



My name is Tsewang Dorje and I was born in Ladakh. I belong to the first group of Ladakhi monks that studied Buddhist Philosophy at a Tibetan Monastic University in South India. I completed my Geshe degree courses (Ph.D in Buddhist Philosophy) in 1999, and also completed Vajrayana Courses at Gyudmed Tantric College in 2000.

After my graduation, I served at Kopan Monastery, Nepal for three years as a Philosophy Lecturer from 2001 to 2003. Shortly after, I was appointed to the Committee of Philosophical Studies and Board of Examination at Sera Jey Monastic University in South India between 2004 and 2006. After the completion of my three years term at Sera Jey, I traveled to Buddhist Centers and Universities in different parts of the world to share my knowledge and experience.

In 2009, I founded the Ngari Institute of Buddhist Dialectics, for which I am currently holding the post of Director and President. The Institute aims to provide free shelter and modern education for the underprivileged children of Ladakh.

I am very thankful to Mrs. Bibi Do and Mr. Jangchup Tharchin for their hard work to initiate His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama's vision, by creating opportunities for many High Lamas, Geshe, monks and laypeople to obtain their experience in the Western World of Education.

In 2016, I participated in the UCI-Tibet Initiative's Spring Quarter courses in the ESL Department to improve my English language skill. Through this program, I took many opportunities to interact with students at UCI, who came from all corners of the world. It is really interesting for us to share experiences with each other and to be exposed to cultural exchange of different communities.

During my study, I paid more attention to the University's organizational system, as UCI is considered one of the top US learning centers, with all of their facilities and departments. The exchange program will also be a very good opportunity for all the monks to obtain a basic knowledge in English Studies, on the western educational system, along with sharing their knowledge in ancient Buddhist studies.

Finally, I would like to thank Bibi Do and Jangchup la for your continuous work to keep UCI - Tibet Initiative Program alive, and to successfully establish the non-profit religious Ngari Institute Foundation in California. My prayers are with all the team members and supporters for the successful and fruitful forthcoming years.

Yours Faithfully,
Geshe Tsewang Dorje,
Director / President, Ngari Institute of Buddhist Dialectics
Visiting Scholars Program Alumni, Class of 2016