

LETTER FROM MARTIN GARDNER TO TAPAN KUMAR MUKHERJEE 27 April 88

Sir, I am sending a copy of letter received by me from Martin Gardner who was one of the founding fathers of the journal Wordways along with Dmitri Borgmann. I shall be happy if you will consider it for publication of the letter in your journal for the benefit of readers who might be interested in it. I am a regular reader of the journal that offers huge knowledge and enjoyment of the language for the variety of ways words are put in place. The contributions to the journal are ample testimony to resilience and richness of the English language.

Thank you very much indeed.

Tapan Kumar Mukherjee
c/o D. Mukherjee
Subhas Pallee, Burdwan 713101
West Bengal, India

New address →

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Martin Gardner, Pres.
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103 Woods End Drive
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Dear Mr. Mukherjee:

27 April 88

Thank you for your letter and your kind comments about my writings. Although I have never been to India, I have always had a great fondness for India's history and culture, and it is a pleasure to know that I have readers there.

I wish I could send you some of my books, but I get so many requests ^{for} ~~from~~ them from overseas readers who do not have access to them in libraries, and it has become so enormously expensive to pay for postage on books sent out of the US, that I have been forced to adopt a policy of not responding to such requests. I know that you did not make such a request, but I ~~can~~ want to explain why I have to adopt such a policy.

I am enclosing a bibliography of all my books except books for children, and books dealing with conjuring that sell only in magic stores. My Whys of a Philosophical Scrivener is a sort of confessional ~~of my philosophical opinions~~ of all the things I believe, from God to democratic socialism. My Ambidextrous Universe, about left-right symmetry in science, has been out of print for about a decade. Late this year I will be revising it and updating it for a new edition. My Scientific American columns have been appearing ~~in~~ in books, of which there are now a dozen such collections. The 13th will be published late this year by W. H. Freeman under the title of From Penrose Tiles to Trapdoor Ciphers. I still have two or three more books to go before I exhaust all the columns.

all best,

Martin Gardner