

Ma Pura Dhyano

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To Whom it may concern:

I am a 36 year old woman, teacher, and mother, and am presently living and working in Rainestpuram for the summer. The course of events in my life which have led me to being here began in my youthful teens with my search for truth and a way to help other human beings. Having grown up a Catholic the obvious way for me to do this was to join a religious order where I studied to be a nun, taking many courses in religion and philosophy, and later expanding my studies in preparation for becoming a teacher. At this time I attended Dominican College in Houston, Texas, from the period of Sept. 1964 to Apr, 1968. Finding too much hypocrisy in this very inflexible and outdated religious organization, I left the convent after almost 4 years and returned to California where I continued my studies at California State College at Long Beach, following a more humanistic philosophy and emphasizing psychology and sociology in my program of studies. During this period I worked as a volunteer at juvenile hall and at a large mental institution. In June of 1970 I graduated from CSLB with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. In September of 1970 I was accepted into a Master's Degree Program called "Teacher Corps" which would combine social work and teaching in an innovative program designed to train teachers to teach in culturally and economically deprived pockets of the U.S.A. Following this 2 year experience of teaching in a poor Black area of Las Vegas, Nevada and studying at University of Nevada, Las Vegas, I graduated with honors as a member of the New Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, a Society whose purpose is to encourage high professional intellectual and personal standards and to recognize outstanding contributions to education. This was in June of 1972. I felt with this experience I had come closer to finding some truth in life and how I could genuinely serve my fellow human beings, yet something was still missing. I began a seven year search and exploration in which I traveled all over the U.S.A, worked many different types of jobs all over the country, married and had a baby, separated from my husband and eventually ended up looking deep within for the answers that none of my previous attempts at looking for it



on the outside had satisfied. In 1979 I went back to school taking many self-awareness and <sup>personal</sup> growth classes, including "Death and Dying," "interpersonal Communications" and "Body Awareness." It was in one of these classes that I first heard of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and in that same class experienced his writings and the "Dynamic Meditation." In all my years of searching my experience was so deep and moving that I knew at last my search had ended, or really - just begun. Since then Bhagwan has dramatically influenced the whole way that I live, and in particular how I relate to those I work with in my profession (the children I teach) and more recently in my job as an in-home carer of stroke patients. I feel that my contact with Bhagwan has been an experience of coming in contact with a tremendous source of healing for me personally, and that therefore the way I give to others is of much more value than it ever was before. By healing, I mean he has helped me learn to live life in a fuller way, to drop much of the misery and put my energy into love, life and laughter rather than into negativity. It is like, in contact with Bhagwan, all the unhealthy and sick parts of myself don't get energy, or are released, and what is alive and healthy flourishes. Being a much more alive and dynamic person, I am able to overflow with this joy and life into the lives of those I work with, and give them a real experience of something valuable rather than, in the case of the children, just filling them with facts and words. In working with the stroke patients one of the most important assets in their recovery is a positive outlook and the ability to have the courage to make the best of whatever they are able to do and build on this, rather than feeling self-pity for what they can't do. I have found that the positive, life oriented attitude I have been filled with through Bhagwan has been an inspiration to those who've experienced a stroke and the resulting limitations it's brought them. Bhagwan has given me something more valuable than all those years of college, travelling and searching; he has been my most valuable teacher of all.

During the previous festival held here in July, I saw and felt with 15,000 people as they celebrated in Bhagwan's presence. Their joy in living and the fullness of their lives is a living testimony of how Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh has affected their lives. From doctors and lawyers to housewives and students, all have received something from Bhagwan that has changed their lives in an extraordinary way. What these people carry away with them can only enhance their creative endeavours in the world and add to the quality of whatever work they will do.

This will serve to heighten the quality of our country on both a cultural and economic level, as well as promote the general well being of all whose lives they touch.

For all these reasons I wholeheartedly support Bhagwan Akru Rajesh in being recognized as a person of exceptional ability in the Arts and Sciences, for that he truly is. I know you cannot help but recognize this too if you will look at him with an open mind and heart, for he is truly one of the most extraordinary men of our times.

Yours Sincerely,  
Nancy Kenta  
(Ma Pura Dhyano)