

July 26th / 198.
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To whom it may concern,

Being a disciple of Bhagwan is very grass roots - just human-beings with heart and compassion sharing our love. Holding one another when a cry is needed, celebrating when rejoicing is needed. Working, playing - as natural as the moonrise and sunset.

This is what is being created here at Rajneeshpuram. Though that fragrance of light/love is our own, Bhagwan's presence is the breeze. Bhagwan is the vehicle in which our love can be realized, nurtured and shared.

The quality of my life before becoming a sannyasin and now is as different as night and day. Bhagwan has taught me self acceptance. Now by accepting myself for what I am, I can accept others for what and who they are and consequently I can accept life for what it offers. I feel at home with myself.

Before becoming a disciple of Bhagwan none of the above was true. In fact, then, my attitude toward my job, recreation and home was abasement - a slow suicide. I couldn't love myself. I could talk of and about love but I never really felt in love. I changed jobs, homes and friends as often as dirty socks and with that much respect. Somewhere I kept missing.

Now for myself and thousands of other lovers and friends of Bhagwan that missing is no longer. Here at Rajneeshpuram I work in the kitchen - The

center of all homes. Here is so much love and attention to the quality and nourishment of food. I watch as the food I prepared is eaten by others and I see the glow of nourishment on their faces. This feeling of satisfaction is shared silently between us.

Every thing in our kitchen happens with the quality of Bhagwan's presence - love. No place else I've experienced outside Rajneeshpuram has this quality. Being a resident here I see visitors come and go and I watch the changes that happen in them. Most come burdened and heavy - all leave fresh and light.

Three weeks ago fifteen thousand disciples and friends of Bhagwan from around the world passed by my tables to eat as our second annual world celebration took place. Each day as they ate our food and drank from the presence of Bhagwan more and more the twinkle in their eyes sparkled and their faces glowed. I know cause it takes one to know one.

I never had the opportunity to visit Bhagwan in India. I read his books and listened to his tapes but I never physically came in contact with Him. Something radiated in Bhagwan's sannyasins. They are alive and open. Through His sannyasins I felt something substantial, real and nourishing in my heart.

I took sannyas after Bhagwan went into silence. I had heard what He had to say about Love and God but what He said verbally only pointed to what He is. With or without words He is love. He has realized the magic of aliveness within Him. This I know because this love and aliveness is being shared among His sannyasins.

Bhagwan's presence in America is such a gift to this nation, once again the divine has showered its blessings upon us.

Swami Deva Uttara