

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



study of Buddhist philosophy and practice in the Himalayan regions i.e. Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan, Central Asia and northern parts of Asia is a fascinating branch of studies in modern curriculum of western Universities. It has significantly changed the minds of people en mass and has contributed much to the benefit of humanity.

Newar and Tibetan Buddhism are two such examples which are the living manifestation of Indian Buddhism of the past which are surviving till today. With the great significant efforts of learned Buddhist masters of Tibet including His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama the light of pure dharma has been shining till today.

On the other hand, due to utter neglect of ruling parties and the outside world is fast disappearing. Due to lack of support from learned Buddhist masters the glory of Newar Buddhism is dwindling. the practice and study of Mahayana and Vajrayana Buddhist studies in Newar Buddhist monasteries is lost. The old Buddhist monasteries are going to be converted into the private apartments. In the past Buddhist masters donated lands and properties for the maintenance of monasteries but today caretaker of temples and monasteries sold these lands and properties. They began to utilize these properties for themselves rather than temples and monasteries. Who is going to take care of all these?

Without the proper care from learned Tibetan Buddhist Masters Vajrayana Buddhism of Newars cannot flourish and develop as in the past. There were Newar Buddhist Masters in the past who were once the guru of Marpa, the translator, and the great Sakyapa and Nyingmapa Masters.

It is imperative for Newar Vajrayana Buddhists that they should seek teachings from Tibetan Buddhist Masters in order to restore their formal status. As Vajrayana Buddhism is the integrated practice of Theravada and Mahayana. Newar Buddhists should not neglect the study of Theravada and Mahayana Buddhist traditions.

In order to promote Newar Buddhist studies we have included here a very popular Dharani text called Arya Amoghapasa Hrdaya Nama Mahayana Sutra prepared by our assistant editors Mr. Mahendra Ratna Vajracharya, and Puspa Raj Vajracharya based on two manuscripts.

We would like to hear reader's comments and suggestions for the improvement of the journal. We apologize for any mistakes and errors.