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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I was studying English and Sports at the University in Stuttgart, W.-Germany when I first heard about Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh in 1979. I started to read his books, to listen to his discourses and to meditate. After two years "being around Sannyas" and living with "Sannyasins" I went to Poona in 1981.

I arrived there when Bhagwan went into silence. I saw him every morning in Satsang and I experienced a new way of communication - through silence.

I took Sannyas.

That was a real jump for me - in the sense that I started to live his words, to live religious. His words are beautiful and true ... it's like you can play with them intellectually and you understand a lot more and feel fine - but his presence,

"just" his presence affects you in your being; affects you in your way of living, in your doing.

After taking Saunyas I went back to Germany, stopped my study as a teacher and was trained as a body therapist. I started to work with people individually and in groups. When I work with people I feel again and again that it isn't the "technic" I learned that makes something happen with them it's the "quality" of love, of trust, the "quality" around Bhagwan ~~and~~ and around his disciples.

I went last year to the First Annual World Celebration in Rajneeshpuram and I saw how far the Commune was built in one year only!
I was amazed.

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I also saw Bhagwan for the first time since after Poona. And I saw the people working with so much joy and playfulness and creativity and love.

We were living in tents and the way they were arranged - and the way ^{we needed} we were taken care of everything was just so lovingly and caring.

When I went back to Germany we started an Ashram in Freiburg. We are now 50 Sannyasins living together and working together. We set up different firms and everything is exploding.

It's like the same that happens here, happens all over the world where Sannyasins live together. It is the same energy.

The work - now: worship - becomes more and more efficient and functioning and there is more love in it, more caring for

everybody around and everything
around — and more satisfaction.
I feel that very strong.

Sometimes, like now as I write,
I am surprised and excited about
the fact that so much happens
through the presence of a
Master — and you can't really
tell why or how it happens.
You just see the effects.

And I see here in Rajneeshpuram
human beings living together
as human beings should live
together — happy, in trust,
in love, in awareness — and
not fighting, competing.

And I feel Bhagwan is a
gift for everyone, not only
for his disciples. Just to
be a friend and see him
and see what we are doing
here and what happens

around him is beautiful.

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Yours sincerely

Ma Gyan Ropal