

Brief Introduction of the 800th Maha Parinirvana of Lord Jigten Sumgon

In year 1979, we celebrated an event in Phyang that was the 800th founding anniversary of Drikung Thil monastery. It was found by Lord Jigten Sumgon at the age of 35. He entered into Maha Parinirvana when he was 75 years old.

This year we are celebrating the 800th Commemoration of Lord Jigten Sumgon's Maha Parinirvana. During this event, all followers of Drikung Kagyu centres across the world will be gathering at Jangchubling monastery in Dehradun, India.

Such a grand event has never happened before in the over 600 years' history of Drikung Kagyu monasteries in Ladakh. This will be a once in a lifetime to witness such a grand event. I urge that 75% of worldwide Drikung Kagyu followers should attend this event.

In order to commemorate the 800th Maha Parinirvana of Lord Jigten Sumgon, the International Drikung Kagyu Council is preparing an extensive offering of Body, Speech, Mind, Qualities and Activities. Accommodation and food will be arranged for the devotees.

After two weeks of this event, the Shravasti inauguration ceremony will be held in Shravasti. For Ladakhi devotees those who have time, it would be nice to make a pilgrimage to Nepal during these two weeks. The weather will be favourable by then. On your way back through Lumbini, you can pay a short visit to Shravasti. Accommodation and meal will be provided but you will have register your name in order to apply for the badge/ID.

This year on this occasion, the Drukpa Kagyu lineage will be invited as a guest of honour. A formal invitation has already been sent to His Holiness Je Khenpo of Bhutan and His Holiness Gyalwang Drukpa.