

Rajneeshpuram, OR
July 23, 1983

To Whom It May Concern :

We call Him Bhagwan, "the Blessed One". I started reading His books in 1977, went to His ashram in Pona in 1978, and immediately became one of His sannyasins. He is the most amazing human I have ever met.

I graduated from University of Michigan in 1967 with a BA in social psychology and did two years of graduate work at Cornell University. During these academic years, I was constantly seeking an understanding, a vision beyond what was being offered at these two of the best universities in my field. After graduate school I began working in Montgomery County, Virginia social services as a social worker and as a child care supervisor with juvenile delinquents. Still there was this seeking, this search for a vision. I read all the religious philosophers; I checked out all the groups, the teachers, the masters. In 10 years I never joined a group, I never "bought" a philosophy. Then I found Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

This man was clearly different. His vision integrated what I had learned in the social sciences, what I had experienced on my jobs, & in my personal life as well, only his vision was much larger, much much larger. Eventually I gave up my job in Virginia, sold the small farm I had acquired, & went back to India to stay with this man, with His people. Even more than His words, His presence is transforming.

More than two hundred thousand people worldwide accept Bhagwan as their spiritual leader; we here at

Rajneeshpuram are being transformed through our daily contact with this man, with his silence, his vision. Here at Rajneeshpuram we are worshipping to bring his vision into material reality, to create a "Buddhafield", a space where psychology, science, ecology, & religion can find a new harmony, expressed in his vision, nourished by his presence, a space where people from all over the world will journey to soak up his teachings, to rejoice in his presence, to transform their lives. This year in July, 13,000 people came to Oregon to celebrate with us.

Here at Rajneeshpuram I worship on the vegetable farm, a job I was prepared for in twelve years of experience on my own farm. It's not a "normal" truck farm; it's actually a 60 acre backyard garden producing 72 varieties of vegetable and food for a "family" of thousands. This has never been done before: no one else would even attempt it. It happens only with his guidance, in his presence. Every day of my life I have the sense of participating in a miracle, the building of a new spiritual vision for the world.

It starts with a new kind of agriculture, a new relationship between man & his environment. It grows into a new kind of city. It has the potential of flowering into a new kind of world. America now has the opportunity to nourish this vision, this presence, a tremendous opportunity culturally and economically, to be the center of this flowering that is attracting so many beautiful people from every country of the world. Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh is an amazing phenomenon; keep Him here.

Sincerely,
Martha E. Feustel