

Project
Karmapa International Buddhist Institute
India

activity report 2008

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1 Description

The Karmapa International Buddhist Institute originates from the wish of His Holiness the 16th Gyalwa Karmapa. He specified several projects to be completed in order to establish the Karma Kagyu lineage outside of the Himalayan region. Among these projects K.I.B.I. is an institute of higher learning and study of Buddha's timeless wisdom, including Buddhist philosophy, theory of perception and the Tibetan language. It should be accessible to Buddhists from around the world who are not familiar with Tibetan. The Indian government donated a plot of land to H.H. the 16th Gyalwa Karmapa for this purpose in the **South of Delhi, B19-20 Qutub Institutional Area**.

After the death of the 16th Gyalwa Karmapa in 1981, H.H. Shamar Rinpoche carried out the vision and founded K.I.B.I., which opened in the autumn of 1990.

The owner of the building complex with more than 100 rooms is the **Karmapa Charitable Trust** with Shamar Rinpoche as its board member.

K.I.B.I. is located in a beautiful building constructed in the style of a traditional Tibetan monastery. Just opposite to the institute is a large park with a great view.

The main building is a big four storied building containing the dining hall, a large meditation hall, class-rooms, a lecture hall, the café, the student lounge, offices and H.H. Gyalwa Karmapa's and Shamar Rinpoche's private quarters.

Surrounding this building in a semicircle is the students' accommodation containing rooms in two sizes. The small rooms have an attached private bathroom and the larger rooms have a common bathroom. It is possible to live in either type of room by oneself (single) or to share it (double). All rooms are of the same standard and are equipped similarly, with a bed and basic bedding, desk, chair, bookcase and wardrobe.

Since then H.H. Shamar Rinpoche has been the chairman of the school. Until 2005 the main instructor was Khenpo Chodrak Tenphel Rinpoche. In accordance with H.H. Shamar Rinpoche's wishes Khenpo Tsering as the main teacher offers a new study program since January 2007. The three month winter courses start always in January.

Since the reopening of the K.I.B.I. in 2007 the Institute started a large maintenance project. Due to the fact that the Institute was closed for two

years the buildings are in a very bad shape. Since the construction phase was completed in 1990 no major works for maintaining the buildings were done. 2008 Shamar Rinpoche decided to invest into the restoration of H.H. Gyalwa Karmapa's and Shamar Rinpoche's private quarters in the second and third floor of the main building.

At the same time the actual K.I.B.I. administration with the help of the architect Rolando Klee decided to start a restoration program as well for the public parts of the building complex. It includes the restoration of the meditation hall, classrooms, washing rooms, offices, student dormitories and the enlargement of the library.

The project started in October 2008 in accordance to Rolando Klees plans under the supervisor Karma Wangchuk. The first project part was finished in March 2009. Duration of the project is right now not possible to fix due to the fact that the timing is dependent on available money resources.



2 Teacher

His Holiness the 17. Gyalwa Karmapa Trinley Thaye Dorje is the present head of the Karma Kagyu lineage.

H.H. Kunzig Shamar Rinpoche

The founder and chairman of K.I.B.I. is the 14th Shamar Rinpoche, who is the senior lineage holder of the Karma Kagyu lineage, second only to the Gyalwa Karmapa.

Professor Sempa Dorje Professor Sempa Dorje is a most thoroughly learned Indian scholar. He is a highly respected and regarded Buddhist professor with a vast knowledge of Buddhism, both in Tibetan and Sanskrit. At a young age he went to Tibet to study until the invasion at which point he returned to India. For thirty years until his retirement he taught at the buddhist university in Varanasi. He is presently based in Kalimpong, where he has been educating His Holiness the Gyalwa Karmapa for the past eight years.

Khenpo Tsering The main instructor of K.I.B.I. is Khenpo Tsering Samdrub, who was appointed to this position by H.H. Shamar Rinpoche. Khenpo Tsering graduated as an Acharya at the Shri Nalanda Institute in Rumtek Monastery under the guidance of Khenpo Chodrak Tenphel Rinpoche. He has taught at K.I.B.I. for six years and is now also responsible for the Shri Diwakar Vihara Buddhist Institute in Kalimpong.

Additionally to the regular study program **Lama Ole Nydahl** is every year invited to give guest lectures.



3 Buddhismus Stiftung Diamantweg in India

Buddhismus Stiftung Diamantweg and the Karmapa Charitable Trust agreed on a contract to support the K.I.B.I. This contract was signed from the side of the K.C.T. by Shamar Rinpoche and by Lama Ole representing the B.S.D..

Taking care of the project in India:

4 Purpose of the Institute

The Karmapa International Buddhist Institute is a college for advanced Buddhist studies. KIBI's purpose is to foster wisdom and compassion through the study and translation of the great Buddhist treatises. It saves and protects Buddhist knowledge which is in accordance to the Karma Kagu Tradition.

The Karmapa International Buddhist Institute offers a four year program. Classes will be held each year from January until mid March. The courses are taught in a progressive order and cover various seminal works on Buddhist philosophy and theory of perception as well as special training in Diamondway (skt. vajrayana) rituals and weekend seminars on Great Way (skt. mahayana) and Diamondway (skt. vajrayana) topics. There will be optional Tibetan classes on classical Tibetan. Classes will either be given in English or translated into English. Attending the course therefore requires sufficient skills in spoken and written English.

The Karmapa International Buddhist Institute supports the study programme with its Library which is open to all students and guest. The purpose of the library is to collect all types of books which are related to buddhist meditation, philosophy, therorie of perception, history, art and medicine. It offers the oportunity for scientific reseach in all aspects of buddhism.

5 Activities 2008 / 2009

- Classroom restoration in the main building (first floor)
- Washing room construction in the main building (first floor)
- Library reestablishment in a new location, main building (first floor)
- Bying of new book releases and Kangyur covers (library)
- Construction of a student cafeteria in the main building (first floor)
- Organisation of a 10 week study course
- Starting a cooperationwork with ITAS in Spain and their related Library

6 Income and expenses

During 2008 and 2009 Buddhismus Stiftung Diamantweg collected donations in order to support the K.I.B.I. project. The money was transfered in December 2008 and February 2009 via bank account to the K.C.T. and handed over to Kerstin Seifert. It was possible to cover parts of the actual project costs in 2008/2009.

1. Transfer of 6574,- Euro eqaul to the daily exchange rate 42.6324,- Indian Rupees
2. Transfer of 1500,- Euro eqaul to the daily exchange rate 94.250,- Indian Rupees

The overview about the detailed bookeeping is added at the end of this report.

KIBI Foto Report – Restauration 1rst floor - student level



Library





Book Shop



Corridor 1rst level



Classrooms



Coffee Shop





Bathrooms

