



**Indian Association of the Teachers of the Russian Language and Literature
Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences
Visva Bharati University, Shantiniketan, India
International Center of the Roerichs**

P R E S E N T

III INTERNATIONAL ONLINE SEMINAR

"Heritage of the Roerich family: Indo-Russian magnet"

Saturday, March 18, 2023

CONCEPT NOTE

The first international conference "Heritage of the Roerich family: Indo-Russian magnet" took place in 2021, followed by another seminar in 2022. Both these events were well attended and emphasized the relevance of the philosophical, scientific and artistic heritage of the Roerichs which continues to strengthen Indo-Russian scientific and cultural cooperation.

The present seminar is oriented towards the philosophical understanding and study of the scientific, cultural, philological and artistic heritage of the Roerichs by eminent scholars and students of India and Russia.

Elena Roerich is a profound Russian philosopher-cosmist. In her thoughts, letters and books she relied on the secret spiritual tradition of the East. She created philosophical teachings of Living Ethics in collaboration with the teachers of the East.

Nikolai Roerich is a Great Russian artist, thinker, traveler and public figure, whose creative heritage is the property of India and Russia. He was an ardent admirer of the Himalayas, a sage, who knew the deep spiritual foundations of Indian culture.

Yuri Roerich, the older son of Nikolai and Elena Roerich was a world famous orientalist. Svetoslav Roerich, the younger son, was an artist, teacher and public figure, who lived in India until the end of his days and raised the versatility of Russian-Indian ties to a new height.

The legacy of the Roerichs was studied and renewed at the end of the twentieth – early XXI centuries through the untiring efforts of Lyudmila Shaposhnikova, an Indologist and philosopher – the Founder and permanent head of the Nikolai Roerich International Center-Museum.

The **III International** Seminar "Heritage of the Roerich family: Indo-Russian magnet" will be devoted to philosophical understanding and scientific study of the heritage of these great compatriots, whose work has become a bridge between Russian and Indian cultures.

The conference will be attended by both eminent scholars in the field as well as students and will be conducted through two interconnected events:

The first part will be devoted to lectures by Russian and Indian experts on various aspects of the works of Nikolai Roerich, and the second part to presentations by Russian and Indian students (in English or Russian), on their understanding of the same.

It is proposed to take up the following aspects of the works of the Roerich family for discussion and presentation:

- * Indian motifs in the paintings of Nikolai Roerich and Svyatoslav Roerich.
- * "The Great Indian Way" in the light of the discoveries and achievements of the Central Asian expedition of Nikolai Roerich;
- * The works of Elena Roerich "Fundamentals of Buddhism" and "Cryptograms of the East" and her letters and their significance in understanding the culture and history of India;
- * The concept of the Urusvati Institute and the problems of its revival in the modern world;
- * The Roerich Pact and India, the problems of preserving cultural heritage;
- * The significance of the historical and cultural heritage of the Roerichs for further development and strengthening of Indo-Russian ties.

Through this event we hope to attract the attention of the young generation both in India and in Russia towards the comprehensive and immortal philosophical thoughts and works of the Roerich family. This can pave the way for conducting further interdisciplinary research.