

Sahitya Akademi



Rabindra Bhavan, Ferozeshah Rd.  
President Jawaharlal Nehru

New Delhi . Telegram Sahityakar . Telephone 40865  
Vice-President Zakir Husain . Secretary K. R. Kripalani

SA.71/ 12/60

1 February 1964

My dear Devika,

How nice to hear from you! I hope you and Svetoslav are doing well. I read with much interest his short but comprehensive Note on his father's creative achievement. How wide and versatile was his genius!

I am glad there is a programme to publish some of his works to mark the 90th anniversary of his birth. Unfortunately, the Sahitya Akademi is not in a position to publish one of these works, as suggested by you, for our programme is strictly limited to translation in the Indian languages of purely literary works. Even our present programme has had to be slowed down on account of a drastic cut in our budget because of the national emergency. It is therefore not possible for us to add to this programme in any way. I hope you will appreciate our difficulty.

You may write and ask Dr Keskar who is now Chairman of the National Book Trust if the Trust would be interested in sponsoring a book on Nicholas Roerich. The Trust's programme is general and not limited to literature proper, as in the case of the Akademi. Dr Keskar's present address is 3 Kushak Road, New Delhi.

With our affectionate greetings,

Yours <sup>affly</sup> sincerely,

Krishna

Mrs Devika Rani Roerich,  
C/O The Indian Bank Limited,  
Infantry Road, Cantonment,  
Bangalore 1.



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SA.85/12 749

20 February 1964

My dear Devika,

Please forgive the delay in acknowledging your letter of the 4 February. I have since spoken to Dr Keskar and have also sent him the Note on Nicholas Roerich which you had sent me. You may now write to him. He remembers you very well.

I wonder if you are receiving the Monthly Bulletin which we are issuing since January this year. I am sending you herewith copies of the two issues published so far, and should particularly draw your attention to the notice therein of our recent publication, English translation of Tagore's famous little novel, Chaturanga. Have you read it? I am sure you will enjoy reading it.

My warm regards to Svetoslav.

Yours affectionately,

*Krishna*

Smt. Devika Rani Roerich,  
C/O The Indian Bank Ltd.,  
Infantry Road,  
Cantonment, Bangalore 1.

Encl:





Sahitya Akademi

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 President Jawaharlal Nehru . . . . . Vice-President Zakir Husain . . . . . Secretary K. R. Kripalani

SA.16/1/13613 5 March 1964

My dear Devika,

Thank you for your letter of the 24 February. I am glad you have written to Dr Keskar and trust that something will come of it.

I am delighted to know that you will both be in Delhi some time this month. When? We shall greatly look forward to seeing you.

With affectionate regards to both of you,

Yours affectionately,

*Krishna*

Smt. Devika Rani Roerich,  
 C/O The Indian Bank Ltd.,  
 Infantry Road,  
 Cantonment, Bangalore 1.





Sahitya Akademi National Academy of Letters Rabindra Bhavan New Delhi  
Telegram Sahityakar 'phone 43581

SA.85/ 7007

1 August 1964

Dear Devika,

It's always a pleasure to hear from you.

As far as I know, the National Book Trust is actively considering the proposal to bring out a small album or portfolio of Roerich's paintings. I believe Dr Keskar will shortly write to you and Svetoslav about it for the selection of the paintings and the editing of the publication, etc. As the previous Secretary of the Trust has retired and no one has yet been appointed as Secretary, a certain amount of delay in the implementation of the programme could not perhaps be avoided. I suggest that you ring up Dr Keskar and remind him of the proposal when you are in Delhi, even if you don't have enough time to see him.

I am delighted to know you and Svetoslav will be here on the Independence Day. I too may hope to hear your voice on the phone, if seeing you is not possible.

With affectionate regards for both of you,

Yours <sup>affly</sup> sincerely,

Krishna

Smt. Devika Rani,  
C/O The Indian Bank Ltd.,  
Infantry Road,  
Cantonment,  
Bangalore 1.





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SA.16/1/ 726 / 1964 7 August 1964

*Dear Devika,*

Thanks for your letter of the 5th August.  
I shall look forward to your phone on the 15th  
(as I shall be engaged in meetings on the 16th,  
it is better that we talk on the 15th). Meanwhile  
I shall remind Dr Keskar about the matter.

Personally, I think the selection of paintings  
for the album as well as the writing of a biographical  
sketch of Prof. Roerich, an introduction to the  
paintings explaining their technique and significance,  
as well as the individual notes on the paintings  
should be done by Svetoslav. Who can do it better?  
However, this is a matter on which the final decision  
must rest with the National Book Trust. It would,  
of course, be very good if you could persuade  
Dr Radhakrishnan to contribute a short Foreword.  
Prof. Roerich was much more than a mere painter,  
he was a mystic philosopher and a seer, and it  
would be fitting that this volume carries a Foreword  
by India's leading philosopher and the First Citizen.

Love to you both.

*Yours affly  
Krishna*

Smt. Devika Rani,  
C/O The Indian Bank Ltd.,  
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Bangalore 1.





Sahitya Akademi National Academy of Letters Rabindra Bhavan New Delhi  
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SA.85/9537

26 September 1964

My dear Devika,

I am, as usual, delighted to hear from you. I rang up Dr Keskar on receipt of your letter. He has promised to write to you today. He also told me that he hopes to discuss the plan with you and Svetoslav in detail during his forthcoming visit to Bangalore in the first week of October. I hope all will turn out well.

I am very glad to know of the Russian gesture in naming two Glaciers after Roerichs - father & son. This should have received wider publicity in the Indian press. What a pity it hasn't! Will you send me immediately a short note on Prof. Nicholas and the forthcoming 90th anniversary which I can use for the October issue of Sahitya Akademi's Monthly Bulletin. Like the one you sent me earlier and which I handed over to Dr Keskar. I shall also mention the Russian gesture.

Affectionate regards to Svetoslav.

Yours affectionately,

*Krishna*

Smt. Devika Rani,  
C/O The Indian Bank Ltd.,  
Infantry Road,  
Cantonment,  
Bangalore 1.





SA.16/1/10224

8 October 1964

My dear Devika,

Thank you for your letter of 29 September 1964, and for an advance copy of Svetoslav's broadcast script on his father. I have read it with great interest. It is very well written. I shall try to listen-in on the 9th and hope I shall succeed in catching his voice on the radio.

Dr Keskar should be in Bangalore now. I hope he has met you and discussed with you both in detail the arrangements for the National Book Trust publication on Roerich.

I am inserting a note on the front page of our Monthly Bulletin for October, and shall send you six copies of the Bulletin when released.

Thank you very much for the two lovely photographs you sent, one a portrait of Nicholas Roerich (is it a self-portrait or is it a study by Svetoslav?), the other of Roerich and Jawaharlal. Was the latter taken in Kulu? Have you any photograph of Nicholas Roerich with Rabindranath Tagore? They knew and admired each other.

With affectionate regards to Svetoslav,

Yours affectionately,

*Krishna*

Mrs Devika Rani Roerich,  
C/o The Indian Bank Ltd.,  
Infantry Road,  
Cantonment,  
Bangalore 1.

KEK/KGN





Sahitya Akademi National Academy of Letters Rabindra Bhavan New Delhi  
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SA. 16/1/10415 16 October 1964

My dear Devika,

Thank you for your letter of the 12th October and for the captions.

I am glad Dr Keskar met you and has agreed to go ahead with the plan to publish a short album of Nicholas Roerich's paintings.

Today is the Bengali Bijaya Dashami, though the official Dussehra was yesterday. So let me send you and Svetoslav my bhalobasha and my best wishes.

Yours affectionately,

*Krishna*

Mrs Devika Rani Roerich,  
C/o The Indian Bank Ltd.,  
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Cantonment,  
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krk/pd





Sahitya Akademi National Academy of Letters Rabindra Bhavan New Delhi  
Telegram Sahityakar 'phone 43581

SA.16/1/ 12393/11 9 November 1964

My dear Devika,

I've sent you six copies of our Monthly Bulletin for October which carries on front page a few lines about your distinguished father-in-law. I hope they reach you.

I am very glad to know that the Mysore Government have given two Awards to Svetoslav. Please convey my felicitations to him.

I spoke to Dr Keskar again about the album. He says that he is trying to make pucca arrangements for the safe custody of the paintings to be brought to Bombay for reproduction. He seems to have been very pleased to meet you and Svetoslav there. Let's hope he gets the job done.

Yours affectionately,

*Krishna*

Smt. Devika Rani,  
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Bangalore 1.