

**GYALSHEN INSTITUTE
PILGRIMAGE TO NEPAL
WITH CHAPHUR RINPOCHE**

April 15 – April 23, 2016

GENERAL INFORMATION

Chaphur Rinpoche and the Gyalshen Institute Board of Directors welcome you to join us on a Pilgrimage to Tritten Norbutse Monastery in Nepal. We will be traveling from April 15 through April 23, 2016. Our Pilgrimage coincides with a very special ritual event at Tritten Nobutse. We will visit His Eminence Lopon Tenzin Namdak (Yongdzin Rinpoche), joining with many Bönpos from around the world to offer long life prayers. We will also have the opportunity to receive teachings and practice at sacred sites, as well as visit other areas of cultural, artistic, and historical interest on this nine day journey.

- ❖ The cost of undertaking the Nepal Pilgrimage is \$1,200. Travel with the group begins and ends in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ Participants are responsible for their own transportation arrangements to/from Kathmandu.

The registration cost includes:

- ❖ Once you have joined the group, all transportation, lodging, and vegetarian meals are provided. These expenses are approximately sixty-five per cent (65%) of the Pilgrimage cost.
- ❖ All offerings and contributions to rituals at the spiritual communities we visit are covered as part of the pilgrimage cost. This includes offerings to His Excellency Yongdzin Rinpoche, and a small personal donation to every monk at Tritten Nobutse Monastery. These gifts represent about twenty-five percent (25%) of cost of the pilgrimage. You will be supporting Bön in a directly helpful way that accumulates great merit. You may offer personal donations as you wish, but none are required.
- ❖ An offering to Khenpo Tenpa Yungdrung Rinpoche at Tritten Nobutse Monastery is also included for the private, multi-day Dzogchen teaching he will provide to our group. This teaching event is a unique part of our pilgrimage and of special value. This represents about ten percent (10%) of the pilgrimage cost.
- ❖ Neither Gyalshen Institute nor Chaphur Rinpoche makes a profit from this Pilgrimage. All proceeds apply to travel costs, events, and donations. At the end, you may wish to offer a personal cash gift to Chaphur Rinpoche for his extensive efforts to make the trip possible.

Have questions or need further information? EMAIL US at Pilgrimage@gyalshen.org

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TRAVEL ITINERARY

April 15: Travel to Kathmandu
April 16: Visit sacred sites near Kathmandu
April 17: Visit Patan and Bhaktapur
April 18: Visit Vajra Organic Farm
April 19: Visit Triten Nobutse Monastery
April 20-21: Dzogchen teaching with Khenpo Tenpa Yungdrung Rinpoche
April 22: Day at Triten Nobutse Monastery
April 23: Return to Delhi and farewells

CALENDAR DEADLINES AND CANCELLATION

- ❖ If you wish to participate in this wonderful journey, you must submit your registration package before February 1, 2016.
- ❖ Payment of the \$1,200 is require to complete your registration.
- ❖ We appreciate that it is often difficult for people to plan the time away and make a significant financial commitment so far ahead. Life happens, and after registering you may find yourself unable to go on the pilgrimage. Cancellations prior to February 1, 2016 will receive a refund less twenty-five percent (25%). Because we will have committed the funds for the travel arrangements, refunds for cancellation cannot be made after February 1, 2016.

Have questions or need further information? EMAIL US at Pilgrimage@gyalshen.org

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name (as it appears on your passport):

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell: _____ Home: _____

Business: _____

Expiration date of current passport: _____

ON CHECKLIST: Include a photocopy/scan of your main ID page in your passport (the one with the picture/passport number) with registration form.

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SPECIAL NEEDS

Please tell us if you have any special dietary needs or medical condition that will impact your ability to participate the Pilgrimage. All meals provided on the Pilgrimage will be vegetarian.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In case of medical or other emergency, you must provide us with contact information of someone appropriate for us to notify.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

REQUIRED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

NEPAL

Nepal makes things easy for foreign travelers. Visas are available on arrival at the international airport in Kathmandu, as long as you have passport photos in hand and pay the visa fee (US \$25). Your passport must be valid for at least six months and you will need a whole free page for your visa. Applications will be available at the airport and possibly on the plane. Those traveling with electronic passports can insert the passport at a machine in the airport and the visa form will be filled out automatically.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

TRAVEL INSURANCE IS COMPULSORY for everyone registering for this Pilgrimage.

This insurance must provide coverage against personal accidents, medical expenses, emergency evacuation and repatriation. We highly recommend baggage-loss and travel cancellation insurance as well. You must submit a photocopy of proof of insurance in order to participate in the Pilgrimage. The average cost for a basic plan that covers medical care or evacuation, trip cancellation, and travel delay is about \$125 for most people. Special medical history, such as pre-existing conditions, may result in higher cost.

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You will need to carry a copy of the policy with you while traveling. In order to have a backup copy available, you may wish to provide us with a copy of the policy which we will keep with the group.

A company whose web site is easy to use is Allianz (www.allianztravelinsurance.com), or you can ask for a quote from Atlas Travel (866-784-8596) but you may wish to search for others to compare prices.

ON CHECKLIST: Photocopy of travel insurance (email receipt for purchase is acceptable). Can be sent once your travel arrangements have been made.

LIABILITY WAIVER

The following Release of Liability and Assumption of All Risks form must be signed and returned to Gyalshen Institute. This is a necessary formality that allows us to act on behalf of your wellbeing in case there is an accident or medical emergency. We have every good faith that our Pilgrimage will be an enriching experience and lifelong happy memory for each of us completely free of untoward challenge, but we *are* traveling to India and Nepal. Please read the liability waiver carefully before signing.

ON CHECKLIST: Signed RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF ALL RISKS FORM

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RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF ALL RISKS FORM

I understand that this group trip to India and Nepal for travel to Menri Monastery, Triten Nobutse, and other sacred sites from April 6 to April 23, 2016 (“the Pilgrimage”), is being coordinated by Gyalshen Institute to assist those who wish to participate in the journey with Chaphur Rinpoche and not as a professional service.

As a co-participant I understand that traveling to and in India and Nepal may put me in unforeseen circumstances and risks. I have read the Gyalshen Institute Release and Waiver of Liability and fully understand it.

Initial here _____

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION of my participating in the Pilgrimage, led by Chaphur Rinpoche and assisted by Gyalshen Institute, a non-profit religious charity, to the extent permitted by law, I hereby release and waive my right to sue Chaphur Rinpoche (Lhundup Gyatso), Gyalshen Institute, their officers, directors, associates, agents, employees, and volunteers for any injury or damage I may sustain while traveling and being present at any location visited during the Pilgrimage.

I further assume the risk of injury resulting from risks existing at any point while traveling. In further consideration, I agree to hold harmless Chaphur Rinpoche and Gyalshen Institute, their officers, directors, associates, agents, employees, and volunteers from any injury or damage to others or myself which results from any of my actions or omissions while I am participating in the Pilgrimage.

When participating in the Pilgrimage under the arrangement of Chaphur Rinpoche and Gyalshen Institute, a non-profit religious charity, I understand that Chaphur Rinpoche and Gyalshen Institute and its agents, representatives, and volunteers have arranged a tour where the elements may be physically, culturally and emotionally demanding; and that the standards of accommodation, transportation, safety, hygiene, toilette styles, telecommunication facilities, infrastructure development, and medical facilities are not the same as those I may be used to at home or might find on a conventional holiday.

This type of travel inherently involves a high level of personal risk, which I fully agree to assume. I understand that during the course of the Pilgrimage certain events may occur, including but not limited to: the forces of nature, political instability, and accident or illness in remote locations without medical facilities. If I become ill or incapacitated I hereby authorize Chaphur Rinpoche, Gyalshen Institute and their officers, directors, associates, agents, employees, and volunteers to take any action they deem necessary for my safety and wellbeing, including securing medical treatment and/or transporting me home (all at my own expense).

With full knowledge of the risks and dangers inherently present on the Pilgrimage I agree and give my full consent that I am voluntarily participating in these activities with full knowledge and agree to assume all risks, including injury or death.

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RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF ALL RISKS FORM, continued

I understand that neither Chaphur Rinpoche nor Gyalshen Institute, their officers, directors, associates, agents, employees, and volunteers are liable for any injury, loss, delay, damage or irregularity due to the behavior of third parties regardless of the circumstances. I hereby forever release Chaphur Rinpoche and Gyalshen Institute, their officers, directors, associates, agents, employees, and volunteers from any liability whatsoever related to the acts or omissions of any third parties related to the Pilgrimage and all its activities.

Should Chaphur Rinpoche or Gyalshen Institute deem it advisable to amend the itinerary for any reason, they may do so by shortening or varying the Pilgrimage. These changes are binding and I understand, acknowledge, and accept that these additional expenses will be charged to me if the reason for any alteration is outside the direct control of Chaphur Rinpoche and Gyalshen Institute.

I acknowledge that by participating in the Pilgrimage, including the services or other activities arranged for me by Chaphur Rinpoche and Gyalshen Institute, I hereby agree to release, indemnify, and hold harmless Chaphur Rinpoche, Gyalshen Institute,

and their officers, directors, associates, agents, employees, and volunteers for all liabilities, damages, losses, expenses, claims, demands, suits, fines, or judgments, including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees, costs and expenses which I may have suffered as a result of any events, activities, acts or omissions occurring in preparation for, during or immediately after the Pilgrimage or as a result of services rendered or any interruption or cancellation. I acknowledge that this agreement is also binding on my heirs, administrators, executors, legal representatives, and assignees.

All registration applications for the Pilgrimage are subject to acceptance by Chaphur Rinpoche and Gyalshen Institute. I understand that upon acceptance of my registration application, this agreement shall be deemed to have been entered into and performed in El Cerrito, California, and shall be construed according to the laws of the State of California. In the unlikely event a legal dispute arises involving any subject matter whatever, I agree that the disputes shall be settled by binding arbitration before the American Arbitration Association in California. Should the arbitration provision prove to be unenforceable, I agree that any legal action shall only be brought before the appropriate Federal Court in California. I further agree that should the plaintiff fail to prevail in any legal dispute before a Court, said plaintiff agrees to pay all reasonable attorneys' fees for the defendant in the dispute.

I have carefully read this entire Release of Liability and Assumption of All Risks, and I have read and I understand the complete Terms and Conditions of the Pilgrimage, including notification of cancellation penalties. I fully understand all contents of this document and agree to same.

SIGNATURE: _____

PRINT FULL NAME: _____

DATE: _____

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CHECKLIST

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- ✓ Registration form filled out with personal information and emergency contact information.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Copy of main passport page
- ✓ Nepal visa will also require passport size [2" x 2"] photographs to be used at the airport in Kathmandu.

TRAVEL INSURANCE AND LIABILITY WAIVER

- ✓ Photocopy of travel insurance (email receipt of purchase is fine). This may be submitted after you have booked your travel plans, but must be sent in by March 1, 2016.
- ✓ RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF ALL RISKS FORM, initialed on first page and signed and dated on second page

Please scan completed pages 2, 3, 5 and 6, plus the necessary travel documents, and send to pilgrimage@gyalshen.org.

Payment for your registration can be send by check (preferred) to Gyalshen Institute, P.O. Box 1608, El Cerrito, CA 94530 or made via the Paypal button on the Gyalshen Institute web page about the Pilgrimage. Please contact us if you need to make special payment arrangements.

THANK YOU for your support of Chaphur Rinpoche and Gyalshen Institute.