

MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF THE SEVENTIETH
BIRTHDAY OF N.S. KHRUSCHEV

FROM
SVETOSLAV ROERICH

It is always a privilege to pay tribute to an outstanding and remarkable personality and I am grateful to the Editor of the Soviet Land for his suggestion that I should send a few lines for the issue of Soviet Land commemorating the seventieth birthday of Nikita Sergeevich Khrushchev.

My wife and I have met Mr. Khrushchev for the first time during his visit to India in November 1955, then again in 1960 in Delhi and during my exhibitions in the U.S.S.R.

The several informal talks we had with Mr. Khrushchev have greatly impressed us and our first impressions were only strengthened as time went by. His warm and rich personality, his quick mastery of the essentials of a problem, his positive and practical attitude and quite a special spontaneous wisdom are some of the traits that strike one most when one meets him for the first time. There is a broad humanness about him which bespeaks of his love of the people, his desire to benefit them in the quickest possible way and to surmount all the obstacles. More than once we had the opportunity to observe the remarkable

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alertness of his mind, switching from one discussion to another and retaining the full grasp of the subject.

Again at the time of my exhibition both in Delhi and in the Soviet Union we could see him from quite another angle, that of a man who genuinely appreciates art, who understands and loves nature and is profoundly moved by nature's rich and varying moods. His observations revealed him as a man who loved Poetry and Music. And here again one could see his ability to grasp the essentials of a subject or problem and resolve them to their fundamentals.

These and other rare qualities have made him the remarkable personality that he is today and we avail ourselves of this occasion to express to him on the auspicious occasion of his Seventieth Birthday our most sincere and warm felicitations and wish him many, many more years of active work, great achievements, health, happiness and the fulfilment of his endeavours for the establishment of UNIVERSAL PEACE.



SVETOSLAV ROERICH.