

July 2 1983

Swami Prem Avinash
(Jack Katz)
P.O. Box 10
Rajneeshpuram
OR. 97741

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am writing this letter to testify that in my view Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh is a man of exceptional ability worthy of being granted permanent residency in this country.

I enclose my resume as part of my testimony and wish to say that I have been a disciple of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh since March 1975.

In terms of my professional life, one of the most important effects of Bhagwan's teaching is a radical attitudinal change related to work and creativity or artistry.

Since work becomes an opportunity for meditation/worship done with love and awareness and not competitively and with attachment to end product, it becomes a joyful absorbing experience in itself and not a substitute for other needs. I am still astonished by the depth and intensity with which I am able to work.

From the end of 1980 I have been associated with different Rajneesh centers in California until coming here about a year ago. Since my arrival I have been involved directly in all aspects of planning and construction of the physical infrastructure of the community of Rajneeshpuram. Like all sannyasins my relationship to Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh is an intensely personal one which deepens the more I am in his presence and if anything, is intensified by his silence. There is from my observation a qualitative difference in the productivity and creativity of myself and other sannyasins when in Bhagwan's "presence". It is this inspiration that has in my view contributed more than anything to the speed, efficiency and quality with which this community has grown. No other project I have ever worked on has managed to cut through so clearly and efficiently all the difficulties and obstacles that bog down projects of this nature in other situations, one does not realize how many barriers to progress are created by competitiveness, jealousy, greed etc.

In the past year we have constructed almost 200,000 sq feet of buildings of various scales, have spent roughly \$5,000,000 on materials for these, constructed and reconstructed 6 miles of road including surfacing. Also a dam with a reservoir of some 360,000,000 gallons of water. A lagoon type sewage treatment facility, numerous agricultural projects and experiments. Plus organized and enjoyed two trouble-free well attended international festivals which were safely constructed and taken down. All this with almost 80%

"unskilled" labour force.

It is my submission that in this time of growing chaos, economic depression and declining productivity, not only is Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh a man of exceptional ability, but that his extraordinary teachings go beyond religion and will have far reaching effects on scientific thought and all areas of the arts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sw. Prem Avinash". The signature is fluid and extends across the width of the text area.

Swami Prem Avinash

B. 9 August, 1937, South Africa

SUMMARY

Over 18 years experience in design and production, co-ordinating and supervising projects from inception through final implementation in the fields of Architecture, City Planning, Graphics and Interior Design in USA, India and England. Co-founder, Production manager and art director for national mail order/wholesale small business. Experienced owner/partner of small businesses including London-based design studio, silk screen printing works, toy and fine musical instrument making. Gourmet/health cook, carpenter, craftsman, and community planner. B.Arch., Dipl. UD&CP (AA London).

EXPERIENCE 1980 Avinash Design, Bellevue, Washington.
Sole proprietor, design practice.

1977-79 Rajneesh Foundation/Rajneesh International University, Poona, India
Appointed Chairman of the Faculty of Commune Living, 1979;
Project leader for Commune Research & Development Unit -- team of multi-disciplined professionals -- responsible for design and construction of prototype housing for a religious community.

June '76
-Dec '77 Geetam Rajneesh Sannyas Ashram, Lucerne Valley, California.
Co-founder/Board of Directors, non-profit human development center on 70 acres of high desert, S.Cal. Main responsibility for management and development of organization; Art Director for promotion; staff functions included design, construction, and large group catering. This center continues to be a flourishing, continually expanding and successful self-supporting organization to this day.

Founding team/manager "Tape of the Moment" - the organizations national mail order and wholesale business producing and marketing cassette tapes and records. Art Director/Productions manager. Business Co-manager. Operation started from scratch, in less than 1 year became a profitable enterprise and is now main financial base for center/fulltime staff of 10.

Jack Katz Resume cont'd

- 1975-77 Natraj, London/USA
Owner/partner of small London-based (later USA-based) business making fine handcrafted and unique musical instruments for professional musicians under co. name "Natraj" culminating in Renwick Gallery's ongoing exhibit 'The Harmonious Craft' at the Smithsonian Institute. Washington, D.C. 1977-1981.
- 1974-75 Dark Horse Records, London/Los Angeles
(Personal record company of George Harrison)
Art Director with sole responsibility for development of logo and corporate image; launching of new record company and supervision of first three album covers.
- 1969-75 Oooz Design, London, England
Founder/owner/partner of design group -- graphics, industrial and exhibition design, architecture and interior design -- projects from \$100,000 to \$1 million:

Manufacturing and printing processes
Packaging
Exhibition design
Housing
Urban renewal and conservation
Negotiation and administration of construction contracts
Supervision of works in progress
Design and production of educational tools
- 1967-69 Tom Hancock Associates, London, England
Planners & Architects
Project leader, Central Business Redevelopment Area responsible for design and implementation.
- 1962-69 Ted Levy, Benjamin & Partners, London
Associate Partner, responsible for commercial and housing projects from \$100,000 to \$1 mil; Junior partner with main responsibility for design and development of projects and production of documentation to client and planning authorities.

EDUCATION

Dipl. UD&CP, Architectural Association, London, England.
B. Arch., University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, 1961.

PERSONAL

43, married, one child.
a.k.a. Swami Prem Avinash.