

Witness Statement

November, 1st, 2011

I, Ronald Buunk, also known as Sw. Anand Samarona, of Tramstr. 16 – 7001 CH Doetinchem, The Netherlands, born May 21st, 1958, do state as follows:

I have been a sannyasin of Osho since Oct, 5th, 1980. Through Osho's teaching, I have always understood the step of becoming a sannyasin to be a personal expression on the part of the person taking sannyas, of his/her acceptance of Osho as his/her master/teacher. And as an expression of his/her appreciation of Osho's teaching and of the wish to be taught by that teaching.

I remember that Osho clearly pointed out that taking sannyas is the expression of this personal relationship between the Master and the disciple (the sannyasin) and that taking sannyas in no way meant becoming part of an organization or an institution or a sect.

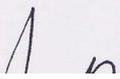
I always appreciated the freedom, that this step of taking sannyas represented. And during the many years that I spend in Osho's presence, since Oct, 5th, 1980, I never felt to be part of an organization. Of course there were many people like me, who had become sannyasins, yet each one of us had his/her own personal relationship to Osho and nobody had any duties toward any organization. When we referred to the sannyasins as a group, we called it a movement, as each one of us was moving in his/her own way with Osho. I never saw us as an organization, which I need to be a member of or to whom I need to pay dues or which puts up rules for me. In fact there never existed any kind of membership and no one ever needed to pay dues to be a member, or sign any rules or regulations.

Before coming to Osho I had studied psychology and philosophy in the university of Nijmegen, the Netherlands. In his presence I learned a whole different approach to psychology and learned many new ways of working with people, which were based on the experience of meditation. From 1989 I started to offer this new approach in a center in Norway. To express the different approach of the work and to make clear that it was inspired by Osho I called it Osho Rebalancing. In 1990 I was again in Pune and learned other psychological methods which incorporated meditation. I offered this work in Taiwan, in Finland and in Germany under the name of Osho Pulsation (I include 2 flyers from this time, where it is obvious, that the name Osho Pulsation was used). I have been offering this work all through the nineties in different places. I have also offered seminars that were called Osho Primal Therapy (in German: Osho Primärtherapie).

The use of the word Osho in these titles for the work I was offering has always been an expression of the inspiration that I had received from Osho and the experiences of meditation he transmitted. It was also a way to bring across to the participants of the seminars that this seminar is happening in the atmosphere of meditation. It was certainly not used to express a license of a controlled trademark, as this was absolutely opposed to how I understood sannyas.

I have never seen any guidelines or policies that want to restrict the use of the word Osho. I have always felt free to use Osho's name as I was a sannyasin since 10 years or longer and I had never heard Osho restrict the use of his name. And I regarded Osho as my master and have never been part of an organization that claims to own the use of Osho's name. If there is any person who can claim to own the name Osho, it is Osho himself. Yet I have never seen Osho claiming ownership in his entire life, on the contrary he even expressed that the sannyasins were his biography and that after he leaves the world he will dissolve in the sannyasins. So I felt free to use his name, just as many of my fellow-sannyasins were free to use his name. Everyone was free to use the word Osho in his/her own individual way. So neither did I see any guideline or restriction in the use of the word Osho as Osho International Foundation now seems to be claiming, nor did I sign a letter of understanding, nor did any of the participants in the many seminars I lead have the impression that the word Osho was the expression of some sort of trademark. It was nothing but an expression of my appreciation of Osho as my master and that the work I am offering is inspired by him.

The statements herein are from my personal knowledge and recollection and I believe all of the statements made and the facts mentioned to be true.


Below is the author's signature, which is hidden for protection of personal data.

Ronald Buunk

Doetinchem, Nov 1st, 2011