

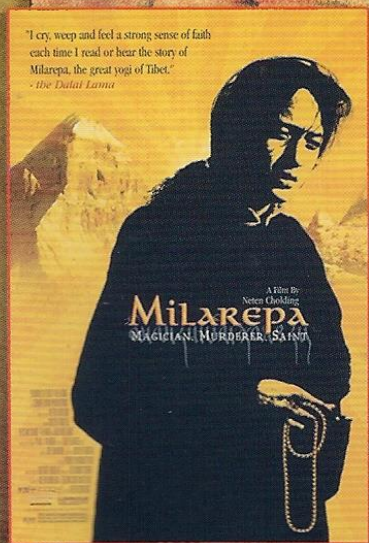
"One of the most powerful stories of love and transformation in world literature." -RICHARD GERE

SHINING MOON PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

TEACHINGS ON MILAREPA

CONTEMPORARY BUDDHIST MASTERS ILLUMINATE THE LIFE OF
MILAREPA, THE GREAT YOGI OF TIBET

"I cry, weep and feel a strong sense of faith
each time I read or hear the story of
Milarepa, the great yogi of Tibet."
- the Dalai Lama

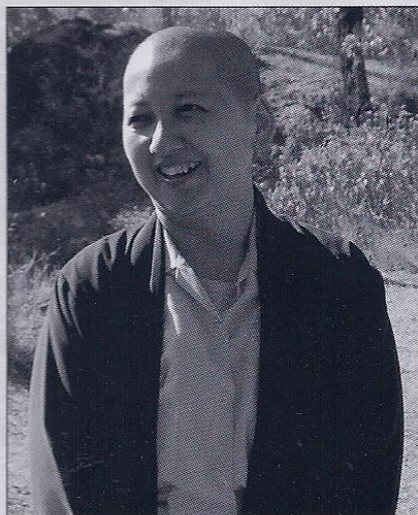


THE DRAMATIC STORY OF MILAREPA'S LIFE
AVAILABLE AS A **CINEQUEST** RELEASE DVD

SUBTITLES: ENGLISH, 中文 CHINESE, Tiếng Việt VIETNAMESE

Featuring The Discourses of

Venerable Khandro Rinpoche

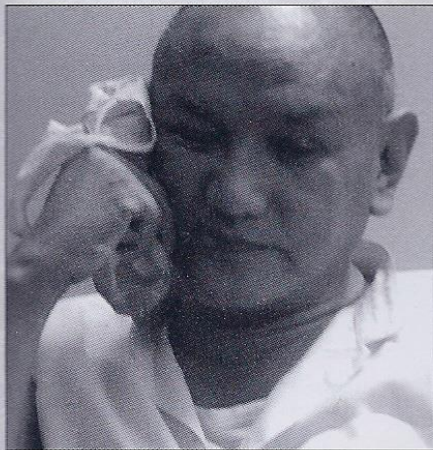


Venerable Khandro Rinpoche is the daughter of His Holiness Mindrolling Trichen, head of the Nyingma School of Tibetan Buddhism and one of the most renowned Tibetan Lamas currently alive today. Born into the Mindrolling lineage, which throughout its history has had many accomplished female masters, Khandro Tsering Paldron was recognized at the age of two by His Holiness the 16th Karmapa as the re-incarnation of the Great Dakini of Tsurphu, Khandro Ugyen Tsomo, one of the most renowned female masters of her time. The present Khandro Rinpoche holds the lineages of both the Nyingma and Kagyu traditions.

Khandro Rinpoche maintains a rigorous schedule, teaching from both the Kagyu and Nyingma traditions in the United States (including Hawaii), Canada, Denmark, Norway, Spain, Germany, France, the Czech Republic and Greece. She has established and heads the Samten Tse Retreat Center in Mussoori, India, which is home to 30 nuns and also provides a place of study and retreat for monastics and western lay practitioners. Rinpoche is Resident Teacher at the Lotus Garden Retreat Center in rural Virginia, USA, which she established to provide retreat practice and the study of crucial Buddhist texts, and to host visiting teachers from all lineages. Rinpoche also is actively involved with the Mindrolling Monastery in Dehra Dun, India. Khandro Rinpoche heads a variety of charitable projects that supply health care and Buddhist education for monastics and lay practitioners who work side by side in a variety of challenging settings - including a leprosy hospice. Her first book, entitled *This Precious Life: Tibetan Buddhist Teachings on the Path to Enlightenment*, was published by Shambhala Publications in 2003.

Orgyen Tobgyal Rinpoche

Orgyen Tobgyal Rinpoche was born in 1951 in the Nangchen region of Kham in Eastern Tibet. He is the son of the 3rd Neten Chokling Rinpoche. He is known as the reincarnation of Taksham Nuden Dorje. He is the elder brother of Khyentse Yeshe



Rinpoche, Jamyang Gyaltzen and Dzigar Kongtrul Rinpoche and is affectionately called Abu Rinpoche (Abu means 'older brother'). At the end of the 1950s he left Tibet and went to Sikkim with his parents where he lived for a few years. In 1967 the 3rd Neten Chokling Rinpoche started the Tibetan settlement of Bir in Himachal Pradesh, North East India. It was on the way from Delhi to Bir that His Eminence the Third Neten Chokling died tragically in a car accident in 1973.

After his father died, Orgyen Tobgyal Rinpoche took responsibility for his monastery in Bir. He raised the young reincarnation of his father, the 4th Neten Chokling Rinpoche (director of "Milarepa: Magician, Murderer, Saint"), before handing over to him in 2004 full responsibility for a monastery that had become famous throughout the Tibetan world, particularly among the Nyingma school, for its expertise in the elaborate rituals of the Vajrayana, Orgyen Tobgyal Rinpoche's specialty.

Orgyen Tobgyal Rinpoche is also a member of the Tibetan Parliament for the region of Kham, first elected in 2000 and reelected in 2005, and has a reputation as a formidable orator. Orgyen Tobgyal was the Mo diviner/consultant for the "The Cup" and "Milarepa: Magician, Murderer, Saint" as well as art director for the later. He starred in both films, first as the Geko in "The Cup" and next as sorcerer Yongten Trogyal in "Milarepa: Magician, Murderer, Saint".

Sogyal Rinpoche

Born in Kham in Eastern Tibet, Sogyal Rinpoche



was recognized as the incarnation of Lerab Lingpa Tertön Sogyal, a teacher to His Holiness the 13th Dalai Lama, by Jamyang Khyentse Chökyi Lodrö, one of the most outstanding spiritual masters of the twentieth century. Jamyang Khyentse supervised Sogyal Rinpoche's training and raised him like his own son. In 1971, Rinpoche traveled to England where he received a western education, studying

Comparative Religion at Cambridge University. He went on to study with many other great masters of all schools of Tibetan Buddhism, especially Kyabjé Dudjom Rinpoche and Kyabjé Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche. First as an interpreter and aide to his revered masters, and then teaching in his own right, Sogyal Rinpoche traveled to many countries, observing the reality of people's lives, and searching how to translate the teachings of Tibetan Buddhism so as to make them relevant to modern men and women of all faiths, by drawing out their universal message while losing none of their authenticity, purity and power. Out of this was born his ability to attune these teachings to modern life, demonstrated vividly in his ground-breaking book, *The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying*, which has been printed in 30 languages and 56 countries.

Sogyal Rinpoche is also the founder and spiritual director of Rigpa, an international network of over 100 Buddhist centers and groups in 23 countries. He has been teaching for over 30 years and continues to travel widely in Europe, America, Australia, and Asia. In addition, Rinpoche is a frequent speaker at major conferences in all areas of society, including medicine and healing, universities and educational institutions, interfaith dialogue, movements for peace and non-violence, the world of business and leadership, and the field of serving the dying and hospice care.

Ani Pema Chodron

Born Deirdre Blomfield-Brown in 1936, in New York City, Ani Pema Chodron graduated from the

University of California at Berkeley. A mother of two and grandmother of three, she taught as an



elementary school teacher for many years in both New Mexico and California. While in her mid-thirties, Ani Pema traveled to the French Alps and encountered Lama Chime Rinpoche, with whom she studied for several years. She became a novice nun in 1974 while studying with Lama Chime in London. His Holiness the Sixteenth Karmapa came to England at that time, and Ani Pema received her ordination from him.

Ani Pema first met her root guru Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche in 1972, studying with him from 1974 until his death in 1987. At the request of His Holiness the 16th Karmapa, she received the full bikshuni ordination in the Chinese lineage of Buddhism in 1981 in Hong Kong. Ani Pema served as the director of Karma Dzong in Boulder, Colorado until moving in 1984 to rural Cape Breton, Nova Scotia to be the director of Gampo Abbey. The success of her first two books, *The*

Wisdom of No Escape and *Start Where You Are* made her something of a celebrity as a woman Buddhist teacher and as a specialist in the mahayana lojong teachings. Ani Pema is the resident teacher at Gampo Abbey, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, the first Tibetan monastery for westerners. When not guiding students at Gampo Abbey, she spends much of her time in retreat, studying under the guidance of Dzigar Kongtrul Rinpoche. She recently completed a new book called *Practicing Peace in Times of War*, published by Shambhala Publications. The book is based upon Shantideva's classic, *The Way of the Bodhisattva*.

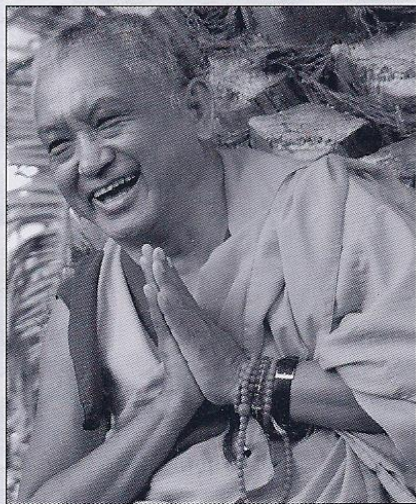
Lama Zopa Rinpoche

Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the spiritual director of The Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition, is the reincarnation of the Sherpa Nyingma yogi Kunsang Yeshe, the Lawudo Lama. Lama Zopa Rinpoche was born in 1946 in Thami, not far from the Lawudo cave in the Mount Everest region of Nepal, where his predecessor meditated for the last twenty years of his life. While his predecessor had belonged to the Sakya tradition of Tibetan Buddhism, the Lawudo Lama himself had been a great master of the complete tantric teachings of the Nyingma tradition.

Lama Zopa Rinpoche left Thami when he was about four years old, and was put in a monastery very close to the border of Nepal and Tibet. Rinpoche stayed at this monastery for several years until he went to Tibet and took getsul ordination in 1958, and continued his studies in

Domo Geshe's monastery in Phagri, Tibet.

In 1959 Rinpoche escaped from Tibet and continued his studies in Sera Jhe monastery in Buxa Duar, in northern India. This is where the Indian Government housed the monks from Sera, Ganden and Drepung monasteries who wanted to continue their studies, along with monks from the other sects. It was at Buxa Duar that Rinpoche became the disciple of Geshe Rabten Rinpoche and then of Lama Thubten Yeshe. Frida Bedi then invited him to join her school for incarnate lamas in Dalhousie where they were given the chance to learn English for six months. After completing his English studies, Lama Zopa Rinpoche returned to Buxa Duar.



Lama Yeshe and Zopa Rinpoche's contact with westerners began in 1965 in Darjeeling, when they met Princess Zina Rachevsky from Russia. She became the Lamas' first Western student. In

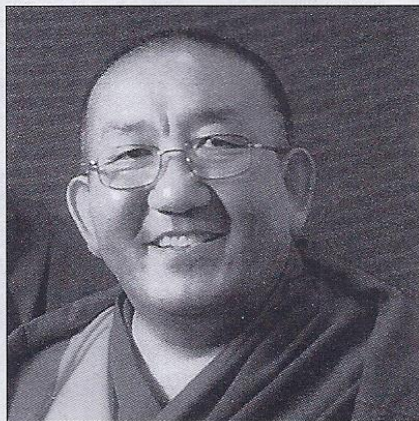
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1969 they founded the Nepal Mahayana Gompa Center at Kopan, above Boudhnath Stupa in Kathmandu, Nepal. At the insistence of Zina Rachevsky the Lamas started to teach courses on Buddhism for westerners at Kopan.

In 1971 Rinpoche took gelong ordination from His Holiness Ling Rinpoche in Bodh Gaya. By 1975, twelve centers had been added to the original Mahayana Gompa Center. In 1976, the growing worldwide organization was named by Lama Yeshe 'the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition' (FPMT). The FPMT is an organization devoted to the transmission of the Mahayana Buddhist tradition and values worldwide through teaching, meditation and community service.

Arjia Rinpoche

Arjia Rinpoche (Lobsang Tubten Juimai Gyatso) is one of the most prominent Buddhist teachers and lamas to have left Tibet. At age two, Arjia



Rinpoche was recognized by the Panchen Lama as the 20th Arjia Danpei Gyaltzen, the reincarnation of Lama Tsong Khapa's father, Lumbum Ghe, the throne holder and abbot of Kumbum Monastery. He has trained with lineage teachers, such as His Holiness the Dalai Lama, His Holiness the Panchen Lama, and Gayyak Rinpoche--from whom he received many sacred teachings and ritual instructions.

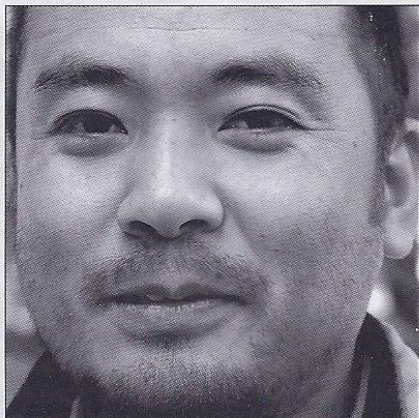
During the Cultural Revolution in Chinese controlled Tibet, Arjia Rinpoche was tortured by the communist Chinese, yet secretly continued to practice and study with his tutors. In addition, he was required to work in a forced labor camp for 16 years. Following the Cultural Revolution, Rinpoche continued serving as Abbot of Kumbum--overseeing the renovations in the monastery and reestablishing monastic studies. In 1998, due to the strained political climate in Tibet, Arjia Rinpoche went into exile because he would not compromise his spiritual beliefs and practices. He escaped to the United States where he now lives. He founded the Buddhist Center for Compassion and Wisdom (BCCW) in Mill Valley, California, a center committed to the preservation of Buddhist teachings, art and culture within and outside of Tibet and Mongolia. In 2005, he was appointed Director of the Tibetan Cultural Center (TCC) in Bloomington, Indiana by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. Presently, he directs both BCCW and TCC.

Neten Chokling Rinpoche

Director of "Milarepa: Magician, Murderer, Saint"

Neten Chokling Rinpoche, born in Wandipodzong, central Bhutan in 1973, was recognized and enthroned by both the 16th Gyalwa Karmapa and Kyabjé Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche, from whom he received many teachings and transmissions. Renowned as an accomplished practitioner, he is the spiritual head of the Pema Ewam Choegar Gyurmeling Monastery in India and Tibet.

Neten Chokling Rinpoche's lineage is that of the great tertön (treasure finder) Chokgyur Lingpa, and traces itself back to the Tibetan king, Trisong Detsen, who invited Guru Rinpoche to Tibet. In previous incarnations Neten Chokling Rinpoche accomplished many great activities in association with Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo (1820-1892), a renowned Buddhist saint who played a pivotal role in the revitalization and preservation of Buddhism in Tibet in the 19th century. Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo's present incarnation is Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse Rinpoche, aka 'Khyentse Norbu' - the critically acclaimed film director.



Neten Chokling Rinpoche similarly is fascinated with the power of cinematic art and the emotional influence of storytelling through sound and moving pictures. He greatly admires the directors Yasujiro Ozu, Akira Kurosawa, Chen Kaige and Zhang Yimou. Neten Chokling was a principal actor in Khyentse Norbu's 'The Cup' and assisted in his latest production 'Travellers and Magicians' as a stuntman, assistant to the director and 2nd unit director. The remarkable collaboration between Khyentse Norbu and Neten Chokling apparently continues to thrive.

Neten Chokling's rigorous training in Buddhist meditation and philosophy, combined with a deep interest in the film medium, make him well-suited to bring the teachings alive in a way that is accessible to a modern audience.

*For more about Milarepa, please see *The Life of Milarepa: A New Translation from the Tibetan* by Lobsang P. Lhalungpa, from Penguin Books.*

TEACHINGS ON Milarepa

"Milarepa's fame came from no other reason than his sincerity and honesty in looking at the truth, even the bitter truth, and transforming that into a universal truth, the truth of all beings, the ultimate truth."

— Khandro Rinpoche

Lama and director Neten Chokling's *Milarepa: Magician, Murderer, Saint* brings the tale of Tibet's greatest yogi to the big screen in a dramatic plot of greed, revenge, remorse—and awakening. Chokling hopes that his film of conscience for a troubled age will cause viewers to reflect. "If this film inspires just a single person to become more compassionate, tolerant, and patient towards others, I will be more than happy," he says.

TEACHINGS ON MILAREPA makes a wonderful accompaniment to *Milarepa: Magician, Murderer, Saint* as Buddhist luminaries such as Khandro Rinpoche and Ani Pema Chodron give commentaries and insights about the great yogi's life. Ideally suited for Western viewers interested in knowing more about Milarepa's significance for Buddhism as a whole, these teachings also show how we can incorporate Milarepa's determination, honesty, clarity, and compassion into our lives.

Executive Producer **NETEN CHOKLING**

Producers **ISALAH SERET & GREGORY KRUGLAK**

Editor **ISALAH SERET** Camera **LOBSANG TSULTRIM JESHONG,**

MARY ELLEN KELLEHER, VEN. ROGER KUNSAW,

STEVE LEWELLYN, ISALAH SERET, CHOYANG THARCHIN

Chinese Translation & Voices **CHUNGDAK NANGPA, DECHEN PEMA**

Vietnamese Translation & Voices **DR. HUNG QUACH, SUE-SUE LU, SY LU**

Post-Production Supervisor **GABRIEL BERDE**

Sound **STEVE WONDER** Director **SASHA MEYEROWITZ**

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中文 **CHINESE,** Tiếng Việt **VIETNAMESE**

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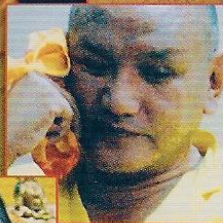
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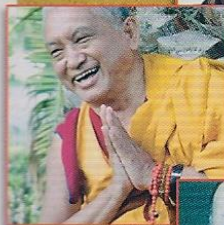
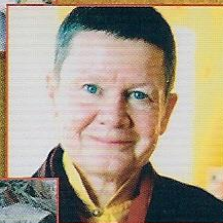
Khandro
Rinpoche

Orgyen Tobgyal
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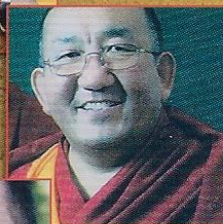
Sogyal
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Ani Pema
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Lama Zopa
Rinpoche

Arjia
Rinpoche



and
Neten Chokling
Rinpoche

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