



VAJRAYANA FOUNDATION



Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa in 2018

Pema Osel Ling 2022 Yearbook

2022 - A Year of Impermanence, Remembrance and Rebuilding



Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa

It was with profound sadness that we learned that our sublime teacher and Lord of Refuge, Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa entered parinirvana on February 15 of this year.

Lama Sonam Rinpoche wrote these words for our sangha about the Parinirvana and Miracle Month pujas we offered at Pema Osel Ling.

"As everyone knows, these past few years we have all faced a lot of difficulties, starting with the unexpected pandemic affecting the whole world, as well as so many conflicts, and now there is a war happening in Eastern Europe. On top of that, for those of us who are Buddhists, our very special regents of Guru Rinpoche, His Eminence Dodrupchen Rinpoche and His Holiness Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa, have taken rebirth in Pure Lands.

"For all these reasons, this Tibetan New Year we are not doing any celebrations. Instead we are holding special Guru Rinpoche tsok offering pujas in order to prevent further tragedies and to purify all the negativity in the whole world. In addition, these pujas establish positive circumstances for all beings, especially for world leaders, emanations of bodhisattvas, and all sublime beings, that they may have long lives and their activities flourish."

In spite of our personal sadness, we continued honoring Dudjom Yangsi Rinpoche and the Dudjom Tersar lineage with Dharma teachings, retreats and daily tsok offering pujas for the remainder of the year.

We are grateful that we have been able to share teachings and practice opportunities with our sangha in our beautiful shrine room again, in addition to streaming worldwide. Tulku Thadral Rinpoche has joined us once more from Nepal and has shared his wisdom and ritual experience through teaching and presiding over our pujas. We also held retreats with guest teachers Chakung Jigme Wangdrak Rinpoche and Orgyen Chowang Rinpoche.

This 2022 Annual Yearbook details all the special activities and improvements we have accomplished at Pema Osel Ling this year, due to the unfailing kindness of our lamas and generous support of our sangha.

DHARMA PROGRAMS

Annual Trekchod Retreat

Dudjom Rinpoche's
"Advice for Mountain Retreat (*Ri Chö*)"
with Lama Sonam Rinpoche
January 1-9

We began our year again with our annual Trekchod Retreat. We had been hoping to have people stay on the land and participate in person, but because of a winter resurgence in Covid, we ended up holding the retreat by streaming only.

Lama Sonam Rinpoche taught on H.H. Dudjom Rinpoche Jigdral Yeshe Dorje's classic text, "*Advice for Mountain Retreat (Richö)*".



Lama Sonam Rinpoche

Nearly 300 participants received these teachings by streaming. The recordings are still available [here](#).

Dechös for Kyabje Thinley Norbu Rinpoche, Dudjom Rinpoche, & Chatral Rinpoche, *January 4, 20, 22 & December 25*



*Chatral Rinpoche (photo by Sandra Scales),
Dudjom Rinpoche and Thinley Norbu Rinpoche*

We honored the passing of our sublime lineage masters with tsok offerings and beautiful pujas: Vajrasattva for Dudjom Rinpoche; Lake Born Vajra for Thinley Norbu Rinpoche; and *Ladrub Thigle Gyachen* for Chatral Rinpoche.

Because of the nature of the lunar calendar, we also celebrated Dungse Thinley Norbu Rinpoche's Dechö again in 2022 on December 25th.

Nang Jang Teachings *Chakung Jigme Wangdrak Rinpoche* *February 11-13*

Chakung Jigme Wangdrak Rinpoche, the lineal descendant of Rigdzin Jigme Lingpa, gave his concluding teachings on his ancestor's great Dzogchen text, *Nang Jang* (Buddhahood Without Meditation: A Visionary Account Known as Refining Apparent Phenomena), which he began at Pema Osel Ling in 2016.



Chakung Jigme Wangdrak Rinpoche

Once again, Vanessa Kubota gave an inspiring translation of Rinpoche's teachings, while keeping everyone engaged interpreting his stories and humorous anecdotes.

We had over 400 participants from 37 countries, many of whom wrote to say how blessed they felt to receive the *lung-wang* and these precious teachings.

The *wang* (empowerment) covered all of Dudjom Lingpa's and Dudjom Rinpoche's texts, while the *lung* was specific for the Nang Jang text. Rinpoche chose the deity Kuru Kulle as a material support. The thangka used was painted under the direction of Rinpoche's teacher, Jigme Phuntsok Rinpoche (see his Kuru Kulle sadhana [here](#)).



Nang Jang empowerment (Wang-Lung) texts with special Kuru Kulle thangka

Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa's Parinirvana

Vajrasattva Dung Chod Pujas and Yeshe Tsogyal Pujas

February 19 - April 1

"For those sublime beings who have manifested in Pure Lands, we are praying for their incarnations to return to this realm without obstacles. It is for these kinds of reasons that we are doing very holy puja activities during this Miracle month. This is a time every year when we commemorate that Buddha

himself defeated all negativities and performed miracles to inspire devotion and practice.

"We are doing the Lama Vajrasattva practice during the waxing moon days of the Miracle Month and then for the waning of the moon we will be offering Dakini Yeshe Tsogyal tsok each day. We do these pujas for the purification of all beings suffering from different tragedies, and for the swift rebirth of all sublime teachers who have passed, that their activities will continue without obstacles." [Lama Sonam Tsering Rinpoche]

Joining Tulku Jamyang Rinpoche and Lama Sonam Rinpoche for the pujas at Pema Osel Ling were Tulku Jigme Wangdrak Rinpoche, Anam Thubten Rinpoche, Orgyen Chowang Rinpoche, Lama Lekshey Zangpo Rinpoche, Lama Jigme, Kumar Lama, and over 750 sangha members who participated by streaming.

We also offered Riwo Sangchö smoke offerings every morning during the 6 weeks of Parinirvana Pujas.



Lamas and special guests for the Parinirvana pujas



Juniper and sur incense



Daily Riwo Sangcho smoke offering

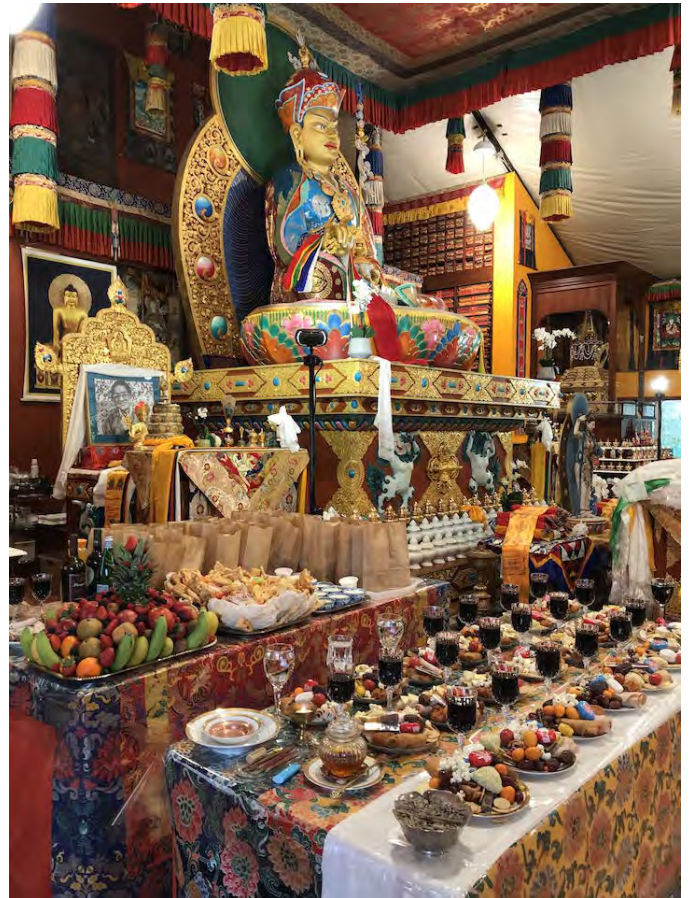
We want to share again many of the additional prayers we did in our special pujas, including Rebirth Prayers and a beautiful *Supplication* to Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa, *Cloud Banks of Blessings*, *A Prayer for Calling the Guru*

from Afar. Hear the Supplication sung beautifully by Chime Dolma.

profound Dudjom Tersar practices, for which Rinpoche most kindly gave us empowerments in 2018.



Lama Tharchin Rinpoche's ku-dung stupa during the Parinirvana Pujas (Photo by Sonam Famarin)



Losar Day Tsok Offering during Parinirvana Pujas

Losar - Tibetan New Year

March 3

We canceled our annual Vajrakilaya Gutor Losar retreat this year out of our overwhelming sadness and respect for our Lord of Refuge Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa's parinirvana. Instead, we used this time to do Vajrasattva practice and receive the blessings of Rinpoche's wisdom mind.

On Losar Day, we consecrated Treasure Vases with *Tsokey Tuk Tik* and *Orgyen Khandro Norlha* pujas, as we do each year. Lama Sonam Rinpoche said this was to connect to the transcendent energy of these



Parinirvana Losar Treasure Vase consecration with long life ceremony

Ngondro Retreat
April 9-17
Cascading Waterfall Teachings
with Sam Bercholz



*Sam Bercholz teaching on
A Cascading Waterfall of Nectar*

Our spring Ngondro Retreat was our first in-person retreat since the beginning of the Pandemic. It was so wonderful to have our sangha back at Pema Osel Ling!

Sam Bercholz is a senior student of many Nyingma and Kagyu lineage holders, including root lamas Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche and Dungse Thinley Norbu Rinpoche, who personally authorized him to teach.

This year, Sam called his weekend teachings, "*Understanding the Student-Teacher Relationship*". In addition to Sam's stories and fresh commentary on Dungse Rinpoche's *A Cascading Waterfall Of Nectar*, his son Ivan Bercholz added his own insights on Ngondro practice.



Lama Sonam Rinpoche thanking Ivan Bercholz



Ngondro Retreat Faculty
*From left: Amy, Lama Sonam Rinpoche, Sam, Ivan,
Pema Rigdzin, Choying Wangmo*

The remainder of the retreat was led by Lama Sonam Rinpoche, Amy Green, senior student of Dungse Thinley Norbu Rinpoche, and Drubpon Pema Rigdzin, with Choying Wangmo and Stefan Graves leading the accumulation sessions. The retreat included practical teachings on how to approach Ngondro meditation and accomplish the accumulations, as well as time for personal practice.



Drubpon Pema Rigdzin Teaching Mandala Offering

Lama Sonam Rinpoche also offered oral transmissions (*lung*s) for the Concise Dudjom Tersar and Sa-Ter Ngondros.

The recordings of Sam Berholz’ teachings and Lama Sonam Rinpoche’s and Amy Green’s Ngondro Retreat teachings are still available [here](#).

33rd Annual Summer Retreat

Tulku Thadral Rinpoche, Tulku Jamyang Rinpoche and Lama Sonam Rinpoche
May 19 - June 20

Lama Tharchin Rinpoche began the Vajrayana Foundation's annual month-long Summer Retreat nearly 30 years ago as a vehicle for passing the **Dudjom Tersar practices** on to the Sangha. In this, he was tirelessly assisted by resident lamas, Lama Sonam Tsering Rinpoche and Tulku Jamyang Rinpoche.

"Our precious Lama Tharchin Rinpoche established a one-month Summer Retreat starting in 1989, calling it our "sangha dharma party", and we have continued it without interruption to this day. Every

year we do practices of the Three Roots deities and conclude with Drupchen.

"These practices help to counteract negative circumstances for each practitioner, as well as those negative circumstances which cause so much hardship for the whole world, including disease, famine, war, conflict, and especially epidemic diseases like we are experiencing now." [Lama Sonam Rinpoche]

Pudri Rekphung Vajrakilaya Retreat June 4-9



HUNG and AH tormas created by Magical Display of the Arts for the Vajrakilaya Retreat

Since we did not do a Vajrakilaya retreat at Losar time, we began our Summer Retreat with Putri Rekphung empowerment and practice. Even without the Zorchen and other ritual items associated with the wrathful activities of Gutor, there were still many ritual offerings to prepare, including tormas for the 16 Vajrakilaya (HUNG) and 8 Dorje Drolo (AH) dharma protectors.

Troma Nakmo Retreat

Troma Nagmo Empowerment, Ngondro and Four Feasts

June 11-16

Troma Nagmo Sadhana Practice June 17-21

Lama Sonam Rinpoche gave the Troma empowerment and the *lungs* for the Troma Ngondro, Four Feasts, Concise and Medium-Length Sadhanas. Rinpoche gave teachings and led everyone in practice.

Each evening we did the Concise Troma Sadhana with tsok and Dudjom Lingpa's Healing Chod Ceremony, using melodies, visualizations, and offerings as a method for healing the ailments of the body, speech, and mind with great compassion.



Ritual items for Troma empowerment

Shitro Ngakso Retreat

100 Peaceful and Wrathful Deities (Shitro) Empowerment and Practice

and Neydren Ceremony to Help the Deceased June 24-27



Mandala of 58 Wrathful Deities

Kyabje Dudjom Rinpoche compiled our 100 Peaceful and Wrathful Deity practice, based on a Karma Lingpa treasure, as a method for practitioners to achieve fully enlightened Buddhahood by removing obstacles to the path,

through restoring all broken precepts, vows and tantric samayas.

Lama Sonam Rinpoche gave the empowerment for the *Dudjom Rituals and Prayers of the Shitro Cycle* saying, "For whoever has a connection to this Shitro practice, the seed of samsara will be destroyed."

We included a Neydren ceremony again this year to benefit loved ones and all beings who have passed. Sangha members sent in the names of their loved ones and the names were burned on the last day of the ceremony.



Tulku Thadral Rinpoche Teaching During Drupchen



Tulku Jamyang Rinpoche making offerings for the deceased

Collection of Seven Treasures Guru Rinpoche Drupchen July 1-9

It was so special to welcome Tulku Thadral Rinpoche and our sangha back for an in-person Drupchen! Sacred dancing was limited because of the Parinirvana, but we did perform the Gings, wrathful Gyalmos, and Eight Manifestations of Guru Rinpoche.



Gyalmos

Preparations for the Drupchen this year started before summer retreat with the remaking of the lama Black Hats, and with dance rehearsals for residents. Lama Sonam Rinpoche refined the dances

to integrate some of them into the last day's ritual sessions.

We performed the four jinseks and were able to stream them with the addition of new outdoor video cameras installed this year.



Peaceful Jinsek



Magnetizing Jinsek



Wrathful Jinsek



Lama Sonam Rinpoche holds an Eight Auspicious Symbols Treasure Vase during the Enriching Jinsek

Children's Retreat July 2-8



Children's Retreat began again after a two-year break with seven children ages 5-11. Sangha member Sidra led the program with the assistance of veteran teachers Lisa and Jacob and several other volunteers.

Children took nature walks, learned Tibetan language, offered tsok, learned about Ngondro prayers, made Dharma-oriented craft projects and tormas.

Once again, our youth are learning about "Thinking good things, saying good things and doing good things" while their parents attend Drupchen in the shrine room.



Children attend tsok in the Shrine Room



Children join the adults in Lingdro dances

Lama Tharchin Rinpoche's Dechö August 12

This year marked the 9th anniversary of our founder and most kind teacher, Lama Tharchin Rinpoche's parinirvana. We offered tsok and butter lamps with the Dorsem Lama Chopa puja, and lotus lights on Rinpoche's Ku-Dung Stupa. Chakung Jigme Wangdrak and Tulku Thadral Rinpoche joined our resident lamas and many sangha.



*Lama Tharchin Rinpoche's Ku-Dung Stupa with
Lotus Lights and Dahlias*



Dechö Lamas: Tulku Jamyang Rinpoche, Chakung Jigme Wangdrak Ripoché, Tulku Thadral Rinpoche and Lama Sonam Rinpoche

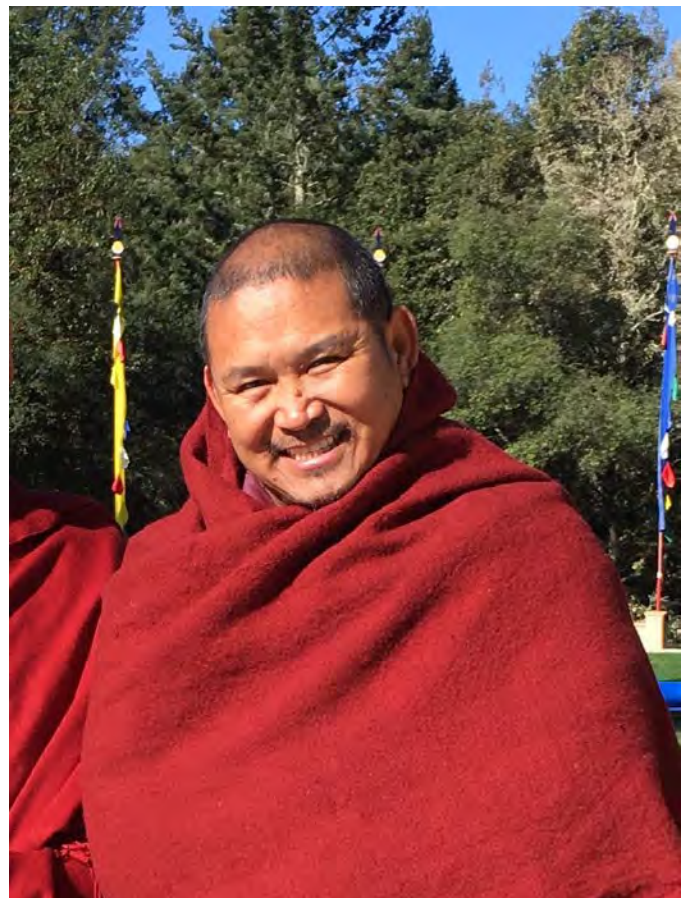
Resting in the Nature of Mind **Teachings and *Lung* with Tulku Thadral Rinpoche** *September 16-18*

Tulku Thadral Rinpoche taught from *The Excellent Path to Enlightenment*, Longchenpa's practice manual based on *Finding Rest in the Nature of Mind (Sem Nyi Ngäl So)*. This text covers the whole path of Dharma: the Four Thoughts, Ngondro, the Sutras, Outer and Inner Tantras; all nine levels of the path put together in one teaching. The entire work is a comprehensive guide to practicing Buddhism.

Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse Rinpoche commented about this text, "Rest is what we all lack most. Even more agonizing is that we don't know how to do it; in fact, we don't even understand what it means to rest."



Dorsem Lama Chopa (Vajrasattva) torma



Tulku Thadral Rinpoche

270 people from all over the world participated in these teachings by streaming. We anticipate that Tulku Thadral Rinpoche will continue this series of teachings on an annual basis.

Thanksgiving Retreat

Thanksgiving Day Buddha Amitabha Puja and Tsok and Sangha Potluck *November 24*

As we do every Thanksgiving Day, we offered Buddha Amitabha puja and tsok with Dudjom Lingpa's *The Excellent Path to Omniscience* sadhana, followed by a sangha dinner and three days of retreat. This year many people joined our residents for a very special in-person celebration.



Amitabha Puja



Honored Guests



Thanksgiving Feast cooks

Dream Yoga with Tulku Thadral Rinpoche *November 25 - 27*

Tulku Thadral Rinpoche gave Dream Yoga teachings based on the text by Dudjom Rinpoche from the Namchak Putri Vajrakilaya Cycle.



Tulku Thadral Rinpoche with Dream Yoga in-person participants

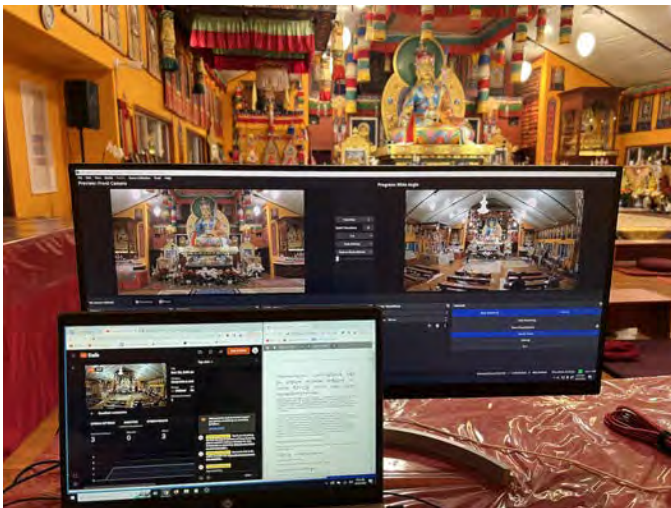
Becoming lucid in our dreams illustrates to us that we can shake our ordinary daytime perceptions and access a different level of mental activity during our waking lives as well.

This retreat was translated into Mandarin over Zoom by a sangha member who has been doing a long personal retreat at Pema Osel Ling.

Holy Day and Daily Puja Streaming

We continued our tradition of hosting our remote sangha by streaming for five Holy Days each month according to the lunar calendar: Medicine Buddha Day (8th), Guru Rinpoche Day (10th), Full Moon (15th), Dakini Day (25th), and New Moon (30th).

This year, we upgraded our streaming system with 4 new cameras inside the shrine room, 2 cameras outside and a new computer to integrate all the image sources. This allowed us to stream the *Riwo Sangchö* smoke offerings and Gutor and Drupchen rituals in front of the Shrine Room porch, and on the meadow during *Jinseks*, fire offering rituals during Drupchen.



New streaming system upgrade

We continue to stream our daily Troma puja on Tuesday evenings, and our Yeshe Tsogyal (*Khandro T'huk T'hik*) puja on Saturday mornings. Many

sangha join us in the shrine room from their homes in Europe and other parts of the world.

Personal Retreats

Some of our sangha members enjoyed short or long personal retreat time at our special cabins this year. Members have been able to rent Dungsé Rinpoche's trailer cabin (*Kunsang Choling*), our Caretaker Cabin and rooms in the Sangha House and Orchard House.



Kunsang Choling

Three-Year Retreat Program: *Drubdra*

The Joyful Grove that Provides Both Kinds of Accomplishments (*Drub Nyiy Dojo Gatsal*) is Vajrayana Foundation's Three-year Retreat Center (*Drubdra*).

Our *Drubdra* is thriving! Although we miss tremendously our sublime teachers, Lama Tharchin Rinpoche and Lama Pema Dorje Rinpoche, the seeds they sowed continue to blossom under the guidance of Lama Sonam Tsering Rinpoche and Tulku Thadral Rinpoche..

program, please contact us at drubdra@vajrayana.org.



Lama Sonam Rinpoche & Lama Tharchin Rinpoche

Drubpon Pema Rigdzin Wangyal instructs the retreatants on a day-to-day basis, assisting with all their needs.

Currently we have an international Drubdra with participants from Europe, India, South America, USA and Asia.

In addition to on-going teachings from Lama Sonam Rinpoche, we are fortunate that Tulku Thadral Rinpoche has been giving teachings on a regular basis since he arrived in June.

To learn more about the benefits of the three-year-retreat experience please watch these two videos by Drubpon Pema Rigdzin. In the [first](#), Drubpon answers questions about long retreat. The [second video](#) begins a new series of teachings meant for answering questions and encouraging people to do three-year retreat, and is called "Discipline, Meditative Concentration and Wisdom As the Basis For a Successful Retreat". These talks will be scheduled on a regular basis so people with questions can have a better understanding about retreat.

We are currently reviewing applications for our next three-year retreat, which will start in 2024. If long retreat is something you feel called to explore, or you would like to sponsor any aspect of the retreat



Drubpon Pema Rigdzin

Ngondro Program ***Ongoing Web-Based Support***

Our Dudjom Tersar Ngondro Program supports individuals in their Preliminary Practice, Ngondro. The program requires a commitment to practice, is self-directed and can be joined at any time.

Lama Tharchin Rinpoche and Lama Sonam Rinpoche began planning the Ngondro Program with Vajrayana Foundation staff in the fall of 2012. Their objective was to provide serious students of the Dharma the structure and guidance needed to complete their Dudjom Tersar Ngondro from start to finish.



Lama Sonam Rinpoche teaching and answering Ngondro Program students' questions

The Program was announced in February 2013 with an email detailing the unique Program components:

- A Personal interview with one of the lamas once a year
- Senior student advisors to give personal support by email or phone
- Video webinar teachings by one of the lamas every other month
- Video study and discussion groups led by senior students on alternate months
- Annual in-person Ngondro Retreat.



Program Coordinators: Choying Wangmo and Stefan Graves

On April 21, 2013, Lama Tharchin Rinpoche gave the first Ngondro Program video conference teaching to a group of 36 Program members from

the US, Europe, Mexico and the Pacific Islands. In it he welcomed the “new Tersar Lineage Holder guys”. He said, *“I want to say how much I’m happy all of you are willing to do Dudjom Tersar Ngondro. In this generation, by Kyabje Thinley Norbu Rinpoche’s kindness, we established pretty well all the Dudjom Tersar teachings. But [for the] next generation we have to keep these things going.*

“His Holiness Dudjom Rinpoche told me to take care of the Tersar tradition.... We have to be willing, responsible to hold that doctrine lineage.”
[Lama Tharchin Rinpoche]

During 2022, the Ngondro Program maintained its regular monthly webcasts with the Dudjom Tersar Ngondro *Lung*, Ngondro Teachings, Questions and Answers and Group Accumulation Sessions supported by Lama Sonam Rinpoche, Pema Rigdzin Wangyal, Choying Wangmo and Stefan Graves on Zoom and Facebook Live.



Refuge Ceremony at Pema Osel Ling

There were two very special events sponsored by the Ngondro Program this year. The first was a Refuge Ceremony in April bestowed by Lama Sonam Rinpoche (in-person at Pema Osel Ling and streamed online). This was our first in-person dharma event since the beginning of the pandemic, and those on site were joined by 120 online attendees.

In its tenth year, the Dudjom Tersar Ngondro web-based program has 125 members from all over the world and has thousands of followers on social media. Many new people joined these last two years during the pandemic, including 44 new members from Brazil who joined as a group. The group, now called Vajrayana Foundation Ngondro Brazil, practices together twice weekly in addition to attending weekly study group and Q & A meetings with Drubpon Pema Rigdzin Wangyal, who is able to speak with them fluently in Portuguese.

They have completed the study of *A Commentary on the Dudjom Tersar Ngondro* by Lama Tharchin Rinpoche, and will soon be starting to study *Cascading Waterfall of Nectar* by H.H. Thinley Norbu Rinpoche. The group is coordinated by Jeanne Pilli, who also translates Lama Sonam Rinpoche’s teachings into Portuguese simultaneously, during his webcast teachings.

The Ngondro Program members speak frequently about the strong sense of support and connection to community that they feel. For more information or to join, please visit our website <https://dudjomtersarngondro.com/>.

In July, Tulku Thadral Rinpoche began a series of monthly Ngondro teachings. You can view the teachings by finding the links [here](#).



Tulku Thadral Rinpoche with Cy translating

At the request of some Troma practitioners who wanted Troma Ngondro support, the Dudjom Tersar Ngondro Program began offering a Troma Ngondro component in October.

Membership Program

2022 is the 20th anniversary of our membership program, which Lama Tharchin Rinpoche and Lama Sonam Rinpoche started in 2002. The program has been growing, with 24 new members this year!

Members’ monthly dues provide much-needed, reliable income for all of our activities. Members help keep Pema Osel Ling going!



Prayer flag image for member gift flag

Our annual gift this year is a golden prayer flag with the same image that is printed on the 16-foot tall prayer flags we raise at Pema Osel Ling every year. This *Lung Ta* image was designed by Kyabje

Dudjom Rinpoche and features a galloping horse with a wish-fulfilling jewel on its back occupying the center, with an eagle, dragon, tiger and lion in the corners. The four corner animals represent the four elements of fire, water, wind and earth, all connected to the space element of the wind-horse, representing the source of life, with prayers and mantras for overcoming all obstacles, generating health, prosperity, good fortune and victory in all things.

"To maintain Pema Osel Ling and the uninterrupted, fresh blessings that emanate from the Guru Rinpoche statue in our shrine room... has inconceivable merit. We can dedicate this merit for our loved ones, to cure illness and to purify all obstacles." [Lama Sonam Rinpoche]

We are deeply grateful to everyone who supported the Vajrayana Foundation in 2022. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts! If you are not already a member, we encourage you to [join today!](#)

Treasure of Abundance Dudjom Lineage Treasure Vases Produced at Pema Osel Ling

Treasure of Abundance is the Vajrayana Foundation project which produces spectacular Treasure Vases designed by Lama Tharchin Rinpoche in accordance with the Dudjom Lineage. Under the guidance of Lama Sonam Rinpoche, our team continues expanding the project and making these sacred vases more available on a global scale.

In 2022, Treasure of Abundance focused efforts to expand our website, social media platforms, newsletters, and the YouTube channel with improved product photos and video teachings, such as the Lama Sonam Rinpoche's Earth Day 2022 Teaching in the Spring and his "Meaning of Treasure Vases" Video teaching in the fall.

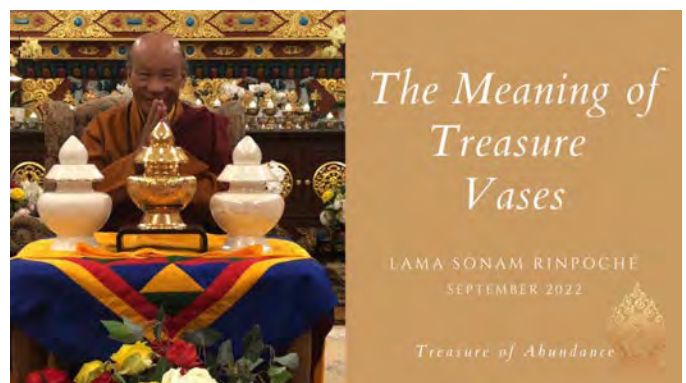


New product photography in 2022

One of our goals was to provide more translations for teachings and through wonderful volunteers, we have released both subtitled video and written translations of our Treasure Vase Teachings in both Chinese and Vietnamese. We are currently in the process of translating the Treasure of Abundance website into both Chinese and Vietnamese.



Lama Sonam Rinpoche's Video Title for the Chinese Translation of "Earth Day Treasure Vase Teaching" in April 2022



Lama Sonam Rinpoche's teaching on "The Meaning of Treasure Vases" with Chinese and Vietnamese translated subtitles added in September 2022

Our staff and volunteers who make Treasure of Abundance possible are preparing for another year of fulfilling activity! We are working on some artistic opportunities to add to our collection, filming, editing, and translating more teachings, planning live-streamed consecrations, and continuing our efforts to make the vases available around the world!

For more information about the Treasure Vases, visit treasureofabundance.com or follow us on [facebook](#) and [instagram](#)! Questions? Email us at treasurevase@vajrayana.org.

Magical Display of the Arts



Wheel and Deer Tsa Tsa on the Stupa of Many Doors surrounding the Red Dorje Drolo Stupa

All retreats and Dharma activities at Pema Osel Ling rely on the skillful preparation and daily activity of resident artists who design and produce many detailed ritual items for our ceremonies, create traditional costumes and masks and oversee the sacred dances. Magical Display of the Arts (MDA) is responsible for the careful arranging of the shrine and mandala, production and decoration of detailed tormas, choponing (carrying out shrine rituals), costuming and training individuals in each of these areas.

Our artists start working in January on the supports for the two large practice retreats of the year, Losar and Drupchen. This year, however, the Art activities shifted from Gutor and Losar to the hundreds of tormas needed for the Parinirvana Pujas.

The MDA also creates permanent tormas, a variety of tsa tsas, and seed syllables hand painted on silk, all of which are offered for sale at Dharma Treasures. This year the MDA also produced a limited series of brass table-top prayer wheels filled with Vajra Armor mantras.



Hand-crafted Vajra Armor prayer wheels created by MDA



Tulku Thadral Rinpoche entering the shrine in one of the black hats refurbished this year

Follow along as MDA shares new creations, commissioned works, and behind-the-scenes art projects from Pema Osel Ling, present and past, on Facebook MDA, Lindro /Sacred Dance at Instagram@magicaldisplay. To purchase our available pieces, visit our [Etsy shop](#) or [Dharma Treasures](#).

Five Taras and the Great Arhats Mandala



Tara statues stored temporarily at the barn

In February 2021, we initiated a project born from prophecy. Lama Sonam Rinpoche said,

"On one of his visits to Pema Osel Ling, Our Lord of Refuge Dungse Thinley Norbu Rinpoche shared a prophecy with Lama Tharchin Rinpoche and me. He said that at the right time, statues of Four Elements Dakinis should be installed in our shrine room, to protect not only Pema Osel Ling, but the whole world.

"Tara offers the most powerful and universal protection from all negativity. The Four Element Taras, corresponding with fire, water, earth and air, specifically offer protection from disharmony of the elements that results in wildfires, earthquakes, hurricanes and floods. In Dudjom Lingpa's Green

Tara practice, the fifth Tara (Green Tara) is included, offering protection from all obstacles, relief from the Eight Great Fears and support for harmony in the sangha and among all suffering beings.

The five Tara statues made in Orissa, India arrived in September of this year. We have now commissioned the 23 Arhat statues. The Taras are being stored until space can be created for them in the Shrine Room.

Read more about this project [here](#).

Dharma Treasures

Dharma Treasures, "The Wish-Fulfilling Treasure House of Dharma", offers print and digital practice texts, ritual and shrine items, books, recordings of teachings and Himalayan gifts.

Since the beginning of the pandemic the majority of our business has been online. We hope to welcome more in-store visitors in our newly-remodeled and expanded space.

We began the remodel during Summer Retreat and completed the work in time for a Grand Re-Opening sale over the Thanksgiving Retreat.



Store front



Thangkas, Ritual Items, Jewelry, Images, Books



Statues, Treasure Vases, Incense, Cards, Clothing

Visit our store at dharma treasures.com.

Teachings Archive

We have continued making strides this year transforming our extensive catalog of Lama Tharchin Rinpoche's analog recorded teachings to modern digital formats. With the generous support of The Lama Tharchin Rinpoche Heritage Foundation, our former staff member, Rigdzin (Darren) Beil, digitized a collection of over 300 cassette tapes donated this year by a former Drubdra retreatant who recorded Rinpoche's teachings in the 1990's.



Lama Tharchin Rinpoche

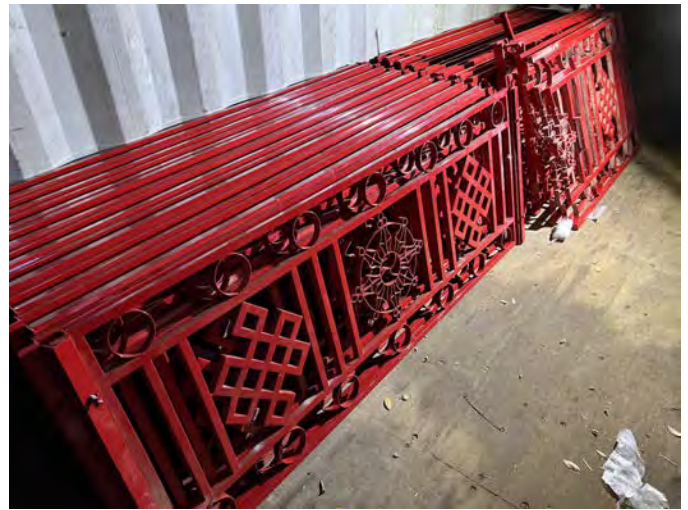
In addition, a professional archive company completed the conversion of all the video tapes in the collection. We are now in the stage of organizing and cataloging the files and gathering information about the recordings.

One day soon, we hope to have an onsite library with recordings that are accessible to everyone.

Red Dorje Drolo Stupa Completion Project

"Stupas are very, very special. They represent Buddha's body, speech, and mind. Mainly they represent Buddha's mind, which is dharmakaya, or our own Nature of Mind. That's why connecting with this stupa is liberating; we will soon realize our own Buddha Nature, our Buddha Nature will blossom. Like that, it has incomparable benefit."

Read the [full transcript](#), or listen to a [4-min video](#) in which Lama Sonam Rinpoche shares news about the Red Dorje Drolo Stupa Mandala Project and touches on the benefits of the stupa.



Auspicious gates and fence panels

In early December, we had the upper stupa access road graded and paved. Now we can get concrete trucks to the site to pour the foundation and install the auspicious fence columns and panels. We still need to raise additional funds for grading, concrete work, laying the tile courtyard and korwa path, and installing the auspicious fence and 152 small stupas.



*Lama Sonam Rinpoche and Tulku Thadral Rinpoche
laying out the auspicious fence*

The overall plan includes an auspicious fence topped with stone stupas, a korwa path, marble mandala courtyard, a pagoda for lamas and guests to gather, and landscaping.

In September, our 152 individually sponsored stone stupas arrived in California on a (very slow) ship from India. We transported them to Pema Osel Ling and they are now being stored while we prepare the site where they will be installed on the auspicious fence.



Newly-paved upper portion of stupa access road



Finished granite column for the auspicious fence

This year marked the 20 anniversary of the consecration of the stupa contents. It is exciting to see progress towards the Stupa Mandala completion.



Stupa Contents Consecration



152 Stone stupas

Facilities and Infrastructure

We continued improving our property's infrastructure, with a new roof over the meadow annex serving area, construction of a storage shed for rental furniture, and new gutters on several buildings.



Meadow annex serving area roof



Accessible bath house at the pool and dining hall

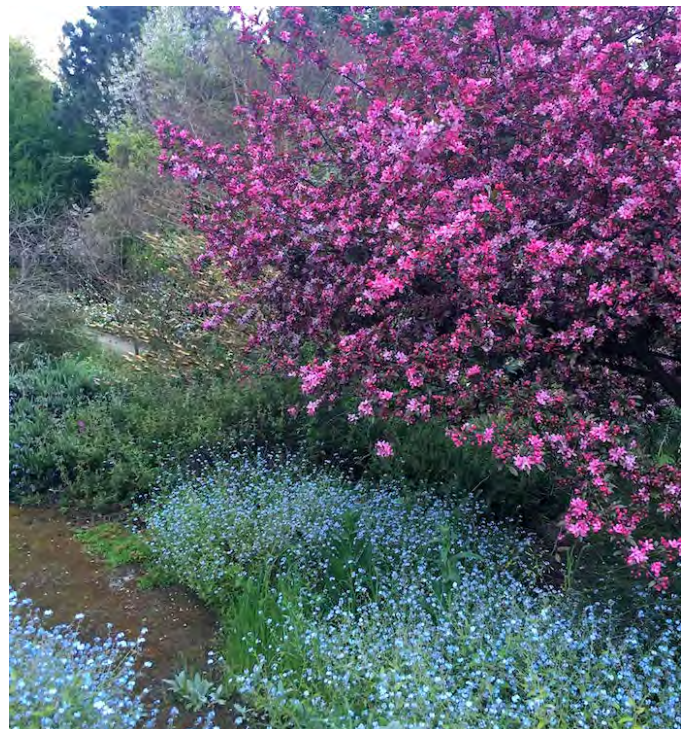


Sprucing up the kitchen with fresh paint

In order to improve the fire safety and drought resilience of our beautiful Pema Osel Ling, we continued to remove brush around buildings and to create fire breaks throughout the property. We also replaced flammable trees and brush near the lamas' residences, shrine and office with fire-resistant and drought-resistant plants.



New generator for Drubdra (3-Year Retreat Center)



Drought-resistant gardens



Drought-resistant office garden

Weddings and Special Events

2022 saw the return of an almost full wedding schedule. Half of the weddings hosted were weddings that had been postponed due to Covid, some of them three times! It was so satisfying to see these happy couples finally be able to celebrate with their loved ones.

When we started to host weddings at Pema Osel Ling it was with the blessings of our lamas, Dungse Thinley Norbu Rinpoche, Lama Tharchin Rinpoche and Lama Sonam Rinpoche. Dungse Thinley Norbu Rinpoche told Lama Sonam Rinpoche that weddings at Pema Osel Ling would “create virtue in the world”. They appreciated the need for additional financial support, but said that the “big picture” benefit was that weddings would connect many people to the dharma by the simple, but profound, karmic act of being on the blessed land of Pema Osel Ling

It is a belief in Vajrayana Buddhism that being on sacred land where stupas and statues exist, and where enlightened beings have taught, connects one to the dharma, with or without intention or knowledge of Buddhism. There are many stories that illustrate this, and Lama Sonam Rinpoche said, “It is like planting a seed that one day (no matter how many lifetimes may pass) will bear fruit.”

Dungse Rinpoche told Lama Sonam Rinpoche to privately bless each wedding feast as a tsok offering for the Three Jewels and dedicate the merit for the wedding couple and guests, as well as the entire sangha. He said the merit for Pema Osel Ling and everyone was profound.

The weddings are now a main source of support for all of our ongoing activity and help keep Pema Osel Ling in beautiful condition, while connecting thousands of people to Buddhism.

Some of these “seeds of connection” actually come to fruition in this lifetime. Many guests have questions or express how moved they are by the stupa, the shrine room and Pema Osel Ling in general. A number of them ask about retreats. There are many stories of positive effects and auspicious connections people have made, and we would like to share some of these with you:



24k Gold Treasure Vase at home in New York City

Years ago we received a call from a man who wanted to buy a Treasure Vase, as he collected them from different dharma organizations. He had seen them on our web site after he googled Treasure Vases, but had never met Lama Tharchin Rinpoche or been at any of our events. After speaking with him for several minutes he said, “Wait a minute, is your retreat center Pema Osel Ling? I was at a wedding there about five years ago. I was not a Buddhist then but I had such a great time - the food was awesome! I visited your stupa and bought a

pendant from your bookstore, which I have worn since then.” He went on to say that this experience sparked an interest in Buddhism and that he eventually took refuge in Upstate New York. He ended up sending a sizable donation that we used to rekindle our Treasure Vase project in 2010.

A woman who had attended a wedding called several weeks later to see if she could bring her mother to the shrine room. The guest said that although neither of them was Buddhist, she had visited the shrine during the wedding and wanted to share it. Her mother arrived using oxygen and was helped into the shrine room. As she stood in front of the Guru Rinpoche statue, her daughter whispered that she had not seen her mother stand unassisted for quite a while. The guest called later that week to tell us that her mother had a profound experience and thanked us profusely.

At a wedding that was hosted right before the Dorje Drolo stupa was built, a guest bought a Dorje Drolo tsa-tsa in our bookstore. After she went home, she called and asked if her husband, a commercial real estate broker, could buy tsa-tsas to give as holiday gifts to clients and staff. Lama Tharchin Rinpoche said “Absolutely!” They bought 100 (raising \$2,500 for the stupa) and we made cards to go with each gold painted tsa-tsa, telling about the stupa and Dorje Dröllo as a representation of the Buddha. After the holidays we heard from the guest that her husband had never had such a positive reaction to his annual gifts. Many of his clients had been impacted by 9-11 and were very touched by the intention of the Dödrul stupa to stop a cycle of negativity. She said a number of them had written personal notes of thanks, including the vice president of his company.

When Yangtang Rinpoche made a last-minute visit to Pema Osel Ling, we spoke to the wedding couple who were scheduled that weekend and they graciously agreed to share the facility with us. Yangtang Rinpoche offered the couple a special blessing and gave katags to the couple and their family members. The bride’s uncle was in tears and the next day he told me that he had never felt anything quite like that. He asked a number of

questions about Yangtang Rinpoche and Buddhism in general. Most of the wedding couples are not Buddhist but they are all very open and supportive of our mission. Regardless of their spiritual beliefs, many of them are very happy to receive a blessing and katag from Lama Sonam Rinpoche when possible.



Yangtang Rinpoche giving wedding blessing

The father of one of the brides told us of a profound experience he had. There had been a terrible tragedy that tore his family apart, causing a divorce with his wife and estrangement between siblings. They all were at Pema Osel Ling for the wedding and together for the first time in many years. Before the wedding, he walked alone to the stupa and felt a strong urge to pray that something would happen to heal his family. He told us that at the reception, his wife and all his children talked and danced together and he felt a dark heaviness lift. He asked many questions about the stupa and Buddhism, as he felt his experience was a catalyst for this profound reconciliation.

We owe a debt of gratitude to all of our staff members who work so hard, not only on this fruitful and virtuous wedding activity, but on maintaining this sacred land and supporting all our programs and activities, which serves to fulfill our vision of establishing Dharma in the West.

Visit us online at www.vajrayana.org.



*Flower offerings for Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa
(Photo by Nirabhra Taylor)*

*Photos throughout by Sonam Famarin, Nirabhra Taylor, Becky Loy,
Brian Espinoza, John Reynolds, Izzy Tayrien, and unnamed others whose contributions we appreciate.*

*Wishing You Good Health, Peace and Happiness
in the New Year*



[Photo by Sonam Famarin]

A Brief History

Lama Tharchin Rinpoche established the Vajrayana Foundation in 1987, upon the advice of Kyabje Dudjom Jigdral Yeshe Dorje Rinpoche and Dungse Thinley Norbu Rinpoche, to transmit the Dudjom Tersar lineage in the West. The Foundation bought Pema Osel Ling in 1991 and a yearly cycle of teachings and practice began on the land.

In 1998, Dungse Thinley Norbu Rinpoche agreed to guide the Vajrayana Foundation and asked Lama Sonam Rinpoche to assist Lama Tharchin Rinpoche in running Pema Osel Ling. In 2011, after Dungse Rinpoche's parinirvana, Lama Tharchin Rinpoche and Lama Sonam Rinpoche offered Pema Osel Ling to H.H. Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa Rinpoche, who accepted Pema Osel Ling as his center.

We make aspirations that with the lineage lamas' and our sangha's support, we will continue to preserve Pema Osel Ling as a blessed place to actualize profound Buddhist teachings.

As another challenging pandemic year draws to a close, we want to acknowledge and express our deep appreciation to you, our incomparable sangha! The opportunity to work together to help realize our sublime teachers' aspirations is very precious. Your support will help us continue to grow and carry out a year full of dharma activity in 2023!