

Room No.212,  
Taj Mahal Hotel,  
Bombay,  
23rd December 1948.

My dear Banning,

It has been some time since I have heard from you and I hope that you, Diana and the children are doing well.

What are your present activities and endeavours? Are you still trying to have a political career or has Parliament lost its glamour or are you writing anything these days or continuing your work in education?

I am still in India and I do not know exactly when I shall be going abroad. So many things have intervened that my original plans have been upset, with the result that I became tied up here with all sorts of irrelevant activities.

Life in India is maintaining a certain status quo - the price index has gone up considerably which affects the middle class and the poorer people. Black marketing is continuing as usual and economical conditions are at present uncertain, yet, on the whole, the country has pulled out of the immediate difficulties which it had to face, what with communal strife and the refugee problem. In that respect I must say some positive factors have been achieved, and, taking life on the whole, it is quite passable and peaceful and one is not conscious of any communal ill-feeling.

However, the general clash of ideologies which is taking place all over the world must have its repercussions here also and if you look at the rest of the world I do not think we do so badly.

Do let me know about the Cultural and Art life in England, I am very interested to hear about the present-day trends and interests of the people. Do write soon and in the meantime we send you our very best wishes for the coming season and our affectionate greetings.

S. Roerich.

Banning Richardson, Esq.,

London.