

Swami Krishna Deva
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July 27, 1983

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am writing this letter on behalf of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and his application for permanent residence in the United States.

I am an expert in the field of psychology. Some of my background includes:

1. B.S. - University of Southern California
2. M.A. - Lone Mountain College
3. Ph.D. Coursework - The Fielding Institute
4. Ph.D. R.I.M.U.
5. Training at Moiens Institute of Psychodrama
6. Training at Chicago Institute of Psychodrama
7. Director - Beverlywood After Care Center (Adult schizophrenics)
8. Founder - The Family Home - Residential care for teenagers - 2 years
9. Staff Therapist - Antinela Valley Drug and Alcohol Abuse Center
10. Memorial Hospital - Family Counselor - cancer patients
11. Teacher - Santa Monica City College - Handicapped students
12. Private practice
13. Therapist - Poona - Individual Counselling, Hypnotherapy, Bodywork Group - Bioenergetics, Encounter, Psychodrama Centering

Until the time I was introduced to Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and his teachings I had all that academic and Humanistic Psychology movement had to offer. Los Angeles, where I lived and worked, was full of the latest techniques in therapy. Upon reading the first of 45 of Bhagwan's titled writings my work in the field of psychology immediately was transformed. At first it seemed strange, that an L.A. therapist, in the middle of the frontier of the latest psychological innovations, should have his eyes opened by an Indian Master who had never been to the West. It was clear that Bhagwan had something far more than an intellectual understanding of western Psychology. He had totally surpassed those who are the founders of western psychology, from Freud to Jung to Adler to Maslow. He had more than merely integrated or synthesized what these geniuses had accomplished. Bhagwan had clearly developed his own unique approach to the psychology of man, a practical approach, an approach He called the Psychology of the Buddhas.

In my own way I used this approach in my work as a psychologist during the year before I went to visit Bhagwan in India. After being three years in India and working as a Rajneesh therapist, I came to work at Rancho Rajneesh in Oregon, about July 26, 1981. In Oregon I divided my time between work as a psychologist and work as a representative of the commune to government agencies.

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It was our small community which invited Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh to visit, and then to stay at Rancho Rajneesh. I could never express my surprise and joy at learning that he would accept this invitation. The difference his presence has made in this community is immense, as is the way he has continued to express his genius in the field of psychology through his loving silence.

To me Bhagwan's equation of love and therapy is perhaps the most radical 'technique' of the hundreds I have studied and used over the years. This view of therapy is well documented in his teachings. And it is this love that is the important and essential element of Bhagwan's presence on this ranch.

Through his loving silence Bhagwan is transforming thousands of people who have experienced him in Darshan and Satsang. He continues to teach those who are in the field of psychology by this example and through his presence.

This innovation alone has made Bhagwan, in my opinion, stand out as a unique genius in the field of psychology. Of course, this genius is not limited to psychology alone. In addition, Bhagwan has been available, through his personal secretary, to give more individual spiritual guidance as he answers letters.

Bhagwan is also an inspiration, and his presence here has accentuated this fact. There are many studies on the "Burnout Syndrome". The community which Bhagwan inspires surpasses anyone's expectations as they work seven days a week, 12 hours a day, year after year. The psychological and spiritual potential that Bhagwan makes possible in those around him is truly amazing.

Without a doubt, America is fortunate that Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh has chosen to stay here. We Americans should feel honored at the possibility of such a one remaining with us in this country.

Swami Krishna Deva

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Swami Krishna Deva". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.