

meditation center handbook

OSHO COMMUNE INTERNATIONAL 17 KOREGAON PARK, POONA 411 001 (MS), INDIA Tel: 91/212/660963 Fax: 91/212/664181, Telex: 81/0145 474 LOV IN, OshoNet: 91/10 "...Wherever my sannyasins meet, my presence will be felt.
Wherever my sannyasins celebrate, my message is realized,
because celebration is my message.

Rejoice! Sing! Dance! And dance so totally that your egos melt and disappear. Dance so totally that the dancer is no more there, but only the dance remains.

Then you will find me wherever you are.

And it has to be now a known and recognized fact
that my buddhafield
is not going to be confined to the small place
where I will be living with a few thousand sannyasins.
All the small communes, ashrams, centers all over the world
will become little buddhafields.

We have to fill the whole earth with buddhafields!

We have to create a chain of buddhafields.

And it can be done: if you can take some of my joy and some of my love and some of my laughter with you wherever you go, you will be taking the fragrance of the buddhafield there.

You will be taking seeds....

...One seed is enough to transform the whole earth into a garden."

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1. WHAT IS AN OSHO MEDITATION CENTER?

An Osho Meditation Center (OMC) is a place where sannyasins gather, Osho meditations are offered, Osho's AIDS guidelines are observed, and generally where information about Osho, His publications and tapes are available. An OMC can be in someone's home, or a separate center space. It can be big or small.

SPIRITUAL AFFILIATION

Osho says His meditation centers, ashrams, and communes are a branch of Osho Commune International, and that His institutes and schools around the world are spiritually affiliated with Osho Multiversity in Poona, India, although they all function independently and are not legally or financially connected. Regarding His meditation centers, He gives a few guidelines which are outlined in this handbook.

CENTER NAMES

In response to a question that many people were having difficulty finding Osho centers in foreign cities unless they knew the specific name of the center, Osho says to add "Osho" in front of all the centers, institutes, multiversities, etc..

He also said there is now no need for new "specific" names for new centers, just "Osho Meditation Center" will do. In addition, listing the centers in local telephone directories under the name "Osho" facilitates people finding His centers internationally.

If you have friends who are interested in opening an Osho Meditation Center or an Osho Information Center, you can show them this handbook and ask them to write to Osho Global Connections for further information. Please note that certification as a new Osho Meditation Center can only come from Osho Commune International in Poona.

BIG OR SMALL?

Osho explains to a large meditation center after He returns to Poona, "The idea now is that India should be the main focus, as a world headquarters, and we only need small contact centers around the world. The old program (large communes and centers around the world) did not work. People are stuck in them and cannot get to Poona. The new idea is for small contact centers distributing books, Osho Times International, etc., in the homes of sannyasins." He also says that our focus should not be just confined to our country, it should be international. "Now Poona is our capital and everything should be devoted to the world headquarters. Don't be disturbed about losing your big center—it will finally be helpful to you. You will be able to come here more because now you will be able to work somewhere else and earn money."

This understanding was given also for businesses and general lifestyle. Osho stresses not to leave our home country by simply closing the doors, destroying what was already set up so that we have to start all over again when we return. Rather we

can set up businesses with friends so that while one is here in Poona, the others will be running the business or center.

CENTERS - A TASTE OF POONA

Osho says to remind people visiting and participating at the centers that what is happening at the centers is just a taste of what is happening here in Poona—that so much more can happen in this Buddhafield. Osho emphasized again and again that the focus is to send people to experience His complete experiment in Poona.

"You are part of the ashram, and the ashram can survive only if you help it. We should sustain the ashram on our own, without begging for money and being dependant on outside help. So spread the news, and send others here. Create centers there, earn money for yourself, and create the desire in others to come. Then you will be helping the ashram, and the others who come through you will also help."

from Osho's message to the people in Buddhahall

ECONOMICS

Some general advice from Osho on setting up centers is that in creating His centers, we are not to create economic burdens for ourselves. Rather, we should find ways to support the centers instead of expecting the centers to support us. In this way we avoid putting ourselves and the meditation centers in a tension to survive, to "sell something" to pay the rent, or to worry where money will come from All. Osho organizations are based on meditation and contribution. Osho also suggests that centers should arrange a rotation system so that people running the centers can spend a few months each year in Poona--then there can be an exchange of people and energies.

NO NEED TO CREATE PROBLEMS

Osho says not to create problems for ourselves and to use common sense—no illegal acts. For example, if a center is in a residential area, no need to do loud meditations which disturb the neighbors or could create a legal problem, rather find other meditations or do meditations silently (as Osho directed Dynamic to be done in Buddha Hall in Poona where the catharsis and HOO! stages are done silently, using the body to express the sounds). Follow the laws of your country. For example, if a country doesn't allow words in names such as "institute" or "school" (in Germany these have specific governmental connotations), then simply use what is possible.

HIS NAME

If you feel to have activities at your center which are not along the lines that Osho has set out for His centers, please note that when this particular question was taken to Osho He said:

"It is fine for them to do whatever they want but then do not use my name."

2. WHAT IS AN OSHO INFORMATION CENTER?

Osho says that Information Centers are contacts where His books, videos, His newspaper, etc. are available, and, where people can get information about what is happening in Poona and how to get to Poona. An Osho Information Center can even be in someone's living room.

3. WHAT IS AN OSHO INSTITUTE?

Osho Institutes are spiritually affiliated with Osho Multiversity in Poona, although they function independently and are not legally or financially connected with the Multiversity.

There are a number of institutes located around the world functioning in various fields such as the fine arts, the performing arts, martial arts, bodywork, therapy etc.. As are Osho Meditation Centers, the Institutes are AIDS free and drug free zones.

For more information, contact the Chancellor's office of Osho Multiversity in Poona.

4. WHAT OSHO SAYS ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION AROUND HIM

ORGANISM

"I want a totally different thing. I call it organism, not organization.

"Organization is something outward; organism is something inward.

Organization has no center, it is only periphery.

"A machine is organized. You put different parts together in a certain order, but the machine has no soul, no center. It functions, it works, but there is nobody inside it. A machine is an organization of parts assembled in a certain order to function in a certain way.

"All organizations up to now have done that: they changed human beings into mechanical parts, cogs in the wheel. They destroyed individuality because individuality was troublesome. They destroyed intelligence, they destroyed all kinds of disobedience, so that you may be able to become a perfect part in the machine. And they respected those who became perfect parts in the machine, who simply moved according to the mechanism, who had no will of their own, no intelligence of their own, no individuality of their own.

"An organism is something like your body. It functions together, but each organ of your body has its own individuality, and there is nobody who is ruling

over it. It is not a part that you can replace.

"Organism functions in a unity, without anybody forcing the unity. And there is an innermost core--the soul--which simply supplies the energy to the whole.

"I am against organization. It has a hierarchy, it moves from the lowest to the highest in a vertical line.

"Organism is a circle, not a vertical line; no hierarchy, but a circle, and the circle has a center which is the source of energy for all, for all the organs which make the circle.

"Every living thing is an organism. Every dead thing is an organization. I would like my people to be an organism. I am working on that way and it is happening. It will take a little time for people to start feeling themselves that something strange is happening: they are functioning in tune, they are feeling responsible. Nobody is holding them responsible, nobody will condemn them for not being responsible, but suddenly they feel that's how life is more joyful, that's how life is more loving, that's how all misery, sadness, darkness, disappears.

"And that's how you become respectable, not in others' eyes, but even in your own eyes. A tremendous self-respect arises, and you are not higher and nobody is lower than you. Your self-respect makes it possible for you to respect everyone as he is."

Osho, The Last Testament, September 9, 1985 p.m.

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DEMOCRACY

"A commune gives certain responsibilities and certain freedoms. A commune is not necessarily destructive of the individual. In fact, that is the very purpose of the commune: to preserve the individual, his integrity.

"A commune is not an organization, but when thousands of people are involved, somebody has to cook, and somebody has to watch the door, and somebody has to do small things. There are people who start thinking that even doing these things is destroying their freedom. This is sheer nonsense.

"A certain responsibility is not against freedom; in fact, freedom can only exist with responsible people. Somebody has to take care of the gardens, otherwise there will be no flowers.

"[This sannyasin's] trouble may be the trouble of a few other sannyasins. It has to be made clear that a commune is not dictatorial, but it is not democratic either. It gives respect to the individual. With the respect it gives the responsibility also, that you have to be aware not to trespass on anybody, that you have contribute to the commune.

"If you are taking from the well of the commune, you have to contribute something--whatever you can do.

"When you are working with friends there should be no discussion about anything, only dialogs. There should be no need to impose anything on anybody. When intelligent people are there, they can see the reason themselves. They are not to be forced.

"But there are a few people who think licentiousness is freedom.... Licentiousness is not freedom."

Osho, The Zen Manifesto, 1989

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HIS VISION AND USE OF HIS NAME

In the following discourse excerpt, Osho talks about the Osho Times International newspaper. We have included this excerpt here because it gives an understanding from Osho about the use of His name, and it is as much true for a center or any activity conducted in His name as it is for the newspaper.

"This newspaper is certainly not an ordinary newspaper. It is not just that you are collecting news and printing it; it has a certain purpose behind it. It has a message, and you have to keep in mind that whatever you do, whatever you write, it does not go against the message. This newspaper is not a mere newspaper--it is a messenger. So you have to keep alert that it beats with my heart, that it keeps in tune with me, that it does not lose contact with my vision.

"If you simply want it to be a newspaper, then my name should be removed from it. Then you can collect all kinds of stupid things that are happening around the world: murders, suicides, wars--and certainly it will be selling better. You can make it sensa-tional, which all the newspapers of the world are doing. They don't have a vision, they don't have a message. They are only a business in search of sensation. If they can get sensation, good; if they cannot get it, then they have to create it, because it is sensation that sells. And the motive behind those

newspapers is earning. That is not the motive behind your newspaper. We are not concerned whether we sell to millions of people or not. Our concern is not sensation, but to spread the message, so anything that you can find happening in the world which supports the message, choose it. But the message remains your criterion.

"So your freedom of expression is absolutely there; but you have accepted a vision--now you have to use your ability of expression to make that vision available to as many people as possible. That will be your creativity. But if my newspaper starts writing something against my own message, and you call it freedom of expression, then you are not being a gentleman. Then you should start a newspaper of your own and use your freedom of expression. My newspaper has to be my freedom of expression, and you have to give it form, reality, relevant context.

"Your work is more difficult, because you have to constantly remember that it is not to be against my message. And my message is your message. If it goes against me, it is going against you. Freedom of expression does not mean suicide--and that will be suicidal. So you have to be alert. Then there is no need for anybody else to prevent you from doing something. But if you are not responsible, then somebody else will interfere....."

Osho, From Interviews with the World Press, October 12, 1985

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OSHO'S SANNYASINS IN THE WORLD

On the occasion of Osho's birthday in 1989, in Ise, Japan, the following message from Osho was read to open the celebration. It is a declaration to sannyasins everywhere.

"If through our meditation, love, and celebration we can create 10,000 buddhas, that will be enough to save this beautiful planet. This is a crucial moment of great responsibility and of great challenge.

"We have to create a tremendous consciousness around the globe. This is our protection against the destructive science, religions, and politics.

"Your responsibility is great, but it has to be a joy, your sharing of love, your blissfulness, aliveness, your songs, your dances.

"I want my people to be what they want to say to others.

"So be meditative, be loving, be accepting; don't be judgmental--be human, be respectful. And something will start radiating from you; you will be radiating an atmosphere full of fragrance, rich of clarity, overflowing of love.

"This is for the first time that you are required to be buddhas not just for you, but to create an atmosphere in which a third world war cannot happen.

"A wild fire has to be created around the globe of consciousness. And if you catch fire, there is no need to spread it—it will spread on its own."

Osho, Osho International Foundation

5. AIDS AND DRUGS

AIDS GUIDANCE AND THE COMMUNE

In March of 1984, Osho first gave us His guidance regarding the disease AIDS; that this disease could kill two-thirds of the world's population, and that it was time the sexual habits and sexual carelessness of the modern age ended, as the lives of almost three billion people would hang in the balance. At that time, Osho offered these solutions to us so that we could take responsibility and care for our bodies and health:

A) If you are ready and can drop sex altogether through understanding and without repression, this is the safest protection from the disease.

B) Or remain with the same partner, merge into the same partner, move more

and more into intimacy and less into sexual activity.

C) Even if you are with one partner, or if you have several partners and choose to have sex, at least make use of the scientific knowledge available: use condoms during the sex act and latex or rubber gloves during foreplay. Oral and anal sex should be completely avoided, since there is no way to protect ourselves from exposure to AIDS.

D) The final thing is to thoroughly wash yourself after any sexual exposure.

Since this time, Osho's communes and meditation centers throughout the world (including Osho Commune International in Poona) have been AIDS-free zones. All participants in groups and activities, meditators, session givers and receivers initially need current (less than one month old) AIDS tests and should be retested every three months. This is Osho's guidance to protect ourselves and His work.

In your printed material, newsletters, or center programs, it's good to put a notice

like this:

"All Osho Centers are AIDS-free and drugs-free zones, and a negative AIDS test, not older than one month, will be required upon first registration. Please bring a

certificate stating your name and the negative test result."

If the meditation center is in your home, the guidance applies for people participating in center activities. Using common sense, it's clear that there is no need to request tests from people who come for information about Osho or who wish to purchase books, tapes, etc. However, if you do offer untested people refreshments, you may like to use disposable plates and glasses, and also have a separate toilet facility if possible. Also, to create another bridge for people, occasionally you might offer an introductory evening for untested people which could include a video. For example, at Osho Commune International, there are daily one-hour tours for untested people. During these tours, people are shown the main features of the Commune but do not enter Gautama the Buddha Auditorium nor do they use the water or toilet facilities. If they are served refreshments, plastic cups are provided. A tour guide is present with the visitors at all times.

Osho's guidance for our own protection has always been to keep untested and

tested people separate.

Osho's response to a letter saying that AIDS-positive people should be allowed to visit the Commune and His centers is that "compassion and understanding have to be on both the sides. Your concern about one or two people shows a lack of understanding--the issue is to not put the life of other sannyasins in danger. The people who have AIDS-positive tests should be loving and compassionate to other people so they do not endanger the life of their family and friends." Osho asks us to make it clear that there is no desire to deprive anyone, but that AIDS-positive people should have their own places where they can live and meditate together. He suggested the creation of Osho meditation centers exclusively for AIDS-positive people.

In 1985 Osho warned, "The people who have AIDS should be segregated. They should have their own small cities, where all are suffering from AIDS--the doctors, the nurses, the patients, the scientists. If humanity functions sanely, then in remote places AIDS patients should be taken care of. Their cities should be closed cities where they cannot move around the world spreading a fatal disease. And it is out of compassion that I am saying this. Otherwise, even without nuclear weapons, humanity will be destroyed. And this destruction will be very ugly."

OSHO ON AIDS

"AIDS has nothing to do either with homosexuality or heterosexuality; to me it means humanity is simply losing its will to live. It is not inconceivable for me to say something about AIDS, although I am not a physician. But neither is the disease AIDS just a disease. It is something more, something beyond the limitations of the medical profession. As it appears to me, the disease is spiritual. It is, basically, the incapability to resist diseases. To me it means humanity is losing the will to live.

"Whenever a person loses the will to live, his resistance falls immediately, because the body follows the mind. The body is a very conservative servant of the mind. It serves the mind in a religious way. If the mind loses the will to live, it will be reflected in the body by the dropping of resistance against sickness, against death. Of course, medical researchers will never bother about the will to live--that's why I thought it better that I say something. It's going to be such an enormous problem all over the world that my insight can be of immense help.

"For while AIDS has nothing to do with either homosexuality or with heterosexuality, it certainly has something to do with sex. Why? Because the will to live is rooted in sex. If the will to live disappears, then sex will be the most vulnerable area of life to invite death. And modern man has finally come to the point where he finds that the life he is living is meaningless. He suddenly feels that he's an existential orphan and this feeling of being an existential orphan causes his will to live to disappear.

"Man is becoming mature and aware that he has been cheated by the false promises of the priests and politicians. Society has been feeding him on false hopes. The day he matures and realizes this, the desire to live falls apart. And the first thing wounded by it will be your sexuality. To me that is AIDS."

For further reading of Osho's discourses on AIDS, please see:

From Death to Deathlessness, #26
The New Dawn, #19
The Rebellious Spirit, #13
The Rajneesh Bible, Volume IV, # 26, #28
YAA-HOO! The Mystic Rose, #9
HARI OM TAT SAT, #6
The Messiah, #12, 16, 18
The Razor's Edge, #2
The Hidden Splendor, #5, 7

DRUGS

In case questions come to you about drugs, here is some of what Osho says about drugs in general, and drugs in His centers.

In some general guidance Osho has given over the years to centers, He says not to create problems for ourselves in the centers, specifically not to do anything illegal in His name. He spoke many times about taking drugs, always making it very clear for our understanding that drugs keep us asleep while meditation wakes us up.

OSHO ON DRUGS

"My understanding is that unless man finds a drug within himself, which I call ecstasy, he will go on finding some kind of drug as a substitute in the outside world. Only meditation can stop a person from taking drugs. No law can prohibit them--all laws have failed."

Osho, OM MANI PADME HUM, #9

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"I am against drugs. I have to be against drugs for the simple reason that meditation cannot grow if you are taking drugs. Drugs make you unconscious, and meditation makes you conscious. They are opposite to each other. Drugs are needed by people who are miserable, so that they can drown their misery in unconsciousness. People who are meditating don't need drugs because if they use drugs they will drown their blissfulness into unconsciousness, and that will be absolutely irrelevant, unnatural.

"Who wants to forget blissfulness? Everybody wants to forget anguish. "My whole teaching is meditation, and drugs are against it."

Osho, Socrates Poisoned Again After 25 Centuries, #15

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"I want my people to understand it absolutely that unless you become blissful on your own accord, unless your rose opens within your own being, you are just a com-

modity, just a thing, an object.

"Meditation reveals your subjectivity. Subjectivity is your consciousness, and your consciousness and its experience makes your life significant, meaningful, eternal, immortal, without any beginning and without any end. A celebration, moment to moment a dance.

"And unless you have transformed your life into a moment-to-moment dance you have missed the opportunity that existence gives you."

Osho, YAA-HOO!! The Mystic Rose, Session 30

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"Spacing out is simple. It can be done through chemical means, through alcohol, through LSD, through hashish. It is simple, because it is just a question of eating something or smoking something, and you space out--but no drug can take you in, to the real experience. Drugs are from the outside, they can take you outside—they can create a very beautiful hallucination. And once you have tasted that beautiful hallucination, then you want it more and more--because the reality is so mundane. And every time you take the drug, you have to take it in a bigger dose because your body becomes immune. A moment comes when no LSD can make any difference; your body has become completely immune....

"Spacing out is cheap; spacing in is costly. You have to pay for it by your effort—it is a real growth, it takes a little time. But it is worth, millions times more worth than anything else--because it will give you a new vision, which transforms this

ordinary world into an extraordinary ecstasy."

Osho, Light on the Path, Talks in the Himalayas, #34

© Osho International Foundation

"When you are too worried, too tense and you take to alcohol--yes, for a few hours you will forget all your worries and all your tensions, but the alcohol cannot take your worries away forever; it cannot solve them.

And while you are drowned in alcohol those worries are growing, becoming stronger; you are giving them time to grow. And when you are back the next morning with a hangover and a headache added to the worries, you will be surprised; they are bigger than when you had left them.

"Then it becomes a pattern of life: become again and again intoxicated so you can forget--but again and again you have to face your life. This is not an intelligent way

to live."

Osho, The Book of the Books Vol. V, #4

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"When one becomes absolutely centered, one is almost drunk, drunk with an inner ecstasy. Many have reported to me that when you get up after your meditation, 'We feel a little drunk.' That is a kind of drunkenness you never overcome--it becomes your very nature. You can dance, you can sing, you can rejoice. It is inexhaus-tible.

"There is no need for a man who has tasted his own inner being to take any drugs or alcohol. There is only one way to stop people from drugs and alcohol, and that is meditation--to pass through all the layers of the body and enter into a space which is no-body, no-mind. Then you are so full of contentment, so fulfilled that you don't need anything anymore. That is the function of the master--to take away all these addictions, and to make you utterly and absolutely rooted in freedom."

Osho, Zen: The Mystery and Poetry of Beyond, #3

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For further reading of Osho talking on drugs, please see:

The Messiah, Vol. 1, #23;

Om Mani Padme Hum, December 25, 1987 p.m.;

Socrates Poisoned Again After 25 Centuries, #15;

The Razor's Edge, #29;

The Rebel, #3;

Zen: The Language of Existence, #1, 2, 3;

Above All Don't Wobble

Beloved of My Heart

The Shadow of the Whip

Osho Times International, Volume 3, Number 9, May 1, 1990.

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6. CENTER ACTIVITIES

Osho Meditation Centers' most central purpose is to make available Osho meditatons and books and to offer information. Some centers also offer programs such as therapy, musical events or sessions. Centers offer a door to meditation, sannyas and a taste of Poona.

MEDITATION

When speaking of His meditation centers, Osho gives very few requirements; when people ask to be an Osho Meditation Center, one of the first questions He asks is if they have a solid base for the center where His meditations are available on a regular basis.

The five "basic" meditations are:

Dynamic

Kundalini

Nadabrahma,

Vipassana

Meeting of the Osho White Robe Brotherhood.

It would be good to offer these basic meditations in your center.

On the path of meditation, the cathartic meditations, Dynamic and Kundalini, have always been the first that Osho advises, as he especially designed them for the modern mind to throw out the garbage and taste silence.

Osho has also given many special messages about the "Meetings of the Osho White Robe Brotherhood." He says that He wants His people all over the world to sit in meditation each evening at 7 p.m. local time. For more about this meditation please see page of this section entitled "Osho White Robe Brotherhood".

Meditation Counselor Training:

There is a Meditation Counselor Training available through the Osho Academy of Meditation in Poona. It is recommended that at least one person from each center do this training, specifically the people who are involved leading the meditations in the centers. Please contact the Osho Multiversity directly for more information.

MEDITATIVE THERAPIES

Osho devised three new meditations which He called meditative therapies.

Mystic Rose Meditation: Osho asks that all His sannyasins do this meditation. He says:

"I am giving you a very fundamental technique, fresh and unused.

I have invented many meditations, but perhaps this will be the most essential and fundamental one. It can take over the whole world.

"The Mystic Rose Meditation is to become the major meditation at the ashram. It is the first major breakthrough since Vipassana 25 centuries ago. Vipassana

worked for Gautam the Buddha because he had spent 29 years in a palace enjoying everything – laughing, weeping, dancing, loving. So he had no repressions. But nobody else is in Gautam the Buddha's situation, yet for 25 centuries thousands of Buddhists have been doing Vipassana and they have simply become dry and desertlike. Even smiling is difficult for them. The problem is that witnessing alone is automatically suppressing – weeping stops when you witness it, but becomes dormant. This new meditation technique gets rid of the laughing and weeping beforehand so there is nothing left to suppress in the witnessing and the witnessing simply opens a pure sky."

Osho's guidance regarding the length of Mystic Rose Meditation in response to a question from a center wanting to shorten it is, "It should be the full three hours a day for three weeks otherwise you don't get the full effect. If there is such a limited time, you can do any other meditation; Dynamic, Kundalini, etc."

Osho's reply to someone wanting to lead the Mystic Rose Meditation without having done it himself is, "First come and do it here--the leader at least should be

experienced; otherwise something can go wrong and I am not there."

Some parents wrote about doing a parent-child group which would include the Mystic Rose. Osho said that it would be inhibiting for the children to see their parents crying.

No Mind Meditation: Although Osho was not asked specifically about the No-Mind Meditation or the Born Again Meditation, we feel sure that the same guidance about the length of the meditation applies to these meditations.

Born Again Meditation: Osho created this new meditation group which is the same length of time as the No-Mind Meditation: two hours per day for seven days.

Meditative Therapies Training: There is a special training program in which these meditations are offered through the Academy of Meditation. It is recommended for anyone teaching these meditations.

<u>Children's Meditations</u>: Osho gave these meditations for children in 1989: For children up to age 12: 10 minute gibberish, 10 minutes laughing, 10 minutes lying down.

For teenagers: 10 minutes gibberish, 10 minutes laughing, 10 minutes crying, 10 minutes lying down as if dead.

"...And children can go into meditation very easily-one just has to know to help them towards it. They cannot be coerced: that's impossible. Nobody can ever be coerced into meditation, because coercion is violence. How can one coerce meditation? It comes when it comes.

"But you can persuade. You can just invite him with tremendous respect. Dance with him, sing with him, sit in silence with him. By and by he will start imbibing it. By and by he will start enjoying the play of it. It cannot a work for him. It cannot be a serious thing for him--it should not be for anybody. It can only be a ply.

"So help him to play meditation... let it be a game."

Practical help:

All meditations are described in the books: "Meditation: The First and the Last

Freedom" and "The Orange Book"

There are audio tapes of all meditations and video tapes of some, for example "Dynamic Meditation" and "Evening Satsang with the Master" (for the 7 p.m. meditation) as well as the "Morning and Evening Meditation" The books and tapes are available from major distributors of Osho's works. Dynamic and Kundalini meditation are now also available on CD through Osho Verlag, Venloerstr. 5-7, 5000 Cologne 1, Germany.

OSHO ON MEDITATION

"Except meditation, there is no way to know yourself—in your purity, in your utter innocence, just like a mirror. But you are all vessels of the dharma, of the basic principle. You may recognize it, you may not recognize it. You are carrying it, you are pregnant with it — whether you give birth or not, that is a different matter. Just a little relaxation, just a little looking inwards, and doors of immense potentialities open up. You are no more a beggar. Without conquering the world you have conquered the whole universe.

"Just conquer yourself."

Osho, Ma Tzu--The Empty Mirror

Osho International Foundation

"I have devised a means. And the means is to be active to such an extreme that activity simply ceases; to be so madly active that the mind that is hankering to be active is thrown out of your system. Only then, after a deep catharsis, can you fall down into inactivity and have a glimpse of the world that is not the world of effort.

Once you know this world, you can move into it without any effort. Once you have the feeling of it – how to be just here and now, without doing anything – you can move into it at any moment; you can remain in it anywhere. Ultimately, you

can be outwardly active and inwardly deeply inactive.

"Cathartic methods are modern inventions. In Buddha's time they were not needed because people were not so repressed. People were natural, people lived primitive lives--uncivilized spontaneous lives. So Vipassana--vipassana means insight--was given by Buddha directly to people. But now you cannot go into Vipassana directly. And the teachers who go on teaching Vipassana directly don't belong to this century; they are two thousands years backward. Yes, sometimes they may help one or two persons out of one hundred persons, but that can't do much. I am introducing cathartic methods, so that first what the civilization has done to you can be undone, so that you become primitive again. From that primitiveness, from primal innocence, insight becomes easily available."

"Dynamic meditation is not just a catharsis. The catharsis is for creating a space for silence, peace, love, meditativeness. This is the positive side. The negative side is okay, but the purpose is to create that space.

"Dynamic is in three parts: catharsis, silence, bliss."

Osho, Meditation, The Art of Ecstasy, #3

Osho International Foundation

"The essential core, the spirit of meditation, is to learn how to witness. You are seeing a tree; you are there, the tree is there, but can't you find one thing more?—that you are seeing the tree, that there is a witness in you which is seeing you seeing the tree. The world is not divided only into the object and the subject.

"There is also something beyond both—and that beyond is meditation."

Osho, Light on the Path, #1

Osho Foundation International

In August of 1989, a sannyasin wrote to Osho about getting angry and being overly sensitive to people after a deep meditative experience. What Osho said may be helpful for you yourself, and to pass on to people who may come to you:

"When you have had a deep meditative experience a bridge is needed from the taste of nothingness to go back to work. It is a vast distance to go back and it will be different with different people. Some people can bring the experience of depth to the work and are able to work without it distracting their silence. They should be happy, their bridge is very small, but many other people find this transition difficult.

"After such an experience you should do some soft, simple work, such as cleaning, washing dishes, gardening and so on, keeping the silence. That will make the bridge.

"Or, after a single experience, such as during video or darshan, you can go to your room, listen to music or play music, or just sleep for an hour or so. Also a cold shower will help.

"The experience of nothingness is the ultimate experience but it brings its own troubles; coming back from it you should come slowly, not jump immediately into complicated work or interactions. So find some simple occupation to do, like cleaning which will cool you down."

Osho, unpublished Osho International Foundation

"You have become a sannyasin. Now it is a responsibility on you to fulfill the commitment of sannyas—and that is meditation. Without meditation there is no sannyas. It is only your pure consciousness rising upwards—slowly, slowly moving beyond the gravitation of lower things—that will make you a sannyasin.

"I can define sannyas as a flying experience to the stars....

"Don't waste your time -- because time is not money, time is life!"

OSHO WHITE ROBE BROTHERHOOD

Osho wants His people around the world to meditate at 7 p.m. (local time) each evening. He calls these music and silence meditations "Meetings of the Osho White Robe Brotherhood".

The meditation begins with about ten minutes of high-energy music, where everyone can dance or clap with great totality, punctuated with a few shouts of "Osho." Osho says the more total we are before, the deeper the silence will go in the meditation. Then follows ten minutes of three sections of music and silence ending with three drumbeats. Osho suggests we look at a video of the meditation once so we know what is happening and from then on at 7 p.m. each evening He wants people at all His centers and around the world to do this meditation. Here in Poona He is adamant that absolutely nobody leaves after the drumbeats and before the discourse. If at your center you are showing a discourse, we are sure He would say the same. Osho has given very specific guidance to the musicians here that we thought you would like to know:

Osho's Guidance for the Music of the Osho White Robe Brotherhood Meetings:

The music leading up to the silent meditation should allow people to be total in their energy, and to reach a peak. Osho says that the more total people are beforehand, the deeper will be their silence in the ten minutes.

On Screaming in Buddha Hall:

In a response to a sannyasin's question to Osho about whether he should control his desire to scream in Buddha Hall or just let go, Osho says: "It is not a question about others. You are wasting your energy in screaming. Divert it into higher going energy. Do dynamic for the cathartic energy. Don't scream—be joyous and allow the energy to move in a blissful way, so nobody is disturbed but helped."

Osho also said there should be three or four "OSHOS" before the first silent period. He has said "OSHO" is a very strong mantra that will help raise the energy.

For the ten-minute period, He suggests Indian music, veena or sitar or flute. He does not like bells and gongs. (He says these are not for making music, but for summoning people from the fields to come to the temple.) The ten minutes consist of three sections of music and silence, i.e., music silence, music silence, music silence.

Osho has given the title for the videos from the period--"Evening Satsang with the Master"--and dictated the wording for the video jackets which is reprinted on page 6-11.

In a darshan He once said: "Ultimately this commune is going to become a communion of silence. I am just preparing, and preparing fast, so that soon it can happen that you can just simply sit with me. There is no need to speak, there is no need to hear...just a meeting, a meeting beyond minds, a transmission beyond words. Something simply jumps like a flame from one lit candle to another unlit candle; the unlit candle is no more unlit. The lit candle has not lost anything and the unlit has gained a whole universe of new meaning, of new poetry, of new being."

CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNT OF EVENING MEETINGS FROM THE MANTRA SALUTE ON MARCH 18, 1988 ONWARDS

The following is a step-by-step chronological account of how the Evening Meetings in Buddha Hall evolved under Osho's guidance, to become the Meeting of the Osho White Robe Brotherhood. It consists of announcements Osho asked to be made before some of the meetings, as well as pieces taken from discourses, and comments He made in private.

March 18, 1988 First Salute:

The first prototype of the Mantra Salute, "Yaa-Hoo!." Osho later says this is the

new greeting between sannyasins all over the world.

"The significance of this Mantra Salute is the raising of the hands to the stars, indicating the longing for higher consciousness. Shouting the mantra "Yaa-Hoo!" is also a very healthy thing. It has very good vibrations. You can do it when you wake up in the morning, in the bathroom, anywhere."

April 1, 1988 A Spontaneous Let-Go:

As Osho begins to rise from His chair at the end of discourse, He suddenly raises one arm in the Yaa-Hoo! salute. He then says "Niskriya!" and slowly drops His arm, and as He drops His arm everyone falls back in a spontaneous let-go. During the let-go, there is much giggling and an occasional "Yaa-Hoo!" heard amongst us.

April 2, 1988 Let-Go Directions:

Osho tells us that:

"Yesterday your let-go was not perfect. You enjoyed it too much.

"You have to be silent. Let-go means, for one minute at least you are dead. But I saw you were enjoying being dead! This is not right. You have to correct it; otherwise you will have to do it every day!

"I saw a few people even holding up their legs. This is not let-go! Let-go is impossible--how did those legs reach up? And you were still laughing and enjoying. You destroyed the whole... so this time, unless I call you back you have to be utterly dead, no sign of life."

April 3, 1988 Understanding the Let-Go Experience:

Osho says,

"Now, before we do our let-go, two things have to be understood.

"To make the let-go really a deep and meaningful experience we will remain for two minutes completely frozen, as if dead--as you are sitting. You don't have to fall, you don't have to do anything.

"When, after two minutes, absolutely frozen--nobody is wanted or welcome to laugh; that will destroy the whole thing. You have to remain frozen and then I will tell you, 'Let go.'

"These two minutes will be gathering of the energy. These two minutes you will be almost dead. And after these two minutes, when I say, 'Let go' then you can

relax and then there is no limitation for you. Then you can laugh, you can enjoy; just don't harm anybody and just don't do anything to anybody. Whatever you want to do, do to yourself. If you want to tickle, tickle yourself, but not anybody else."

May 26, 1988 First Gibberish in Gautama the Buddha Auditorium:

Tonight Osho's establishes a new format for the nightly meditations at the end of each discourse. He appears after an illness of many days—one of several periods of weakness and ill-health He has suffered since His incarceration by the American government in 1985. He says:

"My Beloved Ones,

"I am introducing you to a new meditation. It is divided in three parts.

"The first part is gibberish. The word 'gibberish' comes from a Sufi mystic,
Jabbar. Jabbar never spoke any language, he just uttered nonsense. Still he had
thousands of disciples because what he was saying was, 'Your mind is nothing but

gibberish. Put it aside and you will have a taste of your own being.'

"To use gibberish, don't say things which are meaningful, don't use the language that you know. Use Chinese, if you don't know Chinese. Use Japanese if you don't know Japanese. Don't use German if you know German. For the first time have a freedom—the same as all the birds have. Simply allow whatever comes to your mind without bothering about its rationality, reasonability, meaning, significance—just the way the birds are doing.

"For the first part, leave language and mind aside. Out of this will arise the second part, a great silence in which you have to close your eyes and freeze your

body, all its movements, gather your energy within yourself.

"Remain here and now.

"Zen cannot be understood in any other way. This is the last part of the series Live Zen.

"In the third part I will say, let go. Then you relax your body and let it fall without any effort, without your mind controlling. Just fall like a bag of rice.

"Each segment will begin with the drum of Nivedano. Before Nivedano gives the drum, there are a few more things I have to say to you...

"I am extremely sorry that I have not been physically here for many days, but I am also extremely happy that you never missed my presence.

"I was in your heart

and I was in the wind and in the rain

and the thunder of clouds.

I was in your tears,

in your nonsense utterances...

I was absolutely present here with you-

and those who are present know it perfectly.

"I was absent only for those who themselves are absent. At least today, don't go anywhere..."

September 15, 1988 Spiritual Capital of the World:

In the discourse series The Buddha, The Emptiness of the Heart, Osho says:
"...Every night, these few moments are the most valuable moments in your life.
And every evening, when so many living buddhas gather here, this place becomes the most important in the whole world-the spiritual capital of the world. Because nowhere are so many people meditating together. Nowhere are so many people digging so deep that they can find the very life source, the eternity, the deathlessness."

April 10, 1989 Osho's Last Discourse: The Zen Manifesto: Freedom From Oneself

May 23, 1989 Silence:

On the new meetings of silence, Osho sent this message. "The Buddhafield is at a new and higher level. Osho is not speaking any more so that you can understand the silence, the world of no-words. It is part of the whole scheme to bring people to their peaks. Simply feel the silence in the commune.

Every tree will say something about Him. Every swan will say something about Him--if you just want His words then it is enough to read the books and watch the videos."

June 17, 1989 His Presence--His Absence:

Amrito speaks about Osho's presence in the commune to those gathered for the evening's video discourse:

"He asked us to remember that His presence is here, and that we should not take His absence for granted. His energy is here and He would like us to learn to feel His presence here all the time."

July 14 and 18, 1989 Osho Full Moon Celebration:

After an absence of many months, Osho comes again to Gautama the Buddha Auditorium for two evening meetings of silence and music during this Osho Full Moon Celebration. We are gathered together for the first time in white robes.

August 18, 1989 Communion of Silence:

Tonight, the first evening of three meetings with Osho in Gautama the Buddha Auditorium, Anando brings the following message from Osho: "Osho has been speaking for thirty years but very few people have got the message—they simply cling to the words. Now He wants to drop all words. What happens here in these communions is the real message—no words can convey it. So He will not be using words but sharing His being with you. So then it is up to you how deep you can go. After the whole day of meditations, groups and working, these ten minutes will be the climax.

"What words cannot express, silence can. So this is a greater opportunity than hearing Him, it is a melting. These ten minutes of silence and deeply going into yourself is equal to eternity."

The video which follows is June 7, 1988, from the series This. This. A Thousand Times This -- and it echoes it all:

"I have been speaking for thirty-five years continuously, searching for those who will understand. It has been a long search, but I have found all of you—and more around the earth—who have started to understand a little bit. But just a little bit is more than enough. Just a cup of tea, a little taste and then you can go on your own. You know the way, you have felt it. Even the bamboos are no longer commenting. When you are feeling it so solidly, there is no need for any comment. You are the very human beings on the earth today who are, at this moment, so much blessed, so much in tune with existence. This silence is just a simple proof."

August 22, 1989 Highest Peak:

Anando makes the following announcement in Gautama the Buddha Auditorium:

"The poisoning of Osho's body has weakened Him tremendously--you may not see it, because it is the source energy He is using, it has nothing to do with His body. And He is coming every evening just to give a rounded shape to your whole day's activities--your groups, meditations, cleaning, working, being creative. If He does not come He feels that the finishing touch to your whole day's work will be missed. So use those few minutes that He is with you with as much energy and delight as possible. He feels nourished by it. It is with you He forgets completely all the pains and trouble of the body. Every day you should come to the highest peak possible.

August 24, 1989 Four Layers:

Before evening darshan Anando relays the following message from Osho: "At present there are three stages of the evening meetings. The first is a wild celebration of energy mounting up to the moment Osho enters the hall and rising even higher when He is in the Hall until He sits down. As Osho sits, the music continues but everybody closes their eyes and sits in meditation and communes with Him. After ten or more minutes, three explosive drumbeats are played and celebration begins again until the music reaches its final crescendo after Osho has left."

In an additional message, Anando relays Osho's explanation of the energy process He is initiating in the darshans.

"No whistling--it is not a football match. It lowers and makes the meditation like a circus. First He thought you will understand, but it seems to be an impossible thing. But with silence you don't have to understand, just see and feel. Before (when He was speaking) programmed minds were coming in. Now there is no question of the mind. He is simply showering flowers.

"He has said that we are just at the beginning. We have really to reach heights. So put your totality into it. And don't be too serious--it should be a delight. It is really going higher. You will start feeling the changes in the ashram and seeing them in the faces. And more heights are there."

Anando continues, saying "Osho has passed on this message elucidating the energy process He is initiating:"

"Commonly people think there is only one energy in man. In fact there are four layers. The first layer is for mundane affairs--service and market, and it is enough

for that. It revives every morning if you have slept well. The second layer is a far deeper layer and it is not physical. Only a few poets and painters have come across it. But they misunderstood because they had no idea what it is, so they thought god was working through them. The third layer is very rarely used because people don't go that deep into themselves to go into the third layer. You have to exhaust the first and second, and it starts giving you new insights.

"The fourth layer is your very source of life. Mind knows nothing about it. So when you say that 'we are feeling that flowers are showering'--that is the fourth layer. And once the passage becomes more and more to the fourth layer, this is the state of a Gautama the Buddha. It is inexhaustible and eternal. In death the body and first three layers all die. Only the fourth is transferred to a new womb or an

absolute merger with the universe.

"Gurdjieff is the first man who tried to force people towards the fourth layer. But he could not succeed. I am trying a totally different method. You are not to do

anything but just be receptive. All that is done is done by me."

Anando's message continues, "Gurdjieff's method was very primitive, so people felt he was forcing them unnecessarily in futile, hard work. With Osho you never know at what point you have passed the three layers and reached the fourth.

"Whatever Osho is doing is to penetrate in a beautiful silent way, to reach the fourth layer. Once you have reached you know, and then you will understand what He is saying."

August 25, 1989 The Osho White Robe Brotherhood:

Anando brings the announcement that, "Osho has given a new name to the evening darshans with Him in Gautama the Buddha Auditorium -- the 'Osho White Robe Brotherhood'

"This brotherhood gathers together in silence, in music, sharing Osho's energy. Not a single word is uttered. Osho has said:

That which cannot be said has to be experienced. This is a great experience of getting into the inner space. Something is experienced in this gathering which no one has been able to define."

'This,' He said, 'is the highest peak of the whole day's working, meditating, or doing groups in the commune.'

"The white robes of the Brotherhood will be adorned with swan cloth emblems --the emblems are designed by Osho. Osho wears the prototype model this evening, slightly larger and more colorful than the ones we will be wearing.

"Osho has said that 'the white robe should not be used in any activities of ordinary life. There is a mystical gathering of energy into the robe. Day by day, as it becomes older, it gathers more potential. Just putting on the robe you will find yourself moving into the same space each time'."

September 12, 1989 OSHO:

Osho announces that He will be coming out again in the next few days. He says: "You will be facing a new man who will no longer be known as Rajneesh but simply as Osho."

October 89 Stop Exercises to Create Silence:

Osho entitles the videos of the Evening Meetings: "Osho White Robe Brotherhood: Stop Exercises to Create Silence." His message regarding the videos

(reprinted on each video) is:

"This videotape should not be used simply to look at, but to participate in the meditation. Watch the first few minutes, how Osho directs the energy and the Osho White Robe Brotherhood respond, then start doing it on your own. This will give you a taste of what is happening during these meetings, and will deepen your silence, enabling you to understand the discourse which follows more thoroughly. However, there is only one place to experience the real thing--Poona!"

October 15, 1989 "Yaa-Hoo!" Out, "OSHO" In:

Amrito makes the announcement that one evening a few days previously Osho had observed, "It is very difficult because everybody wants me to dance with them." He told Amrito that His arms were so sore that He started to do only the Yaa-Hoo!s instead of dancing so strongly. Then Osho added, "Tell them Yaa-Hoo! was good for training but now it should be OSHO!—and tell them to practice a few times before I arrive." Osho had asked Amrito if it was okay with sannyasins that the celebration period be shorter, and Amrito told Him he was sure it was fine with everybody.

October 21, 1989: "He is still with us:"

Amrito brings the following message from Osho:

"He wants us all not to forget what a miracle it is that He is still with us and how close we have come to not having Him with us at all. First they gave Him thallium to poison Him, and then just to be sure they have also given Him some kind of radiation--and to be completely certain they placed a bomb in the Portland jail to kill Him. Only because He arrived too early did it fail. He says that the fact that He survived all this is a far greater miracle than the resurrection of Jesus.

"He says some people there must be really surprised that He has survived these

three attempts, despite all their technology.

"His body is now free of pain except that His right arm is hurting again. We should make it a point not to put any undue strain on His body, so He is asking that we do the 'OSHO'S' without His having to raise His arms. He said that when He stops His hands, then Milarepa will take us into the 'OSHO'S'.

"Perhaps we should also make it so we don't leave it to Him to have to do all the work for the dancing. What happens is that we don't really let go until He starts dancing. In a way that is natural, but the less He has to do the better.

"He says that He is only staying here for us, for those people here and around the world who love Him, just so we can experience the same consciousness that He has. He has already enjoyed all that life can give--He is conserving what energy He has left, just for us."

October 22, 1989 OSHO Mantra:

Amrito comes with another message:

"He said that the 'OSHO' creates a good silence in us. It is a good sound, not just an address for our Beloved Master. In fact, when you go to bed at night, just repeating 'OSHO' to yourself will deepen your relaxation and your sleep. It is a mantra."

November 1989 Celebration Robes:

Osho says to Shunyo: "Bring out my celebration robes (for the Evening Meeting), because every day is a celebration."

November 9, 1989 Silence:

Osho comments: "My silence is a protest against all the hypocrisy in the world in the name of democracy. My silence is not religious, it is a protest—a protest against the hypocrites and also against those that hear but don't listen. I am no longer concerned about the world, I am only interested in my own people and I can communicate with them through my silence."

December 2, 1989 Solid Silence:

Tonight, on the way back from the Evening Meeting Osho says: "The silence is becoming so solid you can almost touch it."

December 12, 1989 Celebration:

Osho says: "The celebration went really well. It was the best celebration ever."

January 17, 1990 Watching the Video:

In response to a question that people have already seen the videos before, Osho says, "That does not matter, there are many layers and each time you will find a new layer. The discourses are not novels to read once and throw away."

January 17, 1990 Announcement on the Evening Meetings:

These are some excerpts from an announcement Amrito made in Buddha Hall before the Evening Meeting: "From today Osho is not going to be sitting with us. He will, however, come and namaste us as usual but will then leave immediately. He said to tell you that He will be continuing to meditate with us after He has left the hall, and is safely back in His room.

"So this is the arrangement, He will enter as usual. The music and the celebration will continue while He namastes us just as it has been in the past days.

"However, after He has namasted us all He will leave. Avirbhava will open the car door for Him, and Anando, Amrito and Avesh will leave to take Him home.

"We will all be here with eyes open as He namastes us, and as He leaves the podium, we will close our eyes and the first part of the music will start as usual. The musicians have been told to continue the music meditation as before.

"We will keep our eyes closed throughout the music and silence, as usual.

"At the three drum beats a few people right here at the front who have to move their cushions for the video will move, everybody else will stay where they are, in silence, while the music continues. Then almost immediately, the lights will dim, the music will fade and the video will begin.

"Osho has said that anybody who is not going to stay for the whole evening, the namaste, the music and silence, and the video, can leave now. Their names are to be taken and they will not be allowed back in. So there will be no need for anybody to move after the three drum beats. You can just stay where you are right now, except for those who are right in front of the screen, who have been given places for the video.

"He has said that from tomorrow, anybody who does not want to stay for the whole meditation, His namaste, the music and silence, and the video should not come. Without exception, He said, everybody who comes must stay till the end. Amrito, Anando, and Avesh will return to their seats as soon as they have finished their work.

"About the video He has said: 'It doesn't matter if you have seen it before, there are many layers and each time you will find a new layer."

"So, as those who normally leave to serve in the kitchens will be staying till the end of the video, you may have to wait a little longer for dinner. So you can relax, and take your time after the video.

"Finally, He said: 'Emphasize the point, that now your meditation is going to go deeper than ever.'"

ROBES

The following is Osho's guidance about wearing robes at Osho Commune International. When a question came to Him asking about wearing robes in the West, Osho suggested wearing white robes while watching videos of His discourses and darshans (7 p.m. Meetings of the Osho White Robe Brotherhood). He says maroon robes could be worn when doing His meditations, but not to make it a rule in the centers. No robes should be worn in public. Group leaders wear black only in Poona.

"The white robe should not be used in any activities of ordinary life. There is a mystical gathering of energy into the robe. Day by day, as it becomes older, it gathers more potential. Just putting on the robe you will find yourself moving into the same space each time."

"Maroon robes should be worn for meditations, courses, and workshops, and white robes should be worn for watching my videos and being in my presence, and these robes should not be used for any other purpose. This way, by and by, the robes will start creating a certain energy that will sharpen your intelligence and meditation, and give a very pure unprejudiced awareness. So remember to use these clothes only for these purposes."

(reported in Osho Times International Volume II, #17, September '89)

In early September 1989, in response to letters saying wearing robes is "going back to the past," Osho replies, "It is not going back. This is something completely new. It has nothing to do with sannyas; it is to do with the energy inside the buddhafield and the robes are only to be worn inside the campus. There is a special purpose which you might not be aware of, but it will become apparent as soon as everyone is in maroon. The maroon color joins people's energies.

People will feel it and see the difference within a few days of the whole campus wearing the robes. The robes create an energy; if 99 people are wearing the robes and one person is not, that person will suck the energy of the others."

Osho also says, "It is strictly to be understood that these robes should not be used anywhere else, or for any other purpose--that will disturb the collecting energy. When people are dressed all in one color, it creates a certain atmosphere which intensifies energy."

At one point Osho noticed individual touches appearing on our white robes. He said that He wants us to wear plain white robes--not cream, not patterned, not trimmed, or embellished in any way. He also made it clear that He wants us to wear *robes* and not just something white.

SANNYAS

Sannyas is given through The Osho Academy of Initiation at Osho Commune International, Poona. (Director General Ma Prem Zareen, Director Ma Shunyo.)

Sannyas in Poona:

For those people who are in Poona, interviews for sannyas are offered several times each week in the Osho Academy of Initiation headquarters. After an interview, arrangements are made for the Initiation Ceremony in Gautama the Buddha Auditorium. Zareen and Shunyo initiate sannyasins during this beautiful meditation, which occurs each Saturday morning.

Sannyas by Mail:

For those who are not able to visit the Osho Commune, their sannyas is available by mail. An interested person can receive the application form for sannyas either directly from Poona, or through Osho Meditation Centers. After the form is filled out, and a recent passport-type photo attached, the form is mailed to the Osho Academy of Initiation in Poona. The letter of initiation, on Osho's stationery, documents the exact date and the new name, and is sent directly to the applicant.

If the new sannyasin afterwards wants to create his or her own celebration of initiation, he or she can do so individually or in an Osho Meditation Center.

Malas:

The new initiate may want a mala and can arrange through many centers around the world to purchase one. Someone from the center (the center leader or representative) will want to know the legal name, sannyas name, and date of initiation of the person.

Osho's guidance about wearing malas is that they can be worn in the privacy of one's room while meditating.

Each meditation center needs to make arrangements with individuals who are visiting the Commune in Poona to obtain malas and then take them back to the center or contact one of the larger centers around the world who have a bulk supply. Malas are available from the Osho Academy of Initiation office at Osho Commune International.

All questions and correspondence should be sent by mail directly to the Osho Academy of Initiation, Osho Commune International, 17 Koregaon Park, Poona 411001 MS, India.

THERAPY AND TRANSFORMATION GROUPS WITHIN CENTERS

Many centers offer programs, therapy and sessions of various types. These are beautiful ways to share a taste of Poona and Osho's work. In an OMC these activities should be provided in a context of regular meditations.

What Kind of Programs to Offer:

Osho's guidance about offering full-time groups in meditation centers is that the groups should be short, i.e., weekends or week-long groups, but not longer than two weeks. Osho said that before each group, the group leader should announce, "This group is just a taste of the real thing, which is happening in the Commune in Poona."

If you are offering any of the meditative therapies which Osho Himself created (Osho Mystic Rose Meditation, No-Mind Meditation, Born Again, Reminding Yourself of the Forgotten Language of Talking to Your Mind and Body), then here is some useful information for you:

Osho's guidance regarding the length of Mystic Rose Meditation in response to a question from a center wanting to shorten it is, "It should be the full three hours a day for three weeks; otherwise you don't get the full effect. If there is such a limited time, you can do any other meditation; Dynamic, Kundalini, etc."

Osho's reply to someone wanting to lead the Mystic Rose Meditation without having done it himself is, "First come and do it here--the leader at least should be experienced; otherwise something can go wrong and I am not there."

Although Osho was not asked specifically about the No-Mind Meditation or the Born Again Meditation, we feel that the same guidance would apply to these meditation therapies.

Who Can Lead Groups at Osho Centers:

Many center leaders have asked whom they should allow to lead groups in their centers. It is always recommended to find group leaders/therapists who have been trained as Osho therapists. Osho has given a lot of understanding about the use of "therapy" within His work and over the years many self-exploration programs have been developed under His direct guidance. Osho has explained that therapy in the West "...continues to work within the mind, goes on round and round in the mind, and the East has taken steps out of the mind long before, centuries before. And what the West is searching for in the mind, the East has found beyond the mind, without any difficulty." Within Osho's vision, therapy is used to prepare the ground for meditation. "Therapy is not the end; therapy is a preparation, clearing the ground for meditation. This (His Buddhafield) is the only place in the whole world where therapy is being used as clearing the ground for a tremendous transformation from mind to no-mind." Sannyasin therapists, trained at Osho Multiversity, are best prepared to work with therapy groups in Osho Meditation Centers.

Regarding ex-sannyasin therapists, Osho has said that they should not lead groups in His meditation centers.

Non-sannyasin therapists have sometimes led groups in Osho centers. If a therapist is against Osho in any way, then please do not invite him/her to give groups or sessions at your center. Otherwise participants may feel confused and exploited. It is also important if you invite a non-sannyasin therapist, that you see that the tech-nique they offer does not go against Osho's approach. An example: Someone wrote a question to Osho; the person was participating in a group led by Frank Natale in an Osho meditation center. The group dealt with "manifesting" and "positive thinking." Osho replied to the questioner: "These groups put us in difficulties--when people come here they have to think in another way and it creates difficulty for them and for the people here. So it is best they do not happen in Osho centers."

Remember that people who come to Osho Meditation Centers come in order to establish contact with Osho and His people. They assume and trust that group leaders, healers, and bodyworkers have a close and intimate connection with Osho. If people who have no such connection are invited to lead groups or do other work in the center, then this trust is not fulfilled. Therefore it is the center leader's responsibility to select people with this understanding.

Simply insisting that each person who represents the center not only was but is a disciple of Osho, lovingly, emphatically, absolutely, will make your selection easy. Anyone who does not fit this description need not be invited because, without

Osho, what would they have to offer?

For beautiful discourses where Osho gives us an understanding of the role of therapy in His vision, please see:

The Great Pilgrimage From Here to Here, # 13 and 14 (Sagarpriya's questions), # 27 (Prasad's question).

HIS BOOKS AND TAPES/OSHO TIMES INTERNATIONAL

Osho Times International newspaper. It is best if centers have the facilities to play either audio or video tapes so people can hear His voice and/or watch Him giving discourse. Osho says that He wants us to read His books to understand His philosophy. He says that these are His last words and to read them to gain a greater understanding of what is happening to us, and keep the books to read them again from time to time. We will find new insights every time we read and we will understand more and more. As an Osho Meditation Center, it is good to have Osho's books, audiotapes, videotapes, and the newspaper available for sale. (See also "What is available from Poona.")

To find out the Distribution Center close to you see list of WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION CENTERS.

7. COMMUNICATION

YOUR CENTER LEAFLETS

Many centers have some sort of printed information about their center, its program and schedule.

This information maybe a simple flier or an elaborate catalogue. Whatever it's form the following are good to keep in mind.

- Osho likes only the best. Be as tasteful and aesthetic as possible.

- Use the full name of your center.

- When you use Osho photos or short quotes (up to 300 words) no permission is needed, but under each photo or quote the copyright should be indicated as follows:
- Osho Foundation International.
- when you use Osho quotes please indicate book title or other source.

Osho suggests that newsletters with details of local sannyas news and events could be included as a local insert in the Osho Times International or sent out as a mailer. Should you start such a newsletter, we love to receive a copy here in Poona at Osho Global Connection--in fact, we like to receive all of your printed material.

LOGOS

A meditation center once asked Osho if they could use the swan logo for the center. He said that was absolutely fine, and left it up to each center to choose whether they want to use the birds or the swan. Samples of both logos are shown on the next page.

As far as color for the "two birds" logo, you can use either gold, silver, or white for the first bird and red for the bird in the background. And for the swan logo, the dark background is a deep royal blue with silver for the swan's body and the stars.

The logos are for use by active Osho Meditation Centers as listed with Osho Global Connection. If you wish to use either of these logos for any other purpose, you need to have a written permission from the trademark owner, Osho International Foundation in Switzerland. This also applies for using Osho's signature or any likeness., e.g., photographs, sculpture, jewelry, etc.

If you wish to use the logo on a product which you are going to sell, then you need to have a Product License Agreement. Please send your legal and sannyas name, and/or the name of your business, with details of the product or publication on which you wish to use the logo, to the address below.

Osho International Foundation Rennweg 34 8001 Zurich SWITZERLAND





TELEPHONE BOOK

A good way to make the center available is to list the name and phone

number in your local telephone directory.

In the past, people have had difficulties in locating Osho's centers in unfamiliar cities unless they knew the specific name of the center, e.g., Bhagwatam Osho Meditation Center, or Purnima Osho Meditation Center.

When this issue was brought to Osho, He suggested that we change the names of all the centers so that "Osho" was first in the entire name of the center:

Osho Purnima Meditation Center.

By listing all of Osho's Meditation Centers, Institutes, and Multiversities in local phone directories under "Osho," we facilitate, on an international basis, sannyasins and seekers finding Osho's Centers.

A FEW HINTS ON ADVERTISING

Osho's Name in Group Titles:

Osho gave the guidance to Osho Multiversity in Poona that His name should be at the beginning of all groups. When advertising single workshops, the name "Osho" is always incorporated in the group title. However, when publishing a catalogue or a calendar listing many titles one after the other, instead of printing "Osho" with each group title, it can be put at the top of the calendar. For example:

JANUARY 1992 OSHO WORKSHOPS, GROUPS, TRAININGS (followed by a listing of individual groups and dates)

The Issue of Sexuality in Advertising:

It has always been difficult to get the stereotype of Osho as a "sex guru" out of people's minds. In the West, of course, sex is more naturally acceptable than in India. But still it becomes an issue, in connection with Osho. Osho has said that "...just for little things the whole work will be in trouble. In the West they can do these things but here people will just take hold of it and use it against us. Tell all the group leaders that sex should not be a permanent thing in their groups. That's what people believe, that the groups are just sex."

Another thing of relevance in this context: When asked about using the name "Sensuality" for a group, Osho replied, "No, it has connotations of sexuality. Call it 'Sensitivity'. Sensuality does not necessarily carry the element of awareness. Sensitivity is more comprehensive. In its vastness some corner of it also has the place of sensuality. But that is not the whole thing."

It is always difficult for many people to understand Osho's total acceptance of sexuality within the context of transformation into superconsciousness. Most of the "powers that be" want to push Him into one corner--let's not help them do it!

8. WHAT IS AVAILABLE FROM POONA

OSHO GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Osho Global Connections in Osho Krishna, Osho Commune International, is a "networking" service for information on Osho's vision and sannyas activities world-wide. One of its main functions is to help facilitate the connection of sannyasins and friends of Osho around the globe with the Commune in Poona, and with each other. The office is a meeting place for people arriving and departing, those already involved in Osho Centers/Institutes around the world or people who want to start something new. You can browse through the country folders, talk to someone about publishing books or opening a center, or pick up ideas on projects you may like to start in the West.

When Osho first heard about Global Connections He said to make it available for sannyasins, ex-sannyasins, friends, and lovers. He said there are many people who love Him and want to help in His work but for personal reasons are not able to actually take sannyas, so this would be helpful to them. Also, He said that many exsannyasins would also want to be part of His global community, but often they feel that they have betrayed Him by dropping sannyas and feel that they would not be welcome. Osho says there is no problem. They have not betrayed Him, just they have caused themselves some difficulty. They too should be helped to be part of His work if they wish.

Osho Global Connection offers the following activities:

Information:

Information is available about sannyas activities around the globe. It includes programs and descriptions of meditation centers, institutes, and individual sannyas happenings and is displayed in the "country folders." Also available is detailed information from sannyasins who, running a variety of successful businesses, would like to share their know-how with friends. There is information on job opportunities and living accommodations available in the sannyas community around the world.

Osho Global Connections supports people involved in activities that bring Osho's vision to the world. For example, Osho Global Connections provides useful material and contact addresses for such projects as: book and tape distribution, contacting the media, writing letters to editors of newspapers and magazines, translating Osho's books, voicing over Osho's videos in foreign languages, distributing Osho Times International, etc. If you have information you would like to make available to others regarding Osho's vision in the world, ways Osho's vision is being included in any type of work in the marketplace, sannyasin centers, institutes, businesses, creative ideas, etc., please either mail it to Osho Global Connections, Osho Commune International, 17 Koregaon Park, Poona 411 001 (MS) India, or send via the Osho Network to node 91/22.

Each year in January there is an Osho Global Connections Conference for all people involved in Osho's vision for sharing ideas and experiences.

To keep the communication flowing Osho Global Connections stays in contact with Osho Links. A link is a person who is primarily in Poona and has regular contact with a center, sannyas business or other Osho organizations. The links help with sharing news and being a contact in Poona for center needs: e.g. sending malas, finding out about copyrights etc.

The Database:

Osho specifically asks us to "keep the names of all the people who come here," that "some of these people will be useful to the work", and to "find a way to help people stay in touch after they have gone." The database is one way that we can stay in contact with people who have enthusiasm and credentials to help with His work.

Country Meetings:

Osho Global Connections organizes meetings of sannyasins and friends from specific countries. These meetings are to help people meet each other, share some of the worldwide sannyas and Osho-related news, generate new creative activities, and to help sannyasins involved with Osho's work.

Osho Now distribution

Global Connection sends the latest edition of Osho Now to the most active centers. They are also available to individuals and all other centers through the Osho Now News distributors. (see list in the back)

Professional Networks

In response to growing interests from sannyasins and others in certain work and professional areas, Osho Global Connections has established three networks: Academic, Health, and Management. Others, such as creative arts or legal, might start soon if the interest is there.

Each section has a package of introductory materials, applications, and address list of members.

The Academic Network:

This network consists of academics, educators, psychologists, teachers, writers, and artists. Apart from supporting one another and creating an easy way of meeting and working together, the network seeks to identify all the universities/centers/ institutes currently using Osho's work for courses and programs.

In July 1990, the first conference was organized by the Academic section, in conjunction with the Osho Multiversity. It was the "1st International Conference on Education for the 21st Century" and was attended by over 80 people from many different countries. One comment from many participants was that they experienced a bridging of the gap--they experienced ways to incorporate Osho into their work. Proceedings of the Conference are available at Global Connections.

The Academic Network is involved in building up the a database which includes information on: universities which use Osho books and meditations in courses; books which have been published mentioning Osho and His work; people presenting Osho's meditations, books, or videos in conferences or educational institutions, etc. The Academic Network is also interested in testimonials regarding Osho and His work.

The Health Network:

The Health Section of Osho Global Connections evolved out of the growing interest in the sannyasin community involved in expressing Osho's vision as it relates to health. This section provides an opportunity for people everywhere to see how their "health" issues are clarified by Osho's vision.

In 1991 the health Network held its first conference - Osho Conference for Health and Ecology for a 21st Century. The theme was the role of meditation in healing relations and the effect of meditation on the environment/ecology. Conference proceedings are available.

The Management Network:

The Management Network is composed of management consultants, trainers, and business and professional people who are interested in combining the material and spiritual in the marketplace.

This Network held the Osho International Conference "The New Man in

Business and the Professions".

AMBASSADORS OF OSHO

"...now we are appointing ambassadors in every country, somebody who represents me to the news media, conducts camps, takes care of what is going on in those countries, against me or for me, and informs me."

Osho, Joshu The Lion's Roar, #2

Osho International Foundation

In the few weeks before Osho left His body, He made it clear that the international aspect of His vision is very important. He has appointed ambassadors in many countries to communicate with influential members of society. Ambassadors are people who are known and respected by the general public in their various fields. Some ambassadors are doctors, therapists, publishers, communicators, educators, performing artists, etc., and because of their role in society, they have the opportunity and ability to communicate to a large spectrum of people.

The work of ambassadors and the work of centers are sometimes interdependent in that they may work together in some cases on specific issues that will be covered in the media such as book fairs, international seminars, special events. Centers and Osho's ambassadors can work together at many different levels. If, for instance, the media are asking for a spokesperson on sannyas, the meditation center can always

contact the ambassador for their country.

Similarly, if various people ask an ambassador how they can experience Osho's meditations and see His videos, then the ambassador would naturally put them in touch with the centers. In other cases the ambassador may need the help of other sannyasins for research, for special skills, or perhaps for their input in particular projects, and vice versa.

We would very much like to know about current and upcoming projects in the different countries, so that we can let the worldwide sannyas community know through Osho Global Connections, the computer network, and Osho Times International, the scope and energy with which His vision is spreading.

There is a list of Ambassadors in the back.

DISTRIBUTION ADVICE

Osho's books are just that--Osho's books. He chooses the subjects and speaks the words that make up the books. He coins the titles, He chooses the photos and artwork for the covers and the insides, and the color and placement of the title lettering. He selects the sizes of the books, and used to supervise every stage of their production. He was constantly coming up with ideas for new books, and in fact was still giving instructions for revamps of some of His older works on the day He left His body.

So He leaves us a tremendous legacy with His books--not just the amazing words He spoke, but a beauty of quality that comes from His own personal care of all the details of the books' production. For example, He has always insisted on the highest-quality hardbound editions of His books, even when the "experts" said that paperbacks were the future. He says His books are not novels to be read once and then thrown away. They are to be read over and over again, because there are so many layers that people will find new insights each time they read.

Since He stopped speaking in April 1989, Osho has said consistently that He wants people to buy and read His books--that they are His last words. He even sent a message to the group leaders that they should use His books in their groups for people to gain a greater understanding of what is happening there.

And He said that after He left His body His books would become even more popular--and this is seen in the sales reports from distributors around the world.

Book Distribution:

Anyone can become a distributor of Osho's books. Contact:

Osho Verlag Venloer Str. 5-7 5000 Cologne 1 GERMANY

Tel: 49-221-574 0742 Fax: 49-221-523 930 Telex: 8/881 366 rjtrd OshoNet: 49/53

Discount for centers is available.

A catalog is available of the complete works of Osho in English. This illustrated catalog, which has a description of each book, can be purchased from Osho Verlag in Cologne (send 3,50 DM per copy in an international money order).

For more information contact Osho Verlag in Cologne, or Osho Publications in Poona (computer node 91/16).

Audio/Video Distribution:

With both audio and video, it is possible to buy either:

prerecorded tapes to sell, or

master tapes to reproduce (duplicate) copies in your country.

You need master tapes (and not prerecorded tapes) if

a) you want to reproduce and sell or circulate your own copies

b) you want to broadcast any audio or video recordings.

Special "Broadcast Agreements" are needed from Osho International Foundation if you wish to broadcast any of the tapes.

A few helpful things to bear in mind:

To reproduce your own copies, you need duplication equipment and the time and expertise to maintain the equipment, or you can arrange for a commercial

duplication company to do the high-quality work for you.

Take time to consider your market; for example, if you sell 300 meditation tapes per year and 100 each of the current music tapes, but only one each of the audio discourses, it might make sense to reproduce music and meditation tapes yourself, but buy prerecorded audio discourses.

If you are interested only in prerecorded tapes, you can order them through your local distributor, or from Osho Verlag in Cologne (Venloerstr. 5-7, 5000 Köln 1, Germany). Tapes are available also in Poona but cannot be mail-ordered from there.

If you are interested in getting master tape recordings because you or your center want to become an audio/video distributor, write for contract information to:

Osho International Foundation Rennweg 34 8001 Zürich SWITZERLAND

If you are interested in getting master tape recordings for broadcast use, please

write to the above address for a copy of the "Broadcast Agreement."

TAO MUSIC is a new company based in Munich producing high-quality tapes and compact discs of selected meditations of Osho and new music of His sannyasins "From the World of Osho." They also produce music from individual sannyas musicians and bands. To order Tao Music productions, please contact Osho Verlag at the above address. Tapes and CDs are available to centers and other distributors at usual whole sale discounts.

Osho's Words Mixed over Music:

Osho is always very clear that He does not like His words to be mixed over music. He says that the music is a distraction from His words and from His silences between the words.

So, following Osho's guidance, OIF does not allow compilations to be made of Osho's words mixed with or over music. And it is not possible to make compilations using Osho's words on audio/video tapes without prior written approval from OIF. (See section entitled "Taking Excerpts from Osho's Discourses.")

For any further information, write OIF in Switzerland.

Photographs:

Currently Photo Services of Osho Commune International are in the process of reorganizing the stock negatives which will be available for reprinting and sale.

At Osho Commune International, all Osho Meditation Centers, Multiversities, and Institutes can purchase photos and enlargements of Osho for their centers at reduced prices. Please stop by Osho Global Connections, Osho Krishna, for authorization.

There is a list of worldwide distribution centers in the back.

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

Publishing Osho's Books in Other Languages:

Osho International Foundation (OIF) in Switzerland holds the copyrights for all Osho's works. If you wish to publish one of Osho's books in a foreign language, write to OIF for contract details. Also, before you begin to translate any book, let OIF know so they can give you a Translation Permission Agreement and the Translation Guidelines. The Agreement will ensure that you are not translating a book that is already being worked on by somebody else, and it will give you priority for the right to publish that book. Once a book has been translated, OIF will request to see a sample chapter of the work before granting permission to publish.

If you wish to offer a title to an outside (nonsannyasin) publisher, we are including a few points you may need to know. (If you do not feel confident discussing contracts, it is better to ask the publisher to write to OIF for details.)

OIF's standard "Book Publishing Agreement" is a "no-royalty" contract. The publisher does not pay any royalties on the book but agrees to use an equivalent amount, i.e., not less than 7 percent of the retail price of the books sold, for promoting the book.

OIF retains all copyrights, including the copyright on translations.

The front cover of the book must have a picture of Osho and His name. OIF will provide an approved photo/slide for the cover of the book. You can choose a slide

from the wide range specially selected by Osho for this purpose.

Osho has said that wherever possible He would like His people to design the cover, as outside publishers often do not make such a beautiful job. In certain languages, we can now offer a full translation/design/typesetting service, where the publisher can pay us for any or all of these services and our prices are very competitive (prices available on request).

If the book is taken up by a literary agent who will then present it to publishers, they can receive the normal agent's fee, e.g., 10-15 percent of the normal royalty figure, direct from the publishers. This is, of course, negotiable depending on the

country, agent, etc.

If you require any further information, please write to OIF.

Quotes

If you wish to use a quote from one of Osho's books in a publication, such as a newsletter, thesis, magazine article, etc., please note the following international copyright laws:

(1) If it is a short quote (less than 300 words) you simply need to acknowledge:

Osho

Source (e.g., from The True Sage)

© Osho International Foundation

The quote must not be edited in any way.

(2) If the quote is over 300 words, you will need a Reprint Permission from:

Osho International Foundation Rennweg 34 8001 Zurich SWITZERLAND

Please write the following information to Osho International Foundation (address above): Legal name/name of publishing company, title(s) of book(s) from which you wish to quote, page references, language of publication, form of publication, (newsletter, booklet, etc.) and provisional title of publication.

Taking Excerpts from Osho's Discourses:

Osho always has been very reluctant to allow any editing of His words. When the compilation books were being prepared He kept reminding us to check that whole pieces were being used, and not sections lifted out of their full context.

When it comes to the question of editing His words for use on commercial tapes, for example the CBS compilations, He only agreed because CBS could not produce tapes longer than 60 minutes. He said that we should make sure that the minimum editing happens, and that only whole answers to questions or complete discourses are used.

Similarly, when the question of editing videos arose to make short tapes for the USA market, He again says we should make sure to use only whole answers to questions. He says we can change the question but not the answer.

Finally, when He heard that the musicians had added a piece of Him speaking about five fingers to their "Five Fingers" music tape, He said that there was no need, it was unnecessary.

So, to summarize, it is not possible to use Osho's voice on any audio or video tape without permission of Osho International Foundation, and OIF will not grant permission for Osho's voice to be used in any edited form.

Dubbing Osho's Words:

On dubbing His words, Osho says, "It is better to do dubbing than subtitling because with subtitling your eyes are distracted. But if it is a particular custom in a country to do subtitling, then it is fine." Also Osho says that His voice should be left on the background and the dubbing should be done in such a manner that the silent gaps remain as they are. The dubbing can go over Osho's original words so that the silence is allowed to remain silence.

OSHO MULTIVERSITY

Osho Multiversity in Poona is the world's largest center for the transformation of consciousness. It consists of many faculties, each retaining its own unique flavor:

OSHO MEDITATION ACADEMY

OSHO CENTER FOR TRANSFORMATION

OSHO INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF HEALING ARTS

OSHO SCHOOL OF MYSTICISM

OSHO SCHOOL OF CREATIVE ARTS

OSHO SCHOOL OF ZEN MARTIAL ARTS

OSHO FACULTY FOR LIBERATION

OSHO SCHOOL FOR CENTERING

OSHO INSTITUTE FOR TIBETAN PULSING HEALING

OSHO ACADEMY OF ZEN SPORTS AND FITNESS

In speaking of the Multiversity Osho has said, "All kinds of spiritual dimensions that man has explored should be allowed, whether you agree with them or not. The function is to bring all climates and all flavors together." He added that the Multiversity is not in any way in competition with other educational institutions: "It is exploring that which no university is exploring. It explores all that which ordinary universities and educational systems don't provide." Explaining His choice of the name "Multiversity" Osho said, "In the past when they thought there was only one universe, then 'university' seemed appropriate. But now, with the possibility that there are many universes, then 'Multiversity' is better!"

The Multiversity offers a myriad of trainings, courses, workshops, classes, seminars, events, and individual sessions. All programs are conducted in the English language and translators are available. Experienced counselors will help participants make the best program choice for their stay.

Information and Advance Registration for Poona Travelers:

The up-to-date calendar of Osho Multiversity programs for the coming months is published in "The Buddhafield Presents" supplement to the Osho Times International. Program counseling and advance registration are also available through the Poona Information and Booking Centers listed in the pack. Advance registration is possible for most programs. However, some of the processes have prerequisites and/or require an interview with faculty staff upon arrival. In any case, we recommend that participants arrive at least one week prior to the beginning of their Multiversity program.

OSHO TIMES INTERNATIONAL

One of the first things that Osho set in motion when He returned to Poona in 1987, was to ask for an international newspaper called Osho Times International. He said that all the sannyasin papers, newsletters, and magazines which were being published around the world should merge into this one international paper, written and produced in Poona with contributions from all over the world, and that it should be translated, published, and distributed in as many languages and countries as possible.

Giving guidance to the editors of the paper, Osho says:

"This newspaper is certainly not an ordinary newspaper. It is not just that you are collecting news and printing it; it has a certain purpose behind it... It is a messenger. So you have to keep alert that it beats with my heart, that it keeps in tune with me, that it does not lose contact with my vision."

The Osho Times International is now printed in English, Hindi, Tamil, Italian, Japanese, German, Polish (sometimes), Portuguese, and Yugoslavian.

Over the following years Osho gave continual input and guidance for the Osho Times International. He saw every page of every issue and He loved to see the foreign editions also. Invariably He would comment, "This is going really good," and He would inquire about the number of subscriptions.

When people asked about printing gossips or local news in the paper that would only be of interest in their own country and not internationally, He said: No, the paper should only carry items that are of interest to sannyasins worldwide but in each country they can produce a small newsletter called "Yes Osho" which should be inserted in the copies of the Osho Times sold in that country. "Yes Osho" could carry items of local news and it could also carry local advertisements to help finance its publication and the distribution of the Osho Times in that country.

If you would like to contribute articles, news, photographs, etc. to the newspaper, please submit your material to Tao Publishing Pvt. Ltd., 50 Koregaon Park, Poona 411 001 MS, India.

Please subscribe through your nearest distributor. See list in the back. Special discounts available for bulk orders of 5 or more.

PRESS OFFICE

The Press Office at Osho Commune International is currently situated in Osho Mirdad. It provides press kits, press releases, photographs and slides of Osho and the commune, videos on Osho and His work in various languages, videos or selected film footage in broadcast quality, updated articles on Osho and the commune life, discourses, quotations by Osho on a variety of subjects and press archive information from 1974 to the present.

This information and service is available to centers and individuals around the world that are in contact with newspapers, magazines, radio and television and wish to supply the media with material for publication and broadcast.

Working with media:

Sannyasins who are interested in working with the media are invited to make contact with reporters and editors in their area, to send them material, and to coordinate their activities with the Poona press office.

Stories picked up by the media can vary from "local" stories relating to the activities of sannyasins in a particular area -- i.e. the opening of a new meditation center -- to biographical stories about Osho complete with quotations and photographs.

Press clippings:

Sannyasins are encouraged to collect press clippings about Osho and His sannyasins and meditation in general and to send these to the Press Office at Osho Commune International.

Osho suggests that every article which mentions Him or His people should be responded to by His sannyasins. If it is a positive article a letter of appreciation should b written, and, if it is a negative article a letter should be written dealing point by point with all the inaccuracies and refuting their false conclusions.

Sannyasins are also encouraged to collect clippings from nationwide scandals, events opinions etc. or to synopsize these stories so the Poona Press Office can make press releases sharing Osho's insight on these topics. Since press releases need to come out as quickly as possible on international events, please send this information immediately (computer network, node number 91/19 or fax).

You can further help the Commune's press releases to be printed in your country by sending them to local newspapers and newspapers.

Letters to the editor:

Another creative outlet for publicizing Osho is writing letters to the press ("letters to the editor") about His methods of meditation, His vision of the New Man and His insights into the causes of the world's problems, particularly in relation to subjects that the papers have recently covered.

Articles on Osho:

Contacting magazines and suggesting they publish articles about Osho is another useful way of helping to get His vision into the media. Our staff writers in Poona can supply any article which you think is interesting for a particular publication or you can write it yourself.

They also can supply subject related quotes and discourses by Osho via the search program of the computer database which contains most of Osho's books.

Public Relations with the Media

When asked about allowing press into therapy groups (whether for writing or filming purposes) Osho tells us to be very aware with the press, particularly as far as therapy groups are concerned (whether for writing or filming purposes). When He speaks of this He mentions two aspects:

- a. To protect people's privacy when they are going through a transformative process,
- b. The people may look weird to outsiders and this can be used out of context to give false picture. He stresses that whenever the press come, to be sure that the people are well dressed and look good, and reflect Him and His vision. He always stresses grace and beauty.

As a matter of policy the OMV here never allows the press to film in groups. For certain processes where it is felt appropriate (i.e. certain types of martial arts, meditation groups, etc.), as an exception filming has been allowed but in those cases a special set-up is done outside of the normal group process. That means participants are selected, rooms specially set up; dress, visual impact and activities carefully prepared.

For any more information please contact Osho Commune International, Press Office 17 Koregaon Park, Poona 411 001, Tel. 0091-212-660963, Fax: 91-212-664181, Telex 081-145-474-LOVIN, Computer Node 91/19.

9. VISITING OSHO COMMUNE INTERNATIONAL

Osho Commune International, Poona, is the international headquarters of all of Osho's work and gathering places of Osho's sannyasins from around the world. Osho describes that in Poona are the roots of His work and the work around the globe are the branches. He encourages people to come to Poona as often as they can – and for centers to offer a taste of Poona and then encourage people to visit the Commune.

Following are the dates of the five annual Osho Celebrations celebrated at Osho Commune International and at Osho Centers around the world.

December 7-11 Osho Birthday Celebration
January 15-19 Osho Celebration

March 17-21 Osho Enlightenment Day Celebration

July Osho Full Moon Celebration

(Dates are the full moon day of each July

and the four days preceding the full moon day)

September 4-8 Mahaparinirvana Celebration

POONA GUIDE

In planning a trip to Poona, The Poona Guide is very useful.

The *Poona Guide* is a pocket-sized handbook full of information on how to get to Poona, housing, local customs, restaurants, etc., as well as information about Osho Commune International. It conveniently answers most questions that first-time travelers to Poona have and it's a good idea to have copies available at the centers. The *Poona Guide* is available at the Osho Bookstore in Poona as well as the major distributors of Osho's works throughout the world.

This booklet is reprinted annually to ensure, as much as possible, that the information is current. Any ideas or suggestions for the *Poona Guide* can be sent by computer message to Lao Tzu node 91/14, or by mail to Osho Global Connections, Osho Commune International.

VISA REGULATIONS

The visa regulations of India for foreign visitors are as follows:

Visas can only be issued--and this is without exception--by Indian embassies and consulates abroad.

Depending on the country the embassy is in, tourist visas are at present issued for a stay of three or six months.

Extension of stay beyond the visa period can be granted upon registration with the police in India, but only up to a total period of stay of 180 days (six months). This means for a three-month visa one extension of three months can be granted upon registration.

No extension beyond the 180-day period of stay can be given by any travel agency or government office without offending the visa laws relating to the foreign

visitors to India.

AIDS-TEST REQUIREMENTS

Everyone visiting the Commune in Poona needs to present a negative AIDS-test certificate no older than one month upon first registration.

New AIDS Policy - April 1991

The HIV-virus has now reached India and is becoming increasingly common elsewhere in the world. To be valid inside the Commune all new AIDS tests need to be both HIV-1 and HIV-2 negative from a laboratory and issued in the legal name within the last month.

Everybody coming to the Commune via Goa will require a new AIDS test on arrival at the Commune, and two further tests (after 4 weeks and 12 weeks). This policy also applies to people in India returning to Poona from a trip to Goa.

MINORS VISITING OSHO COMMUNE INTERNATIONAL:

When visiting Poona, it is not recommended that you bring young children with you. Please note that children under the age of 12 can only visit the Commune between 1 and 2 p.m. each day for lunch, and must be accompanied by a parent or other adult.

Children under the legal adult age of 18 need to be accompanied either by one

parent or a legal guardian in order to register.

As do all visitors to Osho Commune International, children of any age need to

show a negative AIDS test certificate upon registration.

Sometimes there is a day-care facility arranged by parents in Poona. This is a separate and independent entity from the Commune. The Commune does not take responsibility for children. Anyone under the age of 18 is solely the responsibility of his or her parents.

Osho's guidance regarding minors and schooling is, "Western children should

go to school in the West."

Children Participating in Groups:

Osho says about children doing groups that

"It is okay for children under 16 years of age to join dance, mime groups. Always see that the parents are willing. Massage is okay, or generally things which are more playful. Mystic Rose and No-Mind are fine."

Some parents wrote about doing a parent-child group which would include the Mystic Rose. Osho said that it would be inhibiting for the children to see their parents crying.

A Message to all Teenagers:

Presented with reports indicating that teenagers in the West are swamped with deepening feelings of futility about the future of the planet, Osho responded:

"This situation always happens when problems are so big and complicated that the individual simply feels impotent to do anything. Then obviously for him the present is the only moment--who knows about the next? These teenagers can be turned into a revolutionary spirit--with the feeling that it is not only we, it has always been so, and if you don't care about the future, don't care, just care about the present. The future is in nobody's hands—that is an old idea from the past. At this peak point of complexity, if people don't get involved in the moment, not bothering about the future, they will go mad or commit suicide.

"This is my message to all these teenagers around the world--the next moment has always been uncertain. It was a false belief created by religions that you can change the future, you can go to heaven, or to hell. There is no god, no heaven, and no hell. Make the most that you can of the present moment."

Osho, November 1989, Osho Times International

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10. LISTS AND ADDRESSES

Addresses in the Commune

Osho Global Connections Osho Commune International 17, Koregaon Park, 411001 Poona (MS), India

To contact other departments in the commune please exchange the first line of this address with e.g.:
Osho Times International
Osho Academy of Initiation

Or to contact a person you write e.g.: Sw. Deva Coconut c/o Osho Commune International 17, Koregaon Park, 411001 Poona (MS), India

For Copyrights please contact:

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Osho Meditation and Mystery School Commune P.O. Box 1097 Fremantle, WA 6160 Australia

Tel: 61(9)430 5509 Fax: 61(9)335 3531

Europe:

Osho Risk Meditation Center Boegballevej 3 8740 Braedstrup, Denmark Tel: 45(75)752 500 (6-8 pm) OshoNet: 45/10

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OshoNet: 39/90

Osho Now Distributors

Osho Now

Osho Now was previously known as Osho Now News.

Osho Now is a video magazine produced regularly and recorded at Osho Commune International in Poona. It shows in visuals the activities and latest from the Commune.

Osho Now is available on a subscription basis from the following distributors outside India:

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