



TIBETAN NUNS PROJECT

Empower the nuns with media equipment

Stories matter. Traditionally Tibetan Buddhist nuns have been a quiet presence in the world. They have little or no opportunity to tell their own stories. Now you can empower these brave and dedicated women to share their words and images with the world.

We have launched a campaign to raise funds for more media equipment so that nuns at 7 nunneries in northern India will be able to share their news.

This is the next phase in an ongoing process to help the nuns. The Tibetan Nuns Project has been working for over 30 years and provides education, food, shelter, and health care to over 700 nuns. Most of the nuns arrived in exile with no education and unable to even write their names.

At Dolma Ling Nunnery and Institute, one of the two nunneries built and fully supported by the Tibetan Nuns Project, there is now an active Nuns Media Team. A special group of nuns received training from overseas volunteers. Now they are now passing on their knowledge to other nuns. Venerable Delek Yangdron, the supervisor of the Nuns Media Team, has trained several nuns in still and video photography, in interview techniques, and in cutting and editing footage to make videos. The nuns have already produced a series of videos on life at Dolma Ling, the Tibetan Nuns Project and Shugsep Nunnery.

Currently the nuns write, edit, and publish their own annual magazine and also prepare the annual Tibetan Nuns Project calendar that is an income earner for the nunnery. These are both achievements to be proud of given that so many nuns were illiterate on arrival in India.

We are seeking support to purchase the following equipment:

| Media Equipment for the Nuns | Cost per Item | Qty | TOTAL |
|---|---------------|-----|----------------|
| High-capacity external back-up hard drive | \$350 | 1 | \$350 |
| Tripod case | \$30 | 1 | \$30 |
| Point and shoot digital cameras for 6 nunneries | \$420 | 6 | \$2,520 |
| Mac computer | \$3,500 | 1 | \$3,500 |
| 3-year service contract for the computer | \$200 | 1 | \$200 |
| Final Cut Pro Editing Software | \$400 | 1 | \$400 |
| Administrative Support | | | \$840 |
| Total Media Equipment for the Nuns | | | \$7,840 |



From Illiteracy to Tech-Savvy Teacher: One Nun's Story

Delek Yangdrön is one of the most senior nuns in Dolma Ling Nunnery and Institute. She arrived in India in the winter of 1990 in the first group to form the newly founded Institute.

Illiterate on arrival, she began her education in Buddhist studies and progressed to completion of the first year of Vinaya studies. She was among the first group of nuns to receive training in computer skills and, because of her special interest in this area, she began teaching in the Dolma Ling computer room, providing basic computer education to the other nuns while continuing her own studies.

While in charge of the computer room, Delek Yangdrön designed the nuns' yearly magazine and helped a senior Dolma Ling teacher with design for his book on full ordination for nuns.



While Delek Yangdrön worked in the computer room, she learned Final Cut Pro video editing software and videography. The nunnery established a media section under her supervision. Along with documenting activities, the media section also makes staff and nuns' ID cards for Dolma Ling and Shugsep, burns CDs and DVDs, and copies Buddhist teachings on to MP3s for the nuns.

In 2010, Delek Yangdrön made a short video of the month-long Jang Gonchoe debate session at Dolma Ling. Many nuns bought the video and sent it to their families in Tibet, who were happy to see the nuns doing so well in their Buddhist studies. The nuns there were encouraged that a nun had made the video herself.

Please Help Empower the Nuns With Media Equipment

There are many ways that you can help the nuns' fulfill their aspirations to have vibrant media teams at all the nunneries and to empower them to be able to tell their own stories.

PLEASE DONATE

- Online at www.tnp.org
- By phone by calling (206) 652-8901, 10 am to 4 pm weekdays, PST
- By mail with a check or money order to the Tibetan Nuns Project, 815 Seattle Blvd. South, Ste. 216 Seattle, WA 98134 US (for media equipment)

India Office

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