

*The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers*

culture that accompanied colonialism. His most important institutional achievement was the founding of the Maha-Bodhi Society to restore the old shrines and to propagandize for Buddhism.

The Anagarika's counsels often paralleled those of BTW, emphasizing group solidarity, material advancement, self-help, and education. According to one scholar, he sought the "fusion of modern technology and economic methods with traditional Buddhist values" and held up to the Sinhalese the example of contemporary Japan. (Gokhale, "Anagarika Dharmapala," 30-39.)

The Anagarika made an extensive tour of the United States in 1903-4, met BTW in San Jose, Calif., and heard him speak in San Francisco. He visited Tuskegee Institute and the Carlisle Indian School as well as other industrial schools while on his tour.

<sup>2</sup> A marginal note indicated the time as 5:29 P.M.

From the Anagarika H. Dharmapala

2447  
N.Y. [City] 26 December 1903

Dear Mr Washington, I invite you in the name of 50 millions of neglected children of illiterate, destitute and starving parents to visit India, if possible next year and bring to them the joyful message that there is hope through a life of education and training in the arts and crafts.<sup>1</sup>

I have gained from my visit to Tuskegee an experience that I shall never forget and when I saw the Tuskegee Institute with its manifold branches under enlightened teachers I rejoiced that you have made all this glorious work a consummation within a generation; and I thought of the Viceroy in India who with the millions of children starving for education and bread that he should waste in sky rockets and tomfoolery and vain show to please a few loafing lords who came from England last January six million dollars in thirteen days! He is not worth to loose the latchet of your shoe. Yours Sincerely

The Anagarika Dharmapala

ALS Con. 255 BTW Papers DLC.

<sup>1</sup> BTW replied that "such a visit as you mention is quite out of the question for anything like early consideration." He said he could not "spare the time from my exacting duties here." (Dec. 31, 1903, Con. 255, BTW Papers, DLC.)