



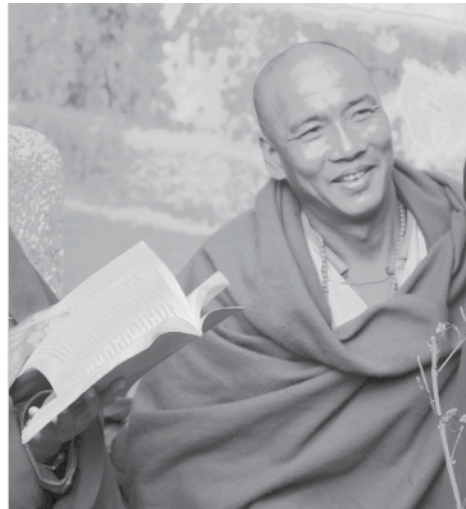
Tibetan
Aid
Project

2210 Harold Way
Berkeley, CA 94704
510.848.4238 or 800.338.4238
www.tibetanaidproject.org
tap@tibetanaidproject.org

*Rich men are found among barbarians,
and even an animal can show courage.
But the wise – those who can explain the truth –
These are the rarest of all.*

Dear Friend,

Spoken by Nagarjuna, one of the greatest Buddhist masters, this verse is from a text known as *The Staff of Wisdom*, one of the thousands of texts in the multi-volume collection known as the Kanjur and Tanjur, the Tibetan Buddhist canon. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, Tibetan Aid Project and its sister organizations were able to distribute 1,000 complete sets of this canonical collection at the World Peace Ceremony this past January. In all, we helped to donate 400,000 books, as well as numerous art prints and prayer wheels – a monumental accomplishment. None of this would have been possible without your generosity and deep concern.



The books, art prints, and prayer wheels we distribute are essential tools for study and practice in Tibetan monasteries and nunneries. The texts also bring together lay communities, as practitioners gather to study, pray and renew the heart of their culture.

Thanks to our success in distributing over three million books in the last twenty years, dramatic changes have occurred in the Tibetan settlements in exile. Literacy among laypeople has increased, and nuns, who in the past focused mainly on prayer and devotion, can now study the advanced philosophical texts. Monasteries have been able to add new courses of study.



The urgency and great importance of our mission is reflected in the profound appreciation of those who receive the texts. This past year, Lama Palzang, who teaches at our sister organization, the Nyingma Institute, traveled through the Himalayan region for two months distributing texts and prayer wheels at over thirty monasteries. He tells this story:

Before reaching one monastery, the trucks came upon an impassable road and had to stop for the night. The next morning, every single monk in the monastery, some ten years old and some in their seventies, made their way down to the trucks, one by one, to carry the books back up to their temple.

We have learned through the years that if we are able to print, ship, and distribute the books, Tibetans will overcome any obstacle to receive them.

Tibetan culture is experiencing a renaissance in exile, but life in the refugee communities continues to present countless challenges. Your help makes all the difference. For \$1,080, you can provide the seed collection for a small library. For \$108, you can provide books for a core curriculum for thirty students to study for a year. This is not just an opportunity to give – it is an opportunity to change lives, empower whole communities, shape the next generation, and strengthen a culture. We hope that you will join us in helping the Tibetan people make the long journey back into the heart of their own culture.

Sincerely,

Rosalyn White

Rosalyn White, Executive Director

SAVE THE DATE:

June 19, 2010 - Tibetan Aid Project and Dharma Publishing will host a book launch for acclaimed author Claudio Naranjo at our bookstore in Berkeley.

October 15 – 17, 2010 - Healing, Mindfulness, and Compassion Retreat at the beautiful Ratna Ling Retreat Center in Sonoma County, CA

November 19, 2010 - Taste & Tribute San Francisco at the Four Seasons Hotel

Please visit our new, user-friendly website: www.tibetanaidproject.org

You will find information about the recent, tragic earthquake in Tibet and how you can help. We have added a section on Tibetan Culture that covers the fascinating art, language and sacred objects of Tibet. We value the opinions of our supporters – please give us your feedback and suggestions.