

Naggar, Kulu, Punjab

April 28th 1931

Dr. Ralph V.D. Magoffin,
President Amer. Archaeol. Inst.
c/o Roerich Museum
New-York.

Dear Dr. Magoffin,

At the beginning of the second period of our Institute's summer field work, I wish to tell you something about our immediate plans in the field of archaeological and other historical research, for we feel your friendly attitude and the cooperation of your distinguished Institution is a token of future extensive work. Our Institute stood the onslaught of present economic difficulties and the world-wide tide of mutual suspicions that hinder so much scientific work. We are now paving the way for systematic archaeological explorations and hope in two or three years to be able to enter the field with an organized body of men and experience to carry extensive excavations in the regions of the Middle East.

This coming summer will be devoted to an archaeological ethnographic and linguistic study of Lahul in Indian Tibet. I plan to make a complete study of the old eleventh century Buddhist Temples which are invaluable for the reconstruction of the early period of Tibetan Buddhism. The late Dr. Francke has mentioned a number of such temples existing in the mountain valleys of Western Tibet, but almost nothing was done with regard to the proper recording of their frescoes, collections of images, wood carvings and extensive collections of books.

I shall also continue research for megalithic monuments and stone graves which exist according to verbal statements in the region to be explored this summer. The Kondakov Institute in Prague has just published my book on an archaeological reconnaissance on the plateaus of North Tibet. It gives me great pleasure to send you a copy of this work which will give you an idea of the kind of antiquary remains to be found in Northern Tibet.

Our Journal with your article is to appear very shortly and I hope that you will continue to favor us with your always welcomed

articles or book reviews which will enhance the value of our young publication.

With kindest regards to Mrs Magoffin and yourself

Yours very sincerely

Georges de Roerich

