

MONASTÈRE DORJÉ PAMO - 81500 FIAC



DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) ON SATURDAY, 17 MAY 2025

Director's introduction to the meeting.

Hello everyone,

Before I begin, I would like to thank Geshe Lodèn-La, our precious abbot, for joining us, and all of you for your presence. Geshe-La will no doubt wish to say a few words and guide our motivation.

Prior to the presentation of the annual report, which will be followed by the financial report for the 2024 financial year and finally the provisional budget for 2025, we need to approve the minutes of the 2023 General Assembly, which I sent to you with your invitation.

The Board of Trustees::

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Chair: Venerable Gyaltzen Chökyi

Treasurer: Venerable Tenzin Pèdreun

Secretary: Venerable Thubten Lhamo

Membership and residents

The 'Dorje Pamo Monastery Association' has 12 members (2024: 12 members). This comprises four nuns residing at DP, with the remaining nuns living elsewhere.

At the beginning of 2024, there were four permanent resident nuns:

Venerables Chantal, director, Thubten Lhamo, Chöying and myself. Chökyi, who is usually a permanent resident, left for India until Losar. We also have an English aspirant, Sally Brady. Venerable Métok returned and stayed until the summer to attend the Master's teachings in person.

Visitors:

Professor Janis Willis delighted us with a visit during her tour of the Vajra Yogini Institute in October 2024. It was an enchanting, inspiring and eagerly awaited interlude. We hope to see her again for many years to come.



Véns. Chöying, Chantal, Janis Willis, Véns. Gyaltzen Lhamo et Thubten Lhamo



Vén. Chöying et Janis.

Venerable Robina came to the Institute in December, as she does every year. This allowed us to gather the nuns from the surrounding area at the monastery for a dynamic and joyful time.

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Our Abbot Guéshé Loden and nuns from the wider community with Vénérable Robina Courtin.



Guéshé-La always appreciates his conversations with Ven Robina.

Venerable René Feusi also visited us at the monastery after leading a splendid retreat on 'Mental Calm and Bodhicitta' at Nalanda. He enjoyed our famous organic apple juice.



Véns. Th.Lhamo, Chantal, René, Chökyi, G.Lhamo et Michèle.

Education & retreats

The spiritual development of the community is the main focus of our activities. Sally (formerly K. Lhamo) took the Getsulma vows with Geshe Gyaltzen at Nalanda on 2 August 2024 and is now called Gyaltzen Lhamo.

In February, teachings resumed at Nalanda; most of the nuns continue to study *The Ornament of Clear Realisation*.

After the Losar celebrations, we participated in the 2nd Great Festival of Prayers in the West: The Monlam Chenmo organised by Nalanda.

We continued our studies at the monastery on the text of Lojong [Transformation of the Mind], with our abbot, Geshe Tenzin Lodèn-La.

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We are now getting to the heart of the subject, after more than a year of preliminaries!

Wednesday meditations continue with the appreciated contribution of Th.Lhamo, who incorporates topics and methods from the 16 attitudes.

Major Events

1. Spiritual:

Rinpoche entered parinirvana on 13 April 2023, and every year a celebration is held on this date throughout the FPMT, particularly in Kopan. We celebrated by inviting students to watch videos, slide shows and sutra readings.



Kudung de Kyabjé Zopa Rinpoché à Kopan

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Kyabjé Zopa Rinpoché's substances relics.

Visite de Kyabjé Ling Rinpoché



Ling Rinpoche at DP, with the Geshes and directors of Nalanda and IVY, after a delicious lunch..

Visite du Vénérable Tsenshab Serkong Rinpoché



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Visite de Yangsi Rinpoché



Yangsi Rinpoche

2. Administrative matters:

- FPMT Europe: Ven. Chökyi represented MDP at the meeting in London.
- Maintenance of links with the UBF.
- Receipt of the statue of Padmasambhava.
- Receipt of the 108 volumes of the Kangyur (Lhasa edition); the coverings symbols were done by and the volumes placed in the Gompa alcoves.
- Completion of kitchen work, purchase of equipment and handover with training in the use of the oven and dishwasher.



The Kangyur texts are wrapped and labelled and placed in the Gomba.



Ornate statue of Guru Rinpoche sent from Nepal.

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Dharma Activities

Daily practices have been adjusted to respond to world events, according to the instructions of Rinpoche and our abbot. All nuns gather together every morning and evening for daily prayers. This is followed by study and community tasks/housekeeping, cooking, gardening, administration, etc. Outside of the summer period [July-August], regular activities have been offered:

Celebration of the 4 great holy days [düchen]: Losar, Saka Dawa, Descent of Tushita and Lama Tsong Khapa's birthday with pujas and reading of sutras. Not to mention the commemorative pujas for our Masters/LY and LZR.

Weekly Wednesday meditations on successive topics: Mindfulness & Lam Rim, guided by Ven. Chantal and Ven. Peldreun. In addition, Ven. Lhamo has guided meditations on an alternating basis, an Introduction to the 16 Attitudes, or meditation on a chosen theme.

Practices of Calm Abiding, guided by Ven. Chantal. A single full-day 'retreat' in 2024.

Bi-monthly Lama Choepa – Tsok pujas

Once again this year, the pujas for the 4 mandalas at Cittamani Tara were not performed. We resumed the pujas at Medicine Buddha in 2025.

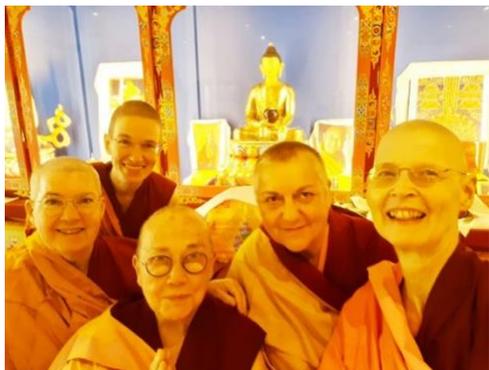
However, on an individual basis, the nuns were able to get involved in translation-interpretation and teachings at the FPMT centres in Toulouse. [And during 2024 in two centres in Switzerland].

Finally, the Getsulma residents regularly participated in the Sojong ritual at Nalanda. The Bikshunis gathered at the monastery for their own Sojong.

Regarding the opening and closing ceremonies of the traditional rainy season retreat (Yarné and Gayé): in 2024, two nuns (Chökyi and Lhamo) participated, and we hope that some will be able to do so in Sept-Oct 2025.

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The Bikshunis often meet to do their Sojong at DP; here during the visit of Ven. Robina and Ven. T. Palmo at the beginning of 2023.



Communication

A newsletter was published this year in December 2024, in both French and English,

We have a better-documented website, accessible for registration for various activities, with a programme and booking facility. Programs are also available on our WhatsApp groups.

We have added a 'Project List' to our website to facilitate support for the construction of our new kitchen and also for equipping it. We have also invited support for the purchase of statues and books (and recently to encourage sponsorship of the future stupa). A Facebook page is also updated with photos of our events.

Open Day 2024: A resounding success



Guéshé Loden est venu répondre aux questions lors de la Journée Portes Ouvertes

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We organised tours of the monastery and grounds, a photo exhibition which showed the history of the place, a slideshow showing how it was transformed into a habitable place thanks to volunteers, as well as two introductory meditation sessions.

It was a very popular event. We were surprised to receive so many people, around 80 in total. Some people who tried the meditation sessions are now returning regularly to our 'Wednesday Meditations'. The monastery is a place of peace and tranquillity, ideal for meditation.

Environment and building

1 Environment

- Wonderful help from Jean-Yves and Éric with grounds maintenance.
- Remarkable apple production. Over 2.5 tonnes of fruit. We obtained 230 bottles of organic juice.
- Some plum jams and tarts.

2 Building

- Fire protection. Annual fire extinguisher inspection carried out at the end of the year;
- Heating:
 - Chimney sweeping of the boiler and living room stove; annual maintenance carried out in September.
 - The purchase of a pellet hopper vibrator and dust removal system for last year proved to be positive. The change of pellet supplier: Energie Bois, also very satisfactory.
- Treatment of walls against damp: postponed due to the very high estimated cost. However, a volunteer (Tenphel, who has already worked upstairs) has offered to paint the entrance hall. Still awaiting confirmation.

Kitchen work. Finished at the end of April 2024; very satisfactory, although it is not yet being used to its full potential. A few adjustments need to be made to the kitchen doors.



New kitchen in operation, thanks to the volunteers, for Ling Rinpoche's reception, April 2024.

Projets



A drawing of the Stupa of Awakening.

2025:

In December and January we had two nuns present at DP: Chantal and Chökyi. We also currently have two visiting nuns staying: Ven. Chödrön from the LTK Institute in Italy where she is studying, and Ven. Choezin, an experienced nun from the Nyingma tradition, who came to experience our monastery for three weeks. The monastery switched to Spanish time because one was Spanish/French and the other Argentinean. We really appreciated this change.

The other two resident nuns, Ven. Chöying and Ven. G. Lhamo, returned in February after a rather studious break, as Lhamo, in particular, went to Dharamsala for a language course. They then resumed their PEBA and Master's courses at Nalanda.

Losar 2025: Participation in the 2nd Monlam in Nalanda, and reception of the abbot of Kopan, Khen Rinpoche Geshe Thubten Chönyi at DP.



Khen Rinpoché, abbé de Kopan, avec notre abbé Guéshé Loden et les moniales dans la Gompa de DP pour la première fois.

CPMT in Kopan, 6-11 April: "Advancing our Masters' vision for a world guided by compassion and wisdom".

Ven. Chantal and Chökyi travelled to Nepal for the week-long meeting, which was intense and beneficial. This was followed by a week-long retreat on the text 'The Wheel with Sharp Blades' for Ven. Chantal; 180 people were present, representing 70 FPMT centres.

Then a short pilgrimage to Maratika; Namö Buddha and Swayambunath. Numerous purchases were made in Bodhnath for the monastery: Kangyur and Sung Bum by Djé Lama Tsong Kapa and his two sons for the future stupa, as well as numerous medicinal ingredients, incense, khata, canopy for the Buddha in the Gompa, etc.

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New Open Day: Postponed until autumn 2025 or spring 2026.

Saka Dawa on 11 June 2025: with blessings offered to all, thanks to the holy relic of Kyabjé LZR received during the CPMT.

Visit Yangsi Rinpoche scheduled for August.

Probable visits from Jan Willis in October and Ven Robina in December.

Continuing activities: Lojong teachings; Shiné/Mental Calm Day; Wednesday meditations guided by 3 nuns in person and on Zoom.

Fiac community grocery store: Continue our participation. Offer 2 hours of work per month.

Future Plans

- Roll mantras (Sokzhing received) to complete the statue of Guru Rinpoche.
- Filling of the statue. Consecration ceremony and placement in the altar.
- Construction of a 'Enlightenment' stupa, already partially sponsored, on the land opposite the Gompa. Start of masonry work in autumn. Meeting with specialist at the end of May.
- Continue purchasing altar statues: possibly Lama Atisha.
- Project for the nuns to participate in the Prayer Group organised by the IMI for the deceased, the sick, etc.
- - FSS 24-28 September in IVY: Possible participation of Ven. Chöying and Ven. G. Lhamo.
- **Project** for the nuns to participate in the Prayer Group organised by the IMI for the deceased, the sick, etc.
- **FSS 24-28 septembre à IVY :** Participation of Vén. Chöying et Vén. G. Lhamo.



Painting Lama Atisha at the Kopan nunnery.

Support / Volunteering

Many of our maintenance activities were undertaken or facilitated by volunteers: Jean-Yves and Eric in the garden and maintenance, Ven. Jamyang and all the monks who came to help from Nalanda; Robin, Ven. Yéshé, Tenphel, Elsa Banik, and all those who responded, especially "the Friends of DP," to help us cut, roll, and coat the mantras. Furthermore, none of our activities would have been possible without our donors, who contribute to the maintenance of our monastery, and thereby to the maintenance of the Dharma.



The « Friends of Dorje Pamo » came to help us roll the mantras before they were placed inside the statue of Guru Rinpoche.



Vén. Peldreun and Anton, who don't keep track of the hours spent doing the accounts.

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Venerable Peldreun will now present a brief overview of our financial situation for the year 2024, as well as the provisional budget for 2025.

(See separate Financial Report)