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To whom it may concern:

I am saddened and shocked to find it necessary to write this letter. It seems inconceivable that a man of such genuine merit as Rajneesh would not be considered an extreme asset to any land in which he dwells. This country has always had open arms for the Einsteins and Stravinskys of the world. It is that very policy that has been a cornerstone in our history and culture and is in fact the reason this nation has been a standout in the past.

When a man of such extraordinary insight chooses to make his home here, it is both foolish and self-defeating to attempt to shut the doors on him. This is a man whose knowledge and understanding transcend all boundaries of human endeavor. Anyone as constructive and peaceful as Rajneesh should not be considered a threat.

In my own personal experience, although I have never met Rajneesh, I have derived many benefits from his writings and tapes. Also, I have had contact with many sannyasins and have always found them to be positive-minded, happy people.

I am a dancer-musician, and I have spent my life studying these arts. I have performed for such notables as Rudolf Nureyev, Beverly Sills, and the New York City Ballet and Opera Companies at Lincoln Center. In 1975 I was a guest at then Gov. Jimmy Carter's house in Georgia where I performed for a special function honoring the Persian Ambassador. I mention these appearances solely for the purpose of establishing my credibility as someone who is serious and studied at her art.

Rajneesh has frequently been a source of illumination and inspiration in my work. I would certainly hope others could benefit by his presence in this country.

Sincerely,



Sheryl Shahinian

sa/SS

EXHIBIT "A-1248"