

P.O. Box 10  
Ragneipuram  
Oregon 97741

25<sup>th</sup> July 1983.

To whom it may concern.

My name is Elaine Caulker. I am also known as Ma Prem Smita. I have spent the last fourteen years travelling around the world, teaching English as a foreign language. I am also qualified as a Teacher Trainer of English and have spent many years working with university graduates who have decided to go into this field.

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh came into my life in 1973, while I was a student teacher, desperately trying to understand what the learning process was all about, all too aware that I had spent fifteen years being educated and had learned very little in that time. I somehow or other had to create an environment in which students would actually wish to learn a new language rather than just reproduce it parrot-fashion, in a short amount of time.

At first I had no idea that deciding to become a follower of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh would affect my work as a teacher and was amazed, and very grateful, as time went by, to see how this was affected. First of all, I stopped comparing my students and their need to compare their progress was greatly reduced. I began to care for each one individually. There was no competitive element in the classroom. They were encouraged to be playful with the new language and to create learning situations

for themselves. My own anxiety to succeed, to 'be good' diminished and this meant that I did not pressure them to go my way, rather I followed theirs. The results were fantastic. All this happened, as far as I am concerned, as a direct result of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. I had studied the works of other educational experts but no-one unravelled the knots or was as clear as Bhagwan. The others groped, Bhagwan was obviously 'there', with his supreme understanding of the Human Being. And this is only one tiny area in the field of Education. Can you imagine the results if his ideas were allowed to permeate on a world level. If students of all ages were allowed to be intelligent, to enjoy their work, if each one was appreciated for his or her own unique creativity.

And now, it is possible to see the effects of Bhagwan's ideas on education, here, in Rajneeshpuram. He no longer gives us spoken directives but it is clear, living in his presence, how his ideas can be put into practice. Each worker here is treated with utmost consideration. Each one is encouraged to be creative, intelligent, playful. There is no comparison, no competition. There is no success, so no failure either. In fact, the quality of work has become so transformed, it is now called 'worship'.

Rajneeshpuram is a large classroom and the results are astounding. Every aspect of learning here is alive and flourishing. The 'students' are extending themselves as nowhere else in the world. Two years ago, in fact, three years ago, Rajneeshpuram was dead land, in the middle of nowhere. Because the people here are learning

living Paradise. And we are happy. Incredibly happy because we can live and learn in the presence of our beloved Master.

It would be wonderful if others, whether followers of Bhagwan or not, could benefit from his presence here. A man like him is a gift for the whole world. Not just a tiny section of it. And our world needs as many gifts as possible.

Yours sincerely,  
Ma Prem Smitā.