

<https://www.dailyo.in/arts/osho-bhagwan-rajneesh-ma-anand-sheela-osho-exploited-women-group-therapy-wild-wild-country/story/1/23533.html> (personal account)

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12. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzY12FHnRvM>
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Main factors

● Gandhi Ashram

- Key elements of Gandhi's ashrams
- Purpose of ashram
- Where ashrams successful?

(1) <https://www.reference.com/history/did-gandhi-india-6fd1895bdcd68aaf?qo=contentSimilarQuestions>

- (1) Nonviolent community in the ashram
- (1) Lead the independence movement against british 1907
- (1) Encouraged Indians to burn registration cards
- (1) Reject caste system

(2) <https://www.biography.com/activist/mahatma-gandhi>

- (2) leader of India's non-violent independence movement against British rule
- (2) Rebellious character
 - Smoked ate meat and stole change from house servants
- (2) Worshiped Hindu god Vishnu and followed Jainism
- (2) Continued to study world religions
- (2) Adopted simplicity austerity fasting and celibacy "that was free of material goods"
- (2) Capable of unflinching groups
 - At Boer war raised all indian ambulance corps of 1,1000 volunteers
 - ashram in Ahmedabad, India, open to all castes
- (2) Ahmedabad ashram

- (2) Center for developing ideology that would work to give indians civil rights
- (2) While developing ideology, gained followers devoted to non violence work towards freeing india
- (2) Idea of self sufficiency
 - (2) Made school focused on manual labor agriculture and literacy (from britain supplies)
 - (2) March `12 `1930 launched Dandi march 241 miles from ashram with 78 companions to protest british salt law
- (9) Gandhi's mother, Putlibai, was completely absorbed in religion, did not care much for finery or jewelry, divided her time between her home and the temple, fasted frequently,

● Rajneesh

(3) <https://www.biography.com/religious-figure/bhagwan-shree-rajneesh>

(4) <https://www.britannica.com/place/India>

(5) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Pp5mWs8k5I>

(6) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbyOE2_Yssw

○ Profession

- (3) Graduated with a bachelor's degree in philosophy
 - (3) Went for masters at Sagar University
 - (3) 1957 position as assistant professor of philosophy at raipur sanskrit college
 - (3) Radical ideas caused conflict with institution admin (fired)
 - (3) Became professor at the university of jabalpur
- (3) 1964 conducted meditation camps and recruiting followers
- (3) 1966(2 yrs later) quit being professor and full time spreading spiritual teaching
 - "Sex guru"
- (3) 1970 introduced dynamic meditation
 - (3) Allows people to experience **divinity**
 - (3) This idea interested young westerners (stayed and shram in Pune and become disciples)

○ Indian culture

8 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3705691/>

- (3) Controversial and unconventional ideas on spirituality
 - Sex first step toward superconsciousness
- (3) Pressure from gov authorities and traditional religious groups
- (4) commonly associated with hinduism, buddhism and jainism

- (8) Ancient texts in hinduism buddhism and jainism
 - (8) Seem that polygamy was allowed but mainly practiced by rulers and common people in monogamous marriage
 - (8) Polyandry and polydamy common to preserve dynastic succession
 - (8) Nudity acceptable in southern india (examples in paintings and sculptures)
 - (8) (around 1885) British Raj era (britain control india) british stigmatized indian "sexual liberalism"
 - (8) Dubbed barbaric
 - (8) Lead to a "puritanical attitude" towards sex within marriage
 - (8) Tradition of marriage
 - (8) Prostitution common acceptable (3000 c.e)
- **Family life**
 - (4) Born in Kuchwada India
 - (4) Attended Hitkarini College in Jabalpur
 - - (4) Then transfer to D.N Jain College bc of conflicts with professors
 - (4) After a year off in 1953 he claimed to be enlightened

● Sheela

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(7) <https://thewest.com.au/news/australia/tough-titties-the-fall-and-rise-of-a-controversial-woman-of-the-80s-ng-ya-116927>

- - **Profession**
 - **Education**
 - (7) born in India in 1949.
 - (7) She moved to the US when she was 18,
 - (7) studied in New Jersey and married Marc Silverman.
 - (7) The couple returned to India and became Rajneesh followers.
 - (7) He died and she took the name Ma Anand Sheela.
 - **Family life**

Oregon

- 100 friends

- Oregon laws
- Wasco and sheela conflict

● Oregon:

- Asharam problems
- Drugs
- Taxes

Indian laws

- (3) Movement so controversial local gov set up roadblocks to prevent expanding

● Ideology

- 9 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HHgNVRnkO88>
- When asked if he believes fighting injustice, he responded with I don't believe in anything
-
- (6) Sexual practice
 - (6) "sacred experience"
 - Say other religions conned sex as a sin
 - "Something beautiful" something to be grateful for
 - Union of two people
- (5) There is no god there it is a "psychological projection" stemming from childhood that causes people to believe in god
- Dress
 - (1) New indian names, dressed in red and orange clothes & participated in group sessions could be violent or sexual promiscuity
- meditation
- Rajneesh introduced the practice of "dynamic meditation," which, he asserted, enables people to experience divinity

DIVIDE

(10)

<https://www.neh.gov/humanities/2018/spring/feature/rajneeshpuram-was-more-utopia-desert-it-was-mirror>

- (10) One of the largest wiretapping in US history
- (10) Largest immigration fraud
- (10) Largest bioterrorist attack
- (10) Sex positive
- (10) Lots of money
- (10) Span from the 1970s to 1985
- (10) Combine western psychology and eastern spirituality

Milt Ritter

11 www.pbs.org/video/oregon-experience-preserving-rajneesh-tapes/

- (11) Covered Rajneeshpuram story
- (11) KGW (team) working for decided to keep all field tapes
 - (11) Usually recycled field tapes after a week

Osho's commune the controversial spiritual

12 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzY12FHnRvM>

- (12) 85,000 a yr come to learn about bangwan shri or Osho
- (12) One woman "(paraphrased) the goal isn't to have sex, it's all about meditation"
- (12) Osho temple after his death (?)
- (12) Wealthy commune
- (12) Teach that you need to be rich on the inside and the outside
-

13 https://around.uoregon.edu/rajneesh_collection

- (13) " Dave Frohnmayer and Bill Bowerman became involved and, within just a few years, the conflicts would escalate"
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(14) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gwx9nqknu-c>

- Sheela
- Bio terrorist attack
- In Oregon
- Professor rajneesh

- Capitalism and birth control
- Meditation camps new age movement
- Bombay where rahbeeshpiram developed
- -narcissism beads on prayer beads
- (14) Reflected monks outfit opposite of monks
- Me swami women ma
- See holy and divine
- (14) 1972 Bhagwan shree Rajneesh renamed = Blessed one lord or god
- Dynamic meditation
- (14) Easy to adopt phycologist intrigued, psychologist practices adopted rajneesh's meditation practices
 - (14) Phycologists sent back to us built practices and sent money to rajneesh
- (14) Pune in india first monastery or ashram established
 - (14) End of 1970 600 permanent residents
 - (14) Dynamic meditation encourage "acting out inner emotions" lead to fighting
 - (14) Sexual violence
 - Many westerners
 - (14) Ashram expensive many smuggled drugs and sold them on pune streets to afford it
 - (14) Strain city
 - (14) Strain on psychic
 - (14) Ashram haven't paid taxes (had exemption) bc of religious establishment
 - (14) Growing problems and value of sharam caused city to revoke tax exemption and sued for back taxes (equivalent to millions in usd)
 - (14) Forced to tear down illegally built huts
 - Cause drastic action
- Drastic action:
 - (14) Ma Yoga Laxmi (main assistant) hunting for a commune place
 - (14) Shela filled the admin role of Laxmi established herself and suggested they move to the US
 - (14) Rajneeshs travelled illegally to Us may 31 1981 (med treatment)
 - (14) Extended tourist visa
 - (14) Find a "big muddy ranch" in north eastern Oregon
 - (14) 64,000 Acres or 100 miles
- (14) Step 1 gain bureaucratic authority (first issue)
- (14) Dedicated for farming buildings had to be directly related to farming
 - (14) To avoid state bureaucracy the neo-sannyasins became incorporated City
 - (14) Made own oversight Council
 - (14) City population minimum 150
 - (14) Use US citizens to buy land

- (14) Major buy of land and move of people attract attention of group called 1000 Friends of Oregon
 - (14) Shela met with 1000 FOO convinced they were there to protect the land but needed a city to perform the work
 - Unconvinced about need for city
 - (14) Shela insulted legal practice and left upset
 - (14) Used media presence of Rajneesh to claim bigotry from 1000 Friends
 - Rajneesh told all followers never to question Sheela
 - (14) Had to get approval from WASCOC County for housing permits to build houses
 - (14) Ditched religious etier and lied about intentions in order to get permits (150 ppl approved)
 - Californians urged to sell all belonging and give money to aid commune
 - Wanted to build printing factory and admin office for rajneesh's books 20 miles away in Antelope
 - (14) Cstate denied permits, Rajneesh began campaign against it, lawsuits against Antelope,
 - (14) To contain retaliation Antelope made special election april 15 1982
 - (14) Did incorporate the city
 - (14) Got bad press and won election through loophole
 - (14) Shela made radical change
 - (14) Demand franchise be change
 - (14) Standardise food, lessons, and close all small practices
 - (14) Instead of small practices they wanted to use the money to make more communities
 - (14) Most people unhappy about the order
 - (14) Rajneesh put pressure on rajneeshpuram
 - (14) Preach minimalist lifestyle but he likes items and goods
 - (14) Wanted luxuries (big house, jewel encrusted watches and rolls royce)
 - (14) Vow of silence
 - Media focused on Rajneesh's actions
 - Rajneesh's citizenship threatened
 - (14) Commune residents often graduated college students
 - (14) Subject to physical labour dubbed as enjoyable (12 hr work day 7 days a week)
- Swami Krishna Deva (mayor) 16:33 vide quote**
- (14) Apply for permit saying its for agriculture had other purpose
 - (14) Got negative press (shela's speeches)
 - Made police department "Peace force police force"
 - (14) Commune not directly attacked
 - (14) Steven Paul oaster launch bombing attack on Hotel Rajneesh in portland

- (14) Included Rajneesh owned Zprba the Buddha NightClub
- (14) Extremist Islamic cult: Steven Paul Paster apart of
 - (14) Used as propaganda to show followers outsiders were aggressive and hostile
 - (14) Security checkpoints
 - (14) Stricter dress codes
 - (14) US members instructed to marry foreigners so they could have residency
 - City portion growing business flourish
 - (14) Expensive to study at center for Rajneesh movement
 - (14) Net positive financial venture
 - (14) Income dropped by 75%
 - (14) Decrease in income
 - (14) Political enemies
 - (14) Adjust teachings
 - (14) Chant sanskrit, near in direction of Rajneesh
 - Sheila wants more power
 - sheela had anyone expressing wanting to leave sedated for a few days to weeks until they agreed to stay
 - Sonya attempted to send a letter to Rajneesh to complain about her but she intercepted it
 - Then ordered to have her uterus removed
 - problematic members told they'd falsely contracted aids, then kept away from groups and kept sick by one of the leaders
 - This done by Ma Anand Puja close friend
 - people not allowed to see medical specialists outside the commune
 - Could work through illness or leave

Sheila's power challenged

- (14) Group Hollywood people
 - (14) Rich people given separate housing didn't have to work or associate with commune
 - (14) Allowed to do this if they paid for rolls royce and rolexes or rajneesh
- (14) Sheila became paranoid
 - (14) Began to wire tap
 - (14) Hollywood people
 - (14) Rajneesh
 - (14) Hotel
 - (14) Payphone
- (14) Paranoia caused by stimulants and sedatives given by Ma Anand Puja
 - (14) Drugs necessary to allow her to work frantic schedule
- (14) Rajneesh was on powerful depressants ex valium

- (14) Commune began to degrade

(14) **Hidden in corner sheila hidden laboratory**

- (14) To test biological weapons that'd be difficult to trace back to the commune
- (14) Settle on salmonella
- (14) During inspection of new construction wasco county commissioner's car sabotaged by Rajneeshee, while waiting Puja gave them water infused with salmonella
 - (14) Next day one of the commissioners hospitalized and would have died without emergency care
 - (14) Other bed ridden
- (14) Group of trusted Rajneeshee made trips to Dalles
 - (14) Attempted to smear salmonella on public toilets and to sicken country workers and people at rallies
 - (14) Began pouring salmonella on vegetables at grocery store
- Rajesh grew impatient and wanted sheila to get rid of legislature preventing construction

(14) Election for WASCO county in nov 1984

- (14) Made plan to take over role of commissioner
- (14) Made calls to trick opponents into bad mouthing Rajesh
 - (14) Used to claim bigotry
- (14) Grow voter base done through initiative
 - (14) Went around country promise food and logging
 - (14) Not for charity
 - (14) "Share a home"
 - (14) Plan to have homeless vote for rajneesh
- (14) Pt 3 use salmonella to sicken voters to decrease voter turnout
- (14) Sheila took trusted group to Dallwa with live salmonella cultures and went to 10 different restaurants
 - (14) Poured salmonella onto salads and dressing
 - (14) Immediate and pronounced reaction
 - (14) 751 people affected
 - (14) 45 hospitalised
 - (14) 1 pregnant woman almost lost child during labour due to salmonella

Also attempted to contaminate water

- (14) Pour raw sewage into public water tanks
- Every attempt failed
 - (14) One woman found for voter fraud trying to vote under given and rajeeche name
 - (14) Bc of that phone calls she intended to use were invalid

- (14) Share a home
 - (14) Homeless population outnumber rejeeche alcohol laced with antipsychotic to sedate them and prevent fights
- Other pending lawsuits
- (14) Final plan to burn offices of Dan Durrow, WASCO County planner
- (14) After trial about Rajneeshpuram's improper electrical wiring at a festival sheila had water contaminated with haloperidol
- In australia sheila got ownership of a company but when accused of drugging shareholders stocks tanked
- Other rajeesh brink of winning 1.7 million lawsuit
 - Failed assassination
- (14) City councilman from Dalles recovering from surgery, Puja went to inject potassium and adrenaline into iv to kill him
 - (14) Failed bc he didnt have an IV drip, panicked and left
 - (14) Discovered car had a dead battery
- (14) Plan to assassinate man investigating sham marriages of the commune killed but fail bc there was never a good time
- (14) Sheila found out Rajeesh contumplaiting suicide, heard his caretaker Devaraj could help him with a series of lethal injections (heard through wire tapping)
- (14) Sheila demand Devaraj and rajeesh personal doctor Vivek assassinated and conspirators
 - (14) Some suspected Sheila had grown jealous of attention Rajneesh's caregivers received
 - (14) Planned to inject both of them with lethal dose of adrenalin
 - (14) Both attempts failed
- (14) Leadership council planned to load a plane with explosives and fly it into the wasco county planning office
 - (14) Other members refused to follow through bc leadership becoming weak
 - (14) Attempted murder accusations
- (14) Total death count 0
- (14) Commune losing members
- (14) Frasis fitsgerald reported
 - (14) Rajaneeshpuram looked empty and still in august compared to 1983
 - (14) Legal deadlock prevented and halted any building (larger scale)
 - (14) Lost legal disputes drained commune's finances
 - (14) And rajneesh's demand for rolls royce (collected 93)
- (14) Sheila left fled to europe
- (14) Rajneesh claimed to not know of shaila's aggressive action
- (14) Oct 23 1985 Grand jury Indict Rajneesh and Sheila
 - (14) Evidence of evading immigration laws

- (14) Indictment leaked to Rajneesh he chartered two jets and left with some followers to go to Bermuda
 - (14) Unaware fed gov was monitoring him and caught him in Charlotte, North Carolina
 - (14) Sheela Discovered in Germany and expedited to the US
 - (14) Sheela given 20 yrs but released on parole after 2 yrs
 - (14) Rajneesh deported back to india, tried to rename himself
 - Died 5 yrs later
 - Rajneeshpuram turned into christian youth camp
 - Rajneesh movement tries to tie itself to OSHO with meditation centers
- 32:52 Rajneeshpuram Down the rabbit hole

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