

July 22, 1983
Rajneeshpuram, OR

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to attest that in my opinion Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh is without question a man of exceptional ability in Arts & Sciences.

I have a BA degree in the field of philosophy from the University of New Hampshire. In addition, I completed two years of graduate work towards a Masters degree in Folklore & Ethnomusicology at Indiana University and in 1973 was awarded a fellowship to the Doctoral program in Philosophy, also at Indiana University.

My contact with Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh's work through volumes of his published religious discourses convinced me that he is a man of genius whose teachings are utterly awesome in their scope and their depth. His comprehension of both the eastern and western world view and perspective and his incredible synthesizing vision place him high in the ranks of the world's most notable thinkers. In fact, in my opinion he surpasses most of them in the sheer breadth of his knowledge and in the subtlety of his understanding. No matter what one's personal agreements or disagreements with his views, there can simply be no doubt that the quality of his work is remarkable and outstanding on a world-wide basis.

For the past two years I have been a resident of Rajneeshpuram, where Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh currently lives. As you must be aware he no longer gives discourses as he did in the past, but this in no way diminishes his stature. In fact, in my professional opinion, the weakness of philosophy is that it talks always about man and about life. Bhagwan's work goes far beyond that and he is far more than a philosopher. He is indeed a spiritual master and his work is guiding his disciples into the experience of that about which he has talked for so long, into going beyond the realm of ideas into the real adventure of spiritual life. Bhagwan himself has quoted Wittgenstein's philosophical statement - a radical statement within the field of philosophy - that about that which we cannot talk we should remain silent. He, in this ultimate & silent phase of his work, lives this truth and provides an inspiration to his disciples to walk the same road. As powerful as his discourses were, his silence is even more powerful, and this silent phase of his work he had been preparing his disciples for for years. The spiritual journey of which he has so long spoken, the synthesis of the strengths of the east and west, the blending of meditation with daily life, is more than ever happening for those who live near him. Those of us lucky enough to

live in his presence, can all attest that we do & are experiencing a real transformation in the quality of our lives. Though many of us were drawn initially, as I was, by the amazing knowledge and genius of Bhagwan's discourses, by the incomparable quality of his mind, the work he is doing now through his silence is far and away more incredible and more potent. Through his silent presence we discover in ourselves an undreamed of capacity for creation and productivity, for living a life full of energy, harmony & joy.

Bhagwan's vision for the potential of mankind is here & now becoming a concrete reality, and the ability to inspire us to move from words & thoughts and visions about life to the actual creation of a new way of being makes him even more unique and extraordinary. This experiment of his which inspires so many to a life so rich, so concretely creative, so harmonious, so full of laughter must be of urgent interest to any intelligent human being. It is obvious that our country can only benefit from welcoming a person of such tremendous intelligence, of such contemporary vision, and penetrating insight. We simply cannot afford to turn away such a potent spiritual force, a teacher of such stature & genius.

Sincerely,

Ma Prem Sujato