

Telephone
Winfield 393

COPY 7
Four Winds
Ninfield
Mr. Battle.
Sussex.

Dear Mr. Shibayev,

Mr. Watkins, the London bookseller, forwarded your address to me with your permission. It was kind of you to allow me to contact you about Nicholas Roerich's work. My enquiries are serious. I have been greatly moved by what I have already read of his works, particularly the Agni Yoga series. I am no beginner in the investigation of the inner life. In addition, my link-up with esoteric teaching was arrived at after over 30 years of psychological research. This preliminary I hope will help you realise that my writing to you is not merely to satisfy curiosity. There is serious purpose in my approach to you. I would have preferred a talk with you, but travelling for me is out of question. If you should feel unable to answer me as fully as I would like perhaps you would advise me as to where I might obtain the information I desire. Before getting to my questions let me say I have read the small monograph on Nicholas Roerich by Mrs Fesdick which left me very unsatisfied.

My questions:- Is the Master Morya the inspirer of all the works in the Agni Yoga Series?

Is there any information available on the method used to obtain This Teaching from the Master; when it began to come through; the preparation and development of Nicholas Roerich (who I presume was the vehicle) to be the receiver of this knowledge? The relationship of Helena Roerich to this spiritual work. Was she a necessary part of the process whereby the Teaching was enabled to come through? Is there any work that will enable one to discover what the personal efforts were in spiritual growth that enabled the Roerichs to achieve this high degree of psychological and esoteric understanding?

I am aware, being an artist too, of the value of Art to inner development. Furthermore creative work has been greatly responsible for my own inner evolution. It is information beyond that side of things I am anxious to obtain. Am I asking for the 'moon'? Have not the Roerich's written anything that will help in this respect?

Is there an unofficial centre where the guidance of those seriously interested in Agni Yoga is given? I knew of the group in New York, USA, but they are too far off. Perhaps I have asked enough in this first letter to you. I do hope you

feel able to give me help in finding the information I am seeking. If you are able to give this help but feel a need for further assurances of my good faith, please ask. One does not normally give this sort of information to a casual ensuirer.

Sincerely yours

Richard Pailtherpe.