

Nishigahara 4-43-10  
Kita-ku, Tokyo  
Japan T 114

November 28, 1979

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich  
c/o The Indian Bank, Ltd.  
Lady Curzon Road, Cantonment  
Bangalore 560 001  
Karnataka State, South India

Respected Sir:

My close co-worker, Mrs. Emiko Tanaka, and I are members of the Agni Yoga Society and the Nicholas Roerich Museum. We are presently engaged in the translation of the Agni Yoga series from English into Japanese, and are also active in the propagation of Theosophical literature.

May of last year we showed slides of your father's paintings, sent us by Mr. Michael Breen, at the biennial meeting of Mrs. Tanaka's Theosophical organization, the King of the Dragons Society. As Professor Roerich himself so keenly observed, the Japanese are true lovers of beauty, and the slides were acclaimed as the highlight of the conference.

At that same conference, a young man by the name of Hiroshi Kamioka expressed his desire to help our cause by doing translation work as a service. It occurred to me then that with the tremendous interest in Central Asian studies and in New Age thought here, as well as the high level of aesthetic appreciation, translation of your father's work should have primary consideration. I assigned a short translation as a test, and being satisfied with the result, requested that Mr. Kamioka translate the entirety of Heart of Asia. This summer I received the manuscript translation of the first half, "Heart of Asia." I am pleased with the sensitivity, accuracy, and literary quality of Mr. Kamioka's work.

Therefore I am writing you to request permission to publish Heart of Asia sometime in 1980. We would like to include, with the actual translation, a map and glossary based on your brother's work in French; as without these aids, many passages and place-names would be unclear to the Japanese reader. Needless to say, we will see to it that this volume is printed accurately and published aesthetically. Any specifications you have about publication, format, or other matters will be carefully adhered to.

We also request permission to translate the essay "Let Us Rejoice," which appears in The Invincible. We hope to print it in an issue of Mrs. Tanaka's magazine, Light of Atma, early next year. The state of the world what it is, this essay is most timely.

Indeed, all of your father's works, literary and artistic, are great contributions to world culture. We feel that his message will be well received here, at the present time, and hope that a series of translations may be eventually achieved. Of course, you can understand that we would follow the same policy toward Professor Roerich's works as toward the books of the Teaching -- avoidance of advertising and everything smacking of commercialism. By working through our regular distributors we can make these treasures available to those whose hearts are drawn to them.

It was my great joy this summer to briefly return to my native land after a long absence and to visit New York for the first time. There I stayed in the library on the fifth floor of the Roerich Museum on 107th Street. It was wonderful to hear Sina's stories of the past,



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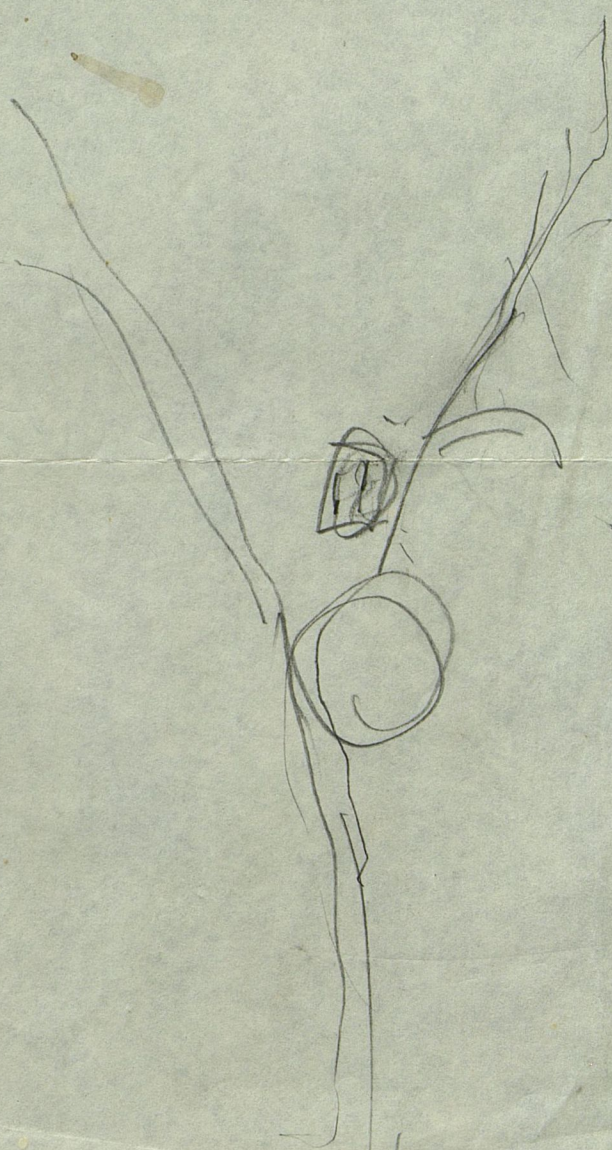
and to share with her many hopes for the future. I spent a happy day at Brookfield with Katherine and Inge. Too brief, alas, but during our hours of conversation I heard much about you, saw your fine works hung at Katherine's house, and also saw a few humorous caricatures which revealed your youthful talents! As a farewell present, and perhaps also to commemorate your mother's 100th anniversary, Katherine gave me a print of the portrait of Madame Roerich you did, with a red background. Need I say that this is a priceless treasure to me? I recall with longing how each night after bidding good night to Sina, I would stealthily descend the stairs for a few moments of silent communion before the wonderful portraits you did of your parents. They are our spiritual guides and leaders, and your portrayal of them lives in our hearts!

My regards to your wife, of whom I have heard so much favorable, and my sincere respect and gratitude to you. I am

Sincerely,

*Jeff Clark*

Jeff Clark





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Dr. Svetoslav Roerich  
c/o The Indian Bank, Ltd.  
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Sincerely,

*Jeff Clark*

Jeff Clark



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Nishigahara 4-43-10  
Kita-ku, Tokyo  
Japan T 114

May 12, 1980

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich  
c/o The Indian Bank, Ltd.  
Lady Curzon Road, Cantonment  
Bangalore 560 001  
Karnataka State, South India

Dear Sir:

I wrote to you last November 28, requesting your permission to publish a Japanese translation of your father's work, Heart of Asia. A Xerox copy of my carbon of that letter is enclosed. I do not know if that letter ever reached you, but as I heard no reply for some months, I first asked Sina and Katherine to write you on my behalf, and am now writing you again myself.

The details of our publication plans are given in my previous letter. I should add here that as Mr. Kamioka has begun work on the book Shambhala, we have definite plans to publish a series of Professor Roerich's writings. I have asked Katherine, as head of the Nicholas Roerich Museum, to write a short preface, welcoming Japanese readers to the vast sphere of thought and culture which your father embraced. Naturally we hope that you might add your welcome; but knowing how busy you are, I have been hesitant to ask you.

One more consideration -- may we include one of your sketches of your father, such as the one which appears in The Invincible, as the frontispiece of Heart of Asia? Or if this is impossible, then at least a photograph, such as the one in which he is feeding deer at Nara Park? His image would bring him yet closer to the readers.

On the third of this month we showed an audio-visual presentation of Professor Roerich's art to the members of King of the Dragons Society, as we did two years before. Again it was greeted with great applause and admiration. Now we have two such presentations, consisting of tapes and slides, and these are being shown throughout Japan.

I can only add that the grave situation in the world only enhances your father's significance as a culturebearer, a peace-creator, a leader in the fullest sense of the word. To bring his work to our Oriental friends is a necessary and timely task.

We realize that you are busy, and we send prayers for your success in reorganizing the Urusvati Himalayan Research Institute. But I do hope that you find time to write a short and hopefully favorable reply to this letter. In short we would like to know: 1) Do we have your permission to publish your father's works, beginning with Heart of Asia? 2) May we include a frontispiece, preface, map, and short glossary in our edition? 3) Will you contribute some short introductory words of welcome to our Japanese readers?

Excuse me for being insistent -- I feel this work to be so urgent. Thus I am hoping to have your favorable reply soon, so that we can begin the printing and publication.

Sending my sincerest regards to you and your wife, I am

*Respectfully,*  
*Jeff Clark*



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Nishigahara 4-43-10  
Kita-ku, Tokyo  
Japan 〒 114

July 18, 1980

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich  
c/o The Indian Bank Ltd.  
Lady Curzon Road, Cantonment  
Bangalore 560 001  
Karnataka State, South India

Respected Sir:

I am writing you now a third time in request of permission to publish your father's work, Heart of Asia. This Sunday I go to Mr. Kamioka's house to fetch the final manuscript. All that remains to do is make a map and glossary, based on your brother George's French account of the expedition, and the book will be ready for the printer. From what Sina has told me, your parents always warned against procrastination in the publication of important works. Now that we are on the point of issuing this excellent translation, the first of a planned series, it would be disappointing, even heartbreaking to us to have to postpone or cancel this essential publication, because of failure to get your kind permission to do it. Sina wrote to me that you are extremely busy with various work now, so I am taking the liberty of making a "form letter" which you can quickly fill out and let us know your decision. I understand that this is not the usual "business-like" way of doing things, but knowing that you are occupied with many important things now, I thought that this would save you time, and would also save us the constant anxiety of worrying that we might not receive permission to publish this book upon which we have worked so many months. Please forgive this unusual procedure, and don't think me too forward.

Two days ago I received a letter from Michael Breen of Sydney. Since we have two photographers associated with the Agni Yoga group here, we have offered our help to him next time he travels around the world to take photos. I and another member are learning Russian, and we hope to go to Russia and/or India next year. This work is a joy to all of us.

Sending you my sincere respect, and best wishes for your work,

*Jeff*



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July , 1980

Jeff Clark  
Nishigahara 4-43-10  
Kita-ku, Tokyo  
Japan 〒 114

Dear Jeff:

Thank you for your letter. I am extremely busy these days.

To let you know my decision regarding the publication of Heart of Asia's Japanese translation:

- Yes, I give you permission to publish it, together with a map, a short glossary, and one of my sketches of my father.
- I give my permission for publication of the text, a map, and short glossary, but without any sketch of my father.
- I give you permission to publish the text only, without any map, glossary, or sketch of my father.
- I do not give you permission to publish the Japanese translation because:

(If answers to the above are positive, please answer the following.)

- I approve of the idea of a Japanese translation series of my father's works.
- I approve of this particular translation, but not the idea of a translation series.
- I will write a short forward to this translation of Heart of Asia, and will send it soon.
- I don't have time to write anything for this book, but perhaps I can write a short message in the future, for another translation.
- I will be unable to write any sort of forward to this or any future translations.

Regarding this form letter:

- I would like to write more but don't have time.
- It's a little strange, but it works.
- I've never read such foolish bureaucratic nonsense in my life.
- All of the above.

Best wishes to you and the group in Japan.

Sincerely yours,

Svetoslav Roerich