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January 8th, 1979

Shri C. P. Saxena,
Professor of Fine Arts,
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INDORE. M. P.

My dear Saxena,

Here I am back to the hard realities of Parisian life. However my visit to India, particularly to Madhya Pradesh: Bhopal, Gwalior & Indore are marked deep down in my heart.

It was great seeing you again, meeting you in the midst of my own works & to see yours & those of your students. The attention & affection shown to me have been overwhelming, this silent quality of "giving" which belongs only to our people. I was grateful that a fresh contact was established & we could exchange ideas & talk of the specific problems of life & art which govern our existence & give them their significance & meaning.

I did my best to convey my thoughts & experiences & witness what was happening. I desired earnestly that I could be of use. An artist is an inspired man & I wanted that where ever I went the atmosphere could be charged with a will to work. We are a talented people

Art is in our blood. I am convinced that there is abundance of ~~the~~ richness & latent potentialities everywhere. Buds & tender leaves are appearing. They represent a life source, but need care & attention. Hard work is necessary at this stage where everyone - the student, the artist, the art teacher & the art organisation have to do their bit both individually & collectively.

We artists, we have to work with or without a congenial climate, work at all costs, against all hurdles, making ART EXPRESSION an inner necessity. We will forge ahead.

Madhya Pradesh Sahitya Parishad with the inspired guidance of Shri Ashok Bajpey is implementing a Programme of Cultural action with great imagination & insight. While in Bhopal I had had the opportunity to convey to the educational authorities the gist of my observations, my enthusiasm of our possibilities in the Arts, & the situation of the young artists & art teachers. I am convinced that the ideas will make their way to the benefit of every one.

It was indeed a great personal satisfaction for me to meet you in Indore, visit this city again, & see old friends particularly Mahajan & Varma. I enjoyed seeing the works D.J. Joshi again, Vasant Agasthe, Akhilesh Verma, Shah & G.K. Pandit. The young faces of your students haunt me. Let's all get down to work, with a firm desire to meet again soon & let's hope more leisurely.

God-speed & all the best. Janine joins me in sending you & your family our affectionate thoughts & all the best wishes during the new year 1979.

Yours ever -

