

**BHAGWAN SHREE  
RAJNEESH**

**Ecology**

"Ecology means thinking about the whole.

Ecology means the interdependent cycle of existence.

Everything depends on everything else; nothing is absolutely independent, cannot be. We are parts, very small parts, cogs in a wheel.

Somebody has to know about the whole wheel."

**Nature is dying**

"The world is being poisoned very slowly. The rivers are being polluted, the oceans are being polluted, the lakes are dying. Nature is being destroyed. Nature has given us life, and we are giving death to nature in return.

"We are exploiting the earth so much that sooner or later we will not be able to live on it. All the resources are being spent."

**To regain the balance**

"The way to regain the balance of nature is not by renouncing technology. It is not by becoming hippies, no, not at all. The way to regain the balance of nature is through superior technology, higher technology.

"I am all for science. The outer world can be transformed totally. We can bring an even better ecological balance than nature itself. Man is nature's highest peak; it is through man that nature can resettle its own problems."

An Oasis  
Green Book  
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## **Religion in America**

- "My own feeling is that if you want to become religious, America is the best place, because it has succeeded in having all that man has desired for centuries.

"It is now very apparent that you can have all the gadgets, the latest, and yet remain unfulfilled. That fulfillment has to be sought in some other dimension.

"Whenever a country becomes very rich it becomes religious because then the highest need starts asserting itself."

## **Man is freedom**

"Man is not only free—I would like to say that man is freedom. That is his essential core, that's his very soul. The moment you deny freedom to man you have denied him his most precious treasure, his very kingdom.

"Once this is understood, that man is born as freedom, then all the dimensions to grow open up. Then it is up to you what to become, what not to become. It is going to be your own creation. Then life becomes an adventure, an exploration, a discovery."

## **The American Adventure**

"America is young, lives in the moment, hence there is great exploration going on about everything: science, religion, philosophy, art, new forms of art, new methods, new ways to reach the moon, to reach Mars and finally to reach the stars. New methods to enter into meditation. In every dimension America is interested in exploring; the young man's adventurous spirit is there. America is just on the verge of a great step; if a new step is going to happen anywhere, it is going to happen in America."

## **America is Fortunate**

"The American is the most alive person on the earth today, because 'American' is not a race, it is a mixture—a mixture of all races. America is a meeting place, a meeting place of all countries. And America is the most fortunate country in that way; all the world has met there.

"People from every country, from Spain, from Portugal, from Italy, from France, from Holland, from Poland, from England... from everywhere people gathered together there. A totally new kind of human being has been born who is far more intelligent, far more healthy, lives longer, has tremendous capacities for adventure, has courage. America is the future of the world."

### **Communes not Communism**

"The idea of the commune is beautiful: people living together in a non-possessive way, neither possessing things nor possessing persons; people living together, creating together, celebrating together, and still allowing each one his own space; people creating a certain climate of meditateness, of love, of living in that climate.

"I am certainly interested in the idea of a commune, but not in communism. Communism is ugly. Communism is a great epidemic. The sooner it disappears from the world, the better."

### **Socialism**

"If socialism becomes our way of life in the whole world, man will be reduced to a commodity, he will be reduced to a machine. I am against socialism because it destroys some-

thing which is very precious: it destroys the individual. Socialism means society is the goal, not the individual."

### **Capitalism**

"Capitalism is not an ideology, it is not imposed on the society, it is a natural growth. It is not like communism or fascism or socialism—these are ideologies; they have to be imposed.

"Capitalism is basically individualism. It is more than a social structure; it is democracy and freedom. Capitalism simply gives you the freedom to be yourself, that's why I support it."

### **Science and Meditation**

"Science now needs great meditators, otherwise this earth is doomed. Science now needs people who can use their minds, who are

masters of their being, who can use science in a conscious way. Otherwise we are on the verge of committing a universal suicide.

"This is a beautiful earth. Compared to this earth, millions and millions of stars are just dead: no flowers bloom, no rivers flow, there are no birds, no animals, no people. This universe is almost a great desert.

"This earth is alive! Something tremendously important—consciousness—has happened here. But this consciousness is still not a master, it is a slave of the mind. It has to be freed.

"That's my work here, my basic fundamental work, to help you to be free of the mind so that you can use it. And if you are the master, you cannot abuse it; that is impossible."



## RAJNEESHPURAM: A Beautiful Oasis

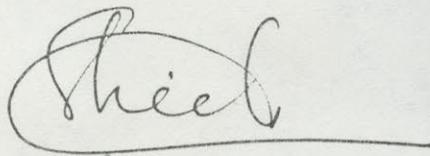
Rajneeshpuram is our attempt to give expression to the religious vision of our beloved Master, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. It is our offering to Him, and also a reflection of the love and wisdom which He showers on us.

Normally, shrines and temples devoted to religious leaders are created long after they have gone—when their fleeting presence here among us remains only as a vague memory.

But our greatest desire is to create a shrine worthy of Bhagwan while He is still with us. The work that we are doing here is a united effort by those who love Him to create a beautiful oasis—both material and spiritual—where anyone can come and drink from the fountain of His love, and quench their thirst forever.

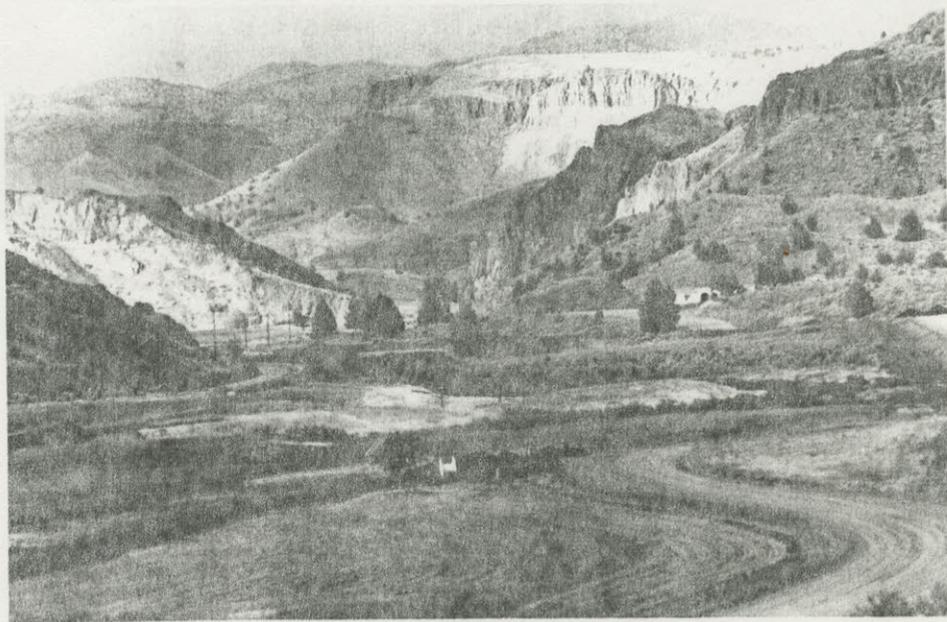
As Bhagwan has said:

"A Master is a door.  
A Master is a link,  
a bridge.  
Pass through the door,  
pass through the bridge,  
and you will come to know  
exactly what life is all about.  
If you can dive deep  
into the Master  
you will start feeling  
the presence of God."



Ma Anand Sheela  
Rajneeshpuram





**OUR FIRST YEAR AT  
RAJNEESHPURAM:**

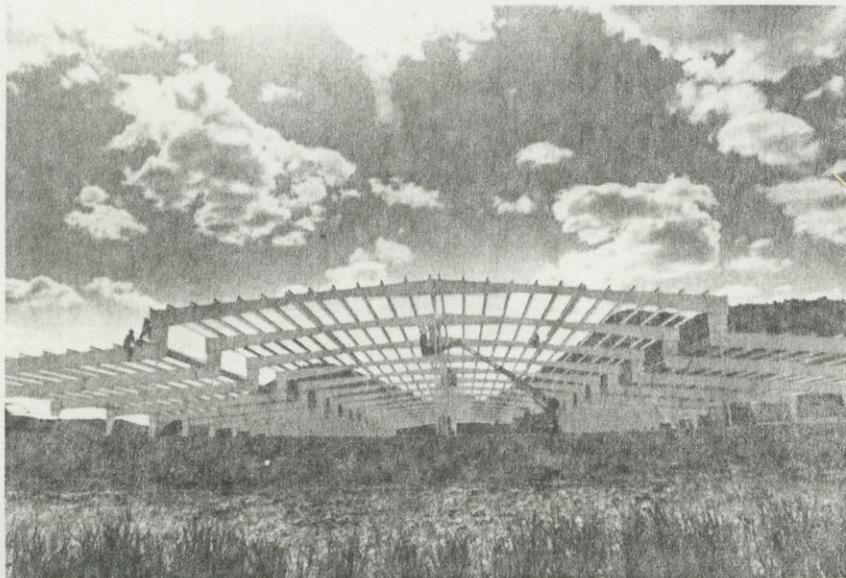
**July 1981-July 1982**

Starting with over 100 square miles of empty land, the disciples of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh have in less than a year transformed a deserted cattle ranch into a multi-dimensional farming community.

We have already built the working infrastructure, complete with road systems, modern prefabricated homes, storage buildings, electricity and water supplies, sewerage disposal systems, a dairy unit and the latest agricultural machinery.

## Construction

Evidence of the success of our experiment can be seen in the speed and scope of construction.



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Here is a chronology:

- July 1981:** Ranch purchased.
- September:** Overhead electricity brought in. First twenty houses sited and linked with newly-built roads and sewerage systems. Two-story steel building constructed with 10,000 square feet of storage space and 5,000 sq. ft. of office space.
- December:** Another steel building of 10,000 sq. ft. constructed as a cafeteria, with its own bakery. Ten more houses sited. The onset of winter had little effect on construction progress.
- March '82:** Modern, fully-equipped dairy barn

built. Twenty more houses sited. Repair and servicing depot for farm vehicles completed.

**April:** Work begins on two-story administration building, with 20,000 sq. ft. of space.

**May:** Construction begins on the largest solar greenhouse in America, covering 2.02 acres.

**Projects planned:** Permits for an elementary school, a secondary and adult education center, and a community center have been granted. Work on a 350 million gallon reservoir in the ranch's main valley will start in August.

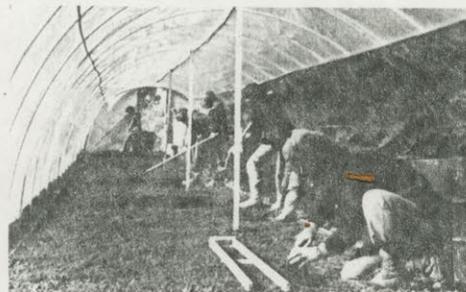
## Farming

A herd of 27 Holsteins provides the community with milk, butter, cheese and yogurt, and we are beginning to experiment with producing quality cheeses for public sale. Our new dairy barn, rated among the finest in Oregon, can house up to 50 cows and milk up to 200. It has its own methane digester which will soon produce fertilizer and gas.

We have 1500 chickens to supply the community with eggs. We also have 100 ducks, 20 geese plus two emus for deterring henhouse predators like coyotes. A flock of peacocks adds aesthetic charm to our guest house area.

Over 3,400 fruit trees have been planted, including many varieties of apples, pears, plums, nectarines, cherries, peaches and apricots. 15,000 nut and shade trees are also being planted.

About 1,200 acres are now grow-



ing grain crops—winter wheat, spring wheat, barley and oats—including 500 acres never before used for cultivation. A 50-acre vegetable farm has been created near the John Day River. Six greenhouses enabled us to grow vegetables during the winter and early spring.

Land has been cleared for a nine-acre vineyard and 12,000 vines have been planted. 65 bee colonies have been introduced, and 14 separate irrigation projects have been installed—testing six different methods. Our two-acre greenhouse will come into production this fall.

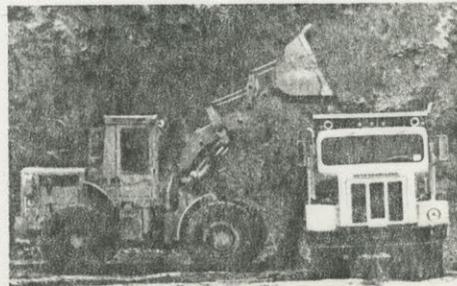
## Land Improvements

During our ownership of the property we have dramatically improved over 35 miles of existing road and added another six miles to the total. Road widening and grading have greatly improved travel conditions; surfacing material is supplied on the ranch by a leased rock-crushing machine. Culvert bridges have been built across creek crossings; road embankments have been protected from erosion by heavy steel fencing, back-filled with rock.

We have begun projects to restore the vast areas of depleted rangeland, where heavy overgrazing by sheep and cattle has destroyed useful vegetation and resulted in widespread wind and water erosion. Emergency action has already been taken to save fields and roads in the

lower valleys, and our planned reservoir will help with flood control.

We need to slow down the water run-off rate and the erosion processes where they begin—in the 260 miles of gullies at the top of the ranch's three creek systems. This will be done by constructing many small retaining dams, tree-planting, re-seeding and developing an entire stream-bank ecology to regulate water flow.



## Services

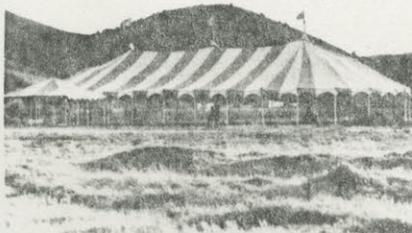
The developed portion of the ranch has been designated a Fire Protection District, with its own fire truck. This provides the necessary protection for buildings and property. Five miles of water pipeline have been completed as part of this plan.

Medical facilities have also been set up. An ambulance is on call for emergencies.

We have erected an FM/VHF booster station with a 125-foot tower to improve the ranch's communication system.

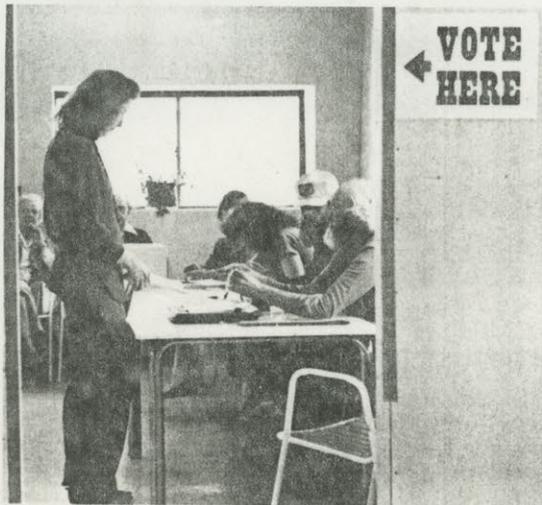
## Our First Festival

In addition to spring farming and construction projects, we have also been preparing for our first religious festival at Rajneeshpuram: the First Annual World Celebration, July 3-7.



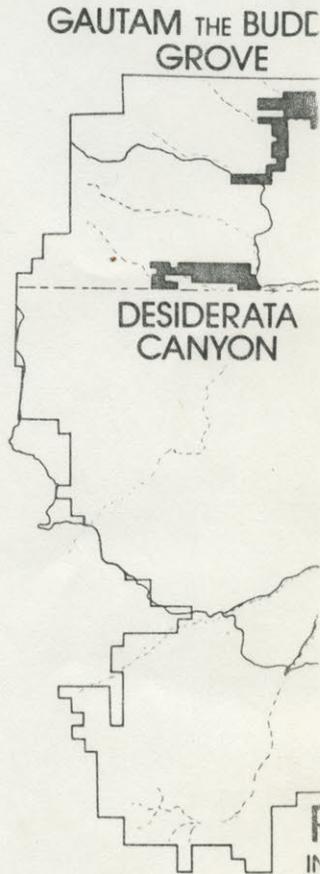
The festival includes Guru Purnima Day, which in the east is a traditional day of celebration—held during the July full moon—when disciples rejoice in the presence of the Master. This year, we also celebrated the gradual recovery of Bhagwan's health in the dry, sunny climate of Central Oregon.

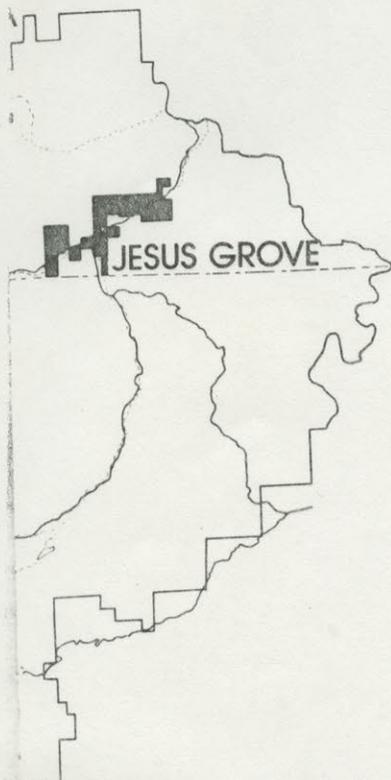
The speed with which our festival preparations were completed was remarkable. Starting in March, we compressed work that would normally take a year into a few short weeks. Water, sewerage and temporary accommodation facilities for several thousand people were installed; our new two acre greenhouse was erected in time to serve as a temporary meditation hall.



## THE CITY OF RAJNEESHPURAM

On May 18 this year, 154 permanent residents at Rajneeshpuram voted unanimously in favor of incorporating a city on the ranch. It was the first time in 50 years that a new town had been voted into existence in Wasco County, and perhaps the first time ever that such a vote has been unanimous.





**4JNEESHPURAM**  
 INCORPORATED AREAS INDICATED  
 BY SHADING

A city council will now be elected and a comprehensive plan will be drawn up. The incorporation gives commune members freedom to create a totally new kind of town, in which self-government will be based on love rather than politics.

We intend to show how a town can be developed that remains in harmony with nature as it grows, improving and enriching the surrounding environment, illustrating that it is possible for people to live in beneficial co-existence with the ecology on which we all depend for our well-being.

The site on which the town will be developed contains no farmable land or forest areas. Development will be contoured to blend with the shape of the hills. We will recycle all waste products from the city so that each waste is turned into another useful resource.

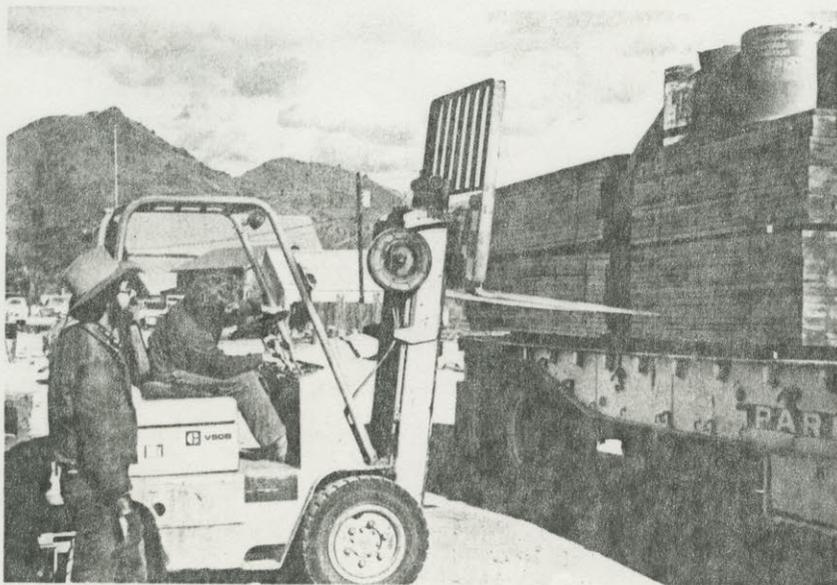
## State funds for cities

As an incorporated city, our town will qualify for a percentage of State funds, including revenues from gas and alcohol taxes. Use of these revenues is legally limited to specific public purposes, such as the maintenance of roads and public parks.

## A Boost for Oregon's Economy

The rapid development of our ranch has resulted in a capital outlay of over \$20 million in the first year, boosting Oregon's economy and helping to provide and maintain jobs for thousands of people.

Many Oregon businessmen have publicly affirmed that our orders for supplies, services and equipment have kept business booming during a period of extreme economic difficulty. For example:



Bob Bauer, Sales Director, Golden West Homes, Albany: "What they've been able to do for us is keep a plant going with 50 people for five months' worth of employment that we never would have had without their participation in business at this time."

Taylor Ramsey, President, United Pipe and Supply, Eugene: "I think that their contribution to the State's economy has been a well-kept secret. We know for a fact that they have spent with Oregon businesses, for goods and services, over \$1¼ million a month since their arrival."

We do business with more than a thousand firms throughout the United States, and the bulk of these are located in Oregon itself—in nearby cities like Madras, Redmond, Bend and The Dalles, as well as further afield in Portland, Eugene, Albany and Salem.

## Taxes

Full property tax is paid on all real and personal property at the ranch. Federal and state taxes are paid on all commercial enterprises, including our farming operations.

Our considerable investments have greatly increased the value of the property, and as a result the ranch's contribution to the tax base in Wasco and Jefferson Counties has also increased. This means that other local inhabitants pay a smaller share of the total taxes collected.

More specifically, local people are benefitting from the fact that we contribute to public education costs in the area, while running—at our own expense—a private ranch school for our children. We also help the two counties to maintain and improve the county road which runs through the ranch, using our own graders and machinery.

## Grateful to Oregonians

We have received a tremendous amount of support in our first year here, especially from responsible people in Wasco County. Their loyalty to the law and to the democratic process has enabled us to establish a solid foundation for our community. It is through the unwavering fair-mindedness of such people that America continues to be a land of pioneers and pathfinders.





## ZORBA THE BUDDHA Rajneesh Restaurant

In March this year we purchased the general store in the nearby town of Antelope and turned it into a high quality vegetarian restaurant. It is now a popular and busy place, and also functions as a grocery, boutique and gas station.

Our sales outlet for books and tapes has its office in Antelope, and we have also purchased several houses in the town which have been modernized and redecorated. Antelope, once designated a "ghost town," is coming alive again.

## EDUCATION

Children are born naturally intelligent, but this inborn intelligence is often dulled by force-feeding children with knowledge. In our vision of education, knowledge is acquired naturally as a by-product of self-discovery.



Education for our forty children is geared to each child's readiness to develop, and is based on consideration of his or her psychological age, rather than physical age.

There is a framework of discipline within which all children learn the basic skills of reading, writing and math. Then a wide area of freedom is allowed within which they can discover knowledge through any of our farming cooperative's activities.

All children work at least two hours each day in some area of the farm: the agricultural work, the carpentry and handiwork shops, the administration offices, and, of course, through all the activities arranged by the school itself.

"Real education will bring out what is hidden in you — what God has put in you as a treasure — to discover it, to reveal it, to make you luminous," states Bhagwan.

**OUR RELIGIOUS  
VISION**

The relationship between a Master and his disciples is a mystery. It is a mystery because when the two meet in deep communion, a profound spiritual transformation happens to the disciple.

But the Master does not do anything to the disciple. Nor does the disciple do anything on his own. It is simply that, in the presence of the Master, a spontaneous awakening happens.

This is one of the most difficult things for the modern, scientific mind to understand. The awakening is uncaused, yet it happens all the same.

When somebody asked the great master Zenerin:  
What do you do with your disciples?  
He said: What do I do? I don't do anything.  
The questioner asked:  
But so many things happen around you,  
you must be doing something.  
Zenerin said:  
Sitting quietly, doing nothing,  
spring comes and the grass grows by itself.

(From "The Grass Grows by Itself"  
by Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh)

This inner transformation is also reflected in our outer approach to living and working at Rajneeshpuram. To the onlooker, it may seem as if we are all working extremely hard, with great effort.