

10 July 1983

To whom it may concern:

I wish to put on record my professional opinion as an applied ecologist with experience in environmental conservation as to Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh's outstanding contribution as a scientist and as a spiritual leader. So that the reader may judge my right to such a professional opinion, I am providing the attached brief statement about my career and achievements. These facts are sufficient to show that I am an experienced applied ecologist with international experience and reputation, and that I have the right to express my professional support for him.

(1) Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh has inspired an experiment in reestablishing a rational, balanced conservation and exploitation of a heavily overgrazed, semidesert habitat which had previously been allowed to fall into ecological wasteland and agriculturally unproductive land. The whole strategy implemented so far shows a deep concern to re-establish exploitation through recreating ecological conditions destroyed by previous unsound, and quite usual, ranching practice. I sympathize totally with this approach. It is identical to that which I have used in trying to strengthen Kuwaiti fisheries.

(2) I have been deeply concerned as a scientist with the irrational situation which arises when science develops faster than man's sense of responsibility to the environment. In a dialogue with Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh (in his book, Be Still and Know, p. 2-16, published by Rajneesh Foundation, 1981) he answers my fundamental worry: how to be a scientist and yet how to be truly constructive, and how to reconcile sciences and arts. His answer is, without any doubt, the only sound, constructive answer to come from a man who both understands science, and who is a spiritually enlightened being. Bhagwan's answer satisfied me as a scientist, as well as reconciling science with spiritual truth. This is a unique achievement: no other scientist has ever achieved this. So far scientists have failed to allow this spiritual dimension to enter their work. It is Bhagwan's genius that he has done this.



C. P. Mathews

C. P. Matthews - Biographical Summary

I hold a BSc (Hons.) from Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania, and a D.Phil. (Zoology) from the University of Oxford (England). I have worked as an Expert in Fisheries for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and as a Biological Oceanographer for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural organization. I was also chairman of the Department of Fisheries Oceanography in the Autonomous University of Baja California. I am presently the Project Leader of the Fisheries Management and the Shrimp Fisheries Management Projects, which I have started from scratch at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait (Arabian Gulf), I have been responsible during my career for assessing the fish stocks (demersal) of the Gulf of California creating a fisheries capability at a university at Baja, California and finally for establishing the only viable fisheries and oceanography programs in the Arabian Gulf. My projects provide advice as to the optimum sustainable yield and the general stock management policies for Kuwait and the Indian Ocean Committee of the Food and Agricultural Organization has extended these to the whole Gulf. Recently, I have been part of a team responsible for assessing the ecological impact upon the Gulf of Norway oil slick. My whole career has been devoted to the successful application and conservation of the environment both marine and fresh water. Further details are available about my curriculum vitae, my publications list and professional references if required from the following address:

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