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The Gyuto Vajrayana Center, currently located in San Jose, serves the residents of the San Francisco Bay Area by preserving Tibetan Buddhism with all of its rich and highly endangered traditions

AFFILIATED WITH GYUTO  
TANTRIC MONASTERY,  
DHARAMSALA, INDIA

WWW.GYUTCENTER.ORG

# GYUTO VAJRAYANA CENTER



*The Gyuto Center Monks need your support to  
build a permanent Monastery in the San Francisco Bay Area.*

# VENERABLE THUPTEN DONYO, FOUNDER



**Ven. Thupten Donyo** was born in 1961. His father, Pema, and mother, Dolma, named him Pasang, which means "Friday" - the day of his birth. Donyo's grandparents were traders from Eastern Tibet. They sold wool and salt in the border areas of Tibet and Nepal.

Donyo became a monk when he was 12 years old, at the Gyuto Monastery in India. He received his full ordination from HH the Dalai Lama. In 1988, Donyo had the opportunity to tour with the Gyuto Monks' Choir in America, which was arranged by Mickey Hart. In 1990, he was invited to join the Tara Institute, in Melbourne, Australia and learned to speak English in order to become the Center's translator. From this experience, Donyo came to see the difference between life in the West and life at the Gyuto Monastery, in India. At the same time, the monks asked Donyo if he could do anything to help them. He had no resources and felt helpless. As a result he became determined to find ways to help improve the living conditions of the Gyuto monks in India.

In 1997, Donyo decided to come to America with a dream of opening a branch of the Gyuto Monastery. His goal was to spread the profound teachings of the Buddha, and to support his fellow monks and the monastery in India, to preserve Tibetan culture and Buddhist tradition.

Upon arriving in San Francisco, he was encouraged by Gyuto friends, such as Mickey Hart, Danny Rifkin, Dean Alper, Cameron Sears and many others who offered their help to set up the non-profit Gyuto Vajrayana Center in San Jose, California.



*Ven. Donyo with HH the Dalai Lama in San Francisco, 2007*



# GYUTO VAJRAYANA CENTER



*Gyuto Trantic Monastery, India*



*Resident monks at the Gyuto Center, San Jose*

**Founded in 2001**, the Gyuto Vajrayana Center is a branch monastery of the Gyuto Tantric Monastery, Dharamsala, India. Venerable Thupten Donyo, the founder, has sought to bring the precious teachings of Tibetan Buddhism to the San Francisco Bay Area, and to make them accessible to all. The Gyuto Center is the only Tibetan Buddhist monastery of its kind in the Bay Area.

In order to preserve Tibetan Buddhist traditions, the Center provides weekly teachings on Buddhist philosophy, and discussions on mind training to improve quality of life, translated into English, Chinese and Vietnamese. Staffed by monks from the Gyuto monastery, the Center also offers services like consultations based on Buddhist thoughts, prayers, traditional funeral services, and ritual ceremonies. Tibetan language classes are offered by the monks, and the Center provides needed support to the local Tibetan community. In April 2007, the Center had the great honor of hosting His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, in San Francisco for two days of teachings. The Center also invites the famous Gyuto monks Tantric choir from India to tour and perform their unique Tibetan chanting in cities across America. Non-sectarian outreach, such as hosting students of local universities and even Boy Scout troops, are part of the activities of the Center.

Gyuto monks keep the tradition of offering free services to the community.

# GYUTO CENTER MONASTERY PROJECT

**The Gyuto monks** need your support to build a Monastery in the Bay Area.

As a result of the successful outreach efforts of the Gyuto monks, the Gyuto Center plans to build a permanent monastery. The Center has outgrown its current location. It has become more challenging to accommodate the growing numbers of students and interested members of the community. There is a great need for additional rooms for visiting teachers and monks, retreat facilities, student housing, dining facilities, and parking areas. The Gyuto monks hope to build a monastery that will accommodate all their current activities and needs, as well as a monastery that will support expanded activities in the future.



*Artist's renderings of proposed monastery*



This new monastery will allow the monks to help create a Tibetan cultural resource center with programs in Buddhist philosophy, and to preserve endangered Tibetan culture, history and language for Tibetan children as well as members of the local community. This monastery would provide much needed support for elderly Tibetans and new Tibetan immigrants in the area.

The proposed monastery with its traditional Tibetan architecture and design will serve as a profound cultural landmark, one which will uplift the mind and will be an inspiring and beautiful addition to the diversity of the greater Bay Area.



*Artist's rendering of proposed main prayer hall*



*H.H. the Dalai Lama's teachings in 2007 hosted by Gyuto Center*

## CAPITAL FUND IS ESTABLISHED

In 2007, the Center had the great honor of hosting His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The proceeds from this event provided the initial funding to establish a capital fund for the monastery project, and cannot be used to support operating costs of the Center. The Gyuto monks were also able to make a donation to His Holiness' Office for its charitable work to assist Tibetan refugees in India and Nepal. It was during this visit that His Holiness encouraged the monks to establish a permanent monastery in the San Francisco Bay Area.

This project will not only help to preserve Tibetan Buddhism and its culture: it will also help to promote peace and harmony in the world through interfaith dialogue and understanding within the community. This vision for the Gyuto Monastery in the Bay Area is ambitious and will require great help from members and friends. Therefore, we need your help more than ever to fulfill our goal of expanding the valuable programs of the Gyuto Center. We are very fortunate to have some generous members who will match all donations for this project, dollar for dollar, for as long as donations continue. Those of you who support the Center will be greatly appreciated.

For more information, please visit our project website: [www.gyutocenter.org](http://www.gyutocenter.org)



*H.H. the Dalai Lama and Gyuto monks in New York*



*Teachings by Dhakpa Rinpoche*



*Monks with the Tibetan community*

## PROJECT BUDGET

The following budget includes two to three acres of land, the main prayer hall, monks' residence, guest rooms, class rooms, kitchen, dining hall, and parking area.

Based on a professional architect's estimates:

Acquire land (two acres)	\$2,000,000
Main prayer hall, monks' residence and class rooms	\$1,500,000
Commercially equipped kitchen and dining hall	\$500,000
Site improvements / preparation	\$1,089,752
Start up expenses	\$50,000

**Total Budget: \$5,139,752**

Funds already raised and allocated for project	(\$218,000)
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**Capital Needed: \$4,921,968**

We very much hope to purchase a piece of land in 1-2 years while real estate market values are low. We will request H.H. the Dalai Lama to bless the land during his next visit to the Bay Area. We will plant hundreds of evergreen juniper trees around the property. Donors of above \$1,000 will have a name plate next to a juniper tree dedicated to them, and will be remembered for their generous support forever. However, no amount is too small; even a commitment of \$10 per month can make a difference.





## HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are many ways you can help the Gyuto monks realize their vision of sharing Buddhist philosophy and the Tibetan culture: Many of our donors have come up with imaginative ways to support the project. We encourage such creative generosity and welcome your input. We are requesting all of our members and friends to support this project in whatever way that you can. Help us to build a unique and magnificent monastery for the community in the San Francisco Bay Area. You can help us by:

- Making a donation of any size or be a matching fund sponsor
- Introducing us to a corporation, foundation, trust, or other potential donor
- Offering your expertise, professional services, or advice
- Spreading the word about the Gyuto monastery project
- Dedicating your prayers and positive wishes

**Donations can also be made on-line by visiting:** [www.gyutoproject.org](http://www.gyutoproject.org). Your contributions are tax-deductible. For more information, please contact Ven. Thupten Donyo at (408) 926-9430 or by email: [info@gyutocenter.org](mailto:info@gyutocenter.org).

The Gyuto Vajrayana Center is a 501(c)3 religious non-profit organization registered in the State of California. Thank you for your support of the Gyuto Center Monastery Project.



*Teaching at the Gyuto Center*



*Dr. Thupten Jinpa's talk hosted by Gyuto Center*



*Teachings by Dhakpa Rinpoche*

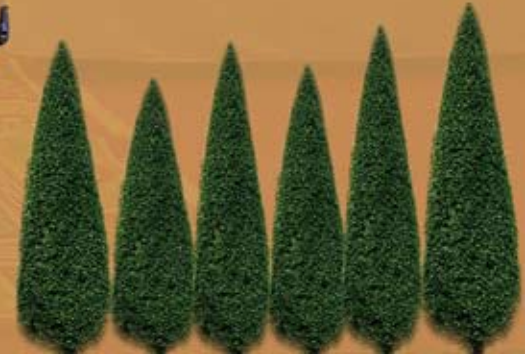
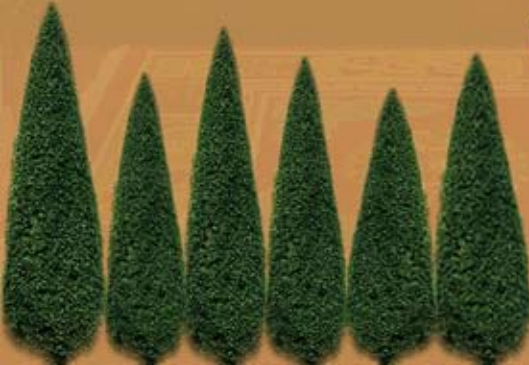


## GYUTO VAJRAYANA CENTER

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# Yes, I would like to help the Gyuto Monastery Project!

I would like to make the following gift:

\$100    \$200    \$500    \$1,000    \$5,000    \$10,000    Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Those donating above \$1,000 will have a name plate next to a juniper tree around the new monastery, and will be remembered for their generous support forever.

**Payment Methods:**    Check    Credit Card - please fill out below

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Card No.

Exp. Date

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Name on Card

Signature

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Billing Address

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Email Address

**Donations can also be made on-line by visiting:**

[www.gyutocenter.org](http://www.gyutocenter.org).

For more information please call us at (408) 926-9430 or by email: [info@gyutocenter.org](mailto:info@gyutocenter.org).

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Thank you for your support of the Gyuto Center Monastery Project.