

Prediction Letter on the Rebirth of 10th Sangye Nyenpa Rinpocheⁱ

written by HH 16th Karmapa, Rigpe Dorje

Source: Complete Works of HH 16th Karmapaⁱⁱ

ཡང་སངས་རྒྱལ་མཉན་པའི་ཡང་མིང་བརྟག་ཡིག་ལྟ།



Mahasiddha Virupaⁱⁱⁱ, splendour of the teachings who

For beings, intentionally manifests as Denma^{iv};

Dancing display of the epitome of supreme, enlightened activity.

From here, in an eastern direction, a realm of Dharma in a southern region^v

Paro^{vi}, abode of the accomplished Mahaguru.

Head of the household is of poor wealth^{vii} yet a pure family;

The father's name is similar to the name 'sun friend'^{viii}

Mother's name is one associated with 'Dharma'^{ix},

A child of the Dragon year^x, the authentic and supreme emanation itself;

Manifestation of enlightened activity, glorious illumination of the practise instructions;

Holder of the jewel-mala lineage of the actual meaning transmission;

I pray that you tame and bring to maturity all those pervading space in the realm of influence.

བཟུན་པའི་དཔལ་གཅིག་གྲུབ་ཆེན་བཟུང་བ། འགྲོ་ཕྱིར་བསམ་བཞིན་རྣམ་འཕྲུལ་འདན་མ་གྲུབ།
མཚོག་གི་ཕྱིན་ལས་གཅིག་བསྐྱུས་སྐྱུལ་པའི་གར། འདི་ནས་ཤར་ཕྱོགས་སྣོ་ལྗོངས་ཚོས་ཀྱི་ཞིང་།
ཐ་གོ་མ་དུ་གྱུ་བྱ་བའི་གནས། ལྷིམ་བདག་འབྱོར་དམན་རིགས་རུས་གཙང་ལྷན་པ།
པ་མིང་ཉི་མའི་གཉེན་དང་མཚུངས་པའི་མིང་། མ་མིང་ཚོས་ཀྱི་མིང་ཅན་བྱང་འགྲོས་ཀྱིས།
ལྷོ་འབྲུག་ལོ་ཚང་མ་མཚོག་སྐྱུལ་ཉིང་། ཕྱིན་ལས་སྐྱུལ་བ་སྐྱབ་བཟུན་གསལ་བའི་དཔལ།
དོན་བརྒྱན་ལོ་བུའི་ཕྱིང་བའི་བརྒྱན་འཛིན་ཅིང་། མཁའ་ལྷན་གསལ་ཞིང་སྤྲོད་ཅིང་གོས་བར་སྤོམ།

Translated by Adele Tomlin, Bodh Gaya, India, 15th January 2019.

ⁱ The previous 9th Sangye Nyenpa Rinpoche, Geleg Drubpe Nyima (dge legs sgrub pa'i nyi ma, 1897-1962) passed away at Rumtek monastery in Sikkim, aged 66. He was the older brother of H.H. Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche (1910-1991) and the root teacher of Ven. Kyabje Tenga Rinpoche (1932-2012) of Benchen monastery. He was recognized and confirmed as the authentic incarnation of the previous 8th Sangye Nyenpa Tendzin Drubchog, by the 15th Karmapa Kakhyab Dorje (1871-1922).

ⁱⁱ Vol. 3, pp.154-155, from the Collected Writings of H.H. the 16th Karmapa Rangjung Rigpe Dorje (1924-1981); (gsung 'bum/ karma pa bcu drug rang byung rig pa'i rdo rje), collected and compiled by Tashi Tsering Josayma. Tsurphu Labrang and The Amnye Machen Institute, Dharamsala, 2016. TBRC W8LS18007.

ⁱⁱⁱ Sangye Nyenpa Rinpoche is considered to be a manifestation of Virupa (Skt. Virūpa; Tib. bi ru pa or bir wa pa) who was one of the eighty-four mahasiddhas of India and an important source of the teachings set down in the Lamdré of the Sakya school. He is also known by the name Thutob Wangchuk (mthu stobs dbang phyug). Acting as the abbot of Nalanda University, he secretly practised tantra during night time and eventually encountered a vision of Nairatmya who provided him with subsequent empowerments. Due to his controversial tantric behavior after this event he left the university and took the name 'Virūpa' (ugly one).

^{iv} Denma ('dan ma) is the name of the place in Derge, Eastern Tibet where the 1st Sangye Nyenpa Rinpoche was born. The 10th Sangye Nyenpa Rinpoche told me that the Sangye Nyenpas are thus sometimes referred to as 'Denma'. The text states *mdan ma*, but it appears this is a spelling error.

^v At the time this letter was written, the 16th Karmapa was residing in exile in Sikkim. So the place east of Sikkim is Bhutan. The Southern region here could refer to the fact that it was in a southern part of the Paro district or South of Tibet.

^{vi} H.E. the 10th Sangye Nyenpa Rinpoche was born in 1964 at Paro Taktsang, Guru Rinpoche's sacred place, in Bhutan.

^{vii} In 2017, during the lung of the Kangyur that 10th Sangye Nyenpa Rinpoche was giving in Rumtek Monastery, Rinpoche gave a short talk on his life as a tulku and described the family he was born into stating:

'Where was I born? In Bhutan. I was born in Paro Taktsang, Bhutan. You know Paro Taktsang. When I remember my parents, my family, oh, they were poor. They were not among the wealthy, but rather among the destitute. Therefore, they lived in a high region of arid cliffs. They had no land. They had nothing at all. That is the kind of family I was born to.'

<https://www.benchen.org.pl/en/lamas/rinpoches-from-benchen-monastery/his-eminence-the-10th-sangye-nyenpa-rinpoche>

^{viii} The name 'sun friend' (nyi ma'i gnyen, ཉི་མའི་གཉེན) in Tibetan refers to the Shakyamuni Buddha. The 10th Sangye Nyenpa Rinpoche's father's name is *Sangye Legpa* (sangs rgyas legs pa, སངས་རྒྱལ་ལེགས་པ།), which means the 'excellent Buddha'.

^{ix} This corresponds to his mother's name, which is *Tsewang Choden* (tshe dbang chos ldan, ཚེ་དབང་ཚོས་ལྷན) which contains the Tibetan word *chos* (Dharma) that the 16th Karmapa mentions here.

^x The year of the Dragon in the Tibetan lunar cycle corresponds with the western calendar year of 1964, the year the 10th Sangye Nyenpa Rinpoche was born.

