

**HIS HOLINESS  
KYABJE TRIJANG DORJE CHANG**



One of the foremost Tibetan Buddhist masters of our time, His Holiness Kyabje Trijang Rinpoche was the Fourteenth Dalai Lama's philosophical assistant and later his personal junior tutor for more than forty years. A direct disciple of the great Pabongka Rinpoche, Trijang Rinpoche edited Pabongka Rinpoche's *Liberation in the Palm of Your Hand* – one of the most-studied Lam-Rim texts in the Gelugpa lineage.

The spreading of Dharma in the West is directly and indirectly connected with Trijang Rinpoche, due to his own teachings, as well as the activities of his disciples, including Lama Yeshe, Lama Zopa Rinpoche, Geshe Rabten, Kyabje Zong Rinpoche and many others.

(from FPMT website)

His Holiness Kyabje Trijang Dorje Chang was one of the foremost Tibetan Buddhist Masters of our time, taking birth at the turn of this century and passing away in 1981 at the age of eighty-one.

Not only had he followed in age exactly the example of the Enlightened Buddha, but also through his precious activities and in particular through his extraordinary method and capacity of teaching he fulfilled the purpose of countless beings and the teachings of the Buddha, particularly the tradition of Je Tsong Khapa. All the great Masters and the followers of this tradition were brought up by his compassionate spiritual guidance.

The most outstanding personage among his disciples is His Holiness the Dalai Lama himself. Kyabje Trijang Dorje Chang served His Holiness first as philosophical assistant, then as personal tutor, together with Kyabje Ling Dorje Chang, for altogether fifty years. Not only did he offer to His Holiness studies from the elementary level up to the highest tantric transmissions, he was also the backbone of the struggle against the Chinese occupation at the most difficult and confused time of Tibetan history. The escape of His Holiness the Dalai Lama from Tibet in 1959 was also thanks to the wisdom and efforts of Kyabje Trijang Dorje Chang.

Up to the end of his life Trijang Rinpoche continuously turned the Wheel of Dharma for the sake of all sentient beings. The flourishing of Dharma in the West is also directly and indirectly connected with him, because of his own teachings as well as the precious activities of his disciples, such as Kyabje Zong Rinpoche, Ven. Geshe Rabten, Ven. Lama Yeshe and many more. Without him the situation of Tibetan Buddhism in the West would be completely different.

## Trijang Chogtrul Rinpoche



Within one year after his passing away, out of hundreds of candidates, his reincarnation was found, recognized, officially confirmed and offered the name Tenzin Losang Gyatso by his Holiness the Dalai Lama. Already from his early age he clearly manifested all the signs of a holy Master. At the age of six he officially entered into Ganden Monastic University and the Shartse College. At the age of eight he took the precepts of novice ordination from His Holiness. From the very moment of his confirmation on he began his studies of Dharma and received teachings and transmissions from various masters, in particular from HH the Dalai Lama and his private tutor, the Ven. Lati Rinpoche.

( from Dagom Gaden Tensung Ling website)

*(Trijang Chogtrul Rinpoche is the eighteenth in his lineage, the first being Dunpa Zangkyong, the chariot driver of Prince Siddhartha. Others, both Indian and Tibetan, in diverse traditions, include the great Indian Pandit Chandrakirti, Shantirakshita, Atisha, Geshe Langri Thangpa (Kadam), Ganden throne-holder Monlam Palpa (Gelug), Karmapa Mikyoe Dorje (Kagyü), Zurchen Choeying Rangdol (Nyingma), and Lotzawa Jampal Dorje (Sakya).)*

At the time when Buddha was living his life as Prince Siddhartha in the palace of his father he made a request to tour his kingdom. On three occasions the king arranged visits for his son to various destinations in Magada, carefully preparing in advance every detail to make sure that his son would not encounter any unpleasant sights. Nevertheless on these three occasions Prince Siddhartha was confronted with sickness, old age and death. He asked his friend and charioteer, Channa, about the meaning of these unexpected sights and each time Channa replied with the appropriate answer, leading the Prince to a complete realisation of suffering. Filled with renunciation, the Prince secretly fled from the palace, leaving all his attendants and friends behind, with the exception of Channa and his horse who were the only ones allowed to accompany him.

After Buddha's enlightenment Channa became his disciple and attained the state of an Arhat. This closest friend of Buddha Shakyamuni continued to serve the Buddha's teachings in innumerable incarnations, repeatedly appearing as a key master for the pure continuation of the teachings.

In India he emanated as the Arhat Madhughosha, as Master Vimala Shri, as Chandrakirti, as Shanta Rakshita, who founded Buddhism in Tibet and as Master Atisha, whose appearance in the year 1100 caused the faultless teachings of the Buddha to again be installed in Tibet.

Channa appeared in Tibet as the Kadampa Master Langri Tangpa and as the Sakya Master Jampel Dorje. As Je Tsongkhapa, known as the "Jewel Ornament of the Sages of the Land of Snow", he was the founder of the Gelug tradition. The Eighth Karmapa Mikyö Dorje is known as one of his incarnations as well as the Nyingma Master Sur Chöying Rangdröl. As the sixty-fourth successor of Je Tsongkhapa's throne he was known as Tri Jangchub Choephel, whose name in short form is Trijang and has remained with the line of the Trijang Rinpoches until this day.

At the turn of this century he took birth as Tri Losang Yeshe, known as Kyabje Trijang Dorje Chang, the junior tutor of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. As it is well known, His Holiness Kyabje Trijang Dorje Chang was the foremost Tibetan Buddhist master of our time. Passing away in 1981 at the age of eighty-one, he followed in age as well as activities the exact example of the Enlightened Buddha. With his extraordinary method and capacity of teaching he fulfilled the purpose of countless beings through the teachings of the Buddha, particularly the tradition of Je Tsongkhapa. All the great masters and followers of this tradition were brought up under his compassionate spiritual guidance. The most outstanding personage amongst his disciples is His Holiness the Dalai Lama

himself. The founder of the 'Tashi Rabten' monastery at the Letzehof, the Venerable Geshe Rabten Rinpoche, was one of his closest disciple.

(from Tashi Rabten Letzehof website)