

27 July 1987

TO WHOM IT CONCERNS:

I AM WRITING TO YOU CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF AN IMMIGRANT VISA FOR MY SPIRITUAL MASTER, BHAGWAN SHREE RAJNEESH.

I SPENT MANY YEARS SEARCHING THROUGH VARIOUS SPIRITUAL SCHOOLS, LOOKING FOR SOMETHING WHICH, I FELT, WAS MISSING FROM MY LIFE. DURING THIS TIME, I WAS WORKING IN VARIOUS RESTAURANTS, SO THAT, ALTHOUGH I WAS FINE ON THE MATERIAL LEVEL, I WAS STILL DISSATISFIED WITH THE DIRECTION OF MY LIFE, I.E., I HAD NO DIRECTION, NO MEANING.

FINALLY, A BOOKSTORE CLERK PUT ME ONTO A BOOK CALLED "THE MUSTARD SEED." IT CONTAINED SEVERAL DISCOURSES BY BHAGWAN ON SOME SAYINGS OF JESUS. AFTER ABOUT TWO CHAPTERS, THERE WAS SOMETHING INSIDE ME WHICH SAID "THIS IS IT!" AFTER READING A COUPLE MORE OF HIS BOOKS, I DECIDED THAT I MUST GO TO INDIA TO SEE HIM, TO BE WITH HIM.

PERHAPS YOU CAN IMAGINE MY DISSAPPOINTMENT WHEN I LEARNED THAT HE HAD GONE INTO SILENCE AND WAS LEAVING INDIA. I WAS CRUSHED, I FELT THAT I HAD COMPLETELY MISSED MY ONLY CHANCE TO GROW SPIRITUALLY, THAT THE ONLY DOOR FOR ME HAD JUST SLAMMED SHUT. YET, SOMENOW, HE KEPT CALLING TO ME. I KEPT BEING PULLED TOWARD HIM, TOWARD HIS ENERGY, EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE HE WAS. I BECAME INVOLVED WITH A RAJNEESH MEDITATION CENTER IN CALIFORNIA. I TOOK SANNYAS AND BECAME MORE ACTIVE WITH THE CENTER. ALL DURING THIS TIME, HE WAS SUBTLY WORKING ON ME. I WAS BECOMING SOFTER, LESS SERIOUS, MORE OPEN WITH PEOPLE. MY LIFE WAS TURNING TO A NEW DIRECTION AND TAKING ON MEANING.

THEN I GOT THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME TO RAJNEESH PURAM, TO WORK IN HIS COMMUNE. THIS WAY OF LIFE IS SOMETHING I'D DREAMED ABOUT FOR AT LEAST 10 YEARS; WORKING TO-GETHER, SHARING, ETC. BUT THAT IS ONLY ON THE OUTSIDE. AND I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING HERE WITH US AT "THE RANCH", BUT SOMETHING ELSE IS HAPPENING TO ME HERE - THE CHANGING, THE OPENING UP, THE GROWING SELF-AWARENESS IS SO STRONG HERE JUST BY BEING NEAR HIM, THAT IT SEEMS THAT HE ISN'T SILENT; HE'S ACTUALLY SCREAMING, LOUD ENOUGH FOR THE WHOLE WORLD TO HEAR.

HE ALWAYS SAID IN HIS LECTURES THAT HIS WORDS WERE ONLY A DEVICE TO HELP US HERE HIS SILENCE AND THAT THIS SILENCE WOULD BE THE ULTIMATE PHASE OF HIS WORK.

YES, HE IS A RELIGIOUS WORKER, AND HIS WORK IS JUST BEGINNING. I'M CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL SEE THIS AND GRANT HIM A VISA. THAT WILL BE A GREAT MOMENT FOR AMERICA, RELIGION, FREEDOM, AND ALL OF MANKIND.

WITH LOVE,

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