



## Re-Establishing the Bodong Tradition of Tibetan Buddhism



**A Conversation with Geshe Pema Dorjee**

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

**6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

**Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center  
1430 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138**

Please come join us at TBRC for a free, informal discussion with Geshe Pema Dorjee.  
All are welcome.

**Re-establishing Bodong as an authentic tradition:**

- What does it mean to re-establish a Buddhist tradition?
- What components are still missing in order to complete the revival?
- How are the scattered pieces being assembled and patched together?
- How does Geshe-la know what is missing?
- What questions does Geshe-la have that he himself cannot answer yet?

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**BIOGRAPHY OF GESHE PEMA DORJEE**

Geshe Pema Dorjee was born in Tibet. After escaping with his family from the invading Chinese, he moved to Dharamsala, India where he attained an undergraduate degree and two Masters degrees in Buddhist Philosophy. For the next 16 years, he dedicated himself to the Tibetan Children's Village School where he began as a teacher and then became Principal and finally the Director of the school.

As a result of further studies in Buddhist philosophy, he was awarded the Geshe degree, the highest degree that can be earned in Tibetan Buddhist education, the equivalent of a Ph.D. (Geshe Pema Dorjee is one of the few Buddhists with a Geshe degree who is fluent in English.) He became Principal of the Tibetan Teachers Training Center and then the first Principal of the Institute of Buddhist Dialectics, now called the

College for Higher Tibetan Studies.

In 2001, the Dalai Lama asked him to revive an important part of Tibetan Buddhism, the Bodong tradition, that had fallen into desuetude. Accordingly, Pema Dorjee founded and became Director of the Bodong Research and Publication Center in Dharamsala.

The Tibetan government-in-exile has honored Geshe Pema Dorjee by asking him to undertake various tasks. The Cabinet appointed him to the Higher Level Textbook Review Committee. His Holiness appointed him as a member of the Public Service Commission. The Department of Health appointed him as spiritual counselor to former political prisoners who had been tortured.

Geshe Pema Dorjee has taken on the responsibility of organizing, directing, and raising funds for numerous charitable projects. He helped to establish a Buddhist monastery in Nepal in the Bodong tradition. He is a Trustee of the Bright Horizon Children's Home, an orphanage in Nepal. He has organized and is directing various social work projects in Nepal and India. These projects include establishing schools; creating a safe house for street children; helping young people in Tibetan refugee camps; introducing toilets, safe water, and modern stoves to Himalayan villages; and providing medical care to the sick and injured in these remote villages.

Since 1997, he has lectured and taught in countries around the world, including Sweden, England, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, Finland, Norway, France, Estonia, and Israel. Each year since 2009, Geshe Pema Dorjee has lectured and taught courses in the United States, including New York, Cambridge, Minneapolis, Portland, and San Francisco.

<http://pema-dorjee.org/about-pema/>

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