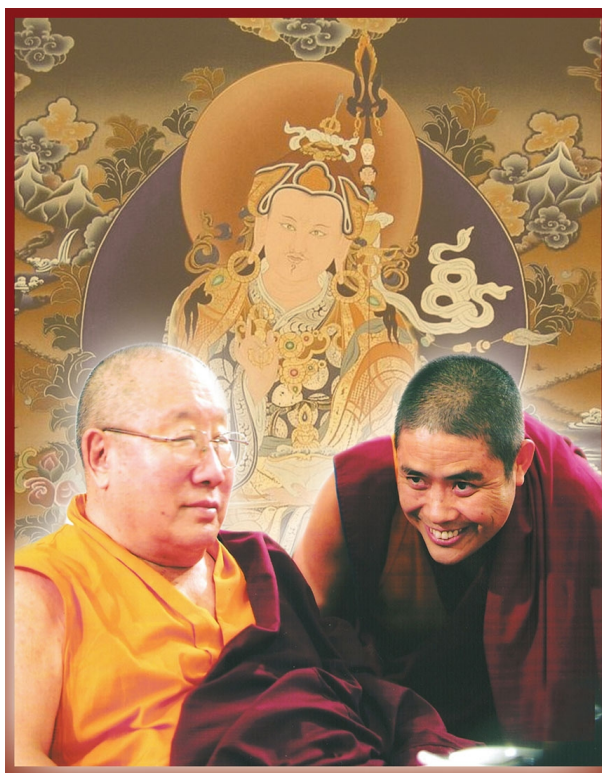


In Loving Memory of my Root Guru

- Khen Rinpoche Pema Choephel



His Holiness Penor Rinpoche and
Khen Rinpoche Pema Choephel

I was eight years old when I met His Holiness Penor Rinpoche for the first time. It was my good fortune to meet him in this present life and receive his precious teachings and blessings. He was my root teacher, who took care of me like a father throughout my entire life. He always supported my study, practice and Dharma activities with his boundless compassion. And I was always a recipient of his love and support. He forever lives deep within my heart, giving me the wisdom, protection and great energy to help to others.

I have always felt like a son to him, receiving his care and affection throughout my entire life. I have had many obstacles during my study and when establishing the Palyul centers in Europe. He has always assisted me, offering me his blessings and advice. I received so many great teachings and Nyingma empowerments from him; among them were Ngondro, Tsa Lung, Dzogchen and so on.

Two years ago, in 2007, His Holiness Penor Rinpoche told me that his job was successfully completed and that it was time for him to pass away. That year he was very sick, on the verge of passing away when His Holiness Chatral Rinpoche performed the long life practice for him, thus helping him to live longer. However, the reality is that His Holiness has now passed into parinirvana, teaching us a big lesson in impermanence. I feel very sad and lonely, as if I have lost my dear father.

When I was in London at the beginning of March 2009, I started to have dreams with His Holiness Penor Rinpoche every night. He was going somewhere, never to return and many masters are rushing after him. He gave me these kinds of signs in my dreams. I thought that perhaps he wanted to see me, so I left London to see him.

After arriving in India, one early morning at around 5 o'clock, I had a dream in which he gave me one hundred rupees and said, "Wake up and come". I awoke and together with my assistant we went directly to Columbia Hospital in Bangalore. At 7 o'clock we had the great opportunity to see His Holiness Penor Rinpoche which made our minds happy and peaceful. A few hours later, he passed away.

I was shocked and very sad while simultaneously attempted to control my mind. I was trying to think that he was teaching me a great lesson in impermanence but deep within, I was sad. I thought about my everlasting connection with him; that all of the body, speech and mind empowerments that I have received from him were dissolving into my heart. I was meditating in this way in order to calm down, remembering the blessings and teachings that I have received from him, especially the Dzogchen Sangye Lakchang. I was incredibly lucky to have to see him just before his passing.

In October 2008 when I visited His Holiness Penor Rinpoche at Namdroling Monastery, I told him about developments at the Palyul Centre UK and the German Palyul Center during my teachings in Europe, which made him happy. I also spoke about a big obstacle that I was facing that year to which he responded that it is normal when somebody becomes famous that they encounter such big obstacles and difficulties.

During this meeting I read him the long life prayer that His Holiness Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche wrote for me, especially the line,

*"May you serve the sovereign Drubwang Penor Rinpoche through the three pleasing ways
and may you have the power to glorify the Ancient Translation School
through study and practice"*

as a symbol of my karmic connection with His Holiness Penor Rinpoche. I told him that he is always in my heart and I always pray for him. I then received his blessings and came back to London.

I made a promise in front of him to establish Palyul centers in Europe and transmit the lineage blessings, keeping the Palyul lineage pure and unbroken. All the Dharma activities at the Palyul Centre UK and German Palyul Center are happening due to the blessing of our root Guru and are therefore dedicated with deep respect and devotion to him.

I am so happy and grateful to meet such a great master in my life and pray that I will always follow his guidance in this life and in the next lives and I will be never separate from his enlightened mind. I pray that with the blessings of my root Guru, His Holiness Penor Rinpoche that I will reach Zangdog Palri, the Pure Land of Guru Rinpoche and achieve Enlightenment for the sake of all living beings.

I remember all the advice that he has given to me, the places that we have visited together. On one hand I feel very sad but from other I feel more confident and firm in following his advice to continue my Dharma practice and activities according to his instructions. I would like to

use all of my efforts to practice the Dzogchen teachings that I received from him, dedicating more time and energy to accomplish this practice and transmit the lineage blessings of His Holiness that I dearly treasure.

I pray for the swift rebirth of His Holiness Penor Rinpoche. I pray that he will come back quickly to this world to support countless beings, giving them his guiding light and wisdom. I pray that His Holiness will always manifest in my dreams to guide me and grant me blessings, although his precious blessings and guidance always remain deep within my heart.

15.05.2009
London, UK