437 NW 35th Corvallis, OR 97330 July 26, 1983

To Whom It May Concern:

I have just completed two months of intensive study of the published discourses of the religious leader Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. On the basis of a careful examination of twenty of his published writings, plus a background of 20 years of professional teaching and research in the field of religious studies, I am persuaded that Rajneesh is a man of gifted intellect and extraordinary erudition. He exhibits an amazing command of both Eastern and Western intellectual, social, and cultural history. He has produced an impressive number of commentaries on mystical thinkers and traditions; ranging from Yoga, Vedanta, Tantrism, Buddhism, Taoism, and Zen in the East; to Greek, Christian, Jewish, and Islamic mysticism in the West.

I am not a member of Rajneesh's religious movement. Nor do I concur with a number of his ideas. Nevertheless, I find his published discourses a source of much wisdom, insight, and poetic beauty. And I regard his teachings to be a significant contribution to humanity's enduring quest for spiritual understanding, growth, and fulfillment.

Sincerely,

Ronald O. Clarke

B.S. Oregon State University (1950)

Royald Q. Clarke

B.D. Yale University Divinity School (1953)

Th.D. Pacific School of Religion (1964)

Member of the Department of Religious Studies, Oregon State University, since 1963 (Rank of Professor since 1973).

[For information only]