

THE DAGPO EDUCATIONAL FUND

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

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FOREWORD

We are delighted to be able to offer you this annual report.

In 2014, we have mainly worked on the complete renovation of the website. It is now available for use on mobile devices too. It took a lot of effort, but we are ultimately satisfied with the results. We hope to enrich the site with more visual material in the future, to be able to accurately convey the traditions, with the Dagpo Shedrub Ling monastery at the base of them, to possible donators and anyone else interested.

For other activities and developments we encourage you to read the report.

INTRODUCTION

In the 2014 annual report you will, firstly, find general information about the TDEF Foundation, the organisational structure and the contact details. Furthermore, the most important activities and developments of 2014 are mentioned and explained. To conclude, you will find a state of our income and expenses in 2014.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Foundation, The Dagpo Educational Fund, has been set up with the aim of supporting the cultural, educational and philosophical aspects of Buddhist traditions of Dagpo Shedrub Ling's monastic university anywhere in the world, so that they can continue to exist and be shared with those who are interested in them. The Dagpo Educational Fund uses its financial means to achieve this. The Foundation is a non-profit organisation.

The aim of the Foundation has an implied social aspect; this means that the people who live according to the traditions of Dagpo Shedrub Ling contribute to education, health care and other forms of humanitarian institutions whenever and wherever necessary.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

Composition of the board

- President: Mr. L.J. Jhampa Gyamtshog
- Vice-president: Mrs. E. van Weelden
- Secretary: Ms. P.C.G. Hendriks
- Treasurer: Mrs. L.H.F.M. Teunissen-van den Ende
- General members: Mr. A. Tjibtobiantoro, Mrs. M.M.H.L. van der Bom-Tjoa en Mrs. M.H. van den Eijkhoff.

In February of 2014 it has been decided to maintain the current composition of the board.

The aim of the board is to meet in person at least once a year. Throughout the rest of the year the board keeps in touch through e-mail and via telephone.

MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS IN 2014

Contact with our donors

On the 1st of March, a card was sent out for the Tibetan New Year, to thank our donors. It was decorated with a picture of a Stupa, the symbol of the Buddha's mind.

We felt there was a need for more clarity about the goal and way of functioning of the TDEF Foundation and Entraide Franco-Tibétaine. To achieve this, we have sent a letter to the members and donors of both organisations at the end of December. In this letter we have explained the differences and similarities between the two organizations.

Renovation of the website

The website's renovation turned out to be more work than originally anticipated. From June until November the website was worked on regularly, in cooperation with the Webmaster. The site is much more complete now and has a modern appearance. Photos have been selected for the headers of several pages. The pictures in the photo albums have been reorganised and updated. All of the texts are available in three languages. The site is now also available for use on mobile devices (phones and tablets). The letter that was sent towards the end of December (as mentioned above in 'Contact with our donors') also announced the launch of our new and improved website.

Visit to the monastic university of Dagpo Shedrub Ling in Kais, Kullu Valley India

From the 21st of August until the 2nd of September, Venerable Dagpo Rinpoche gave the annual teaching in Dagpo Shedrub Ling. This year, again, one of the board members attended.

Many students were present, from numerous different countries such as: Indonesia, Malaysia, the USA, France, India, Israel, Switzerland and the Netherlands.

The number of monks in the monastery is growing steadily. Because the school no longer teaches lay children but only young monks and no longer functions as a boarding school, more room for the housing of monks has become available. At the moment, one hundred and fifty monks are staying in the monastery, of which around 50 are youngsters.

Final developments of the Thosam Ling school

Towards the end of December 2013, the last students who weren't monks left Thosam Ling. Of course much care has been taken to ensure that all children found a good follow up situation. They were assisted to finalise their studies or finding a good new school.

From January 2014 on, the school continued with about fifty young monks, ages five to twelve.

Retreat and study centre

The official transfer of the land, originally bought to house a new school but now meant for a retreat and study centre, has still not been finalised. As was indicated in the last annual report, this is due to the bureaucracy at every governmental level in the country: municipality, province, county and state.

Project

This year, The Dagpo Educational Fund has made money available to apply acoustic material to the ceiling of the debate room in Dagpo Shedrub Ling. The debate room, which is directly underneath the temple, is also used as a dining room and conference room for the two hundred guests who come to listen to the teachings every year. For the largest part of the year, however, the room is used for daily debating sessions.

The art of debate is an important part of the education in the Tibetan monastic universities. To support their points of view, the monks use logical reasoning and quotations from texts they previously learned by heart. The debate is a useful tool to deepen knowledge and understanding of Buddhist philosophy and to reveal gaps in knowledge. The goal is learning to completely control the mind, so to ensure both one's own happiness and that of others.

One monk introduces a theme and poses a question to his debating partner, who has to answer quickly and precisely. Others can now mingle in the dialectical sparring, to introduce their point of view. The

physical movements used during the debate are carefully recorded and all gestures have a specific meaning.

There is one major disadvantage, the acoustics of the room cause a lot of noise pollution between the different debate groups. At first, we thought the problem also existed between the temple and the adjacent debate room, but we later realised it mostly concerned the acoustics in the debating room itself: the acoustics are of such bad quality that it is impossible for multiple groups to debate simultaneously. This meant that the monks could not get sufficient training in this skill.

That is why a solution had to be found.

A trustworthy architecture firm, known by the monastery looked into possible solutions. They made an offer for the application of acoustic material. This would lower the noise levels significantly and allow a much better use of the room.

The cost estimate the firm came up with almost exactly matched the amount of money the Foundation had put aside to use for a project this year. The money that the Foundation can offer in 2014 will therefore completely cover the costs of the insulation. It is expected that the work on the room will be completed in the first half of 2015.

We are excited to be able to contribute to the optimal conditions for study, debate, reflection and meditation in Dagpo Shedrub Ling in this manner.

We also got a second applicant: a school of Tibetan language and culture. Because of circumstances, we haven't been able to honour this request yet, but we are closely monitoring the development. It hasn't been completed yet.

Meetings

The board met twice to confer. Outside of these meetings, there has been a lot of contact via telephone or e-mail.

In conclusion

The year 2014 has been largely satisfactory for us. The number of donors is slowly rising. We are still looking for the optimal conditions to reach our main goal: 'the (very) long term preservation of the Dagpo traditions'.

In 2015, we will follow the development of the plans for the purchased land closely.

Furthermore, we are planning to write the new policy (2015-2020) this upcoming year.

FINANCIALS

An overview of our income and expenditure in 2014 and our most important financial policies can be found below.

State of income and expenses in 2014

Income	2014	2013	Expenditures	2014	2013
Donations	€ 33.829	€ 19.095	Donations	€ 25.000	€ 8.900
Realised result stocks	€ 79.335	€ 2.507	Costs of stocks	€ 15.599	€ 20.886
Unrealised result stocks	€ 62.406	€ 36.096	Office costs	€ 902	€ 460
Result stocks	€ 141.741	€ 38.603	Accountant costs	€ 720	€ 466
Received dividend	€ 38.506	€ 19.487	Costs of the website	€ 1.313	
Interest fixed income	€ 7.109	€ 6.013		€ 43.534	€ 30.712
			<i>Company results</i>	€ 177.651	€ 52.486
			<i>Financial income and expenditure</i>	€ 1.315	€ 984
	€ 221.185	€ 83.198	<i>Result</i>	€ 178.966	€ 53.470

In the future the Foundation will donate at least 90 % of her income minus costs to a project. This will be around €56.000 for this year.

Like all previous years, the board members didn't receive any expense allowance in 2014.