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To whom it may concern,

This is to let you know how it's been for me to be a sanyasin for the last six years. Until I became Ma Deva Soma in dec. 1977, I'd always lived with my parents and three brothers going to highschool, being a sunday school teacher and attending English classes at the American Cultural Center of Madagascar where I come from. I was then sent to French University where I completed a year of literature studies. It was during that year I discovered books and taped discourses of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, felt the stirring in my being and the yes in my heart that his words provoked. Although my greatest desire so far had been to get a scholarship and finish my studies in the United States (I was living with an American friend), the decision to go to Paris to see Bhagwan came without a question.

Little did I know though who he was or what sanyasins were about. I just knew I could look at a photograph of this man, especially one where his eyes would look straight into mine and I'd always see myself reflected in it with my different moods or emotions. When I looked with love, he'd be looking ^{back} in such a love way and if I had any anger or negativity, his look would be scary. Try it yourself one day. It is so amazing that a mere picture can be such a mirror of your inner being ---

Rajneeshpuram

EXHIBIT "A-1655"

After the first shock of the orange beehive and a few months doing groups and meditation ca. to tune into the incredible energy field of the ashram in Poona, I started getting involved with the work in the commune and things have started happening fast.

The first important thing I noticed in myself was a quality of practical awareness, of solidity or groundedness. I'd always been a "dancing shadow" in daydreams, fantasies. My refuge from reality had been in poetry and letting my imagination run wild.

In Poona, I was clearing and cooking food and cutting vegetables and my hands loved it, my body loved to move, loved to dance. One day, I simply realized I wasn't daydreaming anymore - Life was so full, reality so beautiful. Suddenly, the poems I was writing came out of a space of joy and celebration instead of being a reflection of sadness and a grudge against existence.

Being a sannyasin has thrown me into hundreds of new different situations without any beforehand knowledge or preparations of how to handle it. Always learning through direct experiences. I have taken care of thirty-children, from being their mother to teaching them French. I have been a typist and a secretary when the need was there to be one. To talk about Bhagwan, I was given the opportunity to go around, organize meetings - Talking in front of people is something I could have never done before as I was extremely shy - In few words, there's this incredible multi-dimensional quality in Bhagwan community where each gift and potential are given.

the space and the opportunity to flower. The ranch in Oregon is such a unique place because of its vastness, because of its wilderness, creativity can just flower to its full.

I feel blessed to know that one place exists on earth where work is worship, departments are temples, policemen are peace brothers and all kinds of people from all kind of political, economical, social and racial ^{background} can live together and just be Rajneeshes.

Such an opportunity does not happen on earth once every lifetime. Bhagwan's words have called in all those who have a thirst for truth, beauty and love - Now his mere presence is a catalyst for an incredible explosion of creativity which you can see materialised on the big muddy Ranch rapidly turning into an oasis.

I have always loved America for its openness, its spirit of freedom and adventure - America deserves to have such a man as Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh breathe its air and walk its land. He is an Enlightened being, he is my master.

Just come and see for yourself -

Sincerely yours,

Ma Deva Song