



THE DALAI LAMA

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN


Agya Rinpoche, the Abbot of Kumbum Monastery until he escaped in 1998 now lives in the United States. I have asked Rinpoche to take charge of the Tibetan Cultural Center, Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.A. and work on the following three objectives:

- 1 Help the Kumbum monastery, located in Amdo (present-day Qinghai Province) China, and the Buddhists in that region because of the very special connections the monastery has with Tibetans and the Dalai Lama.

Kumbum is the birthplace of Je Tsongkhapa (1357 – 1419 AD) and the monastery itself was established by the Third Dalai Lama in 1583 AD. And in the past it was the border region of Tibet and China.

- 2 Help preserve the Tibetan culture and identity in the Sining area, where Tibetans are a minority.
- 3 Help preserve the culture and the Buddhist tradition amongst the Mongolians and the Buddhists from the Russian Republics of Kalmykia, Buryatia and Tuva.

I am confident that Agya Rinpoche will be able to fulfill these objectives because of his religious upbringing, his experience as the Abbot of Kumbum monastery and because he speaks the Chinese language fluently. However, Rinpoche will not be able to do much without the financial means to help him through, especially as he needs to first establish the Tibetan Cultural Center firmly on its feet owing to the recent financial difficulties the Center was in and is still in. As I am obviously fully in support of this whole undertaking I have initially donated US\$ 200,000.00 towards the Center and would like to invite friends to donate towards this project, the objectives of which are extremely important in my view.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Lama', written in a cursive style.

July 1, 2005



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OFFICE OF HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA

May 26, 2005

Agya Rinpoche  
c/o The Office of Tibet  
New York

Fax: 001 212-779-9245

Dear Rinpoche:

As you are aware, the Tibetan Cultural Center was founded in 1987 by Taktser Rinpoche (Thubten Jigme Norbu). In recent times, the Center has been undergoing financial problems in regard to the repayment of loans it had secured in the past from financial institutions. We have now been informed that the property is undergoing foreclosure proceedings. It would indeed be a pity if the Center had to be auctioned off. As former abbots of Kumbum Monastery in Tibet, both you and Taktser Rinpoche share a common background, not to mention your relations with Drepung Gomang Monastery. As a result of these circumstances, we feel that it would be most appropriate if the Tibetan Cultural Center could be handed over to you, provided that you are in agreement. The necessary legal papers would also need to be worked out besides restructuring of the Board of Directors and the full repayment of financial loans.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Tenzin Taklha  
Joint Secretary

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charter Members of the Tibetan Cultural Center, Inc., at a duly held meeting on July 24, 2005, after proper nomination and seconding, unanimously remove Karuna Koneru as Charter Member and select Suddha Koneru as a Charter Member.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charter Members of the Tibetan Cultural Center, Inc., at a duly held meeting on July 24, 2005, after proper nomination and seconding, unanimously elect as Charter Members of the Corporation Robert Thurman, Tashi Wangdi, and Brian Li to supplement the existing Charter Members of Arjia Rinpoche, Suddha Koneru, and Curtis Jones. *→ including a Mongolian Representative.*

  
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Subject to the approval of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

  
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Arjia Rinpoche

  
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Curtis Jones

witness by:

