

October 23, 1928

Mr. Asit Kumar Halder, Director,  
Lucknow School of Art,  
Lucknow, India.

Dear Friend,

I have not written to you for a long time because I hoped to see you personally at Lucknow when we went to Simla. But not all our thoughts and wishes are fulfilled; so, for many reasons we were in such haste that we passed Lucknow only thinking about you without seeing you, your work, your school, and all that you are accomplishing so successfully. With the greatest interest I read the article about you and your school in the Modern Review. I rejoiced to know what a creative spirit you are introducing into the school. I rejoiced also at the fact that such gifted artists are now being invited to be the heads of schools. For the artists who have vision it is a real duty to inspire the young generation. We cannot be ascetics in our creations. It is very enticing to live in caves, surrounded with the wisdom of nature. But we have a duty to spread the teaching of life and of art amidst the young ones. You know that Art and Beauty, just as Science and Knowledge, for me are not abstract aspirations, but the reality which shall lead humanity upon the path of new evolution. And how badly the old world needs refreshing air and eagles' wings.

I shall remain in Darjeeling until December 15th, after which we shall be at Simla where you can reach me in care of the Postmaster. Although I have not seen you personally now, I hope we shall be nearer and nearer in our mutual understanding of the essential mission of beauty.

My best greetings and wishes.

Cordially yours,



Gopabandhan Tagore

PC

20/4/1951

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My dear Friend.

~~Working here~~ in I often recollect remember  
you, working here now in the Himalayas —  
you have always been associate in my  
mind with the conceptions of Friendship  
& Cordiality and your sale of ~~valued~~ treasures  
were often cause for great joy to me.  
Every creation in the domain of Beauty and  
Culture is so necessary, ~~at~~ and I trust

Ass: Kumar Kaldar

that you work proceeds with success as before.  
Heartiest greetings.

Again I am woven in the ~~kindly~~  
and I again with same joy  
remember you & all family  
and all who have ~~brought~~ <sup>given</sup> so much  
for Culture. This conception  
always so needed, is now  
of utmost importance in all countries  
Have you heard of my Peace Banner

Most for Cultural  
Treasures.



~~No 12~~

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3  
NAGGAR,  
Kulu,  
Punjab.

May 9th 1931.

My dear Friend,

With great joy I received your letter with your valuable enclosures. Your photo shall be sent to New-York where it will enter the collection of portraits of our Honorary Advisers.

Your composition, so dynamically powerful, will enter the collection of Urusvati Museum in Naggar and will remind us of your unfolding and flourishing talent. I do not know when I shall be in the plains and have the opportunity to visit your School, but in spirit I am often with you and your name is pronounced here with a feeling of hearty friendship.

In my next book "Abode of Light" you will find several Messages dedicated to the great conception of Culture. You know that in the end of Kali-Yuga highest spirituality and culture will be subject to attacks by dark forces. In order to withstand this barbaric ignorance, all bearers of Culture should be united, enlighting and reinforcing each other. We all know how great is the responsibility of all us before the future generations. And how untiringly we have to create, create, create! And thus to fill space with blessed unselfish



achievements. Many of us have it very difficult at present, but we know how many seeming difficulties are easily transformed into possibilities.

If in your School, or in Lucknow, you have some friendly bookshop, we could send some of our editions and postcards to them, if there is a demand.

I can tell you with great satisfaction that our Institutions are developping rapidly and we now have already over forty foreign Societies and Branches. From the Bulletin, which you receive, you will have had glimpses of these activities. I also am so glad to see from your letter that under your guidance your School flourishes and your own talent so victoriously rises.

With best wishes and greetings

Sincerely yours

PoojAsit Kumar Halдар.  
Principal GOVT.SCHOOL of ARTS & CRAFTS  
L u c k n o w .



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A. K. Ralder

NAGGAR, Kulu, Punjab.

Jan. 22, 1932

My dear Friend,

I have just received your kind invitation for the Annual Exhibition in Lucknow. I am very sorry that just recently I have sent 50 of my new paintings and sketches to New-York and Paris. So that I am at present in process of creating new ones. As I am writing this there is before me your painting - the powerfull Horsemen which always reminds me of the vigour and creative strength which are so typical for your personality.

I also remember often you, when seeing Mr. Mitra who has started his work here and who makes on us a very good impression. Only from newspaper reports I read recently of the celebration of Dr. Tagore's septenary anniversary in Calcutta and Lahore, and not having heard about this celebration earlier, I could not take part in it in time. I was under the impression that his anniversary was in May when I sent him a telegram, and also gave an article for his Golden Book. Do you when it is expected to appear?

I am indeed sorry that my paintings have already gone abroad, especially as my "Path to Kailas" would have, I know, been near to your heart.

In spirit with you,



On paper of Union Pacte Roerich

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NAGGAR, Kulu, Punjab, India  
March 14th 1932.

Dear Friend,

I was delighted to receive your letter of March 8th. with the enclosed clipping. I was so glad to see that you feel at heart the interests of our Institutions and in this is expressed our mutual sympathy.

Your proposed trip to Japan is very interesting and the name of Mr. N. C. Mehta is very familiar to me, and I consider him a great scholar and connoisseur of art. Certainly I will recommend to our American Institutions to arrange not only a lecture of his but also to greet him on a reception in his honour. He is no doubt our friend, as we consider everything coming from you to be cordial.

Many thanks for your suggestion to send to the Press interesting facts about our Institutions. I am sending herewith a fragmentary snapshot of one of my latest paintings dedicated to the Banner of our Pact. I shall soon have an enlargement, which I will send you and then your friend may be interested to publish it.

In thoughts always with you and sending you my heartiest greetings

Yours very sincerely,



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NAGGAR, Kulu, Punjab.

March 31st 1932.

Dr. Asit Kumar Halder,  
Principal Govt. School of Arts and Crafts  
Lucknow.

My dear Friend,

In continuation of my last letter I would like to send you enclosed my article "Spinoza" in connection with the coming 300th Anniversary of this great philosopher. This article may interest your friend in the Associated Press, or you may use it at your discretion, since the philosophic minds of India may like to read upon this subject through the Indian Press.

By the way, have you any news about Mr. S. K. Mitra? He is on a business tour in connections with our orchards, and was due to return by the 20th. He wrote from Madras that he will be delayed, but will come before the end of this month. We have since wired him twice at Lucknow, but without response. In the meantime the assistant manager, who had been temporarily engaged till the 20th, had to leave on the 24th and at present that orchard and Estate is without any supervision. As I had personally instructed Mr. Mitra to return by the 20th, we are worried lest something may have happened to him and we would be glad to hear whether you know anything about him?

I hope your splendid work is progressing with your usual enthusiasm and am sending you my very best greetings

Very cordially yours,



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NAGGAR, Kulu, Punjab

Apr. 15th 1932

Dr. Asit Kumar Haldar,  
Govt. School of Arts & Crafts  
Lucknow.

My dear Friend,

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th inst. and for your greetings, transmitted to me by Mr. S. K. Mitra, who arrived here safely.

I appreciated very much several of his stories. I believe as before that he will render good services on his post.

I had a nice letter from Mr. N. C. Mehta and had much pleasure in sending him my best farewell on his trip. I have recommended him to our co-workers in America. It is however unfortunately that he is going at such a time, when greatest economic and financial depression reigns over that country and in the world in general. Verily the times are hard, and especially for cultural workers.

I am very glad that you liked my article on "Spinoza" and I know that everything in your hands is always in best care. I am further sending you two copies of the last issue of our "Urusvati Journal", one for yourself, the



NAGGAR, Kulu, Punjab

May 16th 1932.

Dr. Asit Kumar Maldar,  
Principal, Govt. School  
of Arts and Crafts.  
Lucknow.

My dear Friend,

Verily everything that comes from you is of special significance. From you came the first message from Mr. Mehta and now this correspondence has resulted in the Benares Museum requesting me send some of my paintings to which the Museum is dedicating a special room as a Branch of the Roerich Museum, New-York. It gives me a special pleasure to announce this to you, not only as to a friend, but also as to our Honorary Adviser. Besides the 52 Societies which we have up to now all over the world, this will be the sixth Branch of Roerich Museum, as you will see from the copy of my letter to the Benares Museum which I enclose herewith.

I was deeply touched that you liked so much my painting dedicated to my Banner of Peace. Do not really the events of every day point out the necessity of this Banner-Protector of Culture?

I am sure you will be glad at the news about the Benares Section. It is of course understood that should you - in case you have an exhibition in Lucknow next year - desire to have



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one of these my paintings, then it will be in full accord  
with wish. You know how I value every cooperation with you.

With heartiest greetings

Yours in spirit,



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July 8, 1932

Dr. Asit Kumar Halder,  
Principal GOVT SCHOOL of ARTS & CRAFTS  
LUCKNOW.

My dear Friend,

Amongst the many things with which you have opened my heart, I am also thankful to you for having met your co-workers, Mr. B. W. Sen and Mr. L. M. Sen. To me this personal meeting was of great pleasure.

In a few days we are despatching to Benares 12 paintings for my room there. Mr. Bireswar Sen has a list of them and has seen them before they were packed; he will tell you all about them.

Since you, my dear Friend, are our Honorary Advisor, I consider you as a spiritual protector of this Section of our Museum. I shall value very much all news which you can communicate to me in this connection. Please accept with my sincerest greetings a copy of the Anniversary Monograph just published in New-York, as well as a copy of GAND ARTISTIQUE & Roerich Day - the latter is rather significant because the birthday of the Blessed Buddha was celebrated in a Christian Church in New-York and my art was honoured on this occasion. Mr. Bireswar Sen will also transmit to you a ring. When waering it please always remember that on sending it, I have placed on it my hand with my heartiest feelings.

In Spirit with you



Dr. Asit Kumar Haldar. Lucknow.

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Sept. 2, 1932.

My dear Friend,

Returning from my summer stay in Lahul one of my first thoughts was to wish you for the beginning of your new season success in your further achievements.

On my desk I found a letter from Pandit Braj Mohan Vyas of the Allahabad Museum, requesting for a similar room of my paintings in their Museum. He refers to you and I shall be very glad if you would kindly write me whatever you know of their artistic standing, the premises, etc. You know that in principle I am always very sympathetic towards all cultural undertakings, as I consider Museums shrines of Beauty and Knowledge - milestones of the progress of human attainment and believe that every human being should encourage such strongholds of Culture.

If you have some news from Benares I shall always appreciate hearing from you.

If my article on SPINOZA is not yet published, please send it to me - I am always asked for articles by the SCHOLAR and I like very much this scholarly and broadminded magazine.

You have no doubt heard of the success of our Bruges Conference and I am very glad that in this way our Pact is finding still wider adoption. Please give our best greetings to both the Sens of whom I keep dear remembrance.

In spirit with you,



Sept. 2, 1932

Dear Dr. Haldar,

You will no doubt be interested to hear particulars of the Second Bruges Conferences of the Roerich Pact and I have much pleasure in enclosing herewith a short communiqué, based on press reports received from Bruges by airmail just now. This may be used for publication in the Press of India.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely,



Oct. 6th, 1932.

Dr. Asit Kumar Haldar,  
Principal Govt. School of Arts  
and Crafts,  
Lucknow.

My dear Friend,

Thank you heartily for your letter of the 30th Sept. Please do not worry about the Spinoza article any more. Together with your I received information from America that this article was published in two American magazines and was chosen as introductory article for the Jubilee Volume for Spinoza's 300th Anniversary. So everything is for the good.

As regards your proposal about the young journalist, I fully understand your point of view, but for two reasons I regret it is not possible. Firstly I never paid a single cent for publicity or propoganda. Secondly, this - though innocent and purely directed to the good - action, would arouse here most malevolent perilous interpretation and rumour. Perhaps already your letter was read by somebody. If you only knew all the continuous botheration I have, because of spread by dark forces utterances that we are doing some kind of propoganda and are paying mysterious sums for this. Perhaps Mr. B. Sen has already told you some details about this, and for instance even the arrival of Mr. Mittra, caused and still causes quite peculiar worries to somebody, and perhaps I shall have to return again to this question. Well, we have to take life in its reality and I am certain



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you understand all this, what I tell you in a friendly and confidential way.

I thank you in anticipation for everything you will be able to tell me about Allahabad.

You will be glad to hear that we just received very good news from the Belgrad National Museum, who expressed highest admiration for my paintings in a most touching way. Also more touching news came from Bruges, where the local population decided to dedicate their national processions to the auspices of "Our Lady of Peace" - my painting a reproduction of which you have.

In the last number of Modern Review we read a most striking story about the nomination of a Sh.Suhrawardy for a chair at the Calcutta University, for Indian Art. We deeply understand the point of view of the magazine and probably you are of the same opinion.

Please give my greetings to both the Sens.

In Spirit with you,



Jan. 18th 1933.

Dr. Asit Kumar Haldar,  
Principal Govt School of Arts & Crafts  
Lucknow.

My dear Friend,

Your letter of the 12th is to hand. Many thanks for all your communications and for the clipping. I heartily congratulate you on the occasion of your new destination at the Benares University. Really it is such a joy for me to hear when some good friend is successful his achievement is acknowledged, and due honour is given.

I follow your brilliant activities with hearty admiration and take liberty to be a prophet in this instance foretelling that you will obtain in your glorious Mother Country some of the highest leading position. You have great talent, you are energetic, you revere the deepest traditions of India, having creative spirituality. This complex of beneficial attributes will lead you to highest summits of synthesis. I shall be very glad to receive your recommendations for the Allahabad Museum, as I would like very much to fulfill the wish of Pandit Braj Mohan Vyas, who from correspondence we had seems to be a refined soul a true pandit, and strikes chords of sympathy.

Who is the Mr. Sen, you mentioned working in the Calcutta Press? Is he a relative of your co-workers, the two Sens?

I enclose an offprint of my article FIERY STRONGHOLD. With best greetings

In Spirit with you,



Feb. 3, 1933.

Dr. Asit Kumar Haldar,  
Principal Govt School of Arts and Crafts.  
Lucknow.

My dear Friend,

Your wire just at hand. If you desire to have my paintings for exhibition in Lucknow before sending them to Allahabad, it gives me pleasure to fulfill this your wish. The paintings as per list enclosed are being packed and will be sent from Naggar on Monday, Feb. 6th. My only requirements are that they should not be under the sun's rays and that there is sufficient room to see them from a proper distance. In your hands my paintings are as in your own, so I have only to wish success to your exhibition. Please let me know of the further proceedings and of the sending of the paintings to Pt. Vyas. The box is packed so that you can use it again to send it to Allahabad and packing instructions are enclosed. The railway receipt will also be enclosed in this letter.

I shall be glad to receive some clippings, when you shall have them.

With heartiest greetings, also to both the Sons,

In Spirit with you,



May 8, 1933

Dr. Asir Kumar Haldar, Lucknow

My dear Friend,

Many thanks for your sendings and note of the 1st inst. From the letter of Mr. Vyas I know that the paintings arrived in Allahabad safely and that everything proceeds well.

Please instruct the photographers to destroy the negatives as unsatisfactory, because he apparently did not use a yellow filter (all blue tones are mutilated and the light moon is a black spot).

I note you have received our Institute's Journal and I hope you liked it.

Again we have torrential rains - it seems that quite unexpectedly the monsoon started here two months earlier. I hope that for the same reason the plains this year must be rather cool at present, and I hear from Lahore that it is the coolest for the last twenty years.

With my very best greetings

In Spirit with you,



Sep \* 27 \* 1933

Dr. Asit Kumar Haldar,  
Lucknow.

My dear Friend,

I have recently received a request to give my opinion on the new Journal of our Indian Society of Oriental Arts. I have sent them my opinion, a copy of which I also send you herewith. You will see from this that I was delighted with this new journal, but I wanted to stress that the contemporary art of India should also be given prominence, As one may present most interesting articles and reproductions which would be a monument of to-day's achievements. I believe that this my opinion will coincide with yours, as usual.

Not long ago we had a nice letter from Mr. B. Sen from which we understood that you and your School are doing well. What are you working upon at present? I have on my mind that it would be most desirable to have touring exhibition in America. Of course circumstances are at present, as you know, rather tense, but from magazines I see that the artistic life is yet progressing and such an exhibition, if not too heavy for transportation, could be arranged. As you already know on Nov. 17th we shall have the Banner of Peace Convention at Washington and according to the latest news, the member of the Cabinet Mr. Wallace acts as Protector. A series of countries already consented to participate.

In Spirit with you,



Naggar, Kulu, Punjab.

Sep \* 29 \* 1933

Dr. Asit Kumar Halder  
Lucknow.

My dear Friend,

Good intentions always meet - just after I sent you my letter yesterday, came yours of the 23rd, with so many good news. Indeed I felt always that Pandit B.M. Vyas is a highly cultured scholar and promoter of Art. I rejoiced to hear that your room will be next to mine and I would very much like to see some photos of your exhibits.

Thanking you once more for all your good news,

In Spirit with you,



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NAGGAR, KULU, PUNJAB

Oct \* 5 \* 1933

Dear Dr. Haldar,

We just rejoiced to hear from you about the splendid attitude of Pandit Braj Mohan Vyas in Allahabad, when we received again another complaint about the management of the Roerich Hall in Benares, full particulars about which you may see from the enclosed copy. As the question of some additional lamps is really a trifle matter, we hope that Mr. Krishnadasa will give no more cause to such unpleasant remarks. Should you have any opportunity to influence the curator of the Bharat Kala Bhawan, Benares we would be very thankful, as we would not like that such reflections should reach the New-York Museum.

With all best wishes to yourself and your School and both the Sens, whose visit we often remember,

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Asit Kumar Haldar

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NAGGAR, Kulu, Punjab, Nov 15, 1933

My dear Friend,

Your hearty message-review has touched me deeply. I often remember how you characterized my interpretation of the Himalayas in my paintings. Verily to this summit of spiritual upliftment I always strive, and I am so happy that I had the opportunity to kindle the hearts in many countries with love to India and the Himalayas. My Himalayan paintings are in the Luxemburg Museum, Paris; in the Vatican Museum, Rome, in the National Museum of Yugoslavia, in Latvia in several places in the U.S.A., in Buenos Aires, etc. I consider that paintings are messengers of goodwill, transmitting what is so dear to my heart.

I know that your creative noble work untiringly progressing and I take this opportunity to send you once more my best wishes.

In Spirit with you,