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EC/16.

8th May 1959.

My dear Prasiddha,

I sincerely regret the long delay in replying to your two letters. I was, however, trying to study the proposal of our dear friend, Shri Sod before I could put up a reply. I was quite fascinated to learn from your first letter that you had very interesting time at Delhi and particularly at Sarnath. You were indeed most fortunate to be at the holy Sarnath on the occasion of the annual celebration of the Mula-ghanda-kuti Vihara. You were indeed blessed to have carried the holy relics on your head and to have enjoyed the elephant ride with the General Secretary of the Maha-Bhodhi Society. You must, of course, have read a lot about the escape of the venerated Dalai Lama to India. The entire Indian nation is greatly distressed at the Chinese repression and atrocities committed in Tibet. While we have warmly welcomed Dalai Lama and thousands of Tibetan refugees who have been successful in fleeing to India, we do not know how we can combat the ruthless aggression of the Communist China. We are organising various committees and are collecting funds for the relief of the Tibetan refugees. I am sure all the Buddhists the world over are sharing the deep sympathy shown towards the unfortunate Tibetans. I have had the pleasure of spending a few days in Tibet and I have known the Tibetan people as some of the most peace-loving, cheerful and contented folks in the world.

I am happy indeed to hear from Shri Sod directly and I enclose my letter addressed to him, herewith.

I am indeed delighted to learn that the Phakavali Dance & Music Institute is going forward in leaps and bounds. With your new stage, you certainly can serve your audience more easily and directly. How I wish we had better opportunities to have collaboration between the Indian dance and art movements and the Thai Dance-Institutes and Academies. Both Laddma-ben and you should be warmly congratulated for your devoted efforts to preserve and promote pure and classical Thai culture.

Shri Pohekar & all other friends are quite well here and we all remember you quite often. Shri Pohekar is likely to go on a tour to East and Central Africa during June and July.

EC 16 Prasiddha.

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8/5/59

I am happy to learn that the eldest son of Shri Sod is shortly visiting India. Please do ask him to visit Bombay and it would, of course, be a pleasure for all of us to meet him here. Of course, our apartment is open to him as it is always to all your friends. He, therefore, need not hesitate to come to Bombay and spend a few days with us.

My dear mother is at Ahmedabad but she does not fail to remember you whenever we meet. Please do accept our kindest regards and best wishes from both of us.

Very sincerely yours,


Navnit Parekh

Shri Prasiddha Silapabanleng,
Phakavali Dance & Music Institute,
135 Boripat Rd.,
BANGKOK (Thailand)

ya.

Encl: Letter.