

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Dream comes true!
School "Nga Gyur
Shed Dup Choe Ling"
Completed In Sep-
tember 2008
- VDF @ Tibet Fest
2008
- Helping A Child One
At A Time
- Wisdom: Interview
With Sonam
Rinpoche

Education - Roots to a Brighter Future

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The School is here—Dream comes true

It was the middle of September 2008 when we received the good news from Tibet. The school and home for the sixty plus orphans and poor children has completed!

This is a dream comes true for Sonam Rinpoche who has always wanted to improve the lives of the unfortunate children through education.

This is project that have a strong grass-root support from the local community. The construction of the project were led by Tashi Rinpoche and Khenpo Losal,

The construction started in April 2008. It was built with mud and wood by the local craftsmen and the villagers. The outside of the building is beautifully painted to reflect the colorful Tibetan culture. Altogether there are 2 teacher quarters, 12 student quarters and one big classroom.

Each room can accommodate 4 students comfortably up to maximum of 6. ...Continued on page 2.



The newly completed school "Nga Gyur Shed Dup Choe Ling". On the right is a close up photo of the student quarters.



Helping a child one at a time

As you know Fall is here and the cold weather has arrived, so does the cold wind gust on Tibetan mountains and plateaus. The school 'Nga Gyur Shed Dup Choe Ling' is located around 12,000 ft above sea level, an average height of Tibetan mountains. The school has started

accepting children in Fall this year. The children are either orphans (given top priority) or very poor children from local villages. The children will live and study in the same school compound. The children ages range between 6 and 14 years old. These children do not even

know how to read or write their own names. This will be the very first formal education for all of them. The current academic strategy emphasizes on basic education; much like an K or 1st grade. It is our mission to improve the lives of the Tibetan needy children ...continue on page 3

VDF @ Tibet Fest, Seattle Center



Tibet Fest August 23 and 24, 2008

Saturday was a beautiful day. The sun was shining and people showed up early to watch the performances and to browse the booths. We had a lot of people coming up to the booth, either to read about the project, or to donate.

Estra's posters were not hard to miss at all and it really emphasized who we are and what we do.

We talked to many people, like Jennifer, who wanted to donate her time, and like Avis,

Brian and Debbie, who donated for the blanket drive. We also met with local Tibetans who have expressed interest to help out. The grassroots support has been tremendous.

Many thanks to Estra and Anna, who spent several hours on Saturday and Sunday to help out at the booth. Their lovely presence helped to generate more visitors and they helped to answer lots of questions.

The **blanket drive** managed only to get 8 donations while the **clothing and shoes drive** got 3 donations. THANK YOU for all who donated!

As winter approaches, we will continue to strive to provide to as many children as possible. The **target** is for all 60+ children. Please support us by spreading the word about VDF.

For more pictures of the Tibet Fest, please visit www.vdfus.org/photo/ and select 2008 Tibet Fest.

“Q: How do you generate compassion within oneself?”

Wisdom: Check out the recorded interview with Sonam Rinpoche on “Compassion”. Many of us are wandering the same questions about compassion, such as:

“Q: How do you generate compassion within oneself?”

“Q: Can you give if or when you are not feeling happy?”

“Q: How do you choose where to apply your compassion with the time and resources you have?”

The interview was shot last year in Dec 2007. Please visit www.vdfus.org/videos.htm



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The building is single level. Right side of the student quarters is a huge classroom building (photo above). Left side of student quarter are teachers' quarters.

The school is named “Nga Gyur Shed Dup Choe Ling” which literally means “The

Early Translated Dharma Teaching and Study Center” in Tibetan. Due to the remoteness of the school, there is no electricity nor water supply. The student quarters are smartly positioned to face East to get maximum light into the room.

Even without the heat, to the Tibetan kids, they are seeing a big improvement moving from

a **yak-hair tent** into a building and they will be much warmer in their NEW HOME.

Truly a dream comes true.

To learn more on the project, please visit

<http://www.vdfus.org/project.htm>

New faces at new school





Vajrayana Dharma Foundation (VDF)
Education - Roots to a Brighter Future

Mission: To provide a home and education opportunity for needy Tibetan children and seniors in Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture (Eastern Tibet), China.

The project is initiated by **Sonam Rinpoche**, a native Tibetan, who was recognized as the reincarnation of Ahzom Losel Rinpoche by **H.H. 14th Dalai Lama** and H.H. Dordrubchan Rinpoche. Rinpoche has earned the title "Khenpo", which is equivalent to a Ph. D, after 18 years of Buddhism philosophy studies in Tibet and India.

To read more on Sonam Rinpoche, the school development or how you can help, please go to our web site www.vdfus.org
 For questions, please email Wendy Wong at wwong@vdfus.org

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Continue from pg 1... by providing them with education and a warm place to call HOME. Please help to sponsor a kid for \$30/month for 1 year. For **less than \$1 a day**, your donation will cover the **food, clothing, shelter and teachers compensation for one child**. You may choose to do a one time payment (\$360), or choose automatic credit card payments of \$180 every half year or \$30 every month. Thank you for helping the children.

Tibetan Children Sponsoring Form

Name: _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 Birthday (DD/MM): _____ Telephone: _____
 I agreed for automatic charges of my credit card for (please circle):
 Once/month (\$30 x12), Half yearly (\$180 x 2), One time payment (\$360) or Other Amount _____
 Name of card: _____ Type (please circle): Master, Visa, Am Ex
 Card billing address (if different from above): _____
 Credit card number: _____
 3 or 4 digit codes: _____ Expiration (MM/YYYY): _____
 Alternate payment method: Via check payable to "**VDF**" or "**Vajrayana Dharma Foundation**" or online payment via Paypal, please visit www.vdfus.org/donate.htm
 Your donation is tax deductible.