

Chattan
Lot 2 Nbla Rd,
Gryere
Australia.

July 17, 1983.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you as a journalist of 20 years standing, much of it as an executive journalist with The Australian, this country's national daily newspaper. I have been a columnist, a political writer, a special writer, news editor, chief sub-editor, bureau chief and editor.

When I first came into contact with Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh I was on special assignment in Perth, completing an investigation of the eastern religious cults and their effect on the youth of this country.

My credentials as a dyed-in-the-wool cynic and detector of frauds, quackery, chicanery and bullshit were, I believe, impeccable. I subjected the disciples of this man to a lengthy and rigorous examination. I pored over the teachings of their master, and read the criticisms levelled against him. Everything I had learned in journalism told me that this man could not be genuine.

At the end of that examination I was left with the overwhelming conclusion that Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh was the most remarkable man I had ever had contact with, and his disciples, however misguided and over-enthusiastic some of them appeared, were among the most truly happy people I had ever met.

That conclusion activated a San Andreas fault in my life. Part of me fell into the Pacific and the other started wearing orange clothes. This man has enriched my life immeasurably, and I have seen his influence bring to others great peace and transcendent joy.

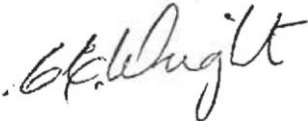
He has given to me much greater insight and infinitely more compassion which has made it possible to practise my career more honestly and with greater wisdom. My spiritual life, which was, when I met him, extinct, has flourished under his guidance. To describe him as one of the world's greatest religious teachers is an understatement. He has breathed on the embers of religion

as most of us know it, and brought forth a flame.

That flame, which has flickered in India, is now burning much more brightly in the United States, where it is available so much more readily to those, who like myself are searching for something without even being aware of it.

If he is forced to leave the United States your country, and indeed the western world, will lose an opportunity that through the ages has rarely been available.

Yours sincerely,



(Swami Jivan Prabhakar)

(Charles E. Wright)