GURUDEV
NICHOLAS ROERICH

BY
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GURUDEV

NICHOLAS ROERICH

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STAR OF THE HERO (A Poem by Naiad Key)
It gives me great pleasure to pen these few lines by way of foreword in regard to this brochure, because the author is a talented friend of mine and has an idealistic temperament and a facile pen and is thus therefore a fit person to interpret one of the supreme stalwarts of idealism in many flowery realms of art. Nicholas Roerich is an admirable artist whose creative mind, and magical hands, and lips touched with divine fire have made us—Philistines as we are—alive to the bloom and the wonder of things. Nay, he is more. He is a prophet of culture and teaches the world that if culture is in widest commonalty spread it will bring the dual divine dower of universal unity and universal peace and usher the golden age of "the Parliament of Man, the Federation of the World".
It is given to few persons to shine in many arts with equal eminence, but such was the lucky multi-tinted star of Roerich’s nativity. It is given to yet fewer persons to realise the glory of the central sun of culture of which the arts are but prismatic rays. It is given only to a very select few to desire passionately that such “culture should become part of daily life, in huts as well as palaces” and to achieve the full fruition of such a divine desire. It is a unique privilege—which has fallen only to the lot of Roerich alone—to unmask the hard hearts of the warlords of the world as if by the touch of Ithuriel’s spear, and to do something rarer yet, viz., to soften their hearts and to turn the iron of their hate into the gold of love by a magical touch of spiritual alchemy. In 1935 America signed the Roerich Pact under which cultural monuments could be saved from callous destruction if over them there flew the Roerich Banner of Peace.

In the noteworthy article on Attraction in the Scholar (January, 1938) the closing passage says:—“The home may be very near, or it may be beyond mountains and valleys. And the Companion will be found when nothing is allowed to obscure the “true destined attractions”. We, Indians have found in Roerich such a “Companion” who has sought us as his “Companions”, and who says truly and lovingly:— “You know how I love India.........Loving India and being a Russian, I am happy that in the history of Russian Art, the Himalayas and India shall be recorded with love and veneration”. I wonder what are “the true destined attractions” that have drawn this “Companion” to the Himalayas and to India, and to what home he and we are to go with joined palms and singing mouths and ardent eyes and adoring hearts. I am sure that Kalidasa would enlighten us and say “भावस्थिरणी जननान्तरतःसहुर्णाधिते” “Bhavasthirani Jananantara Sauhridani” (the antenatal affinities rooted in our ruling emotions.)

Mr. Tampy has performed the feat of putting Roerich in a nutshell, though in New York a skyscraper museum twenty-nine storeys high has been dedicated to the art of Roerich. He introduces Roerich to us as a great unifier and then proceeds to describe him as a literary star and as a leader of culture and as a new educationist, thus making familiar to us that multifaceted genius. He then describes Roerich and India and gathers us all under the Roerich Banner of Peace.

I cannot conclude this brief foreword better than by quoting the concluding passage in Charles Reade’s The Cloister and the Hearth wherein there is a reference to a great creative mind which was a symbol and an exemplar of the great creative minds of all ages.
"The words of a genius so high as his are not born to die; they revive, they spring from the dust of great libraries; they bud, they flower, they fruit, they seed, from generation to generation, and from age to age."

FOREWORD

"The evolution of the New Era rests on the cornerstone of Knowledge and Beauty."

ROERICH

HUMANITY is standing at the parting of the ways. On the one hand, ignorance and selfishness lure mankind to the depths of sin and degradation. On the other hand, God is beckoning humanity to the richer and more abundant life. Great souls who are beacons to the world walk the earth proclaiming God's Message.

Winged with Love and Purity and armed with Truth and Beauty, NICHOLAS ROERICH, the Messiah of Culture and Peace, bears the effulgent Torch that lights the trail leading to the promised life of greater abundance.

GURUDEV NICHOLAS ROERICH is an open-eyed seer whose method of systematic poetic ethnological thinking is marvellous. His artistic and literary work is poignant in its appeal to those who strive for the preservation and progress of human Culture. In the new dawn of Beauty and Spirit (of which Nicholas Roerich is the Messiah) it is to the works of such seers as Roerich that
we must turn for inspiring guidance. This great Philosopher-Artist realises the unity of man and earth, of spirit and matter, and he sees glorious visions of the new era of enlightenment, an era in which creative labour and noble attainment shall be exalted and the spirit may reach its celestial heights.

Roerich points out that the salvation of mankind lies in the great concept of Culture. A study of his work will no doubt inspire all hearts towards the peaceful evolution of the New Era of Peace and Culture, of World Brotherhood and the attainment of Soul Life.

This brochure, a tribute to a great soul, is an attempt to present a pen picture of Nicholas Roerich the spiritual leader of the human race who has settled by the Himalayas and who by constructive work has enormously enhanced the joy and beauty of life on earth.

TO THE HUMAN HEART AND MIND
IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE AND TRUTH.
THIS BOOKLET IS INSCRIBED.

TRIVANDRUM
JANUARY 1938.

K. P. P. Tampy

NOTE

THIS brochure is based upon the articles contributed by the author to some of the South Indian Periodicals in honour of the fortieth anniversary of the academician-ship and the fiftieth anniversary of the artistic, scientific and literary activities of Gurudev Nicholas Roerich.

The author is indebted to Dewan Bahadur K. S. Ramaswami Sastri, the well known writer and thinker, for his very valuable Foreword to this volume.

The writer's thanks are due to the All-Kerala Cultural Association, Kottayam, for honouring the hero of this thesis and the author thereof by publishing this booklet on GURUDEV NICHOLAS ROERICH—one of the greatest Leaders of Culture who has given out a new spiritualised conception of Culture, exalted it into unprecedented radiance, surrounded it with a sacred aureole and made it the slogan of the new epoch—under the auspices of this Association for the Advancement of Culture.
The author is also indebted to Naiad Key, Texas, and to Vladimir A. Shibayeff, Secretary of the Roerich Museum, India, for their kind permission to publish the two beautiful poems, namely, "Shambhala" and "Star of the Hero", in this brochure.

The writer takes this occasion to thank the V. V. Press Branch, Trivandrum for the uniform courtesy and co-operation he has been receiving at their hands and to place on record his appreciation of the good work done by them in the dissemination of Knowledge.

(THE AUTHOR)

SHAMBHALA
(The Vision of All Asia as caught in the Paintings of Nicholas Roerich.)

Thoughts that scale the ice-clad peaks of earth
Cannot stop their upward rushing,
Climb on, steep mountains of the air
Reaching the chalice of life toward the Sun
That it might blaze a moment
In the rhythmic fire of space,
Stretching toward the starkest summit of prophetic vision

Until......Behind the silver cliffs
Of tall majestic clouds is glimpsed
SHAMBHALA......The White Island of all yearning.

But human thought cannot contain the ecstasy of gods
It must return to valleys of its knowing......
So dropping heavy and reluctant gaze
It catches in the high white valleys of Himalaya
A reflection of its dream........
S H A M B H A L A !

(Naiad Key, Texas.)
The joyful expectation of and the spirited striving towards a Golden Age of Universal Peace and Happiness is common to all faiths. The lofty conception of the Krita Yuga is magnificently put forth in the Santhi Parva of the Mahabharatha. The Golden Age will be ushered in when humanity casts aside in fear and shame all man-made differences and becomes perfect through Ahimsa, self knowledge and good will to all creation. Efforts of mankind, honest, continued and continuous, will, no doubt, help the advent of the New Age. This old remote hope eloquently expressed in the ancient scriptures of India has become more definite and more potent in its urge at the present day. The New Era, as conceived and devoutly desired for by the modern world, will be made possible only through a unifying World State which would eliminate all types of national and racial animosities, wars, armaments and inequality. Both the ancient and modern minds expect help from
super-physical forces acting through Super-Men. What
the ancient world revealed in its Bhavishyapurana, the
modern age expresses in Utopian works, the inherent
ideal and hope being the same but reinforced through
the ages. Nicholas de Roerich, through his writings
and paintings which convey the inspiring message of
the New Era of All-World Peace, is educating and
preparing the popular human consciousness for the
heartiest reception and cheerful adoption of that
transcendent ideal which has in it the possibility of
human salvation.

"Unveil, O Thou who givest sustenance to the world,
that face of the true Sun which is now hidden by a vase
of golden light! so that we may see the truth and know
our whole duty." So says the Ishopanishad 15. Nicholas
de Roerich, the Modern Messiah of Culture
and one of the supreme Prophets of the world, is help­ing humanity to "see the truth and know our whole
duty."

Nicholas Roerich is a great Unifier and he belongs
to the lineage of the world's seers who age after age
have walked the earth proclaiming the lofty message of
Peace and Good Will. All racial, national and linguistic
differences notwithstanding, humanity is ever on
the alert to offer homage to the divine and hospitality
to all that is imperishable in human civilisation. From
ages past it has been the glorious privilege of

Bharathavarsha to be hostess to those saints who have
held aloft the effulgent Torch of Culture. Nicholas Roe­
rich, the Apostle of Culture, synthesises Culture in the
light of a comprehensive ideal. "A Russian by birth,
American by adoption, Himalayan in soul" as Dr.
Cousins, the true friend of all creative strivings beauti­
fully describes Roerich, he is a true Citizen of the World.
Culture is imbued with the substance of salvation, and
Roerich, "the Teacher from the White Summits," leads
the world to a new consciousness. This Messiah of
Culture defines Culture in the following memorable
words:

"Culture is reverence of Light. Culture is love
of humanity. Culture is Fragrance, the Unity of
Life and Beauty. Culture is the synthesis of
uplifting and sensitive attainments. Culture is
Salvation. Culture is the Heart."

"If we gather all the definitions of Culture,
we find the synthesis of active Bliss, the altar of
Enlightenment, and constructive Beauty."

"Condemnation, disparagement, defiling, melan­
choly, disintegration and all other characteristics
of ignorance do not befit Culture. The Great
Tree of Culture is nourished by an unlimited Know­
ledge, by enlightened Labour, incessant Cre­
ness and noble Attainment."
A BORN ARTIST

Roerich—Scientist, Philosopher, Artist, Archaeologist, Explorer, Author and Educationist in whom we see a perfect and harmonious blending of the profound imagination of the Orient with the wonderful dynamic of the Occident and whose creations greatly impress by their wide range, arresting catholicity and lofty insistence on Truth—is that Prophet of Beauty whose genius has found multiform, original and supreme expression. This transcendent personality was born on October 10, 1874 in the land where Pushkin, Tolstoy, Lenin and Gorkhy first saw the light of day. While a boy, Roerich amply evinced signs of genius. He was, even from his childhood, possessed of a burning desire to get at the beautiful and make it of use to his brethmen. When hardly fifteen he mastered drawing and painting. The same year witnessed his first literary labour. While in his teens Roerich distinguished himself as Russia's most gifted artist and author. In 1920 with a brilliant reputation preceding him Roerich went to America where his paintings won the highest appreciation. The cultured and the intelligentsia of the United States of America heard his call and rallied round him with the
steadfast intention of promoting Beauty, Peace and Culture. Roerich was born an artist with a superabundance of aesthetic and ethical strength. His paintings have won much competent appreciation from the well-known art critics and have been honoured with special halls for their exhibition and preservation in some of the leading museums and art galleries throughout the world.

To the great art of Roerich, an entire skyscraper museum twenty-nine storeys high on the Riverside of the New York City, has been dedicated. No other artist up to this day has been honoured with a whole museum to preserve and exhibit his paintings.

The lustre of spiritual insight, the transmission of an ageless spirit into his art and the live expression of the radiant spirit are the distinguishing features of Roerich's art which "is jealous of its independence because it is great" as Rabindranath Tagore so beautifully summed it up. Maxim Gorkhi paid a tribute to Roerich as "the great intuitionist" and Leonard Andreyev expressed that "to see a painting by Roerich means to perceive a new world". Roerich has been acclaimed as the founder of a new school of art which has been identified as "Cosmic Synthesis" or "Synthesis of Wisdom". He emphasises that "Art is the heart of the people and Knowledge the brain of the people and that only through the heart and through wisdom can mankind arrive at union and mutual understanding."
Roerich's colour composition is vivid, striking and brilliant. There is no other wizard at colours who has so freely and fearlessly ventured into newer and wider spiritual realms of creative art as Roerich who has showed remarkable universality of theme, supreme harmony and powerful resplendence of colour in his paintings which compel man to study and respect them. "Roerich Colour" has become a byword in the realm of art. His rocks and mountains vibrate with the feelings of inevitable forces of destiny and his skies reveal the immaculate glory of the heavens. Roerich has sought to reveal something of the heart, interpret something of the agelong mystery of the Himalayas in his paintings. The glory, sanctity and the fascinating mystic glamour of the Himalayas have been very well brought out in his paintings of the alluring mountain scenery. These paintings, there are over a thousand of them all told, reveal Roerich's complete understanding of the deep wisdom of the Orient. This Master Artist has expressed that the "very air of the Himalayas is penetrated with spiritual tension—the true Maitreya Sangha." No other artist has to this day succeeded in presenting more imposing and inspiring scenes of the Himalayas on canvas more effectively and gloriously than Rishi Roerich who lives at the roof of the world and meditates. Some of the paintings of the Himalayas by Roerich were exhibited in the newly opened State Museum annexe at
Trivandrum. "An eminent Indian of wide travel and cultivated taste" was spell bound at seeing these paintings so full of majestic beauty in form and colour and after a space of absorbed silence, he expressed:—“This is a revelation!” Indeed, the essence of the genius and achievement of Nicholas Roerich is Revelation. His pictures interpret the life and soul of Bharatavarsha as she appears in her full radiance and significance to a seer and artist of rare power and sensibility. His works of art are symbolic and tend towards an occult mysticism. He is essentially esoteric in his labours at the palette. Through his prophetic visions embodied in his paintings which speak to the heart of men Roerich leads humanity to the gates of Heaven. Roerich’s paramount contribution has been in the realm of art and it has been truly said that “Roerich is to Art what Einstein is to Science and Ford to Industry”. Roerich asserts that “Art will unify humanity” and that “the sign of Beauty and Action will open all sacred gates”. He dreams of an international Peace through Art and Beauty. Says he:—

"Art is to create Beauty; through Beauty we gain victory; through Beauty we unite and through Beauty we pray to God."

To Roerich Art is the sign of broadened consciousness, a vital creative force, a way of life. He symbolically terms the treasures of the soul, the
Sacred Signs and assures that the inner vision shall be theirs who willingly go in search of the real treasures of humanity. He contends that Art represents the clearest visions, the loftiest ideals, the deepest intelligence and the most heroic deeds. He holds the view that the true function of the Artist is to be a bearer of ideals to the unknown ages that will follow after. Roerich says that proclaims thus:

"The pledge of happiness for humanity lies in beauty. Hence, we assert Art to be the highest stimulus for the regeneration of the spirit. We consider Art to be immortal and boundless."
Beginning his literary career at fifteen Roerich has been at it all these years and to-day he is hailed as one of the most profound of the world's Men of Letters. His writings cover a wide ground in many languages. He is the greatest exponent of Culture at the present day and his works without a single exception are full of fire, vigour, profundity of thought and rare literary charm. Roerich is a prolific writer who has sounded the entire depth of the ocean of knowledge. Considering the bulk, variety, originality, significance and the wisdom of his works, Roerich stands first in the front rank of humanity's inspired interpreters of Culture. His books, "The Realm of Light", "Adamant" and "The Fiery Stronghold", to mention but three of his outstanding works on Culture, give his lofty message. He counsels his readers to strive for spiritual solidarity through Beauty and Benevolence. To-day, the name of the illustrious artist and author Nicholas Roerich has become the symbol of Unity and Creativeness, of Peace, Beauty and Culture throughout the world. Verily does this great Master teach:—"Burn in Heart and Create in Love." Nicholas Roerich is a master of the singing word no less than he is of the singing form and colour.
His life as artist and writer proves that all the arts are one. His poetry is remarkable for its cosmic unfoldment, depth and intensity, rhythmic sweep and exaltation, mystic glow and poetic fervour, just the same distinguishing features of his paintings. Roerich the prose writer overshadows Roerich the poet. At the same time Roerich as technician is outdistanced by Roerich the poet. Of the modes of inspired expression of the music of the soul Roerich has selected poetry as one of the vehicles and eminently well deserved is the praise which Mary Siegrist gives him:—"In all of the poetry of Roerich there is a fullness and expansion of consciousness, a vibration of light and colour, a sense of prophecy and augury of search, discovery and fulfilment that is as indissolubly a part of his singing word as it is of the colors and contours of his brush."

Great depth of understanding, remarkable felicity of expression, directness of appeal, and clear and vigorous thinking render his writings highly inspiring. He does not chisel to cold perfection his theories and arguments but presents them in the most poetic and picturesque manner. This great Russian philosopher-artist who has been bearing aloft a steady oriflamme of good will through art proclaims through his writings that Art will unify humanity and that Art alone shall save humanity from the perils of a Machine Age. His art is life and his spirit humanity.
A LEADER OF CULTURE

Roerich summons humanity to gather under a Banner of Peace and Culture which shall help to erase all man-made differences and create a new and better understanding among the nations. The call sounded by Roerich has found its way into the hearts of millions for it bears the glad tidings of a better and sweeter to-morrow to be raised on the solid foundations of Beauty, Truth and Justice. Roerich is the giant knight fighting the holy cause of Peace. With gigantic steps he has traversed America, Europe and Asia and everywhere sowed seeds of Peace. Millions follow his precepts. He leads through a straight-forward path of glory and righteousness. Faith, Hope and Love are the beautiful and guiding milestones on that pleasant and inviting road whose goal is Beauty. He is a Master Builder whose temple is the Realm of the Spirit. Glory, Victory, Justice, Love, Benevolence, Understanding, Wisdom and Creative Labour are the pillars of that structure. The sanctum sanctorum of the Temple houses Beauty. The Master has created a movement upon the face of the earth which successfully counteracts against destructive forces and vandalism. Roerich has been awarded the
palm as the Supreme Leader of World Culture. Roerich who has attained the Olympian heights of literary eminence, artistic genius, and exploring talent towers high as the world's greatest champion of Culture. Since a century, there has not been a more intelligent or more vigorous defence of Culture than that accomplished by this great Messiah of Culture. He is the president of the World League of Culture which owns over a hundred societies affiliated to it.

Roerich, the Apostle of Culture, affirms thus:

"Culture should become part of daily life, in huts as well as palaces. How benevolent is the touch of the wings of Culture, blessing the cradle to attainment and carrying the passing pilgrim to enlightened consciousness. The Light of the Great Reality shines there, where the enlightenment of Culture has taken roots."

He exhorts humanity to realise that Beauty, Knowledge and Culture are the best means to bring together the Membra disjecta of mankind.
Roerich, humanity's inspired interpreter of Culture and the founder of many cultural institutions, conceived the salutary idea of the protection of artistic, scientific and literary achievements of humanity, and the Prophet of Beauty inaugurated the Roerich Pact and as its symbol the Roerich Banner of Peace. The Peace Pact and the Peace Banner have been honoured by a number of nations and have created a bond of brotherhood among the nations which no human hands can break asunder. For the promulgation of the Roerich Pact huge conferences have been convened with conspicuous success. The Banner is emblematic of the spirit of the Pact which summons humanity to become cultured and resist every form of vandalism. The Roerich Banner of Peace has found favour with governments and peoples alike.

At the 1935 Washington Roerich Banner of Peace Convention, the twenty-one republics of the Americas, headed by the United States, signed the Roerich Pact whereby monuments of Peace and institutions of Culture were placed outside the objectives of warfare, and adopted the Roerich Banner of Peace as
their protective symbol. Thus on April 1935, there came the glorious consummation of that great humanitarian ideal for which Gurudev Roerich has dedicated his noble life and indefatigable energy. The Roerich Pact has proved to be "an inevitable step in international relations". "Help and not fight, assimilate and not destroy harmony and peace and promote not dissension" is the teaching of Roerich which finds expression in the Roerich Pact.

The Banner of Peace as is well-known now is the symbol of the Roerich Pact under which the agreeing countries pledge themselves to guard, esteem and sponsor all those immeasurable and irreplaceable treasures of the achievement of the human spirit, which otherwise, as has been unfortunately proved only too often, are neglected and destroyed either by vandalism or lack of care and understanding or by ignorance both in times of war and the so-called peace. This great humanitarian idea thus provides in the field of mankind's cultural achievements the same guardianship and protection as the Red Cross provides in pity for the physical suffering of man. No nobler task than this can be attempted. It is gratifying to learn that the Roerich Pact is gaining more and more support as days roll on.

The Roerich Pact and The Roerich Banner of Peace passionately and magnificently plead for stopping the waste of vandalism, for outlawing the destruction of objects of beauty, and for casting a lasting ostracism against the wilful, the ignorant, and the vicious, who destroy or who would destroy the beautiful and everlasting in art, science and literature. In choosing for the first time a standard fully symbolic of man's spiritual expression as revealed in his artistic and scientific attainment, Nicholas Roerich has proclaimed a new cultural covenant of mankind. The call of integration and of world unity pronounced by Roerich is an invocation to harmony synthesised by a great spirit. As a true guardian of the highest culture the Roerich Banner of Peace shall din into the head and heart of every assailant "Noli me tangere—here are real values of Humanity."
THE NEW EDUCATIONIST

Gurudev Roerich has been recognised by competent educationists as an educationist belonging to a new school of thought and activity. The Spirit of Culture or Veneration of Light is the cardinal principle governing Roerich's new education. Roerich has founded and organised a number of educational institutions all of which are "Cathedrals of Culture," such as the Master Institute, Corona Mundi, Cor Ardens, Alatas, Urusvathi. Gurudev Roerich describes the Ideal Guru thus:

"The Teacher is he who will say, "Blessed are the obstacles, through them we grow," he who recalls the beautiful Golgothas of Knowledge and Art, because therein lies the creative achievement." According to him, "Education, the forming of world consciousness, is attained by synthesis, synthesis of perfection and creativeness."

In 1928 Roerich the Builder laid the foundation of the Urusvathi Himalayan Research Institute with a view to investigate into the extraordinarily interesting problems of anthropology, bio-chemistry, pharmacology and such other sciences. This Institute has become a great centre of science and culture and...
some of the most famous names in modern science are associated with it. Naggar, the head-quarters of the Urusvathi Institute, is a centre of inspiring beauty. Roerich, "the Teacher from the White Summits," lives at Naggar broadcasting his sublime and soul-searing messages through the winged word and the glowing canvas to the remotest corners of the globe thereby contributing enormously towards the speedy ushering in of the New Era of Peace and Culture.

Roerich has given to the world enough in art and literature from which humanity could extract wisdom and joy until the suppression of human sight and speech. He is one of the supreme creators of Beauty and Wisdom. Roerich will stand through all fluctuations of history as a supreme rebuke to ignoble, unintelligent and unbeautiful life, and one of the most inspiring and constructive influences in the evolution of the great race that is to come. A study of his life and life work is sure to bring illumination to the mind, warmth to the heart and intelligence and beauty to action. Verily, Roerich is a colossal genius eminently worthy of being regarded as an Avathar.
ROERICH AND INDIA

Gurudev Roerich, the great spiritual leader of the race who has now settled by the Himalayas, is most dear to us Indians. For generations to come thinkers of all schools will remember his words. He has always held India and her culture in the highest veneration and has sought with remarkable success to ably and truly interpret her culture and wisdom through his writings, paintings and expeditions which have enormously added to the artistic and intellectual capital of the world. With fullest understanding, esteem and tremor of heart has Roerich expressed:—"But even in facts, sunrise comes from the East." Though Roerich represents the summit of Western accomplishment and culture he is essentially oriental in temperament and in the wide amplitude of his sympathies. With a heart overflowing with deepest admiration and profound veneration Roerich says:—"In the epic designs of India all can be co-ordinated......And no leprosy will turn you away from India......Let the ignorant deniers immerse themselves in the true East to learn and absorb the power of containment." During his extensive travels in Central Asia he learned much of the secret lore of the East. One needs but to read his book Altai Himalaya wherein he has, in the most beautiful language, presented his tour diary.

Some of his immortal labours at the palette lend rare charm to and enhance enormously the prestige and beauty of the Bharat Kala Bhavan, Benares, the Municipal Museum, Allahabad, the Adyar Museum, Madras and the Ranga Vilas Palace Art Gallery, Trivandrum. His paintings depicting the glory, grandeur and panoramic variety of the lordly Himalayas stand out unique and foremost as the truest pictures of the vast and gorgeous mountain ranges which are sacred to Hindus. Only recently Gurudev Roerich wrote to the well-known Indian Artist Asit Kumar Haldar:—

"You know how I love India. I am very proud that it has been my destiny to glorify in many paintings the lofty sacred Himalayas, Srikrishna, Arjuna, Mahakala, Guru Charak, and many, many other Great Ones of India. Like messengers of Bliss they go all over the world, where they are greeted with love and reverence......Loving India, and being a Russian, I am happy that in the history of Russian Art, the Himalayas and India shall be recorded with love and veneration !"

Moreover, India has that honour of having in her soil the Urusvathi Institute which is a colossal achievement in the spheres of art and science. This institute which
established his permanent contact with India has been founded and financed by Roerich whose benevolence compels respectful recognition from humanity. The Roerich Ashram at Naggar is exclusively devoted to the pursuit of knowledge and is a place of pilgrimage to all those understanding hearts who want to drink in the beauty of Nature and come into personal contact with Rishi Roerich, a true Karma Yogi.

In Roerich the world has probably the best example of the rare and splendid combination of the inspiring vision of the Idealist with the practical wisdom of the Realist. His titanic energy and gifted eloquence have passed over the boundaries of the artistic arena in which he excels, and has filled many a channel of historic, social and literary interest and fertilised diverse fields always yielding rich harvests. Gurudev Roerich is essentially a true Citizen of the World whose aim is "to transform the dusty, daily existence into a constant festival of Love and Service." Roerich is truly cosmopolitan. He was once asked, "What is the difference between the East and the West?" His significant reply was: "The best roses of the East and the West have the same fragrance." Undoubtedly, the inspiring presence of such a great Saint and Leader who has vastly enhanced the joy and beauty of life on earth is supremely stimulating to Indians. "The Prophet of Beauty" as Roerich has been called is never tired of repeating that
"Knowledge and Beauty are the real cornerstones of evolution, the gates to a World Community." This great Apostle of Culture summons humanity to participate in the "Festival of Labour and Creativeness" and be "afame in Heart and create in Love." To learn his teachings and understand them is equivalent to undergoing an elaborate course in comparative religion and philosophy.
A SACRED DAY

ON THE 10th of October 1937 there coincided the fiftieth anniversary of Gurudev Roerich's artistic, scientific and literary activities with the fortieth anniversary of his academicianship. This significant and sacred day was sumptuously honoured with many congresses of Roerich Societies in all parts of the world, the opening of new museums dedicated to his art and the exhibition of his paintings, the inauguration of a number of educational and cultural institutions designed to promote Peace and Culture, many broadcast speeches, besides special commemorative issues of various magazines and periodicals throughout the world. Roerich who has earned the inspiring appellation of "The Messiah of Peace" has truly become an international figure and his message of Peace through Beauty and Culture has been enthusiastically recognised by the cultured and intelligent of the world as also the Governments, regardless of racial, national, linguistic and other divergences. His unique, magnificent and everlasting achievements in other fields of human endeavour have again and again triumphantly proclaimed his genius and demonstrated that he is verily a Prophet of Beauty who lives by the spirit and follows the ancient and radiant path which leads to the Beautific vision. "Oh! thou keen blade, Oh! thou smiling hammer, I am coming. Master Builder I am coming." Such is Rishi Roerich's clarion call. His is the way of the Builder; his is the path of glory; his is the song of labour, action and construction; and his is the banner of the new and enlightened community of the world which would heroically promote Peace and Culture. The philosophy of Roerich regards culture to be the synthesis of art, religion and science; considers education to be a process of intellectual and spiritual awakening; seeks liberation of the mind from its fetters; places a great responsibility upon the teacher and gives to humanity a cosmic religion based upon universal and selfless love which contemplates the unity of all men in one great and genuine brotherhood. Love for mankind, benevolence, the joy of inexhaustible creativeness and the inner beauty of the spirit are paramount with Roerich who has been hailed as one "walking on the path of the Bodhisatva." He is the true Parsifal and bearer of the Holy Grail of Culture which is imbued with the salvation of the spirit. He greets the Future in a spirit of infinite faith. Says he:—

"The future exists, that is why we have come here. Not for defamation, not for terror, but we pass here for mutual labour, for knowledge, for enlightenment."
A MULTIFACETED GENIUS

spite of all homunculi who spy from their holes, you shall fulfill your duties of great Culture and you shall be fortified by the realization that only homunculi will remain as your enemies. Nothing can be nobler than to have the homunculi as your enemy. Nothing can be purer and more elevating than the striving for the future country of Great Culture.”

Above every thing else, Culture through Beauty and Truth. It requires such Saints as Gurudev Roerich to deliver mankind from the decadent senilities and neomystic fripperies which poor mortals are carrying on their shoulders and dragging on their backs which clog their legs, bar their way and impede their onward march. Invincible daring, heroic fortitude and magnificent courage are quite characteristic of him. In an age which exalts nationalism he has dared to think in terms of all humanity. In an epoch of materialism he has dared to follow the path of the spirit.

From his Himalayan abode, Gurudev Roerich—a spiritual dreamer of Beauty and Peace and a passionate votary of the highest idealism in Art, Culture and Wisdom—by his all-embracing vision, is encompassing the world in his powerful thought of Peace and Harmony. In him the world has a personality who is irradiating all that is lofty in human nature. His saintly personality is unique and arresting. His serene
face with the thin, pointed and snow white beard has a glorious touch of the archaic. His large blue eyes roam in a spiritual atmosphere.

Greetings and homage to Gurudev Roerich, the Apostle of Culture and the greatest Friend of Humanity, who exhorts mankind to "stand vigil on the parapet of Bliss, Knowledge and Beauty". Rishi Roerich whose noble mission in life is to bring harmony is a Karma Yogi. His message is work which brings rhythmic harmony and inspires mankind to live an enlightened life. He teaches that through the arts which bring a spiritual message to the heart and mind of man, the aspiring individual can become a better and truer citizen by being liberated from the inartistic elements in his nature.

A rapport with all the expanses of the infinite is his. He is an eternal stave among men, Roerich is a veritable ploughman and his field is eternity.

"STAR OF THE HERO"
(Dedicated to Nicholas Roerich's Painting of this name, in Benares.)

Through the translucent blue of clear cold night
The Great Himalayas lift purple precipice
Tier on tier, higher.....higher.....
Until their serried peaks
Catch the luster of the starry sky
And stand rotund......majesty of form
Sweeping in fluent shadow
Down to earth......up to heaven.

On flow of blue-black mountain
There shines within a cave a tiny gleam
Yellow......The faint glow man has made
To meet the vast blue darkness.
There, a waiting soul
Who long has watched and prayed
Winging his intelligence with pinions of belief,
One of thousands watching......praying......
Waiting for The Sign......
The Comet that will light the world
Flooding caves and hidden places with radiance,
Illumining hearts of men with kindness............

There, the Watcher lifting his eyes from his holy book
Sees flaming across Immensity
The SIGN........THE COMET!

(NAIAD KEY, Texas.)
face with the time, present and past, a new word like a
vivid light, a new power, a new strength of
mind.

A man who has the word and the power to
make it known, to make it felt, is the
Apostle of Culture and the greatest Friend of
Humanity.

He is the one who exhorts mankind to serve
the noble mission of life, of doing, of being...in
sacred Yogi. His message is words that can
harmonize life and inspire and uplift...to
create something new.

He teaches that through the arts which bring a
spiritual message to the heart and mind, the
aspiring individual can become a better and truer person...and make his soul
by being liberated from the material elements in his
nature.

A report with all the enemies of the infinite
is his. He is an aspirant, a seeker, a

truth seeker. He is the

The power that will lift the

The sign that will bring the

The sign that will bring the

The sign that will bring the

The sign that will bring the

The sign that will bring the