

# AGNI YOGA

QUARTERLY

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## A Call for Unity

### *Leaves of Morya's Garden: The Call, Book One*

*Leaves of Morya's Garden I, 229.*

Yes, yes, yes, each word of unity is as the seed of some fair flower.

To cultivate a garden of beauty is permitted to all. But where are the gardeners who can judge which seed is best?

We shall teach them to gather the fertile stalks.

We shall pluck out the blighting weeds.

And the ground where God has manifested Himself We shall adorn with flowers.

But where the flowers of unity are—guard their petals.

Yes, yes, yes!

Night obscures the purest images.

But behold, the Light approaches!

Why test you, if the Temple were not to be erected?

But the plan is in Our Hands and the foundation is laid.

Let the Name of God be praised.

Not to trifles shall you be witnesses.

Life will be transformed.

I say it!

### *New Era Community, 1926*

*New Era Community, 273.* Humanity must suffer very much before it comes to an understanding of the advantage of unity. Most destructive forces have been directed for the purpose of obscuring the embryos of unification. Each unifying agent is subject to personal danger. Each peacemaker is disparaged. Each worker is ridiculed. Each builder is called madman. Thus the servants of dissolution try to drive from the face of the Earth the Banner of Enlightenment. Work is impossible amid enmities. Construction is inconceivable amid explosions of

hatred. Fellowship is battling with man-hatred.

Let us keep in memory these old Covenants.

### *Heart 1932*

*Heart, 251.* You should not fear the attacks of darkness. There exist a multitude of dark machinations, but they are like the branches of a torch. I affirm that it is the destiny of the dark ones to be adversaries of Light; but I am sending out a call to unity, and therein lies a great experiment. One has to provide the world with evidence, and isn't the temple of the Spirit such evidence?

I am affirming a new understanding of the Hierarchy. I am affirming that a new battle for the Banner of Light is beginning.

*Heart, 344.* I can affirm how easy it is to work where there is unity. The Teaching's calls for unity of consciousness are often in vain, for people consider it to be an

idealistic appeal that has no practical application; but in fact such unification is a powerful action equal in strength to many powerful energies. So why place a burden on the subtlest energies, when human beings are armed with such a powerful armor?

*Heart, 373.* The arrows that pierce the heart are not simply the result of a nervous contraction; they are a far more profound manifestation, being more spiritual in their origin. How many of humanity's ills are due to inadequate cooperation! Embracing the concept of cooperation easily leads one to cooperation with the forces of nature. Where is the boundary between the forces of nature and those of spiritualization? The servant of the spirit ought to recognize that the spiritual is present everywhere.

“I am affirming that a new battle for the Banner of Light is beginning.”

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### Welcome

For discussions and posts on the Agni Yoga Teachings, please visit our “Agni Yoga – Living Ethics Community” site on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Agni.Yoga.Living.Ethics.Community>

and WMEA on the Web:

<http://www.wmea-world.org>

## NETWORKERS LETTER

*Dearest Friends,*

With the changing times throughout the world, many of us in the esoteric community have been discussing the present cycle of humanity and its relativity to today's changes. Where we will be talking more about this during our annual WMEA Living Ethics Conference in March of 2017, I wanted to start a dialogue in this issue of *Agni Yoga Quarterly* and invite comments from you, our readers. It is my hope that this letter will initiate some thought and evoke insightful observations regarding the process of these evolutionary changes, whether or not we can see that these changes presently taking place within ourselves, as well as within the planet, the solar system, and the galaxy, are evolutionary or not.

In the book *Hierarchy*, it reads, "In cosmic creativeness everything is built upon succession. The roots of each structure hold upon the law of Hierarchy. Each problem and plan is built in goal-fitness and all are affirmed in the great plan of evolution. Thus, all Our affirmations bring benevolent manifestations. Only the attraction to the chain of Hierarchy may evince the path to Infinity."<sup>1</sup> Let us use this paragraph as a seed thought while we consider the changes that are occurring.

# Community

*"Begin to build the community as a home of knowledge and beauty."*

– *New Era Community*, verse 229

*Rev. Joleen D. DuBois*



As the Great One instructs: "During cosmic perturbations purifying fires are accumulated, which intensify the atmosphere and propel the fires for the construction of the New World. Thus, upon the ruins of the old world there rises a new evolution and the Epoch of Fire which terminates Kali Yuga and saturates space with the fire of the New World. Thus, the all-encompassing Banner of the Lords summons to pure creativeness. Thus the avowal of Hierarchy enters life. Thus, We welcome everything that is directed to Good. Thus, We welcome everything imbued with a pure striving to walk the higher path."<sup>2</sup>

"It is generally known that before the beginning of Satya Yuga the scroll of karma rolls up with especial rapidity."<sup>3</sup>

"As the Kali Yuga ends, all processes speed up, which is why we should not regard the periods predicted in the past to be unchangeable. As the Kali Yuga ends, even half a century is not a minor period

of time. And so, Agni Yoga is becoming a bridge to the future. People should firmly understand that the development of spiritual forces, which formerly took decades, is now being accelerated to the highest degree by means of the heart. They can accept Agni Yoga as the rapid evolution of forces."<sup>4</sup>

Meanwhile, as we enter the year 2017, let us look forward to new and beautiful adventures. The staff of the WMEA and myself want to express our love and gratitude to each of you who are dedicating yourselves to the advancement and progress of humanity, whether it be in your daily meditations, the building of right human relations and goodwill, or all three. The Master M instructed: "All Teachings say that goodwill is necessary for advancement." And, "Put on the armor of goodwill and you will become unconquerable." Let this year be the keynote of *goodwill and progressive change*.

*continued on page 11*



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## Flame in Chalice

(From the Nicholas Roerich  
Museum website)

### SACRED SIGNS

by Nicholas Roerich

Flame in chalice!

Father—fire. Son—fire. Spirit—fire.

Three equal. Three indivisible.

Flame and heat—are their heart.

The fire—their eyes.

The whirlwind and the flame—their  
mouth.

Flame of divinity—fire.

The fire will sear the evil ones.

The flame will burn the evil ones.

The flame will stay the evil ones,

Will purify the evil ones.

Bend back the arrows of the demons.

Let the poison of the serpent descend  
upon

the evil ones!

Aglamide, Commander of the  
Serpent,

Artan, Arion, give ear!

Tiger, eagle, lion of the desert wastes,

Guard from the evil ones!

Curl as serpent; be burned by

Fire;

Disperse, perish, O evil!

Flame in chalice!

## The Realm of Beauty

*“Through Beauty we conquer.”* N. Roerich

*We invite our readers to submit their poems,  
photos, short essays for this section.*



### SACRED SIGNS

We do not know. But they know.

The stones know. Even trees

Know.

And they remember.

They remember who named the  
mountains

And rivers,

Who constructed the former

Cities.

Who gave the names

To the immemorial countries—

Words unknown to us—

They are filled with meaning!

Everything is filled with  
achievements.

Everywhere

Heroes passed. “To know”—

Is a sweet word. “To remember”—

Is a terrible word. To know and

To remember, to remember and to  
know

Means—to have faith.

Airships were flying.

Came pouring a liquid fire. Came  
flashing

The spark of life and death.

By the might of spirit stony masses  
Ascended.

A wondrous blade was forged.

Scriptures guarded wise secrets.

And again all is revealed.

All new.

Fairy tale—legend—

Have become life. And we live again.

And again we shall change.

And again

We shall touch the earth.

The great “Today” shall be dimmed  
Tomorrow.

But Sacred Signs

Will appear. Then

When needed.

They will be unperceived. Who  
knows?

But they will create

Life. And where are

The Sacred Signs?

NICHOLAS AND HELENA  
ROERICH:  
MESSENGERS OF THE NEW  
ERA OF LIVING ETHICS

by  
Sina Fosdick  
1955

“My talk today deals with the present era of humanity’s history, the New Era. It deals with the Teaching given for this period and with the Envoys of the [Hierarchy of Masters] who were delegated to bring the new Teaching to humanity. As we know, each century a Messenger or Envoys are being sent to many countries to bring Indications, counsels, warning and prophecies, specially and karmically destined for each century.

“It is of interest to quote here H. P. Blavatsky’s statement ... ‘A Messenger is sent to enlighten the world every century, at a certain specified period of the cycle.’ The great Tibetan Sage, Tzong-Kha-pa, proclaimed this Message of vital importance.

“Humanity is never left alone, but on the contrary, spiritual and practical help is poured constantly from the Great Source of Hierarchy upon our Earth. Literature abounds in examples testifying to the reality of this statement. People, mankind, nations, movements, groups, individuals are not abandoned. The current of ageless wisdom, applicable to everyday life and to man’s self-perfectment is flowing endlessly. If our consciousnesses are open, if our ears and vision are attuned, if the striving for Knowledge, Beauty and Truth are present, the gates are opened. But we must knock, ourselves. ‘And the knocking one will be admitted,’ says Agni Yoga.

“This century, with its mental and technical surge toward advancement in the ways and means of material existence, has brought many dangerous compli-

cations. Two major world wars and numerous conflicts between the nations based upon political and economic instability have created ever-growing confusion, ending in periods of chaos succeeding each other. Suspicion, intolerance, fear have brought about barriers of such dimensions between peoples and nations that they hardly could be surmounted by peaceful means.

“When the century was still young, Nicholas and Helena Roerich received the Mission to traverse certain countries of Europe and Asia, summoning man to reverence for culture, for the achievements of human genius, issuing the call for Peace based upon real spiritual values and expansion of consciousness. After meeting with the Masters, during their sojourn in Europe, they were directed first to come to America, to bring to the New World the New Teaching—Agni Yoga.

“They arrived in New York in 1921, the occasion being the exhibition of Prof. Roerich’s paintings in New York. He, the great internationally known artist, widely acclaimed in his own country, Russia,

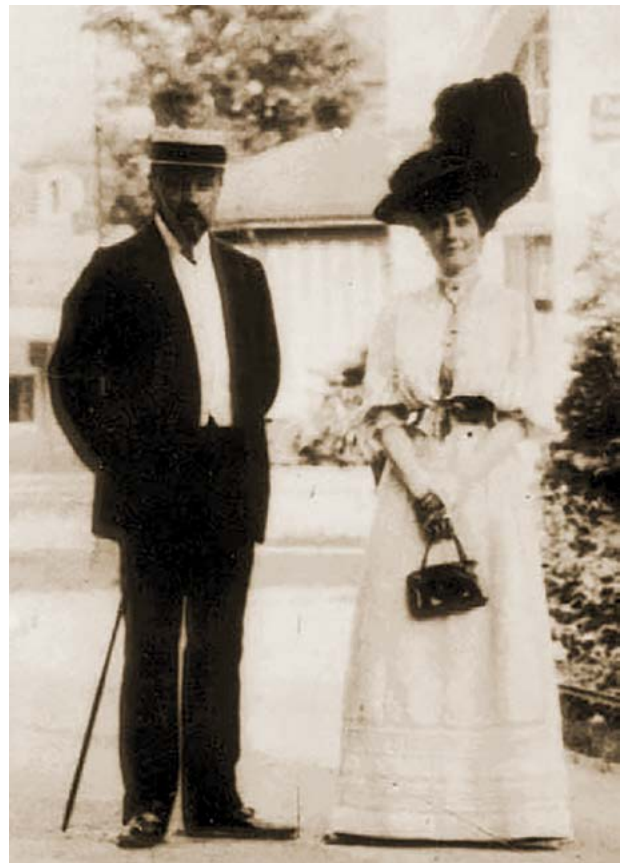
and in many other European countries, brought his paintings to America at the invitation of the Chicago Art Institute. They toured the United States, after the opening in New York, for almost two years.

“After settling in New York, Prof. and Mme. Roerich met a small group of earnest spiritual seekers and followers of his great art. With them, Prof.

# The Teachings

• *Nicholas and Helena Roerich*  
*Messengers of the New Era of Living Ethics*

• *George Roerich 1902–1960*



*Nicholas and Helena Roerich (1908–1910)*



*Pearl of Searching*, Nicholas Roerich, 1924

Roerich founded a school of arts, called Master School of United Arts. Subsequently there were founded the Roerich Museum, Agni Yoga Society, International Art Center, and later the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace Committee. Thus was the cornerstone of deeper and greater appreciation of culture laid into the soul of America. This was one of the endeavors of their great Mission.

“At the same time the books of the Agni Yoga Teaching were being received by them from the Great Source and transmitted to the Western world. They appeared first in the U.S. and later were

translated into European and Asiatic languages. The consecutive order of the books was indicated and they were published in that order. At the very same time, numerous Roerich Societies sprang up in Europe, and the books of the Teaching were in turn translated into the language of these countries and published there. (The books were published in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Polish, Bulgarian, Latvian and several Asiatic languages.)

“In 1923, Prof. and Mme. Roerich, with their two highly gifted young sons, left for Europe, where they had to equip

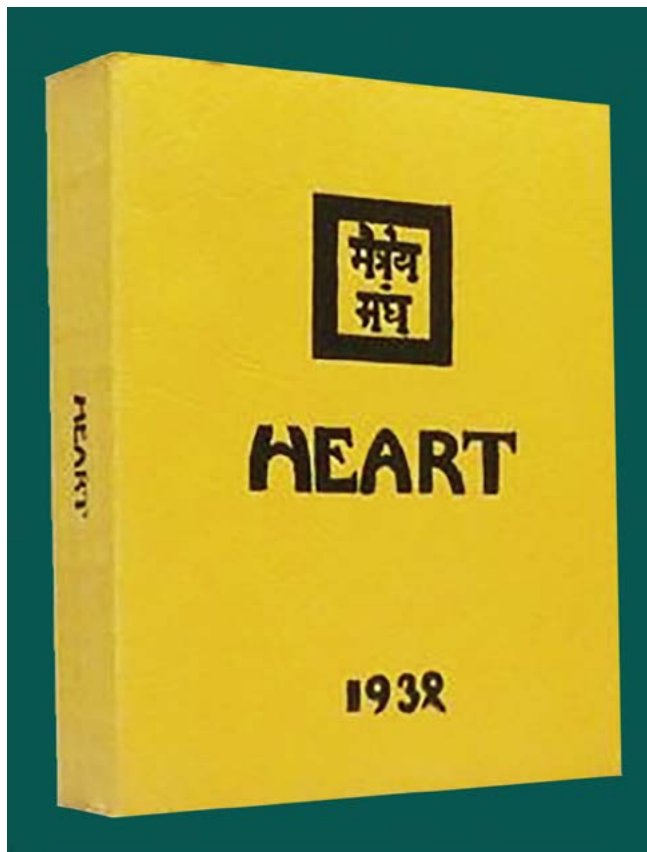
an expedition to proceed through the heart of Asia. For five years the expedition traveled, covering India, Tibet, Little Tibet, Sikkim, Mongolia, Chinese Turkestan, Altai. Twice Prof. Roerich left the expedition for brief periods of time to come to this country for most important decisions to be conveyed to his co-workers here. Plans were laid and brought into reality, of founding a real international art center, also combining science and related subjects. Foundations were laid for several museums, each dedicated to a special nation. Exchanges of exhibitions, artists, lecturers and scientists were promoted; scholarships were

given at the Master Institute of the Roerich Museum, which taught all arts under one roof.

“Three International Conferences dedicated to the Roerich Peace Pact and Banner, a unique plan for peace, created and developed by Prof. Roerich, took place, two in Bruges, Belgium, in 1931, 1932, and one in 1933 in Washington. Delegates and representatives of all nations participated in these conferences, proclaiming the undeniable and imperative need of the ratification and adoption of this plan by all nations of the world. This is an international pact for the protection of artistic and scientific institutions, historical monuments, cathedrals, libraries and cultural treasures of man’s genius. In April of 1935, twenty-one countries of North, Central and South America, including the U.S., ratified the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt made, at that time, an international broadcast marking the significance of the Roerich Pact and Banner, and later it was officially ratified by Congress and proclaimed by the President in the name of the United States. Later, several other countries, including India, also adopted the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace. A number of Committees in Latin America, as well as in European countries, are continuing to work for the furtherance of this noble, humanitarian plan for peace.

“After the return in 1929 from the Central Asiatic Expedition, Prof. and Mme. Roerich chose Naggar in Kulu Valley, India, as their place of residence and as the best site for a scientific institution, which was founded by them under the name of Urusvati Himalayan Research Institute. Under their enlightened guidance, the Institute invited Tibetan and



An Agni Yoga book

Indian scholars, learned lama-doctors, archeologists, botanists, etc., for participation in its work. Important data were collected in the medical lore of Tibet, China, India, as well as other scientific data based upon the findings which are so rich in that part of India.

“A magazine, *Urusvati Journal*, many literary publications, articles, were published; contacts with leading scientists and European, American and Asiatic universities were established. Prof. and Mme. Roerich continued during this time with their great mission, in close contact with the Hierarchy of Light, spreading the Teaching of Agni Yoga in all corners of the world.

“Beauty, which opens all gates, opens numerous hearts, as its language is understood universally—far more than are treaties, agreements and diplomatic relations.

“The acclaim of Roerich’s art in the U.S. was enthusiastic and far reaching. First the artists, then the lovers of Beauty and then the people, young and old of all classes, faiths, and molds, came to see the majestic past, the great Teachers of humanity, the significant symbols and messages, depicted in pure, glowing colors, breathing joy and serenity. These paintings touched upon the innermost strings of the heart, awakened the dormant dreams and aspirations and called to the future, to the work and service for the Common Good of man. Great art speaks to all—Fra Angelico, Raphael, Leonardo da Vinci and other great masters awakened spiritual values there where religion and church stood helpless and could not arouse man from his selfish and material aims.

“But, besides the awakening of the sense of beauty and veneration of culture, Prof. Roerich and his wife, Helena Roerich, brought another, even greater gift to mankind—the realization that the Masters of Wisdom are real, that They do exist and do send enlightenment to humanity, and that through the Teaching of Agni Yoga, human beings can come closer to the Hierarchy of Light, to the Blessed Masters, and thus can activate the cosmic energies existing within themselves.

“To save our sick planet and to restore the shaken and disturbed equilibrium of the world is our immediate and sacred duty. Some of you are acquainted with the Teaching of Agni Yoga—from the very first book, *Leaves of Morya’s Garden* (or, as it is also known, *The Call*), up to the one which was just published, *Infinity, Vol. I*, you are being told of the Psychic Energy which is within you, which surrounds

you—in the whole universe. Your awareness, your consciousness of this energy will endow you with new potentials, will awaken your spirit to a greater realization of the spiritual forces within yourselves, will enrich your lives and bring the true happiness—that of living in harmony and unity *in the universe*, not alone on Earth, not only with human beings!

“Your inner thirst for knowledge will grow, illumination will come, the spiritual centers will open gradually, the sacred gifts given to humanity—clairvoyance, clairaudience, perception and cognition of the subtle forces around you—will be revealed to you in a new light.

“Instead of being bowed down by Chaos, instead of being blind to the law of karma, man’s entire being will strive, with the fire of his heart, to the Higher Worlds, of which the Blessed Masters tell us. We must strive to become Their helpers and co-workers! Remember, Masters call Themselves the Elder Brothers of humanity, and They want all of us to understand the joy of Labor, as a chain of endless achievements on the path of Knowledge and Beauty.

“And from the moment the Teaching of Agni Yoga was transmitted by Prof. and Mme. Roerich to the earnest seekers, it became increasingly clear to their close co-workers that they, our Gurus, were fulfilling a sublime Mission here on Earth.

“The Envoys who are sent by the Hierarchy of Light, to bring urgent advices, warnings and counsel into various countries, with complete self-abnegation, always fully realize the sacrifices, impediments, obstacles and even martyrdom which humanity will strew in their paths. It was so through all the history of humanity. St. Germain came to ward off revolutions, upheavals, catastrophes, and He received derision, refusals to listen, and finally the title of *charlatan*.



*Most Sacred Treasure of the Mountain*, Nicholas Roerich, 1933

“H. P. Blavatsky brought an ‘ocean of wisdom’—the great doctrines of Eastern philosophy to the Western minds, and she was hounded, vilified, slandered, not only by strangers and enemies but by those very close to her. And the Roerichs also did not escape this destiny. And yet, in all these examples there remains the fact of invincible achievements—the transmitted Teaching remains, gains more adherents, brings expansion of consciousness to greater and greater numbers of people, and kindles new hearts with love, compassion, tolerance and desire to serve, to help and uplift the spirit of our fellow beings.

“Starting with the simple formulae, and leading into the awesomeness of the Infinite, to the cognition of Highest Reason, of the workings of the Cosmic Magnet, into the mysteries of the atom, Agni Yoga brings to you finally the realization of the element of Fire, Fire of Space. Realization of the ineffable beauty and grandeur of the cosmic processes evolving in Space raises your own possibilities, brings you closer to the far-off worlds. And if and when the consciousness absorbs the understanding of becoming a par-

ticipant in the life of the far-off worlds, then one may say that our life on Earth takes on a new meaning. Co-measurement of the small and the great, the petty and the urgent, verily leaps before our senses. Perception, vigilance, resourcefulness, flexibility—all these qualities become enhanced. The daily activities lose monotony, new interests spring up and the self-imposed discipline of the spirit brings ever-greater possibilities of advancement. These are not mere words of enthusiastic acclaim—these are the steps of discipleship. From the first call, followed by spirit illumination, to the reverence of community, cooperation and its principles, and up to the great luminaries—the far-off worlds—we are led by the Teaching of Agni Yoga, under the guidance of the Hierarchy of Light.

“We are living in the Epoch of Lord Maitreya, in the Era of the Mother of the World. And Mme. Roerich, she who was named the Mother of Agni Yoga, brought the supreme sacrifice while being in the physical body and participating in the cosmic work of the Hierarchy. She and her noble life companion, Prof. Roerich, brought new Light and Knowledge

to mankind. New responsibilities of womanhood, in the elevating of the human spirit, are to be brought about in this Era. Love and Beauty cannot any longer remain mere slogans; they must be taught in schools so that the children may understand higher planes of existence. Science, religion, art should form one unified realm—their unity must bring new aspiration to humanity. This evolution will bring the lofty understanding of Infinity.

“The Teaching tells us that man does not die, but changes. Fear of death thus becomes extinct; instead, there is manifested the joy of an endless chain of existences which will bring eventually the awareness of many lives. And all this is given with clarity and power of wisdom to those who seek, to those who have faith and live for the future.

“Our beloved Teachers and Leaders, Nicholas and Helena Roerich, were the chosen instruments to bring this Teaching to mankind at this period, through the medium of his great art, his synthesis achieved in numerous lives; she through the supreme achievements here on Earth as the Mother of Agni Yoga. The blending of these two great spirits in this life is in itself a supreme karmic union. In their many books and writings, *Realm of Light*, *Shambhala*, *Heart of Asia*, *Fiery Stronghold*, *Himavat*, etc., by Pro. Roerich; in *Foundations of Buddhism*, *Eastern Crossroads*, and *Letters* by Helena Roerich, we learn more about these two Envoys of the White Brotherhood in this Era. And in studying the Agni Yoga, we begin our ascent into the Higher Worlds. Verily, it is a Jacob’s Ladder, starting on Earth and reaching to the stars, to the far-off worlds beckoning to us. Man can and should become the co-worker of Heavenly Forces.”



## GEORGE ROERICH

(Yuri Nikolayevich Roerich)

1902–1960

George Roerich was born in the village of Okulovka of the Novgorod Province, on August 16, 1902. He spent his childhood and adolescence in Saint Petersburg.

“[George] was brought up in European traditions of culture, studying in the schools of Russia and England, and in France at the School of Oriental Languages, Paris, and at the Collège de France. Of an exceptionally synthetic tendency of mind, the young scholar has studied Persian and Sanskrit, Tibetan, and Chinese. This extensive knowledge of languages provided him with the key to the mysteries of the ‘closed land.’

“In the country of Tsaidam, George Roerich studied the different dialects of the local Mongol tribes and made the first complete dictionary of them.

“From Tibet, George brings back a scientific picture of the life and civilizations of the nomads of the High

Plateau. During his researches he discovered the existence of an artistic style peculiar to the nomads—primarily animalistic—a style closely related to that of the ancient Scythians and Goths. Thus he presents strong arguments in justification of the theory concerning the ancient civilization of the nomads, whose territory extended from the Gobi Desert and the border of Korea to the lower Danube and the Carpathian Mountains.

“A most interesting discovery rewarded the efforts of the explorers. On the uplands of Tibet and in the country of the Trans-Himalayas, the expedition carefully studied and photographed many monuments (cromlechs, alinements, menhirs) whose existence had never before been recorded and whose structure evokes most interesting comparisons with our western monuments, especially those of Brittany.

“Because of his knowledge of the languages and customs of the countries, George Roerich visited Buddhist monasteries, usually completely forbidden to strangers; he discovered a complete collection of the sacred books of the Bön-po religion, three hundred volumes, which constitute an inestimable treasure for the history of religions and oriental research.

“During these five years, Professor Nicholas Roerich painted nearly five hundred pictures; the collection presents a unique panorama of the least-known regions of the great Asiatic continent.

“Through their efforts and their sacrifices, their fortitude in the face of dangers which threatened their lives again and again, and their bravery under attack, the members of the expedition have greatly served science, art, and all nations advancing the progress of humanity.



“The book which George Roerich dedicated to the scientific results of the expedition marks an important date in the history of Orientalism and represents a contribution of the first order to the conquests of civilization.”<sup>1</sup>

Louis Marin  
Paris, June 1931

## Living Ethics (Codes of Conduct)

by  
George Roerich

“1. One should forget the past; one should not think about insults inflicted upon him. The main thing is possibilities for cooperation. In the same way, the people of a country should forget about the old insults. The future is full of light, and everything should be done for the sake of this future.

“2. You should build a bridge into the future, without thinking back. If you made a mistake, think about what you should have done then, and next time act according to your new understanding. Do not regret the past. Relationships change, and one’s aura changes, too.

“3. In order to develop one’s mental ability to think, choose one topic, and contemplate all possible aspects of it, in comparison with other topics. Advise others to do the same.

“4. One should study psychic energy by observing its manifestations and recording one’s observations.

“5. One should watch his every action, even the least significant, making sure it is conscious. If I take a book, or extend my hand, this should be done deliberately and consciously.

“6. One should build up his inner code, or rules of conduct, to be used as his guidance.

“7. The Living Ethics is a norm of conduct, applied in life.

“8. Choose a time for silence for your spirit, and, in silence, open your heart to the Master’s Command. Do this several times every day. Sometimes, our own desires block out the Voice of the Teacher.

“9. If suddenly, a new thought, or a new mood, or a new emotion appears, write it down; later, the response to this will manifest itself in life. One should pay special attention to thoughts that appear repeatedly.

“10. In the evening, think about what you have done today according to the

*“One should never demand or order someone to do something; instead, one should talk in such a way that another person understands.”*

Teaching; not about what is already in your nature and is in agreement with the Teaching, but what you did according to the Teaching in spite of your nature.

“11. Self-control is the most important in everything. We start many good things without ever completing them.

“12. When one begins studying the Teaching, something like condensation of shadows happens. Manifestations of one’s bad qualities become stronger, just like after soil has been ploughed, weeds appear. A re-evaluation takes place. Therefore, one should know his path, and be patient.

“13. The most heartfelt conversation is a personal, eye-to-eye one. This is

how people of the East prefer to converse. Do not read together. Read separately, and share your thoughts later.

“14. One should never demand or order someone to do something; instead, one should talk in such a way that another person understands. One should find a formula, a form of expression, that would be acceptable to another.

“15. The best way of persuasion is one’s personal example.

“16. It is very important to know how to find the right words so as not to inflate one’s ego. Otherwise, instead of help, one can make things worse.

“17. The one who guides should be sensitive enough to see if the other one has sufficient fire and energy in him for his further development. Each approaching one brings with him his own karma; and before he is accepted, it is necessary to learn who he is.

“18. What should one do? Keeping in mind present conditions and possibilities, one should try to speak in ways understandable to others. Through science, arts, and morals, one should influence his surroundings and elevate enthusiasm and heroism in others. It is necessary to always and in everything support enthusiasm, if it is directed to the common good.

“19. Western philosophers utter lofty words but lead common, mundane lives. On the contrary, the Orient immediately applies ideas in life.

“20. Following Western ways, one can hardly liberate oneself from his mistakes. Western ways advise repentance, but this only creates chains. On the contrary, the East does not dwell on mistakes, but immediately, with all its being, tries to live right.

<sup>1</sup> *Trails to Inmost Asia* by George Roerich (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1931).

## CULTURAL UNITY

by Dr. Nicholas Roerich  
March 27, 1943

“Our times are verily difficult because of all the commotions, all non-understanding and all attacks of darkness against Light. Quite recently there were pictures in magazines showing the *auto-da-fé* of precious books in the streets. It is hard to realize that this could have taken place in the present age, after millions of years of the existence of our planet. But perhaps this terrible tension is the impulse to direct humanity through all storms and over all abysses to peaceful construction and mutual respect.

“What an epoch-making day might be before us when over all countries, all centres of spirit, beauty and knowledge could be unfurled by one Banner of Culture! This sign would call everyone to revere the treasures of human genius, to respect culture and to have a new valuation of labour as the only measure of true values. From childhood, people will witness that there exists not only a flag for human health, but also there is a sign of peace and culture of the health of the spirit. This sign unfurled over all treasures of human genius, will say: ‘Here are guarded the treasures of all mankind; here above all petty divisions, above illusory frontiers of enmity and hatred, is towering the fiery stronghold of love, labour and all-moving creation.’

“Real peace, real Unity is desired by the human heart. It strives to labour creatively and actively. For it, labour is a source of joy. It wants to love and to expand in the realization of Sublime Beauty. In the highest perception of Beauty and Knowledge

## Thoughts on Agni Yoga

*We invite our readers to send us their thoughts on a quote from the Agni Yoga Teachings*



all conventional divisions disappear. The heart speaks its own language; it wants to rejoice at that which is common for all, uplifts all, and leads to the radiant Future. All symbols and tablets of humanity contain one hieroglyph, the sacred prayer—Peace and Unity.

“It is truly beautiful, if amidst the turmoil of life, in the waves of unsolved social problems, we still may hold up before us the eternal Flambeau-torches of peace at all ages. It is beautiful through the inexhaustible well of love and tolerance to understand the great movements, which connected the highest knowledge with the highest aspirations. Thus, in studying and admiring, we are becoming real co-operators with evolution and out of the brilliant rays of supreme Light may emerge true knowledge. This refined knowledge is based on real comprehension and tolerance. From this source comes the great understanding. And from the great understanding rises the Supremely Beautiful, the enlightening and refining enthusiasm for Unity. Contemporary life is changing rapidly; the signs of a new evolution are knocking at all doors. In real unconventional science, we feel the splendid responsibility before the coming generations. We

understand gradually the harm of everything negative. We begin to value enlightened positiveness and constructiveness, and in this measure, in merciful tolerance, we can prepare for our next generation a vital happiness, turning vague abstractions into beneficent realities.

“On the scrolls of command, it has been inscribed that a spiritual garden is daily in need of the same watering as a garden of flowers. If we still consider the physical flowers the true adornment of our life, then how much more must we remember and prescribe to the creative values of the spirit the leading place in the life which surrounds us? Let us then with untiring, eternal vigilance, benevolently mark the manifestations of the workers of culture; and let us strive in every possible way to ease this difficult path of heroic achievement.

“Let us also mark and find a place in our lives for the Great Ones, remembering that Their name no longer is personal, with all the attributes of the limited ego, but has become the property of pan-human culture and must be safeguarded and firmly cared for in most benevolent conditions.

*continued on page 11*

Winter/Spring classes are ongoing through May.

You can register online now for the 2017 WMEA Living Ethics Conference (March 20 through 24). The Conference will take place at Chapel Rock in Prescott, Arizona, U.S.

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### Thoughts on Agni Yoga (continued from page 10)

“We shall thus continue Their self-sacrificing labour, and we shall cultivate their creative sowing which, as we see, is so often covered with the dirt of non-understanding and overgrown with the weeds of ignorance.

“As a caring gardener, the true culture-bearer will not forcefully crush those flowers which entered life not from the main road, if they belong to the same precious minds, which he safeguards. The manifestations of culture are just as manifold as are the manifestations of the endless varieties of life itself. They ennoble Be-ness. They are the true branches of the one sacred Tree, whose roots sustain the Universe.

“If you shall be asked, of what kind of country and of what a future constitution you dream, you can answer in full dignity. The country of Great Culture shall be your noble motto. You shall know that in that country will be peace, where Knowledge and Beauty will be revered.

“Everything created by hostility is impractical and perishable. The history of mankind gave us remarkable examples of how necessary just peaceful creativeness was for progress. The hand will tire from the sword but the creating hand sustained by the might of the Spirit is untiring and unconquerable. No sword can destroy the heritage of culture. The human mind may temporarily deviate from the primary courses, but at the pre-destined hour will have to recur to them with renovated powers of the spirit.

“Culture and Peace make man verily invincible, and realizing all spiritual conditions he becomes tolerant and all-embracing. Each intolerance is but a sign of weakness. If we understand that every lie, every fallacy shall be exposed, it means that first of all a lie is stupid and impractical. But what has he to hide who has consecrated himself to Peace and Culture? Helping his

near, he helps general welfare, which at all ages was appreciated. Striving to Peace, he becomes a pillar of a progressing State. Not slandering the near, we increase the productiveness of the common creativeness. Not quarrelling, we shall prove that we possess the knowledge of the foundations. Not wasting the time of idleness, we shall prove that we are true co-workers in the ploughfield of Culture. Finding joy in every day's labour, we show that the conception of Infinity is not alien to us. Not harming others, we do not harm ourselves; and eternally giving, we realize that in giving we receive. And this blessed receiving is not a hidden treasure of a miser. We understand how creative is affirmation and how destructive is negation. Amidst basic conceptions, those of Peace and Culture are the conceptions which even a complete ignoramus will not dare to attack. There where is Culture, is Peace. There where is the right solution for the difficult social problems, is achievement. Culture is the cumulation of highest Bliss, of highest Beauty, of highest Knowledge.

“We are tired of destruction and negations. Positive creativeness is the fundamental quality of the human spirit. Let us welcome all those who surmounting personal difficulties, casting aside petty selfishness, propel their spirits to the task of preserving culture, thus insuring a radiant future. We must not fear enthusiasm. Only the ignorant and the spiritually impotent would scoff at this noble feeling. Such scoffing is but the sign of inspiration for the true Legion of Honour. Nothing can impede us from dedicating ourselves to the service of Culture, so long as we believe in it and give to it our most flaming thoughts.

“Do not disparage! Only in harmony with evolution can we ascend! And nothing can extinguish the selfless and flaming wings of enthusiasm!

“Unity! Unity! Unity!

### Community (continued from page 2)



We love you and invite you to visit our sanctuary, Izvara, if ever you are in Prescott, Arizona. You will be most welcome. Until then, we invite you to join our weekly live Webinars each Sunday from 10:30–11:30 a.m. M.S.T. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8027697487992257793>

With love,

Joleen Dianne DuBois  
President and founder of the WMEA

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<sup>1</sup> *Hierarchy*, verse 164. © 1933, 1944 Agni Yoga Society, Inc.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, verse 363. © 1933, 1944 Agni Yoga Society, Inc.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, verse 364.

<sup>4</sup> *Heart*, verse 446. © 1944, 1975 Agni Yoga Society, Inc.

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