

Version 3.0

Jan 2005

Osho
Early prints
and manuscripts.

Osho Lao Tzu library
- research project
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A few words

Osho. Early prints and manuscripts' is an enlarged and revised edition of the first version which appeared in October 1999.

It contains photos and brief text to document some major steps in Osho's reading, in his library activities and in the publishing of his words and gaps. Needless to say, it's not supposed to be complete.

The findings are based on studies over the years with interviews and documentation in various parts of India, including Osho's librarians and collectors of his words.

Nobody will be mentioned, and no one will be forgotten.

Im deeply grateful to each and everyone who has shared her or his golden memories and collections with me.

The study does not intend to present photos suitable for text reading. Rather it's documenting what's existing, for further decision-making and cooperation in fulltext scanning of early magazines and publications in Hindi as well as in English.

Paper does not last forever, and certainly not in a climate like India's.

Other publications in this field include:

- * Osho Lao Tzu library - an ocean of words, a mountain of silence. 150 pages, version 4.0, July 2003. (research notes)
- * India's greatest bookman. Article in LOGOS: The Journal of the World Book Community, 2001:1, page 49-51.
- * Two tales - one story. A review of strategic alliances and spirituality. Essay in: Allah to Zen (New Delhi 2000). Also on www.
- * A somewhat more scholarly article on 15 pages to be published in a library and information science journal is in progress.

Any contribution or information will be deeply appreciated.

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1.1.

* Ganj Primary School [Pradhamik Sala] in Gadarwara where Osho at the age 9½ in 1941 was admitted directly in 2nd Hindi class and continued here until finishing grade four. The primary school is from the street entered through the now changed Elephant Gate.

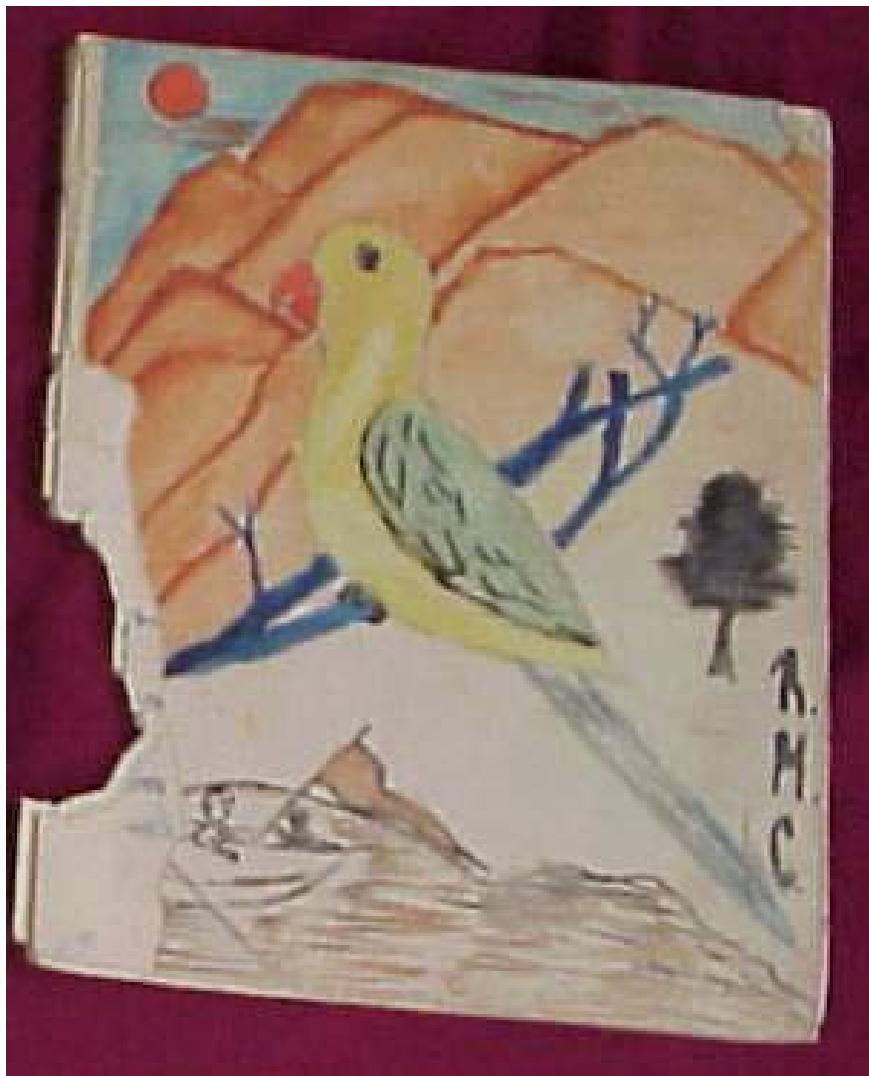
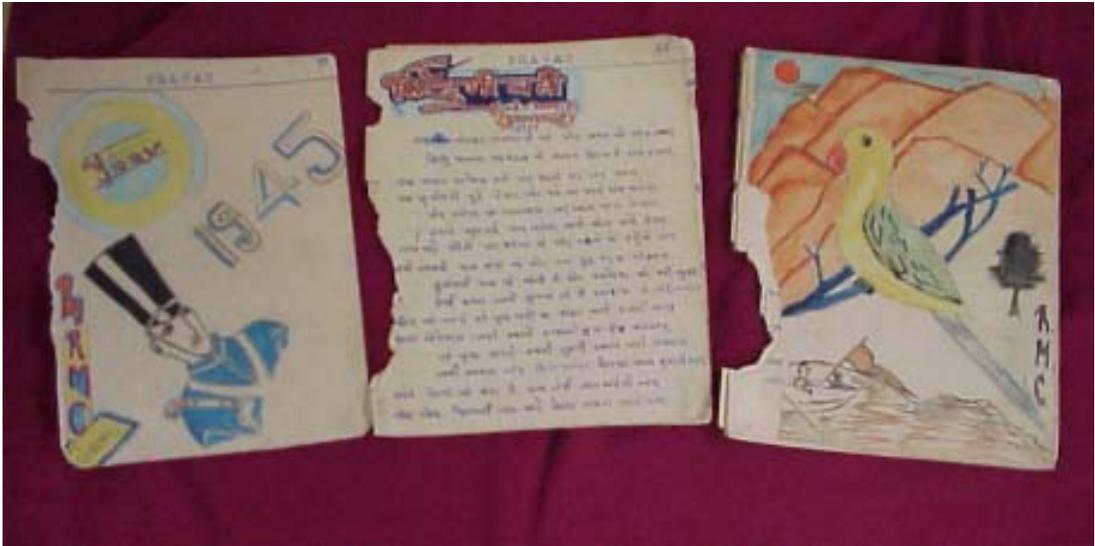
1.2.

* At Ganj Primary School [Pradhamik Sala] in Gadarwara Osho started in this classroom where to the left is seen Sukhraj Bharti who was a classmate to Osho and sat next to him from day one in that far left corner. He noticed that Osho could read and had beautiful books and sketches in his schoolbag. Also Osho brought with him a polished stoneslate with a wooden frame, belonging to the family. Osho's schoolbag and his first pens were with the family until the 1960s.



2.0

* Prayas [Effort]. Issue nr. 2, 1945. Osho's first publication at the age of fourteen. Handwritten magazine with titles and some pages printed in toy press with rubber letters. All articles written by Osho, 3-4 in his own name (Rajneesh Mohan Chandra/RMC), some under pseudonym, others in the names of his classmates and friends. Contains drawings, jokes, poetry, e.g. the folk song Rani Durgawati. Also letters to friends to be read in a mirror. Yearly. 1944-issue missing. Format A5. Coloured. Wastepaper. [Niklank].



3.1.

* Middle School at Town Hall area in Gadarwara. Osho was at this middle school from grade five to grade eight, 1944-48. With a separate test paper for a drawing contest in 1948 Osho won a grade A.

3.2.

* Govt. Higher Secondary School [now: Municipal High school] at Town Hall area in Gadarwara. Osho went to higher secondary school from grade 9-11, 1948-1951. He immatriculated in 1951 after 10 years in lower, middle and higher secondary school in Gadarwara - having started in grade two - and left for college in Jabalpur.



4.1.

* The playground in Town Hall area in Gadarwara where pupils still gather for play and sport, including cricket. Osho used to sit and tell stories to friends at the playground or at riverbank when visiting Gadarwara from Jabalpur later on.

4.2.

* In Gadarwara Osho first lived at the joint family's house, and his uncle, a cloth merchant, followed Osho to school the first morning in 1941 when he was seated next to Sukhraj Bharti. As the family was growing, Osho had to move to another place, Prabhu Niwas [God's residence], where his father made interior refurnishing for Osho's books around 1945. When visiting from Jabalpur later on he stayed in this newer room no.6, with niches in the wall for his books. Now in 2000 the house is a guest house.

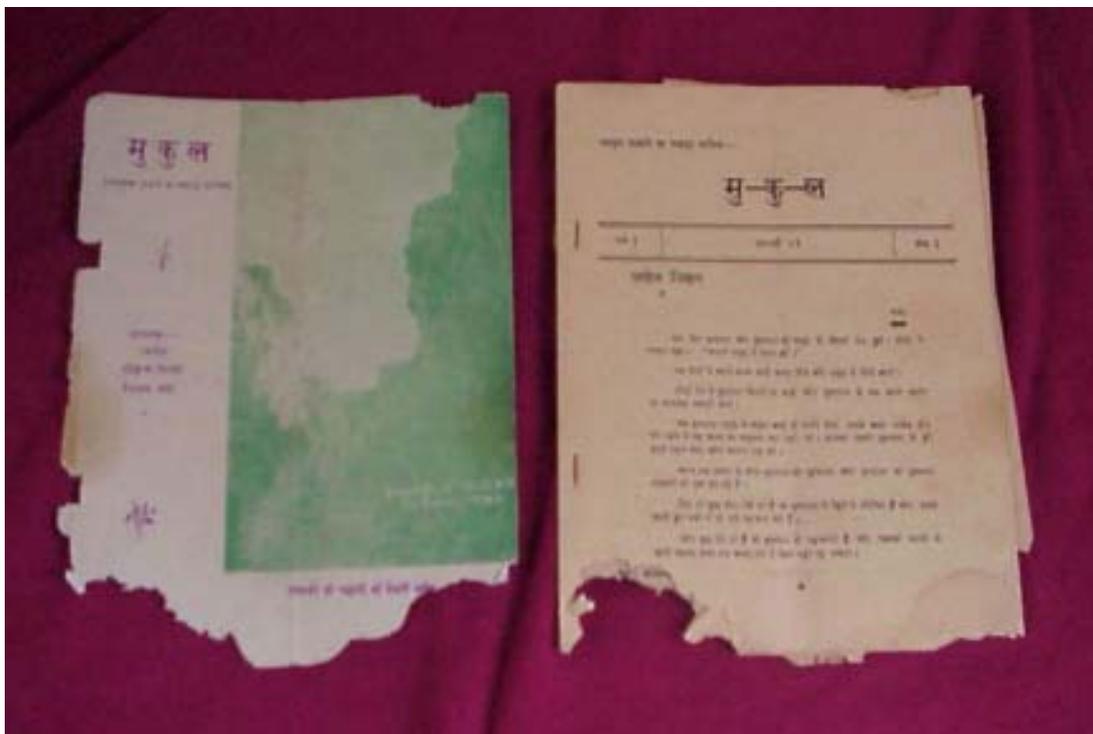


5.1.

* Inventory from Osho's first library. This part contains 1106 entries from the period 1943-1950. All entries according to: number / title / author / price / subject. Quarto format. Handwritten. [Niklank].

5.2.

* Mukul. 3rd issue. 1953. Osho's second magazine publication, now printed. Was published in Jabalpur during 1953. Editors: Rajneesh and his friends Hari Krishna Tripathi and Baijnath Sharma. From the content: On Kahlil Gibran. Osho: My Thoughts (on destroying the old to create the new). On Gandhism. Osho: Life, Death and Nature. Jokes, Poems. Letters to the editor, all written and answered by Osho. Including advertisements. Mukul meaning body/soul/flower in bud. [Niklank].



6.1.

* In Gadawara the public library used by Osho was at first floor in this ochreous building at Town Hall area. The top green sign says Sarvajanic Pustkalya with the head of Lala Lajpat Raj, one of Gandhi's revolutionaries.

6.2.

* Sarvajanic Pustkalya public library in Gadawara. The interior of the library is still the same three rooms as when Osho was a library user. As a teenager Osho had read all books in the library. At present (2000) a new extension is being made on ground floor.



7.1.

* Public library [Sarvajanic Pustkalya] in Gadawara. Four books in English with Osho's signature (Rajneesh Mohan Chandra) donated among others to the library when Osho left Gadawara for Jabalpur in 1951. Left: Two copies of: Mother India / Katherine Mayo (1933, 1st ed. 1927), a somewhat tendentious survey where Mayo, an American, is blaming Hinduism for Indian immunity to progress.

7.2.

* Public library [Sarvajanic Pustkalya] in Gadawara. Book cupboard in the newspaper room containing Osho's donations. After his move to college in Jabalpur in 1951 Osho continued to donate books to the library, mostly non-fiction on cultural history.

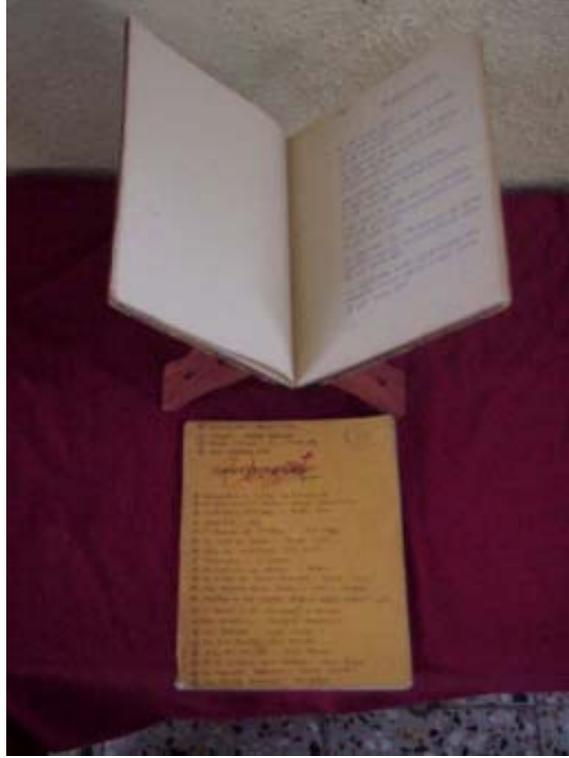


8.1.

* Osho's notebooks from his college days, app. 1951-57. The writing is mostly in English but some also in Hindi. All text is written across the lines of the notebook. [Niklank].

8.2.

* Sagar University Library. Two exteriors. Following the move of the university library to new premises in 1960, this building was converted into military barracks. Photos from 1972 in album. [Niklank].



9.1.

* The maulshree tree [Bodhi tree] in Bhnawar Tal Garden, Jabalpur. Osho sat under this tree during the night March 21, 1953.

9.2.

* The maulshree tree [Bodhi tree] in Bhnawar Tal Garden, Jabalpur. White clouds drifting over Jabalpur.



10.1.

* Fateh Chand Goyal, present editor of Navbharat Times, a leading Jabalpur daily newspaper. He worked as a journalist with Osho, writing and translating for the Hindi paper in the mid-fifties. They both went to D.N. Jain College in Jabalpur up to 1954.

10.2.

* Principal Dr. A.K.Shrivastava and colleagues, Mahakoshal Mahavidyalaya [Arts College], Jabalpur, a government college affiliated to Jabalpur University. Here Osho was enrolled as a lecturer of philosophy from 21.9.1957 – beginning his teaching at the affiliated Raipur College until 26.12.1957. He resigned as assistant professor in 1967.

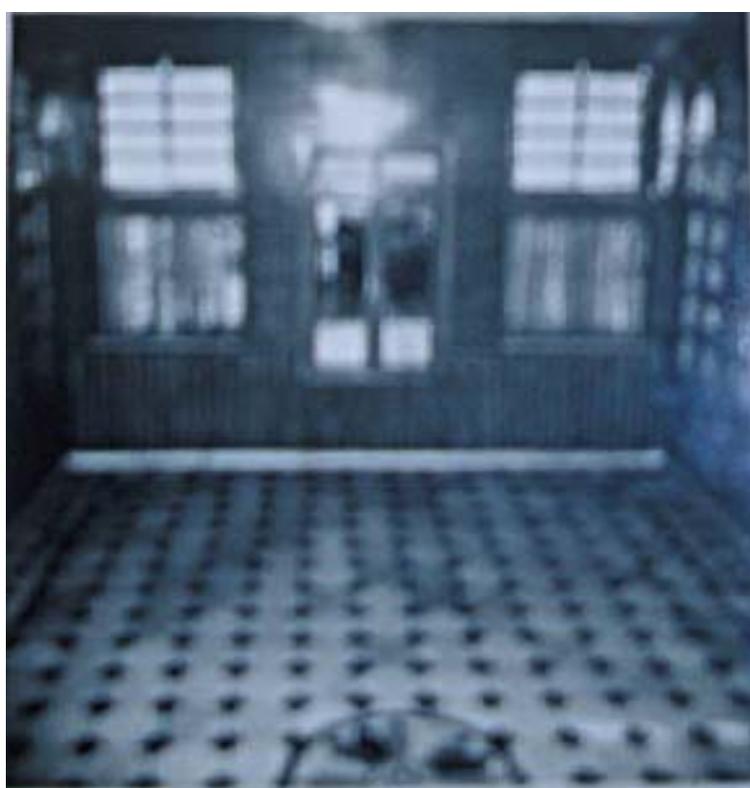
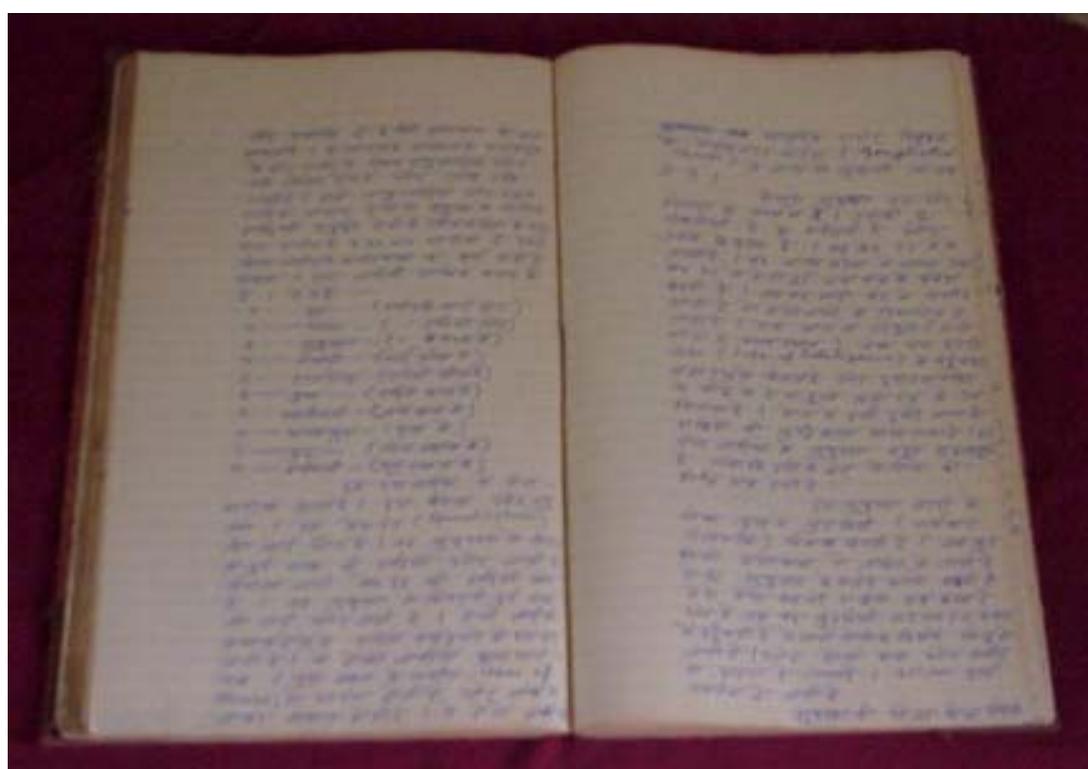


11.1.

* Osho's notes in Hindi on chakras, samadhi etc. From his post graduate studies for his M.A. at Sagar University 1955-57. [Niklank].

11.2.

* In Jabalpur Osho stayed several places. From 1960 to app. 1967 in Yogesh Bhawan, a two-storeyed bungalow with a hall added to the house for his use. The meditation hall, as he called this room, had wooden panels and was also his library room with books on shelves. In this hall, with a dais in the center, Osho held meditations at 8 p.m. for his friends. Photo is later. In album. [Niklank].

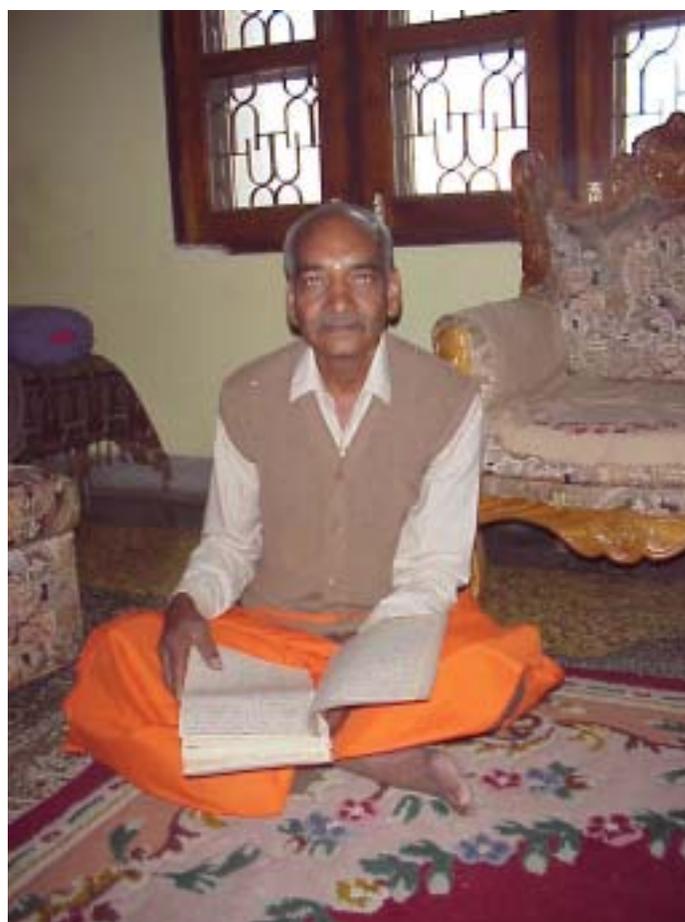


12.1.

* Ram Chandra Naik, librarian 1962-96 at Rani Durgawati University Library, Jabalpur. Osho used this library intensively assisted by Naik who also helped him organize his private library in Jabalpur.

12.2.

* Rani Durgawati University Library, interior from reading hall. The reading desks being used in the background are the same as when Osho had 50-100 books passing over his desk on a weekly basis. Some of them were kept at his desk for days when not taken home. As a teacher Osho could take home five books at a time, students only two.

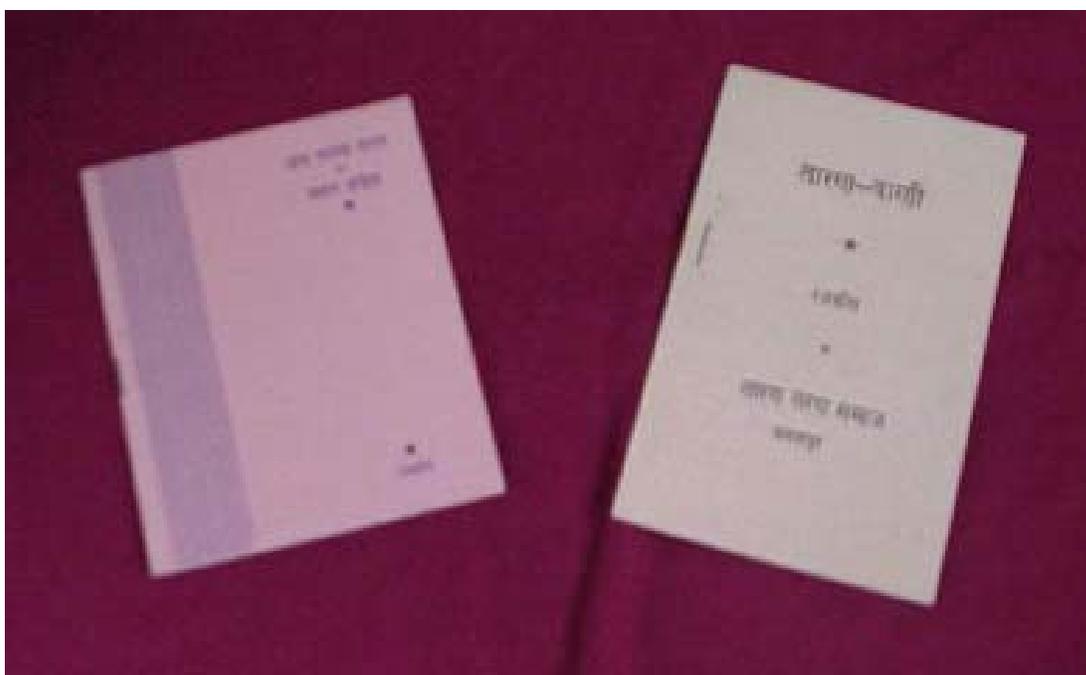


13.1.

* Two pamphlets with Osho's studies and messages published in Jabalpur 1955 onwards for the yearly cross-religious conferences - Sarva Dharma Sannelan [All Religion Conferences] - where Osho gave talks and occasionally presided. Top right: Taaran-Vani, Osho's first published discourse. [Niklank].

13.2.

* In Jabalpur from 1968 to 1970 Osho stayed in Kamala Nehru Nagar. He is shown reading and working in his study. From here he left for Woodlands in Bombay in 1970. Contemporary photos. In album. [Niklank].

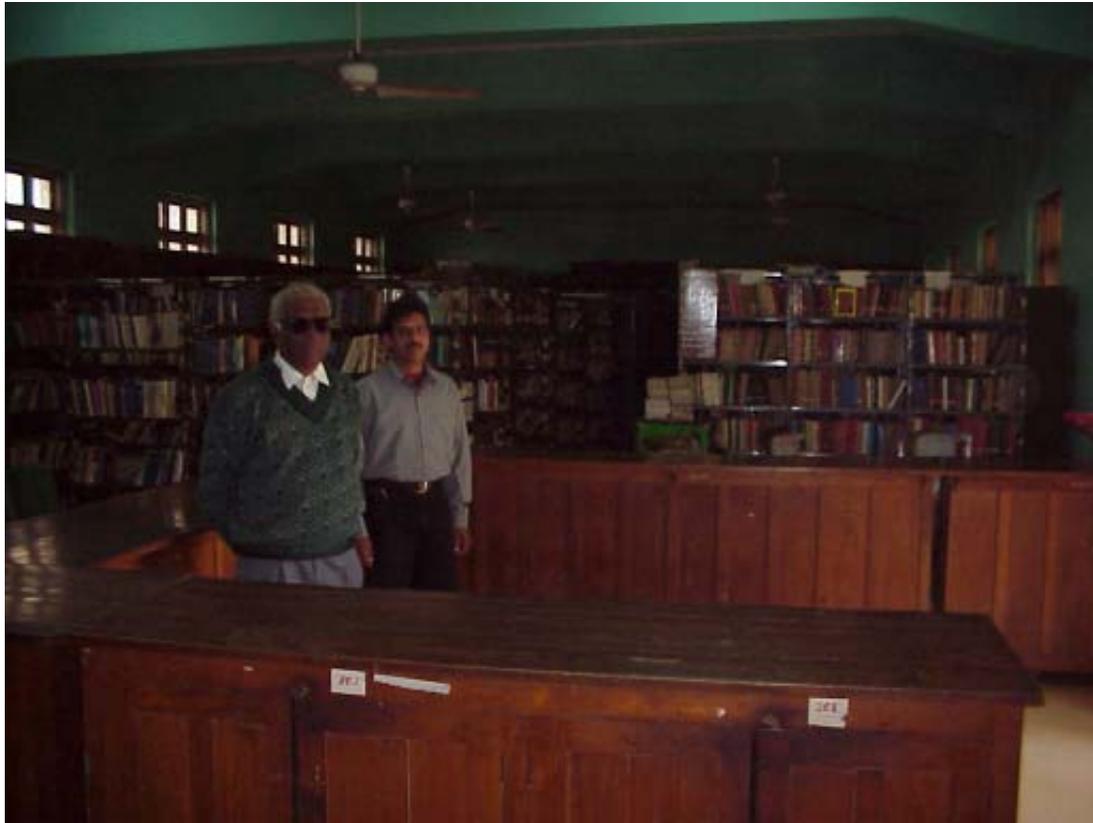


14.1.

* Mahakoshal Mahavidyalaya [Arts College] Library, interior. Osho used this library at the college where he was employed to a lesser degree than the library at Rani Durgawati University, where he was assisted by Naik, the university librarian.

14.2.

* Ledger from Mahakoshal Mahavidyalaya [Arts College] Library, to keep record of the charging out of library books. On this page from July/August 1958 Osho, with the signature Rajneesh, has taken out e.g. *Studies in Dying Cultures*, *An Experiment in Time*, *In the House of Meditation*, *Confucius: The Man and the Mystery*, and *Attack upon Christendom* by Soeren Kierkegaard, the Danish existentialist philosopher.

A handwritten ledger or notebook page with multiple columns of text and numbers. The handwriting is in blue ink on lined paper. The page is filled with entries, likely a list or a record. The columns are roughly defined by vertical lines. The text is dense and covers most of the page. There are some red markings at the top of the page, possibly a title or a section header. The bottom of the page has some faint text, possibly a page number or a date.

15.1.

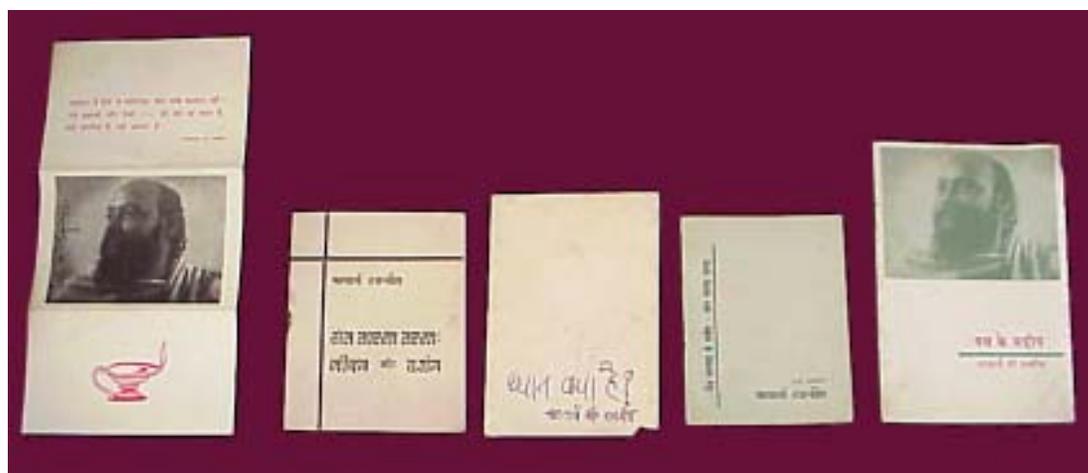
* Early booklets and publications by Osho from Jabalpur, published 1960–63.

From left to right:

1. Greeting card for Deepavali, the Hindu New Year. Hindi celebration leaflet in memory of the festival of lights.
2. Life and Philosophy of saint Taaran Taran. 12 pages.
3. Dhyan Kya Hai? [What is Meditation?]. 20 pages.
4. Life and Philosophy of saint Taaran Taran. 13 pages.
5. Path ke Pradip. 24 pages with photo on cover. Booklet, published by the Digambara sect of Jainism, on the occasion of saint Taaran Taran [The Savior]. Later published in bookform with more short teachings under same title and without photo on cover. Was distributed in the audience when Osho was speaking. [Arvind Jain].

15.2.

* Rani Durgawati University Library, Jabalpur. Stacks in section for philosophy, a subject dived into by Osho.

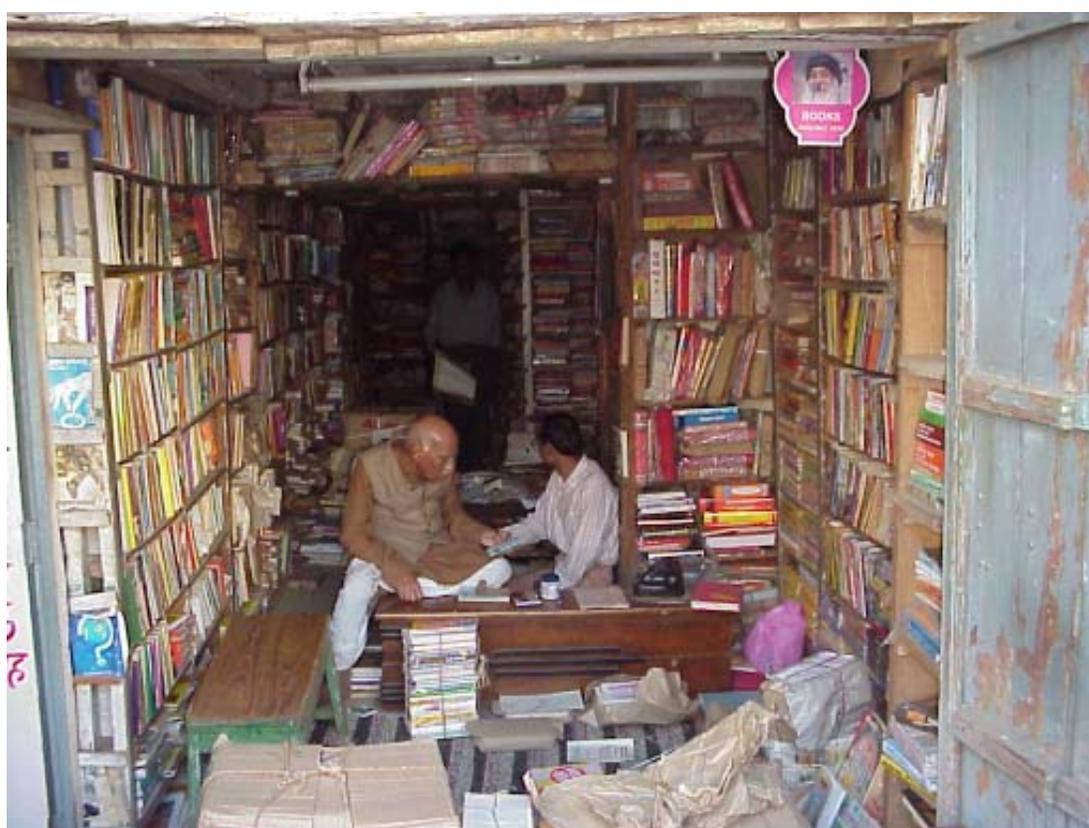
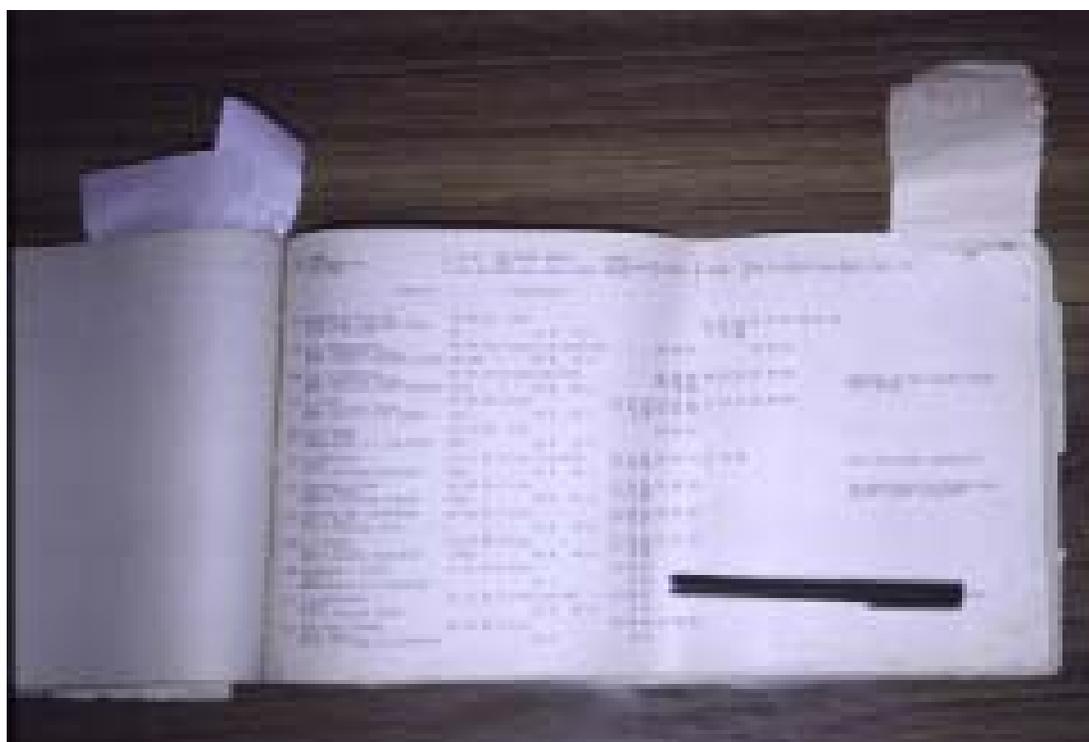


16.1.

* 'Abstract of History of Services', ledger at Mahakoshal Mahavidyalaya [Arts College], a government college affiliated to Jabalpur University. The ledger is stating the facts on Oshos's academic career at this institution: 21.9.1957 Osho was enlisted as a lecturer (starting at the affiliated Raipur University), from March 1959 he was promoted to assistant professor in philosophy, and in 1967 he resigned from this position. To devote himself to his spiritual work and the organizing of meditation camps.

16.2.

* Sushma Sahitya Mandir Bookshop, Jawaharganj Market, Jabalpur. Osho bought many of his new books in Hindi from this bookshop on first floor. The interior is unchanged and the bookshop is still (Feb 2000) with the same owner, S.M.Jain (left), a former friend of Osho.

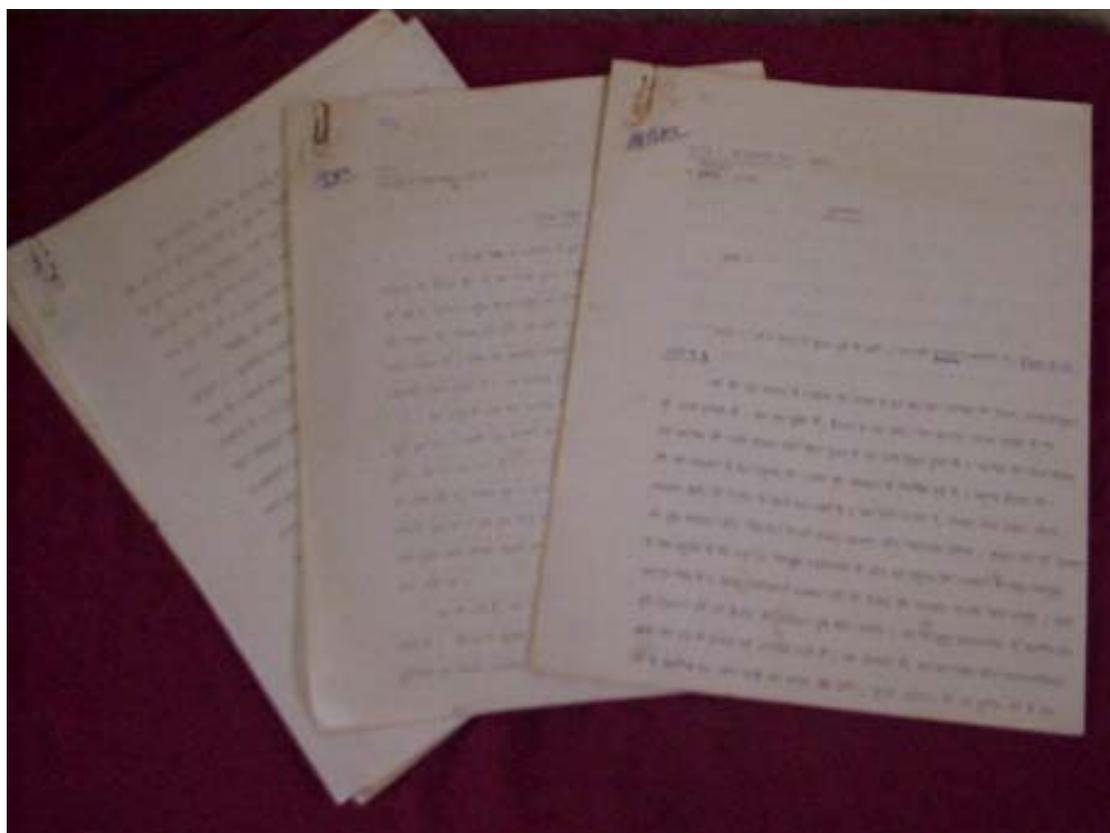


17.1.

* Top left: Hindi publication [Youth and Sex]. Center top: Jivan darshan [Philosophy of Life. 10 letters]. Center bottom: Neo-sannyas. Top right: Amrut kan. 1st edition. [Nectar particles]. All published in Jabalpur before 1965. [Niklank].

17.2.

* Osho's manuscripts for Yukrand monthly magazine, typed by his secretary Arvind Jain and published in Jabalpur 1969-1975. [Niklank].



18.1.

Top left:

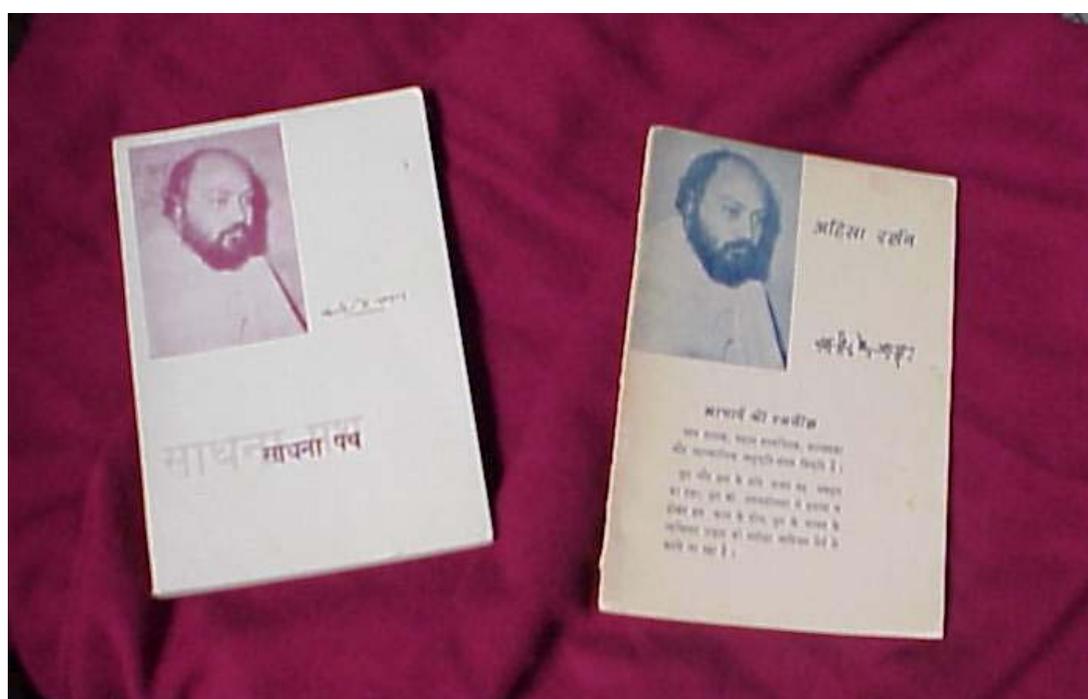
* Sachana Path. 1st edition. Jeevan Jagruti Kendra, Bombay. 1965. 154 pages. Editor not mentioned.

Top right:

* Ahimsa darshan. 1st edition. Jeevan Jagruti Kendra, Bombay. 1966. 33 pages. Editor not mentioned. [Hindi Publications, OIC].

18.2.

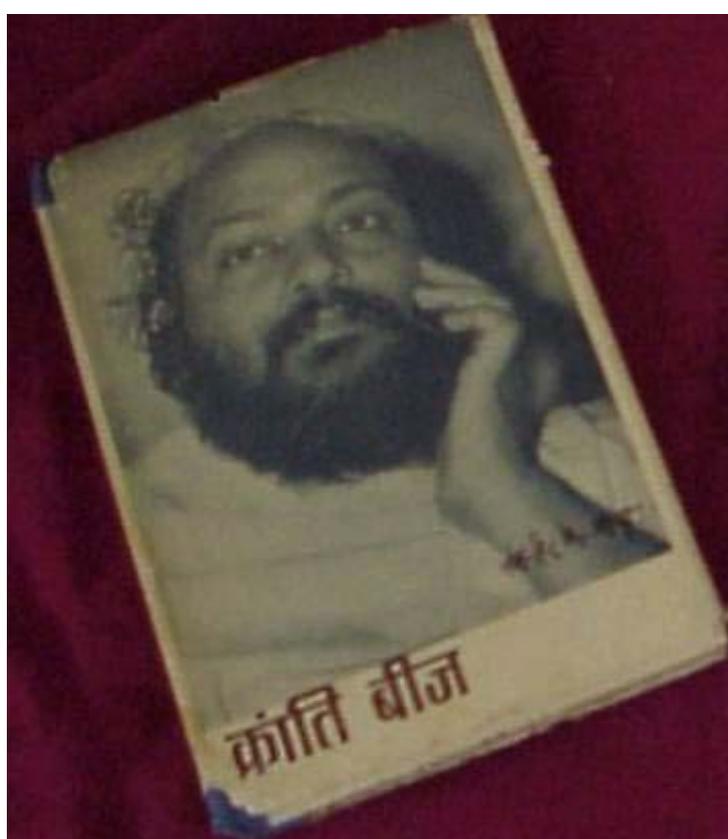
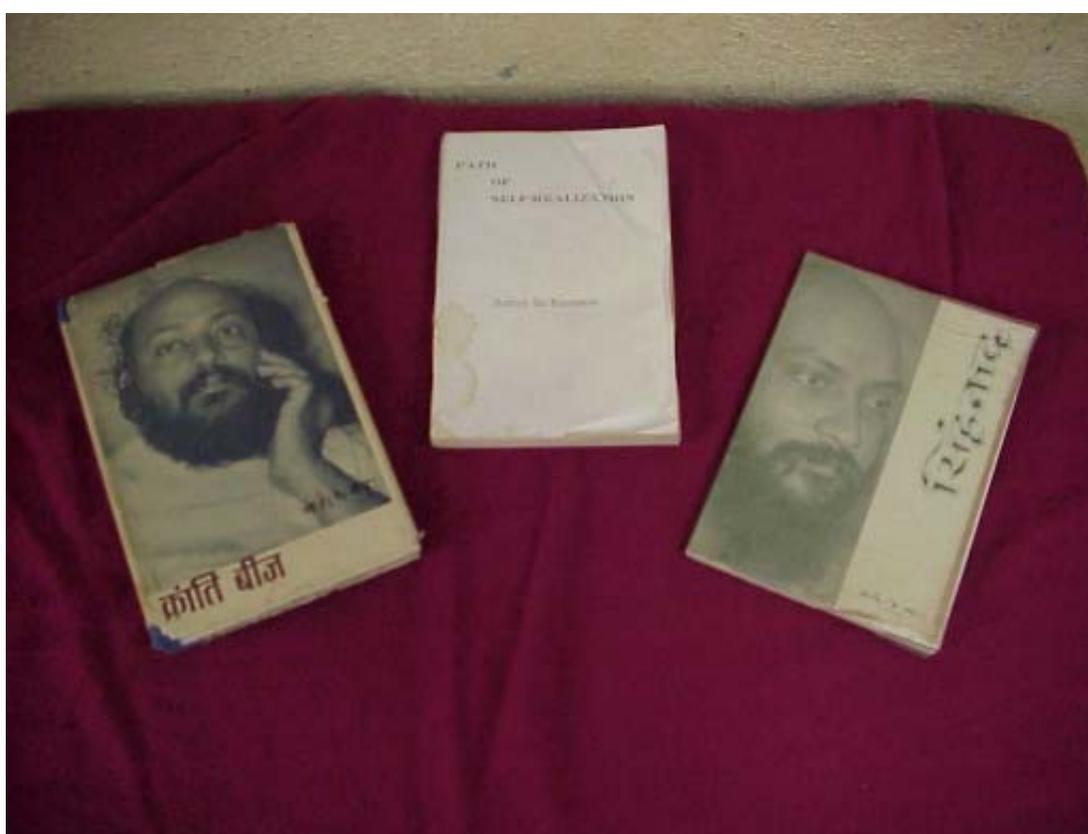
* Part of library room created by his father for Osho during his stay in Prabhu Niwas, Gadarwara. Shelves and photo of Tagore on left sloping wall. Contemporary photo taken by Osho. Retouched. [Niklank].



19.0.

Top left and bottom: * Kranti beej. 1st edition. Jeevan Jagruti Kendra, Bombay, 1965. 177 pages. Top center: * Path to Self Realisation / Acharya Rajneesh. 1st edition. Bombay. December 1964.

Top right: * Sinhanad. 2nd edition. Bombay, September 1967. 79 pages. [The lion's roar]. [Niklank].



20.1.

Top left:

* Sinhanad. 2nd edition. Bombay, September 1967. 79 pages. [The lions roar].

Top right:

* Sinhanad. 1st edition. Bombay, August 1965. 78 pages.

[Umila].

20.2.

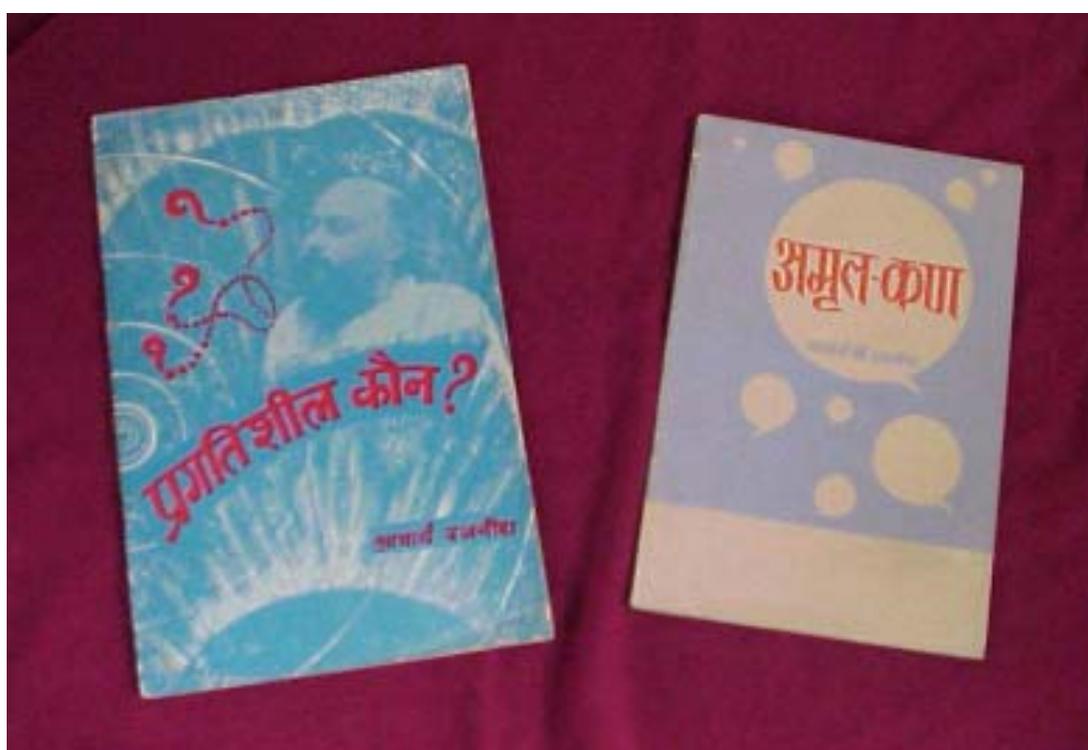
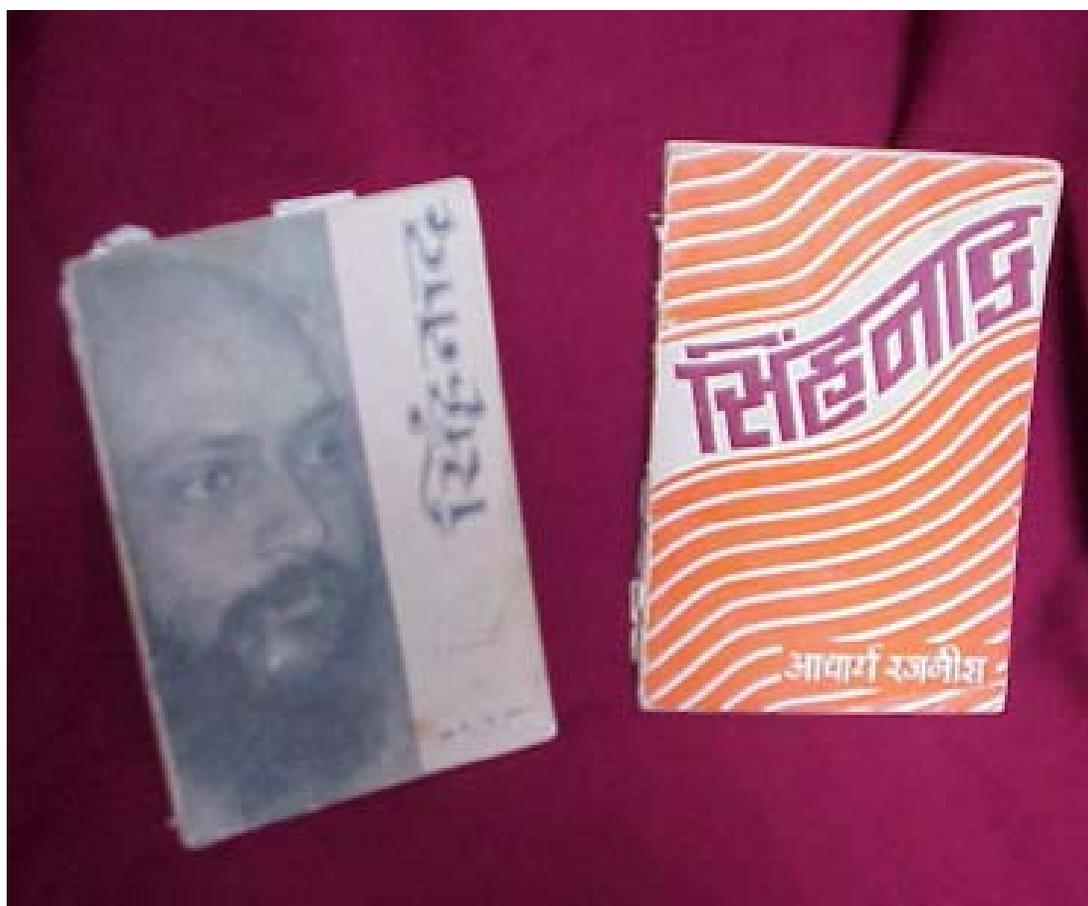
Bottom left:

* Pragatisheel kaun. 1971. [Who is progressive],

Bottom right:

* Amrut kan. 2nd edition. 1966. 24 pages. [Nectar particles].

[Niklank].



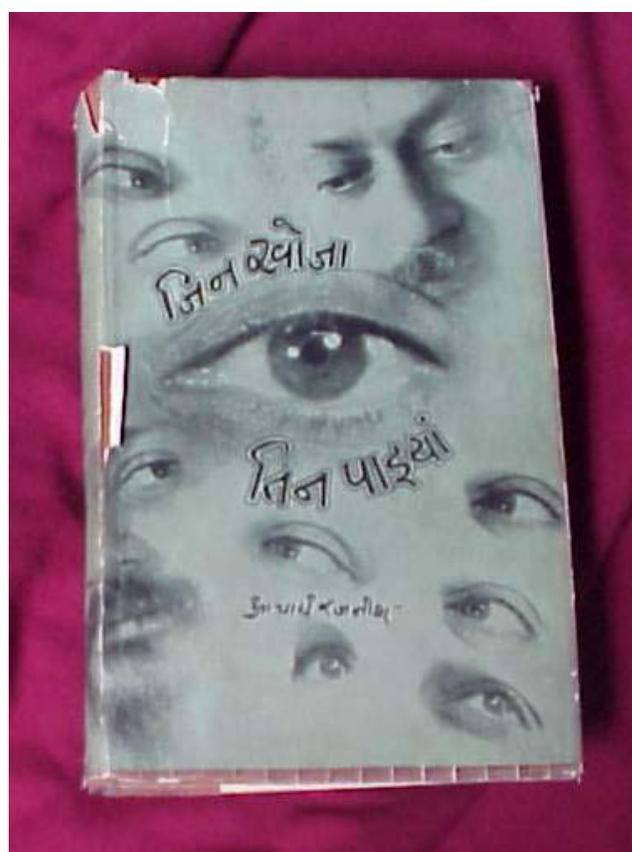
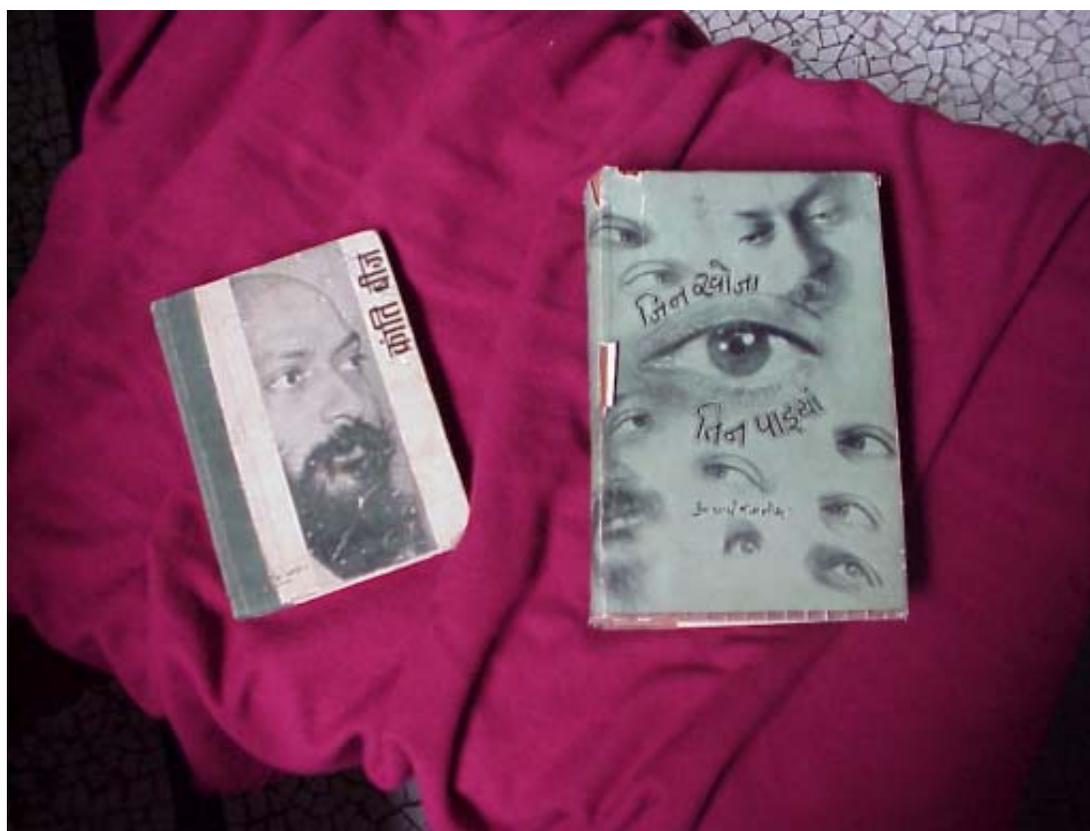
21.0.

Top left:

* Kranti beej. 2nd edition. Jeevan Jagruti Kendra, Bombay. December 1965. 177 pages.

Top right and bottom:

* Jin Khoja Tin Paiyan. 1st edition. Editor: Yoga Chimmaya. Jeevan Jagruti Kendra, Bombay. April 1971. 571 pages. [Hindi Publications, OIC]



22.1.

Top left:

* Acharya Rajneesh: Samanwaya, Vishleshan aur Samsiddhi / R.C.Prasad. Motilal Banarsidass Publishers, Delhi. 1969. 214 pages. [First study on Osho],

Top right:

* Jin khoja tin paiyan. 1st edition. Editor: Yoga Chimmaya. Jeevan Jagruti Kendra, Bombay. April 1971. 571 pages. [Hindi Publications, OIC]

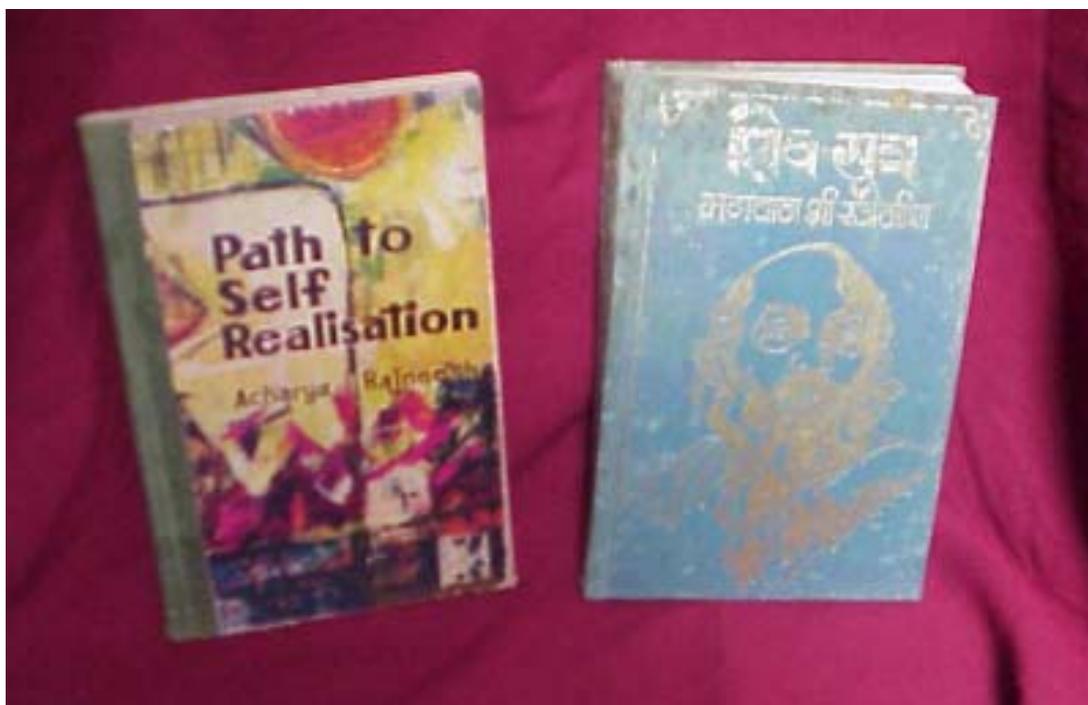
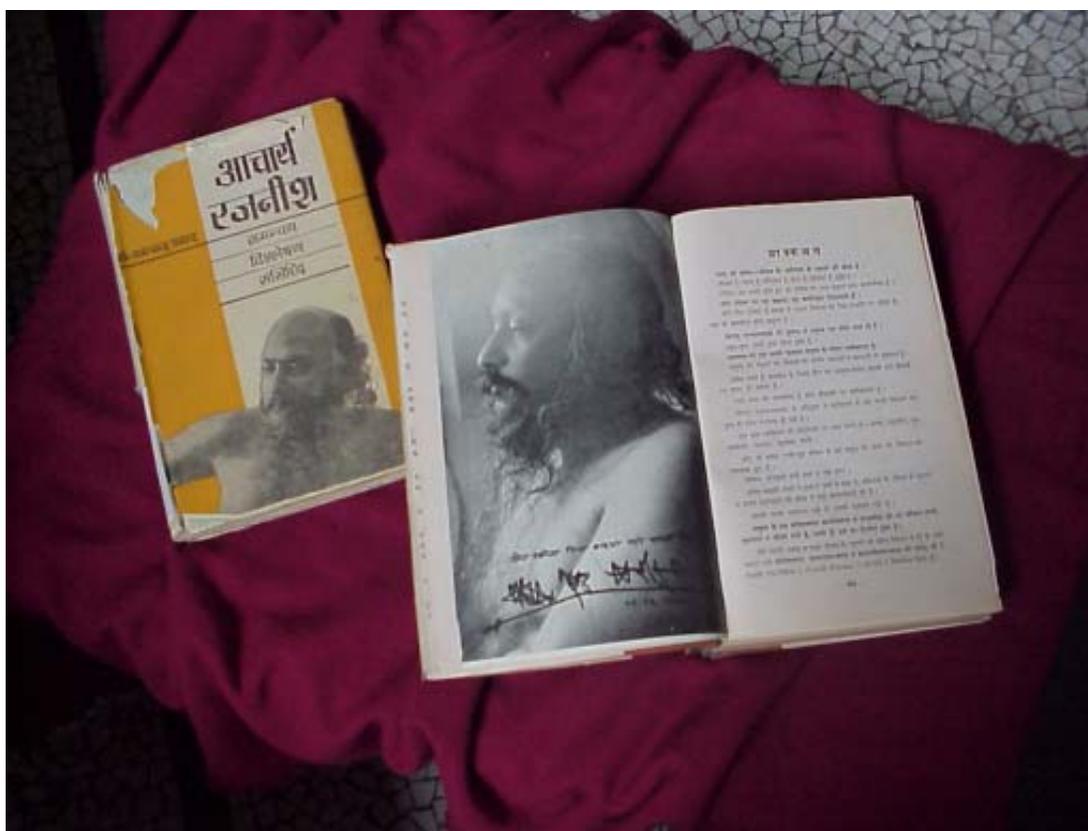
22.2.

Bottom left:

* Path to Self Realisation / Acharya Rajneesh. 3rd revised edition. Jeevan Jagruti Kendra, Bombay. March, 1971. 3.000 ex. Rs.5.00. 151 pages.

Bottom right:

* Shiva Sutra. 1st edition. Rajneesh Foundation, Pune. 1975. 277 pages. [Umila].

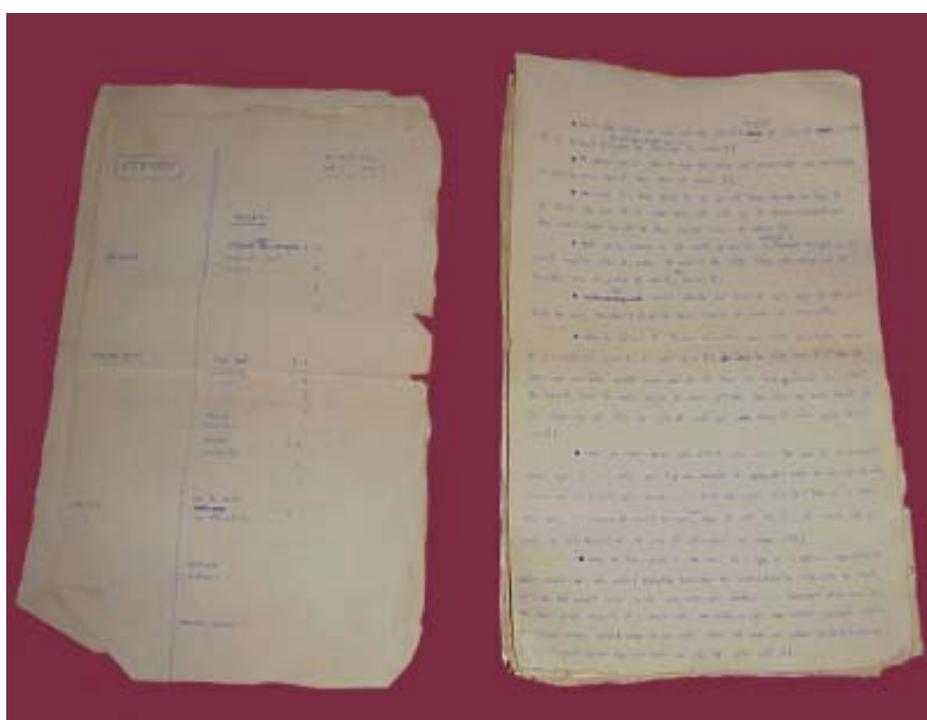
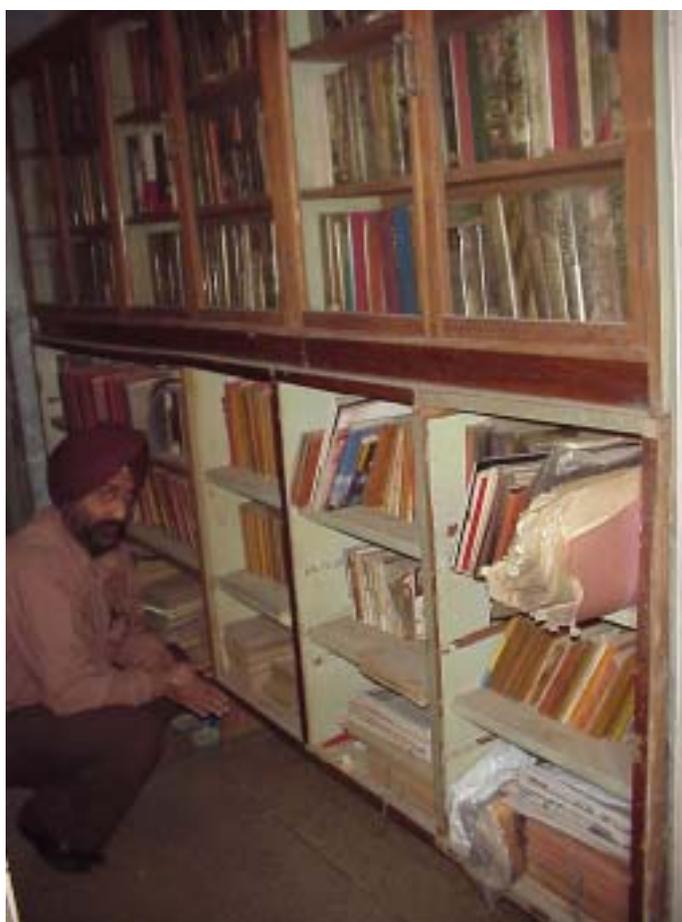


23.1.

* The book collection on Osho, belonging to Sw. Vijay Bharti, New Delhi. Since 1970 he has compiled an extensive and almost complete collection of Osho's books and magazines, including many early publications.

23.2.

* Early manuscripts in Hindi. Handwritten by Osho in Jabalpur during the 1960s for typewriting and -setting. 477 pages total. [Anonymous].



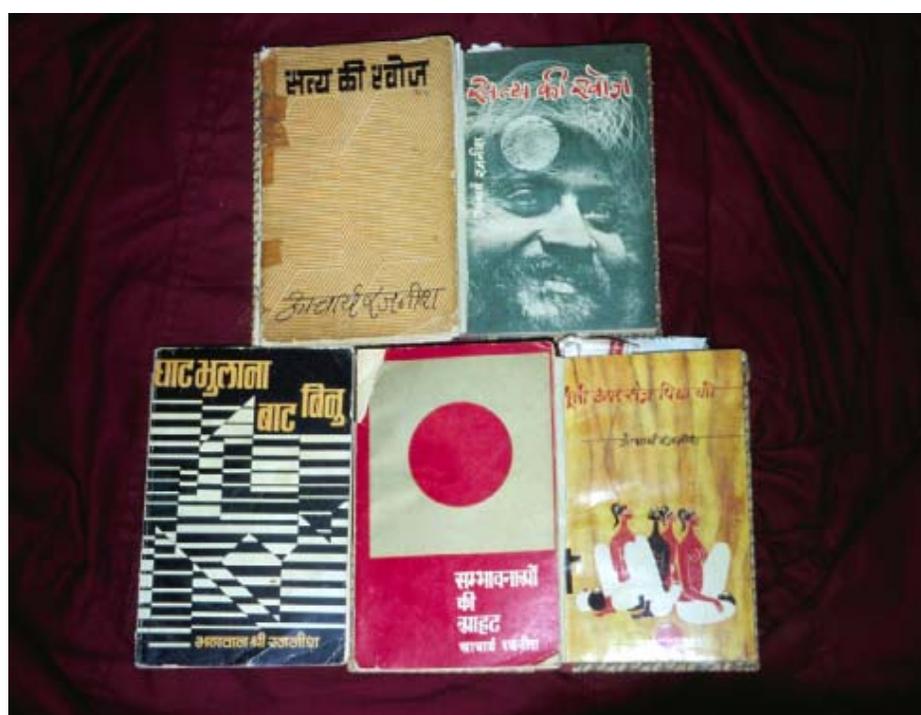
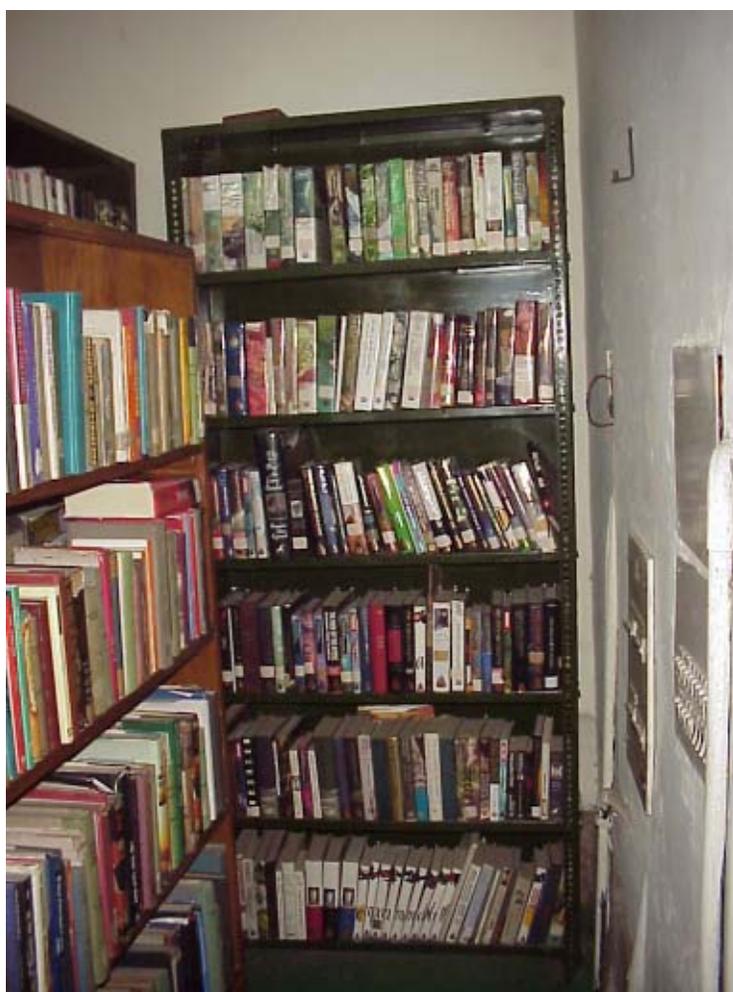
24.1.

* Parliament Library in Library Hall, Parliament House, New Delhi. A donation of Osho's books from Osho International Commune 1993. The small collection consists of monographs in Hindi and English and has not been updated. In August 2001 the Parliament Library moved to a new library building where also Osho's audio- and videotapes will be available for MPs in an updated bookcollection.

24.2.

* Early publications.

Top right: Satya Ki Khoj. [The Search for Truth]. Compiled by Jyoti. 1st. edition. Jabalpur. 123 pages. 5 discourses given at the Meditation Camp in Junagath 25.2.1969 ff. **Top left:** Satya Ki Khoj. 2nd. edition. Bombay, May 1971. 123 pages. **Bottom left:** Ghat Bhulana Bat Binu. [Ghat Forgotten Without Path?]. 1st. edition. Motilal Banarsidass, Delhi, 1972. 203 pages. **Bottom center:** Sambhavanaon Ki Ahat. [The Sound of Possibilities]. 2nd. edition. Motilal Banarsidass, Delhi, 1973. 142 pages. [1.st. edition 1971]. **Bottom right:** Sooli Upan Sey Piya Ki. [The Bed of my Beloved is on Cross?]. Motilal Banarsidass, Delhi, 1973. 221 pages. [1.st. edition 1972]. [Urmila].



25.1.

* Publications of Osho in Hindi. From the extensive collection of Sw. Jagdish, Pune.

25.2.

* World Book Fair, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. 5-13 February 2000. Exhibition of Osho's media. Right: Sw. Anam.

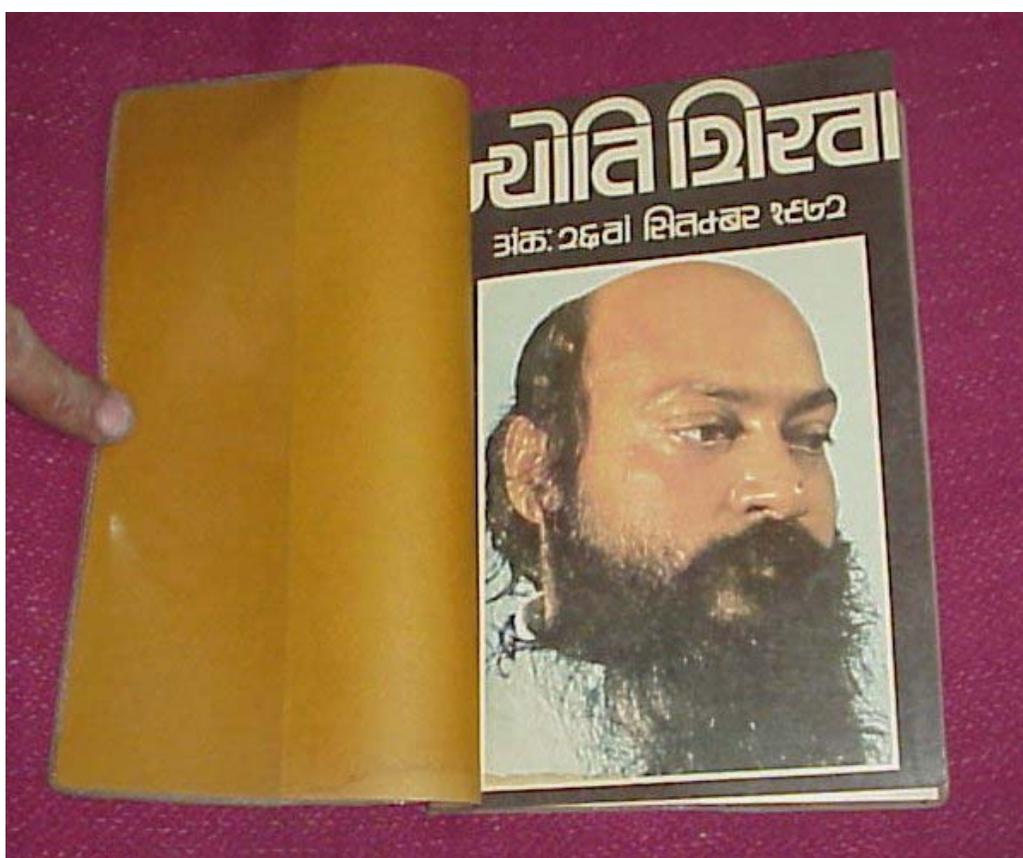
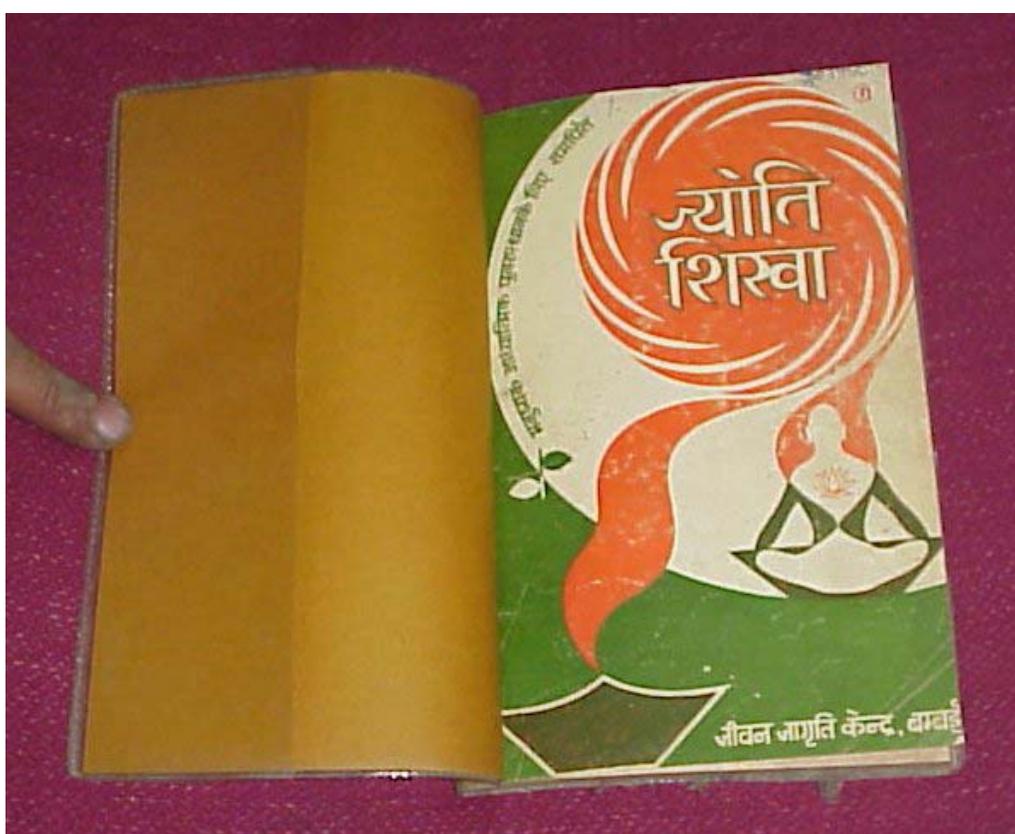


26.1.

* Jyoti Shikha. Quarterly magazine in Hindi. Jyoti Shikha meaning 'Life Awakening'. First issue: Volume 1, Issue 1. Published June 1966. 119 pages. One year subscription: 5 rupees. Published by Jivan Jagruti Kendra [Life Awakening Center] of Bombay, which also becomes the official publisher of books transcribed from Osho's talks. Editor: Jattu Bhai Mehta. Publisher: Raman Lal Shah, Bombay. Printer: States People Press, Bombay. Last issue: June 1974. [Vijay Bharti, New Delhi].

26.2.

* Jyoti Shikha. Quarterly magazine. Volume/year 7. Issue 2. Published September 1972. 104 pages. Editor: Ma Yog Kranti & Krishna Kabir. Publisher: Jivan Jagruti Kendra. Printer: States People Press, Bombay. [Vijay Bharti, New Delhi].

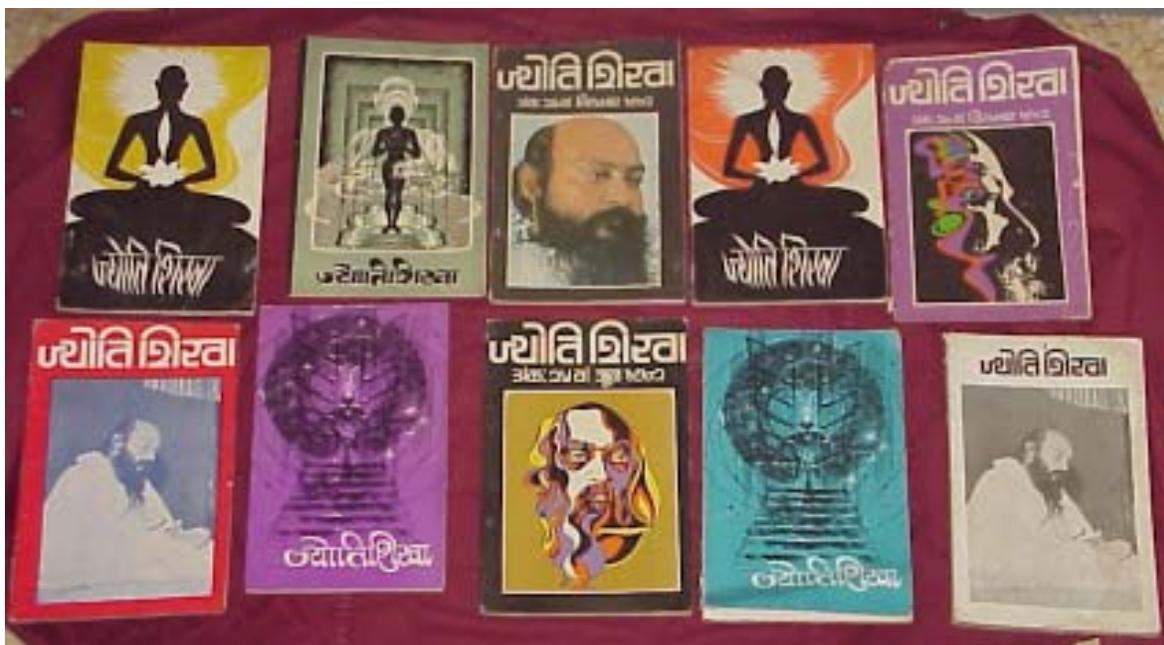


27.1.

* Jyoti Shikha. Quarterly magazine. Bombay, June 1966 – June 1974. Various issues. Top: September 1967. Left: June 1966. Right: December 1967. Bottom: September 1968. [Osho Aum Center, Mumbai. Feb 2000].

27.2.

* Jyoti Shikha. Quarterly magazine. Bombay, June 1966 – June 1974. Various issues. Graphic design of titleheads to Jyoti Shikha and Sannyas was made by Sw. Anand Arat. Like Chaitanya Bharti he also designed some covers to both magazines. [Osho Aum Center, Mumbai. Feb 2000].



28.1.

* Left: Yukrand. January 1973. Center: Jyoti Shikha. Later than December 1972. Right: Jyoti Shikha. 1.6.1972. Volume/year 7, issue 25. [Osho Aum Center, Mumbai. Feb 2000].

28.2.

Same three issues as 28.1. All opened on page one.

29.1.

* Jyoti Shikha. Quarterly magazine. Bombay, June 1966 - June 1974. Various issues. Center top issue is nr.1, June 1966. [Niklank].

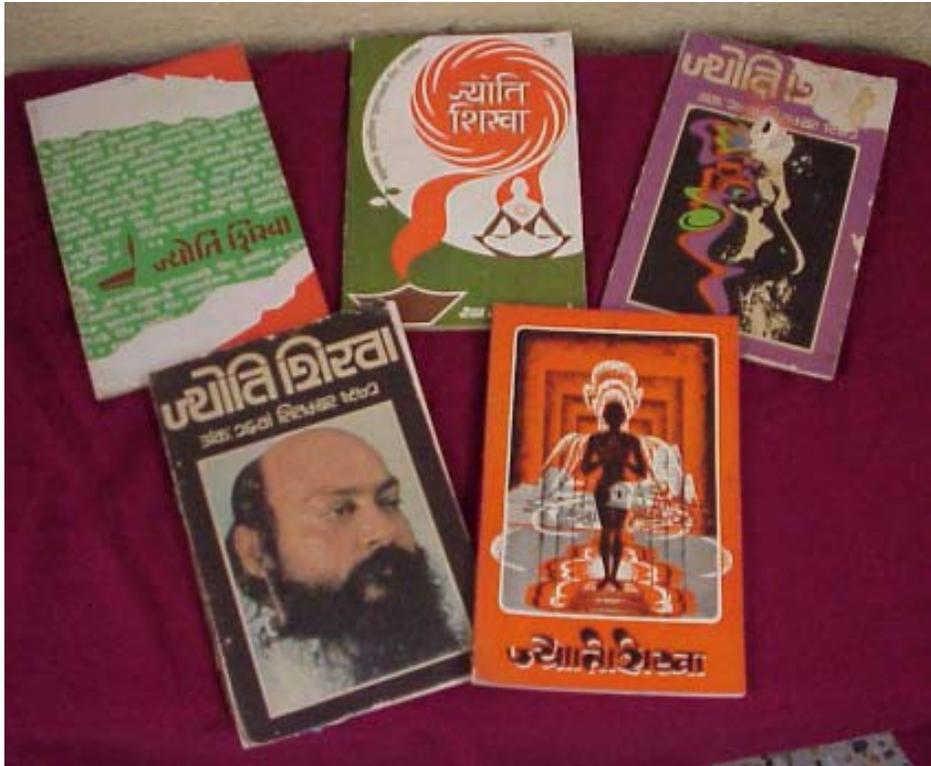
29.2.

* Sannyas. Bi-monthly magazine. Bombay, 1972- .

Left: Jan-Feb 1972. 1st issue.

Right: Mar-Apr 1972. 2nd issue.

[Niklank].

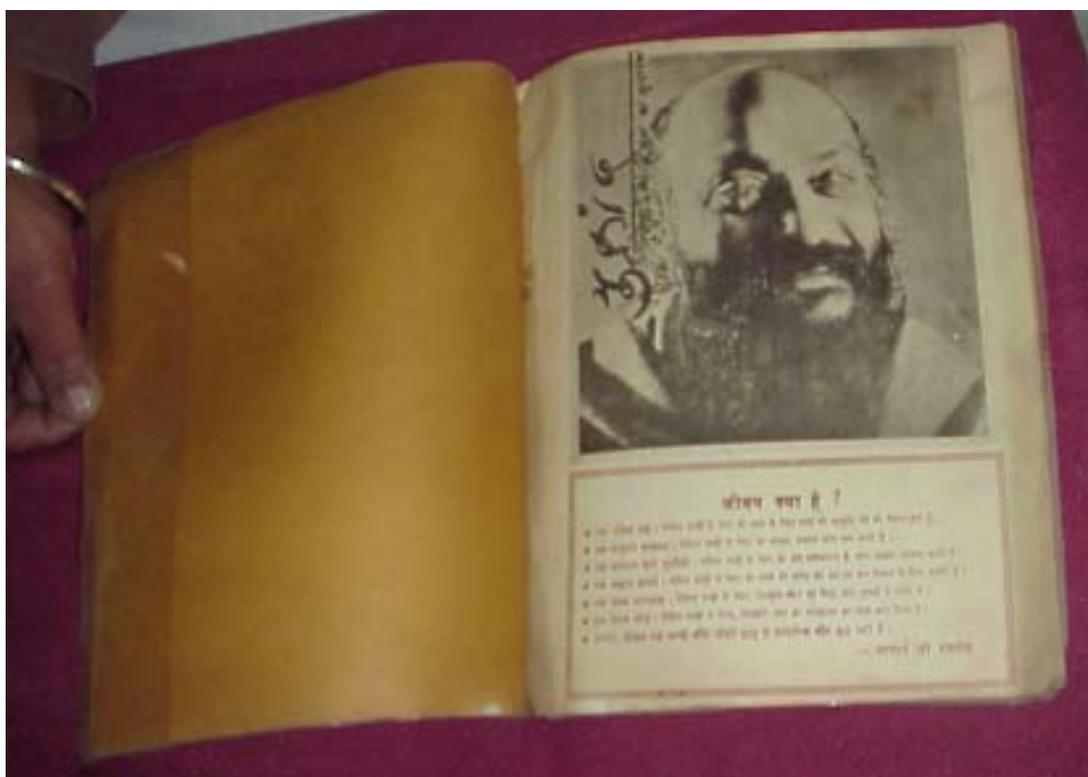


30.1.

* Yukrand. Monthly magazine. First issue: Issue 1, Volume 1. Published 15.6.1969. 20 pages. 60 paisa. Editor: Ajit Kumar. Publisher: Yukrand Prakashan. Printer: Swadesh Printing Press. On front page, head and shoulder photo of Osho. [Vijay Bharti, New Delhi].

30.2.

* Yukrand. Monthly magazine 1969-1975. Various issues. Top: December 1972. Left: February 1974. Right: May 1972. [Osho Aum Center, Mumbai. Feb 2000].



31.1.

* Yukrand. Monthly magazine. Last issue in Vijay Bharti's collection: Issue no. 57, April/May 1975, Volume/year 6. Editor: Arvind Kumar. 2nd editor: Urmila. 3rd editor: Aalok Pandev. [Vijay Bharti, New Delhi. Feb 2000].

31.2.

* Yukrand (left). Monthly magazine. 3rd vol. May 1972 to December 1972 in one volume. Covers to Yukrand were mostly designed by Chaitanya Bharti.

* Jyoti Shikha (right). 14th issue, September 1969 to 21st issue, June 1971 in one volume. Quarterly. [Hindi Publications, OIC. Former owner: Urmila].

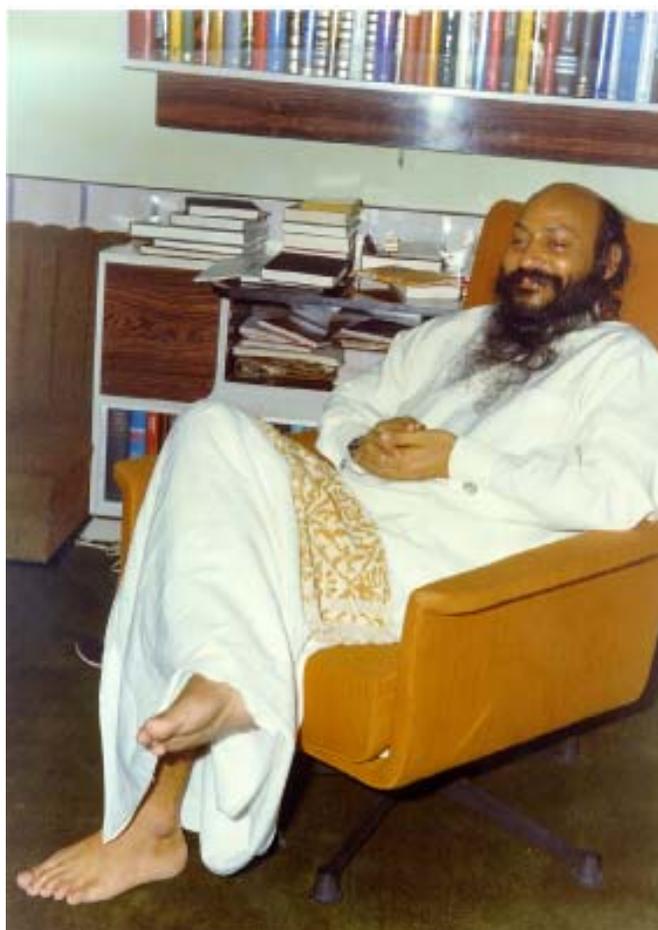


32.1.

* Osho in his favorite chair in the study. Woodlands, Mumbai. Early 1970s.
[copyright: Chaitanya Bharti].

32.2.

* Chaitanya Bharti, Pune, in his studio with early photos of Osho.



33.1.

* Osho Lao Tzu library, Pune. Osho in his precious library which gradually took over his whole residence. It's a corridor-library, holding some 100.000 volumes making it the world's largest private library. In Bombay and during Pune I Osho was reading ten to fifteen books a day, titles collected by his librarians from leading booksellers in Bombay and Pune. Osho redesigned the entire library in 1987 following his return to Pune. [copyright: Osho International Foundation].

33.2.

* Osho Lao Tzu library, Pune. Interior from the central room, Ramakrishna. In this room the most valuable parts of the collection are shelved. Books are on glass shelves behind sliding glass doors and with mirrors placed behind the books. Two books of the same size or colour are not to be placed next to each other, so the effect is that of waves going up and down, adding a lighter impression of the packed shelves than usually seen in libraries. [copyright: OIF].



34.1.

* Osho's clipboard from Pune II. [Sw. Yoga Teertha, Pune. 1999].

34.2.

* Osho Lao Tzu library, Pune. When reading a book, Osho added his calligraphic signature and sometimes a drawing. Some 3.500 books contain various styles of his signature in colour or as part of a painting, all written in different coloured felt-tip pens. A full-page painting by Osho inside the cover is found in 900 books. [copyright: OIF].

