

NAGGAR,
Kulu,
Punjab,
Br. India

Jan. 22nd 1931.

My dear Mr. Mundy,

Thank you very much for your substantial report which brought us so many news, facts and considerations. I am very glad that once more it was firmly established that all suspicions were nothing else but "intagibles and not deeds" and that the "Government was mislead by false reports". I would not like to be in the place of these false reporters because they forge their own destiny.

Being so far from any politics, it was a revelation to me that the American flag - the flag of Allies, that of an English speaking country can arouse suspicion and dissension. Neither could I suppose that Mr. Frazer, the American Consul General, who looks so peaceful, could call forth "irritation", whereas it seemed that he had the best of relationship with the British Officials. These informations you gave us, we find very valuable. Besides, the expeditions, which crossed Asia approximately in the same regions as we did - Roosevelt, Andrews, Priest and other expeditions under the American flag, seems to us, did not arouse any hostilities because of that.

What you write about my Russian origin also changes its aspect if we go to the very origin itself which leads us to the Earl of Frisia Roerich (Markgraf in Frisia) at the time of Carolings. By the way it is very interesting to note that our Coat of Arms kept through a millenium its characteristic ensignia.

At is so typical for humanity that after forty years of artistic and cultural activities, known in so many countries tries, which created for me a multitude of eminent friends, the situation forced you to speak about me as if I were an unknown newcomer. It is so strange that so many books about me and my own were issued in English, French, Spanish, Italian Russian, German, Swedish, Japanese, Finnish, Czechoslovakian, but at the same time you had to begin the whole story anew. Probably for you as a writer such a situation was most interesting. Verily, why do the people love more the dead than the living? From what source comes such necromancy? And why to the cemeteries nobody brings the wreath of thorns?

Your consideration about tactfulness I read with great satisfaction. During my entire 40 years activities, nobody reproached me of lack of cleverness, perspicacity and tact, electing me as President of many Institutions in various countries. These qualities I especially value myself in others and I assure you that every tactful approach will be met by me tactfully and friendly.

You are right, in our cultural activities we have nothing to hide. Sooner or later the most ignorant people will adopt my basic motto, which I laid into the foundation of our Institutions, that only - Beauty, Knowledge and Peace are cornerstones for a happy future. We have to remedy the convulsions of revolutions by a constructive and peaceful evolution.

Each one who will oppose this formula is an enemy of Peace and Humanity.

Since last year you came closer to our work. I have not forgotten that your first approach has happened during my 40th anniversary and during this year that followed, you have already seen how much of benevolent attention our activities have drawn. There are also enemies, but we are happy, that like the Romans we can pronounce with satisfaction the old saying: "Name thy enemies and I shall say who thou art". With similar satisfaction we realize that our activities are constructed upon tangible, pure facts, which our friends call attainments. But we know that no attainment exists and that the spiral of evolution is endless, hence the joy of creation is also limitless.

In your letter you underlined the great word "silence". We cherish this formula when based on justice and reason. Justice and knowledge create the great silence of Wisdom. Let us pray to the Supreme that the silence of Wisdom shall saturate all our future records of peaceful incessant construction.

Another of my basic mottoes is - Light is a Victor! And together with you I believe that justice and Reason are the final winners.

I was happy to see from your letter that you appreciate the noble actions of Miss Lichtmann, who has acted as a real

devoted friend at a time of such severe illness of M-me Roerich, whose condition to our greatest sorrow is stated by the physician to be chronic, progressing with age and even more serious than we supposed. I am saddened to witness how much the condition of health of M-me Roerich was aggravated during the 17 months of my absence. The physician states that only high altitudes and full rest can prolong her life. We do not see any improvement, certain symptoms became even worse. How cruel and unscrupulous are those, who dared to give false reports when a dear to all of us life was in danger.

In your report we found a suggestion to have a British resident co-worker in Kulu. You shall be glad to know that when you wrote this formula, this question was already most favorably solved here on the place. We have as a permanent member of the Institute an Attaché to the President Founder, Col. Mahon, D.S.O., a very distinguished British officer and a real gentleman and devotee to culture. He has splendid connections. Our cooperation with Co. and Mrs Mahon is based on a reciprocal friendship. We learned with great satisfaction that the Punjab Government has approved and welcomed Col. Mahon's nomination, as our coworker, this being so valuable for he is since two years a resident of the Valley. This proves also once more our friendly cooperation with Great Britain. Verily, being honored by seventeen countries, why shall the eighteenth be hostile to us?

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I am certain that you shall act as it is needed. I shall be very glad to hear about your new books and am sending you best wishes for success.

With kindest greetings from us all,

Yours very sincerely,