



pema Mandala

Newsletter of the Padmasambhava Buddhist Centers

SPRING/SUMMER 2001

VOL. 10

Teaching Schedule of Ven. Khenchen Palden Sherab Rinpoche & Ven. Khenpo Tsewang Dongyal Rinpoche

May 26-28 Padma Samye Ling

DREAM YOGA:

Actualizing the Clear Light Luminosity.

May 29-June 2 Padma Samye Ling

Kriya Yoga Workshop

June 15-17 Tennessee

Teachings & Empowerment on Death & Dying

June 23 & 24 NYC 222 Bowery

Empowerment of Four Armed Golden Manjushri

July 21-29 Padma Samye Ling

Annual Summer Dzogchen Retreat:

Empowerments of Guru Padmasambhava
and Queen of Great Bliss.

Teachings on Queen of Great Bliss.

July 30-Aug 5 Padma Samye Ling

Self Development Dzogchen Retreat. SEVEN
NAILS OF DZOGCHEN BY SHRI SINGHA.

Aug 11-Aug 19 Padma Samye Ling

Tibetan Language Program

Sept 1-7 Padma Samye Ling

Week of Calm Abiding & Hatha Yoga

October 6-8 Padma Samye Ling

Nyungne Retreat

For more information please call or write

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in memoriam - lama chimed namgyal

On the afternoon of the 11th day of the First Month of Tibetan Iron Snake Year 2128, during the first week of the auspicious Miracle Month, Venerable Lama Chimed Namgyal, wearing his robes and sitting in the meditation position, passed from this earthly realm into parinirvana and rested in the clear light of the Dharmakaya State. Khen Rinpoche, Khenpo Tsewang, Ani Lorraine and Mimi Bailey were present when Lama entered parinirvana. At that moment, the character lines left Lama's face and his complexion glowed, exhibiting a much younger appearance. There was a profound stillness in the room and Vajrasattva practice continued. (Cont'd page 3)



Over the next three days, until it was necessary to move Lama to the crematory, his body was not touched and one of the PBC members who entered his room to sit with him, some 24 hours after his passing, reported that if she had not known that Lama had passed, she would have thought he was meditating – just as we had observed many times over the years that he lived at Mandarava House.

When Lama was moved to the crematory on the third day, his skin was tender, smooth and youthful and his body was as flexible as a living person. Following Lama's cremation, the Khenpos found relics among his remains. As stated in the Tantra by Buddha Shakyamuni and Guru Padmasambhava, these signs are indications that a highly realized being has passed to the Dharmakaya State.

Although Lama Chimed had been in failing health for a year, to the amazement of his doctors, he had tolerated radiation and chemotherapy without the usual side effects. He continued practicing, meditating, doing prostrations – and doing push ups at Dreher Park – until the end of his life. Lama's love and compassion was felt by all who visited him and, as a true Bodhisattva, his love and compassion was evident when he said the following words three days before his passing:

***“In this world, at this time,
there are many people
who are suffering.***

***May I become the substitute
for their illness.***

***May the six realms be free
from suffering and
the cause of suffering.”***

As is the custom when a realized master passes, 49 days of special practices and pujas followed Lama's passing, using Peaceful and Wrathful Buddha Sadhanas and the Buddha Amitabha Sadhana. Special practices were held at the Palm Beach Dharma Center following Lama's cremation. Several memorial tributes were given in Lama's honor and they are being transcribed so that they can be published in the Fall Issue of *Pema Mandala*.

The Khenpos remained in West Palm Beach for a week following Lama's passing, holding afternoon and evening practices at Mandarava House. The remainder of the 49 days was spent in practice at Padma Samye Ling Retreat Center in Delaware County, New York. Padmasambhava Buddhist Centers

worldwide held special practices during the 49 days and individual members recited thousands of mantras to honor Lama Chimed.

The Miracle Stupa that is being constructed in Sravasti, India will be dedicated, in part, to Lama Chimed Namgyal and his relics will be enshrined there. Since Lama's passing, more than \$10,000 has been donated to this project in his honor. Additional donations can be sent to: Padmasambhava Buddhist Center, P.O. Box 1533, Old Chelsea Station, NY 10011.

The Khenpos express their deep gratitude to all who participated in the special practices for Lama before and during the 49 days after his passing and to those who honored Lama by contributing to the Sravasti Stupa Project that was so close to Lama Chimed's heart.

Lama Chimed was a wonderful father to the Khenpos and served as a role model and inspiration to them. Lama exemplified devotion to the Dharma, courage, commitment, love and compassion to his sons and to all who had the privilege to be in his presence during his lifetime and at the time of his passing. We are grateful to Lama Chimed for his wisdom in taking his family to India in the 1950s when he recognized that Guru Padmasambhava's prediction of difficult times for Tibet was coming true. His wisdom ultimately brought us three teachers, Khen Rinpoche and Khenpo Tsewang in the early 80s and himself in 1989. How blessed we are and have been!

I will miss seeing Lama Chimed again this lifetime, but when I – and others – least expect it, Lama's presence is manifested in some beautiful way and we know that he will be with us, guiding us by his example until we have reached enlightenment – no matter how many lifetimes it takes. Then, at the moment that we reach the dharmakaya state, we will be greeted in Dewachen by Buddha Amitabha with Lama Chimed by his side. And, Lama will be laughing and shaking his head and saying, “I don't know.” ❖

– *Pema Yanu Gha (Ruth McMahon)*
PBC of West Florida