

2014 Bodhi Path Annual Gathering
Including Life Celebration of Shamar Rinpoche
August 13-17, 2014

1. Teaching:

Mahamudra: The Four Stages *Followed by the Vajrasattva Empowerment*

Teachings from the
Karma Kagyu Lineage on Mahamudra

By Karma Trinlay Rinpoche
Vajrasattva Empowerment

Given by Lama Jigme Rinpoche
August 13-17, 2014

Program description: Mahamudra, the jewel of the Kagyu Lineage, is a form of meditation that explores the timeless clarity of mind pervading all phenomena. Practitioners can experience boundless emptiness and wisdom, inseparable from each other. Mahamudra can be divided into four distinct phases, known as the Four Yogas of Mahamudra: 1. One-pointedness; 2. Simplicity; 3. One taste; 4. Non-meditation. Join us as Shamar Rinpoche introduces this deep and profound practice. Teachings on this subject will be followed by the Vajrasattva Empowerment.

Biography of Lama Jigme Rinpoche: *Lama Jigme Rinpoche, older brother to the late 14th Shamarpa, is the representative for H.H. the 17th Karmapa Trinley Thaye Dorje in Europe. He is also the spiritual authority for Dhagpo Kagyu Ling in France, an important seat of Dharma activity for the Karmapa.*

Born in Kham, Eastern Tibet, in 1949, Jigme Rinpoche accompanied H.H. the 16th Karmapa to Rumtek, Sikkim, where the His Holiness founded a monastery to preserve the Karma Kagyu teachings. Jigme Rinpoche, along with the tulku gathered at Rumtek, received lineage transmissions directly from H.H. Karmapa. In addition, Rinpoche received many teachings and initiations from Gendün Rinpoche, Pawo Rinpoche, Kalu Rinpoche and Dilgo Kyentse Rinpoche, as well other revered masters.

When the 16th Karmapa appointed Lama Jigme Rinpoche as his European representative, he said: "In the person of Lama Jigme Rinpoche, I leave you my heart." It is in this spirit that Jigmela continues his activity, teaching and inspiring all who come in contact with him.

Biography of Karma Trinlay Rinpoche: *Born in France to an American mother and French father, at the age of three, Trinlay Rinpoche was recognized as the reincarnation of an important Buddhist teacher by the 16th Karmapa and began his monastic training with Kalu Rinpoche shortly thereafter. He is one of the first Westerners to have received and completed the traditional Tibetan Buddhist education offered to Tulkus, or incarnate masters. Rinpoche has also pursued Western academic studies in philosophy, history and philology. He currently lives in Paris with his wife and divides his time among studies, teaching, and translating.*

Celebrate:

The Life Work of Shamar Rinpoche

A multi-dimensional celebration of Rinpoche's life, teachings and activities

There will be multitude of opportunities to share stories of Rinpoche's life and celebrate our heartfelt connections to him.

Schedule:

Wednesday afternoon, August 13: Bodhi Path Center Coordinators and Bodhi Path Teachers' meeting. Event set-up and socializing.

Thursday-Friday, August 14-15:

Teaching by Trinlay Rinpoche. Two sessions per day: 10 am to noon, 2 to 4 pm. Q & A with dharma teachers will follow an afternoon tea break at 4:30. Evening group activities.

Saturday morning, August 16:

Vajrasattva Empowerment by Lama Jigme Rinpoche: 10 am

Saturday afternoon-evening, August 16:

Life Celebration and events, 4:30-8:00 pm. Family and friends invited. Musical instrument accompaniment at evening sing-along welcome.

Sunday morning, August 17:

Bright Future, Bodhi Path participants meeting and wrap up, Q&A.

Lunch provided Thursday through Sunday. Supper provided at the Life Celebration.

2. Practice:

Mahamudra Practice

A Practical Application of Shamar Rinpoche's Teaching Led by Dharma Teacher Tsony August 18 (evening) to 23, 2014

Based on the preceding teaching, Dharma Teacher Tsony will lead a 5-day retreat, which will explore the stages of Mahamudra practice. This program is a perfect opportunity to deepen understanding of Rinpoche's teaching through practice.

Dharma Teacher Tsony: *A Buddhist monk for over 25 years, Tsony completed two traditional 3-year retreats under the guidance of the great meditation master Gendun Rinpoche. For 15 years, he was Abbot of Kundrel Ling Monastery in France. Since 1991, he has been teaching philosophy and meditation throughout Europe and the U.S. He is now the resident teacher at Bodhi Path Natural Bridge.*

Schedule:

Monday evening, August 18:

7 to 8:30 pm. Introduction to retreat.

Tuesday-Saturday, August 19-23: 9am to 5pm. Lunch provided.

You may attend any or all of the meditation sessions; however, to preserve an atmosphere of tranquility, please enter the meditation hall only during a break.

General Information:

Location:

All events for both programs will take place at Bodhi Path Natural Bridge, located eight miles south of Lexington, Virginia, at the south end of the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. Address: 12 Bodhi Path, Natural Bridge, VA, 24578.

Program fees: *

Teaching, Empowerment and Life Celebration: \$295 for entire program including teaching, empowerment and life celebration supper and daily lunches. (Housing additional.)

Dharma Teacher Tsony's Meditation Retreat:

\$185 for entire retreat or \$45 per day. Lunch included. (Housing additional.)

If attending both programs:

\$400. (Housing additional.)

Space is limited. **Advanced registration is important** and must be made, along with full payment, no later than July 15, 2014.

Please reserve early to help our planning. We expect a full house and highly recommend you make your program and hotel reservations early. (See Cancellation Policy.)

**Events at Bodhi Path are open to everyone. Lack of means to make a contribution is never a reason to stay away.*

Accommodations:

Please make your reservations directly with the establishment of choice.

For questions about housing during the **retreat** portion of the program please inquire at: housingva@bodhipath.org.

Hotel/motels:

South River Highlands, 540-463-2593. Lovely rustic cabins, dorm spaces, and private rooms. 15 miles from center, car necessary. Please call for pricing. Mention Bodhi Path. innkeepers@southernriverhighlands.com

Budget Inn Natural Bridge, 540-291-2896. A modest motel, 1+ mile from the center. Special rate of \$59.95-\$69.99 for the "nothing fancy" crowd. Mention Bodhi Path.

Natural Bridge of Virginia Hotel, 800-533-1410. 5 miles from center.

For other accommodations 10+ miles from the center, please visit the Lexington Visitors Center's website at www.lexingtonvirginia.com.

A shared house:

If attending both programs, shared housing may be available at historic Middleton House, 111 South Jefferson Street, Lexington, 9 miles from the Bodhi Path Center, in downtown Lexington. (To view house go to <http://www.homeaway.com/vacation->

[rental/p329063](#).) For more information or to MAKE A RESERVATION please write to housingva@bodhipath.org.

Camping:

Natural Bridge KOA. 540-291-2770. RV hook-ups, cabins, tents. 2 miles from the center.

Airports and Ground Transportation

All airports require renting a car, limo service or ride sharing to get to the center. Ride sharing information will be sent out with confirmation of registration.

Roanoke, Virginia, about 45 miles away, is the closest airport. Car rental or limo service available. Limo Services: Roanoke Airport Transportation Service, 540-345-7710, and Prestige Limousine, Inc., 540-342-8049. Price depends on number of people traveling together. Call for pricing. Make arrangements early to insure availability.

Note: Bodhi Path Natural Bridge members will staff one shuttle van departing from Roanoke Airport on Tuesday, August 12 at 9:30pm. The return shuttle drops off at ROA on Sunday, August 24 at 9am. **To reserve a seat on the shuttle, write to housingva@bodhipath.org and include plane itinerary.**

Lynchburg, Virginia, is a regional airport about one and a half hours away. This airport is often cheapest for those flying from the west. You will need a rental car from this airport. **Washington, DC** airports, Dulles International or Reagan International, about 200 and 210 miles away, respectively. You will need a rental car if you fly into either of these airports. **Baltimore** International Airport, about 240 miles away. You will need a rental car from this airport. **A special deal:** For folks coming from Florida or points south, check Allegiant Air's website for very cheap flights directly into Roanoke. From New York City, Delta Airlines has a \$150 round trip ticket to Lewisburg, West Virginia, which is a 1.5-hour drive away.

Reservation and payment deadline:

Advanced registration for both programs must be made, along with full payment, by **July 15, 2014**. You may register on line with a credit card or mail a check payable to Bodhi Path along with Registration Form (see following page) to:
Bodhi Path Buddhist Center, 12 Bodhi Path, Natural Bridge, VA 24578.

Cancellation policy:

Prior to August 5, 2014, your total program fee, minus a \$40 per person registration fee, will be refunded upon cancellation. After August 5, 2014, no refunds will be made.

For further information:

Call: 540-464-5117, Email: naturalbridge@bodhipath.org, or visit our website: www.bodhipath.org

Program Registration:

Please print.

To register by mail, please fill out this registration form and mail along with check made payable to Bodhi Path Buddhist Center, 12 Bodhi Path, Natural Bridge, VA 24578. You may also register online and pay with a credit card by visiting the program page of our website:

<http://www.bodhipath.org/annualmtg2014/>.

Participant 1: Last Name

First

Address: Number and Street

City

State

Postal Code

Country

Email Address

Telephone Number

Additional Participant's Name(s)

Attending **Teaching and Empowerment**,
Thursday, August 14 to Saturday, August 16.
Includes Life Celebration. \$295 per person.

Number attending

Fee

Attending **Retreat with Dharma Teacher Tsony**,
Monday evening, August 18, to Saturday,
August 23. \$185 per person, or \$45 per day.

Attending **both** programs: \$400 per person.

Donation:

Optional donation to support Bodhi Path:

Optional donation to support Stupa construction:

Optional donation to support Scholarship fund:

Total:

I have enclosed a check made payable to Bodhi Path for:

Please note:

Your registration will not be complete
until we receive payment.

Thank you.