



PROGRAMME 2010

KARMA BERCHEN LING, GREECE

72-HOUR PROSTRATION RETREAT: MAY 21-24

BUILDING PERIOD AND COURSE PREPARATION: FROM JULY 15 TO AUGUST 20

KALACHAKRA MEDITATION AND STUPA INAUGURATION: AUGUST 21-23

MAHAMUDRA (GREAT SEAL) COURSE WITH LAMA OLE NYDAHL: AUGUST 24-27

8TH KARMAPA RETREAT: OCTOBER 2-9

"The construction of a stupa leads to growing peace in the whole area. It protects the freedom and the equality of the people. In order to build a stupa, positive outer and inner conditions need to appear, both within the practitioners and the society itself."
Lopon Tsechu Rinpoche



Kalachakra Stupa 2010

DEAR FRIENDS WORLDWIDE,

Lopon Tsechu Rinpoche once said, "In order to build a Stupa, a lot of good conditions, wishes and good Karma need to come together." After 20 years, the time has come: The Kalachakra Stupa in Berchen Ling will be inaugurated in 2010. Everyone is most welcome to take part in this very special event.

72-HOUR PROSTRATION RETREAT: MAY 21-24

Like every year, the season will start with a 72-hour prostration retreat. Once again we would like to invite you to participate in the most beautiful and meaningful Sangha activity, i.e. meditating together.

Costs: € 15,- per day (all meals included)

BUILDING PERIOD AND COURSE PREPARATION: FROM JULY 15 TO AUGUST 20

This summer, we are expecting the largest course we have ever had at Berchen Ling. Therefore, we need to build a Gompa-tent, a dining-tent, toilets, showers, etc. For the main preparation of the summer course, we will need 50 to 100 volunteers to assist on site. If you have the time and surplus, please come and share your skills to make this dream a reality.

Costs: € 15,- per day (all meals included) Registration: get-involved@berchenling.org

KALACHAKRA MEDITATION AND STUPA INAUGURATION: AUGUST 21-23

August 21: Lama Chogdrup Dorje and Lama Ole Nydahl will place the tree of life in the Kalachakra Stupa. Thereafter, we will meditate on Kalachakra until the morning of August 23.

August 23: The Kalachakra Stupa will be inaugurated by Lama Chogdrup Dorje and Lama Ole Nydahl. In the afternoon, the official celebration will take place with guests from the Greek local authorities as well as people from the surrounding area.

Costs: € 40,- per day (all meals included). A discounted price of € 35,- per day is available to everyone who makes an early payment on or before July 1st.

Registration will start online on June 1st: www.berchenling.org.

MAHAMUDRA (GREAT SEAL) COURSE WITH LAMA OLE NYDAHL: AUGUST 24-27

The Mahamudra (Great Seal) course will be held by Lama Ole Nydahl. He will give lectures every day at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. In the mornings, everyone is welcome to meditate in the tent, outside or in the nearby caves, and we are always grateful when people assist with all of the daily tasks we have on site.

Costs: € 40,- per day (all meals included). A discounted price of EUR 35 per day is available to everyone who makes an early payment on or before July 1st. Registration will start online on June 1st: www.berchenling.org.

8TH KARMAPA RETREAT: OCTOBER 2-9

A beautiful ending to the summer season and a special event for 8th Karmapa practitioners: we will again close the season with an 8th Karmapa retreat this autumn. As in previous years, this retreat will be guided by a travelling teacher.

Costs: € 25,- per day (all meals included)

KALACHAKRA STUPA INAUGURATION 2010

Stupas are Buddhist monuments, which express the nature of mind and the universe. In manifold ways, they symbolize not only the Buddha state, "body, speech and mind inseparable," but also the entire path through the ten Bodhisattva levels and full enlightenment.

There are eight basic types of stupas described in the Sutras, which represent important events in the life of Buddha Shakyamuni. The non-dual Maha-Anuttarayoga Tantra (the highest teachings Buddha ever gave) contains descriptions of the Kalachakra Stupa, a ninth and very rare type of stupa. The great Lopon Tsechu Rinpoche built one of these Kalachakra Stupas at the Karma Guen retreat centre in Spain in 1994.

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE:

The Kalachakra Stupa in KBL will be built and inaugurated under the spiritual guidance of Lama Chogdrup Dorje and Lama Ole Nydahl.



Lama Chogdrup Dorje is one of the most experienced Lamas concerning Kalachakra Stupas and has done long meditation retreats on this Buddha aspect. He received the Kalachakra transmission from Bokar Rinpoche, who had received it directly from Kalu Rinpoche. Lama Chogdrup Dorje was recommended by Shamar Rinpoche and Hannah Nydahl very often.



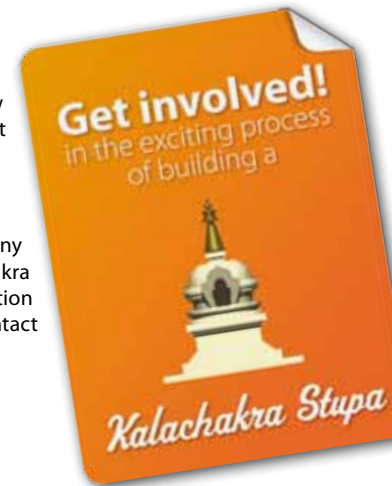
Lama Ole Nydahl and his wife Hannah were among the first Western students of the 16th Gyalwa Karmapa, the first incarnate lama of Tibet. Since then, they have founded more than 600 Diamond Way Buddhist Centres around the world under the spiritual guidance of the 17th Gyalwa Karmapa, Trinley Thaye Dorje. Lama Ole took several initiations in Kalachakra from different lineage holders and especially he got the whole transmission from Lopon Tsechu Rinpoche.

SHARE YOUR SKILLS

Everyone is encouraged to come and help in making this very special dream a reality. We established a human-resources team, which will help you to get involved. Please inform us via e-mail (get-involved@berchenling.org) when you will arrive, how long you will stay and how many people will be travelling with you. Please be advised that we will not be able to provide a shuttle service this year.

FINANCE & DONATIONS

"Get your brick for the stupa!" - This is our fundraising idea to get as many Diamond Way Buddhist Centres involved in the building of the Kalachakra Stupa as possible. Every centre can purchase a brick via a donation of € 1,080. To share the merit with your entire Sangha, please contact donation@berchenling.org. For banking details, please see last page. Thank you.



PROGRAMME 2010 IN KARMA BERCHEN LING



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

LOCATION & EQUIPMENT

As KBL is located at an altitude of approximately 1,270 meters, the nights can get rather chilly, even during the usually very hot Greek summers, and extremely cold in September. The place is known by the locals as the "place of the five winds," and there have been a few very strong storms. KBL is very remote, and there are no paved roads, shops or supermarkets in the vicinity. This requires organising special preparations and equipment beforehand.

Please make sure to bring:

- a strong and waterproof tent capable of surviving at least medium storms,
- a warm sleeping bag (as you would use in spring/autumn in Central Europe),
- warm clothes for the evenings,
- a wind and water-resistant jacket,
- a torch (i.e. "flashlight"),
- good hiking shoes,
- a hat and strong sun block,
- and enough cash for your entire stay.

If you take medication on a regular basis, please bring enough for your entire stay in Greece.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The technical infrastructure of KBL is extremely limited. Water is a very rare resource. During the summer course, you will not be able to wash clothes or take showers. Therefore, please bring enough clothes for your entire stay as well as "wet wipes." Furthermore, it will not be possible to charge any electrical devices (e.g. mobile phones, computers, etc.) or use electrical sockets on site.

CHILDREN

In general, children are most welcome at Karma Berchen Ling. However, we will have very special conditions during the course this summer. Therefore, we cannot provide organized child care this year.

DIRECTIONS

Please be advised that we will not be able to provide a shuttle service this year. Please organize your own transportation to and from the site. We have negotiated a special rental-car contract for course participants who arrive at Athens Airport. For directions to KBL from Athens Airport or Patras Port or to hire a car at our reduced rates (you must make your reservation via the following link), please see: www.berchenling.org

BUDDHIST CENTER ATHENS-ACROPOLIS

<http://www.buddhism-athens.org> Athens-Acropolis@diamondway-center.org

BANK ACCOUNT

Owner of the account: Buddhismus-Stiftung Diamantweg
Bank name: Commerzbank Hamburg,
Germany Bank code: 200 400 00
Account number: 6288088 01
IBAN: DE31 2004 0000 0628 8088 01 BIC (Swift-Code): COBADEFFXXX



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