

Museum and Picture Gallery,  
Baroda, dated Jan. 23rd 45.

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No:- 453

To

Professor Nicholas Roerich,

Dear Professor Roerich,

My best thanks for your kind letter of the 20th December. I am sorry that I have not been able to reply earlier. But I had been away for some congresses and had then first to deal with the accumulated urgent affairs. I am very glad to learn that you have liked my article. I personally am convinced of the prominent and beneficent role which Indian cultural tradition can play in the reconstruction of modern world civilization and I regret it, therefore, that the negative attitude of many Indian intellectuals against the cultural life outside India condemns those grand traditions to a relative sterility. Cultural influence is ~~only~~ possible only where bridges are built, related ideas brought in contact, not where contrasts and antagonisms are cultivated. I believe it, therefore, a duty of every conscious ~~man~~ European artist and scholar, to remove those prejudices. And as you so rightly remark, the past cannot be revived, a renaissance must be a synthesis, a reincarnation of the eternal living spirit in new temporary forms expressing our own time, and this needs a receptiveness to art as such, in all its aspects, to the national as well as the foreign. National art can be developed not from the repetition of past exterior forms, but from the realization of the ~~existing~~ inner personality. And this can only grow in a detachment cultivated by a broader outlook. I have always admired your work as the expression of such a broad and yet fundamental world interpretation. The books which you have so kindly presented and for which I thank you heartily have been placed into the Central library and in that of our ~~a~~ museum which I hope will be made generally accessible to art students in the course of this year. Some days ago a number of the Bulletin ~~which~~ was despatched to you, but I do not yet know whether you would like to subscribe to it (Rs. 4/8 per number) or put the Baroda Museum instead on the exchange list of your publications or of those of the Roerich Academy. I shall feel much obliged for your decision in this respect. The second and third numbers will probably be out between May and July. With my

P.T.O

best regards,

Yours sincerely,

H. Goetz

Curator.

To

Professor Nicholas Roerich,

" Urusvati "

Naggar, Punjab.