

NEW KADAMPA TRADITION
International Kadampa Buddhist Union

from Geshe Kelsang Gyatso, Manjushri KMC

to Jamie Cresswell, Chair,
Network of Buddhist Organisations UK
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To: Jamie Cresswell, Chair of Network of Buddhist Organisations UK

Thank you for your letter to the NKT Secretary Steve Cowing, which gives me the opportunity to clarify the very sad and unnecessary problem between the Dalai Lama and Dorje Shugden practitioners throughout the world.

It is public knowledge that millions of Dorje Shugden practitioners are experiencing great suffering and sorrow caused by the Dalai Lama's religious discrimination. You personally may rejoice about this. The people who are joining the demonstrations are not doing anything wrong, they do not have political intentions, they are simply requesting the Dalai Lama to give religious freedom. But you are not happy with these people. I find that your judgement is very dishonest.

In your letter you strongly urge the leaders of the NKT to ask their members not to demonstrate against the Dalai Lama. But individual NKT people have choice: the NKT leaders cannot impede their freedom of speech; this is not a Tibetan feudal society.

I appreciate that the NBO does not accept its members engaging in political activities. For this reason, I strongly urge you to remove the London Jamyang Buddhist Centre from the NBO because this centre is single-pointedly implementing the political activities that are causing so many Dharma centres of Shugden practitioners, including the NKT, to suffer spiritually and materially.

As evidence to prove this we can quote the FMPT website:
<http://www.fpmt.org/organization/announcements/shugden/>

FROM LAMA ZOPA RINPOCHE, SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR OF THE FPMT
Excerpt from a letter to Lozang Jinpa, private secretary to His Holiness the Dalai Lama - April 2001:
"The FPMT Board of Directors has just made a policy regarding the practice of Shugden.

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FPMT will not invite anyone who practices this as a resident teacher or a visiting teacher. Of course sometimes it is difficult to say if someone is hiding the practice. Can you please inform His Holiness of this".

[The line "Can you please inform His Holiness of this" has just recently been removed.]

A senior monk of the FPMT, Venerable Yeshe Sangye, has himself publicly denounced the FPMT policing and witch-hunting activities, saying (using his own words):

"After all, if we as FPMT members criticize others who practice Dorje Shugden, then that will accumulate very heavy karma. Why? Because we destroy the faith of others in their gurus. Do we have the right to do that? Does Lama Zopa's closeness with H.H. the Dalai Lama validate FPMT CENTRES AND MEMBERS TO BE SOME KIND OF SPIRITUAL POLICE".

We know that Jamyang Buddhist Centre has been and is one of the most politically active FPMT centres against Dorje Shugden people since the beginning of the issue, and is implementing the Dalai Lama's religious persecution. We also understand that the problem of Dorje Shugden was originally brought into the UK and the West by London Jamyang Buddhist Centre through the Dalai Lama. Therefore, Jamyang Buddhist Centre and their spiritual leader, Lama Zopa, are the main source of this problem in the West.

Jamyang Buddhist Centre and its leader Lama Zopa are responsible for the great damage that they have caused to the development of thousands of Dharma centres that follow Dorje Shugden. We are going to ask Jamyang Buddhist Centre and its leader Lama Zopa to pay compensation to these Dharma centres, who have lost their reputation and sustained great damage to their development over many years, all caused by the negative policies of Jamyang Buddhist Centre and Lama Zopa.

Of course NKT representatives will attend the next NBO meeting because the NKT is a member.

My question is, what are you going to do about Jamyang Buddhist Centre?

Yours sincerely,

Geshe Kelsang Gyatso

cc: NKT Central Office; Jamyang Buddhist Centre, London