

1
91, Fitzjohn's Avenue,
Hampstead,
London, N.W.3.,
England.

31st October, 1972.

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich,
C/o. The Indian Bank Ltd.,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
BANGALORE - 1.
Mysore State, South India.

Dear Dr. Roerich,

I am most grateful for the kind and informative letter you sent me on 30th June. I read it out at the July meeting of our study group, and we are following up the various helpful suggestions you made.

We were particularly interested to hear of the preparations being made in the Soviet Union in connection with your Father's Centenary. Our study of your Father's inspiring life and our growing familiarity with the beauty of his magnificent paintings has made us anxious to do all we can to bring them to the attention of other people. And we feel that we should take special action to mark the Centenary Year in this country.

I have pleasure in enclosing a copy of a letter we are sending to some two dozen friends of mine, all of whom have shown an interest in your Father's work. You will see that we have suggested forming ourselves into a society in your Father's name, as we know did many group's of people whilst he was alive.

Would you have any objection to our forming such a society? If you have not, we should consider it a great honour if you would consent to being our Honorary President, and we should be most grateful to you.

It has been heartening to observe the spiritual impact made in this country during the Mahatma Gandhi Centenary Year in 1969 and also during the current Sri Aurobindo Centenary Year. And it is our earnest wish that the Nicholas Roerich Centenary Year - 1974 will also have a lasting impact.

With warm wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth Archer

Kenneth Archer

2

NICHOLAS ROERICH SOCIETY
91, Fitzjohn's Avenue,
London, N.W.3.,
England.

28th February, 1973.

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich,
C/o. The Indian Bank Ltd.,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
BANGALORE - 1.
Mysore State, South India.

Dear Dr. Roerich,

I had meant to write to you much sooner than this, but I waited to receive the more detailed letter you said you would write. As some time has now elapsed, I am writing to thank you most deeply for consenting to become the Honorary President of our Society. The members of our Committee were truly delighted when I read your kind letter to them, and they have asked me to convey their grateful appreciation and thanks.

Mr. Vladimir Shibayev has been elected Honorary Chairman of the Committee, and a number of other officers have also been appointed.

As one of our first tasks, we are setting up a small reference and lending library of books written by your Father and about his life and work. We aim to make information relating to Prof. Roerich and his creative activities more readily obtainable in this country than it has been in the past.

Fortunately, we have been able to buy quantities of books and reproductions from the Museum in New York, and Mr. Shibayev has been most kind in donating a number of books and a splendid album of reproductions which was published in Russia a few years ago. The books donated by Mr. Shibayev, incidentally, include your own volume, Art in the Kulu Valley, and my wife and I are reading it with great pleasure and interest.

The Centenary Year Committee had its first meeting a short while ago, and a good start has been made.

I am enclosing two items for your interest, and I shall keep you fully informed of our progress.

With warm wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth Archer
Kenneth Archer

3

NICHOLAS ROERICH SOCIETY
91, Fitzjohn's Avenue,
London, N.W.3.,
England.

24th April, 1973.

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich,
C/o. The Indian Bank Ltd.,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
BANGALORE - 1.
Mysore State, South India.

Dear Dr. Roerich,

Thank you so much for your kind letter of 12th March. I read it to the Committee at our recent meeting, and they asked me to send you their appreciation and greetings.

With your permission, we wish to include much of the text of your letter in the first edition of the Society's Newsletter which is being planned for later this year. Mr. Shibayev has suggested that we also include one of your Father's articles which appeared in Flamma in the late 1930's. I will, of course, send you a copy of the Newsletter as soon as it is completed.

The Society continues to make steady progress. Our library - although very small - has now been set up and is in use. We have also acquired a stock of reproductions and postcards from the Museum in New York, and these are in great demand. A small stock of books has been acquired for sale as well.

Contact has been made with a few people who had the good fortune to meet your Father, and they are showing a keen interest in our work.

Our greetings and warmest wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth Archer

Kenneth Archer

P.S. I should like to thank you for the splendid array of stamps on your last letter.



PAX CULTURA

Nicholas Roerich Society,
91, Fitzjohn's Avenue
London, N.W.3.
England.

25th January, 1974.

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich,
C/o. The Indian Bank Ltd.,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
BANGALORE - 1.
Mysore State, South India.

Dear Dr. Roerich,

I have pleasure in enclosing a copy of the Society's first Newsletter. We are sending copies to all interested people with whom we are in contact and will follow up with further editions every three or four months.

We were delighted to be able to include the extracts from your letter and would be grateful to receive your permission to include extracts in a similar fashion from other letters you have written to us. We should also be delighted, of course, to include any item or message you might specifically wish us to include.

The Society is planning to hold a commemorative meeting on Prof. Roerich's Centenary Day, and we wondered if you might consider writing a special address for this meeting. It would be splendid, of course, if such an address were to be pre-recorded on tape and played directly to the meeting, but nevertheless we should be very happy indeed to have a written address which could be read out. We should be most grateful if you would consider this suggestion.

We thought, incidentally, that the Hall of India at the Royal Overseas League's Headquarters which is just off St. James's Street in central London would be a suitable place to hold the meeting.

Also enclosed for your interest is a notice advertising a series of Centenary meetings being held by our Study Group. The first of these meetings proved to be most satisfactory and attracted a number of newcomers. Amongst the latter, incidentally, was Dr. Kabraji, who told us of a most enjoyable day he had spent with your Father, your Brother and you, yourself, at Kulu during the 1940's.

One further point of interest, the Victoria and Albert Museum

Cont. 2.

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contacted us just before Christmas to let us know that Prof. Roerich's painting, The North, was being put on display in their Water Colour Section as from 1st January this year.

I was most touched to receive the charming greetings card which Madame Roerich so kindly sent me during the Festival Season, and I thank you both very much for the kind thought.

Our warmest greetings and grateful thanks to you,

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth Archer

Kenneth Archer



PAX CULTURA

Nicholas Roerich Society,
91, Fitzjohn's Avenue
London, N.W.3.
England.

20th May, 1974.

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich,
C/o. The Indian Bank Ltd.,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
BANGALORE - 1.
KARNATAKA, South India.

Dear Dr. Roerich,

We were delighted to receive your last letter and to learn that you will probably be coming to London in 1975. It will be a very great pleasure indeed to meet you both.

We were also very pleased to hear from Mr. Shibayev that you will be visiting the Soviet Union this year and taking part in the Centenary celebrations there. I spent a most enjoyable day with Mr. Shibayev at his University in Cardiff, a few days ago. He is so very helpful, and I am learning much from him.

The work of the Society is going forward steadily, and the various items of literature sent to you today, by separate post, will give you some idea of how we are progressing.

I have been invited to write articles on Prof. Roerich for one or two magazines. As and when these are published, I will send you copies.

Last week I visited the Victoria and Albert Museum, again, to see Prof. Roerich's paintings. As I mentioned in an earlier letter, A Sketch in the North is on display in the Watercolours Gallery on the first floor. It has been placed alongside a painting entitled, St. Petersburg, by Mstislav Doboujinsky. Polovetsky Stan may be viewed on request in the Print Room.

If I can be of assistance to you in any way in connection with your proposed visit, please do let me know.

With warm wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth Archer
Kenneth Archer



PAX CULTURA

THE NICHOLAS ROERICH SOCIETY

Honorary President : Dr. SVETOSLAV ROERICH

Honorary Chairman : VLADIMIR SHIBAYEV

3rd July, 1974.

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich,
C/o. The Indian Bank Ltd.,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
BANGALORE - 1.
KARNATAKA, South India.

Dear Dr. Roerich,

I have much pleasure in enclosing a copy of the Society's July Newsletter and informing you that we have today sent you by separated post a copy of the Society's Notes for Writers, Speakers and Broadcasters.

Our efforts to mark the Centenary are progressing steadily. And yesterday, we received permission to hold a Centenary Exhibition in a London public library. It will take place in the Central Library at Swiss Cottage and will run from 1st to 12th October. The Exhibition will not be large, but it should include most if not all of the larger reproductions we possess.

Mrs. Fosdick has very kindly sent us a copy of the Nicholas Roerich Museum's excellent Centenary Monograph. The article written by you, and entitled My Father, has registered strongly with us, and we should like to include it in the October issue of our Newsletter, which will be circulated just before the Centenary Day.

On behalf of us all, I should like to take this opportunity of wishing you a most enjoyable and successful visit to the Soviet Union.

With warm wishes to you and to Madame Roerich,

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth Archer
Kenneth Archer

P.S. It occurs to me that I may have inadvertently sealed the letter sent to you on 20th May at the "Airmail Printed Paper" rate, and that you may have had to pay excess postage. If this were the case, I do apologize.



PAX CULTURA

THE NICHOLAS ROERICH SOCIETY

Honorary President : Dr. SVETOSLAV ROERICH

Honorary Chairman : VLADIMIR SHIBAYEV

23rd July, 1974.

Mme. Devika Rani Roerich,
C/o. The Indian Bank,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
BANGALORE - 1.
KARNATAKA, South India.

Dear Madame Roerich,

Thank you so much for your letter of 15th July, which I was delighted to receive.

We are very pleased that our Notes for Writers, Speakers and Broadcasters are of use to you, and I have pleasure in sending you 10 further copies under separate cover.

We think it would be very appropriate for Mr. B.K. Nehru to inaugurate the Centenary in London and do hope that he will kindly consent. We are most grateful to you for making this suggestion and for so kindly offering to write a covering letter. We shall write inviting Mr. Nehru as soon as we receive your own letter.

Mr. Shibayev has recently sent me a copy of the Monograph entitled Svetoslav Roerich, which I have been studying with great interest. Dr. Roerich's paintings are most beautiful and have great quality and appeal. I am sure that in the future we shall place a strong focus on Dr. Roerich's own creativity as an integral part of the work in which we are engaged.

Our greetings and very best wishes to you both,

Yours very sincerely,

Kenneth Archer



PAX CULTURA

THE NICHOLAS ROERICH SOCIETY

Honorary President : Dr. SVETOSLAV ROERICH

Honorary Chairman : VLADIMIR SHIBAYEV

19th August, 1974.

Dr. Svetoslav Roerich,
C/o. The Indian Bank Ltd.,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
BANGALORE - 1.
KARNATAKA, South India.

Dear Dr. Roerich,

I enclose a copy of a letter we received from the P&T Directorate in New Delhi a few days ago. Also enclosed is a copy of my letter of reply and the written piece which accompanied it.

I would have first corresponded with you before writing such a piece for official use in India, but in view of the closeness of the Centenary, I thought it best to act immediately.

I do hope the piece will meet with your approval, and I should be most grateful if you would inform the P&T Directorate of any amendments you might feel are necessary.

Please thank Madame Devika for her kind letter of 9th August and its enclosure. I shall write again as soon as I have spoken with Mr. Nehru.

With warm wishes to you both,

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth Archer

10
19th August, 1974.

Mr. Santha Gopinath,
Asstt. Director-General (Phil),
P&T Directorate,
Parliament Street,
New Delhi - 110001,
India.

Your reference: D.O. No. 24/21/74-Phil

Dear Mr. Gopinath,

Nicholas Roerich Centenary - 9th October, 1974

Thank you for your letter of 6th August in which you asked for a brief write-up on Nicholas Roerich for the publicity folder which will be issued with India's commemorative stamp.

We are delighted that India is marking the Centenary in this way, and I have pleasure in enclosing a write-up which has been written in a manner similar to that used by the General Post Office in this country when issuing British commemoratives.

We should be most grateful if, in due course, you could arrange to supply our Society with 300 of the stamps and their accompanying folders for our members.

Yours sincerely,

K.A.
Kenneth Archer

Copy to: Dr. Svetoslav Roerich

COPY

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D.O. No. 24/21/74-Phil

Asstt. Director-General
(Phil)

P&T Directorate,
Parliament Street,
New Deldhi-110001.

6th August, 1974.

Dear Mr. Archer,

As you are perhaps aware that the Indian P&T Department will issue a commemorative stamp on 9th October, 1974 in honour of Nicholas Roerich on the occasion of his birth centenary. I shall be grateful if you would kindly arrange to furnish a brief write-up of about 300 words on Nicholas Roerich for the publicity folder to be issued along with the commemorative stamp.

An early reply with the write-up will be highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

(SANTHA GOPINATH)

Mr. Kenneth Archer
Secretary of the Nicholas Roerich Society,
91, Fitzjohn's Avenue,
LONDON, NW3 6NX.



PAX CULTURA

THE NICHOLAS ROERICH SOCIETY

Honorary President : Dr. SVETOSLAV ROERICH

Honorary Chairman : VLADIMIR SHIBAYEV

31st August, 1974.

Mme. Devika Rani Roerich,
C/o. The Indian Bank,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
BANGALORE - 1.
KARNATAKA, South India.

Dear Madame Roerich,

Thank you very much for your letters of 9th and 16th August and the enclosed letter for Mr. Nehru.

I went to see Mr. Nehru a few days ago and handed him your letter. (I had already sent him our speakers' notes, incidentally.) We spoke for a short while and he has very kindly agreed to speak at our Centenary Day Meeting to inaugurate the Centenary in the United Kingdom - needless to say, we are delighted.

Mr. Nehru's address is: India House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2., U.K.

It is very good news indeed to hear that you will be visiting London shortly after the Centenary. We should dearly love to arrange a meeting to introduce you both to members and friends of the Society; that is, of course, if you have no objections.

Mrs Archer has made inquiries regarding hotels, and we have pleasure in enclosing a list of London hotels on which her recommendations are marked with a cross. We also enclose several hotel brochures. If you would like us to make a reservation or be of service to you in any other way, please do let us know.

We were very pleased to hear of your mailings to the press, institutions and museums, and we shall mention them in the next issue of our Newsletter.

We much look forward to meeting you both.

Our greetings and warm wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth Archer
Kenneth Archer



PAX CULTURA

THE NICHOLAS ROERICH SOCIETY

Honorary President : Dr. SVETOSLAV ROERICH

Honorary Chairman : VLADIMIR SHIBAYEV

16th October, 1974.

Dr. & Mme. Svetoslav Roerich,
c/o. The Indian Bank Ltd.,
Lady Curzon Road,
Cantonment,
Bangalore - 1,
Karnataka,
South India.

Dear Dr. and Mme. Roerich,

Thank you very much for your letter of 11th October, your telegram, your earlier letters, the press cuttings, commemorative stamps, leaflets and other literature. We are most grateful to you for keeping us so well informed, particularly whilst you have been so very busy, and it has been a great joy receive everything and to hear all the excellent news.

The Society has focused on three main celebratory activities: a special Centenary Mailing; a Centenary Exhibition; and the Centenary Day Meeting.

The Centenary Mailing was sent to all members and friends of the Society, to a large number of cultural and altruistic institutions and societies, to the British press, and to Russian and Indian editors and correspondents in this country.

The Centenary Exhibition was held in the Central Library at Swiss Cottage - a modern building designed by Sir Basil Spence (the leading British architect) and the central philosophical and psychological library in London and, probably, the United Kingdom. The Exhibition has been very well received, and we know of a number of people who have been so impressed by Prof. Roerich's life and work that they have visited it several times.

The Centenary Day Meeting held in the Hall of India at the Royal Overseas League was very well attended, and it was a moving and memorable occasion. Mr. Nehru spoke with much dignity to inaugurate the Centenary in the U.K. And it was touching to hear Minister Counsellor Mr. Vladimir Semenov - representing the Soviet Ambassador - pay warm tribute to his great fellow-countryman. Mr. Ram Gopal was another of the speakers who spoke with much feeling.

Mrs. Nehru and her son also attended the Meeting, and it was a great pleasure to meet and speak with them. Mr. R.N. Dogra, the Minister of Education and Science, and a number of other people from the High Commission were also present.

(continued over)

The B.B.C. broadcast two programmes on Prof. Roerich on its service to the Soviet Union - one prior to the Centenary and the other on the actual Centenary day. The B.B.C.'s Asian Service was also in contact with us several times and sent representatives to the Centenary Day Meeting, so it is quite likely that broadcasts were made to India too.

In due course, I will send you the transcript of a short talk, written for broadcasting in this country by the reporter the B.B.C. sent to the Centenary Exhibition. We will also send cuttings from newspapers in this country - as yet we have seen little, and this could be due to the general preoccupation with the General Election which took place on 10th October. There could well be mention of the U.K. celebrations in newspapers published in India. The U.K. correspondent of "Amrita Bazar Patrika" was particularly interested and has sent us copies of his cables sent to that paper.

It was very kind of you to send the first day covers of the Indian commemorative stamp. We are sending them to people who have been active in some way in connection with the Centenary, as mementos.

We do hope you have a most enjoyable visit to the Soviet Union. And we look forward with great pleasure to meeting you when you come to this country. Mrs. Archer has sent the Grosvenor House and Stafford Hotel brochures by separate post. Please do let us know if we can be of assistance in any other way.

With greetings and warmest wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Kenneth Archer

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GREETINGS AND WARM WISHES FROM VLADIMIR SHIBAYED HONORARY CHAIRMAN
 ROBERT HORNIMAN JEAN AND KENNETH ARCHER AND ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
 NICHOLAS ROERICH SOCIETY LONDON ON OCCASION OF ONEHUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY
 OF BIRTH OF NICHOLAS ROERICH GREAT ARTIST CULTURAL LEADER AND
 HUMANITARIAN

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PAX CULTURA

15

20th August, 1977.

Dear Dr. & Mare Roerich,

I am writing, belatedly I am sorry to say, to send you a copy of the programme of our July meeting together with the text of Mr. Archer's commentary.

Kenneth Archer, Secretary of the Nicholas Roerich Society
91, Fitzjohn's Avenue, London, NW3 6NX. Telephone: 01 - 435 5490

The meeting was beautiful, once again, and we much enjoyed it. We shall endeavour to arrange another meeting later in the year.

We hope that you are both well and that things in your country are improving.

Our warm greetings,
Kenneth Coker