

HELENA ROERICH – A FALSE MESSENGER OF THE PLANETARY HIERARCHY

by Lars Adelskog

Introduction

It has occurred that students of hylozoics, who are also familiar with the important esoteric literature published under the name of Alice A. Bailey and who have in addition studied Helena Roerich's books on so-called agni yoga, have reacted negatively on Laurency's statements about the latter author, considered it to be a serious mistake by Laurency to relegate Helena Roerich to the category of impostors, and asserted that these statements tend to bring into question Laurency's general reliability. One such student felt that it was painful to see what he considered "such an egregious error". Another student preferred to interpret Laurency's statements as being of the nature of so-called blinds, that is, intentionally misleading, in spite of the fact that Laurency himself condemned this procedure as unallowable (*Knowledge of Life Two*, 3.4.9) and a nuisance (*Knowledge of Life One*, 3.19.11).

Below follow first Laurency's statements about Helena Roerich and her so-called agni yoga, statements that are found in three places in his works translated into English. Then it is explained why Helena Roerich should not be considered a mouthpiece of the planetary hierarchy, above all because she completely rejected the works of Alice A. Bailey as being of a partially black magic nature, therefore very harmful, and rejected Alice A. Bailey's informant, the "Tibetan", himself as not being a member of the planetary hierarchy but of the dark side and as being intent on luring innocent people onto a path that would lead to their destruction; but also because the books of Helena Roerich, written in Russian and then translated into several languages, are to be characterized as belonging to mysticism rather than to esoterics. Finally it is asserted that it is quite impossible to consider both Alice A. Bailey and Helena Roerich reliable mediators of knowledge from the planetary hierarchy.

In support of these assertions Helena Roerich's own statements about Alice A. Bailey and D.K. are quoted in translation from Russian into English.

Indubitably, the circumstance that Helena Roerich made these statements in Russian and that they were previously removed in both Russian and English editions of her letters has contributed to the general ignorance of the majority of esoteric students in Western Europe and in North America of the fact that she completely rejected Alice A. Bailey and D.K. and their concerted work. When it now becomes known, this must lead to these esoteric students realizing that Henry T. Laurency was right and they themselves were wrong to the extent that they, uncritically embracing Helena Roerich and her so-called agni yoga, blamed Laurency for only telling them the truth. May they regret their rash judgments based on ignorance!

Laurency's Statements About Helena Roerich and Her So Called Agni Yoga

The three oldest yoga methods are hatha, bhakti, and raja yoga. Hatha yoga is some fifteen million years old, bhakti yoga some four million years, and raja yoga some fifty thousand years old.

"Hatha yoga was the method of the Lemurians, bhakti that of the Atlanteans, and raja that of the Aryans. Hatha was intended to perfect the organism, bhakti to develop emotional consciousness, and raja mental consciousness. The planetary hierarchy has elaborated a new method, agni yoga, which is still esoteric but is intended to be permitted to become exoteric when conditions permit (assuredly not for another hundred years). This yoga is intended to

develop causal consciousness. The agni yoga of the Russian woman Roerich is not the real one.” *The Knowledge of Reality*, 7.12.1,2

“Helena Roerich and her apostle Brandstätter maintain that they have received facts from the planetary hierarchy (44-self M.), which is false. Roerich alleges to have visited Shamballa in the physical world, which is impossible as well. Apparently there are people who can imagine anything and make others believe in any foolish claim they make.

No facts are given out except through D.K., in any case not before the year 2025. The planetary hierarchy, at all events, never gives out facts to occultists but only to their disciples, and those who claim to be disciples are self-deceived or controlled by the black lodge. Brandstätter’s writings abounds with erroneous data. For example, he asserts that 44-self M. is Maitreya and also archangel Michael, and other follies.” *Knowledge of Life Three*, 6.10.1,2

“... It is by methods of meditation that the esoterician learns how to assimilate the knowledge he is seeking. The method used by raja yogis is primitive. The new method, which is being elaborated in the planetary hierarchy, agni yoga (the genuine one, not the misinterpretation by Helena Roerich), is only for disciples of the planetary hierarchy, its instruments, who serve mankind, evolution, and unity.” *The Way of Man*, 6.22.8

Clarification and Position

Helena Roerich asserts that what she presents in her writings is agni yoga, the yoga of fire. According to information received from the planetary hierarchy, agni yoga is that yoga, or practical system, which is intended to develop causal consciousness, activate it from that condition of passivity which is characteristic even of aspirants to discipleship. (“Fire” is the ancient esoteric symbol of the causal-mental world and its consciousness, just as water is the symbol of the emotional world.) It is easily seen that there is no such system of the activation of causal consciousness published, even in a summary fashion, in the writings of Roerich.

The writings of Roerich are to be categorized as being of the nature of emotional mysticism rather than of mental esoterics. They serve to stimulate feeling and imagination, but they do not convey knowledge, clarity of concepts, and mental perspectives.

The development of causal consciousness is not done through the higher emotionality, imagination and mysticism, but through the higher mentality, perspective thinking and system thinking. As a matter of fact, this higher mentality has little use of the kind of mysticism that Roerich’s writings especially contain.

Instead, what this higher mentality needs are esoteric facts, formulated as perspectivist ideas and put into their correct contexts, ever larger contexts, and finally into an all-embracing system. This system is Pythagorean hylozoics, the system that formed the basis also of the works of Alice A. Bailey and D.K., which is sometimes clearly stated, for example in *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*.

However, the writings of Helena Roerich do not contain the least trace of any system.

This is indeed consistent. The emotionalist, the mystic, abhors systems and clear concepts, since these set limits to the tendency of imagination to expand into infinitude.

Helena Roerich’s declaration that she finds the books of the Tibetan (D.K.) extremely dry reveals her as being an emotionalist and mystic, demonstrates that she is not a mentalist and esoterician.

She asserts about the work of Alice A. Bailey that “the pages of her White Magic are intertwined with the most definite Black Magic”. Without trying to prove what in Alice A. Bailey’s writings she considers to be “black magic”; indeed, without even specifying which passages in her books she considers to be expressions of this “the most definite Black Magic”,

Helena Roerich is guilty of making a baseless accusation. To accuse somebody baselessly and without proof, without even an attempt at being precise and specific, is nothing but slander. Any man or woman who slanders a disciple of the planetary hierarchy, moreover a very trusted and highly esteemed disciple as Alice A. Bailey was, definitely is no longer a disciple if he or she ever was one before.

Since the real agni yoga, the yoga destined to develop causal consciousness, is not presented in the writings of Helena Roerich even in the briefest summary, this literature is falsely labelled and therefore misleading.

This falsely-labelled agni yoga will be invoked by ignorant people in their attempts at rejecting the genuine agni yoga, when it makes its appearance, and so in fact it will be a hindrance to the appearance of the real agni yoga.

To arrogate for her own writings, as Helena Roerich did, the designation “agni yoga”, which the planetary hierarchy has reserved for its future system of the activation of causal consciousness, is a case of larceny, a crime which no true disciple of the planetary hierarchy would commit.

It is indeed typical of these quasi-esotericians at the emotional stage that they, in order to embellish their own quasi-teachings shamelessly steal names of ancient genuine schools and teachings – such as Rosicrucianism, gnosticism, and hermeticism – or, as Helena Roerich did, steal the name which the planetary hierarchy had chosen for its planned future method of the activation of causal consciousness.

In contrast, it is characteristic of true esoteric workers, messengers of the planetary hierarchy, that they do not try to underpin the gifts of knowledge they convey to mankind by falsely claiming connections in high places, but let these gifts speak for themselves, by making the very knowledge its own advocate thanks to its superiority in resources of explanation. For instance, the informer of Alice A. Bailey, the Tibetan elder brother D.K., never allowed her to call him “master”, but only “disciple”, never invoked any authority, but on the contrary appealed to the reader’s reason, in the preface to every book she published.

It is typical of many people at the stage of the mystic, the stage of emotional imagination, that there is no limit to what they may believe about themselves. If they read about the planetary hierarchy and its members, they at once believe they are in contact with them and receive messages from them. If they read about the headquarters of the planetary government, Shamballa, you can depend on it that they visit it at once to receive high initiations. If they read that the planetary hierarchy will found an “occult school” in a certain country in the future, they believe their own project is this very school, and they are not slow to try and persuade the credulous to donate money for such an imaginative project.

The grandiose claims never come true, however, since in these cases there is no intellectual and spiritual capacity that could produce anything of that “higher teaching” that the advance publicity had promised the gullible.

The planetary hierarchy obeys the laws of life, of course. One of those laws, and one of the most important as far as mankind is concerned, is the law of self, or the law of self-realization. This law says, among other things, that the hierarchy will not do anything that human beings can do, now or in the future. For example, the hierarchy does not anticipate human scientific discoveries, but lets mankind make them. The application of the law of self-realization by the planetary hierarchy also is evidenced in the fact that the hierarchy communicates only such knowledge as human beings cannot acquire on their own but need for their ascension to the fifth natural kingdom. This knowledge is esoterics, which has never been the acquisition or creation of human beings themselves. In contrast, mysticism does not belong here, since it is a human creation. Thus the planetary hierarchy does not impart mystical teachings, partly because human beings are capable of producing them themselves,

partly because they are not needed at the stage of discipleship, since esoterics contains all such aspects of mysticism as are valuable for higher stages and, moreover, does so in a superior manner, put into a greater and, above all, more correct context.

Thus when quasi-esotericians impart mystical or emotional teachings and allege these to originate from teachers in the hierarchy, it is deception or self-deception. As if the members of the planetary hierarchy, who in the activation of their consciousness have long ago reached beyond the dependence on both emotional and mental consciousness, could not accomplish anything but emotional fantasies!

When the “masters” who speak in the writings of quasi-esotericians cannot rise to mental levels, it is because those “masters” only mirror the levels of the writers themselves. If these quasi-esotericians had been centred in mentality, then their “masters”, too, would have imparted a mentally oriented teaching, affording facts, ideas, perspectives, resulting in a system.

Helena Roerich accused Alice A. Bailey’s husband, Foster Bailey, of being “definitely an impostor and a dishonest man”. She did not adduce any proof whatsoever of these accusations either. Once again it is pointed out that anyone who accuses a fellow human being of some crime without producing proof or even specifying the crime is a common slanderer and so a criminal him- or herself.

Helena Roerich asserted that Alice A. Bailey, on account of ill-health, blood transfusions, etc., was incapable of spiritual advancement. In order to ascertain such a condition in a human being, however, you must be at least a 46-self, for only this kind of self, thanks to its ability of community of consciousness with every living creature in the lower four solar systemic worlds (46–49), is able to ascertain cause and effect in the consciousness aspect, just as only the causal self is able to ascertain cause and effect in the matter aspect of the lowest three worlds (47–49). Helena Roerich was not a 46-self, however, not even a mental self, let alone a causal self. And what is most characteristic of a 46-self is that it has overcome all hatred, that it is “love itself”, because it has entered unity. And such a campaign of slander as Helena Roerich waged is completely alien to the nature of such a self.

Moreover: If ill-health had been a hindrance to Alice A. Bailey in her work for her own consciousness development and her work at writing from the dictation of a teacher in the planetary hierarchy, then it must be asked how H.P. Blavatsky, praised so much by Helena Roerich, could do both things, that is, develop her consciousness and work as an amanuensis of teachers in the hierarchy, despite her ill-health being at least as serious as that of Mrs Bailey.

In her writings, Helena Roerich, offers no new facts, no new ideas for mental consciousness. She does not even make an attempt at systematizing the facts that the principal theosophists – H.P. Blavatsky, A. Besant, and C.W. Leadbeater – presented before her. She was only able to clothe certain earlier data on discipleship and the planetary hierarchy in a form that was emotionally attractive. Most of the things she says are emotional fantasies, however, not mental ideas. Her presentation is generally characterized by a lack of clarity and precision. There are pearls in it, that should not be denied, but they are not very many, and Laurency collected the best of them for an essay which has not been translated into English.

There are many esoteric groups who are principally inspired by the books of Alice A. Bailey and D.K. and therefore, it is to be supposed, are particularly loyal to this manifestation of the planetary hierarchy’s work for mankind, but who simultaneously and consistently praise Helena Roerich and her so called agni yoga, and who link from their websites not only to Lucis Trust but also to Agni Yoga Society, the society publishing the books of Helena Roerich. This is in truth odd, since the same Helena Roerich asserts, in no uncertain terms, that the books of Alice A. Bailey are not inspired by a teacher from the planetary hierarchy

(which Helena Roerich calls the “Fortress of Light” or the “White Brotherhood”), that her “Great Lord” (“M.”) told her that these books were “very harmful”, that Alice A. Bailey “was a collaborator with the dark forces”, and that “The Great Lord refuses to recognize” Alice A. Bailey’s Tibetan teacher.

Therefore, it is impossible to consider *both* Alice A. Bailey *and* Helena Roerich to be instruments and messengers of the planetary hierarchy. Either the one, or the other, or neither – those are the only three alternatives left for those who have any faculty of logical reasoning.

Helena Roerich accused Alice A. Bailey of being a follower of Lucifer, with some sinister connotation. Here Helena Roerich feigned ignorance of esoteric symbolism. Lucifer, Phosphoros in Greek, means “carrier of light” and in antiquity was the name of the morning star, Venus. From Venus arrived those divine individuals who formed our first planetary government and hierarchy almost 22 million years ago. Lucifer or Phosphorus (the Latinized form of Greek Phosphoros) is just another name of our planetary government, our planetary ruler in particular. There is nothing sinister or Satanic in this, except in the thinking of some narrow-minded religious fanatics, certain Protestant fundamentalists, particularly in the United States, who confound Lucifer with Satan. The *Catholic Encyclopedia*, published in 1910, informs us that Lucifer also means Jesus Christ, namely in II. Peter 1:19, in Revelation 22:16, and in Exsultet, that song of praise which the deacon sings on Easter Eve and the final words of which are: *Flammæ eius lucifer matutinus inveniat: ille, inquam, Lucifer, qui nescit occasum. Christus Filius tuus, qui, regressus ab inferis, humano generi serenus illuxit et vivit et regnat in sæcula sæculorum.*

That Helena Roerich only feigned this ignorance of the fact that the name Lucifer, the Carrier of Light, refers to that collective of divine selves who arrived from Venus to Earth, is clear from the fact that she, in a letter written on the 7th of December 1935, speaks of these divine selves from Venus as the true Carriers of Light (istinnye Nositeli Sveta). This letter is translated into English, in the book *Letters of Helena Roerich 1935-1939*, vol. II, New York 1967, p. 81. In this English translation they are called “Carriers of Light”.

Moreover, she of course knew that H.P. Blavatsky, whom she revered so much, and rightly, gave the name “Lucifer” to the journal which she founded in September of 1887 and which existed to 1897. As she started this journal, H.P.B. herself, in a letter to her sister Vera, explained that ignorant Christians confounded Lucifer, the morning star, with the Devil.

The aggressiveness and urge to slander that quasi-esotericians at the emotional stage often display against true disciples and esotericians at the mental stage, as Helena Roerich did against Alice A. Bailey, or as some writers here in Sweden have done against Henry T. Laurency, are understandable from a psychological point of view but of course not defensible. One understands that they must find it very awkward to be faced with people who understand more and are able to do things better than they are, moreover have a status of disciple of which they can only dream. In this manner they are given an unpleasant reminder of their own lesser capacity, and they seem to have some difficulty in forgiving this.

If they possessed even a wee bit of self-criticism and ability of self-observation, they would bite their lips and restrain themselves, realizing that when indulging in such base slanderous attacks and attempts at injury they do not achieve anything, but reveal their own levels to understanding observers and, moreover, injure themselves, above all their future prospects of being contacted by the planetary hierarchy.

Helena Roerich's Statements About Alice A. Bailey and D.K.

“Many pages have been published by those who have sided with Darkness, such as for instance in the books of Alice Bailey. In life Black Magic is inevitably intertwined with White Magic, and only the knowing and experienced disciple of the White Lodge can discern

falsification and distortion. Thus many excellent pages of the Lord of Light are interspersed in the works of those who have sided with Darkness.

My advice to you, my dear, is not to read the books of Alice Bailey. At the end of her life she proved to be a follower of Lucifer. In the beginning, she did not hesitate to declare herself a disciple of a resident of Sikkim, a certain Laden Lha, who was employed in the service of the local government. We knew him. She called him her teacher and even tried to connect him with the great Personages of the White Brotherhood.

But I assert, definitely and most energetically, that never did even one Brother from the Fortress of Light cooperate with Mrs Alice Bailey. In her classes on yoga she used books of 'Living Ethics'. Much from these books was given out as received by her, as she used the anonymity of the Teaching. Our co-workers in America, Zinaida Grigorievna and others, were well acquainted with the personality and activity of this dark individual. Her activity became very harmful when she started to put forward predictions from her Tibetan teacher, stating that there would be a time of prosperity as never before, but no war, and when instead of the prosperity promised there were years of war, her authority was terribly undermined. In addition, her health began to give in, and repeated blood transfusions of course did not promote her spiritual advancement, and she passed away. This passionate woman possessed a highly developed intellect and a considerable erudition, but she did not have any signs of spirituality.

Therefore, my dear, it is necessary to convince oneself of the fundamental principles of the Teaching before beginning to take an interest in the existing vast literature on occultism and magic." (From a letter written by Helena Roerich to Yekaterina Petrovna Inge on the 10th of October 1954) (The journal *Novaya Epokha* [*Mir Ognenny*] Nr. 1 (20) 1999.)

"Many naïve people think that the dark forces work only through evil, moral corruption, and crime. How they are mistaken. Only coarse and lower-degree forces work in that way. Much more dangerous are those who come in the guise of the Teaching of Light. You already know of one such example. In America there is a very large Society, and its head receives teaching from a teacher who does not reveal his name, calling himself the Tibetan Brother. We know who is hiding behind this pseudonym. His force is great. And the aim of this teacher, personifying a teacher of the White Brotherhood, is to lure into his ranks as many good and useful people as possible, people who could otherwise have actively assisted in the Great Plan of the Lords, the plan of the salvation of the planet. And those unfortunate ones, who do not possess the true discrimination of the fires of the heart, flutter like little butterflies towards the black fire that will turn them into ashes. Ignorance, the absence of feeling-knowledge, draws them into the embrace of darkness and deprives them for a long time, if not for ever, of the beneficent action and attraction of the Rays of the Great Fortress of Light.

Armageddon is terrible, for the forces of darkness struggle for their very existence, desperation makes them so united and stubborn in accomplishing their aim. The Prince of the World has many talented, conscious and unconscious cronies, and it is naïve to think that they do not know how to act subtly. They are very sophisticated and ingenious and act according to the consciousness of their victims. But they are all deprived of the warmth of heart. I have some books by this Tibetan teacher, they are extremely dry. One book is called White Magic. I have been told that the best pages are borrowed from the Teaching of the White Brotherhood. It is interesting to note that the head of this Society, for her greater prestige and to entice adherents of our books, recommends them to her members and has founded classes for the study of the books of Agni Yoga. In this manner darkness is intertwined with Light on Earth. The network of darkness is being woven by skilful hands. Many members of this Society, being lured by the examination and study of the Agni Yoga books given there, come

to us and ask us to found the same kind of classes and groups for the concerted reading and discussion of the books of the Teaching. Only by this autumn I have by higher consent assigned Mrs Horch with starting such groups on a larger scale. It is also not without interest to note that leaders of such a vast Society are simultaneously serving in the police of a certain country. There are many terrible things being wrought now in the whole world. Much of the most revolting witchcraft is spread in the whole world. Of course, as always the greatest centres are also the centres of the principal dark forces. Just about all the brood of Hell has crawled up on the surface of the Earth. The ignorant masses are their best weapons. That is why it is so important that all the white and whitish forces unite, but the latter so easily change their colour into greyish, filling their ranks with those of whom it is said in Revelation: 'So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.' Only the power of devotion and aspiration to Service of the Great Hierarchy of Light can save from the widespread nets of the Prince of this world. For us, Russians, salvation is prepared under the banner of our High Protector and Intercessor, Ven. Sergius of Radonezh, about whom is sung in the Akathist hymn 'From God was given to Russia a Commander'. Alexander Ivanovich, tell this and warn those who ask you. Let us muster up all our strength to create an impenetrable armour by the purity of our thought. The strikes of the dark ones at our aura are unavoidable, but with a strong protective network these strikes are easily repelled, inflicting no harm. Usually these strikes affect weak organs. An aura saturated with devotion to the Hierarchy can resist all the attacks of the dark ones. But you must not even for a minute allow doubt or deviation from this focus on the Light. Devotion and purity of motives is our only anchor in the chaos of raging storms ...

Go on working in this direction, write, for now it is so important to purge the Teaching from monstrous accumulations and distortions. You can imagine how the Prince of the World toils to gradually insert his little nucleus into the shell of the Bright Teaching. If questions come up, I am always glad to answer and explain what is not understood. For about two years I shall be able to help much and write, but after that it will be harder. Therefore, use [the opportunity], and do not be afraid of burdening me, for we do not fear any tiring as we are walking to the Most Beautiful Garden."

(From a letter written by Helena Roerich to co-workers of the Latvian Roerich Society on the 23rd of August 1934.)

"Why do Russian theosophists have to walk with blinkers and know nothing about the true history of the theosophical movement and those active in it? Why do they mention Alice Bailey in passing but are silent about a much earlier and more important centre in California, which is led by the Great Teacher H.? Why do they nowhere mention the remarkable book 'Temple Teachings' published by this centre?"

(From a letter written by Helena Roerich on the 7th of January 1937, to Russian theosophists.)

"Do not have connections with Bailey's school, for they have proved to be hidden enemies."

(A letter written by Helena Roerich on the 16th of September 1951; Moscow, International Roerich Centre, volume 9.)

"Alice Bailey asserted that one of the Great Teachers collaborated with her – Djwhal Khul – and called him the Tibetan. However, Bailey's Tibetan has nothing in common with the real Teacher of the Hierarchy of Light, D.K. The misunderstanding came about because of efforts by the founder of the society Arcane School – the same Alice Bailey.

I have heard nothing about Usakovskaya from our co-workers. I do not recall her even among those who were listed at that time as pupils of the Society of Saint Sergius. The Society was rather good, but the Shanghai group was not close to me. Apparently, they disbanded, mainly because the chief active workers moved in the country and left it. It was said about her that she is rather good and a needed co-worker. Provided she leaves Arcane School she may receive help. She should be warned how much darkness is gathering around the Light. And above all she must be warned against the husband of the founder. He is definitely an impostor and a dishonest man. The passionate ones use our books – hence also the allusions to the One Source. But I assert by the Name most hidden and dear to me that the D.K. they mention and anyone of the Great Brotherhood never had anything to do with the Arcane School. The founder was a certain medium. But no Teaching can be revealed to mediums. The purest of them can express themselves in small booklets, but not through a whole series of books of the Teaching.”

(A letter written by Helena Roerich on the 7th of December 1951; Moscow, International Roerich Centre, vol. 9.)

“... No, now firmness, perseverance, and warnings are needed. For precisely the Prince of darkness tries to seduce small, fearful consciousnesses with calm. Urusvati rightly pointed out that the seduction by the Prince of darkness consists in his promise of calm, but We say: the hour is the last one. Only a hastened purification will afford the planet the possibility to save itself. Of course, a fiery explosion will save the planet. A fiery explosion must manifest itself in all phenomena. Only a purification of space, only a purification of consciousness, only a purification of the Teachings will grant the phenomenon of purifying exposures of the spirit. Of course, darkness condenses, but when the tension of the forces of darkness reaches its limit, then the Forces of Light will affirm their power. Thus it is necessary to prepare oneself for the reception of the great tension. Light overcomes darkness. A wonder is at hand.

... Besides, regarding seduction by calm it is interesting to notice that Mrs Bailey issued a proclamation by her teacher for three years hence, beginning from April 1934, in which this teacher promises all the blessings of spiritual illumination and denies the possibility of disaster, ‘such as the fearful ones indicate it’. Hence her protests against the threats of Armageddon, etc. Interesting is also this teacher’s appeal that all should contribute money to propaganda for his teaching. The dark side of this teacher is so obvious.”

(A letter written by Helena Roerich on the 30th of August 1934; Moscow, the International Roerich Centre, vol. 2.)

“Of course, do not give any rights and copyrights to people connected with the Arcane School. Say definitely that we have never been connected with the Arcane School and cannot cooperate with them. But the less you explain to them the reasons for our reservation, the better. Every word you say is like a red rag to a furious bull to them.”

(A letter written by Helena Roerich on the 27th of March 1952; Moscow, the International Roerich Centre, vol. 9.)

“Regarding Brandstätter and Rentz, let them lie on the bed as they have made it. Tell them firmly that you cannot solve their disputes; you cannot give them rights to publish new books as long as the passionate ones are in a condition of disputes and legal process. Also they must firmly adhere to our definite condition – not associate themselves with any other Societies and Teachings. The Teaching of Living Ethics or, as Rentz now calls it, the ‘Teaching of Life’, cannot be associated with any other teaching or teacher. Brandstätter must understand that we have not had and have not anything in common with the representatives of the Arcane School.

They used our Teaching, but we strictly assert that the Teaching of Living Ethics has been given by the definite Great Lord M. and cannot go under the flag of the Arcane School or cannot even stand abreast with it.

Definitely give no rights to publish new books. It is necessary to stop Rentz's madness and Bailey's and Brandstätter's intrigues. They want to take possession of all the publishing. We cannot allow the Teaching of Living Ethics to be the object of disputes and legal process. The Teaching cannot be seized by persons who do not understand the difference between the Great Lord M. and the Tibetan teacher of Mrs Bailey. This must be stopped, otherwise the passionate ones will go mad."

(A letter written by Helena Roerich on the 10th of May 1952; Moscow, the International Roerich Centre, vol. 9.)

"Of course you can say, if need arises, that we never blame organizations that have as their aim to disseminate spiritual principles, and only if they begin to prove harmful is it our duty to protect others and ourselves from them. Life is so complicated and to such an extent light is intertwined with darkness that one has to be patient where there is a little fire burning however faintly. Such a little fire no doubt existed in the Arcane School, too, at the very beginning, and we know that even a smoking candle can sometimes light a most beautiful lamp and even a whole bonfire."

(A letter written by Helena Roerich on the 12th of September 1952; Moscow, the International Roerich Centre, vol. 9.)

"For your information, the Great Lord considers the compilation works of Alice Bailey very harmful. This passionate woman was definitely a collaborator with the dark forces. It is not difficult, if you have some knowledge, to compile such books, when you live in cities where hundreds of thousands of occult works lie on the shelves of vast libraries. The teacher of Alice Bailey does not belong to the Fortress of Light. The Great Lord refuses to recognize him.

The pages of her White Magic are intertwined with the most definite Black Magic, and such a mixture is, of course, terribly harmful and produces a great confusion and distortion in unstable consciousnesses."

(A letter written by Helena Roerich on the 11th of July 1952; Moscow, the International Roerich Centre, vol. 9)

Translated from Russian by Lars Adelskog.

Some notes on the translation. The Russian word учитель (uchitel') which I have consistently rendered by "teacher" also means "master" such as this word is used in theosophical literature, Alice A. Bailey's books, etc. It is the word generally used to render the English word "master" in translations of Alice A. Bailey's books into Russian. In translations of Helena Roerich's books into English, however, the word "teacher" is consistently used, and that is why I have preferred to use "teacher" instead of "master".

In several places in her letters, Helena Roerich abbreviated the names of persons, Arcane School, etc. In my translation I have given all these names in full, names of members of the planetary hierarchy being excepted.

Urusvati is a cover name of Helena Roerich. Zinaida Grigorievna was Zinaida Grigorievna Lichtman, the wife of Maurice Moiseyevich Lichtman.

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