

Inaugural Transmission of the Je Tsongkhapa Sadhana

Root Guru Living Buddha Lian Sheng disclosed he will bestow the initiation empowerment of Je Tsongkhapa Sadhana during Seattle Temple's fall ceremony on September 8, 2018. On May 15th, in the True Buddha Foundation office, Root Guru specified the particulars of the making of the statue and thangka of Je Tsongkhapa. On May 17th, Root Guru gave further guidelines on the creation of the Je Tsongkhapa thangka painting. Based on these instructions and Root Guru's article on the Je Tsongkhapa's Sadhana, the most important elements are reported below.

Je Tsongkhapa is visualized as sitting in a vajra position on the moon disc in a lotus flower. (The practitioner should imagine a lion-throne on top of the head. On the throne is a lotus flower with the moon disc in it. Sitting on the moon disc is Je Tsongkhapa.) His hands are in the Dharmachakra Mudra, while holding a long stem lotus flower in each hand. The right lotus is adorned with a flaming Wisdom Sword. The left lotus holds a book of Prajnaparamita Sutra. Je Tsongkhapa wears a yellow robe and dons a yellow pandit's hat. He is enveloped in a bright Orb of Wisdom.

Additionally, above Je Tsongkhapa at the very top are Buddhas of the Three Times (Dipankara, Shakyamuni (in the middle) and Maitreya). Below the three buddhas are the Lords of the Three Families (Avalokiteshvara, Manjushri (in the middle) and Vajrapani). Below Je Tsongkhapa are the three dharma protectors: Yellow Jambhala, Yamantaka (in the middle) and Chakrasamvara. Therefore, Manjushri is directly on top of Je Tsongkhapa, with Yamantaka directly below him. The seed syllable of Je Tsongkhapa is a yellow "Ah".

There are two versions of the Je Tsongkhapa mantra. 1) Om, be-dza, tsongkhapa, ge-lu, so-ha. 2) Om, ah, hum, be-dza, tsongkhapa, ge-lu, so-ha. Je Tsongkhapa is the emanation of Manjushri. He accomplished buddhahood during his lifetime. Je Tsongkhapa founded the Gelug tradition of Tibetan Buddhism.

Root Guru expounded the entire volume of Je Tsongkhapa's Great Treatise on the Stages of Mantra. On the first day of teaching on July 13th, 1994, Root Guru saw Je Tsongkhapa emerge in the sky, radiating innumerable fine threads of golden light. Je Tsongkhapa then formed an union with Root Guru.

On September 5th, 1996, Gelug's highest lama and throne holder, the 100th Ganden Tripa – H.E. Lobsang Nyima visited the Seattle temple and joined Root Guru in co-presiding the fall ceremony. H.E. the 100th Ganden Tripa Lobsang Nyima also presented the dharma robe representing the successive lineage of Gelug tradition to Root Guru.