

6346

N114

1

Tummapudi,
Dt. Guntur, S. India

29.7.42

Revered Gurudeva,

I am extremely sorry to let you know that I got no reply from you to my letter of the 18th May 1942.

I have just recovered from the bed after suffering seriously from typhoid fever for 30 days. My mind & body are now in a depressed condition.

In my last letter I requested you to kindly permit me to stay for some time in your inspiring presence. But you kept yourself quite silent without giving any reply. I wonder why you used to be silent whenever I requested you to allow me stay in your company. I do not know why you hesitate to give support to an young man who aspires to become one of the pilgrims of the Path of the Ascent. What is the burden you will have to bear if you will let me reside at your abode? I have several times tried to start for your Himalayan abode in spite of your reluctant silence. But I have determined not to start unless I get your permission.

P.T.O.

I have been quite unsatisfied with the life and surroundings of the plains. The sacred and charming Himalayas are calling me. Why do you hesitate to give refuge to me? Please give me refuge. I can no longer live in these plains. I want to ascend the summits of culture through your divine guidance. If you will write to me to start I shall be happy to start after I regain my lost health which I have lost in the typhoid fever.

May I expect an early affectionate reply from you?
With reverent greetings.

Cordially yours,

S. Sanjiva Dev



Tummapudi,
Dt.Guntur,
S.India.
17.VI.43

(N51)

2

My Venerable Friend,

It is very long since I heard from you. During these depressed moments of the present Armageddon it would be a veritable panacea to receive wise and inspiring letters as well as objects of Beauty from such eminent pacifists and creators of eternal mountains of everlasting glory like you. Will the Roerich Museum start again its magnificent cultural activities at the termination of the present Armageddon? I am very anxiously looking forward to see the Urusvati Himalayan Research Institute working with new enthusiasm.

You will be specially delighted to learn that my esteemed and dear friend Principal Asit Kumar Haldar of Lucknow has recently sent me with love and affection, a series of five original abstract brush-drawings, measuring ^{each} 10" x 9", as a sweet memento of our friendship. These drawings have been made afetr his book of Bengali poems entitled KALPANTIKA. I am, for your delight, here giving the titles of these five abstract drawings. 1. VISVMATA, 2. SE-SHNAG, 3. AMANGAL, 4. THE BRUSH, 5. LIGHT AND SHADE.

As I am a young dilettante possessing a heart that vibrates to the tune of colour and the rhythm of line I am very much interested specially in ~~xxxx~~ the activities of your pictorial art. I would immensely like to know of your latest works.

May I venture, my Venerable Friend, to aspire to receive a miniature sketch from your marvellous brush which I will preserve as a token of my love and veneration for you, for your art and for the eternal Himalayas?

With most reverent salutations.

Very Cordially Yours,

S. Sanjiva Dev



Tummapudi,
Dt. Guntur,
S. India.
18.7.43

My Venerable Friend,

Many cordial thanks of deep gratitude to you for your ~~your~~ kind donation of five magnificent pencil sketches to me. The titles of those sketches are: 1. LAO-TZE (Cominto India), 2. TIBETAN MONASTERY, 3. THE SACRED FLAME, 4. THE NORTHERN LIGHT, 5. THE LAST ANGEL. I regret I could not express my grateful thanks to you earlier as I was away from home for some days.

Your five pencil sketches are indeed exceedingly enchanting; they are a source of perennial light and perpetual delight alike; these five pencil sketches will be preserved with love and care as a sacred memento of our spiritual kinship as well as of my infinite love and veneration for your art and for the eternal Himalayas.

You will be glad to learn that I have the sacred joy of recently acquiring by purchase nine lovely original miniatures despite the fact that I am not a rich person. Three of them are by Sri K. Madhava Menon of Cochin who has specialised in painting flora and fauna; these three, each measuring 9" x 7", are landscape and lotus ~~studies~~ studies done in water colours with greatest dexterity in delineation of minutest detail. The other six miniatures are Himalayan landscapes by the celebrated landscapist Mr. Bireswar Sen of Lucknow. These six very small miniature landscapes are magnificent in colour; each is indeed a lyrical tune in colour; the stupendous grandeur and majesty

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majesty of the Himalayas have been beautifully put in these little gems. In the words of Prof. J.H.Cousins " Each is a gem of composition, feeling, colour and craft."

My love for collecting of works of art knows no bonds. My present plight in acquiring the originals is analogous to that of Colonel Kratchkovsky mentioned in your "Collectors". My financial conditions do hardly allow me to acquire originals by purchase in spite of my intense enthusiasm.

I do immensely crave to have a miniature of yours finished in tempera. May I know what a small miniature study of the Himalayan landscape done in magnificent colour composition does cost. I am very fond of Colour in Art and Nature alike. I adore colour as the visible aspect of the Invisible Being. And you are a wondrfull colourist!. I am very anxious to possess a colour study of yours in my humble collection.

With reverent prayers for your Long Life, Ceaseless Creative Activity and Eternal Spiritual Bliss!

Very Cordially Yours,

S. Sanjiva Dev

P.S. I am very anxious
to hear from you earlier.

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Tummapudi, Guntur Dt.
S. India. 5. VII. 1945.

My Venerable Friend,

At last I reached home safe yesterday by your affectionate blessings. The enchanting two small paintings you have so kindly given me are in safe condition in spite of the great rush in travel.

Madame Roerich's infinite affection for me always fills my heart with the nectar of divine veneration for her. I was immensely inspired by her supra-mundane vibrations. During my return journey I saw some more visions which doubtlessly indicate my relationship with you all in my previous incarnation.

My article on you has appeared in the Telugu journal and has been appreciated by many persons of culture.

I am closely drawn by the fraternal love which Dr. George and Mr. Svetoslav showed towards me. Mr. Svetoslav's introspective eyes

full of divine rapture have been always inspiring me.

Please convey my Greetings of Veneration to Madame Roerich and my fraternal regards to my brothers Dr. George and Mr. Svetoslav.

I hope you are keeping in good spirits.

I am ever with you all in spirit.

With Love & Veneration.

Affectionately yours,

S. Sanjiva Dev

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Tummapudi, Guntur Dt.,
South India. 19. IX. 45.

My Venerable Friend,

Many grateful thanks for your very affectionate letter of the 11th inst. Your letters are always a Panacea to my aspiring heart! In spite of my great delight of constantly receiving letters from you I am not oblivious of the fact that I have been increasing your leisurelessness by expecting from you regular correspondence. It is why I again request you not to answer my letters regularly as you are always extremely busy. I feel really shy to give you such a strain!

As to your query about the Cultural Congress in Bezwada, I learn that it has been postponed to an uncertain date in the remote future. Everything is in a state of flux.

Yes, the war Armageddon is over; but the Armageddon between Culture and Ignorance, between Love and Hatred, between Light and Darkness is not over!

I am thankful for the three cuttings about the Atom Bomb and its chaotic action in Japan. There are several references of these Fiery Energies in the Hindu purāṇas. The infinite power of Fire was used in the battles of those days as āgneya astra or fiery weapons. The marvellous power

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of the atom also was recognised to some extent in the days of yore.

The Upanishads describe the Absolute Brahman as "anōrāneeyān mahatōmaheeyān" which means that the Ultimate Power is smaller than the atom and greater than the greatest.

Three days back I had an elevating dream: Venerable Madame Roerich and myself were walking in the Deodar forest near the Ursavati buildings; It seemed we were in subtle bodies; Madame in varada mudra (boon giving posture) began to exhort me in the following soothng words "Sanjiva, don't be so anxious about your travels to Russia and America and acquainting yourself with the Cultural

movements as well as personalities of those countries because the days are still very difficult; be patient and serene; Your dreams will be realized in due course. Some of us will proceed abroad in certain part of 1946 and we propose to take you with us to those far off lands; be optimistic." Thus exhorting, Madame placed her magnetic hand upon my head and I bowed down, with tears of joy in my eyes, at the lotus feet of Madame Roerich; with this I again came to physical consciousness. Wonderfully on the next day I received your letter! Please narrate all about this to my Venerable Mother and offer my most reverential namaskars to her.

Today the sky is densely cloudy and it is raining constantly. Greetings to my mother, brothers, sister-in-law as well as to yourself.
In spirit with you all! Affectionately yours,
Sanjiva Dev

Tummapudi.
23-X-45.

My Venerable Maitreya,

Many grateful thanks for your very kind letter of 15-10-45. I enjoyed , with the joy of spirit, your elevated thoughts full of revealed truths !

A highly sygnificant incident: During the Dusserah festival I spent a week in my maternal uncle's village where my mother gave up her elemental body in my very boyhood.

Closely to that village, on the eastern bank of the Krishna River, there is a place of pilgrimage called Veda-Giri or the Mount of Wisdom. One fine morning when the sky was deep blue like lapislazuli and sensitive grassblades were glistening with the newly fallen autumn dew-drops, I went to that sacred place Veda-Giri.

On going there I sat by the river watching the bathing pilgrims young and old, male and female. All of a sudden I noticed an old aged Yogi who was constantly gazing at me from a solitary palce a few yards from me. After some time he made a sign with ~~in~~ his right hand asking me to approach him. Accordingly I went there and bowed my head before him. He was completely nude; his half-clad ecstasy filled eyes were still watching my movements, he began to smile at me with a supra-mundane grace.

When the Yogi began to speak with me in Telugu which is my mother-tongue. I give below the ~~in~~ English translation of his utterances:

"You have your Friend Philosopher-Guide in those White Mountains of the North. His complexion is as white as the Himachal in which he has his abode; he has been ever contemplating how to make you bright. Have infinite faith in him. In future there will be ~~in~~ created some blood-kinship between you and your Friend -Philosopher-Guide."

Uttering the above words the Yogi began to go from that place towards the river inspite of my request to explain the meaning of his utterances in detail. But he silently jumped into the river and disappeared ! Nobody could ~~in~~ know whence he had come and where he had gone ! After a long time we saw a naked person climbing the bank of the other side of the river !

Since that moment I have been thinking to find out the meaning of those utterances of that Yogi. I think he was probably able to discern, by dint of his Yogi vision, the contact between yourself and myself !

But inspite of my best efforts I could not find out the meaning of the Yogi's last words " There will be created some bloodkinship between you and your Friend-Philosopher-Guide."

Please consult, in confidence, with Holy Mother about the meaning of the last part of the Yogi's prophesy. I am really perplexed on that last part of the Yogi's prophesy. I wonder what sort of blood-kinship is going to take place between us !

Greetings of Love & Veneration to Holy Mother, Brother George, Sister-in-law and Brother Svetoslav and to yourself.

Yours very affectionately,

Sanjiva



My Venerable Maitreya,

1945
October.

With great joy of spirit
I offer my most reverential Greetings to you on this sacred occasion of your 72nd Birthday. Last June I told you in your prophetic presence that you were no other than Maitreya in disguise of Roerich.

May the Supreme Transformer of Falsehood into Truth, Darkness into Light and Death into Immortality make both you and Madame live as many years as you desire!

May the Connoisseurs of the Remotest future seek delight in watching you at work of creating new forms in newer colours !!

May Eternal Peace & Everlasting Bliss rhythmically reign in your home !!!

Felicity to all Beings!

Very affectionately,
S. Sanjiva Dev

Tummapudi.
7.XI.45.

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My Venerable Maitreya,

Many grateful thanks for your very affectionate letter of 30.X.45. Indeed my words fail to record here my unbound joy that I have derived from the tangible vibrations of your all-pervading and infinitely compassionate soul. I am really in direct touch with your pure Self! The moment our spirits are attuned to each other in the perennial Source of perpetual Bliss the moment the apparently real differences of time and space, cause and effect vanish!! Then there is neither you nor I but the Eternal Ocean of Infinite Bliss!!! Glory to the invisible Masters who always contemplate on Felicity to all beings!

I am glad I have received the book-post too that contained some literature on Banner of Peace. Thank you for the same. Yes, I will certainly endeavour to propagate about the Banner of Peace. So far my faculties have been introverted and now the time has arrived they should be extraverted. My idealism should be now transmuted into realism. My theories should be now turned into concrete practice. I wish I could spend some time in U.S.A. learning the methods of practical work, organizing etc. for the sake of organizing some concrete form of cultural work such as the Banner of Peace in India. Those that are accustomed to constant

constant contemplative life find, at first, themselves very unable for public work but slowly they could realize that they would be the ablest to accomplish such public work. They by gradual practice realize that Work is Worship.

A neophyte should for some time live in alien lands in order to enrich his faculties with the new impetus that comes from the unfamiliar and strange environments both of men and Nature in those foreign lands. It is for such new awakening of my active but contemplative spirit that I have been anxious to stay for some time in U.S.A. which is the most practical country in the world. Even U.S.S.R is now very glorious for the practical side of work. But during these hard days, I know, it is impossible to travel to those lands; moreover it requires a great amount of money for the fulfilment of these aspirations (or day-dreams?) of mine.

Yes, next time I will send you an article on the Banner of Peace which you will transmit to the "Dawn of India". Meanwhile I will write on the same for the Telugu journals and try to give one or two talks to the intelligentsia of these parts.

I would like to know whether Brother Svetoslav and esteemed Sister-in-law Devika Rani are at present in your presence; please convey them my regards. To revered mother and to you my Greetings of Veneration; To Brother George my Namaskarams. Adieu!

Yours in anandam,
Sanjiva

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Tummapudi

12.XI.45.

My Venerable Maitreya,

Mine of 7.XI.45. must have reached you by now.
I am glad I have enclosed herewith
my article on the Banner of Peace according
to your kind advice made in your letter of the
30th Oct. You may transmit this to the "Dawn of
India" or to any other journal you please. I have written
two articles on the Banner in Telugu.

I have made a few new interpreta-
tions regarding the symbolism of the Banner.
I do not know how you will take them.

I am eager to know whether a copy
of Prof. Shiva Ram Kashyap's "An Account of a Journey
to Gangotri Glacier" published by the Uruvati H.R.
Institute, is now available. I am always attracted
by mother Ganges. When I was in Benares I used
to spend several sleepless nights constantly wat-
ching the divine beauty of Gangāmāyi. I have an
idea to make a pilgrimage to Gangotri and I hope
I will. Any work, — whether pictorial or literary —
pertaining to the sacred sources of this celestial
river would make me oblivious of the phenome-
nal existence!

Greetings of Love & Veneration to Holy Mo-
ther and to you. Fraternal namaskāras to sister-
in-law and brothers.

Yours in ānandam,

Sanjiva

Tummapudi, Guntur Dt.,
South India. 8. XII. 45.

12

My Venerable Friend,

Many thanks of deep gratitude for your inspiring letter of 30. XII. 45. Every letter from Naggar brings fragrance of the sacred flame! I am extremely happy to be told that you have got rid of the severe cold that caught hold of you in November last.

I am grateful for your idea of transmitting to other magazines if I have some variants of my article on Banner of Peace. I am sorry I have not written ~~at~~ any variants on Banner of Peace in English except that which has been already sent to you. In course of time I will write more. You will be delighted to learn that at present I am doing some translations into Telugu from the original Bengali of Rabindranath Tagore. I have an idea to translate your "Altai-Himalaya" into Telugu. I do not know whether you will endorse this idea. You told me, when I was in your presence last summer, that Mr. Susil Gupta was desirous to reprint your "Altai-Himalaya". What has happened? "Altai-Himalaya" is now nowhere available in India. This magnificent work should be translated in every provincial language of India. You must certainly make arrangements

Tummapudi.

25. 5. 46.

My Venerable Maitreya,

Grateful thanks for your very solemn thoughts of 18. 5. 46.

I rejoiced on hearing about your latest paintings "Sri krishna" "The Red Arrow", "The Tester" and a variant of "The Messenger" — your beloved subject. I do not ^{know} when I shall be able to have the delight of beholding these new works of yours in your own inspiring presence.

I thought of visiting you in this summer in spite of the searing heat and the troublesome railway journey. But due to a proposal of my marriage probably in the middle of next month I have

given up the thought of visiting you in this summer. I will be glad to let you know details of my marriage in my next letter.

Nothing has yielded me greater delight than to learn that you are now receiving letters from China and Europe emphasising your Banner of Peace! Let Peace through Culture penetrate every corner of the world. Pax per Cultura alone can save the world from the cruel clutches of Vandalism both active & passive. No other way, no other means! 'Pax per Cultura' what a creative word!

I have already written to the editor of "The Hindusthan Review" inquiring about my article but no answer. I do not know what happened to him. You must enquire about it once and then you must send the copy to another magazine. You may do as you please.

I believe Mother, brothers and sister-in-law are keeping in good health of both body and spirit. Please convey my Reverential Greetings to all of them as well as to your own blessed self.

"Vishayavatee Va Pravrittiruppanna
manasah Sthitinibandhinow"

Those forms of Concentration that bring extraordinary sense-perceptions cause perseverance of the mind.
— Rāja-yoga.

Ever in Spirit with you,
Sanjiva

Tummapudi
11.6.46.

My Venerable Maitreya,

I wonder your kind letter of 1.6.
has arrived today after ten days !
Unusual delay in postal transit !
Such are the times now !

Your hearty appreciative lines of
my second instalment of "Flickers
of The Flame" have touched me dee-
ply. All this is the outcome of
your benevolent Blessings full of
the nectar of love and affection
towards me. Glory to you all !

I am delighted to learn that your
books from Kitabistan and from Ki-
tab-Mahal are nearing their 'shor-
tly to be out' atlast !

May they have wide circulation !

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You will be happy to learn that I received yesterday a very enthusiastic letter from Senor R.S. Fontes of Nova-Goa. He is very much enthusiastic about the propagation of the idea of Banner of Peace and he is anxious to have my hearty collaboration in his endeavours. So I have promised him to try to do my best in that noble cause. He is a nice soul !

About myself: For the good or the bad my matrimonial negotiations have been temporarily curtailed. While I am writing these lines my step-mother advises me to request the great Roerichs to select for

for me a refined cultured girl from among their intimate acquaintances in any other province of India. She put great prominence on inter-provincial marriages and repeated her exhortation to request especially Madame Roerich to take the burden of getting a cultured girl for my inter-provincial marriage. I only laughed at her innocent exhortation and told her that the great Roerichs have not sat on the Himalayas in order to select girls for boys and boys for girls, but they have sat there for the cause of greater work — for radiating Light of the Spirit.

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To the above answer of mine my poor step-mother kept silent. I think all of you will laugh at these innocent utterances of my gracious step-mother !

At the same time I think inter-provincial marriages in India should be encouraged. Such inter-provincial marriages alone can create truer Federation of India in spite of the apparent racial, linguistic and other differences. Madrasis, Bengalis, Punjabis etc. should have inter-marriages. Then real Unity of India !

Reverential Greetings to you all. In Spirit with you,

Sanjiv

Tummapudi
28.6.46

18

My Venerable Gurudev,

After an absence of ten days from Tummapudi I have just returned home and to my great delight received your book-post of Sri George's very scholarly long article "Indology in Russia" and your kind letters of both 20.6.46 and 21.6.46 Please accept my grateful and reverential Namaskarams for the same.

My article "With Roerichs in Himalaya" shall appear in the August issue of 'The Hindusthan Review'. My "Roerich's Triple-Sphere" has appeared in the April issue of 'The Twentieth Century'.

I am writing these lines after reading Sri George's "Indology in Russia". His scholarly exposition of the subject has enlightened and inspired me with new information and newer fragrance! I have

so far never come across such a glowing contribution on the mutual relations of our two great sister-countries Russia and India. I am again reading the same with greater introspection and try to translate it into Telugu. Please convey my hearty congratulations to Sri George!

Yes, without writing a special article on the recent Hyderabad Vandalism I will mention it in my "Flickers".

Last night during my return journey from my maternal uncle's home I had a concrete and tangible vision of Venerable Mother and Yourself. You were in the attire of St. Sergius and Venerable Mother in that of Tripurasundari. A good combination of Indo-Russian traditions. Whenever I recall last night's vision my whole being trembles with anandam!

Veneration to you all. In spirit with you,
Sanjiva

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Tummapudi, Guntur Dt.,
S. India. 18. 9. 46

My Dear Brother,

It is ages since I
had any news from you.

I believe both you and
Srimati Devika Rani are
keeping in good health
and blissful spirits.

I am extremely anxious
to learn about your pre-
sent pictorial work. What
are you at present painting?
Is it in oils or in tempera?

Tummapudi
30.X.46

My Most Venerated Friend,

Always fresh fragrance from you! your introspective lines of 22.10.46 reached me last evening which I enjoyed heartily.

Yes, I am just writing once more to Kitabistan, Kitab Mahal, and Susil Gupta inquiring about Himavat, Heroica and Altai-Himalaya respectively, and I hope this time they shall not use the same obsolete word "shortly" which has lost now its all shortliness!

I am delighted to learn that in November shall appear the new book on Banner of Peace. I think American "shortly" is quite different from Indian "shortly" and so I believe it shall certainly appear in November.

The "Hindusthan Review" is quite silent. Strange, now they have stopped even to answer! It seems they are unable to publish it; otherwise they would have answered. You have kept with you a corrected copy of it. So please send it to "Our India" provided they give a number of reprints. Otherwise please send it "20th Century" which shall give usually many ~~more~~ reprints. Moreover they are publishing in a subsequent issue my article "With Asit Haldar In Lucknow". In that article I have mentioned my starting from Lucknow to Acharya Roerich's abode in the Himalayas.

so it is in every^{way} fitting to send my article
"With Roerichs In Himalaya" to "20th Century."

Eventually I leave the final decision to your
saintly choice. You may act as you please. Please
remove the sentence "It was the middle of June 1945."
from my article.

How is Venerable Mother doing? Is she
keeping in good health?

Reverential Greetings to you all.

In spirit with you,
Sanjiva

22

Tummapudi
31. XII. 46

My Most Venerable Friend,
Adorational Greetings for 1946.

Your effulgent lines reached me last evening. Many grateful thanks. yes, at long last your "Himavat" has appeared. I will order for a copy of the same to the publishers and after receiving it I would intend to write a Review of it for any journal. I have sent a Review of your "Beautiful Unity" to 'The Dawn of India' last month. It may probably appear in the January issue.

Last week I received a cordial letter from Mr. Dudley Fosdick, Chairman of Pocerich pact and Banner of Peace Committee, New York. He has informed me that at the last meeting of the Committee it was resolved that the name of Sanjiva Dev should be placed on their International Committee as Corresponding Secretary representing India. He asked me to let him know my consent; so I wrote to him expressing my thanks to him and to the distinguished members. Here I must thank you specially for this new

resolution of the Committee at New York,
for I know well, all this magic has been
due to your sympathy and not my talent.

By your constant benevolence and Ble-
ssings I will be able to unselfishly ser-
ve the sacred cause of the great Ba-
nner of Peace and through it that
of the spiritual Culture of humanity
which has been your beautiful ideal.

Please once more bless me so
that I may never fail to tread the
fiery path that leads to the Abode
of eternal Light & everlasting Delight!

In the forthcoming X'mas Number of
'SILPI' shall appear my "Line's Rhythm &
Colour's Tune" in which you can find
a paragraph dealing with Roerich's mas-
tery of Colour.

I trust now the Himalayan snows are
in their full swing keeping in harmony with
the rhythm of the Siva's dance of self-effacement.
New year's Greetings to all of you.

Yours ever in Spirit,
Sanjiva

Tummapudi

23

9.7.47

My Venerable Friend,

Many cordial thanks for your inspiring thoughts of
1.7.47. and the reprints. Your two articles publi-
shed in "Hindusthan Review" and "East-West are very
timely and luminous!

Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit has been nominated for Moscow.
And, this, we believe, shall create new Indo-Russian
friendship more vitally and more truly than before!
The marriage of Sri Svetoslav and Srimati Devika
has already created such a Indo-Russian relation.
Moreover your very presence in India is itself
a greatest sign of true Indo-Russian amity!
I think you shall send your benevolent message
to the Government as well as to the people of
Russia through Hon. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit. I do
not know who will come to India from USSR
in exchange.

We are all eagerly expecting the golden fruits
of such Indo-Russian relations. Such real mutual

understanding would certainly bring very beneficent results to the world! I wish I had accompanied Hon. V. L. Pandit to Moscow as her Cultural Secretary!!

It gave me immense delight to learn that you are going to execute a large painting using the "Ganges" as a sketch.

The immortal message of spiritual culture is again needed everywhere. It is only mutual love that can radically annihilate the present mutual destructive hatred between country and country, race and race, province and province and man and man.

It is the celestial song of the Banner of Peace that shall eradicate the noise of violence and vandalism.

Light, Light, more Light is needed now to the world!

I hope all of you are keeping in ecstatic spirits.

With Love & Veneration.

In Spirit,
Sanjiva