

To whom it may concern,

London, November 1, 1945,

England. 6 AM.

Throughout my academic career I have always been interested in the human sciences. At school I studied social science and philosophy and the core of my interest was always a means to improve human happiness and to find the roots of unhappiness so that they may be eradicated. At university I later studied philosophy through the works of the greatest philosophers of history - Kant, Descartes, Plato and others. Rarely, however did I encounter means to improve the lot of man, rather what I found were interesting treatises on how he actually functions and very little about his potential or means by which he could bring about the self-transformation he so often seeks. It seems trite to say that few are content with their state of being. In recent years through medicine and psychology and advances in man's physical environment, some change has been brought about but the vast majority of mankind is still not as happy as it would wish. Joy and celebration are not as commonplace as everyone would like. I majored in psychology from the University of Newcastle, England with a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree but without considerable disillusion realizing that modern psychology was simply unable to make or provide such change in any but mentally infirm human beings.

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Quite by chance I came across a book of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh in a local bookshop and found the answers to many of the questions that I had been asking myself for so long. Bhagwan is one of the greatest philosophers or commentators on Man's Nature that this century has seen. He has a profound insight into the mechanisms of the mind and the obstacles it can create to prevent a person's happiness. His wisdom is available in dozens of books and covers all branches of human experience and psychological states from anger to jealousy, sexual problems, depression or social inadequacy. It would be absurd to summarise his philosophy here in a few lines when so much material by him can be read. His language is also simple and he should be considered as one of the world's greatest orators, although his message is now conveyed through silence. For the past two years Bhagwan has had a heart-to-heart communion with his followers and through this the drive behind building the ranch and small community of Rajneeshpuram has been possible. His disciples work a 12 hour day in an atmosphere of love and close brotherhood without tiring easily and with a bare minimum of the stress that is so common in the world outside.

As such his ~~community~~ and the man himself should be an inspiration to all Americans who are still searching greater happiness.

As an inspiration to psychotherapists Bhagwan has been an important innovator. Through his Dynamic Meditation in particular which is a powerful technique to unblock energy in the body and to allow its user to "flow" more easily he has enabled thousands to become more alive.

The proof of anything is in the tasting and a sure method to verify whether Bhagwan is of the merit that his disciples claim is to visit Rajneeshpuram and see and feel the high energy and productivity there.

I would not recommend Bhagwan to everyone. Other people have different paths to follow but to deny him to a few in the land of the free would be a travesty of justice. It would be like refusing to allow a residency permit to a famous artist on the grounds that some members of the public didn't understand or appreciate his works.

America is a country of freedom, a pioneer country the New Land. I hope with this in mind you will carefully consider your decision on his residency permit.

Yours faithfully,  
Swami Bhand Habib