

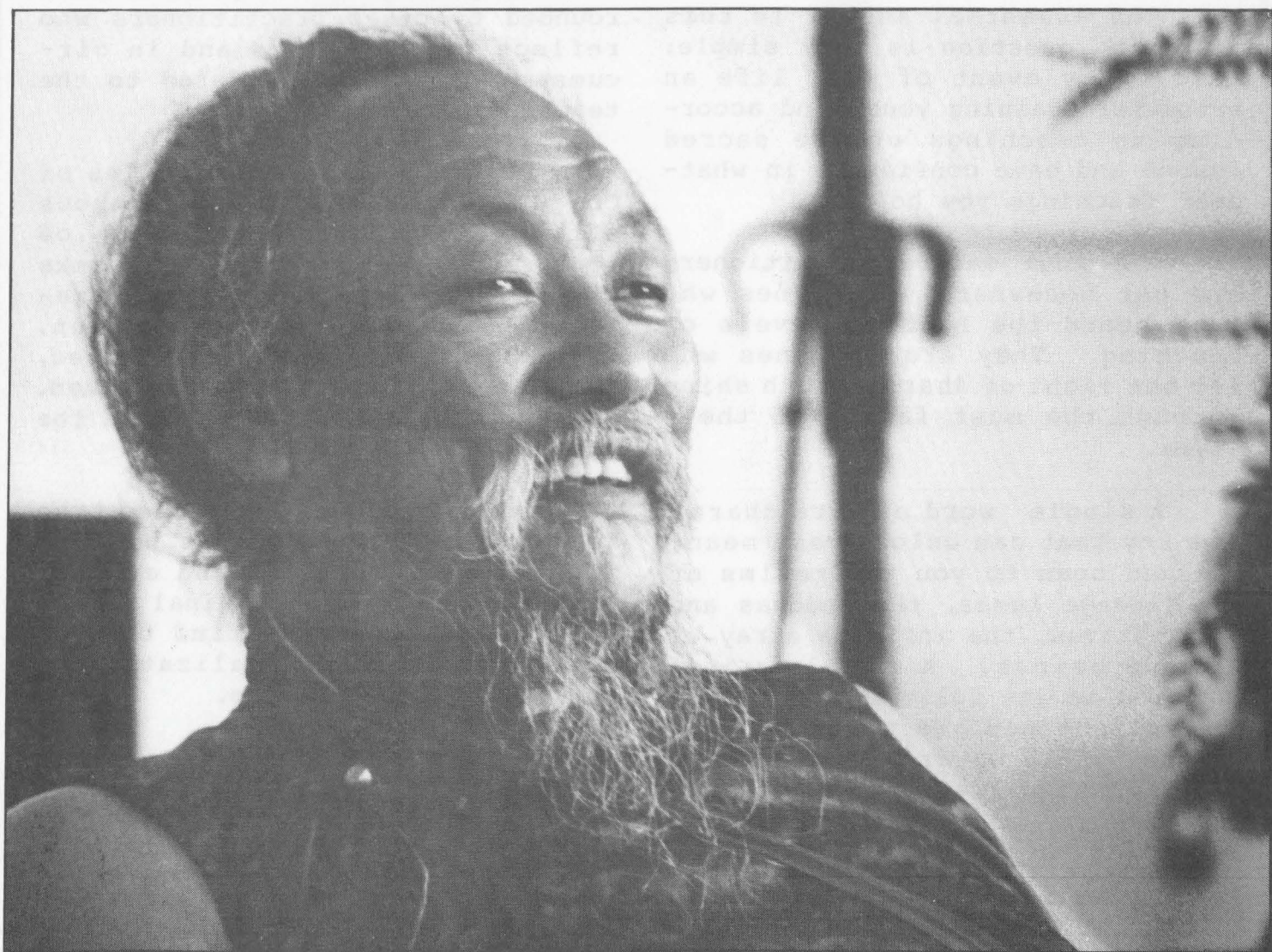
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# ***THE WIND HORSE***



***NEWSLETTER OF CHAGDUD GONPA***

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Photography: Ellie Katz



## Dharma Practice and Daily Life Advice from Chagdud Tulku Rinpoche

Tashi deleg! It is a pleasure to greet so many of my students and friends at once. There are so many ways I could think of to use this opportunity to communicate with you, so perhaps best is to focus on a question that you have asked me again and again: How do I integrate dharma practice and daily life? This question has special meaning when dharma activities gather momentum as Chagdud Gonpa's have, and draw you into a vortex of effort, often as compelling and strenuous as any other aspect of your life.

The essential answer to this recurring question is very simple: make every event of your life an arena for training your mind according to teachings of the sacred dharma and have confidence in whatever teachings you hold.

The most mature practitioners are not necessarily the ones who have heard the highest levels of teaching. They are the ones who let the light of dharma truth shine through the most facets of their lives.

A single word of pure dharma is a key that can unlock vast meaning and open to you the realms of the lineage lamas, the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas, the infinite array of wisdom beings. A single word, explored to its fullest, can unlock the enlightened awareness of your innate buddha nature-- there from the beginning, unrecognized until now.

But still you ask, "How can I balance the time I devote to my

family, my work, the ordinary but necessary things I do such as walking the dog and going to the store, with dharma activities?"

It is not easy, especially at the beginning when your old patterns of using time are very strong. Still, if you practice as I have advised, what is superfluous will gradually fall away and what remains will become a pure, vital force in your life.

As for dharma activities, particularly the activities of Chagdud Gonpa, they provide a special arena for training your minds. It is not that obstacles do not arise, but that they arise while you are surrounded by other practitioners who reflect the teachings and in circumstances directly related to the teachings.

It is true that activities of Chagdud Gonpa involve continuous effort and a great gathering of resources. Translations and books are published, retreats are organized, land is cleared, roads cut, buildings built, statues sculpted, shrines painted, teachings given. Many conversations fill up with the business of the Gonpa.

In another way it is also true that all this activity is no more than the spontaneous and effortless display of the original intention that all beings find the unchanging bliss and realization of their own buddha nature.

If you participate in dharma according to either of these two truths, or if you recognize them as inseparable, vast merit is accumulated--and dedicated--for the benefit of all sentient beings.





CHAGDUD TULKU SCULPTING  
THE SACRED IMAGE OF SAKYAMUNI BUDDHA

## Sacred Images

Chagdud Tulku Rinpoche has initiated 'Sacred Images', a studio enterprise that will create on commission statues of Buddhist meditational deities.

Several of his students are skilled artists and he has trained them in special Tibetan techniques of measuring proportions and developing sculptural detail.

Rinpoche is widely known as an artist, and has made eight major sculptures in the United States, ranging from 18 inches to 22 feet in size.

All the statues are colorfully painted and are ornamented with jewels according to Tibetan tradition.

For more information, contact Glenn Sandvoss, Rinpoche's assistant artist and the business manager of Sacred Images.

Call (503)942-8619.



## Padma Publishing Blooms

Padma Publishing started in 1982, when Naomi Mattis encouraged Chagdud Rinpoche to write a short Red Tara practice in English. It occurred to several students then that if they had a publishing company they would be able to do more to meet the growing demand for Tibetan Buddhist texts.

After the first printing of the Tara booklet, Rinpoche expanded the text to its present form, and has since made it the central text for many new students.

In 1986 a transcript of a lecture on death and dying was published, along with an insightful and useful commentary that corresponds to the English Red Tara text, written by Rinpoche's wife, Jane Tromge.

Padma Publishing has become a vital part of Chagdud Gonpa. It is staffed by volunteers, although a number of them have professional experience as editors, writers, and word processors.

Padma Publishing also has dragon cards and richly colored prints designed by Chagdud Tulku and silk screened by his students at Horizon Prints. These beautiful items delight the eye (the cards are frameable) while the books deepen understanding and practice.



## Ati Ling Takes Shape in Napa

Through the generosity of one of his students, Chagdud Rinpoche has been offered a large piece of land in the beautiful Napa Valley, just north of San Francisco. Rinpoche is delighted with the opportunity to open this retreat area, and has named the center Ati Ling.

"Ati" is the highest level of Vajrayana yoga, and "Ling" is an island or isolated locale. The name Ati Ling can be loosely translated as "Highest Place."

Rinpoche considers this an extremely auspicious development, and a tremendous benefit for dharma in the West. He hopes that practitioners will make best use of the place to gain realization of Dzogchen, or Great Perfection, through teachings and retreats. He plans to make Ati Ling the seat of his lineage teaching in the Bay Area, and is pleased that his sangha members there will now have such a convenient place for retreats.

The donor of the land feels a strong kinship with it, and with the delicate ecological balance that allows its creatures to flourish and live safely there. It is her heartfelt wish that the area's plants and animals be able to continue their lives unharassed by the disruptive influences common in modern life, and this is one of her reasons for having made the gift to Chagdud Tulku and his sangha. The powerful commitment to the welfare of all sentient beings which is central to Buddhism is very much in accord with her own affinities, and this commitment has

reassured her that we will be good stewards of her gift.

The generosity of the original offering has kindled similar inspiration in others. Many are now donating their time, energy, and financial resources toward the fullest development of Rinpoche's vision.

In early December, Rinpoche held a weekend retreat at the land. At that time it was decided that although the facilities were minimal, with a pioneering spirit the annual summer retreat could be held at Ati Ling.

The summer retreat will be the continuation of five years of one-month summer retreats which have so far been held in Oregon. In the first two years, students developed their understanding of Dzogchen through teaching, individual and group meditation, and extremely hard work. In those years, a 22-foot-high concrete statue of Guru Rinpoche was built on the Oregon retreat land.

There is deep commitment and quiet excitement among Chagdud Tulku's sangha at this development. Rinpoche is moved by the generosity of everyone involved, and is planning to spend the months of May and June in California, during which his primary focus will be on the retreat land. He wishes to express his gratitude to everyone who has made this possible, and hopes that Ati Ling will serve as an inspiration to practice for generations to come. -C.G.



## A Letter from Nepal

In December Chagdud Tulku Rinpoche went to Nepal and India to make pilgrimage and to visit his son Jigme Norbu whom he has not seen since coming to the United States in 1979.

On Dakini Day, which fell on Christmas Day, Rinpoche and the Western students travelling with him, did the ceremony (puja) of Troma Chod at the Great Stupa in Boudhanath, Nepal.

Elizabeth Mattis, who is in Nepal teaching English and studying Tibetan and the buddha dharma, recently wrote a letter to her mother Naomi, from which this description of the chod is excerpted.

The 'iron knot' Elizabeth refers to is the literal translation of 'Chagdud.' Some sixteen lifetimes ago, there was a yogi who displayed some of his extraordinary powers by twisting an iron rod into a knot. He was the first Chagdud.

Perhaps names carry different significance in each age. The present Chagdud seems determined to tie the knot between the Vajrayana transmission and Western practitioners, and to create, as strong as iron, inextricable bonds of realization. J.T.

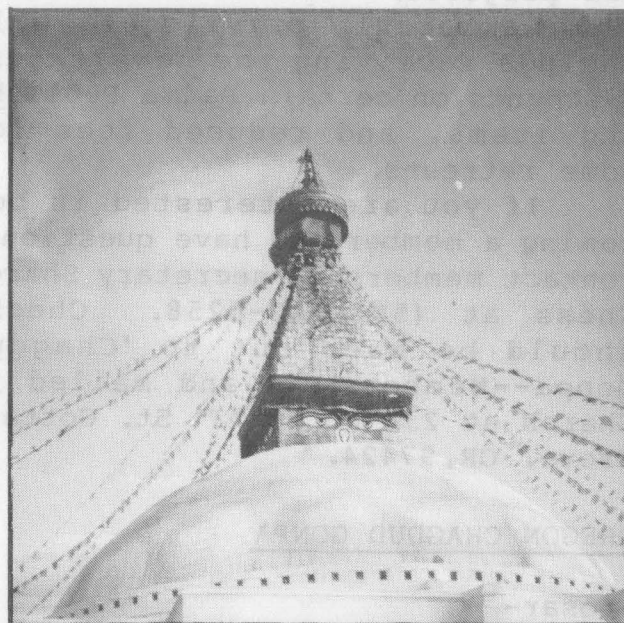
### FROM ELIZABETH:

"...Speaking of the gang, you want to know all the big and little happenings. Rinpoche on the stupa on Dakini Day-that was quite an event. I could say it was probably the most beautiful puja I have ever seen.

It was on the first level of the stupa. In the front row sat Rinpoche, Lama Tharchin, Lama Sonam, Jigme, and some disciples. In the back row sat the other disciples. Rinpoche just sat there like an 'iron knot' that he surely is and did his thing.

It had tremendous effect on everyone. I watched the faces of the Tibetans, Nepalis and Westerners there. Some Tibetans seemed annoyed and arrogant that these crazy 'ingies' were taking over their tradition. And some monks and Western tourists were embarrassed by things or they thought it was really funny.

Most everyone else, however, seemed very moved by the ceremony. It was not your average puja, and it was so completely Chagdud Rinpoche, who is not your average lama. Then all the food was passed around, which was great, because there are many Tibetan beggars these days..."



Great Stupa at Boudhanath, Nepal





The logo of Chagdud Gonpa is a garuda head on the body of a snow lion. The garuda symbolizes the highest wisdom; the snow lion, the greatest worldly power. Apart they are deadly enemies. In unity they combine vast realization and unexcelled activity within the sacred dharma.

## CONTACT POINTS

### GONPA MEMBERSHIP OFFERED

Chagdud Gonpa is offering membership for the first time. Dues of \$15 per month--\$180 annually--will be used for Chagdud Rinpoche's support, outlays for dharma events, and projects.

Membership privileges will include receiving the newsletter, discounts on certain Padma Publishing items, and reduced fees for some retreats.

If you are interested in becoming a member and have questions, contact membership secretary Sharon Kness at (503)942-5258. Checks should be made out to 'Chagdud Gonpa--Membership' and mailed to Sharon at 232 North "J" St. Cottage Grove, OR. 97424.

### OREGON CHAGDUD GONPA

-Losar-

Losar, Tibetan New Year, will be held in Cottage Grove, with Chagdud Tulku as the Vajra Master

leading the three-day ceremonies, Feb. 24,25,26. Two guest lamas have been invited to participate.

On February 28, New Year's Day, festivities will begin at 6 a.m. when everyone gathers in the Gonpa shrineroom for the traditional cup of hot chang (barley beer). At 2 p.m. everyone will join together again with food and chang to continue the festivities.

For more information about food and accommodations call Judy Abel at (503)942-8608, evenings, or 942-8602, days.

### LOS ANGELES CHAGDUD GONPA

-Tony Leitner will coordinate the effort to bring a Chagdud Gonpa-sponsored lama to Los Angeles. Because of Tony's legal background and attention to detail, Chagdud Rinpoche thinks he is especially capable of generating interest in the project and carrying it through successfully.

-Chagdud Tulku will be in Los Angeles April 30-May 11. Teachings will focus on the Medicine Buddha. Cindy Palay is coordinating the event and can be reached at (213) 932-0344.

-Chagdud Gonpa has purchased a copy machine to reproduce Tibetan texts. Titles and a price are available through Linda Wellings, 1647 Oceanfront Walk, Apt. 5, Santa Monica, CA.

### BAY AREA EVENTS

-Dharma Banquet-

On June 28, noon-6 p.m., we will celebrate the expansion of the dharma at a magnificent hilltop ranch in Napa, with a feast especially prepared for us in a remarkably beautiful setting an hour away

(continued on page 7)



from San Francisco. Pool and tennis court, hiking trails.

During the afternoon Chagdud Rinpoche will perform a profound healing ceremony to cut the four obscurations at the four demons of the mind which perpetuate the negative effects of cyclic existence. All are welcome to this beautiful occasion. Proceeds will go to Ati Ling.

Please note that reservations are required. Please contact Giovanna DiAngelo (415) 540-5418.

**-Empowerments of Padmasambhava and Vajra Yogini-**

Padmasambhava, Guru Rinpoche, known as the "lotus born" teacher, brought the teachings of Buddhism to Tibet. This empowerment strengthens all lineage practices of Tibetan Buddhism.

Vajra Yogini is the essence of dakinis in all lineages, and represents the complete expression of wisdom.

Both empowerments given on Saturday, May 30, 12-6 p.m.

**-Guru Rinpoche and Vajra Yogini Teachings-**

Chagdud Rinpoche will teach guru yoga, illustrated by stories from the life of Padmasambhava, on Sunday, May 31st, 12-6 p.m.

For information call Giovanna at (415) 540-5418.



Photography: Cary Groner

Yontan and Inge, after 3-year retreat

## Translation Project to Begin Soon

Chagdud Tulku Rinpoche feels that bringing Tibetan texts into English for the benefit of Western students is one of the most important aspects of his life's work.

Two of the finest Western translators he has collaborated with, Lama Chokyi Nyima and Sarah Harding, have been trained under the Ven. Kalu Rinpoche. Now a very generous donation from one of Chagdud Tulku's students has enabled Lama Chokyi Nyima to come to Cottage Grove and receive guaranteed support for at least one year while he translates texts.

Chagdud Tulku anticipates an extremely productive collaboration with Lama Chokyi Nyima, and hopes to expand the project to include other translators and the training of some of his students to become translators. These aspects of the project are expected to be funded by a combination of grants, contributions and Padma Publishing sales.

## THE WIND HORSE

### NEWSLETTER OF CHAGDUD GONPA

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Editors: Cary Groner  
Jane Tromge

Special thanks to: Yontan Yeshe Gonpo, Inge Sandvoss, Glenn Sandvoss, Gwen Sayers-Gardiner, Polly Mitchell, Pamela Gold, Patricia Lesh, Rick Brennan, Robert Racine, Reid Hart.

February, 1987

Dedicated to the memory of His Holiness Dudjom Rinpoche 1904-1987

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## Lama Sonam Tsering

One of the first times I met Lama Sonam, I was leaving River House, no doubt feeling very serious about my dharma practice, when he kicked a soccer ball at me. I kicked it back more or less out of politeness, but he would not let me pass. He stood on the front porch, an impish grin on his face, and kicked it back again. There was no choice but to respond in kind. It occurred to me that it was somewhat silly that two grown men, one from Kansas and one from Tibet, were standing on the front porch of a house in Oregon, playing a game that was native to neither one of them, and at which neither was particularly adept. But Sonam was determined. I had to retreat kicking, but by the time I did so I was laughing, and whatever seriousness I'd been feeling about anything that day had been as gently dispelled as by a warm breeze.

Last summer, Sonam traveled to Alaska with Jeff Pearson, and worked the cannery circuit with him there. Some of us worried about the lama. How would this pixie from the highlands fare in the machismo world of heavy industrial fish packing?

As it happened, Sonam took the worst jobs; hosing out the machines, for example, which left him covered head to foot in fish guts. He did the work others escaped, if they could, but the people in the canneries were amazed by him. Sonam didn't try to escape anything. He'd walk out of the plant at the end of a long shift, looking as if he'd just been in the near vicinity of a horrendous



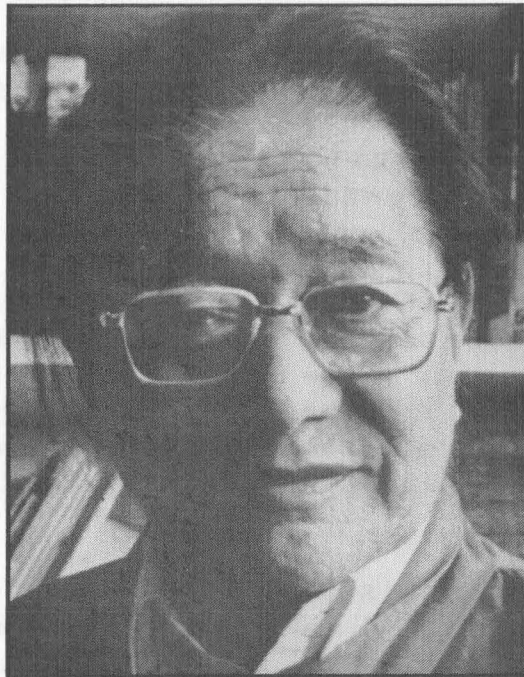
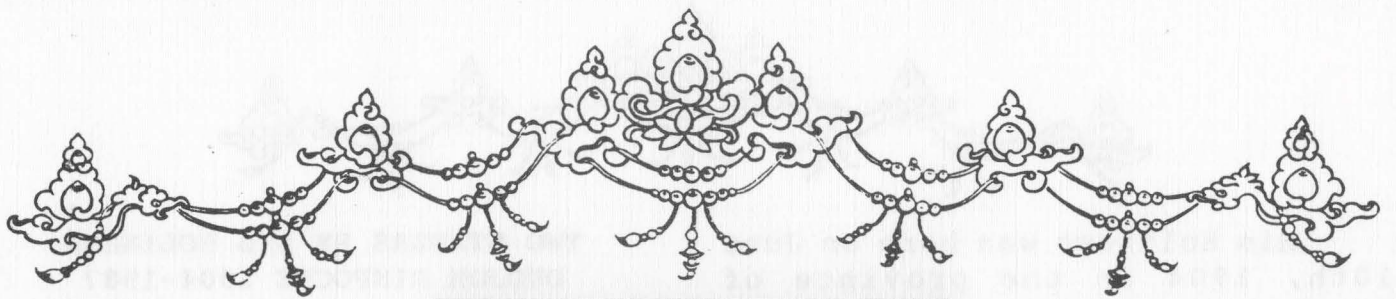
act of ichthyo-terrorism, and he would be grinning. He rarely seemed fatigued. He won friends among his co-workers and foremen, and as a result he always had a steady supply of work, even when others were idled by slowdowns. When he returned to Oregon, he received a profit share bonus of several hundred dollars.

Sonam, who is 35, has known Chagdud Tulku since he was a child. Rinpoche first met him in Orissa, India, where they both settled for a time after fleeing the Chinese conquest of Tibet in 1959. Chagdud Rinpoche recognized Sonam's fine qualities, and they have maintained contact throughout the ensuing years, even when living far apart.

Sonam has received extensive teachings and training from many great lamas. He studied for eight years at the Nyingmapa Institute in Nepal. Chagdud Rinpoche has the highest opinion of him.

Anyone who has been lucky enough to spend time with Sonam knows his qualities of kindness and humor. He is currently traveling in Nepal and Tibet with Rinpoche and several members of the Oregon sangha, and plans to stay several months. We miss him, and await his safe return. -C.G.





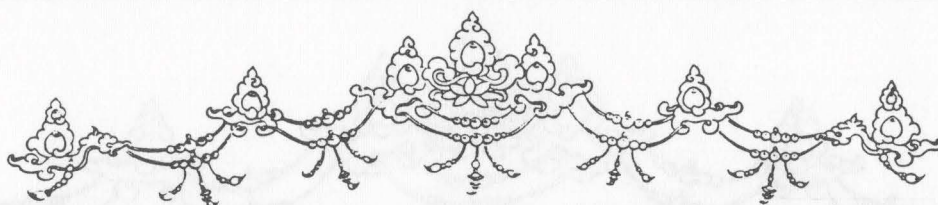
#### THE PASSING OF HIS HOLINESS DUDJOM RINPOCHE

His Holiness Dudjom Rinpoche died at 10 a.m., Saturday, January 17th, in Dordogne, southern France, at the age of 82. The Venerable Shenphen Dawa Rinpoche, the son of His Holiness and the designated holder of the Dudjom lineage, called Chagdud Gonpa in Cottage Grove to notify Chagdud Rinpoche. Chagdud Rinpoche is presently in Nepal where he will participate in ceremonies.

His Holiness Dudjom Rinpoche is one of the greatest scholars and tantric masters of Tibetan Buddhism. The direct reincarnation of Padmasambhava himself, his life was foretold in the predictions of the great tantric master when he arrived in Tibet in the eighth century. He said that he would be reborn in our time as Dudjom Rinpoche, giving details of date, place and specific signs.







His Holiness was born on June 10th, 1904 in the province of Pemakod in southeastern Tibet. He was recognized as the reincarnation of the great Tibetan master and yogi, Dudjom Lingpa, famous for his discovery of many secret texts which had been hidden many centuries before by Guru Padmasambhava.

Considered the greatest 'ter-ton' (discoverer of hidden texts, or 'terma') of our time, His Holiness has also made a thorough and critical study of all four schools of Tibetan Buddhism, realizing the wisdom of all lineages.

His Holiness made many visits to the United States to give teachings, the last in 1984. Although he was not well at that time, he was able to give profound blessings to hundreds of persons.

His Holiness is survived by his wife, Sangyum Kusho Rigdzin Wangmo; his sons the Ven. Shenphen Dawa Rinpoche and the Ven. Thinly Norbu Rinpoche; his daughters Chimay and Tsering; and several other children who live in Tibet.

Offerings for the ceremonies can be sent to Jane Tromge, who will forward them to the family of His Holiness. Please make checks payable to "Chagdud Gonpa--Dudjom Ceremonies" and mail them to Jane at 208 North River Road, Cottage Grove, OR. 97424

## **TWO STANZAS BY HIS HOLINESS DUDJOM RINPOCHE 1904-1987**

His Holiness Dudjom Rinpoche, as Jigdreel Yeshe Dorje, his 18th incarnation, was the heart lama of our lama, the teacher of our teacher, the source of blessings as pervasive as space itself.

His passing is a profound event, far beyond any words that could be gathered here. Instead we offer his own words-- the last two stanzas taken from a prayer translated 'The Quintessence of the Saints':  
J.T.

If we think to act, let us call to witness the words of the Victorious ones and merge the dharma in our manner.

If we think of accomplishment, let us take as an example the life of past Saints.

You spoiled ones, should you be treated differently?

Keep a humble station and know that to be content is to possess a treasure.

Free from the ties of the eight mundane dharmas,

Firm and strong-hearted in practice,

Receiving the Guru's blessing,

Realization becomes equal to the sky.

May we attain the dominion of Samantabhadra.

