

"Creekety",
Kalimpong.
West Bengal.

3rd May, 1951.

Shri S.V. Sehni,
General Secretary,
K.P. Jayswal Research Institute,
Patna, Behar.

Dear Mr. Sehni,

The news of the inauguration of the K.P. Jayswal Research Institute has just reached me, and I am very much interested to learn that your Institute proposes "to revive the strong cultural ties existing between India and Tibet". I would be grateful, if you would kindly let me have your programme of studies in the Tibetan field, and let me know the facilities offered by the Institute to research students (scholarships, etc.),

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

D.O.No. 278

Bihar Research Society

Patna the 19th May, 1951

Dear Mr. Roerich,

Thank you for your letter dated the 3rd May, 1951. Enclosed please find our published literature about the Kashi-prasad Jayaswal Research Institute. Your letter will be placed before a meeting of the Council of the Institute.

Yours sincerely
H. S. Ghosh

To

To G. Roerich, Esq.,

Crookety,

Kalimpong,

West Bengal.

The Kashiprasad Jayaswal Research Institute, Patna

1. The Kashi Prasad Jayasawal Research Institute has been started by the Government of Bihar for promoting research and knowledge of Indian History and Culture in the widest sense of the term.

2. There is at present only an imperfect knowledge of the history and heritage of Bihar. What is known is sufficient to prove the need for further research. Some of the most fundamental doctrines of Vedanta were evolved by the galaxy of gifted seers who used to throng at the court of Janaka. The Buddha got his enlightenment in Bihar at Bodhagaya. North Bihar saw the growth of Jainism, which preached the gospel of ahimsa and paved the way to catholicism in philosophy by advocating the philosophy of Anekantavada. The phenomenon of a mighty conqueror, possessing the resources of the biggest stable empire then known, abjuring war on the morrow of a great victory, occurred for the first time in the history of the world, when Asoka ordered that war drums should cease to be beaten, and it was from his Secretariat at Patna that his edicts or notifications of conduct were issued.

3. Administrative organisation and political integration appear to have been a *forte* of Bihar's genius. What Chandragupta the Maurya achieved on a larger scale, was later attempted by Chandragupta Gupta and Sher Shah on a smaller scale.

4. Bihar's contribution to the intellectual life of the country is remarkable. Panini, Kautilya and Patanjali were all associated with ancient Pataliputra. Later Bihar developed the greatest residential and teaching University at Nalanda, which enjoyed international reputation and received endowments from foreign governments. Vikramasila later established a valuable cultural link with Tibet, which may prove of great advantage in recovering some of the lost Sanskrit works from their Tibetan translations.

5. In the realm of art, the high level achieved by Bihar in the Mauryan period was a despair for later ages. Bihar's contribution to the field of science is also noteworthy. Aryabhata, the greatest astronomer of Pataliputra, was the first to discover that the earth rotates round its axis. He is the founder of the new and scientific school of astronomy, which made several important discoveries in the course of time.

6. The contribution to the growth of modern nationalism is also remarkable. Gandhiji made his first experiments in Satyagraha in Champaran. The constitution of free India was forged under the guidance of the most distinguished patriot of modern Bihar, our first Rashtrapati, Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

7. The Jayaswal Research Institute will proceed to carry on researches in the different spheres of our many sided national life. The first and the most important work that it has to undertake is a proper scientific archaeological

survey of the state along with excavations at promising sites. No other state in India is perhaps so richly studded with archaeological monuments, sites and mounds as Bihar. But they have neither been properly surveyed nor adequately excavated. Here in Patna itself, the remains of its magnificent Mauryan palace were found as many as thirtyfive years ago. Since then, nothing was done to follow the clues supplied by it. The districts of Arrah, Gaya, Patna, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Chotanagpur, Champaran, Hajipur and Darbhanga are full of several promising archaeological sites, a mere surface survey and exploration of which may remove a number of dark spots in the history of Bihar and India.

8. The Union Government are anxious that the state should cooperate in the task of archaeological exploration and excavations. The Jayaswal Research Institute will immediately begin this work in close collaboration with the Bihar Research Society, the Archaeological Survey of India and the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture, Patna University. One Fellow has already been appointed at the Institute, who has received practical and theoretical training in Archaeology in London. Another Fellow will soon be appointed who will carry on researches in the mediaeval and modern periods of Bihar's history.

9. In due course, the Institute will carry out a village to village and mound to mound archaeological survey of the entire province, so that the surface antiquities like sculptures and inscriptions may be collected and an authentic record prepared of all the promising archaeological sites of the State, which will enable framing a programme of exploration, excavation and conservation. It is proposed to carry on excavations every year at some promising site or sites as funds permit. It is hoped that the effort of the State Government in this direction will evoke encouraging response from other organisations as well.

10. The work of collecting the documents of the mediaeval and modern periods of Bihar's history with a view to reconstruct it on a sound basis will proceed in right earnest when more staff is recruited.

11. There had been a very close cultural and intellectual link between ancient Bihar and Tibet. Scholars from ancient Bihar went to Tibet in scores and translated a number of important Sanskrit works in Tibetan. Many of these works were subsequently lost in India and now can be reconstructed only with the help of Tibetan manuscripts. A proper collection of important ancient Tibetan manuscripts will remain a considerable factor in the reconstruction of the history of our culture. A beginning was made in this direction by Mahapandit Rahula Sankrityayana, who succeeded in bringing to Bihar the originals and photographs of a large number of Sanskrit and Tibetan manuscripts. These are at present kept in the Bihar Research Society's library. A few have been translated and published. But the bulk of the collection remains to be examined and published. The Institute hopes to undertake this work as soon as the initial difficulties are overcome. It is

hoped to secure the services of competent Lamas and scholars, who will prepare an authoritative and comprehensive list of the manuscripts at present with us, and select the important ones among them for publication. The Government have sanctioned a special initial grant of Rs. 3,500 for this purpose. There is no doubt that this work of the Institute will revive the strong cultural ties existing between India and Tibet.

12. The Institute will soon start making a collection of the folklore songs which will give us a valuable glimpse into the life, culture and aspirations of the average villager. The State of Bihar has many Adivasi tribes whose life and habits also deserve to be studied with a view to a sympathetic understanding of their problems and difficulties.

13. As the work of the Institute gathers volume, in the course of time, the Institute's publication programme will naturally become one of the most important activities.

14. An effort at cultural and historical reconstruction has become a great desideratum with the achievement of the country's freedom. The Institute is fittingly named after the greatest Indological scholar of modern Bihar, Kashi Prasad Jayaswal, whose writings and researches brought to light many a dark spot in its history and who was the first scholar to create hope and confidence in Indian administration tradition by showing how republic flourished in ancient times and how they made rich contributions to the different aspects of Indian culture.

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"Crookety",
Kalimpong.

9th June, 1951.

Shri S.V.Sehoni,
General Secretary,
K.P.Jayswal Research Institute,
Patna, Bihar.

Thank you for your letter of the 19th ult, enclosing
the programme of the K.P.Jayswal Research Institute.

I shall be interested to hear from you regarding the
research facilities offered by the Institute to research stu-
dents. I am enclosing the Curriculum Vitae of a young Indian
Tibetologist, Shri R.N.Rahul, with considerable experience in
the Tibetan field, who is looking for a scientific institution
to help him to pursue his Tibetan studies.

Thanking you,

BIHAR RESEARCH SOCIETY,
P A T N A.

The 16th June, 1951.

D.O.No. 313

Dear Mr Roerich,

Thank you for your letter dated 9 June, 1951 and its enclosure regarding Shri R. N. Rahul. I shall place this letter before the Council of the Society for a decision.

Yours sincerely
S. V. Sohoni

(S. V. Sohoni)

G. Roerich, Esqr.,
" Creekety",
Kalimpong.

"Crookety"
Kalimpong,
West Bengal.

6th Sept. 1951.

Shri S.V. Sohoni,
General Secretary,
K.P. Jayswal Research Institute,
PATNA, Bihar.

With reference to my letter of June 9th
and your letter of June 16th, 1951, I would
be grateful if you would kindly communicate
to me the Society's decision regarding Shri
R.N. Rahul's application.

Thanking you in advance,

B

K. P. Jayaswal Research Institute,
DATNA.

MUSEUM BUILDINGS

Ref. No... 593/54..

Date 14th July 1954

To

The Manager,
Government Photo Registry Office,
Poona.

Sir,

May I draw your attention to your letter No.G-31/1224, dated the 31st May, 1954 in which you had promised to return the negatives, prints and the micor-film in the 3rd week of the last month? The scholars are pressing hard for the prints. I, therefore, request you to kindly arrange to send them immediately.

Receipt of 5 roll films (35mmX25m) may also be confirmed, which we requested to do vide this office letter No.481/54, dated the 25th May, 1954. The firm has not been paid in absense of confirmation from you.

Yours faithfully,
Sd./- K^SK^S Dutt,
Hony. Director.

R.13/7

Memo No. 593/54

Patna, the 14th July, 1954.

Copy forwarded to Shri Rahul Sankrityayan, Happy Valley, Mussoorie, for information, with reference to his post card, dated the 8th July, 1954 addressed to Dr. Altekar.

2. Prints will be sent to Dr. Roreick as soon as they are received.

Sd./- K.K. Dutt.

Hony. Director.

R.13/7

Memo No. 593/54

Patna, the 14th July, 1954.

Copy forwarded to G. Roreick Esqr., Crookety, Kalimpong for information with reference to his letter of the 7th inst.

R.13/7

[Handwritten Signature]
19/7/54
Hony. Director.

13/7