



HH Karmapa Thaye Dorje

26-29 Juli/July, 2017 - Solbo Retreat Center

Karma Dechen Ösel Ling, Sweden

DAY 1 WEDNESDAY 26 JULY

16 -18:30 The Buddhist Refuge

The Buddhist refuge provides us with guidance and support on the path to awakening. The Refuge consists of 'The Three Jewels': the Buddha (the awakened guide), the Dharma (the path) and the Sangha (the Buddhist community which supports us on the path). His Holiness Karmapa will give teachings and refuge to those who have considered following the Buddhist path.

DAY 2 THURSDAY 27 JULY

10:00 Blessing Ceremony

His Holiness Karmapa will bless the grounds of the planned temple construction at the retreat center. On this occasion he will also bless the Stupa - a monument for peace - which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.

14 -17:00 Chenrezig Empowerment

His Holiness Karmapa will bestow the empowerment of Chenrezig (Avalokiteshvara). Chenrezig represents the compassion and wisdom of the fully awakened mind. The purpose of this empowerment is to awaken this compassion and wisdom within ourselves. During the initiation it is customary to present a symbolic gift to the Lama who bestows the initiation, in this case His Holiness the Karmapa.

In order to take part in the empowerment, one has to have taken refuge to the Buddhist path.

DAY 3 FRIDAY 28 JULY

9:30 -11:30 & 15 -17:00 The Thirty-Seven Practices of a Bodhisattva

These profound instructions by Gyalse Thogme (1297-1371) explain how Mahayana practitioners should deal with different situations encountered in daily life. In a practical way, Gyalse Thogme explains what kind of motivation, thoughts and actions a person who follows the Mahayana path should embrace.

DAY 4 SATURDAY 29 JULY

9:30 - 11:30 The Bodhisattva Vow

The Bodhisattva vow is the foundation of Mahayana Buddhism. The main purpose of the vow is to develop an altruistic mind and to strive for awakening for the sake of all sentient beings. His Holiness Karmapa will give teachings and Bodhisattva vows to those who wish to follow the Bodhisattva path.

15 -17:00 Jubilee: Milarepa Guru Yoga and Milarepa Tsog

Milarepa was one of Tibet's foremost yogis, and one of the lineage holders of the Kagyu lineage. Through the practice of the Guru Yoga and the tsog offering, a ritual feast, we strengthen our bond with the Great Yogi Milarepa, the Lamas of the Kagyu tradition and the Sangha community. On this occasion we also celebrate our community's 40th and the Stupas 30th anniversary.

40 Years Karma Kagyu in Sweden



We are happy to celebrate our Dharma community's 40th anniversary together with you!

Karme Tenpe Gyaltzen

Our Buddhist Community was founded 40 years ago by H.H. the 16th Karmapa and his representative, the Buddhist master Kalu Rinpoche. The above mentioned masters founded the Stockholm meditation center, Karma Shedrup Dargye Ling i 1974, and in 1980 the retreat center, Karma Dechen Ösel Ling.



In the picture above H.H. the 16th Karmapa Rigpe Dorje is sitting with Dorje Lopön Lama Ngawang. H.H. appointed Lama Ngawang to lead and develop our Swedish Kagyu community.

Due to Lama Ngawang's effort, commitment and diligence, our Dharma centers have flourished and steadily developed according to H.H.'s instructions.



Lama Ngawang

Dorje Lopön Lama Ngawang was a student of H.H. the 16th Karmapa. He also studied with many great masters, like Rigdzin Chönji Zangmo, a renowned female Chöd master. He accomplished his three year retreat under Venerable Kalu Rinpoche's (pictured below to the right) guidance.

Lama Ngawang came to Sweden in 1976 and he stayed dedicated to his commitments until he passed away in 2011.

Lama Ngawang not only supervised and taught his students, but also invited many learned masters, led numerous retreats, among them the three three year retreats held at *Karma Dechen Ösel Ling*, or Solbo.

He also initiated and realized the construction of the stupa, which celebrates its 30th anniversary next year.



Eminent Guests

Throughout the years, our centers have been visited by many eminent Lamas in addition to the previously mentioned masters: Kunzig Shamar Rinpoche, Kongtrul Rinpoche, Gyaltzab Rinpoche, Situ Rinpoche, Beru Khyentse Rinpoche, Jigme Rinpoche and many more Kagyu Lamas. In addition to this, we have had the honor of H.H. the 14th Dalai Lama, H.H. Sakya Trizin, H.H. Dilgo Khyentse visiting us.



Lama Tsultim Rinpoche

Venerable Lama Tsultim Rinpoche was born in Tibet 1968. As a child, he was recognized as the incarnation of the famous retreat master Tsampa Rinpoche of Yangpachen monastery. At 21 he did the traditional three year retreat at Tsurpu monastery, after which he was appointed Vajra master at the Yangpachen monastery. In 2000, after having worked at Dharma centers in Asia, he was invited to Sweden by his relative, Lama Ngawang. He now resides here with his wife and family. He continues to lead and develop our centers with great humility and kindness and hence continues Lama Ngawang's commitment and is loved and appreciated by students and visitors alike.

The Stupa - A Buddhist Peace Monument



The first Tibetan Buddhist stupa in Sweden was built on the initiative of Venerable Lama Ngawang. It is situated in the calm oasis of the Solbo Retreat Center.

The stupa was inaugurated in 1987 by H.E. Jamgon Kongtrul Rinpoche and in 1988 by H.H. Dalai Lama during an inter-religious peace ceremony.

Traditionally stupas have an artistically perfect form which symbolizes

compassion and wisdom, the true nature of our mind and all phenomena.

Many people of different Buddhist traditions, as well as of other religious and cultural backgrounds visit the stupa, bearing witness of their experience of peacefulness and inspiration.



During his visit 2012 H.H. Shamar Rinpoche took the initiative to establish Infinite Compassion, Sweden (IC). The aim is to support different aid projects to increase the well-being of sentient beings and society. Since then, different projects have been developed to increase the spiritual care for sick and dying people, crisis management and refugee aid.

IC has also economically supported the victims of the earthquake in Nepal 2015 and the restoration of the Swayambhu Monastery.

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