

Karma Shenpen Chokyi Dawa

Tibetan Buddhism

THE FOURTH KARMA KHENCHEN RINPOCHE, Karma Shenpen Chokyi Dawa, an emanation of Shantarakshita, was born in 1976. His father is the scholar and siddha, the Seventh Nendo Karma Chakme Rinpoche. His mother is Pema Lhamo.

The Sixteenth Karmapa, Rangjung Rigpe Dorje, unerringly recognized him as the emanation of Karma Khenchen Rinpoche when he was very young. The Karmapa cut his hair (gave him refuge) and he was enthroned at the great seat of Rumtek Monastery. As in his previous emanations, he learned reading and writing and heard teachings on the dharma, both sutra and tantra.

In 1987 he went for the first time to his previous seat, the second great seat of the Karmapa, Ogmin Karma Gon, in the province of Kham. In 1992 he returned there, visited many monasteries, and gave the empowerment and transmissions of the Kagyu Ngag Dzod Chenmo to many people. He also gave extensive teachings, restored several monasteries that had been destroyed, and built three new meditation retreat centers. All of his activities were for the propagation of the Buddha's teachings and to the great benefit of all beings.

In February 1999, he visited the West to teach at Karma Triyana Dharmachakra and its centers, disseminating the dharma of sutra and tantra.