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CHORTEN

Stupa Edition

No.6

New Benefactors

We welcome the following new benefactors for this issue: **Jacy W.Y. TEH** and **Ronda Rodwell**. Many thanks to Jacy and Ronda for their support for Tse-Chen Cho-Khor Stupa.

Message to benefactors and friends from Lama Zopa



*A meeting was held on January 31 and February 1 1998 to present developments on the stupa to friends and benefactors. A special message from **Lama Zopa Rinpoche** was read out at the meeting:*

Dear Benefactors and Friends of Tse-Chen Cho-Khor stupa, I am pleased to hear of this inaugural meeting of the benefactors of the stupa and to hear of the developments in planning for the stupa. I see the creation of this stupa as being of incalculable benefit for

countless sentient beings, especially for their mindstream. If the mind is transformed or developed all the problems and suffering are transformed or ceased because mind is the creator of all your happiness and suffering.

Your support for this stupa is therefore of immense benefit, not only to others, but also to yourself in helping to make your life more meaningful.

On behalf of all mother sentient beings I thank you for your support for Tse-Chen Cho-Khor stupa. I pray that the Great Stupa will soon be completed. I also pray for the good health and temporal and ultimate happiness of all who work to make the stupa a reality.

New architect completes plans for Stupa

Due to other commitments the architects who had been working on the plans for Tse-Chen Cho-Khor Stupa could no longer continue. This was a major concern to stupa project director, **Ian Green** who said "I was beginning to despair that it would be difficult to find an architect with the devotion and time to do this task".

Then about six months ago, **Peter Weiss**, an architect who had been working on Aboriginal housing in the Kimberleys region of North West Australia shifted to Bendigo. Peter has been fascinated with Stupas for a number of years and has leapt into the planning of Tse-Chen Cho-Khor Stupa.

On December 22 1997 the first draft of these plans were presented to a group from the City of Greater Bendigo comprising the Chief Executive Officer, The Business Development Officer, The Tourism and Promotions Officer, The Head of Planning and the Chief Building Inspector. The group's response was extremely positive and supportive, and considerable guidance was given on the next steps in the process of approval.

Stupa plans to Rinpoche

These plans were presented to a meeting of Benefactors and Friends of Tse-Chen Cho-Khor Stupa and to a regional meeting of Directors of FPMT Australian centres during February 1998. **Petra McWilliams**, who attended the regional meeting at Atisha Centre, will present the plans to Lama Zopa Rinpoche upon her return to California.

Building Timetable

It is hoped that the plans can be finalised in 1998. Then site preparation and laying of the foundations for the stupa can take place in early 1999.

Relics in review

Kirti Tsensab Rinpoche writes "I am happy to offer some relic for the Stupa. I will try to send it in the near future. I wish you all the best and hope to hear from you soon."

The Secretary of **His Holiness Sakya Trizin** (Head of the Sakyapa Order of Tibetan Buddhism) writes "His Holiness sends his warm regards and blessings. His Holiness is very glad to hear about the progress of your giant stupa construction. The relics you have asked for are sent and we hope you will receive them soon."

Khamtul Rinpoche (Nyingma Sect) writes "I was very pleased to hear that the stupa's construction is progressing well...I would like to inform you that I have 63 sung (offerings for filling) for you to place in the stupa. They are very holy, and will definitely prove to be very beneficial both for the stupa and for all sentient beings. I am pleased that you are undertaking the task to construct the largest stupa in the Western world. We here will be praying for you to have no obstacles in finishing the construction and for your successful construction of your task."

Khetsun Sangpo Rinpoche (Nyingma Sect) writes "I was happy to know that a great stupa is going to be constructed in Australia. Surely it is a wonderful activity and will benefit lots of beings and bring a great deal of merit and well-being to those who are devoted to it. I am very sorry to inform you that I don't have any holy relic to offer

you for the stupa because I had to leave behind all my holy relics in Tibet during my escape."

Gaden Tri Rinpoche Lobsang Nyima, and **Denma Locho Rinpoche** have also offered holy relics as previously reported in Chorten.

Holy waters from Tibet offered to the stupa

Jaffa Elias, known to many because of her work on "Mandala" magazine, has offered holy water from a place called **Drigung Terdrom** in Tibet.

She writes "It comes from a cave blessed by Guru Rinpoche (Padma-Sambhava)... basically he created water in the cave so that meditators could practice in this isolated spot and survive in the inclement weather. I was offered the water when I visited Drigung Terdrom. With lots of love and may everything to do with the stupa bring boundless benefits."

Feng Shui Master to consult on plans for stupa

Thanks to an introduction from FPMT Board member **Salim Lee** the plans for the stupa and the site have been sent off to Feng Shui Master, **Master Yap**. Master Yap is a teacher of well known Feng Shui author **Lillian Toos**.

Model Stupa in progress

Ven Tenzin Konchog is visiting Taiwan in March to investigate production of the model stupas there. Ven Tezin Konchos plans to meet up with Peter Griffin in Taiwan to discuss the best means of production of the stupas. It is hoped the models will be consecrated by the nuns at Chenrezig Institute.

The Great Stupa Video available

A 50 minute video on the Tse-Chen Cho-Khor Stupa and the trip to Tibet to study the Gyantse Stupa is available. The video provides a fascinating insight into modern Tibet as well as a complete background on the Tse-Chen Cho-Khor Stupa. To order please send \$50 to the Tse-Chen Cho-Khor Stupa project office (price includes postage).



Tse-Chen Chor-Khor Video offer

15 McKenzie Street Bendigo VIC 3550 Australia.

Please supply..... copies of The Great Stupa video priced at:

- \$50 Australian each (including postage) within Australia & NZ
- \$50 US each (including postage) International

Total \$.....Aust. or \$.....US

I require PAL format
or NTSC format

(Unless specified PAL will be supplied)

First Name.....

Second name.....

Address.....

.....P/code.....

Country.....

Please find enclosed cash
cheque

Please debit my Bankcard
Visa M/card Amex

Card No

Expiry Date...../.....

Signature.....

BENEFACTOR APPLICATION

I wish to become a benefactor of the Tse-Chen Cho-Khor Stupa.

First Name: _____ Second Name: _____

Address: _____

P/Code: _____ Country: _____

I wish to make a donation of \$ _____

I wish to become a... Life-Long Friend: A \$1,300
US \$ 1,000

Karma Benefactor: A \$ 12,800
US \$ 10,000

Happiness Benefactor: A \$32,000
US \$ 25,000

Enlightenment Benefactor: A \$64,000
US \$50,000

Please find enclosed my Cheque.....

Please debit my Credit Card.....

Visa Amex Bankcard

Card No.

Expiry Date: ____/____

Signature: _____

Please mail to Tse-Chen Cho-Khor Stupa project
15 Mackenzie Street, Bendigo Victoria 3550 AUSTRALIA



