



Press Release

17th Karmapa in Germany to pay homage to Kunzig Shamar Rinpoche

His Holiness the 17th Karmapa Thaye Dorje visits Germany / Farewell ceremonies for Kunzig Shamar Rinpoche

Renchen, June 18, 2014. From 18 - 19 June, His Holiness the 17th Karmapa Thaye Dorje will visit the Buddhist Bodhi Path Meditation Center in Renchen-Ulm, Southern Germany, to pay his last respects to one of the highest teachers of Tibetan Buddhism. Thaye Dorje, the spiritual leader of the Karma Kagyu School of Tibetan Buddhism, will perform traditional ceremonies for the 14th Shamar Rinpoche, who unexpectedly died after a cardiac arrest at the age of 61, on June 11.

Shamar Rinpoche, the second highest teacher of the Karma Kagyu tradition, had been staying in Renchen-Ulm since June 6 in order to give a lecture course on meditation. He founded the center in 2006. With more than 900 monasteries and meditation centers worldwide, the Karma Kagyu lineage is one of the important schools of Tibetan Buddhism.

Shamar Rinpoche's body has been laid out for the last few days in Renchen, where thousands of Buddhists are paying their last respects to him. On Thursday, June 19, at 5pm CET, a funeral procession will be held at the cemetery. Afterwards, accompanied by the 17th Karmapa, Shamar Rinpoche will go on a journey to several countries in Asia where traditional ceremonies will be performed and thousands of students will pay their last respects and receive a blessing.

Shamar Rinpoche was one of the most influential representatives of Tibetan Buddhism. Every year, he visited many countries in Asia and the West and taught frequently in front of tens of thousands of listeners. Besides his spiritual activities, Shamar Rinpoche founded several humanitarian organisations in Europe, America, Nepal, India and Hong Kong. Since his death, leaders and meditation masters of many Buddhist schools as well as the Royal Family of the Kingdom of Bhutan have sent letters of condolences.

More info:

www.bodhipath.org - www.diamondway-buddhism.org - www.shamarpa.org

Public contact:

Bodhi Path – Buddhistisches Zentrum e.V., Kaiestr. 18, 77871 Renchen-Ulm, Germany
Phone: +49 7843 7232, Info@bodhipath-renchen-ulm.de
www.bodhipath-renchen-ulm.de

Press contacts:

Bodhi Path – Buddhistisches Zentrum e.V., Sabine Teuber
sabine.teuber@t-online.de
Tel. 0173 3409751

Buddhistischer Dachverband Diamantweg e.V., Pressebüro Hamburg
Thadenstr. 79, 22767 Hamburg
Holm Ay, Tel: 0177-8009008, presse@diamantweg.de