

M.-A. Steudler, Grande Rue 54, 2316 Les Ponts-de-Martel/CH

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Marie-Antoinette Steudler  
Grande Rue 54

2316 Les Ponts-de-Martel  
Switzerland

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August 4th 1980

Mr. Svetoslav Roerich  
c/o The Indian Bank Ltd.  
Infantry Road, Cantonment  
Bangalore 1, Mysore State  
South India

Dear Mr. Roerich,

For four years now, I have been giving all my time to the translating and distributing of the Agni Yoga books in various European countries. I am one of the founding members of the Agni Yoga European Center and it has been my privilege and my joy to work closely with Katherine and Inge on this - to us - most important task.

My joy strongly diminished as I had to take a hard stand against our mutual friends, in August last year, on their desire to found a competing group in Germany, to try to curb and impede the existing Augustat group there. Katherine and I decided then to let time and light do their work and counsel us before undertaking anything...

And now my joy has practically vanished since, two days ago and out of the blue, I learned that New York had initiated a law suit against the Germans. The times are so ominous and there seems to be little time left before the world sinks into more difficulties than ever before that I cannot see why we should use up our strength and work to fight a strong established group having the same ideals - and the same shortcomings - we have, for a matter of copy rights?

As a European, I have had a hard time figuring why New York has been acting so dominatingly in respect with the copy rights. As long as we are deeply sincere and ready to give our best to the publication of the Teaching, why should we be prevented to do so because old Mrs. Fosdick says she is the only one to judge whom to trust - and we know she did not always make the right choice when she trusted somebody, but that is a different matter. The very personal feud between Mrs. Fosdick and the late Mr. Brandstaetter should not, I feel, still divide the co-workers of our time. We are the younger generation and very much aware that no war is worth waging, as it can only end in loosing, no matter what side one wages it on.

I have told Katherine and Inge repeatedly that we could not, just could not, bring the Teaching of Light to a court of law, even to bring the German group to conform with New York's demands. To me, it is a spiritual impossibility and I would give much to be able to prevent such dealings.

Therefore, I apply to you to advise and help us if you can. Thank you! As your moter wrote on September 10th, 1938: "At all times, everywhere, and in all things, a conscious, friendly cooperation is needed. Brotherhood can be realized only in unity of consciousness."

So, may the Light uplift our consciousnesses. We certainly need it!

Very respectfully and hopefully yours,

Marie-Antoinette Steudler