

7/17/1983

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am a graduate of the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. I am a Bachelor of Arts, graduating with Honours in a double-major course of Philosophy and Drama, in 1975.

My deep interest in Philosophy lead me along many paths before I came across the writings of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. Frankly, I was amazed not only by Bhagwan's knowledge of the full spectrum of philosophers and philosophies but also by his method of accepting everything that other philosophers have asserted, expanding their viewpoint and eventually transcending it. His knowledge and understanding are incredible, he can quote from Wittgenstein to Sartre to Sophocles, to Kierkegaard, all in one paragraph. His own philosophies are drawn from every possible tradition, never rejecting, always finding the gem of inspiration in any philosopher's writing. I feel that Bhagwan's philosophy often comes close to the works of Wittgenstein ..... in essence, they are saying that Truth cannot be expressed, it can only be experienced .... and the more intensely we commit ourselves to experience, to life ... then the closer we come to Truth, to God.

Bhagwan transcends philosophy, not by rejecting it but by pointing out its limitations and going beyond them into the fields of humanistic psychology, the arts, poetry and religion. Even a superficial reading of any of the over 300 books which Bhagwan has given to the world, will give the reader a feeling for the breadth and depth of Bhagwan's vision, knowledge and insight. His books have been translated into many languages and are distributed all over the world ..... in this way Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh has made a profound and immensely valuable contribution to mankind. His affect on mankind should be recognized and appreciated.

My wife and myself are presently residing in Rajneeshpuram and were fortunate to participate in the Second Annual World Celebration of Rajneeshpuram, attended by over 13,000 followers of Bhagwan from all over the world. This festival gave me a glimpse of Bhagwan's influence on the world.

America/.....

America is a country renowned for its religious tolerance so I feel that religious discrimination should not cloud your vision ..... in and of itself, Bhagwan's contribution to the fields of philosophy, humanistic psychology, the arts and religion is phenomenal. Bhagwan should be encouraged to stay in this country, where he can continue his work and continue to further his cause of inspiring and uplifting humanity. He is truly a genius and should be assisted in His work.

In this matter I am concerned  
and remain,

Yours Truly,

*Swami Deva Madyapa*

Swami Deva Madyapa  
(Paul Francis Bedson)