

3. 6. 51

Dear Mr. Roerich,

many thanks for your kind letter. I had gone to Gangtok for a day and returned back here yesterday afternoon. We are going to Shillong & Gauhati on the 5th — that is to say my wife and myself accompanying father on his visit to Assam. I shall be reaching Allahabad on or about the 16th of June. I was anxious to come again to Kalimpong just to meet you again. Somehow I could not manage it.

I have written to the "Chandi" office to send you ~~of~~ all the last Sambat year's issues to you. You would be getting them soon.

I would like you to enlighten me as regards the mantras of Tara

as the Goddess is worshipped in Tibbet ^{together} with details as regards the rituals in the inner worship. In India the mantra of Tantra is of Tara is of three letters - that is called the ॐ. The addition of the Pranava ^(ॐ) before the mantra or the "ॐ" after it make the other mantras of Tantra - such as that of the "नीलतारा" which I guess is similar to what goes under the name of Blue Tara. I ~~&~~ will be deeply interested to have the yantras of Tara as used in worship in Tibbet. That should give all the ॐ devatas and their respective mantras. All this of course pertains to the inner worship. Furthermore a comprehensive note as to the details of worship would reveal how far ~~does~~ it differ with the mode of

3/

GOVERNMENT HOUSE.
DARJEELING.

2

worship in India. We published a fairly detailed article as to the worship of Tara in some previous issues of the "Chandi." If you like I would find out those issues & send them to you.

Kindly reply at my Darjeeling address. I will come back here from Assam on the 11th of this month and shall leave for Calcutta on the 14th & 15th.

with regards

Yours Sincerely

Shiva Nath Katju

Mon. G. de Roerich
"Crookety"
Kalimpong.

3

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
DARJEELING.
13. 6. 51

Dear Mr. Roerich,

many thanks for your kind letter of 8th June. We returned from Assam on the night of the 10th. On our way back from Shillong we stopped at Gauhati for a few hours and my wife & I took the opportunity of having the darshan of Kamakhya Devi. All of us are leaving for Calcutta on the 15th by air. I shall leave Calcutta the next day and reach Allahabad on the morning of the 17th. Please write to me at my Allahabad address:—

19, EDMONSTONE ROAD
ALLAHABAD.
U. P.

I am glad you have received

the copies of the "Chandi". This is the only one of its kind which is devoted to the exposition of the Tantra Shastra.

You may let me have the mantras of Ekjata Tara and also of the Trailokya Vijaya. These must be separate mandals or yantras of both.

That should mention the surrounding deities with their separate mantras. The worship of the mandal or the yantra would contain all the details. All this would pertain to the inner worship. If you could let me have all these details that would be enough to

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
DARJEELING.

compare it with the form of
 mines worship of Tara which
 is known to us in India.
 I have every reason to
 believe that the Tautrik
 worship in Tibet has been
 adapted from India and it
 there has only been changed
 in some minor details to
 suit the desha & Kāl.

Hope this finds you in
 excellent health.

With best wishes from
 Yours Sincerely
 Shiva Nath Katju

19, Edmonstone Road
Allahabad
7.7.51

Dear Mr. Roerich,

many thanks for
your kind letter of the 23rd.
I had gone out of the Station
for a few days and hence the
delay in writing to you.

I am thankful to you
for sending me the address
of M. Pierre Bernard. He must
be very old now. The late
Swami Vivekanand had met
him in America & had thought
very high of his attainments.
He is an accomplished
Sanskrit scholar and a
Tantrik Yogi of high order.

5
I am writing to him and
shall eagerly await his reply.

The Asiatic Society has not
as yet sent your book to me.
You might remind them about
it.

I hope you will soon send
the detailed information
about Ekjata Tara and
Trailokya Vyaja.

Hope this finds you in
excellent health. Were you at
Allahabad some years
back. The Editor of the
"Leader" told me a few
days back that you stayed
for some time at Allahabad
or was it your brother.

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये



Rest is well.

with best wishes from

Yours sincerely

S. N. Katju

Mr. G. de Roerich

Crookety

Kalimpoung

(West Bengal)

पहला मोड़

नीसरा मोड़

दूसरा मोड़

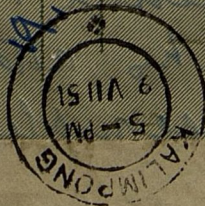
प्रेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-

S. N. Katju

19 Edmonstone Road

Allahabad

U.P.



परी कर क र खिये

19 Edmonstone Road
 Allahabad
 1/8/51

Do you know of any good English translation of the "Guhya Samaj Tantra". I would like to have it.

My dear Mr. Roerich,
 many thanks for your kind letter. I have received a copy of the "Blue Annals." It is indeed a very valuable work. I have read the chapters on the "Tantras" with interest. I wish the writer of the Annals had given some more information about the teachings and practices of Tantra in Tibet. I congratulate you on bringing out the translation of such an important work. Your introduction is illuminating and shows how much labour & research you have put in.

I shall write to you more about the "Blue Annals" after I have studied it more carefully. I shall review it in the "Chaudi."

Hope this finds you in excellent health. I will be happy to get an autographed photograph of yours.

With regards from

Yours Sincerely
 Su. Kalyan

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये



Mr. George de Roerich
"Crosskety"
Kalinpong
(West Bengal)

पहला मोड़

दूसरा मोड़

तीसरा मोड़

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-

Shiva Nath Kohn
19, Edinburgatara Road



पत्रों कोट भर नो लिखें

इंडिया लिक्चुरिटी प्रस. नासिक मोड़

SHIVA NATH KATJU
M.A., LL.B.
ADVOCATE, HIGH COURT
&
FEDERAL COURT, INDIA

19, EDMONSTONE ROAD
ALLAHABAD

7
12th Oct. 1951

my dear Mr. Roerich,

I am so sorry I could not acknowledge your two letters in time. Your registered letter duly reached me as also the one sent later. I was greatly preoccupied during the last fortnight and could hardly get a breathing time. Please excuse the delay in writing to you.

Tara's mantra that you have written to me is somewhat baffling. Could you re-write that after transcribing it in Sanskrit characters. As it is I find little similarity with the mantras of Tara that I know of. I shall consult my Gurudeva also and let you know what he says.

The Indian tradition is that Sage Vasishtha performed Sadhana of Tara ^{in Mahachina} and obtained Siddhi and thereafter it obtained further vogue in Bharatvarsha and from here it travelled to Tibbet. The problem undoubtedly requires a great deal of research & is linked with the broader issue of the links of Indian Tantrism.

* महाचीन.

with Mahayan Buddhism in its various aspects.

The history of Tantra Shastra in India has ^{often} been misjudged by European scholars of XIX and early XX century. Mere familiarity with Sanskrit can never fully give a correct grasp of this science. It is essentially practical. Since the last fifteen hundred years or even longer the mantra-shastra became a hidden doctrine and sadhaks in India themselves delighted it in making this form of sadhana as secret and obscure as possible. There might have been another reason. The spread of Jainism and Buddhism in India led to a sort of revolution in the social habits of the country with great emphasis on vegetarianism and ~~to~~ abstaining from killing of animals for food. The meaning put to Ahimsa by the Buddhists and Jains in India implied "non killing of animals". This was the hardly the meaning put on the expression in the earlier eras. Since Tantrik Sadhana necessitated the use of meat & wine,

specially in Virachar (वीरचार), it was mercilessly attacked in India by the Jains and was likely to run against the social conscience. It grew more and more as a hidden doctrine. None the less the sadhana is still widely practiced in India and I have very often been surprised to know spiritual giants whom the people near them have never known as Tantrik Sadhaks.

The old saying प्रतः शिवदा वीरचाराः समा मरुत
ए वशा वशावाः । नाना रूपपराः आत्मविचरन्ति मरुतः
is too true even now. 11

There is another tender spot. The fifth or the last tatwa in Virachar Sadhana. The misuse of this has given rise to every form of degeneration. It is true that on certain occasions the fifth tatwa could be practiced but not in the form as is popularly imagined. Strictly speaking it is the Tantrik adaptation of the Vedic sacrament e.g. the गन्धर्वसिद्धिः । The Mahanirvan Tantra tersely puts

the position thus :-

शेषं तत्र महेशानि निर्वोजे प्रबले कृतौ ।
 स्वधिया क्वचन ^{नैवा} सर्वे दोष विवर्जिता ॥

So it is the wife who could be the safest medium. ^{But in} congregational worship of a secret nature I have never seen ladies been looked at as anything but as embodiments of the Divine Mother. ^{They are} treated with the greatest respect and consideration. Naturally if this were not so the householders Sadhaks would have to keep away from such congregational worship. I have known Tantrik avadhutas - ~~staut~~ - being attached to their individual shaktis (in your Blue Annals the parallel word used is मुहा - Tantrik assistant - see page 221, 13th line from the bottom) but their sex relations ^{are} strictly confined to privacy and in congregational worship their attitude and behavior is strictly in conformity with those of the householders as described above. As a matter of fact the practice of Mahamudra (महामुहा) as part of Sadhana is fraught with grave risks

and is rarely practiced. This aspect has been very correctly put in your Blue Annals - See p. 268, last two lines from the bottom, & the first line on page 269.

Tantrik Sadhana is a powerful form of Spiritual Culture. It has its pitfalls and dangers and hence it is not meant for the common man. It is like walking on the edge ~~of~~ of a precipice. It is not to be pursued for the lure of wealth and mundane powers. The objective should be the realisation of the Supreme Being within this mortal coil.

This Science - the Mantra Shashtra - has been woefully maligned and neglected in India. Much labour and research is ^{still} needed to remove the pite of cobwebs. The late Sir John Woodroffe did pioneer work in this direction under the guidance of his great guru - the late Pandit Shiva Chandra Bhattacharya of Banaras. You are eminently qualified to continue follow

the track of the late Sri Jahan. You would thus repay your debt to Psharat-varsha which is now your adoptive motherland. For this full initiation is necessary. Without it a correct grasp of theoretical principles is never possible.

I have written to you in all earnestness. I hope you will not misunderstand me. I regard my contacts with you as a great privilege and do hope that I would continue to enjoy your friendship. My regret is that my last meeting with you was so brief and short. But I do hope we will meet again.

My father would be leaving for Darjeeling today. I am not sure if he would go to Kalimpong.

I have written to Mon. Pierre Bernard and am awaiting his reply. Hope you are in excellent health.

With best wishes from

Yours sincerely
Sukanya

Shri Nath Khatju

19, EDMONSTONE ROAD
ALLAHABAD.

21.4.52

My dear Mr. Roerich,

I am so ashamed of myself in not having written to you earlier in reply to your letter of 7th Nov. I was a Congress Candidate for the membership of the U.P. State Legislative Assembly. Electioneering was pretty strenuous. I have been elected. So please excuse me for the delay in acknowledging your letter.

The mantra of Ekjata transcribed in Devanagiri character that you have written is somewhat baffling. It is certainly different than the mantra of Ekjata that I know of. I shall discuss the matter with my Gurdewa & will soon let you know.

I have managed to collect

Shiva Nath Katya

2

19, EDMONSTONE ROAD
ALLAHABAD.

11

some bits of information about
Pierre Bernard and am thinking of
fixing it the shape of a small article.
It appears to me that he is a
remarkable man. He wrote a
book *Vira-Sadhana* (विरा साधना) ^{in 1910}. I
wish I could lay my hands on it.

I wrote a letter to Bernard some
months back at the address you
sent to me. I haven't received
any reply from him.

Father is at Delhi. The
High Court would be closing on
the 14th May. I may go there for a
few days. I have also to be
at Lucknow for the session of
the Leg. Assembly which starts
from the 14th May.

Hope this finds you in
excellent health.

With the best wishes from
Yours Sincerely
Shiva Nath Katya

Shiva Nath Goel

1/

19, EDMONSTONE ROAD
ALLAHABAD. 12

24th Nov. 1955

My dear Mr. Roerich,

Thanks for your letter of 20th November. My father was at Allahabad during the Diwali holidays but his visit was marred by a bereavement in the family. My father's elder sister's husband died on the 11th of this month. That has meant the breaking up of ^{my aunt's} conjugal companionship extending to nearly 65 years. I wonder if my aunt will survive the blow for long. My father is deeply attached to his sister and he was equally grief stricken. We had to go to Haridwar for a condolence visit.

I am herewith enclosing a cutting from the Amrita Bazar Patrika which contains my article on "Tantra in America". Lack of space compelled the paper to delete the concluding portions of my article. Even after deletion the article is fairly self contained. There are however some errors in print and at places some lines have been put at the wrong place.

It appears that the Tantrik Order (Tantra Sangha) is a global organisation.

Shri Nath Pokri

2/

19, EDMONSTONE ROAD
ALLAHABAD. 13

I managed to get some further information about the "Tantra Saugha" after I had written my enclosed article. The Tantrik Order has divided the world into seven "provinces" one of which is America (U.S.A.). I am not aware of the extent of the other provinces and their Territorial limits. On the top is a "Supreme Council" which guides and directs the affairs of the Saugha all over the world — and this Supreme Council meets every year in India. Do you know any thing about this Supreme Council and the persons who are its members? Who are the people who direct the affairs of the "Indian Division" of the Tantra Saugha? It is most surprising that I and my associates of the "Shakta - Sammelan" are totally ignorant about the existence + composition of this "Supreme Council" or that of the aforesaid Indian Division. I am most anxious to get into touch with the members of this "Supreme Council" in India. I have a feeling that perhaps you could help me.

¶ I am further informed that Sylvain Hamati, the Guru of Bernard was alive in 1931 and was then 69 years old. I am not sure whether he is still alive.

Shree Nath Katju

3/

19, EDMONSTONE ROAD
ALLAHABAD 14

But according to my information he was a member of the Supreme Council and his time was mainly spent in India. Did you ever meet him - or perhaps your father might have known him. Hamati's Guru was Mahidhara who was known to Swami ^{Ram} Tirtha and whom the Swami described as the greatest yogi he knew and the profoundest man on earth. Do you know anything about Mahidhara.

Who founded the "Tantra Saugha".
I confess I am baffled and am seeking light and information from you. If you think that any part of the information that you might like to convey to me would be in confidence and not for public I assure you that my your confidence in me would not be misplaced.

I am conveying your good wishes to my father.

With warmest regards I remain

Yours very sincerely
Sh. Katju



9, EDMONSTONE ROAD
MUMBAI

23.1.56.

15

My dear George, I am venturing to address you in the way I have done and would insist on your calling me "Shivaji" as my friends and relations do. I consider it a privilege to count you as one of my friends. I received your letter of 19th January this afternoon. I had duly received your letter of 20th November which was replied by me on the 24th of November. After that I did not get any letter from you until this afternoon. It seems that your letter of 6th December has been lost. I do not know what happened to it. If you remember its contents you may write that again.

The global "Tantra Saugha" remains a mystery. As President of the All-India Shakti Sammelan I am in touch with several Tantrik Yogis but no body knows anything about it. It is a fact that there is a Tantrik Order in America. Bernard's letter written in 1931 to some person in India makes that quite clear. Bernard's letter further mentions that the Supreme Council of the Tantra Saugha "was resident in India" and was composed of the Princes of the Seven Provinces (in which the "Tantra Saugha" divides the world) who met annually. Bernard's firm, Sylvain Hamati was in the opening years of the present

Shri Nath Raju

21



19, EDMONSTONE ROAD
ALLAHABAD

16

Century a member of the American Tantrik Order's top Council composed of 5 persons. Bernard says in his letter of 1931 that at that time (viz 1931) Hamati had been elevated as a member of the Central "Supreme Council" with headquarters in India and Hamati was frequently moving all over the world as his work consisted of inspecting the working in different "Provinces" of the Tantra Saugha. Bernard in the aforesaid letter said that he may visit India in the Summer (of 1931) & if he did "his habitat would be Darjeeling till the heat abates." members of the Tantra Saugha are pledged to secrecy. I doubt whether anyone will give substantial information. I wonder whether we would know even this much as to where the headquarters in India are located and who direct its working. There is a reference to the "Tantrik Order in England" in the Journal of the International Tantrik Order (American Edition) issued near about 1908. But I have no information as to the other "Provinces" apart from United States & England. I can't even say whether England is one Province or just part of a bigger Province. The current issue of the "Chandi", which will be in your hands soon,



Shri Nath Baba

To write soon.
I will look into
your very kind
Shri Nath Baba

Tantrik expression, Kashmiri Brahmins are Shakta. My eldest daughter Vilas was married last summer, Capt. Astika Handoo (primarily spelled as Handu and written as ६३).

and the last issue of the "Chaudi" give the Hindi version of all the articles written by me on the subject. Bernard died in the last week of September 1955. He is survived by his widow and brothers - one of whom is Clem Bernard. A friend of mine from Calcutta says that Clem Bernard is himself a Yogi and practiced Tantric Yoga with my friend's father in about 1930 & that Clem's son is also interested in this science and he lived for some time in Tibet as well. Clem Bernard lives in California.

Hamati's guru was Mahidhara whom Swami Ram Tirtha described as the greatest Tantrik Yogi of his time and as the "profoundest man on Earth." We had not heard of Mahidhara. Now information has come that Mahidhara (if he is the same person) was the Raj-Purohit of the royal house of Tehri Garhwal & was well known as a great Sadhak. We are trying to contact his grandson, Mednidhar in the hope that some useful information may come. All this is most baffling. I do hope you may be able to throw some light on this mystery.

I am not aware of any sub-caste of Brahmins bearing the name of "Handu". But in my community - the Kashmiri Brahmins - Handu is a surname just like Katu or Kaul (another

Shiva Nath Katju

M. A., LL. B.

Advocate

HIGH COURT, ALLAHABAD
& SUPREME COURT, INDIA

18
19 Edmonstone Road
ALLAHABAD

15.2.56

My dear George, many thanks for your kind letter of the 4th. You anticipated me by mentioning the name of Theo Bernard. As a matter of fact I was going to ask you about him. He was the son of Glen Bernard - and Glen is the brother of the late Pierre Arnold Bernard. Did not Theo ever talk to you about his uncle Pierre. I had heard that Theo was lost in Tibbet. You say that he lost his life in 1947 in the Punjab Himalayas. Are you sure of Theo's death. The other day I heard from a friend in the United States that he had heard of Theo's death in Tibbet but he was further informed during Christmas of 1954 that Theo was not dead but was living in some Tibbetan monastery. Please throw some more light on this matter.

Information is coming in trickles about Mahidhar. He lived in Tehri Garhwal and died near about 1962. But more

information is needed before it could be said that he was the same person who was Sylvaisthamati's Guru.

As yet there is no information about Hamati. Furthermore we are as yet absolutely in the dark about the "Tantra-Saugh" in India which directs the affairs of the global Tantra Saugha.

Where is Prince Peter of Greece. A friend of mine from Bavaria told me a few days back that the Princess (Prince Peter's wife) while at Bavaria was making enquiries about the Tantras. Please convey my regards to the Prince and the Princess and tell them that I will be happy if they will permit me to write to them.

Hope this finds you in the best of spirits. With best wishes from

Yours very Sincerely
Shivaji

All India Shakta Sammelan

President
Shiva Nath Katju

19
19
19, Edmonstone Road
ALLAHABAD
(U.P.)

20. 8. 56

Dr. G. Veni

My dear George, if I am not mistaken my last letter to you still remains unacknowledged that was many months back. But I should have written to you again. I do hope this finds you in the best of health.

Early in July I read an account of your latest work - the translation of the Tibetan book "Guru-bag-vinayavali nama" by Juba C Ches-da. The translator's name is mentioned as J. Koerich. But I guess J is a mistake for G. I had read the account in Governor Munshi's article which was published in the Anurita Bazar Patika in its issue of July 1. The book is of great importance. Where can I get a copy of your work.

I am still awaiting information about the "Tantra-saugha". I had put certain queries to you. Have you been able to receive any further information on the subject. I had requested you to put me in touch

All India Shakta Sammelan

20

President
Shiva Nath Katju

19, Edmonstone Road
ALLAHABAD
(U.P.)

with Prince & Princess Peter of Greece. They may
be of some help. May I know their address.
Are they in Kalimpong? I have a feeling
that on the question of ^{the} Tantra-Saucha you
are not sufficiently communicative. Could
it be that you are a member of the "Saucha".

Please do write soon. With best
wishes I remain

Yours sincerely
Shivaji

Shiva Nath Katju

27.11.17

19 Edmonstone Road
ALLAHABAD

3.9.56

My dear George,

I am herewith enclosing the clipping of Mr. K. M. Munshi's article on your book. I am anxiously looking forward to its publication.

I again request you to help me in finding out details of the lives of Mahidhara and Sylvain Hamati. I have sent two or three letters to Mrs. Bernard but she has not written to me. I believe the Tantra Saugha is still flourishing in the United States. I have no information about its existence or working in other countries. All I know is that it ~~is~~ was registered as a Society in Great Britain, Canada & India. If the

Shiva Nath Katju

27

22
19 Edmonstone Road
ALLAHABAD

Tantra-Saughha is still functioning
in the world — as would seem
to appear from the late
Dr. Bernard's letter of
1931 — that would be a
matter of great importance.

I have forgotten the
name of the wife of Prince Peter
of Greece. I think I sent
to you clippings of my
articles on the Tantra Saughha
and Bernard. Please show
them to the Princess if she
desires to read them.

I am conveying your
greetings to my father.

With best wishes I remain

Yours Sincerely,
Shivaji

Shiva Nath Katju

19 Edmonstone Road
ALLAHABAD

11. 10. 56 ²³

My dear George,

I got your letter of the 11th - on 20th September. I regret I could not write to you earlier.

No, you needn't return the press clipping of Mr. Maushie's article about your book. You can keep it. You must however let me know when the book is published.

I am very anxious to read it.

Princess Irene very kindly wrote to me. I have sent her another letter and I am awaiting its reply.

I am not quite sure that the "Tantra Saugha" in the U.S.A. or elsewhere is less active now than what it used to be. I

would very much like to be sure on that point. Please do let me ~~any~~ ^{understand} information on the subject if you get it.

May I request you to write

an article for the "Chandi". If you
write in English I will arrange
to get it translated in Hindi.

may I suggest a ~~suggest~~ subject.
- "Worship of Tara in Mahayana
Buddhism."

Hope you are well.
with very best wishes from
Yours Sincerely
Shivaji