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7/26/83

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I CAME TO KNOW BHAGWAN SHREE RAJNEESH IN INDIA IN 1975. AFTER GRADUATING FROM MARIST COLLEGE Poughkeepsie, N.Y. IN 1972 WITH A B.A. (CUM LAUDE) IN AMERICAN STUDIES, I SET OUT TO "SEE THE WORLD". SOUTH AMERICA, SOUTH EAST ASIA, THE FAR EAST, EUROPE THE INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT ALL BECAME FAMILIAR TO ME OVER A TEN YEAR PERIOD. I TAUGHT ENGLISH AS A SECONDARY LANGUAGE FROM LAOS TO COLOMBIA AND EARNED TWO DEGREES OF BLACK BELT KARATE IN JAPAN. IN ALL MY TRAVELS, ALL I'VE SEEN AND EXPLORED IN MYSELF AND THE WORLD, ALL THE PEOPLE I'VE MET, TAUGHT AND BEEN TAUGHT BY, THERE IS ONE MAN THAT HAS SHOWN THE BRIGHTEST, SPOKE THE TRUTH, MOVED ME THE MOST, THAT MAN IS BHAGWAN.

I LIVED WITH BHAGWAN IN INDIA. I'M LIVING WITH HIM NOW. I'VE HAD CLOSE PERSONAL CONTACT WITH HIM OFTEN OVER THE YEARS. FOR ME HIS LIFE IS AN

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EXAMPLE. EVERY GESTURE, LOOK, ACTION HOLDS A REAL AND PROFOUND MEANING FOR ME. I'VE HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH PERSONAL CONTACT WITH HIM TO KNOW HE IS NEEDED HERE IN AMERICA. AMERICA, THE COUNTRY I STUDIED ABOUT FOR FOUR YEARS IN COLLEGE, THE COUNTRY I'VE GROWN UP IN AND HAVE COME TO APPRECIATE BECAUSE I'VE SEEN SO MUCH TO COMPARE IT TO.

BHAGWAN'S VISION OF THE NEW MAN, HIS UNDERSTANDING OF HIM, HIS LOVE OF HIM, HIS UNIQUE AND DELICATE SYNTHESIS OF ALL MAJOR RELIGIONS CAN ONLY ENHANCE AMERICA'S PRESTIGE, WORLD IMAGE AND GROWTH. AMERICA, OF ALL THE COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD, THE "MELTING POT" OF CULTURES, IDEALS, RELIGION IS THE OBVIOUS PLACE FOR BHAGWAN.

BHAGWAN SHREE RAJNEESH IS A RELIGIOUS LEADER KNOWN IN EVERY PART OF THE WORLD THAT I'VE BEEN IN. PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN REACHED BY BHAGWAN THROUGH HIS BOOKS AND DISCOURSES ARE MANY AND CONTINUE TO GROW DAILY. I HOPE AND PRAY HE'LL BE ABLE TO REMAIN IN AMERICA, WHERE I FEEL HIS PRESENCE WILL BE THE MOST BENEFICIAL TO THE WORLD.

SINCERELY
Sri Chaitanyamanda