

**CENTRAL ASIA : THE CONNECTING
LINK BETWEEN EAST AND WEST**
and other lectures

delivered by
Dr. Johannes Nobel
Professor of Sanskrit, University, Marburg (Germany)
at
The International Academy of Indian Culture

Nagpur
1952

SARASVATI VIHARA SERIES

edited by

**Prof. Dr. RAGHU VIRA, M.A., Ph.D.,
D.Litt.et Phil.**

**Director,
International Academy of Indian Culture
in collaboration with other scholars**

VOL. XXVI

Price Rs. 5/-

Published by

Dr. Lokesh Chandra, D.Litt

Secretary

**The International Academy of Indian Culture
NAGPUR**

Printed by

W. D. Ojha, Arya Bharati Press, Nagpur

PREFACE

The venerable Dr. J. Nobel has been staying at the Academy as a Visiting Professor, collaborating with us on the planning of the Śatapiṭaka, 'a Hundred Baskets', i.e. a uniform presentation in scientific editions of the entire Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit and allied literatures of the countries that lie to our north, east, south-east and south (namely, Tibet, Central Asia, Mongolia, China, Manchuria, Korea, Japan, Champa, Cambodia, Laos, Thai, Burma, Malay, Indonesia and Ceylon).

Indian adventurers and thinkers crossed mountains and oceans to blaze new trails of the spirit, as far and as long as goodwill and knowledge could carry them.

Professor Nobel tells a part of the story. He starts with Central Asia from where Indian art and scriptures spread out fanwise. His audience has listened to him in wonder and adoration. He has aimed in these lectures to reach out to the common man. The German tinge in his English expression has added to the charm, and this is retained unaltered even in the printed garb.

The third lecture 'Introduction of Sanskrit literature into Germany' was delivered at the Nagpur University under the distinguished chairmanship of His Excellency Shri M. D. Pakwasa, the Governor of Madhya Pradesh.

Nagpur,
19-3-1952.

RAGHU VIRA

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