

AMERICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

on

INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION
2101 B Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

February 3, 1931

To the Director,
Roerich Museum,
310 Riverside Drive,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

The League of Nations Institute of Intellectual Cooperation in Paris, with which we cooperate for the United States, has in preparation a report on national institutes abroad. I have already furnished the material regarding the institutes of art and archaeology, historical and scientific research or higher education maintained in foreign countries by American societies and institutions. I find, however, that I have neglected to include the Urusvati Himalayan Research Institute which, I find from the American Art Annual just published, is maintained by the Roerich Museum at Naggar Kulu Punjab, for archaeological research work. There is still time, however, to have information about it inserted before the Paris Institute publishes the report. I should, therefore, be greatly obliged if you will send me the necessary data as indicated by the enclosed questionnaire insofar as it is applicable to this research institute.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. David Thompson),
Executive Secretary.

Enclosure
JDT-E

Inquiry on National Institutes Abroad

The inquiry covers all institutes of art and archaeology, historical and scientific research or higher education maintained by the governments, universities or other organizations and situated abroad. The following are examples of the type of institute we have in mind: Institut historique belge, Rome; Institut français de Florence; American School of Classical Studies, Athens; Ficker Institut für Mikrobiologie, Sao Paolo (maintained by the Kaiser Wilhelm Society, Berlin).

QUESTIONNAIRE

- 1) Name and address of institute. Name of present Director
- 2) Date of foundation of institute
- 3) Object of the Institute (research or teaching body).
- 4) Nature of institute (attached to university or independent; official or private; please send copy of statutes or other publications concerning institute). Internal organization (enumerate various departments of the institute).
- 5) Financial statement.
- 6) Equipment (library, archives).
- 7) Permanent staff (administration, teaching body, etc.)
- 8) Number of temporary members (research institutes) or students (teaching bodies); conditions of admission.
- 9) Courses and lectures given at the institute during preceding year (please send programme if available).
- 10) Publications
- 11) Other activities; scientific expeditions; archaeological excavations; art exhibitions, etc.,
- 12) International relations of the institute; exchange of members of with other institutions, collaboration of foreign scholars, participation in scientific work or in congresses of an international character.

All printed literature, such as prospectuses, yearbooks, programmes studies, bulletins or reviews of these institutions, will be very acceptable for the purposes of the inquiry.

1) Urusvati, Himalayan Research Institute of Roerich Museum.
Headquarters: Naggar, Kulu, Punjab, India
New York Office: 310 Riverside Drive, New York, N.Y.
Director: Dr. Georges de Roerich

2) Founded May 28, 1928

3) Object: To conduct original scientific research in varied fields of science and art -- archaeology, bio-chemistry, medicine (including study and comparative analysis of native pharmacopoeia), botany, zoology, geology, meteorology, terrestrial magnetism, astronomy, astro-chemistry and allied sciences; to provide American and European scholars with a possibility of field work in India and other regions of the Middle East; to establish a field school for the student.

4) Urusvati, Himalayan Research Institute is an affiliated institution of the Roerich Museum. Please see attached leaflets.

The Institute comprises the following departments:

Department of Archaeology, related sciences and arts;
Department of Natural Sciences and Allied Research;
Department of Medical Research and Clinic;
Museums, both at Naggar and New York, archaeological and natural history

5) Supported financially by Roerich Museum grant and memberships

6) Equipment:

At Naggar - A two-story stone building, affording room for living quarters of 6 scientists, office, library, and field museum.

Bio-chemical laboratory

Clinic and medical research laboratory

Botanical laboratory

Meteorological observatory

Medicinal herb plantations

Research library, including Western and Eastern scientific works, as well as original Asiatic manuscripts

At New York - Office and Natural History Museum

7) Administration:

Honorary President-Founder: Madame Helena de Roerich

President-Founder: Professor Nicholas de Roerich

Officer: Louis L. Horch, president of Roerich Museum

Vice-Presidents: Frances R. Grant, Dr. Edgar L. Hewett,

Nettie S. Horch, Prof. Charles R. Lanman, Sina G.

Lichtmann, Dr. Homer F. Swift

Director: Dr. Georges de Roerich

Trustees: Mme. Helena de Roerich, Prof. Nicholas de Roerich,

Dr. Georges de Roerich, Nettie S. Horch, Louis L. Horch,

Frances R. Grant, Sina G. Lichtmann, Esther Lichtmann,

Maurice M. Lichtmann, Svetoslav Roerich, Sophie Schaffan

Secretary: V. Shibayev

Members of Staff:

Botanist-Biologist: Dr. Walter Koelz, who is also honorary representative in India for Michigan and Harvard Universities
 Head of Medical Research and Clinic: Dr. C.C. Lozina, Paris
 Attache to President-Founder: Col. T.A. Mahon, D.S.O.
 Superintendent: Capt. Hugh Benon
 Staff of natives

- 9) Among outstanding lectures during the season of 1930-1931 were the following: (Held at the Roerich Museum, New York)
 "The Biological Bases of a New Conception of Life" - given by Professor N. Zavadsky, of the Pasteur Laboratory, Curie Institute, Paris
 "The Valley of the Gods" - a lecture on the Kulu Valley, given by Mrs. Louis L. Horch, President of the Society of Friends of Roerich Museum

10) Publications:

Journal of Urusvati, Himalayan Research Institute; reports by Dr. Walter N. Koelz, Dr. C.C. Lozina, and Dr. Georges de Roerich. Books: Tibetan Paintings and Trails to Inmost Asia, by Dr. Georges de Roerich

Recent papers by the Director:

"Animal Style of the Nomads" published by the Kondakov Institute, Prague
 "Tibetan Tonames" published in the Sir Grierson Commemorative Volume, India Linguistic Society
 "Modern Tibetan Phonetics" published in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal

- 11) The Institute was founded as the result of a five-year expedition under Professor Nicholas de Roerich through Central Asia - Kashmir, Ladak, Chinese Turkestan, Siberia, Mongolia, the Altai, Tibet. Since May 1930, botanical-zoological expeditions have been made into Lahul and Chamba Districts, Rampur-Bahshar, Punjab, Kangra Valley and Kulu Valley, starting from the base at Naggar. Archaeological excavations of prehistoric burials were made in Pondicherry, French India, under Professor Nicholas de Roerich and Dr. George de Roerich

Large shipments of Himalayan flora have been sent from the Institute base to the Jardins des Plantes, Paris; the New York Botanical Gardens; Michigan University; and a shipment of seeds has also been sent to the Bureau of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. Further material is being sent to the Botanical and Zoological Departments of American and European universities, on an exchange basis.

A permanent collection of Himalayan flora and fauna, as well as a collection of some 28 Tibetan thang-kas and images, is on display at the Roerich Museum, New York, under the auspices of Urusvati, Himalayan Research Institute. Complete collections are also on display at the Field Museum at Naggar.

12) The list of Honorary Advisors and Corresponding Members of the Institute suggests the international interest of the work.

For Honorary Advisors please see page 15 of the pamphlet, "A New Outpost of Science."

Corresponding Members include the following:

Professor M.V.A. Pertzoff, of Harvard University
 Professor Alexander P. Kalitinsky, Director, Kondakov
 Institute, Prague
 Dr. Felix Lukin, Riga
 Professor Edgerton, of Yale University
 Count R. de Mesnil du Buisson, Paris
 Commandant C.J. Cauvet, Birmandreis, Algiers
 Professor J. Rahder, Professor of Sanskrit, University
 of Utrecht
 Professor Suniti Kumar Chatterji, Calcutta University

The following institutions have offered their Cooperation:

Pasteur Institute, Paris
 Michigan University, which has offered the use of
 their clinic at Ann Arbor for experimentation and
 application of the results of the medical research
 at Naggar
 Carnegie Institute, Washington, D.C.
 The Hille Laboratories, Chicago
 New York Botanical Gardens
 Initiative Group of the International Oriental
 Institute, Paris (President: Baron M.A. Taube)
 Oriental Institute of Chicago
 Kondakov Institute, Prague
 M. Paul Geuthner (publisher) Paris

Please see attached pages giving biographical data and list
 of international connections of the President-Founder,
 Professor Nicholas de Roerich

Please see also attached list of branches of the Society
 of Friends of Roerich Museum, the headquarters of which
 are in New York

The Himalayan Research Institute invites scientists of all
 nations to participate in their work.

March 7, 1931

Mr. J. David Thompson
Executive Secretary
American National Committee
on International Intellectual Cooperation
2101 B Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Thompson:

In accordance with your request, we are sending you herewith information regarding the Urusvati, Himalayan Research Institute of Roerich Museum, at Naggar, Kulu, Punjab, for the purpose of including it in the report of the League of Nations Institute of Intellectual Cooperation, in Paris.

We have given the data as outlined in the questionnaire you sent us, and are also enclosing such printed matter as we feel would be of interest to you.

Thanking you for your cooperation and interest, we are

Very sincerely yours,

Vice-President

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