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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

My experience as a clergyman in the Church of England has been very varied - down-town parish priest, missionary and, finally, 18 years in two British Universities. My undergraduate and post-graduate studies in Anthropology, psychology and theology have naturally drawn me into the field of Comparative Religion, and it is in this area that I first came into contact with the works of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

There is no doubt in my mind that the vast religious and mystical understanding of this man is one of the world's greatest riches today. And the more widespread his influence becomes, the more will Christian and Buddhist, Moslem, Hindu and Jew come to understand and value what is common in all their religious traditions. I have never heard anyone so beautifully and playfully integrate and then dissolve the philosophical, religious and psychological problems which, for generations, have sapped our human energies.

The next great theological leap forward can only come from the insights of an enlightened man. I believe that in the shape of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh this man is now among us - striving to be heard. In the field of comparative religion his words are so outrageous and yet so devastating in their simple truthfulness,

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that I have introduced several of his books into the college library and made them recommended reading for many of my students.

The cobwebs of old thought patterns can only be torn away by such a hand as this. At a critical time in history this remarkable man has become absolutely necessary to the new spiritual direction mankind must take if it hopes to survive.

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh is no exception to the general rule that "a prophet has no honour in his own country", for he is so full of controversy and contradictions that it is hopeless to attempt to place him in any familiar theological category. But I believe him to be a uniquely gifted person whose vision is vastly beyond my ability to describe.

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