## A Biography of Repkong Lama Tsedrup Tharchin Rinpoche

Lama Tsedrup Tharchin Rinpoche was a beloved Dzogchen master of the Nyingma Dudjom Tersar lineage. He was born in the Fire Rat Year of 1936 in Kongpo, southern Tibet. His father was a mahasiddha of the yogin community of Gökar Sermo Jong, in Repkong, Amdo, Far Eastern Tibet. Lama Tharchin Rinpoche was the tenth-generation descendant of Kyanglung Palchen Namkha Jigme (1757-1821), the founder of the Repkong Ngak-Mang 1900 Phurba Holders. His mother was from Kham and descended from a minister of King Gesar.

Lama Tharchin Rinpoche began his Dharma studies with his father, Lama Chime Dorje, Doring Tulku, Kushab Gyurme, and others. His root masters were his uncle, Ngakchang Lama Sherab Dorje Rinpoche, Dudjom Rinpoche Jigdral Yeshe Dorje, Chatral Sangye Dorje Rinpoche, and Dungse Thinley Norbu Rinpoche. At Lamaling in Kongpo, in his twenties, Rinpoche completed a five-year solitary and a traditional three-year retreat. He was highly regarded for his accomplishments in textual study, ritual, torma making, and the sacred arts.

In 1960, Rinpoche traveled on foot to India as part of the Tibetan exodus. He settled in Orissa, serving Dudjom Rinpoche at Dudul Rabten Ling. In 1980, he moved to Nepal, serving as Chatral Sangye Dorje Rinpoche's editor. After a few years in Taiwan, in 1984, he came to the USA, where he established Vajrayana Foundation and Pema Ösel Ling in the California Santa Cruz mountains. In 1992, he founded Orgyen Dechen Chö Dzong, a retreat center on the Big Island of Hawai'i.

It was at Rinpoche's request that Thinley Norbu Rinpoche wrote "A Cascading Waterfall of Nectar" and "A Ruby Necklace That Delights the Awareness-Holder Dakinis," a commentary on Dudjom Rinpoche's "The Pearl Necklace."

On the fifteenth day of the sixth month of the Water Snake Year 2013 (July 22, 2013), Lama Tharchin Rinpoche dissolved his body-mandala into *dharmata*. His center was left under the guidance of Dudjom Rinpoche III Sangye Pema Shepa, Dzongsar Khyentse Rinpoche, and Lama Sonam Tsering. His teachings are preserved and disseminated through the Lama Tharchin Rinpoche Heritage Foundation, Heart Teachings by Lama Tharchin Rinpoche, Bero Jeydren Publications, and Jnanasukha Foundation under the guidance of Lama Dechen Yeshe Wangmo, whom he enthroned in 1992.