

MEMORIAL DHARMA TRANSLATION HOUSE



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A project proposal to support the translation of
H.H. Khenpo Jikme Phuntsok's
collected works from Tibetan to English

INTRODUCTION

H.H. Khenpo Jigme Phuntsok (1933-2004) was an incarnation of Tertön Sogyal Lerab Lingpa and an emanation of Mipham Rinpoche. He is the founder of the Centre for the Five Traditional Sciences and Higher Buddhist Studies near Serthar known as Larung Gar and is revered as a one of the great Dzogchen masters of modern times. His writings and teachings are very well known, mostly in China and Tibet. However, in the West, even though Khenpo visited many Buddhist centres in Europe and North America in the early 1990's, Jigme Phuntsok's direct teachings are not as widely known as they could be to most lay Buddhist practitioners or even to those with a general interest in Tibetan Buddhist philosophy and practice. This is in part because Khenpo's four volumes of writings are accessible only in the original Tibetan and more recently in Chinese translations.

MISSION

With the spread of Buddha Dharma most notably in the West and ever increasing numbers of people with the sincere motivation to practice and study the Buddha Dharma in earnest, we recognise that in order to benefit as many beings as possible and to provide extensive benefits to a great number of beings in general, that there is an urgent need to make Khenpo Jigme Phuntsok's writings and teachings accessible to a worldwide readership. Today, it is commonly agreed amongst translators of Tibetan texts that the English language is the lingua franca for translation. English is the most commonly used language worldwide and so it has the potential to reach a greater number of people across the globe.

For the many people who never had the opportunity to see Khenpo in person or to receive his teachings directly while he was alive, the Memorial Dharma Translation House (MDTH) was established in 2016 to make Jigme Phuntsok's teachings accessible to everyone.

GOALS

MDTH was established to coordinate the translation of the late H.H. Khenchen Jigme Phuntsok's collected works from Tibetan into English. To achieve this, we will develop an online resource at the website < wordsofjigmephuntsok.org >. The website will contain freely downloadable English translations of Khenpo's four volumes in PDF format.

These works include :

- Volume 1 : *Rituals and Prayers* - - - 256 pages
- Volume 2 : *Dzogchen Teachings* - - - 512 pages
- Volume 3 : *Songs of Dzogchen* - - - 380 pages
- Volume 4 : *Tibetan Medicine, Astrology and other topics* - - - 272 pages

Note : some pages have between one and four sentences in them. In these cases, we combined several pages and counted them as a single page in our page count. This was done to give a more accurate estimation of what would be considered a full page of text.

In combination, the four volumes comprise **1,420 book pages** (not including title pages).

PLAN

The translations will be carried out iteratively (translation, review, revision) according to the Tibetan Dharma translation tradition. These will be carried out by experts in both the *source* and *target* languages. The method of translation will consider both literal, and interpretive approaches, similar to 84000. When these have been completed, expert bilingual (Tibetan & English) translators and Dharma teachers will verify the translations. Finally, translations will be published.

MDTH hopes to work closely with collaborating institutions including :

- The Khyentse Foundation
- 84000
- University of Colorado Boulder
- Rangjung Yeshe Institute
- Esukhia

MDTH will also create an advisory board made up of academic scholars, Tibetan translators, and Buddhist scholars. This board will help to develop the methodology for translation and publication of the texts. The sequence of translations will be determined by the advisory board and translators before the official translation process commences. We have a list of individuals that we will contact in the coming months in order to formalise the board.

Note : All four volumes in the original Tibetan have already been digitized and are available to translators as PDF files.

The final deliverable will be compiled and edited translations of the four volumes in English, Wylie transliteration, and Tibetan and will be searchable and freely downloadable.

PROJECT COST AND EFFORT

The translation charge is projected at **\$200 per page** to the translator teams, \$100 per page for editing, review, plus \$20,000 per page for meetings and workshops

With a total of **1,420 pages**,

the total estimated cost to translate all four volumes is approximately US**\$339,000**.

The timeline for the project is estimated at between **6-10 years** dependent upon funding resources and translator availability.

Projected activities include :

Activity	Hours	Charges	Cost
Project management			Volunteer, gratuit
Translators (source language)	5 hours per page	\$100 per page	\$142,000
Translators (target language)	5 hours per page	\$100 per page	\$142,000
Scholars and Khenpos (interpretive and literal review)	2 hours per page	per page word-for-word review	\$71,000
Meetings and workshops			20,000
Website coordination (online publication)			Volunteer, gratuit

Finally, MDTH will apply for non-profit status either in Australia or the United Kingdom (TBD) and develop a fundraising campaign through social media and other communication streams. We understand that the completion of the English translation and publication of HHJP's books depends entirely on gracious contributors and donors to the project. Our non-profit accounting

will be transparent in all aspects. Donations shall wholly be utilised for the expenses accrued for the MDTH project, in its entirety. Thus the donations shall solely be used for translation purposes.

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