


A message from our spiritual director

harma books plant the seed of the path to enlightenment in the mind of the reader. That imprint ripens, realizations come, and liberation is attained. Books open the wisdom eye; you can understand death and the nature of mind; they teach you how to develop compassion; they bring world peace.

The LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE publishes authentic Dharma books. When you read and practice them, you can understand karma, how everything comes from the mind, that the external cause is not the only one. This can lead you to a happy death and a happy rebirth.

Book sponsors offer all the above benefits to others and cause them to open their minds. Each person transformed brings peace into the world. It becomes an extremely practical thing.

Sponsoring books is for people who like to spread Dharma. If you organize a meditation course, only a few people get to hear the teachings, whereas if you publish a book, you can help thousands more. Books reach every corner of the earth.

Until you change your mind, no matter how well-off you are, you still make mistakes in your actions. To stop your own suffering, you have to stop creating negative actions; to stop creating negative actions, you have to eradicate your negative mind. Books teach you how to do that.

An additional benefit of LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE books is that they are offered free of charge and thereby reach many people who might not otherwise have a chance to contact the Dharma. Also, when you contribute to or distribute ARCHIVE books, you create the charity of Dharma, the highest form of giving. Moreover, when you donate money to the ARCHIVE, you accomplish material charity; and since the Dharma teachings in these books show readers how to protect themselves from suffering, you also accomplish the charity of saving others from fear. Thus, by the one action, supporting the ARCHIVE, you achieve all three forms of generosity. If, on top of that, you give with bodhicitta—the determination to attain buddhahood for the sake of all sentient beings—your donation becomes the cause of enlightenment.

Therefore, I would be grateful if you could make a general donation to or become a member of the LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE. Thank you so much.

—*Lama Zopa Rinpoche*

What is the purpose of this document?

We need your help to make the teachings of Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche more widely available. These teachings:

- ❖ Come to us through an unbroken lineage of teachers going back to the Buddha himself—therefore, their blessings are unsurpassed;
- ❖ Come from the Lamas' personal experience—therefore, their power is incomparable;
- ❖ Are in English—therefore, none of their power is lost in translation;
- ❖ Can truly solve many of the world's problems because they attack suffering at its source, are addressed to a contemporary, worldwide audience and are easy to practice;
- ❖ Are exceptional and unique—for more than thirty years they have been extremely effective in turning people's minds towards the Dharma, bringing great benefit to the whole world;
- ❖ Manifest in the Lamas' highly successful international organization, the FPMT.

The LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE has the potential to improve the lives of millions of people the world over. Tens of thousands have already benefited from the teachings we provide and more will benefit in future. There are over 50,000 pages of unedited transcript in the LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE. It is crucial that we accelerate work on them immediately, while we still have the students who can do so.

Relatively few books have been published so far because there has been little support for the time-consuming, behind-the-scenes editorial process, the most specialized and demanding part. We therefore appeal to you to help fund our dedicated and experienced editors to bring the treasures of the FPMT lineage to the world at large.

World peace depends on individual peace

Despite remarkable advances in material development over the past century, the world seems further away from peace than ever. In a desperate and totally misguided search for happiness, people have over-populated and polluted the planet, fought countless wars, developed terrible weapons of mass destruction and brought upon themselves more misery and potential suffering than ever before in the history of the human race. Although these problems are external and seem to have their source in the material world, their actual root lies deep in the human mind.

More than 2,500 years ago, the Buddha identified the principal cause of these and all other problems as the three poisonous minds of ignorance, attachment and aversion, and offered a solution—the practice of Dharma. Ever since then, countless practitioners in India and other Asian countries have practiced the teachings of the Buddha and attained the same realizations that he did. For well over 1,000 years, these teachings were also practiced in Tibet, with similar effect.

The Dharma taught by Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche is pure. It comes to us through direct oral transmission by way of an unbroken lineage of teachers going back to the Buddha himself. These teachings are truly a solution to all the world's problems because they attack suffering at its source—the greed, anger and other afflictions that plague the human mind. Moreover, they are addressed to a contemporary, worldwide audience and are not only easy to understand but very easy to practice as well.

Our mission is to make these teachings as widely available as possible. In order to do this, we need to employ a team of experienced editors to prepare them for publication. In order to do that, we need your help.

The collected works of Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche

The teachings of Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche are exceptional and unique. For more than thirty years they have been extremely effective in turning people's minds towards the Dharma, bringing great benefit to the whole world. Their international network of study and retreat centers, monasteries, publishing houses, hospices and other beneficial activities—the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition (FPMT)—is one of the most successful and effective Tibetan Buddhist organizations on Earth and, with thousands of students in more than thirty countries, East and West, is a manifestation of the power of their teachings.

It is essential that those of us who have been their students for two, five, ten, twenty, thirty or more years do more than we have been doing to preserve and make even more available the contents of this precious resource of wisdom and compassion that is the LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE. The teachings of Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche are our lineage, our tradition, but at the moment, they are largely inaccessible, even to their oldest students. Now is the time to bring them to the world.

Why now? In 1996, Lama Zopa Rinpoche established the LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE to focus more attention on the teachings of the FPMT lineage. Since then:

- ❁ Most of our 7,000 tapes have been digitized for permanent preservation;
- ❁ Thousands of tapes have been transcribed;
- ❁ A Web site has been established; many teachings are now available to everybody in the world;
- ❁ Many books have been published for free distribution; and
- ❁ A few have been prepared for commercial publication.

However, it is crucial that we accelerate this work immediately, while students who have been with the Lamas since the beginning are still alive and willing and able to work on the more than 50,000 pages of transcript that the ARCHIVE contains. This is particularly true with respect to the teachings of Lama Yeshe.

What are the characteristics of the FPMT lineage?

- ❖ Openness and breadth in presentation of the Dharma, as exemplified by Lama Yeshe's inimitable teaching style. Lama employs unconventional yet pure methods, making the Dharma accessible according to contemporary culture and the needs of today's students.
- ❖ Depth and detail, as exemplified by Lama Zopa Rinpoche's teachings. Rinpoche places great emphasis on practice since it is practice that actually transforms the mind from suffering into happiness. He also stresses the importance of motivation and dedication.
- ❖ Our tradition also makes it clear that constant accumulation of merit and purification of mind are essential in bringing temporal happiness and realizations.
- ❖ For more than three decades Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche have offered experiential lam-rim teaching methods and intensive, life-changing Kopan-style courses. The ARCHIVE contains all these teachings.
- ❖ We encourage respect for and support of ordained Sangha.
- ❖ We encourage daily meditation practice and regular retreat.
- ❖ We have a set of standard prayers and practices recommended by Lama Zopa Rinpoche.
- ❖ We stress reliance on tantric methods, which, amongst other benefits, encourage students to develop spiritual confidence.
- ❖ We enjoy cultivating a close family feeling; the FPMT is an international family of Dharma practitioners.
- ❖ We encourage service of all kinds and try to cultivate the wish to be of greatest benefit to others.
- ❖ We try to cherish and develop love for all living beings.

What is the value of these teachings?

Sentient beings are suffering from blindness in their wisdom eye. As a result, they rush towards the suffering they constantly wish to avoid and away from the happiness they constantly desire. Lord Buddha's Dharma is the only complete cure.

Starting over a thousand years ago, the intact teachings of Vajrayana Buddhism, containing all aspects of the Hinayana and Mahayana schools, passed gradually from India to Tibet. In Tibet, the teachings of Guru Shakyamuni Buddha and the great Indian pandits and yogis were adorned by the experiences and insights of the great Tibetan masters, producing a towering edifice of Dharma capable of providing refuge to vast numbers of sentient beings. In 1959, in order to preserve the Holy Dharma for the benefit of us all, hundreds of Tibetan lineage holders fled to India to escape the holocaust unleashed by the communist Chinese invasion. Among them were Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche.

For more than three decades, directly and indirectly, Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche have introduced tens of thousands of people to the Dharma. At the heart of this enlightened activity lie their teachings, of which the LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE is the repository. The essence of our mission is to make the Lamas' teachings available to as many people as possible.

Since Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche convey the pure, unbroken oral tradition, the blessings of their teachings are unsurpassed; since they are highly realized and teach from their personal experience, the power of their teachings is incomparable; and since they teach in English, the directness of their transmission ensures that none of this power is lost in translation. Thus, anyone who receives or helps others receive the teachings of Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche experiences enormous benefit and can, in turn, bring great benefit to others.

The power of the Lamas' teachings is clearly demonstrated by the rapid growth of the FPMT, whose sole purpose is to benefit sentient beings in the highest possible way—by bringing them Dharma wisdom, which alone can completely alleviate their suffering by

eradicating its cause. This pure motivation, which is the driving force behind all FPMT activities, has helped ensure the Foundation's success.

The same motivation impels the work of the LYWA, and by offering the teachings that lie at the heart of the FPMT—methods that have been proven to work—and availing ourselves of the latest technologies, we hope to cure the blindness in people's wisdom eye. Tens of thousands of people have already benefited from our work and more will benefit in future. We have published and distributed hundreds of thousands of free books of the Lamas' teachings all over the world, prepared books for distribution through the trade, facilitated the use of the Lamas' teachings in FPMT study programs and made teachings available to tens of millions of people through the Internet.

The Lamas' teachings are intensely practical. People are encouraged not only to read them but also to understand their meaning, practice Dharma and integrate it into their lives. Readers of ARCHIVE publications are encouraged to find qualified teachers, go to Dharma centers and, for the benefit of all sentient beings, practice the methods that will alleviate their suffering and bring them all happiness, both temporal and ultimate.

Our publications offer many benefits:

- ❧ New students can be introduced to the Dharma;
- ❧ Experienced students can deepen their knowledge;
- ❧ Dharma teachers can study the Lamas' highly effective teaching techniques;
- ❧ Teacher training programs based on their methods can be developed;
- ❧ FPMT centers can have an abundance of material to show visitors the kind of teachings they offer; and
- ❧ Students can find introductory teachings to share with their families and friends.



Photo: Merry Colony

Lama Yeshe

The teachings of Lama Yeshe go back to 1971 and comprise public lectures, talks during meditation courses, teachings on refuge, precepts and bodhisattva vows, short courses with Lama Zopa Rinpoche or alone, philosophical teachings, lam-rim teachings, tantric commentaries, and advice to FPMT meetings, centers and the Sangha community. Most of the tapes of Lama Yeshe's teachings have been transcribed; there are some 10,000 pages of raw, unchecked transcript in the Archive. The work of checking and editing Lama Yeshe's teachings is highly specialized and very few people are qualified to do it.

Preparation and publication of Lama's teachings is of the utmost urgency for the FPMT. The following are topics awaiting publication; books already published by Wisdom Publications are indicated in parentheses.

GENERAL TEACHINGS

[Already published: *Wisdom Energy* (with Lama Zopa Rinpoche)]

Awaiting publication: Public lectures, weekend and other short courses, death and dying, Christmas lectures [published in 1978 as *Silent Mind, Holy Mind*; temporarily out of print], general talks during lam-rim courses, meetings with various groups (tour group; psychiatrists; physicians) and various interviews.

SUTRA TEACHINGS

Commentaries on the Maitreya/Asanga texts *U-tha-nam-che* and *Chö-nyi-nam-che*, various lam-rim teachings, teachings on refuge, teachings on pratimoksha, bodhisattva and tantric precepts, mind and mental factors and Nagarjuna's *Letter to a King*.

TANTRIC TEACHINGS

[Already published: *Introduction to Tantra; The Tantric Path of Purification* (Vajrasattva commentary); *Bliss of Inner Fire* (Six Yogas of Naropa commentary); *Becoming the Compassion Buddha* (Four-arm Chenrezig commentary). Almost ready: Manjushri commentary.]

Lama Tsong Khapa guru yoga, Vajrapani, One-thousand-arm Chenrezig, Cittamani Tara, Twenty-one Taras, Maitreya, Samayavajra, Mahamudra, Vajrayogini, Vajradhara, Chenrezig Gyalwa Gyatso, Transference of consciousness (*powa*), Vajradaka (Dorje Khadro) and Medicine Buddha.

FPMT TEACHINGS

Advice to center committees and directors and to monks and nuns.

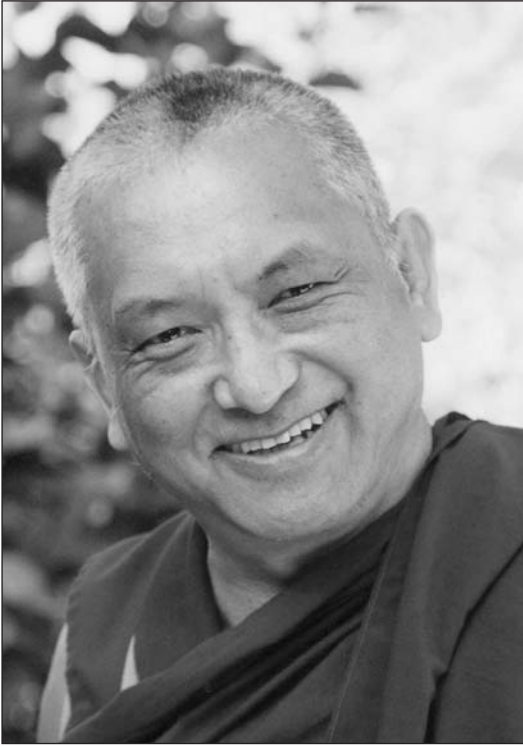


Photo: Roger Kumsang

Lama Zopa Rinpoche

Since 1971, Lama Zopa Rinpoche has also been giving extensive teachings on the lam-rim (the steps of the path to enlightenment) as well as giving commentaries on a variety of classic texts, tantric teachings, public talks, advice to FPMT board members, centers and Sangha, and talks on many other subjects. Most of these teachings have been taped and many transcribed, but few have been published. The main reason for this has been a lack of financial support for editors.

In 1996, Rinpoche established the LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE to maintain the archive of his and Lama Yeshe's teachings and to prepare these teachings for publication. There are now several qualified editors ready and willing to do the necessary work, but there is still a lack of funds.

THE BASIC LAM-RIM MATERIAL

In the 1970s, Rinpoche used to base his lam-rim teachings on his text book, *The Wish-fulfilling Golden Sun of the Mahayana Thought Training*, which itself followed Pabongka Rinpoche's *Liberation in the Palm of Your Hand*. Therefore, Rinpoche's lam-rim commentaries follow Liberation very closely, and since this book is now widely available, we plan to use its outline as the basis for the publication of Rinpoche's path to enlightenment teachings.

The LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE contains tens of thousands of pages of Rinpoche's lam-rim teachings. Thousands more tapes of his teachings are in the process of being transcribed, including those of Rinpoche's on-going teachings.

THE VISION

We foresee a series of volumes, each about 200-300 pages in length, containing Rinpoche's detailed explanations of the main steps of the path. These explanations include Buddhist philosophy, how to meditate on the topic, how to assess your progress in meditation, how to apply the teachings in daily life, traditional and relevant modern-day stories, historical facts and more, all taught on the basis of Rinpoche's personal experience of the practice.

LAM-RIM MATERIAL

We would like to produce a new, updated edition of *The Wish-fulfilling Golden Sun of the Mahayana Thought Training*. Potential volumes for the commentary series include: guru devotion, perfect human rebirth, impermanence and death, suffering of the lower realms, refuge, karma, general sufferings of samsara and suffering of the upper realms, twelve links, bodhicitta, six perfections, calm abiding and emptiness. The following are other topics awaiting publication; books already published by Wisdom Publications are indicated in parentheses.

OTHER LAM-RIM COMMENTARIES

Heart-Spoon commentary, *Guide to Bodhisattva's Way of Life*, *Heart Sutra*, *In Praise of Dependent Arising*, *Three Principal Aspects of the*

Path and Foundation of All Good Qualities. (These could be prepared separately or integrated with the above.)

ESSENTIAL LAM-RIM PRELIMINARY PRACTICES

Ngön-dro commentaries (includes Lama Tsong Khapa guru yoga, refuge, Vajrasattva, mandala offering, prostration, Samayavajra, Dorje Khadro, water bowls, *tsa tsas*), eight Mahayana precepts, nyung-nä and *Jor-chö* puja.

THOUGHT TRANSFORMATION TEXTS

[Already published: *Transforming Problems, Door to Satisfaction*]

The Eight Verses of Thought Transformation, The Seven Point Thought Training, The Thirty-seven Practices of a Bodhisattva, The Jewel Rosary of Awakening Warrior and The Wheel of Sharp Weapons. (These could also be prepared separately or included in bodhicitta section of the lam-rim commentary series.)

DEATH AND DYING TEACHINGS

[Already published (by the FPMT Education department): *Death and Dying*]

Death, intermediate state and rebirth; helping the dying.

MISCELLANEOUS TEACHINGS AND GENERAL ADVICE

[Already published: *Ultimate Healing*]

Collected talks (public lectures and other general teachings), tribute to Lama Yeshe, advice to Sangha, advice to FPMT students and advice to FPMT centers.

TANTRIC DEITY COMMENTARIES

Heruka Body Mandala, Vajrayogini, Yamantaka, Green Tara, Cittamani Tara, Manjushri, Palden Lhamo and Akshobhya (Mitukpa).

OTHER TANTRIC COMMENTARIES

Guru Puja (*Lama Chö-pa*), Six Session Yoga, *Nyung Nä*, Six Yogas of Naropa, bodhisattva and tantric vows, transference of consciousness, mahamudra, *Chöd* and general retreat advice.

How to accomplish these tasks

There are several accomplished editors ready and waiting to work on these teachings. They need to be supported financially so that they can focus full time on preparing this work for publication. On average, each editor requires a US\$20,000 per year salary. To ensure the work gets finished once it has been started, each editor should be engaged for a 5-year period. (The amounts vary according to what each editor currently needs to sustain his or her means of living.) As funds are raised we will gradually employ editors as follows:

Lama Yeshe editor 1: \$30,000 (already employed part time)

Lama Yeshe editor 2: \$5,000 (to edit for two months each year; currently working as a volunteer)

Lama Zopa Rinpoche editor 1: \$12,000 (already employed)

Lama Zopa Rinpoche editor 2: \$12,000 (already employed)

Lama Zopa Rinpoche editor 3: \$25,000

Lama Zopa Rinpoche editor 4: \$30,000

Contribution to Lama Yeshe Wisdom Archive annual overheads, travel, equipment etc.: \$36,000

(Average monthly costs of running the LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE are \$10,000, which includes \$7,000 in staff wages and salaries and \$1,200 rent, the rest comprising utilities, office expenses, postage and so forth. Here, we are requesting a contribution of \$3,000 a month towards these expenses.)

Total for one year: \$120,000

Five-year total: \$600,000

What we will accomplish

- ✦ We will complete the transcription of the teachings of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, some 2,000 more tapes (nearly all of Lama Yeshe's have already been transcribed).
- ✦ We will continue preparing and publishing two to four books a year for free distribution.
- ✦ We will publish thousands more pages of Lama Yeshe's and Lama Zopa Rinpoche's teachings on our Web site, www.LamaYeshe.com.
- ✦ We will edit and publish (through Wisdom Publications) at least twenty books of Lama Zopa Rinpoche's lam-rim teachings and fifteen books of Lama Yeshe's teachings. Since over the past thirty years only eight books of their teachings have been published for trade distribution, this feat will be of enormous significance for the FPMT and people in general all over the world.

The reason that so few books have been published so far is that there has been little support for the editorial process, which is the most specialized and demanding part. It is time-consuming, behind-the-scenes work; it can take anywhere from several months to a year or more to ready a manuscript for publication. Therefore, we are now appealing to you to support our dedicated and experienced editors to bring the treasures of the FPMT lineage to the world at large.

We hope that this small document will inspire the contributions necessary to convert this plan into reality. Thank you so much for your kind consideration.

Lama Yeshe Wisdom Archive

The LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE (LYWA) is the collected works of Lama Thubten Yeshe and Lama Thubten Zopa Rinpoche. The ARCHIVE was founded in 1996 by Lama Zopa Rinpoche, its spiritual director, to make available in various ways the teachings it contains

At present the LYWA contains more than 7,000 cassette tapes, all of which have now been digitized, and approximately 50,000 pages of transcribed teachings on computer disk. Many teachings remain to be transcribed.

The work of the LYWA falls into two categories: archiving and dissemination.

Archiving includes managing the audiotapes of teachings by Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche that have already been collected, collecting recordings of Lama Zopa's on-going teachings, cataloging and storing these safely while keeping them accessible for further work, organizing the transcription of tapes, adding the transcripts to the already existent database of teachings, managing this database, and editing these transcripts for the benefit of all.

Dissemination entails making the Lamas' teachings available through various means such as free books, books for trade publication, articles in *Mandala* and other magazines, and on our Web site. All this takes considerable work and required significant funding.

This is just a brief summary of what we do. The LYWA was established with virtually no seed funding and has developed solely through the kindness of many people, all of whom we thank sincerely.

The LAMA YESHE WISDOM ARCHIVE is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible, non-profit corporation (ID number 04-3374479) dedicated to the welfare of all sentient beings and totally dependent upon your donations for its continued existence.

