

23 July 1983

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in support of the visa application of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh (Mohan Chandra), a person of exceptional ability in the art of medicine, and a truly valuable asset to this country.

First I must provide some background for the reader, to express how I have witnessed and experienced personally the exceptional which this man radiates in every moment I have known him and have been with him. My training is in science and in medicine - graduate Harvard Medical School 1971, after obtaining a bachelor's degree in chemistry, cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, in 1966 from University of Washington.

I entered my formal medical education as a scientist, and left bearing the realization that extraordinary medical skill is as much an art as it is science. Common parlance vaguely recognizes this art quality as "bedside manner." As much as my scientist side rebels against it, I find the term 'healing' to be a more accurate label for the quality, the exceptional physician carries.

Few individuals during the early years of my medical training bore any trace of this quality of 'healer', but as I became more aware that the quality existed, and how it resided within me, I found I was encountering it more frequently. At first I met it only in medical doctors. Later I noticed other health practitioners with glimmers of this quality, and once I began private practice in 1974 (after post graduate training in psychiatry) I observed brief and occasional healing episodes in my relationships with patients.

In 1975, I learned of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh from two patients who, though themselves uninvolved with Rajneesh work, felt I would find him of interest. A year later I visited India, and became a sanghasin. Returning to America, I resumed my general medical practice until a year ago when I recognized the gift and opportunity to live with Bhagwan in the new ranch community in Oregon, and moved there.

This 'healer' quality I have come to value and have sought to nourish is unfamiliar to most physicians, never spoken about in formal medical training, and at times looks mystical. It is, from my point of view, the central impulse granting the practitioner skill, and is not confined within boundaries of physiology and psychiatry. Of all the individuals in whom I have perceived this quality, Bhagwan is the prime example and its most eloquent expression.

What sort of wounds does this quality cure? What sort of illness is brought to an end by this healing? What type of disease fades before this quality? My impression & observation is: most conditions for which individuals seek medical help respond. The afflicted are lightened of their burdens. Bodily conditions come into perspective and cease to consume their hosts. Emotional problems release their grip. Mental difficulties dissolve. In short, healing is relief.

Without formal medical training, Bhagwan heals, without medicines, Bhagwan heals. And now without the spoken word, Bhagwan heals. Much has been said about Bhagwan's silence. I have experienced his presence while he gave public discourses, and for the past years while he has been publicly silent. This Master of Healing has not stopped his work since the silence; if anything, the healing is deeper.

Let me explain. During the discourse phase, individual

involvement was more superficial. There was an attitude of 'OK, I'll be in this for a while; then I'll take a vacation.' Discourses had the effect of announcing 'This (discourse) is when healing will occur.' Now, any moment, healing is available. And the community around Bhagwan seems to be amplifying and sustaining this quality. Bhagwan is playing the instrument that is this community. Its music is here called the Buddhafield. And as this Musician-Physician continues to tune more finely this instrument, its music, its medicine, its meditation will bring healing to more and more people. This is what makes this community and its work so 'juicy'. The healing is happening here, the healing that every day doctors everywhere see they are incapable of accomplishing.

All this explains to me why health professionals make up such a significant proportion of Bhagwan's sanghasins. Of those in my last community interested in Bhagwan's work, at least a third were medical doctors or psychologists. And here at Rajneeshpuram, professionals are abundant.

My wish to be here, stay here, is to soak up this blessing of Bhagwan's presence. Here, this healing is called Presence. And each day as Bhagwan passes slowly in front of rows of sanghasins awaiting his drive through the community, a moment of personal contact is available which no medium can convey.

Months ago I wrote a brief note in which I stated that wherever Bhagwan goes the people of the land there will be blessed. This blessing is his exceptional gift to us, here, in Rajneeshpuram, in Oregon, in America. And the miracle of the exceptional Bhagwan brings is that it evokes the same in those who contact it. We cannot afford to close our doors to this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Sri. Ravindra aka RHTeo MD