



GYALSHEN INSTITUTE
FOR THE STUDY OF ZHANG ZHUNG AND TIBETAN CULTURE, INC.



SPECIAL EVENT

Healing the Earth

Sand Mandala of Sadag Nyelam

July 19 - 22, 2012

presented at

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF INTEGRAL STUDIES
1453 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103



GYALSHEN INSTITUTE is delighted to present a unique opportunity to follow the creation, dedication, and dissolution of a Tibetan Bön Buddhist mandala, presented with special consecration ceremony and Cham sacred dancing. The Sadhag Nyelam Mandala represents the world of Earth-owning spirits, spirits of water bodies, spirits of trees, and the spirits of rocks and boulders. In the view of the Bön spiritual tradition, the creation of this mandala will bless the Bay area with balance in the Five Elements and provide many other benefits.

Over four days in July, Gyalshen Institute will host ritual master **GESHE TENZIN YANGTON**, visiting the Bay area from Menri Monastery, the seat of the Tibetan Bön spiritual tradition located in Dolanji, India, and **KHENPO TENDAR**, Abbot of Dhorpatan Monastery in Nepal. These distinguished guests, together with **GESHE CHAPHUR** and **LAMA YUNGDRUNG** of Gyalshen Institute, will prepare this elaborate symbolic form demonstrating the traditional techniques of sand painting during July 19-21, 2012.



On Sunday, July 22, 2012, the lamas will conduct the ritual blessings and empower the mandala for the benefit of all beings. As part of this ceremony, traditional Tibetan Cham sacred dancing will be performed, invoking the presence of powerful divine energies in a vibrant, uniquely Tibetan form of spiritual expression. Following the consecration ceremony, the sand mandala then will be dissolved as an example of the impermanent nature of existence.

You are invited to attend throughout the process!

Thursday, July 19, 2012 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM: Preparation and initialization of the mandala form

Friday, July 20, 2012 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM: Sand painting continues

Saturday, July 21, 2012 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM: Sand painting continues

Sunday, July 22, 2012 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM: Ceremonial consecration, blessings, and Cham dance.

GYALSHEN INSTITUTE SPECIAL EVENT

Sand Mandala of Sadag Nyelam

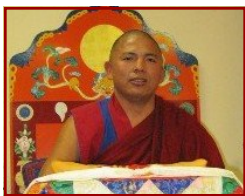
ABOUT CHAM DANCING



Cham is an ancient Tibetan sacred dance that invokes the purifying and blessing presence of specific deities through highly developed ritual movements. One of the most enduring forms of spiritual celebration at monasteries and public gatherings in Tibet, Cham dances are performed in elaborately detailed deity masks and rich costumes to the accompaniment of traditional trumpets, cymbals, and drums. The intricate and precise body gestures require extensive training to master, and intensive preparatory prayer for each performance. In the Bön view, the proper skill and focus of the dancers results in the dissolution of negativities and the removal of obstacles while conveying a narrative story about the deities, their origins, and relationships to human life.

ABOUT THE TIBETAN LAMAS

GESHE TENZIN YANGTON was born in Tsarkha, Dolpo, Nepal, into the profound Yangton lineage. Becoming a monk at Triten Norbutse Monastery in Kathmandu, Nepal, he attained his Geshe (Doctor of Philosophy) degree at the Bön Dialectic School at Menri Monastery in 2006. Geshe Yangton is the coordinator of Yangton Thongdrol Phuntsog Ling Monastery and Dolpo Tsarkha Health Clinic in his hometown.



KHENPO TENDAR is the Abbot of Dhorpatan Monastery in Nepal. He attended the Bön Dialectic School in Dolanji, India, where he graduated as Geshe in 1996. He provides assistance to impoverished children in the pursuit of education and recently established a Tibetan medical center to provide health services in rural areas of Nepal. Khenpo Tendar resides presently in New York.

GESHE CHAPHUR is the Founder and Spiritual Director of Gyalshen Institute, located in the San Francisco Bay area. Born in Amdo Ngaba in Eastern Tibet, he received his Geshe degree in 2008 from Menri Monastery. Geshe Chaphur has many research interests and translation projects, and he currently teaches the Bön spiritual tradition in the Bay area with an emphasis on Dzogchen practices.



LAMA YUNGDRUNG became a monk in 1988 at Nangzhig Monastery in Tibet. In addition to his religious education he studied medicine and traditional physical therapy techniques, as well as helping with construction of stupas and temples, before immigrating to the United States in 2002. As well as serving as President of Gyalshen Institute, Lama Yungdrung is also the resident Lama of Yuan Yuan Educational Foundation, a Bön center in the Bay area.

ABOUT GYALSHEN INSTITUTE

GYALSHEN INSTITUTE provides support for teaching events, a translation publication program, and other outreach activities that fulfill the mission of preserving and presenting to the Western public the spiritual practices and traditions of Tibetan Bön culture. This includes instruction in sacred texts, meditation practices, cultural forms and creative arts, as well as conducting traditional Bön rituals and ceremonies. In addition to establishing a permanent resource for students and practitioners in the Bay area, Gyalshen Institute sponsors visiting teachers, monks, and others who represent the living Bön lineages. Connecting to the global Bön community, Gyalshen Institute also sustains the education and wellness of monks and nuns in Tibet and India.

EVENT LOCATION

The Sadag Nyelam program will take place on the campus of the
CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF INTEGRAL STUDIES
1453 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Photo ID is required to enter the facility, admission is FREE!

For additional information, please check our web site at www.Gyalshen.org, or email info@Gyalshen.org!

