



Treasures *of* Wisdom Campaign

Returning the Gift of Wisdom to the Tibetan People

“My profound hope is that one day these enlightened works can be translated into the languages of all cultures and civilizations, so that the knowledge and wisdom of the Buddha can be made available to all beings.”

Tarthang Tulku

Founder, Tibetan Aid Project



The Tibetan Aid Project is committed to helping the next generation of Tibetans rebuild, preserve and perpetuate their wisdom tradition. We aim to assure that Tibetan culture not only survives, but flourishes, so that these ancient teachings may help guide human beings for as long as the world exists.

We are deeply grateful for your help in making this vision a reality.



The Tibetan Aid Project is pleased to announce the launch of the Treasures of Wisdom Campaign, a three-year drive to fund the printing and distribution of books containing the sacred Tibetan teachings on wisdom and compassion. The money raised will help stock libraries throughout the Himalayan region.

Our aim is to raise \$1,080,000
by December 2009.

Since its founding in 1969 by Tarthang Tulku, TAP has steadily aimed to support the Tibetan people, shifting its activities to keep in step with the changing situation of the Tibetan exile community. In the early years, TAP provided emergency aid for displaced refugees living in extreme poverty. As the refugees reestablished themselves, TAP shifted its efforts to cultural preservation.

Today, TAP's mission remains as urgent as it did years ago: to rebuild, preserve, strengthen, and perpetuate Tibet's cultural and spiritual heritage for the benefit of the Tibetan people and the long-term good of all humanity.



Our efforts are offered to the Tibetan people and their friends in the West.

May older Tibetans continue to draw inspiration from the rich beauty of the Tibetan civilization and may young Tibetans learn to appreciate their heritage more deeply.

May the precious knowledge traditions that have sustained the people of the Land of Snows endure and flourish in the future.

—Tarthang Tulku, Founder of Tibetan Aid Project

The Treasures Of Wisdom Campaign aims to support the flourishing of Tibetan wisdom in the Himalayan region, from monastic centers and schools of higher education in major urban areas to small libraries and retreat centers in remote mountain villages.



Every year, Tibetan practitioners by the thousands travel along poor roads or challenging mountain trails to reach Bodhgaya in northern India. There, at the site of the Buddha's enlightenment, they pray for peace and receive copies of sacred scriptures. For Tibetans, these teachings represent incomparable gifts, conferring a wealth beyond all material possessions. Inspired by the gift of these beautifully designed books, printed using the highest quality paper and ink, even practitioners in the poorest rural communities are finding innovative ways to create institutions for advanced study and practice.

The Tibetan people are committed to building the Tibetan people's future, one that honors their ancient culture. The Treasures of Wisdom Campaign is our way of helping them.



The Tibetan Aid Project has been helping support the production and distribution of texts in Tibetan since 1992. Drawing on the power of Western technology to increase production and efficiency, we have been able to help distribute more than two million copies of essential Tibetan texts to schools and practitioners, thereby participating in *one of the largest free distribution of books in history*. Still, the titles printed and distributed so far comprise only a small percentage of the vitally important teachings available in Tibetan. While we celebrate our recent accomplishments, we are mindful that ahead of us lie great challenges.

Among the precious works to be printed over the next three years are the Vinaya texts on moral conduct from the Kanjur. Also included are selected works from the Tanjur (commentaries by ancient masters): a corpus of sacred teachings acknowledged by all Tibetans as a treasury of knowledge.

Other works in preparation include several Longchenpa texts, including the *Ngalso Korsum* (translated into English as *Kindly Bent to Ease Us*), as well as histories, grammars, and a collection on training the mind that includes the world-famous *Bodhicharyavatara* (*Entering the Bodhisattva Path*) and Nagarjuna's *Letter to a Friend*. Other publications will include commentaries on teachings of the Buddha, produced in a Western-style format that has met with an enthusiastic response.

PROJECT FACTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

1989–2007

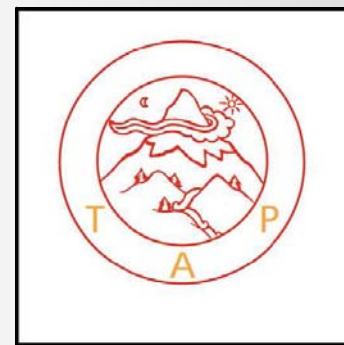
☞ **Volunteers.** Since its inception in 1969, TAP has been staffed by volunteers. This enables TAP to further extend the value of every dollar received. The books are printed by our all-volunteer sister organization, the Yeshe De (pronounced yay-shay-day) Project, and Dharma Publishing, also an all-volunteer operation. Each year more than a thousand volunteers join in our efforts.

☞ **Shipping.** The books are shipped by boat to India and there distributed to Tibetan practitioners. In 2006, the shipment filled 39 forty-foot containers.

☞ **Texts.** Between 1989 and 2007, 1,880 different texts of both the Sutra and Tantra traditions have been distributed. These texts, which fill 386 volumes, have been authored by 196 different masters, both Indian and Tibetan, who span twenty-five centuries from the time of the Buddha to the present day.

☞ **Recipients.** Over 3,300 Dharma centers, large and small, have received books, including more than 600 Nyingma monasteries. Over 35 Dharma centers from the other three schools of Tibetan Buddhism (Kagyü, Sakya and Gelug) also receive canonical texts to distribute to their many branches.

☞ **Cost.** Each book costs approximately \$7 to make. Costs are kept low because labor is provided entirely by committed volunteers. If staff received salaries equivalent to what commercial companies pay, book production would be twice as expensive.



If you yourself have benefited from the wisdom of Tibetan masters, their example of inspired moral conduct, or the joy and beauty of the Tibetan people, here is a way to show your appreciation and gratitude.



The Treasures of Wisdom Campaign focuses on substantial gifts. We are asking our dedicated donors and friends to donate a minimum of \$1,080 per year for three years. This amount will support the creation of a core collection of texts for one library.

Your support will encourage the next generation of Tibetan practitioners as they dedicate themselves to cultivating priceless knowledge for all sentient beings.

The Treasures of Wisdom Campaign

Levels of Support (per year over three years)

Wheel of Truth	\$100,000
Sword of Wisdom	\$10,000
Lotus of Compassion	\$5,000
Wish-Fulfilling Jewel	\$2,500
Indestructible Vajra	\$1,080

Support categories are based on a traditional list of the qualities of the Buddhist teachings. The five qualities are linked to the five directions of the mandala, which join to form an integrated whole.

The Treasures of Wisdom Collection: *A Sampler*



Kindly Bent to Ease Us
by Longchenpa

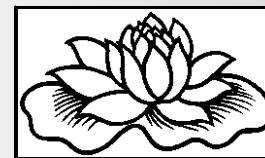
*Immediately after you have engulfed living beings in love,
You should develop compassion by thinking of their suffering
In the same way as you are unable to bear mentally the suffering of
your parents.*

Instructions from a Spiritual Friend
by Nagarjuna and Lama Mipham

*Liberality and generosity, ethics and manners, patience and tolerance,
strenuousness and perseverance,
Meditation and concentration, and discernment and appreciation are
the immeasurable perfections.
When these blossom forth, one crosses over the vast ocean of life and
Acquires the strength of the Victorious One.*

Bodhicaryavatara
by Shantideva

*May I be a guard for those who are protectorless,
A guide for those who journey on the road;
For those who wish to go across the water,
May I be a boat, a raft, a bridge.*



*All the joy the world contains
Comes through wishing happiness for others;
All the misery the world contains
Comes through wanting pleasure for oneself.*