in order to put them into the vault. Already quite a number of letters and manuscripts have been put in there and we hope shortly to complete it.

(signed) Louis L. Horch

(signed) M.M.Lichtmann

(signed) Frances R. Grant

(signed) Sina Lichtmann .

Attested to be a true copy according to the document shown.

S. J. Burke

1936

19/7/36.

