

I am a graduate of Rice University in Houston, Texas. I have a B.A. in history and English literature, 1971. I have taught public school in Houston, Texas and Albuquerque, New Mexico. I have also owned and run various businesses including a restaurant and bakery. I have extensively traveled all over the world and worked in many foreign countries. I feel I have seen much of what people are looking for in their lives from all these experiences. This also helped me to realize what I was looking for.

During the fall of 1975 I was traveling in India and came to hear about a famous Indian teacher. He had written over 300 books explaining in modern terms what great religious teachers and philosophers had said for the past 5,000 years. He had also developed meditation techniques suited for our time. Ones which would release tensions created by the environment we were creating in our cities and generally in our lives.

I went to Bhegwan's ashram in Poona and found all of this and much more. By experiencing His meditations and listening to His lectures I experienced something I never knew existed. I started seeing myself change. I became more relaxed, more accepting of myself, more accepting of others, and more open to exploring my life. I took sannyas in December.

Since that time I have constantly been involved in Rajneesh centers and programs. This has become a way of life for me. From my education and work experiences I was looking for a way of life where I would realize my full potential and feel at home within myself. This has been what has been happening to me. It is by His meditations and His teachings that this change has been possible. Before meeting Bhegwan I saw so many friends and associates simply resigning to life. The opposite became true for myself after taking sannyas. The possibility of life always being a mystery and adventure became a reality. What I have experienced from being around Him is that he brings

out everyone's potential to live creatively and lovingly with themselves and those around them. The experience of sitting silently with Him is really difficult. It is like being totally related and aware of everything around you in a nonjudgmental way and at the same time being surrounded by waves of love.

This experience is what drew 15,000 people to sit silently with Him this summer. This in itself would justify calling Bhagwan a person of exceptional ability. But to also realize the positive impact economically of this event and the fact these people come from all over the world to be in the middle of central Oregon ^{adds} _{to it.} Each person left loving themselves and others a bit more. Surely America can appreciate and allow room for someone who can bring people together in this way each year.

this category in my opinion is too small for this man. So to justify it seems absurd. The art of living is created here for more people than has ever been created before.

In science he has created a new psychology
and techniques for mental health far
beyond their time. So the category
is easily filled.

Ma Deva Rikta
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