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TELEPHONE: 528

KANNADA SCRIPT REFORM COMMITTEE

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R. KASTURIRAJ CHETTY, B.A., B.L.
(Director of Public Instruction in Mysore)

Secretaries:

DR. B. KUPPUSWAMI, M.A., D.Lit.
K. V. RAGHAVACHAR, M.A., B.T.MYSORE STATE ADULT EDUCATION COUNCIL
SARASWATIPURAM, MYSOREDate July 25, 1947

Mysore,

my dear Friends,

I came here to attend the first exhibition committee meeting this morning, and the Committee have agreed to my suggestion that you should be invited to hold an exhibition of your works during the Dasara week from the 17th October to 26th. The Dasara begins on the 15th but the exhibition will open on the 17th. The Committee have addressed a letter to the Govt that you both should be state guests. And so you must come to Mysore a few days

before the 15th. You can spend
a few days with me at Bangalore
and then we can come together
to Mysore. If you send me
a list of the pictures I shall
get a short catalogue made
to be ready in time. I should
suggest your bringing 15 to 20
large canvases & 15 small
ones. The Leys will write
to you soon. I am going to
Tiruvendrum for a few days &
shall be back before the
end of the month. Hope you are
all well. With affectionate
greetings to both yours sincerely
Veeka

From a letter of G. Vencatachelum to Svetoslav Roerich. Aug.5 1947.

I am sorry to learn that Dr. Roerich has been keeping in-different health for a time. I do hope he is completely recovered and is his old self again. He must send a message to Nehru for the 15th August, and it must be broadcast to the world. It is a pity that Gurudev Tagore is not alive to see India free, but it is a great blessing that we have his great friend and fellow seer still with us to see the dawn and to bless the nation. Roerich and Tagore have always been to me supreme examples of true creative genius and the only two seers that the modern world has produced. Gandhi is great in other fields but he is not a seer; Aurobindo is a yogi and Krishnaji is a great philosopher. A seer to me is more than a mystic; he is really an Adept in the making. Mrs. Besant was one in that sense. All India ought, I think, to lay at Dr. Roerich's feet their heart's gratitude and affection for this living Rishi who has glimpsed the Vision Splendid and who is a true lineal descendant of India's Mahatmas.

6, St. John's Road,
Bangalore Cantt.,
August, 22, 1947.

My dear Friends,

I am going to Delhi with Shanmukham Chetti on the 29th and expect to stay on there for ten days or more. If you are passing through Delhi any time early in September and are stopping at Delhi please contact me at 5, Queen Victoria Road, the residence of Shanmukham, the Finance Minister. This is just to intimate this change in my programme. Ceylon is dropped owing to floods there and the cancellation of the Prehera festival.

With kindest regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Venka

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6, St. John's Road,
Bangalore Cantt.,
August, 23, 1947.

Dear Friends,

I received this letter from Gwalior just now. I do not know if the time suggested will be all right? Though he does not say whether His Highness will be there to open the exhibition, we may ~~not~~ be much difficulty in getting that done. If you agree I can suggest to him to fix our exhibition in a separate building during that time and to approach H.H. to open the function. What do you say? I will be in Delhi for two weeks from the 1st of September. If you are passing through please wire me and I shall meet you. Hope this reaches you before you leave the valley.

With affectionate regards to both,
Yours Very Sincerely,

Venka—

G. Venkatachalam Esq.,
6, St. John's Road,
Bangalore Cantt.



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VICE-PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,
GWALIOR GOVERNMENT.

Gwalior

17th August, 1947.

My dear Mr. Venkatachalam,

I must apologise for this great delay in replying to your letter which is partly due to the fact that I have been absent from Gwalior in connection with the meetings in Delhi.

We shall be happy to welcome an Exhibition of Mr. Svetoslav Roerich's paintings in Gwalior. The most convenient way of arranging this would be to hold an exhibition in connection with the ^{Annual} Mela and Exhibition that is held at Lashkar some time towards the end of December. Mr. & Mrs. Roerich will be treated as State Guest, during their stay here and given the usual help required for hanging the pictures etc. I note that no extra expenditure is required to be incurred by the State.

I am not writing to Mr. Roerich as you have kindly agreed to communicate with him yourself.

Trusting that this finds you well and with kindest regards,

Yours Sincerely,

M. A. Sreenivasan
(M.A. Sreenivasan)

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6, St. John's Road,
Bangalore Cantt.,
December, 18, 1947-

My dear Svetoslav,

Only last night in the train from Madras that I happened to see a short note in a Madras paper about your great father's death and was terribly upset. I saw your telegram after my arrival here this morning, and I am really grieved to hear of his passing away at Kulu when you and Devika Rani are in Bombay. Some consolation it should have been to you both had he died when you were at his Himalayan home a few months ago. Death comes to all and in these days death seems to be the immediate heritage of man, and nobody bothers about it. But when a great soul passes away it affects all in a mysterious way and a void is created which it is difficult to fill. Nicholas Roerich was such a great one and centuries will elapse before another like him appears again on earth. Both as man and artist he was supremely great; one of the elect of the earth, a superman. His art has that immortal quality which, in the words of Carlyle, lets you gaze into the infinity through a spiritual window, as it were. His name will live as long art, beauty, culture is remembered. He has been lucky in one respect, which cannot be said of most great men, and that is, he has left behind not only a great name and tradition but two glorious inheritors of his greatness and of his art in his two sons of whom he must have been mightily proud. You have in an abundant measure that Roerich tradition in art and Roerichian view of life. May you long be spared to carry on that tradition and that great vision of life!

How is Devika Rani? She must be very upset over all these happenings. She was worried about your people at Kulu and was wondering how to bring them

out from there. I wonder if your brother and mother will be able to come to India with as little discomfort as possible? Are you planning a visit to Kulu to bring them out? I know you must be suffering much and you must find the courage and solace deep within yourself. If you both feel like having a change please come to Bangalore early in January and I shall be happy to place my humble rooms at your disposal. It may not be very comfortable but it will be very restful. Shanta too is now here with me and we can live like a happy family for a while. Please do come. We might find a suitable cottage for Devika's mother as well. Try and come.

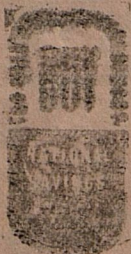
With affection and kind thoughts,

Yours Ever,

Devika

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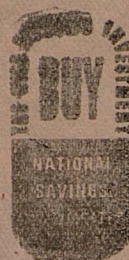
C-3.



INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

No.

Received here at _____ H. _____ M.



X KF BANGALORE B 18 17 ROERICH TAJMAHAL HOTEL BOMBAY

■ PROFOUNDLY SHOCKED LOSS NOT YOURS ONLY BUT WORLDS

■ SINCEREST CONDOLENCES ■ VENKA ■

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time handled in, serial number (in the case of foreign telegrams only), office of origin, date, service instructions (if any) and number of words.

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

REMARKS

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6, St. John's Road,
Bangalore Cantt.,
August, 21, 1948.

My dear Friends,

At long last I am back at 6, St. John's. Like Indian freedom, I was long in coming, but like it, I have come! Bangalore is gorgeous now with flaming flowers, cloud-spangled skies, nippy air and greenness everywhere. It is nice to be back after all those exciting days in Bombay and Madras. Retreats to quiet places and into oneself are good to one's soul. It makes you see things clearly and to value things intelligently. It is because we do not see things clearly and value things sensibly there is so much muddle in the world. If men could only be simpler and more natural what a paradise one could make of this sorrowful earth. The future of the world is indeed dark because of the complications man had created around himself out of sheer thoughtlessness. If we could think and think sensibly, how much easier life would be to all! What a mess we made of life! Enough of philosophising!!

I am sorry to say that the air mail letter you posted in Bombay on the 12th reached me only this morning. I was wondering why you had not written or replied to my two letters from Madras? Bhatt wrote to me that he got the Foreword but did not say about the photos. I am sending them to him to use in the book. I want them to be in the book as they will enrich the illustrative part of it. Thanks for the kind Foreword. It is well and beautifully written; a fine introduction to the chapters that follow. I am sure the value of the book will be enhanced because of this beautifully written introduction. Thanks a lot.

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I saw mother the very day[^] arrived here. I took Mrs. Murthy with me and we spent a happy evening there. She is all right, happy and well settled. She has got used to the place and is in love with the house. She has no problems now about food, or servant or transport. She has fixed everything and is quite at home and at peace with the world. She said that one of the boxes sent had been attacked by white ants, but not badly. I suggested that the box containing pictures must be kept in the office room and not in the garage. She is going to do that ^{after} opening the box and seeing the damage done by the ants.

The ~~Mandis~~ Mandis are here. They arrived here on the 18th and are staying at the West End. Her Highness went to Pondicherry and Thiruvannamalai before coming

here while His Highness and the son went to Mysore and Brindavan before coming to Bangalore. They are fixing a tutor for the boy here and also trying to take possession of the house before returning to Bombay. So their programme is not quite settled. They came to lunch with me this noon and spent some time here. His Highness liked my place. He is such a simple and sweet soul. The boy is too fine and nice natured. They had a religious ceremony for His Highness' birthday here last Friday with priests and all in their own house.

Well, how are things there? I heard of the committee meeting of the association over which you presided and passed that wire to the Government and Kabir about the National Trust. That was a good move. I am glad the Times had such a fine leading article on the subject and Dr. Goetz's letter was timely. You must ~~write~~ write to Azad yourself and keep him informed about everything. A personal letter from you will greatly help our deputation later. I am glad Gandhi and Thacker are alive and keep the flag flying. I am sorry Bhatt, like a fool, returned the photos. He has absolutely no taste in book production. I am sending them to him to be included in the book. Thanks for all the trouble you have taken to get them photographed and printed.

Well, what news from Khandala? Any information about the boat? How are your plans?, This delay and postponement must be annoying. Why not visit Bangalore now? It is simply gorgeous, and I know you both will like the place now. Your garden is full of roses and Mrs. Murthy took a huge bunch from there the other day. The weather is beautifully cold and it is nice to sleep under a warm blanket. I must do some writing work and I have promised to contribute to several journals. When I am away I am not in a mood to do any writing though Manu made me write a lot this time in Bombay. Hope you both are keeping fit and fine and happy. Best of luck and lots of love

from

Venka—