

Rajneeshpuram
PO Box 10
Oregon 97741

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am an American citizen who is a disciple of religious teacher Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh - and very glad to be able to be near him, involved in this religious community, as well as be here in my own country. I am also grateful that the fruits of his work, through his disciples' creativity, can be contributing to this country which I love. And so I appeal on behalf of all involved that Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh be granted permanent residency in America.

It is clear that the Rajneesh community's new and innovative approaches in land use and ecology, and in the field of psychotherapy, have made big contributions to growth and well-being here, and provided example for others to be more adventurous and creative. But what I wish to speak about is my own experience in my field as a creative artist.

I am a dancer who studied mainly at the University of Wisconsin, and then went to study different styles and approaches to dance in various places in the U.S., mainly New York City, Salt Lake City and Chicago. I was still studying when I became a disciple of Bhagwan, (he was residing in India at the time) and so I stayed in the States for a long time to continue this. When I had the very strong feeling to go to India to meet him, I went for 6 months and returned to Chicago and continued working with dance. While in India, I studied no formal dance, but I danced every day, made and listened to music, worked in the Rajneesh commune and meditated. Bhagwan did speak to me about dance, but it was not the words; it was his presence and the environment of the commune; my connection with him and with the disciples working together around him, that gave me a very deep, new, alive, inspiration. Now I had something to dance about! When I returned to the US and resumed studying dance, a new flowering started. I felt different, my work was different, and others noticed the expansion. I was asked to perform in dance concerts given by other artists and teachers who had city grants to do choreography.

I also started working on choreography myself, traveling and teaching dance in various growth centers. I realized that something had been released in my creativity that had nothing to do with any classes or formal training.

I could offer many beautiful quotes from Bhagwan's lectures on dance, on art, on creativity, but I wish to emphasize once more, it is not the words. It is the living presence of this exceptional man, and the love of the people who have gathered around him, which has the potential to really sway the course of humanity away from fear and war, and towards a new awakening and sharing. Please take an intelligent look at this case; it will make a big difference to everyone in America.

EXHIBIT "A-675"

I sincerely thank you,

Ma Prem Maneesha

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