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शारदाप्रसाद

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22nd October 1933.

Prof. Nicholas Roerich,
Uruswati Himalayan Research Institute,
Nagar - Kulu.

Respected Sir,

Please excuse this intrusion on your valuable time, and let me introduce myself as one interested in the protection of the treasures of Indian Art and Culture.

Within the last seven years, I have been able to save many a pieces of fine sculpture. They number about 300 and among them are fine examples of Maurya, Gupta and medieval art. I have also collected about 200 Sanskrit and Hindi manuscripts, some 300 old coins and several other articles of minor importance.

All this I have done and am still doing with my own meagre resources. My aim is to erect a house for them all but I regret I have not been able to do so, so far. They are, therefore, at present collected in my own house and are shown there to all interested people.

I have read your article in the current issue of The Mahabodhi about the coming Convention of the Banner of Peace and am prompted by the same to address this letter to you. I would much like to know if it is possible for me in my own humble way to any how join in this great and good movement for the protection of the treasures of Religion, Art and Science. May I hoist the flag of Peace on the 17th November over my collection of these treasures? And if so, is it possible for me to get a small flag free or for a small price from your Ashram? I shall be very glad to carry out your instructions about the hoisting of the banner.

I shall await with interest your reply to this.

Enclosed please find some extracts from my Visitors Book. With all good wishes,

I beg to remain, Respected Sir,

Yours sincerely,

Shardaprasad

My address:-
Shardaprasad,

S A T N A.
G. I. P. Ry.



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22nd October 1933.

Remarks in the visitors book about the collection.

I have seen with much interest and pleasure Mr. Sarada Prasad's collection of sculptures, coins and other articles of archaeological importance. Though I am not a student of archaeology myself, I venture to suggest that these things should be properly arranged and exhibited in a large room and an illustrated descriptive catalogue of them published. Mr Sarada Prasad's collecting zeal is much to be commended and if men of a similar taste followed his example, Indian archaeology would be sure to be enriched.

22nd June 1932.

(Sd) Ramananda Chatterjee.

I have had the privilege of the company of Mr. Sharda Prasad on an archaeological trip. His appreciation of sculptures, their age, and their beauty is unerring. His own collection is judicious and a wealth, which one day will be a national treasure. Let no one try to be clever with him. Money or love would fail to tempt him to part with his slightest thing, as he regards himself to be the national trustee of his art objects. His ready wit and withering humour will give a right reply to "gentlemen dealers".

(Sd) K P Jayaswal

31/12/32.