



K. D. Padmanabhan Tampi, B. A.

NEW LODGE, CHETTIKULAMKARA.

TRIVANDRUM.

21st March 1940.

Dear and Esteemed Friend,

Trust you have had a very pleasant journey to Peermade and that you are enjoying the change from the plains to the lovely hills.

I have arranged for the publication of your 'Inaugural Address' in some of the local papers and periodicals published in British India. I am indeed happy to report that the function was considered a splendid success by the public. I am ~~xxxx~~ grateful to you for your affection and kindness.

Enclosed herein please find a snap taken while you were delivering the Inaugural Address. This photograph was taken without the aid of Flashlight or any special Lighting arrangements.

I have, duly sent to Gurudev copies of your address, my speech and leaflets relating to the Inaugural meeting.

Please write to me in detail about your return to Trivandrum. Which is the probable date of your return? On hearing from you I shall arrange for your visit to some of the old Roman Catholic Churches on the way.

Kindly convey my regards to Kulapathi Dr. Jayaram Cousins.

With best regards,  
Yours sincerely,

*K. D. Padmanabhan Tampi*  
21-3-1940.

To

Svetoslav de Roerich Esq.,

Peermade.

*H. P. P. Tampy, B. A.,*

NEW LODGE, CHETTikulAMKARA,  
TRIVANDRUM, P. O.  
SOUTH INDIA.

2

March  
30th  
1940.

Dear and Esteemed Friend,

Please accept my best  
thanks for your cordial letter dated  
the 25th March. Indeed, I was delighted  
to receive it.

I am glad to note that  
you like the climate at Peermede and  
that you enjoy the change to the hills.  
It is very kind of you to assure me  
that you will be writing to me in  
advance about your plans and movements.

I am sending you under  
separate cover, per book post, a marked  
copy of the latest issue of the " Bhasha  
Poshini ", Illustrated Monthly containing

( P.T.O. )

H. P. P. Tampi, B. A.

NEW LODGE, CHETTICKULAMKARA,

TRIVANDRUM, P. O.

SOUTH INDIA.

3

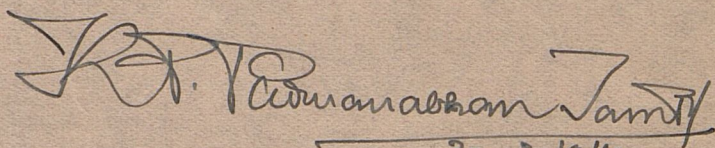
- 2 -

my article on " Gurudev Nicholas Roerich "  
The " Bhasha Poshini " is the oldest  
Malayalam Monthly, in Malabar, now in its  
forty fourth year of existence ! In this  
article I have dealt with your Art as  
well. I am also sending a copy of this  
issue to Gurudev Roerich.

All of us here are doing quite  
well. Our heartiest Greetings to you.

With regards,

Ever yours sincerely,

H. P. P. Tampi


30. 3. 1940

To

Svetoslav Roerich Esq.,  
P e e r m e d e.

----

4



K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPY, B. A.,  
NEW LODGE, CHETTIKULAMKARA,  
TRIVANDRUM.

---

18th May 1940.

My dear Friend,

It is nice to have your kind letter of the ninth instant and to know that you are hale and hearty.

As desired in your letter I have handed over Rs.2/- to the Department of Information towards the cost of the two photographs supplied to you. I shall send you the prints of the Agasthya Statue in the Museum shortly.

Your Painting of our Maharaja is a success. You have managed to capture on canvas both the physical charms and the graces of the soul of this great Prince who has created history. Indeed, there is a vast difference in the technique of this portrait and that of other paintings embellishing the Durbar Hall. Some people here - long accustomed as they are to the sort of portraiture work of Ravi Varma and his disciples and followers, - however, do not fully understand and appreciate the unique charm of your inspired art. You have shown that portrait painting is not identical with photographic reproduction. It may interest you to learn that some local art critics expressed the view that the background of the painting is a little dark and that it is somewhat disproportionate to the figure. The painting <sup>is</sup> in situ full of life and charm and it proclaims that it is executed by an original artist.

By the bye, what has happened to the smaller portrait of H.H. the Maharaja? I think you took it home with you. Dr. Cousins has also raised the same query in one of his recent letters to me.

I am sure by this time you must have received prints of <sup>the</sup> Roerich collection of paintings in the Sri Chitralayam. I trust they have come out well.



K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPY, B. A.,  
NEW LODGE, CHETTIKULAMKARA,  
TRIVANDRUM.

I am revising my article on the Roerich collection in the Sri Chitralayam by making it up-to-date, with special reference to the paintings recently acquired. I intend sending this article to Dr. Cousins for revision. The original article was kindly revised by him for publication in the "Flamma" and other periodicals. To enable me to prepare an authoritative article I want authentic ~~article~~ information relating to these pictures. Please let me have the necessary details - (relating to the paintings. (Name of Painting, Year, subject matter etc.,))

I am sending you herewith a photographic reproduction of the painting of Central Himalayas so kindly presented to me by Gurudev. This print is not, however, perfect. I shall send two more prints next week. Please give this print to the Gurudev. Kindly let me have your opinion on this photograph.

All of us here are in excellent health. Greetings to your good self and best regards to Gurudev and Madame Roerich.

My brother sends you his best greetings.

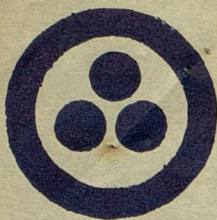
Yours sincerely,

K. P. Padmanabhan Tamy  
18/5/40

To

Mr. Svetoslav Roerich,  
Nagar,

N.B. Enclosed herein please find a letter addressed to Gurudev which please pass on.



6

K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPY, B.A.,  
NEW LODGE, CHETTIKULAMKARA,  
TRIVANDRUM.

---

1st June 1940.

My dear Mr. Roerich,

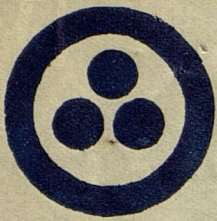
I trust you did receive my previous letter and the enclosures thereto. I am eagerly awaiting your reply as also a letter from Gurudev.

I venture to hope that the photograph of Gurudev's painting "Central Himalayas", meets with your approval. Enclosed herein please find two more prints in half size of the same photograph for submission to Gurudev Roerich.

I am arranging for the publication of this photograph in some of the South Indian periodicals. I would welcome some details relating to the painting, as to when and where it was painted etc.

Please let me have details regarding the "Roerich Paintings" in the Sri Chitralayam. I want this information in connection with an article I am preparing. I would be glad to have a loan of the blocks of these paintings, if they are available.

I am sending you herewith a small photograph of the Agastya Image in the Museum. I shall send you two larger prints - in half size - next week. I trust that



7

K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPY, B. A.,  
NEW LODGE, CHETTIKULAMKARA,  
TRIVANDRUM.

-2-

you would be satisfied with this photograph. If, however, you would like to have a fresh photograph taken, please do not hesitate to write to me, suggesting the exact view required by you.

Let me take the liberty of reminding you about your opinion on the Swathi Thirunal School of Music, Poojapurai, Trivandrum, which you were pleased to visit on the 11th April 1940, the day previous to your departure from Trivandrum. My brother told me that you ~~said~~<sup>had</sup>, in fact, written out the opinion but it got misplaced. Please send me your impressions on that school, their Orchestra and especially the dance of the little girl, Indira Bai Thankachi.

Best regards to Gurudev and Mme Roerich.

With best greetings,

Yours sincerely,

*K. P. Padmanabhan Tampy*

To

Svetoslav Roerich Esq.,  
Naggar,

K. P. Padmanabhan Tampy, B. A.

8  
NEW LODGE,  
CHETTIKULAMKARA,  
TRIVANDRUM.

August 6th 1940.

My dear Friend,

Please accept my belated but none the less warm thanks for your hastily written letter dated the 16th July 1940 and for the Railway Receipt enclosed therein. Indeed, I was delighted to hear from you. The same day I received an M.O. from Gurudev Roerich to meet the freight charges for the Parcel.

The Parcel has not yet arrived here. It is ascertained from the local Railway Station that the Parcel is expected here some time this week. Verily, this Parcel is travelling from one corner of the vast continent of India to another end! I trust this consignment of valuable publications will reach me in splendid condition.

Just two days before I received your letter dated the 27th July. Evidently, this is the long letter to make up for all your silence. It is most nice and kind of you to write such an endearing letter <sup>in spite of</sup> ~~about~~ heavy pressure of work. Your cordial letter has brought me great joy.

I note that of late you have been bombarded with much work and that you are some what free at present.

I am happy to find that the photographic prints of Rishi Agastya's image have met with your approval. It is

K. P. Padmanabhan Tampy, B. A.

NEW LODGE,  
CHETTikulamkara,  
TRIVANDRUM.

inspiring to hear that you have completed a Painting of Rishi Agastya commanding the Vindhya mountains not to rise. This is yet another proof of your love and devotion for India and her great culture. I would very much desire to have a photograph of this Painting.

By the bye, do you know that there is in Travancore a place called Agastyakudam, (Mount Agastya) sacred to Rishi Agastya. This Mount, twenty-two miles from Trivandrum, is 6200 feet high and in former days an Observatory was perched on its top. It is believed that Agastya, the Rishi, Physician, Theologian and Scholar had his abode here. I have drawn some inspiration from your references to Rishi Agastya, and I intend writing an article on Mount Agastya and other places in Travancore associated with his name. I am sure your painting will be most suitable for illustrating this article, especially because legend and tradition aver that Rishi Agastya hastened to Mount Agastya in Travancore and made his abode there, after commanding the Vindhya Mountains not to rise. Hence, my request for a photographic print or two of your Painting.

Your observations on Travancore and her people are

K. P. Padmanabhan Tampy, B. A.,

NEW LODGE,  
CHETTikulAMKARA,  
TRIVANDRUM.

well deserved as they are noble and sincere. I have conveyed your warmest greetings to our friends and they heartily reciprocate greetings. Your letter, I am thrilled to note, contains the glad tidings that it is likely that you will visit Travancore some time this year since you may not be leaving for the United States before the New Year. I hope you will come again to this State in November next during His Highness the Maharaja's Birthday celebrations. Probably, you will then give the final coat of varnish etc., to the Portrait.

If you have photographic prints of your Paintings to spare, please let me have some. I could use them in the Press. You have not yet put into my hands material about your career as an artist, your art etc., to enable me to prepare an authoritative article. You had personally promised me that you would attend to this.

Your address to the Young Men's Association, Trivandrum has appeared in the garb of an article (To the Youth) in the Hyderabad Special Number of the Cochin Argus dated the 3rd August. Trust you have duly received a voucher copy of this issue. If you have any other contributions at hand, please let me have them for publication in the Press.

K. P. Padmanabhan Tampy, B. A.



NEW LODGE,  
CHETTIKULAMKARA,  
TRIVANDRUM.

My mother, brothers and other members of our family are hale and hearty. It is really very kind and affectionate of you to remember them with such warmth of heart. Their warmest greetings to you. Mother asks me to convey to you her best love and sincerest good wishes.

The "little friend" is now attending school. I communicated to him your greetings and he was proud and overjoyed and he harangued me with the question "when is he coming again?"

My Namaskarams to Gurudev and Mme Roerich.

Very sincerely yours,

K. P. Padmanabhan Tampy  
GSR140

To

Svetoslava Roerich Esq.,

Naggar.

K. P. PADMANAEGHAN TAMPY, B. A.



JUNE  
25th  
1953.

12  
NEW LODGE,

CHETTikulAMKARA,

TRIVANDRUM. P. O. 1.  
SOUTH INDIA.

To

Mr. Svetoslav Roerich,  
Crookkety,  
Kalimpong, West Bengal.

My dear Mr. Svetoslav Roerich,

I am glad that what I had written to Dr. Georges Roerich about the present condition of your portrait of Gurudev in the Trivandrum Museum Annexe has caught your attention and that you are contacting the Director of Museums. It is very necessary that the painting is renovated in certain portions where the paint has peeled off.

The other portrait of Prof. J. H. Cousins is in excellent condition. I wrote two illustrated articles about this masterly painting and sent you marked voucher copies to Naggar. Dr. J. H. Cousins liked the articles. I wonder whether you received the Magazines. Perhaps, you are aware that Prof. Cousins is now convalescing in Bangalore (B 65, Govindappa Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore) after a long and exacting illness. He had informed me that he wrote to you about the portrait of Gurudev but that no reply was received from you.

Please send me photographs of Paintings of the Himalayas by Gurudev and you for illustrating an article which I intend contributing to the first class Journal HIMALAYA edited by the great savant Dr. Radha Kumud Mukherji, M.P., M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt etc. Surely, you should contribute to this Journal.

Myself and a few friends (please see attached paper) are organising a Children's Art Exhibition at Quilon, opening on the 6th of July 1953. Assured of the active support of Shankar and other well known artists and art critics (Cousins, Venkatachalam), the Exhibition will be a great success. I want you, as a labour of love, send me a Message to be read at the opening of the Exhibition on the 6th July 1953. Please send me the Message in time. Also, if possible, send me some prizes (books, etc) to be awarded at the Exhibition. Friends like Dr. J. H. Cousins have sent prizes. I would very much wish Mrs. Devika Rani to send a Message for the Exhibition. Messages from you two will be of great encouragement.

Myself and family are hale and hearty. My beloved mother (aged 73) whom you have seen passed away on the 7th April 1953. Please convey my love and regards to Mme Roerich and Mrs. Devika Rani.

With love and regards and all good wishes.

Yours Sincerely,

*K. P. Padmanaghan Tamy*

K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPY, B. A.

President: Kerala Chitrakala Parishath -  
Kerala Art Academy.

Associate Editor: 'Rhythm' - Art Journal.



NEW LODGE,

CHETTikulamkara,

TRIVANDRUM-1.

KERALA STATE.

IMMEDIATE

MARCH\*12\*1958.

My dear Svetoslav Roerich:

I have not heard from you for a long time past in spite of my letters to you. All the same you have been in my thoughts.

I hope you are receiving regularly issues of the fine art magazine RHYTHM of which I am Associate Editor and that you are pleased with the Journal. As a devoted disciple of beloved Gurudev Nicholas Roerich, I am regularly publishing in RHYTHM his articles, poems etc, and also writings and poems on him. In the latest issue of RHYTHM (Vol.V No.IV) you will find Gurudev's scholarly article on RAJ RAJESWARI and the poem on MOSES THE LEADER (Gurudev's Painting) by M.Lichtmann. Also, there is a fine mention of Gurudev's famous painting THE BORDER OF TIBET in the article "Overture to Contemporary Painting-South India" on pages 41-42. Thus you see this humble and steadfast disciple is spreading the Great Message of the Guru.

I shall feel obliged if you will send to Smt. ASHA MUKHERJEE, General Editor, RHYTHM, 21/2/C, Harish Mukherjee Road, CALCUTTA-25, for publication in the next issue of RHYTHM, colour blocks of a painting by Gurudev or yourself, and halftone blocks of two paintings each by Gurudev and you. The blocks will be carefully used and safely sent back to you. Please send a set of prints of the blocks to Smt. Asha Mukherji. Also send a set of prints to me for preparing Notes on Art Plates.

Please send me an illustrated article for use in RHYTHM. Kindly convey my kind regards to Smt. Devika Rani Roerich and tell her that RHYTHM will feel happy and honoured to have an article from her.

As the elected President of the KERALA CHITRAKALA PARISHATH, the leading Association of Artists, Art Critics and Art Lovers in Kerala, I have great pleasure in informing you and Smt. Devika rani that the second Conference of the Parishath will be held at Tellicherry in a grand manner on the 7th, 8th and 9th of April 1958. With over 500 members, the Parishath has a brilliant record of work to its credit. The Celebrations include Conferences, Symposium, Seminar, Art Exhibition, Publication of a Souvenir, Entertainments etc. Please see the enclosed leaflet.

# Kerala Chithra Kala Parishath

കേരള ചിത്രകലാപരിഷത്ത്

**Patron:**

Sri. Poomully Manakkal

Neelakantan Nambudiripad

**Hon. Patron:**

Sri. K. C. S. Panicker, Artist

Sri. K. Madhava Menon, Do.

Sri. Rama Varma Raja, Do.

**President:**

Sri. K. P. Padmanabhan  
Thampy, B. A.

K. P. Padmanabhan Thampy, B. A.

NEW LODGE, CHETTIKULAMKARA,  
TRIVANDRUM-1.

Place TRIVANDRUM 1  
March 14<sup>th</sup> 1958.  
Date 19

**Vice-President:**

Sri. C. V. Balan Nair  
[Uihara Keralam]

Sri. V. Damodara Menon  
[Dakshina Keralam]

**General Secretary:**

Sri. P. T. Bhaskara  
Panicker, B. Sc; B. T.

**Joint Secretaries:**

Sri. M. V. Devan  
[Uihara Keralam]

Sri. T. V. Balakrishnan  
Nair [Madhya Keralam]

Sri. K. Ramachandran  
[Dakshina Keralam]

**Treasurer:**

T. M. Vasudevan Nambudiri

I request you and Smt Devika Rabi to send me a MESSAGE to be read at the opening session on the 7th April and later published in the Souvenir.

The Symposium in connection with the Session will be held on the 8th April and the subject for discussion is ART AND PEOPLE'S APPROACH TO IT. The Symposium will be largely attended by Artists, Art Masters and Art Lovers. As artists of all world reputation, your (including you and Smt. Devikarani) views on the subject will be interesting and helpful to the audience. Hence, I request you to send me your views on this subject to be read out at the Symposium.

Please send me your MESSAGE and VIEWS as to reach me before the 28th of March 1958.

It will be much appreciated if you could send me an article for the Souvenir as to reach me before the 15th of April 1958.

With Love and Regards,

Yours Sincerely,

To

Sri. SVETOSLAV ROERICH,  
Bangalore 1.



K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPY,  
(Art Critic, Art Collector, Art Editor, Author, Art Adviser,)

Phone at 4095

15  
PLAVANNARA PUTHEN MATOM,  
T. C. NO. 26/1355, (NEW LODGE),  
CHETTIKULANGARA,  
TRIVANDRUM-1. P. O.  
PIN. 695 001. (KERALA - INDIA)

September  
4th  
1976.

Immediate

My dear Dr. Svetoslav Roenich:

I have not heard from you for a long time past. All the same, you and Mrs. Serika Rami Roenich are quite alive in my thoughts.

By now you must have received the two Magazines published from Kerala, ANTHARDARA, and SOUTHERN CHRONICLE in which your Painting "TOIL" is published with appreciative notes from my pen. "Southern Chronicle" also contains my article in which special mention has been made of your famous portrait of Dr. J. H. Connors.

Please see the enclosed Programme for September 26 of the House of Soviet Culture at Trivandrum. On 30/9/76 there is a film show "Svetoslav Roenich in Moscow". Prior to the Film Show is my Talk on "Svetoslav Roenich".

So, please send me some background material about you which will be helpful to me to give an up-to-date talk on you.

For a very long time, you have not sent me books, bracelets, photographs, albums etc. Please

Send me these from time to time.

If Plates of Paintings are  
available, please send them to me  
for publication.

With affectionate regard  
to you both.

Yours ever affectionately,

John Addams Jan  
4/9/1910

To

Dr. Suresan Runch,  
Bengal



Phone at 4095

**K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPY,**

(Art Critic, Art Collector, Art Editor, Author, Art Adviser.)

PLAVANNARA PUTHEN MATOM,  
T. C. NO. 26/1355, (NEW LODGE),  
CHETTICKULANGARA,  
TRIVANDRUM-1, P. O.

PIN. 695 001. (KERALA - INDIA)

September  
29th  
1976.

My dear Dr. Svetoslav Roerich:

I have, this day, sent you per separate Book Post three (3) copies of an illustrated booklet on a large size Mural Painting executed on the wall of the Lounge of the Sree Chitra Titimal Medical Centre, Trivandrum, by the famous Artist Sri K. Srani Vasulu of Madras. Please see the third Cover Page of the booklet in which I have quoted Gurdas Nicholas Roerich's Sagacious words ART IS FOR ALL. Please also read the FOREWORD. I hope that you will like the booklet.

To-morrow (30.9-76) evening, I am speaking about "SVETOSLAV ROERICH" at the House of Soviet Culture, Trivandrum — the talk to be followed by a film entitled "Svetoslav Roerich in Moscow".

Please send me photographs of your

Paintings dealing with Kerala life and landscape, with  
Captions and notes for publication. Also send your latest  
Photograph. Please send me from time to time Books,  
Prints, Reproductions, etc pertaining to your Paintings  
and Quotations Paintings.

Could you please let me have a few Halfpenny  
Blocks of Paintings for publication? Kindly send me an  
article for publication in the Philosophical Congress Special  
Number of a Southern Chronicle.

With affectionate regards to Mire and your  
Yours ever Sincerely,

*K. P. Padmanabhan Tampy*  
24/10/76

First fold here

INLAND LETTER

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र



QUICKMAIL

BANGALORE-1

To

Dr. SVETOSLAV ROERICH,  
of INDIAN BANK,  
Lady Wilson Road, Cantonment,  
\*BANGALORE-1. (Karnataka,  
P.O. BANGALORE-1 South India)

Third fold here

Sender's Name and Address

Phone at 4095

K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPY,

(Art Critic, Art Collector, Art Editor, Author, Art Adviser.)

PLAVANNARA PUTHEN MATOM,

T. C. NO. 26/1355, (NEW LODGE),

CHETTikulANGARA.

TRIVANDRUM-1. P. O.

PIN. 695 001. (KERALA - INDIA)

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये



Second fold here

TAJ MAHAL 31

17

C/o. The Indian Bank,  
Lady Curzon Road,  
Cantonment,  
BANGALORE - 1.

15th October 1976.

Dear Sir,

Just before leaving, Madam Roerich requested me to thank you for sending 3 copies of "PEACOCK" which she was happy to receive.

Both she and Dr. Roerich send you their regards.

Yours sincerely,

*F. D. Irani*  
(MISS F.D. IRANI)

Secy. to MADAM D.R. ROERICH.

Mr. K.P. Padmanabhan Tampy,  
T.C.No.26/1355 Plavannara Puthen Matom,  
New Lodge,  
CHETTIKULANGARA,  
TRIVANDRUM 1.P.O.  
KERALA.