

Reply by Prem Geet to Vatayana's letter

We are writing this in respect of the open letter addressed to sannyasins everywhere. It has been circulated by Vatayana, Raj (formerly Yogendra) and other Inner Circle members, signed as 'The Inner Circle', and is dated 24th June 2014:

Thank you for your long and explanatory letter to the Sannyas community around the world. Everyone must be happy to hear from you after 25 years, if only to defend yourselves.

My concern is to have you open your eyes and speak the truth as most of the sannyasin community can see clearly: Osho International Foundation (OIF) has been preventing the expansion of Osho's work for more than 12 years. Apart from the publication of a few books through OIF's trustees and more through the private companies of the trustees, Osho's work such as presence of participants in Osho Commune Poona and revenue of the foundation worldwide has been shrinking, and that is partly due to the dictating methods of the OIF.

We have several pieces of evidence that show that all the resources of the Foundations are being used in court cases and litigations against Osho's work (see forthcoming paragraphs).

You have said in your letter that there have been "attacks" and "attempts made during Osho's lifetime" on Osho's work.

These irrelevant and emotional phrases are being used by you purely to exploit the feelings of Osho's disciples. If you are going to say this, please give examples.

In fact, during the lifetime of Osho and up to the year 2000, there has not been a single example of anyone attacking Osho's work or the work of Foundation anywhere in India or around the world. Only when you began to manipulate Osho's work, protests by sannyasins started to happen. And then the attacks came. The attacks came from you.

The Sannyas community would like to know what kind of attacks you are talking about. If you cannot specify these so-called attacks, it means that you are again bluffing in order to gain emotional support of the sannyasins everywhere. It seems that bluffing to sannyasins and in the courts has become a habit of some Inner Circle members.

Our main concern is this: it has become clear to us that OIF is continuously misusing assets and funds of the Foundation against its own registered "Aims and Objectives" in India and around the world.

Below we are listing some examples of the bigger actual attacks made by OIF against Osho's work and Osho's sannyasins, wasting of large amounts of Foundation money.

We have observed your two types of attacks: one where Foundation money is siphoned off into private accounts of present Foundations trustees, and on the other hand, where Osho's sannyasins have been threatened and prosecuted for doing Osho's work.

The financial and legal attacks caused by OIF in India:

When you are referring to the case of OHIM (Office of Harmonization in the Internal Market in Alicante, Spain) it would be more balanced if you also made a statement about the loss of the Trademark case in the US in 2009. This case took 9 years of highly expensive legal proceedings on both sides to establish authority over the word "Osho" so no one else but OIF could use it.

1. In India, six court cases and one FIR (bearing the number # 149/2013) registered with Koregaon Park Police Station are currently pending against OIF and NSF (Neo Sannyas Foundation, formerly known as Rajneesh Foundation). The said FIR names Jayesh, Amrito, Raj (formerly known as Yogendra) and their co-conspirators.

We would appreciate it if OIF and NSF, rightfully attend to these cases on their own merits, rather than using 'delaying tactics'

It is our experience that present OIF trustees have continuously lied and given misleading information to the Judiciary Proceedings in the court in India. In spite of your misleading information, we won one case in Bombay High Court wherein OIF and Darshan Trust are restricted to not further tamper with the property at Plot no. 3 of Koregaon Park, Pune. After being defeated, OIF chose to challenge this verdict before Hon'ble Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, wherein once again they lost.

After two defeats OIF withdrew its devious plans to tamper with Plot no. 22 known as Osho Sanai, Koregaon Park, Pune, which they planned to gift to a dubious trust called Darshan Trust in New Delhi, which remarkably has the same trustees and ex-trustees of the OIF and NSF. How surprising to find that these are the same people who are the directors and shareholders of beneficiary companies receiving Foundation funds directly in their private kitty.

2. Another example of attacks on the Sannyas community: After these defeats, OIF chose to delay further proceedings of the Courts with baseless excuses and outright lies, such as 1) claiming that they are not living in Pune or 2) that they have nothing to do with the Commune and its management, and 3) that there was never any such structure known as 'Osho Samadhi' in the Commune. (To read the full version of their affidavits submitted to the Indian courts, please visit our website oshowork.org)

3. The Writ Petition (bearing number # 5300/2013) is pending in Bombay High Court. Once again OIF and NSF have made no clarification for their alleged siphoning of funds and properties of the Foundation for an amount of more than INR300 Crores (\$55 million US) into their private companies.

If OIF and NSF are truthful, they should come before the court to argue the matter on its merits.

In addition, mortgaging Foundation premises on high interest rates and wasting millions in unnecessary legal battles against Osho's people is adding up damages on daily basis. One wonders for how OIF would repay such huge damages to Osho Foundations in India and around the world.

To summarize, the Sannyas community wishes to know:

1. On which grounds you lost both the Trademarks case after 9 years of expensive proceedings, and the second case Domain Name case in US.
2. Why you are transferring Foundation money to private companies of the present OIF trustees in India as well as Switzerland, US, UK, Hong Kong and Ireland?
3. How much of Foundation funds have been transferred to these private companies directly or indirectly so far? We have evidence that OIF have siphoned off large amounts from the treasury of the Foundation, which we are ready to exhibit at any time.

You have written: "Lately, any legal actions against the Foundations (and other bodies like the inner circle) which Osho has asked to take care of the continued functioning of his work, are mostly instigated by "discontented Osho lovers" – people who profess to "love Osho" but who either seem to think they know better than Osho, or who have their own agenda."

By putting such a statement you are unnecessarily creating an authority that attempts to define who knows Osho better and who does not. The very idea of creating such an authority itself is against Osho's teaching.

4. We request you to declare names of the Inner Circle members. Your refusal to make this declaration since 15 years is a sign of cowardice and hypocrisy. It is also likely to be hiding the fact that Osho's original Inner Circle of 21 people has been reduced to a mere handful who hold all decision-making powers.

5. This is also for you to be aware that the cancellation of Ramateertha's application by OHIM is appealable. Furthermore, it is a response to a particular article 52(1)(a) of the Community Trade Mark Registration. Surely, an Article of the CTM Register does not possibly control or manage entire spectrum of Osho's work and His vision around the world, especially in India, nor does it gives any 'Clean Certification' to manipulations of OIF members.

6. Opposite to childish beliefs of the Inner Circle, judging Osho disciples as "upset" and "discontented"; personally I wish to make it clear that my own motives for initiating these legal proceedings against OIF are not to attack any individual or foundation members. It is because I heard Osho saying that we all are responsible for not raising our voices against corrupt administrators who ruled and destroyed the communes in the past. We would not like to make the same mistakes again of keeping quiet about all your dishonesty. But I can understand if Inner Circle (if at all it exists!) has any guts to realise the facts that they have caused immense hurt to Osho disciples and damages to Osho's work!

7. If any sannyasins feel the Osho commune in Pune is worth surviving, and so Osho's worldwide work, then please feel free to express yourself and support the protestors in the best way possible for you.

8. To begin with, you can visit us online at oshowork.org. You can also give your support to anyone else in the worldwide Sannyas community who needs it.

Swami Premgeet (a.k.a. Yogesh Thakkar) from Poona, India
July 7, 2014