

AGNI YOGA

QUARTERLY

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Gratitude for the Teacher

Agni Yoga, 1929

Agni Yoga, 76. Hasten, hasten to understand the Teacher! Let us encircle Him with a protective wall of devotion and thereby enclose ourselves within the stronghold. After you have wandered enough you will come to understand that with the Teacher, there is always success. Where defeat occurs, there has been betrayal of the Teacher. Where defeat is, it is we ourselves who have bent and rent and razed the goal-fitting plan. In defeat, we have turned away from the tested arrow of help. Can we assert that in the hour of danger we will proclaim the Name of the Teacher? Can we bear witness to the Teacher's Name? Can we discover the exultation of gratitude to the Teacher?...

Hierarchy, 1931

Hierarchy 273. Only when a spark of devotion to Hierarchy burns in the heart will one find the Gates open. Only gratitude to the Teacher can reveal the entrance to the Gates. Each one who has chosen his own path must realize the loneliness of his orbit, because only love and devotion for Hierarchy include the spirit in the Chain of Light. Thus, each one determines his own karma. Only through Light do we approach Light.

Fiery World I, 1933

Fiery World I, 393. Sometimes in the hour of danger the Teacher gives protection, taking the danger upon Himself. He covers, as it were, the massed darkness with His hands. At such times

one must observe particular caution. A powerful tension is near. During this time it is best to feel a special gratitude to the Teacher. Above all, this feeling, coupled with solemnity, preserves harmony and the right vibration with the Teacher. The shield of Light is not always at one's disposal. The ignorant assume that the world owes them a living, but the rational know how difficult it is to build out of chaos, and so bring their stone for the structure.

“After you have wandered enough you will come to understand that with the Teacher, there is always success.”

Supermundane IV, 1938

Supermundane IV, 826. Urusvati knows the power of gratitude. We have already pointed out the great significance of the feeling of gratitude, but humanity does not understand the meaning of this moving force. Therefore, let us repeat about the benefit of gratitude.

It must be understood that it is not so much the one to whom gratitude is offered, but the one who offers it, who benefits. Beautiful fires of the heart are ignited when the feeling of gratitude is born; these fires shine not only in the earthly life, but also in the Supermundane World. Therefore the realization of gratitude stimulates the loftiest vibrations.

The manifestation of light is needed in the Supermundane World, and the ray of gratitude will illumine the way, together with the ray of love. Indeed, gratitude is close to love, and Cooperation is born in that blessed moment of offering. Man has many reasons to render gratitude, and the festival of the spirit will shine forth in the feeling of pure offering.

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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,

This month, October of 2016, we are celebrating the White Mountain Education Association's 34th anniversary. The celebration is being held at the WMEA's Izvara Center the weekend of October 8th and 9th in Prescott, Arizona, U.S.A.

Our first gathering took place in 1978 with a handful of friends who, like me, had a deep hunger for the Teachings of Light, friends who had been searching for a wisdom that was neither available in their colleges nor churches nor revealed by those who claimed knowledge of such wisdom. It was a search that left our hearts and minds "spiritually famished." Nevertheless, one by one, each of us *knowing souls* were ultimately and magnetically drawn into the realm of Beauty, a legacy created by Life's Great Ones—Sages who left a treasury of wisdom for people like ourselves, who somehow knew about the existence of such a Treasury of Light, a treasury that could ignite the flame in our hearts and thus enable us to learn about the bliss of Life, the purpose of Life.

I would like to share some of that wisdom, that treasury, given to us through the writings of Tor-kom Saraydarian and Nicholas and Helena Roerich, three Sages who ignited the flame in the hearts of

many throughout the world.

"People sometimes think that the Teaching is contained in books written in the past six-thousand years, but much earlier records have been found. These records were found not only on certain kinds of metals but also on stones, on walls of ancient ruins, and on rocks of certain mountains. The Teaching is found everywhere upon the Earth, especially in ancient volumes, under various names, hidden in mountain caves.

"There are records of Wisdom older than fifteen million years. This is a hallucinatory statement for some people, but, for those whose minds are open, the Earth has many surprises and many treasures. There are records related to the Atlantean civilization and even the Lemurian civilization. We are talking about records fifteen to twenty million years old....

"The Teaching in its entirety exists in Space. Soon, people will be able to read the scrolls of Space on which the Wisdom of all races

since the beginning of this globe has been recorded....

"If humanity advances in group consciousness, new discoveries will be given to enable us to read the scrolls of Space. These scrolls surpass the contents of all the libraries in the world."¹

IN SPITE OF DIFFICULTIES²

Nicholas Roerich

to The Bulgarian Roerich Society, 1930

"In sending you my book, 'Flowers of Morya's Garden,' I have done so in the name of Saint Sergius. Direct your worthiest strivings to this Great Protector, this Builder of the true, spiritual Culture. 'Flowers of Morya's Garden' is, as you know, published for the benefit of the famished—for the spiritually famished. Because physical starvation is nought in comparison with starvation of spirit. And for each one who thinks of Bliss, the immediate task is to help. Only in

Continued on page 11

Community

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

– *New Era Community*, verse 229

Rev. Joleen D. DuBois



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ODE TO A PORTRAIT

(dedicated to Mme. Helena Roerich)

by Magdalene Lehrer

I sing my song to her, but silently,
For heart-strings harmonize the melody.
The image of her lovely face appears
Still nearer when my eyes are cleansed
by tears,
And thoughts reach out to touch Infinity.

*
**

A nameless yearning seized my soul one
night,
And with a sign I wondered: If I might
In some mysterious way have one desire
Fulfilled, to what prize would my heart
aspire?

Then Suddenly—a Voice arrested me
With one stern word of great Authority!
In breathless awe I listened, not to lose
A single syllable, but It spoke only:
“Choose!”

It found me wholly unprepared to say
What boon I craved; and, trembling with
dismay,
I begged for time to ponder carefully
The gift which, somehow, would be
granted me.

I searched the secret places of my heart
To find the hidden wish. Would it be
Art?
Or Knowledge? Wealth or Love? Or
Fame? I knew
The choice—irrevocable—would be true.

Again the Voice pronounced austere-ly:
“Choose!”

On impulse, then, with no time left to
muse,
I felt impelled to answer the command
With measured words: “I wish to touch
her hand!”

In stunned surprise at last I understood
The heart’s most poignant Call! Oh, if I
could

The Realm of Beauty

“Through Beauty we conquer.” N. Roerich

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



Fly quickly to her side—to find none
other
Than my beloved, spiritual Mother!

But how? Impatient with delay and slow
Peregrination, now I longed to go
In swiftest flight of spirit! Instantly
A door was opened—someone greeted
me.

“I shall not waken her,” softly I said,
“But only wish to stand beside her bed
And gently, reverently touch her hand—
For I was told to ‘choose’—you under-
stand.”

It was no dream, and yet—how can this be?
The wish—was it fulfilled? Oh, let me see

Some reassuring sign! Perhaps a book
Will indicate the page where I must look!

The paragraph to which my finger led:
One hundred twelve! There joyously I
read
Within my treasured volume, “Hierarchy,”
The wondrous answer in all certainty!

Since the beginning of 1943, Magdalene Lehrer (1906–1992) was a loyal and active member of Roerich organizations in America. She served as their representative in the Mid East (1922–1946) and the ARKA treasurer, a member of the Roerich Pact Consulting Committee, and a member of the Agni Yoga Society. She organized exhibitions and wrote and published articles on Roerich-related topics.



Helena Roerich by Sveteslov Roerich, 1937

IN MEMORY OF OUR GREAT FRIEND

by Katherine Inge,
Dornstadt, Germany, 1956¹

On October 5, 1955, a great soul, a spiritual leader of mankind, left our earth plane for the higher planes of consciousness.

The name of Helena Ivanovna Roerich is not known to the masses of humanity but it is very well known and is very dear to great numbers of cultural people, and especially to those who aspire to Light, who are walking the way of search for Truth and who are fulfilling the Covenants of Lord Maitreya.

When a brief cable brought the news of the departure of our great friend and beloved Teacher, the heart felt the urge to leave everything and follow after her. It seemed that all light had been extinguished. But the same heart immediately called to mind the many instructions given to us by H.R. and the pain was thus forcibly stilled.

It was very hard to inform the many friends about it, knowing what a wound would be thus inflicted upon them, but this had to be done. The letters received in answer were full of sorrow, but at the same time, notes of courage and valor were sounded, voicing belief in the future and a firm desire to continue the path according to the wishes of the departed. Moreover, they confirmed that the messages received in generous measure from H.R. were always full of instructions to preserve peace of mind, courage and joy. In one of her letters of 1952, she writes:

“It is most necessary to look courageously forward, and to turn your thoughts toward the future. The future is beautiful, it is full of Light and Joy.”

Her messages were always full of advice to keep calmness and joy.”

“It is useful and necessary for us to develop our own calmness and joy within; joy is a magnet, joy is a special wisdom.”

Every advice and instruction from H.R. was directed toward spiritual growth and perfection, so that each one in turn could help humanity to grow. In September of 1952, she writes:

“The situation of the whole world is very tense. You must preserve full calmness and the utmost patience. It is necessary to follow the Advices that were given earlier; we have nothing to fear if we follow them.... More than anything else safeguard your best treasure—love and faith in the Forces of Light. Let this instruction sound always in your heart and in everything. Be not afraid of test and trial. We are all put to test. Sharpen your abilities upon obstacles.”

All her strength, all thoughts were directed toward saving humanity from the destruction prepared by itself; but at the same time her messages were full

The Teachings

In Memorium:
HELENA ROERICH
February 12, 1879 – October 5, 1955
(Magdalene Lehrer)



Helena Roerich

of assurances of good results, of a better future.

“It is necessary not only to save some countries and their people but verily we have to try to save the whole of humanity and the planet! Only then will the measures be correct, only then will it be possible to create and build a new understanding of cosmic evolution....

I believe, as before, in the better destiny that will be affirmed for us upon this planet at the close of the present cycle. Much is said in the Teaching about the new fields and about the new consciousness that will come to replace the departing ones."

It is well to note that in almost all of H.R.'s letters, and especially in the last ones, great attention is given to the necessity of realizing the significance of psychic energy. Here is an indication transmitted by her in 1954 to one of our younger co-workers:

"Let him gather all information about psychic energy from the books of the Teaching and let him publish this as a special book. It is of utmost importance to stress the significance of psychic energy. As usual, that which is most important remains without the attention due it. Psychic energy is a new concept, and it is urgent that it be inculcated into every consciousness that can absorb it, so that the whole existence may be regenerated. The immobility of consciousness of the average human being is still very apparent."

In another letter of the same year:

"It would be most advisable to give immediate attention to psychic energy. At the present time it is very urgent—the most important thing. Without psychic energy no advance into the future is possible!"

In her last letter, in 1955, written with an already weakened hand, we read again the same persistent advice—about the urgency of a broad and deep study of psychic energy, as it will be absolutely necessary, in the ordinary daily life as well as in all scientific investigations and studies.

I should like to tell much more—oh! So very much—about this great Russian woman, noble, cultural, and unusually tender and loving, who gave her whole life to the service of

her fellowmen and how dedicated all her strength to the implanting of culture, to the promoting among human beings of cultural thought and action.

"You can become a pioneer in bringing culture into all your environment she writes in 1951. "Culture is humaneness, and this humaneness is departing before our very eyes. Culture is refinement in everything, and it is closely linked with Beauty; therefore, it is necessary to affirm the understanding and love for Beauty in all its cosmic span. But it is inexcusable to mistake the cheap vulgar conventions of

"Every advice and instruction from H.R. was directed toward spiritual growth and perfection, so that each one in turn could help humanity to grow."

daily life and luxury for Beauty. The real Beauty is in nature, in the refinement of senses, in the manifestations of the inner man. What can be more interesting than to work toward one's own improvement and refinement of feelings and the senses themselves. With refinement of the inner man the scope of the senses and the receptivity of the mind is increased and developed immeasurably. The acquirement of true knowledge becomes the task of the refined man.... Also, one should point out the mar of self-conceit. It is crudity, dullness and narrowness. Let the new generation avoid this boa-constrictor....

"Let the expansion of consciousness lead to searching and to love for the

ideal, for the true Hero of the Common Good. Beauty and love for this ideal will enrich life immeasurably. Love is the very essence of our existence. There is no life, no creation, without Love. Everything is held together by Love. Let us search for its broadest and highest expressions, and we shall be able to cognize the true Beauty. Beauty crowns Truth.... All Light and Joy to you!"

There are many letters lying before me from our Mother of Agni Yoga—the earlier and the later ones—and it is difficult to decide which one to take in order to reveal the beauty and love of this perfect soul. These letters are full of the call to Beauty, to Joy ineffable, to the bright future, to great attainment.

"Only striving for achievement can give an accelerated advancement and the joy of beholding the great Creator of Beauty and Love."

All the letters call upon us to cultivate the best human qualities, which is so necessary for the carrying out of the heroic sacrifice, for the happiness and the good of all humanity.

While reading and rereading these beloved lines, there rises before the inner sight, in all its majesty and glory, that shining, loving and true image that Christ ordained for every human being. With this Shining Image in mind, we recall the words of Master H.:

"Warriors of Light, Warriors of Truth,

I salute you in the name of the Great White Brotherhood.

Go forth to battle with the Powers of Darkness.

Be with Us!"

Indeed, H.R. was battling with the Powers of Darkness through the whole of her life, in every way, and now she is with the Great Ones of Light. No doubt she sends us at times her shining Ray, if we deserve it. We know it is better for her

there where she is now, but the wound in our hearts is still open, and these hearts cry out so very often.

Who can replace our dearest friend, our Beloved Mother!

ODE TO A PORTRAIT

by Magdalene Lehrer

Many years ago, while on a brief visit to New York, I saw for the first time a great collection of paintings by Nicholas Roerich. To me they were the “openers of the gates”—to limitless worlds of beauty and spiritual unfoldment. But, one glimpse of these symbolic works of art was not enough, and an acute longing to see them again consumed me.

Seven years later, happily, came an opportunity of viewing again his remarkable paintings. Stepping into the gallery I instantly sensed an atmosphere of tremendous inspiration. Still, it was not on the Roerich paintings that my eyes first fell, but on a life-size portrait in the center of the opposite wall.

“Who is that beautiful woman?” I exclaimed eagerly, going toward it oblivious of all else, for the portrait was a magnet—it drew my feet as well as my eyes. Her serene, yet glowing, expression held me for some moments; then gradually Professor Roerich’s paintings of the majestic Himalayas compelled my attention, and I was transported with the joy of seeing them. Yet even they appeared to pay homage, as it were, by surrounding and creating a setting worthy of the truly radiant jewel in their midst—the portrait of Helena Roerich.

Now, how does one reveal the most profound spiritual experience? Surely it varies with different individuals, although the desire to share with others the exultation must be common to all. Some persons would feel the need to proclaim immediately their joy to all the world. But some would hesitate to state the nature of their experience except to family and

closest friends. And still others would be reluctant to speak about it at all, even though wishing to share with dear ones the blessings which they have received.

So it was in my case. It happened shortly after midnight, on August 16, 1955, while performing some small household duties before retiring for the night. It was sudden, unexpected. Several times afterward, when on the point of speaking about it, I remained silent, and could only hug the memory in secret, like a miser hording treasure. For many months ordinary

“In Mme. Roerich, as in Prof. Roerich earlier, I found someone both wise and good. Here was confirmation of the rightness of every higher thought and worthy impulse I had ever had.”

words seemed utterly inadequate to communicate the transcendent reality of the experience.

But, powerful uplifting emotion, no matter how securely guarded in the heart, has a way of growing and expanding until it demands to be released and shared, for the chalice overflows; and for me the precious drops became the words which, seemingly with a will of their own, flowed forth in a cadence of verse, endeavoring to express the ineffable joy.

IN MEMORY

by Dudley Fosdick

Gratitude must be the first word of my contribution to this book. To begin with, I am grateful for this opportunity to share with others some of my thoughts

and feelings towards our beloved Spiritual Mother. In feeling, my gratitude goes out to Mme. Roerich continuously, and in thought it is always extended to reach also Prof. Roerich and the Hierarchy of Light.

I am also very grateful to my wife, and it was through her that I met Prof. Roerich. That was in 1934, and upon his departure for India soon afterward I began a correspondence with Prof. and Mme. Roerich together, Guru and Tara, which I shall always treasure as sacred.

When Prof. Roerich left our earth in 1947, Mme. Roerich continued this correspondence so precious to me, the guidance and sustenance my heart and spirit needed so much, my indispensable bridge to the future; and before the earthly contact was severed I had reached a firm realization of inalienable spiritual contact in a limitless future.

In Mme. Roerich, as in Prof. Roerich earlier, I found someone both wise and good. Here was confirmation of the rightness of every higher thought and worthy impulse I had ever had. Here was practical idealism. Here was someone without the usual human faults and failings and selfish schemes, and one who brought answers to the important questions about life. Facing disillusionment, almost despair, I was suddenly given hope. Childhood’s best dreams were revived.

For the sake of others, let me now give, perhaps in more prosaic terms, some reasons why we who knew her feel the urge to attempt poetic flights when contemplating Mme. Roerich.

By the time I found Prof. and Mme. Roerich, I was out of step with all facets of earthly existence, my material prospects were nil, and my health was beginning to break. To me the world was all wrong and I was apparently the only one who knew it. But when I found Prof. and Mme. Roerich and the Teaching I became reassured and then reha-

bilitated. They brought me human and superhuman help.

In the meantime I was privileged to participate more and more in the work of the Institutions under Prof. and Mme. Roerich. The guidance was continuous throughout this period, coming from Mme. Roerich alone after December 1947, and I began to understand that my professional activity was taking too much of my time and my health. At last I was definitely instructed to abandon it, which I did with a suddenness that I am sure was somewhat mysterious to my associates. This time I was given specific instructions as to the recovery of my health, and I am glad to testify that this help was very real, very concrete.

The most precious help is not towards material welfare and physical health but towards knowledge and growth of the spirit. During the process, the receiving of spiritual aid may be not so immediately evident; it is more subtle and eludes the mind. Yet, as it is said, "The heart knows." A truth often repeated, to which I can testify also in acknowledging our great debt to Mme. Roerich, is that spiritual progress is usually made through experiences that seem painful at the time, and only long afterward is there any awareness that the progress was made.

It is said, "The Teaching is not sugar-coated nuts." Mme. Roerich knew this and applied it in her guidance of all of us. It was not all mere coddling. Only infants are nursed, but soon afterward the child is led. Instead of his being forbidden to walk, or sometimes to take a particular road, the bruises that follow his awkward falls are soothed, and his bewilderment is met with reassurances.

Everyone who studies the Teaching of Living Ethics has the necessary truths before him, and questions and answers and experiences and growth can proceed on the subtle plane without direct material contact with the Source, but we who

were blessed with such contact can give assurance to our fellow human beings that the age of miracles is not yet past and that great spirits still do walk the earth.

This has been another happy moment of communion in heart and spirit with Prof. and Mme. Roerich, and I shall close with the same words I always used in ending my letters to my revered Guru and Tara—with love and gratitude.

[Due to the length of Mr. Fosdick's letter and limited space in Agni Yoga Quarterly, his letter has been edited. – Ed.]

"It is said, 'The Teaching is not sugar-coated nuts.' Mme. Roerich knew this and applied it in her guidance of all of us."

GREAT IS THE LOSS

by B.A.

Great is the loss and irreplaceable. It is difficult to understand the meaning, all the profundity, of what has happened. Centuries hence the significance may be understood of that Light which was shining here for us and has now gone out so that it can shine still more resplendently in the supermundane world.

When a still greater Light for the world was extinguished at Golgotha, who knew then about the grandeur and the might of Him who had been walking among men? Had any of his contemporaries been asked about it, the answer would have been that somewhere in ever-restless Judea, it was true, someone had been sentenced to death. With this, the one interrogated would have shrugged his shoulders, puzzled at the question, because great events

usually pass unnoticed without any witnesses aware of the greatness. Only a few, very few, know.

All that is unusual is either denied, or silenced, or persecuted. But the few who understand what has happened can testify that the appearance of the Mother of Agni Yoga was a most significant manifestation for Earth. Under earthly conditions there has been revealed to people the next step of evolution of the human organism and consciousness. And this experience was lived through in order to serve as a prototype for the achievements of those who were to follow and as a guiding ideal for centuries to come. Later, perhaps centuries later, her silent Great Deed will be understood and evaluated in all its heroic majesty. She will be exalted and honored, even deified. But neither deification or laudation are needed; necessary only is a true realization of what has taken place on Earth and has been affirmed by the testimony of those who were close to it.

The blind cannot judge about the light of the sun, never having seen it. Yet her sun brought light to a great many, through the constant radiance of its invisible fires.

We who knew bow in reverence before the fiery Mother, and we assert with the flame of spirit that knowledge which will be the inheritance of multitudes centuries hence. Her Light will be visible to all, clear and undeniable. Then there may be recalled these modest words from us who cognized and who now attest the depth and full significance of the life of this great spirit."

HELENA IVANOVNA ROERICH

by George G. Chklaver, L.L.D.

My recollections of Helena Ivanovna Roerich, who has left for those lofty regions where suffering is no more, take me back to my early years. In those days I frequently met her, as well as her hus-

band, Nikolai Konstantinovich, and her two sons George and Svetoslav. In memory, I can still see her highly honoured and beloved figure radiating benevolence. I was at that time a humble novice entering on the Path of the Doctrine which has just been proclaimed, a Doctrine rich in all the wisdom of the past.

In Finland, amidst the trouble and insurrections of 1918, Helena Ivanovna showed a serene understanding of what was going on. When most people were stunned by what had occurred, refusing to face events and ready to condemn them, Helena Ivanovna foresaw the course of history and told us, who were little more than boys, that humanity had started to move towards the high summits of achievement.

She even declared that all who erred, not knowing what they were doing, nonetheless were helping to usher in a New Era for the Common Good.

She inspired everyone with courage and enterprise and, above all, with hope. She taught us not to regret the past or complain of the constant change that overcomes all things, but rather to look to the future, so that each in his own limited way could help to build up a better world.

Later on, when I saw her in London and in Paris, I found that her attitude was always the same, and to talk with her was in itself happiness, since what she said always went to the heart.

Afterwards, when the whole family went to live in India, her wonderful letters conveyed not only a precise understanding of current events but also the lofty spiritual atmosphere of the Himalayas.

She was great and, at the same time, she was simple; in her daily dealings with everyone she showed great kindness.

Helena Roerich hardly ever ceased to think of those starry heights which were

so near the nature of her soul.

HELENA ROERICH

by Valentina Dutke

(translated E.I.'s Letters)

This name is everything for me. Everything beautiful, strong, striving, fiery and endlessly loving. She is always with me, and calling for "podvig." Beauty was her motto. This wonderful woman never preached, but every word she has ever uttered was of such fiery inspiration that she literally was constantly communicating spirituality to others. She was the inspired Friend and Teacher of most diverse personalities; she criticized

"She taught us not to regret the past or complain of the constant change that overcomes all things, but rather to look to the future, so that each in his own limited way could help to build up a better world."

no one, but understood and perceived everyone of her devotees.

My first spiritual contact with E.I. happened during the reading of her book "Letters of E.I. Roerich." I remember I was very concentrated and absorbed. Suddenly a beautiful sparkle of brightest blue colour appeared on the page which I was reading, and then another one, still brighter and clearer. This was my first perception of her presence. Ever since then she has always been with me, and my whole life has changed; she generously and lovingly shared her infinite knowledge with me. Her wonderful letters became a source of great inspiration

in my life.

Along with spiritual revelations, she showed me what a woman should be; and I realized once and for ever that our whole Western civilization, based on distorted Christianity was perpetually humiliating woman. By some peculiar reasoning, only men were considered fit for spiritual life. Whereas, woman was treated as a tool of the devil, and her main job was to seduce man! The representatives of religion considered woman as a dangerous obstacle on the path of salvation; society looked upon her as a source of enjoyment and fun. Although outwardly woman was respected, and at times almost worshiped ("ce que la femme veut Dieu le veut"), the inward attitude towards woman was utterly disrespectful and for a woman, indeed most humiliating. As one of the French thinkers expressed it wittily, "She preserves herself for one man, and amuses many."

Well, I dare say, E.I. has put an end to these shameful concepts. I do not mean for a moment that there have been no other attempts to liberate woman, but most of the attempts were intellectual. Even today's outward freedom and the exercised 'rights' of many modern women and girls are still reminiscent of the crude and tasteless protests of the suffragettes.

But E.I. threw into space powerful and beautiful thoughts about woman's role in the evolution of life. By her own wonderful life she proved that the coming New Epoch will be led by woman, by the purified, loving Heart, and not by intellect.

All the sparkling gems of her spirituality and knowledge, for which she gave all her life, are not yet ready to be given to humanity. She knew this and was most anxious to fulfill her great mission and to give to people the maximum of what they were ready to accept.

It is amazing how convincing and inspiring was the knowledge which E.I. was constantly sharing with her friends and disciples. It is because she had so much to give, because there was no empty talk, no theorizing, no lecturing in her giving. There was a wonderful realization of Truth and great ability to transmit truth in the most tangible way. She never would take the arbitrary attitude of a school teacher; she was the very embodiment of learning and she radiated her knowledge like the rose emanates its perfume. She always was most considerate towards her devotees, begging them to spare their energy and to take great care of their health. However, she herself could not economize her forces; she was always giving herself too generously to others.

This reminds us of an instance revealing the similarity in the life of Sri Ramakrishna. When this great Master was asked why he did not cure his disease, he answered: "This mind has been given to God. Do you mean to say that I should take it back and put it upon this body of mind, which is but a mere cage for the soul?"

So she has left us—too soon for us. The great Mother of Agni Yoga made no claims for herself—she simply and humbly served humanity with her fiery love and inspired thoughts.

TO THE MEMORY OF A GREAT BEING

by Vladimir Hofmeister, member of the former Riga Society of the Friends of Roerich Museum. March 1956, Nurnberg, Germany

From time to time certain outstanding individuals enter history, glorified by their deeds, and they truly merit the attention of all humanity.

Two such exceptional people, Nicholas K. Roerich and Helena Ivanovna

Roerich, his life companion, rank high among the great personages of the 20th century. Professor and Mme. Roerich were richly qualified for their lofty mission on earth in this incarnation as Messengers of the White Brotherhood. They were entrusted to transmit the new Teaching—the Teaching of Living Ethics—to all peoples, during the grave and difficult years of the present

"The great Mother of Agni Yoga made no claims for herself—she simply and humbly served humanity with her fiery love and inspired thoughts."

period. The Teaching of Living Ethics is the Testament of the coming Epoch of Satya Yuga and is the continuation of the true religio-philosophical Teachings of the world.

While in Paris, in 1923–24 Professor and Mme. Roerich invited Dr. F. Lukin, of Tiga, Latvia, to visit them for the purpose of acquainting him with the Teaching of Agni Yoga, transmitted to them by Master M. Giving to Dr. Lukin the books of the Teaching that had already appeared in the Russian at that time, they proposed that he gather in Riga a group of individuals who would be interested in spiritual development. Dr. Lukin was filled with the beauty and grandeur of the task entrusted to him, and with the full strength of his mind and heart he began to fulfill it in accordance with the instructions given him. A study group was formed,

and all its participants were so inspired by the knowledge being received that their enthusiasm attracted new friends. Owing to the continuous Indications and the spiritual support coming from the great Master, the work advanced rapidly.

The activity of the Society grew steadily, and in 1940 it had over one hundred fifty members, firm in faith and strongly bound together. Our Society was called "a window of spiritual light" by our beloved Mother.

A constant correspondence with Mme. Roerich was carried on and she tirelessly transmitted the Indications and Advices received. Her letters were filled with such wisdom, simplicity and heart's warmth, they gave so much of the radiance of her psychic energy, that they were read with bated breath; the arrivals of her letters were hailed as holidays. The energies thus transmitted by Mme. Roerich laid the foundation of a powerful spiritual magnet to which were attracted pure and aspiring souls, who learned that Help always flies to striving hearts but that one must strive ceaselessly.

Let us honor in our hearts our great Mother, Leader of the spirit of humanity. Let us also honor the day of her passing as a sacred day for the spiritual unity of all those who are ready to enter the path of Light and Truth under the great Banner of Lord Maitreya.

[Edited due to limited space. – Ed.]

¹ (1887–1972) Russian and English languages teacher, lived in Kharbin. K. Inge met N. Roerich in 1934, and since 1935 maintained correspondence with the Roerichs. She also worked (by correspondence) with the Roerich Society in Riga (Latvia), translated for them Conlan's article, and, together with other Roerichites from Kharbin, was involved in translation of *Isis Unveiled* by HPB.

THE SOLAR PLEXUS

Joseph J. Weed
January 9, 1975

“**A**bsorbing cosmic fiery energies, the center of the solar plexus distributes the latter according to the respective tensions which are inherent in the centers.”¹ Thus is our attention focused upon the solar plexus as a collector and distributor of energy. The energy it collects is not always what is referred to as “cosmic.” Sometimes the solar plexus is the recipient of energy which is consciously sent to it. This is stated as follows:

“Rotation of the solar plexus can have many other causes besides all the cosmic ones. It is necessary to examine the functions of the center of the solar plexus in connection with the sendings of energy at great distances.”² We observe from this instruction that the solar plexus not only absorbs and distributes cosmic energy but also acts as a ... human transformer for many other energies, some even sent from great distances. Could this imply benign sending from a distant constellation or star? Or from Hierarchy? Because we are told that “Rotation of the center of the solar plexus occurs under compression of psychic energy.”³

When as the rotation of the solar plexus is speeded up, it, itself, radiates energy, as it is explained: “The radiations of the solar plexus pass through all the centers, and by this rotation these rays penetrate all the

centers, bringing to them nourishment and unification through fiery energy.”⁴ This radiated energy acts automatically to strengthen any other center that requires a correcting influence. We are told, “Rotation of the center of the solar plexus can also coordinate different energies by compressing, as it were, any one center which is in special need of saturation or of strengthening.”⁵

Normally this healing and repairing activity works automatically and only requires that sufficient psychic energy be available. But in an emergency it can be consciously directed to the ailing area. This is the way in which most psychic healing is effected today, the extra psychic energy being supplied by the healer.

There is even instruction on the best method of transferring the psychic energy which is given as follows, “During the sendings of energy into a determined place, all radiations are gathered into a seeming conical spiral, and all the projectiles go into space spirally.”⁶

In a normally healthy human, the radiations of the solar plexus reach

adequately into all centers, balancing them and supplying extra energy when needed so that the entire aura is kept in harmony. When this is so the Teacher tell us, “The radiations of the solar plexus then reach, as it were, the outer circumference of the protective net.”⁷

When we wish to help others, to calm them or heal them, we bring our own solar plexus energies into action. Many good healers do not realize exactly what technique they use. Therefore, how much more effective will our efforts be under proper mental direction. The Teacher assures us as follows: “[T]he functions of the solar plexus are as numerous as are its radiations, since it is also a powerful regulator of the energies emanating from all the centers.”⁸

The following is a letter written to Sina Fosdick from J. J. Weed on March 21, 1977⁹

Dear Sina,

Thank you for sending me a copy

Continued on page 11

Thoughts on Agni Yoga

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



Fall/Winter classes are ongoing through December.

Our 34th Anniversary will take place on October 8th and 9th at our Izvara Center in Prescott, Arizona, U.S.

For our calendar of events and more about the WMEA, visit our website: www.wmea-world.org

Agni Yoga Society International Headquarters:

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319 W 107th St.
New York, NY 10025

www.agniyoga.org

Community

(continued from page 2)

giving do we receive. Then only do we receive that truly great Bliss which the Ancient Wisdom preordains and knows and which is so realistically expressed in true Christianity.

“There are two conceptions, Bliss and Heroic Achievement, firmly defined in the Russian words *Blagodat i Podvig*, but which lack adequate expression in other languages. These, one must understand as reality. Clinging to Bliss, one must infuse it actively into daily life. For what else can transform the homely routine of each day into beauty? Only this—Great Bliss! What a wondrous word! Because this realization creates miracles. And

Thoughts on Agni Yoga

(continued from page 10)

of the inspiring message sent by Professor and Mme. Roerich on the significant occasion of March 24th, 1937.

I will be with you in spirit the evening of March 24th, this year. Know that all of you will be in my thoughts, as I send you warmest greetings from my heart.

During the month past, I have had some remarkable experiences involving the planet Venus, which has been dominant in the evening sky. Great Love is being sent to humanity from that shining star. What a boon!

Love to all,

¹⁻⁸ *Fiery World III*, verse 223. © 1948 Agni Yoga Society, Inc

⁹ To learn more about Joseph J. Weed, please see the July/August/September issue of *Agni Yoga Quarterly*, p. 10.

the most brutal heart pays homage to the highest Light, which is no less a reality than the sun. But we also, with each torch of ours, evoke the supreme fiery elements; which means that in each heart may also be kindled a purifying flame of all-understanding and all-containment. I am no lover of ‘mysticism’ or ‘occultism,’ because both are synonyms of nescience.

“As I have so often pointed out in ‘Paths of Blessing’ which you now read, we must strive to clarity, to lucidity, to the truth, in which is revealed the great radiant hierarchy.

“As you know in America, we are building a Chapel in the name of Saint Sergius. Like sentinels of Bliss these signs will stand upon the ways of the gathering of experience. How many of our brothers, now scattered, cull great experiences and knowledge, which will sustain them upon the benevolent ways. I have sent you my address about Culture. Verily, let us all give thought to this great conception, to this step to light. I know that the thought of Culture will benevolently re-echo in your heart and in the rhythm of this sacred tremor, new, invincible forces will suffuse your beings.”

Greetings!

*“From Altai to Ceylon people dream of the Great Teachers, recalling from antiquity fragments of their lives and bringing the tale closer to the character of their country.”*³

THE FOUNDATION OF THE TEACHING

“People do not comprehend the foundation of the Teaching of the Blessed One—the foundation is discipline.

“Spiritually and physically the monk of the community strove to remain on

the path. The first years he endured a severe probation. He was forbidden to kill himself with ascetic practices. But he was ordained to lead the battle by the one origin of the spirit.

“Thus austere did Buddha instruct His disciples.

“Verily they knew joy only in the spiritual battle. Hence are the thorns of the path spoken of.

“Only when the will of the disciple was engendered as a lion and the silvery rein of spirit held its glow over the feelings of the pupil, then only did the Lord cautiously open the curtain and assign a task.

“And gradually the pupil was initiated into the Mysteries of Knowledge.”⁴

With love,



Joleen Dianne DuBois
President and founder of the WMEA

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

<http://youtube.com/wmeaworld/videos>

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

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

<http://www.mynewsletterbuilder.com/email/newsletter/1412695994>

¹ Torkom Saraydarian, *The Ageless Wisdom*, 16–17. © 1990 The Creative Trust

² Nicholas Roerich, *Realm of Light*, <http://www.roerich.org/roerich-writings-realm-of-light.php>.

³ Helena Roerich, *On Eastern Crossroads, Legends and Prophecies of Asia*, vi. © 1930, 1992 Agni Yoga Society, Inc.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 14–15.

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