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Congratulatory Letter

November 15, 2018

Dear Director Irina Fedorovna Popova,

On hearing that this year is the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and you will hold the celebration at the end of November, on behalf of Beijing Foreign Studies University, I would like to warmly congratulate the Institute and the Russian Academy of Sciences and extend our sincere respect to Director Popova.

The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences is an important academic institution with outstanding global reputations. Starting from the establishment of the Asiatic Museum in 1818 and under the efforts of several generations of Russian governments and scholars for 200 years, it housed the most extensive collections of manuscripts of oriental studies and early printed books in Russia and one of the most collections in the world. Based on this, the rigorous and in-depth research achievements of scholars in your institute have also attracted international attention. Since 2000, the institute has taken a further step forward on the basis of the long history. Especially in 2007, it became an independent institute under the Russian Academy of Sciences. Under the leadership of Director Popova, the contact between your institute and the international academic community, especially

the contact with China, has been further expanded and deepened. Director Popova also received the highest academic title of Changjiang Distinguished Professor issued by the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China.

Our university and your institute share the common characteristic---multilingual. The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts has a collection of oriental manuscripts encompassing about 65 different languages of the world, including living and dead languages, which is a valuable legacy of human culture. At present, Beijing Foreign Studies University has taught as many as 98 kinds of languages. We have extensive contacts with countries all over the world in terms of language and culture exchange and we have achieved many important academic achievements in the field of oriental studies. For example, *General History of the Arab World* and *The History of Islamic Culture*, written by the late professor Na Zhong of BFSU, are not only the must-read works to understand Arabic history and Islamic culture in the circle of Chinese academics, but also enjoy high reputation in the Arabic region and international academic circles. Since the cooperative agreement has been signed between our university and your institute in 2015, the two sides have had frequent scholar exchanges. I believe that in the future, the cooperation of both sides will be further developed in the field of oriental studies and personnel training.

Many thanks for the warm invitation of Director Popova. Since the celebration time is around the end of the year and because of various domestic and university affairs, I am very sorry that I am unable to attend the 200th anniversary ceremony of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts. However, I hold that, on the basis of the continuous and sound development of Sino-Russian friendly relations, we will have more and more communications in scholar exchanges, student exchanges and academic activities in the future. Beijing Foreign Studies University welcomes Director Popova, scholars and students in your institute to our university for communications and exchanges. I am looking forward to continuously expanding our cooperation.

Finally, I wish the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences to achieve greater achievements of the development in the future.

Sincerely,

PENG Long

President of Beiling Foreign Studies University



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贺 信

尊敬的波波娃所长,

欣闻贵所今年建所二百周年,并在11月底举行周年庆典,我谨代表北京外国语大学,对俄罗斯科学院东方文献研究所、俄罗斯科学院表示隆重祝贺!向波波娃所长表示诚挚的敬意!

俄罗斯科学院东方文献研究所是一所具有国际声誉的重要学术机构。由1818年成立的亚洲博物馆开始,至今200年的时间里,在数代俄罗斯政府和学人和努力之下,东方学写本和旧版书收藏不仅居俄罗斯首位、在世界上也数名列前茅;以此为基础,贵所学者严谨深入的研究成就,也为世界所瞩目。新世纪以来,贵所在悠久历史的基础上又向前迈进了一步,特别是2007年贵所成为俄联邦科学院直属研究机构以来,在波波娃所长的领导下,贵所与国际学术界的联系、特别是与中国的联系进一步扩大和深入,波波娃所长还获得了中国教育部颁发的最高学术称号"中国教育部长江学者讲座教授"的称号。

我们北京外国语大学与东方文献研究所有一个共同之处,那就是多语种。东方文献研究所拥有65种世界活语言和死语言的东方学文献,这是人类文化的宝贵遗产。我们北京外国语大学目前教授语言已达到98种,在语言文化交流的层面上与世界各国有着广泛的联系,在东方学研究领域也取得了很多重要的学术成果。比如我校已故纳忠教授的《阿拉伯通史》、《伊斯兰文化史》,不仅是中国学术界认识了解阿拉伯历史和伊斯兰文化的必读著作,在阿拉伯地区和国际学术界也享有盛誉。2015年,我校与东方文献研究所签订了合作协议,此后双方在学者交流层面的往来频繁。我相信,未来我校与东方文献研究所在东方学研究、人才培养方面等方面的合作将进一步展开。

感谢波波娃所长的盛情邀请,由于庆典时间已届年末,国内和校内和各种事

务缠身,我不能前来参加贵所的二百周年庆典,我感到非常遗憾。不过,我相信,在中俄友好关系不断良好发展的基础上,未来我们在学者交流、学生交流、学术活动等方面的往来将越来越多,我们北京外国语大学欢迎波波娃所长以及贵所学者、学生来我校交流,也期待不断拓展我们的合作。

最后,祝愿俄联邦科学院东方文献研究所在未来的发展中取得更大的成就。

北京外国语大学校长。彭龙

018年11月22日