

Amhem 4-8-8:

To whom it may concern

My name since the 4th of July of this year is
Swami Shantam Athah.

Two years ago my girlfriend became sanyasin. Before that time I had read a few books from Baghwan, but then I really got "interested". It still took 2 years before I became sanyasin myself. In those years I very often visited centers in Holland, especially in Amhem. The contact with Baghwan was growing, through meditations, festivals, groups and talks and being together with his disciples. What I saw in these centers was that this was a religion that was quite different from what I had seen before: it was alive, I could feel and see the inspiration of Baghwan here in these centers, in the way they worked, how they were building their centers, organising their great and joyful festivals, on in the meals they were cooking. Soon I began to feel at home with sanyasins as I had never felt at home anywhere else. And I saw that it was Baghwan's love behind all this, a man which I never had seen or heard but on video or tape. Soon it was clear for me that he was the most beautiful and wise man on earth. For me he wasn't silent at all.

So I have heard that people in the United States want to refuse him a visum to stay in Oregon, based on the argument that, while being silent, he is not a religious teacher. People who use such arguments don't know anything about religiosity. He has reached me as he is still reaching thousands of people all over the world, being silent. Religion is not logical, you cannot teach it, Baghwan's religion is happening all over the world. I hope to have proved in this letter that the reasons to refuse the visum are utterly nonsense.

Yours sincerely and with Love
Swami Shantam Athah



former G.L. Hoes
dr. Social Geograp
Nijhoffstr. 45
Amhem HOLLAND