

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Concerning Buddhism in Himalayan regions, there are yet more researches to be done. Few information are available about Buddhism in Bhutan, Ladakh, Manang, Mustang, Solukhumbu and other Himalayan regions. We have planned to publish those articles in question in successive issues of our journal.

In this issue, we have included an article on the life of famous Nepalese Siddha Advayavajra who was the guru of both Marpa and Atisa, on the basis of Sanskrit and Tibetan sources. Among his numerous writings we have included a translation of his minor work on Mahamudra. This translation on Tattva Dasaka was ably translated by Dr. Mark Tatz from California Institute of Integral Studies, Sans Francisco. Guru Advayavajra's contribution in Nepalese society was obvious from his numerous Caryagita songs and ritual manual like Gurumandala rite still used by Nepalese Buddhists.

Two articles on Buddhist Heritage and World peace came from two outstanding Buddhist scholars Dr. Lewis Lancaster, California and Ven. Dr. Rewata Dhamma from England. These two papers were presented in a conference "Buddhist Cooperation for World Peace" held at Taipei, organized by Buddhist Association of Taipei, in 1993.

Another facet of this issue is the article on Eight Medicine Buddhas seldom discussed by Buddhist scholars. Here Dr. Natalia Bolsokhoyeva, a Russian lady from Buryat Republic, contributed this article with her new findings.

Dr. Stanislav Mensikov, another diplomat scholar presented his new ideas on compassion during his paper presentation in a conference : Ecological Responsibility, a Dialogue with Buddhism" held in New Delhi, under the sponsorship of Tibet House.

The article on the Qualities of Buddhahood is an excerpt from a series of lectures on Uttaratantra Shastra of Maitreya, delivered by Venerable Thrangu Rinpoche, a well known Buddhist Master of Kargyudpa sect of Tibetan Buddhism.

Dr. Musashi Tachikawa from Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan ventured to give an account of Dharmadhatuvagishvara Mandala of Kathmandu Valley, a mandala consisting of 253 deities found in Svayambhu under a big Vajra monument.

The article entitled "Hye-cho, the first Korean to visit Nepal" came from the pen of a journalist and traveller Mr. Harihar Raj Joshi. It has made Mr. Joshi the first Nepali to discover "Hye Cho" on Nepal.

Finally, we have planned to reprint some rare out of print sutras, shastras in our successive issues. In this issue a rare restored Sanskrit text of Bhavasankranti Sutra by Pandit Aiswami Shastri originally published (1938) by Adyar Library, Madras, has been reprinted here. We

are grateful to all the contributors and publishers. We acknowledge cooperation from scholars abroad.

To conclude, I must express my deep sincere thanks to my dharma sister Ms. Grace M. H. Chen, Taipei, for sponsoring this meritorious publication of ours joyfully.

i *Buddhist Himalaya*, Vol 5, No. 1 and 2 – 1993