

VICTORIOUS MOUNTAIN RETREAT CAMPAIGN WITH GUARDIANS OF THE FIVE BUDDHA FAMILIES MANDALA

At one of Kilung Rinpoche's recent teachings, you may have heard about our new effort to support Rinpoche's work in Tibet, enabling him to shift his focus more strongly toward spiritual practice, while engaging and inspiring our own practice. For many of you, this will be completely new information, and we want to include all of you, Rinpoche's students and dharma friends. The following is an explanation of the program.

Kilung Jigme Rinpoche has devoted the last ten years to rebuilding Kilung monastery, and revitalizing the nomadic Kilung community. When we began this work years ago, he said that this would be his most important accomplishment for this lifetime—his reason for being. Now he's within grasp of achieving this monumental work.

Over the years these projects have absorbed enormous time, much of that in the search for funding. To do this work Rinpoche has given up something essential to his being—time for his own practice and for retreat. He's dearly spoken of this for years.

Now, as Rinpoche approaches the accomplishment of rebuilding Kilung, his community of supporters can help speed up the process, so that he can turn the wheel of dharma more fully, for all of us.

We've done a great job of supporting Rinpoche's work so far. Kilung Valley and Kilung Monastery have seen enormous improvements. But there's more to go...the integrated efforts to support Tibetan nomad culture, their education, their health, and their spiritual life. So, we are introducing something new:

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With this, Rinpoche can eliminate fundraising from his annual schedule, and fill this time with what enlightened lamas know best: the Dharma. Rinpoche would be able to spend 3-5 months every year in retreat, to continue his dharma teaching, and continue leading his monastery and community in Tibet. The sooner we can help Rinpoche, the sooner he can engage almost immediately in this deeper level of Dharma activity.

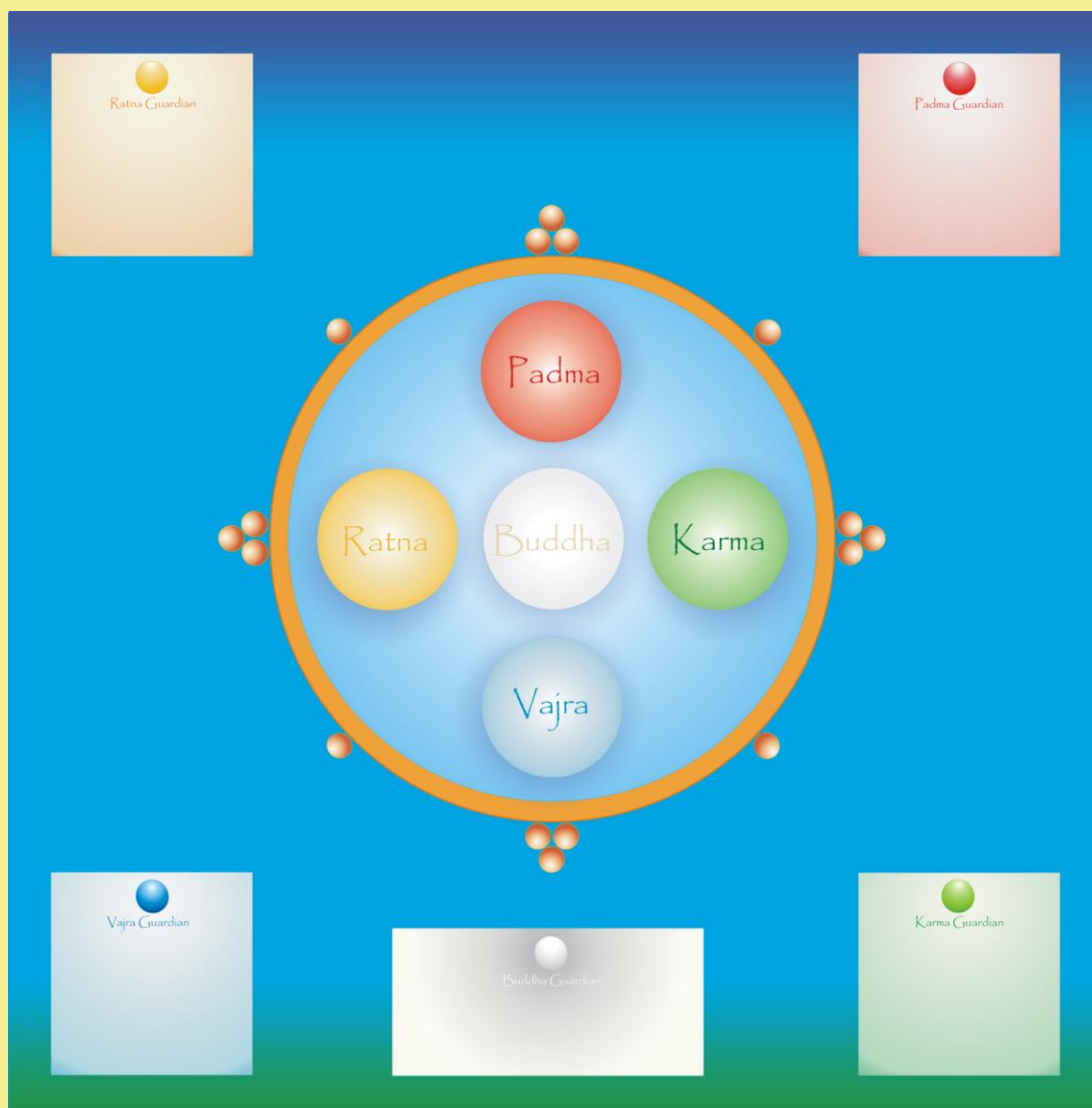
Here's the goal. To raise \$300,000 in 3-6 years for Rinpoche's Tibet projects. This campaign would mean that Rinpoche can take the time in retreat instead of raising the money. He would be able to retreat 3-5 months every year, dividing this time between Tibet (or parts of Asia) and the West. After retreat times, he would emerge to teach us. While in retreat, others may be able to join in retreat, perhaps in the vicinity, and if needed, he would give retreat advice.

WHY IS RETREAT IMPORTANT FOR KILUNG RINPOCHE?

Retreat is deeply important...

- to continue his spiritual path
- to take advantage of the opportunity of the few remaining older-generation yogis still alive who have urged Rinpoche to do significant retreat with them
- to emanate his own enlightened vast blessing, and inspiration, wherever he is in retreat
- to be a model for those of us interested in retreat and practice
- while in the west, to lead others on parallel retreat, perhaps in close proximity to him
- while at Kilung Monastery, to inspire the monks and nuns there into their own long-term retreat, something that has come to seem remote to them in recent years.

IN RINPOCHE'S WORDS: *I can see clearly that sharing my life and Dharma practice with others through retreat is greatly important. The most important is by accomplishing the lineage of the masters' aspirations. As a lineage holder, I have an unstoppable commitment to continue their enlightened transmissions and activities for the sake of sentient beings, until they reach the state of enlightenment without remainder. Therefore, I'm very much looking forward to this retreat happening soon, before I get old. And not only me, but all of my students and friends, as well.*



How can we participate in this campaign?

By taking a place in the mandala of the Five Buddha Families as a Guardian, and inspiring others in their participation.

WHAT ARE THE FIVE BUDDHA FAMILIES?

The Five Buddha Families represent different facets of Enlightened Activity, or states of being. These families make up a balanced whole—a mandala composed of five mandalas which work together to turn the Wheel of Dharma.

Rinpoche had a series of dreams indicating the importance of using this model of enlightened activity to accomplish his work. He says, *“The essence of all of phenomena is reflected in the nature of the Five Buddha Family Mandala. All phenomena includes internal and external, subject and object, the elements and aggregates, in fact everything associated with the whole universe.*

“When we come to understand profoundly the nature of these phenomena, which is our own nature, then we can see there is nothing other than the presence and manifestation of the Five Buddha Families.”

Each family has a name, an element, a direction, and characteristics

- ❖ **Vajra Family**, the element of Water, Indestructible Protection, The Eastern Buddha Fields of Pure Joy
- ❖ **Ratna Family**, the element of Earth, Holding the Precious Qualities of Outer & Inner, The Southern Buddha Realm of Glory
- ❖ **Padma Family**, the element of Fire, Enlightened Representation of Projecting, Magnetizing, & Gathering, The Western Buddha Fields of Great Bliss
- ❖ **Karma Family**, the element of Wind, Enlightened Activity & Accomplishment, The Northern Buddha Realm of Perfect Action
- ❖ **Buddha Family**, the element of Space, Enlightened Sphere of Essential Spaciousness, The Central Buddha Realm of the All-Pervading Sphere

The Financial Picture:

The overall goal for this campaign is to raise \$300,000 over 3-6 years toward Rinpoche's projects in Tibet. In order for Rinpoche to give up his normal fundraising and replace that with retreat time, the campaign needs to raise at least \$50,000 annually. Project list on page 6.

Annual minimum goal for the full mandala: \$50,000

Each Family fills at least two Guardianships each year (\$5,000 each)

Each Family's annual minimum goal: \$10,000

Anyone contributing to this campaign at any financial level becomes a Guardian, whether donating for one full Guardianship or joining with others.

Contact us to join a Guardianship group which has already formed and is seeking others.

Pledges can be made for one or more years.

As of September 20, 2008, the campaign has raised \$35,000 in donations and pledges for 2008.

Amounts raised by each Family mandala so far:

Vajra \$5,760

Ratna \$4,650

Padma \$8,300

Karma \$10,000

Buddha \$6,250

Thank you to all Guardians of the Five Buddha Families!

All funds go to the Kilung Foundation as general donations, and Kilung Rinpoche will distribute those funds as needed to the projects in Tibet. Utilizing the Kilung Foundation means all donations are tax deductible. For a list of current and upcoming projects, see below.

RINPOCHE'S CHALLENGE TO THE GUARDIANS

Rinpoche challenges each Guardian to match 10% of his retreat time with their own retreat. For example, for every month of retreat that he does, the Guardians do 3 days or more of retreat at the same time. By encouraging our own retreat, plus Rinpoche's post-retreat teachings, Rinpoche says, he "reflects back to my supporters, and to all of my students and friends. It's a way of returning your generosity, bringing you joyful inspiration, and sharing positive merit. This will make me so happy." All of Rinpoche's enlightened views and activities, now enriched by his retreat and reflection and deeper dharma, increase the benefits for all beings.

How to take your place in the Five Buddha Family Mandala for THE VICTORIOUS MOUNTAIN RETREAT CAMPAIGN

To make a pledge,
 Make a donation,
 Get help choosing a Family,
 Join a Family Guardianship group,
 Lead one of the 5 Family mandalas, or,
 For more information,

Contact Jeanne Lepisto for North America, or Preben Petersen for Europe. You can also contact Diane Berger (Rigdzin) for general questions.

Jeanne – email: lepisto AT whidbey DOT com

Preben – email: p1b9p42 AT hotmail DOT com

Diane – email: rigdzin AT pscs DOT org

You can send a **check** directly to:

Kilung Foundation, PO Box 20828, Seattle, WA 98102

Include a note that it's for the Victorious Mountain Retreat Campaign, and let us know which of the Five Families you'd like to join.

By **credit card**: Join the campaign through [NetworkForGood](#). Fill in Kilung Foundation in the Charity box, send the total amount, and let us know which of the Five Families you'd like to join.

*By taking a place in this mandala we grab ahold of an enormous prayer wheel,
and spin it for the benefit of all beings.*

Projects – \$289,000 total for projects

At Kilung Monastery:

Monks' homes

Ancient Temple Reconstruction

Guest housing for retreat and visitors

Nine stupas

Mountain Retreat & Small Temple, above Kilung Monastery at Rigdzin Jigme Lingpa footprint sacred site

Puja Endowment – 4 major pujas/year

Stupa for 1st Kilung Rinpoche, HH Jigme Ngotsar Gyatso, at Mura Mani Wall

Operating Fund – \$3,000-10,500 annually

Operating costs for Kilung Monastery

Building Maintenance

Stipend for Kilung Rinpoche

Donations made to this campaign will be distributed by Kilung Rinpoche wherever the need is greatest, according to his discretion, and may include humanitarian community projects, as well as the above dharma-oriented ones.

For a more detailed rundown on the estimated costs for each project, please request.

Note for current Kilung Foundation supporters

We are still encouraging donations for specific projects, for example, sponsorship programs for students, monks and nuns, and for more secular community projects, such as disaster relief, or medical clinic. There may always be those who would rather give to a specific project, and we are encouraging people to continue, as before, if they would like.

Thanks to Lynn Hays for her early conversations with Kilung Rinpoche which inspired this campaign.