

CHOSHOJI TEMPLE Asami 1-2-4 Beppu, Oita-ken 874 JAPAN

July 15, 1983

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, REUHO YAMADA, HEADPRIEST of CHOSHOJI TEMPLE, a Zen Temple established 500 years ago and located in Beppu, Japan, am writing this affidavit in support of BAGWAN SHREE RAJNEESH's application for a green card allowing him permission to reside and work in the United States.


I became familiar with the work of Mr. Rajneesh through his many published works, as well as through meetings with many of his followers. It became apparent to me some time ago that Mr. Rajneesh has been making a valuable contribution to many people as a spiritual teacher and I believe this contribution is important for American people and for the progress of world peace in general. Although the Zen Buddhist tradition which I represent and teach has very little resemblance to the organization of Mr. Rajneesh, I feel that in the substance of his teachings there is a common ground with the spirit of Buddhism. Particularly important has been the remarkable work he has already done to introduce the spirit of meditation to many young people who were unable to benefit from similar teachings in already established institutions and schools of religious experience in America.

Among many of the remarkable achievements of Mr. Rajneesh is his ability to successfully synthesize a wide range of traditional experience and knowledge, the effect of which in his students nurtures the American spiritual character which lays in tolerance and harmony with people, independent thinking, and community work.

For these reasons I believe Americans will be able to benefit very much from this unique person. On behalf of many people in the Buddhist community which I represent, I humbly submit this petition that he be granted permission to live in America.

RES FULLY SUBMITTED,

NOTARIZED:


Reverend REUHO YAMADA
HEADPRIEST, CHOSHOJI
Beppu, Oita 87
JAPAN

BY:

At:

Date: