

Prayer for the Swift Reincarnation of the late Ratoe Kyongla Rinpoche

Primordial wisdom of all the Buddhas that merge into a [single] drop,
Is the only protector who manifests in saffron form,
He is Lama Losang, the Buddha Vajradhara,
I entreat your feet be witness to fulfil these aspirational prayers.

I beseech you, the Great Lamp of the Dharma [Ratoe Rinpoche],
Who for long accomplished the greatly meaningful aspirational prayers,
To spread the teachings, far and wide, through explanations and practice,
Of the Buddha Losang Dragpa, the one with the most eloquent speech.

Having pledged to invite all sentient beings as your guests,
To attain the great Enlightenment that is unsurpassed,
Is it suitable for the Bodhisattvas, the supreme of the beings,
To withdraw the altruistic activities of the form-body?

Since it is impossible for you to abandon,
The responsibility to liberate all beings until the end of samsara,
I beseech you that, from the expanse of Dharmakaya,
With your altruism, you return again as a fresh sun-like supreme emanation,
For the glory of the teachings of Lama Losang [Dragpa].

Through the truthful blessings of the Precious Triple Gem,
And the ocean of Dharma Protectors, such as six-armed Mahakala,
Kalarupa and Palden Lhamo,
May this aspiration of ours be fulfilled spontaneously,
That the new moon of a fresh reincarnation soon appears.

Colophon: This prayer for a swift coming into being of [Rinpoche's] reincarnation, after the peaceful demise of Ratoe Kyongla Rinpoche Ngawang Losang Shaydrup Tenpay Dronme, is composed at the request of Ven. Tenzin Choedak, the Abbot of Ratoe Monastery, who always accompanied Rinpoche, as well as Ratoe Monastery, Nyagri Khangtsen, Kunkyab Thardoe Ling Buddhist Center, USA. It is also for the reason that Rinpoche was the one I invited to join me for the [2500th] Buddha Jayanti Celebrations [at the invitation of the Government of India in 1956]. He was one of the debaters during my final Geshe Exam. Coming into exile, Rinpoche became one of the principal students of my senior tutor, Vajradhara Ling Rinpoche. In the 1960s, I sent him to the West, to countries such as the USA, for the sake of Buddha Dharma. He was one of the close associates with whom I used to have internal discussions. The late Rinpoche was a reservoir of empowerments and oral transmissions, with great command over the knowledge of both Sutras and Tantras. Rinpoche's passing away is not only a great loss for me personally, of a senior student colleague who shared the same teacher-tutor Vajradhara Yongzin Ling Rinpoche, it is also a great loss for the Gelug tradition in general. Despite this feeling of great loss, since Rinpoche's aspiration for upholding the Buddha Dharma is unwavering, I am making this prayer for his swift reincarnation.

Composed by his Dharma friend Shakya Bhikshu and teacher Dalai Lama on 17th Tibetan Rabjung, Water Tiger Year, 27th day of the 3rd lunar month, 27th of May 2022. Translated by Ven. Geshe Dorji Damdul, the Director of Tibet House, The Cultural Centre of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, New Delhi. Edited by Professor Kaveri Gill (Tenzin Woessel).