Remembering Rinpoche

The luminous moon in mid-autumn brings us endless nostalgia. Last year it was also in this season, that our beloved guru, the eternal abbot of Karma Triyana Dharmachakra (KTD), Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche passed away peacefully at the age of 96.

Rinpoche’s entire life is a model of dedicating oneself completely to following the Buddha’s teachings and devoting wholeheartedly to the lineage, gurus and all sentient beings. In the dark night of samsara, noble beings like Rinpoche, who was both excellent in his teachings and accomplishments, impeccable in both his qualities and activities, and with unshakable courage and determination to benefit all beings, are so rare and just like the supreme precious beacons in the world, guiding and illuminating the path for countless dharma followers.

On one hand, Rinpoche’s passing is a huge lose to those students who he had nurtured. On the other hand, through his kind manifestation of the supreme deeds of his body, speech and mind, he left us behind with such an abundant legacy of the genuine dharma. As his students, it is our responsibility to never forget our guru’s kindness, follow his teachings and practice with diligence as he had wished us to. Meanwhile, for the continuing benefit of sentient beings, supplicating for guru’s quick return, requesting him to continue his journey of compassion and renew his great aspirations, is also an important task for us.

As was said, “When the water of the mind of beings is clear, the reflection of enlightenment will appear”. A guru’s reincarnation not only depends on his own aspiration, but also especially depends on whether the students possess sufficient merit. This includes the students’ faith, diligence, purity of samaya and degree of obscurations. Therefore, it is very important for us to engage in virtuous deeds as much as possible and confess wrongdoings as much as possible.
Rinpoche had spent 36 years at Thrangu Monastery. From becoming a monk there at the age of 12, receiving all his monastic training, to the completion of his three-year retreat and five-year study at its Buddhist college, Thrangu Monastery is of great significance to Rinpoche. Later on, throughout Rinpoche’s life, he had returned to Thrangu many times, and never reduced his earnest care and support for the monastery. Therefore, building a stupa at Thrangu Monastery for Rinpoche has excellent and auspicious interdependence and blessing.

Lama Karma felt honored that Lodro Nyima Rinpoche himself, the abbot of Thrangu Monastery, will supervise the project, and the project will be carried out by Mr. Zhigang Xu, who has made all the statues at Thrangu Monastery. (Left picture: The first draft of the Agreement)

Rinpoche had mentioned on many occasions about the profound benefits of stupas. As the embodiment of Buddha’s wisdom, the dharmakaya, wherever there is a stupa, there is great benefit to both the environment and beings. In Tibet, the stupas of highly accomplished lamas serve as the object of veneration and the field of merit. Through seeing, touching, circumambulating, prostrating or making offerings, beings gather great merit and blessings. (Left picture: The selected stupa style for Rinpoche)

With deep appreciation for Rinpoche’s kindness, during his 49 day parinirvana puja last year, Lama Karma Drodhul, KTD’s current president, made the commitment to build a stupa at Thrangu Monastery, Qinghai Yushu, for his guru and his uncle, Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche. The stupa will stand as the remembrance of Rinpoche’s kindness, the upholding of his compassion, and the auspicious interdependence for his swift return.

Erecting the Stupa of Devotion for His Unceasing Journey of Compassion

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Where the stupa will be located, a special shrine room at Thrangu Monastery, where Rinpoche’s family members have previously offered a one-thousand-arm Chenrezig statue (by Rinpoche’s brother Lama Sonam), 1000 statues of Chenrezig and lineage Tangkas (by Lama Karma).

It is an auspicious and special place for Rinpoche’s stupa.

**Ways of Joining**

Lama Karma Drodhul sincerely invite you to join this great endeavor. He and his family has already donated 100K (RMB) to initiate the project.

By building this stupa of our devotion, we dedicate our merit for the swift return of our beloved guru and for the swift enlightenment of all beings. May all beings enjoy temporary happiness and ultimate liberation! May we never be separated from our guru throughout all our lives!

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