

Please Recite the Golden Light Sutra for World Peace

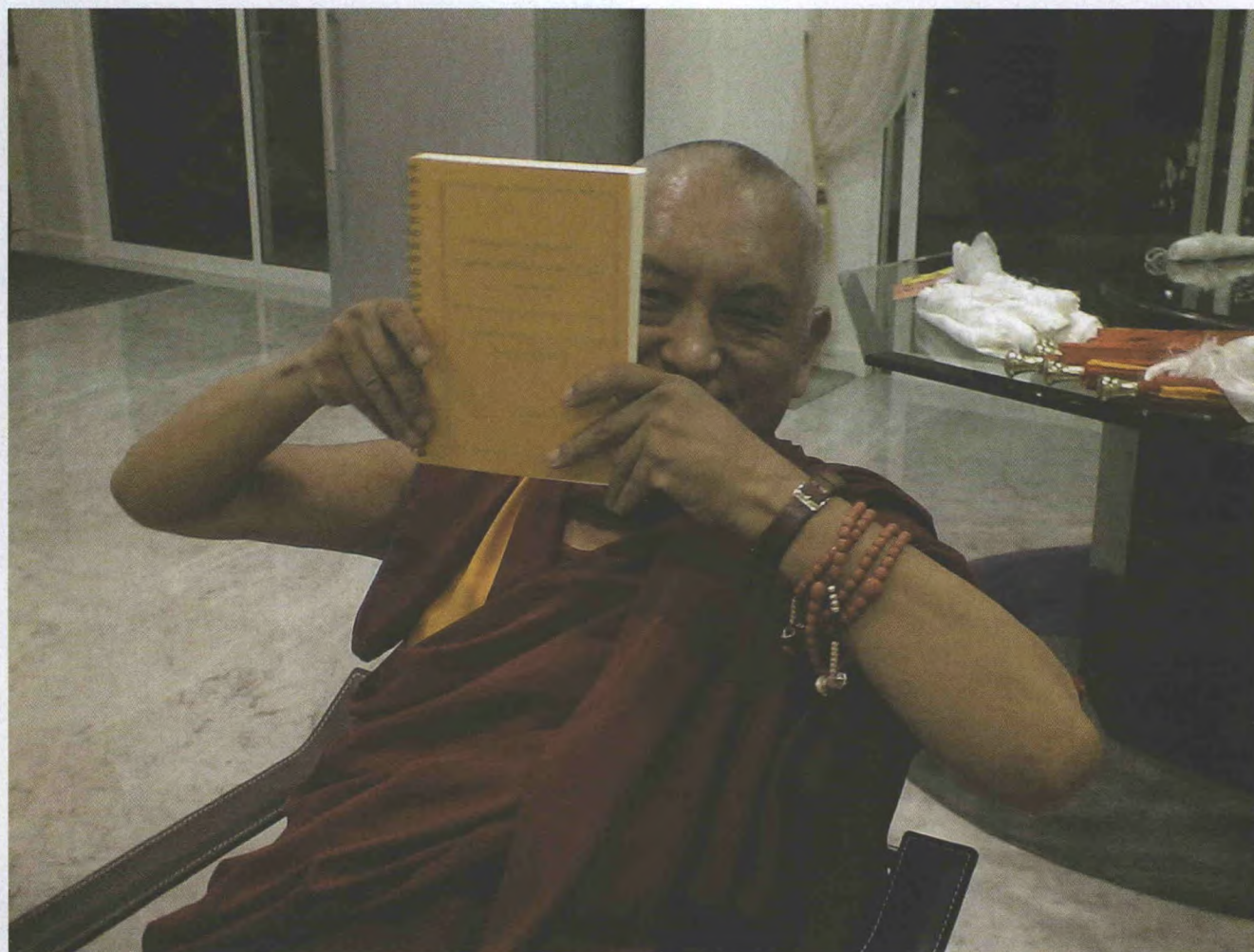


Photo: Lee Chung Han

Lama Zopa Rinpoche with a print version of the Golden Light Sutra

Lama Zopa Rinpoche requests:

“Anybody who wants peace in the world should read The Golden Light Sutra. This is a very important practice to stop violence and wars in the world. The Golden Light Sutra is one of the most beneficial ways to bring peace. This is something that everyone can do, no matter how busy you are: Even if you can read only one page a day, or a few lines, in this way you can continually read the Golden Light Sutra.

“The holy Golden Light Sutra is the king of the sutras. It is extremely powerful and fulfills all one’s wishes, as well as bringing peace and happiness for all sentient beings, up to enlightenment. It is also extremely powerful for world peace, for your own protection and for the protection of the country and the world. It has great healing power.

“For anyone who desires peace for themselves and for others, this is the spiritual, or Dharma, way to bring peace that doesn’t require

you to harm others, doesn't require you to criticize others or even to demonstrate against others, yet can accomplish peace. Anyone can read this text, Buddhists and even non-Buddhists who desire world peace.

"This also protects individuals and the country from what are labeled natural disasters of the wind element, fire element, earth element and water element, such as earthquakes, floods, cyclones, fires, tornadoes, etc. They are not natural because they come from causes and conditions that make dangers happen. They come from past inner negative thoughts and actions of people, and from external conditions.

"The benefits of reading this sutra are immeasurable: It is said in the texts that even compared to offering precious jewels as numberless as the amount of atoms of the Pacific Ocean to numberless buddhas, reciting just a few lines of The Sutra of Golden Light creates more merit than making these immeasurable offerings to the Buddha.

"Reciting this Sutra directs one's life toward enlightenment. There is so much merit created by reciting this Sutra, everything is taken care of, one's life becomes so easy, whatever one wishes for one receives. This is because there is unbelievable purification and one collects extensive merit. This is how one liberates numberless sentient beings from the oceans of samsaric suffering and brings them to enlightenment.

"So here, I would like to make this request with my two palms together, to please recite the Sutra of Golden Light for world peace as much as you can." ❁

You can download the 21 Chapters of the Sutra of Golden Light in various languages from www.fpmt.org/teachers/zopa/advice/golden-light.asp

DVD Release Anxiety in the Nuclear Age with Lama Thubten Yeshe

In January 2007, the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists (www.thebulletin.org) moved the minute hand of the Doomsday Clock forward two minutes, to five minutes to midnight, the figurative end of civilization, citing the perils of the earth's 27,000 nuclear weapons – 2,000 of them ready to launch within minutes – as one of the main reasons for doing so.

They said, "We stand at the brink of a Second Nuclear Age. Not since the first atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki has the world faced such perilous choices."

In two public lectures in California in July 1983, Lama Yeshe addressed the perils of the First Nuclear Age, exacerbated at that time by the Cold War and Americans' worries over the Soviet nuclear threat. Although the nature of our current concerns is different, Lama's observations and insights are as relevant today as they were when he first made them and the Lama Yeshe Wisdom Archive is honored to bring them to you on DVD. Here is a brief excerpt:

"... I've been asked to say a few words on the topic of anxiety in the nuclear age. The first thing to observe is that the people who created nuclear energy are now afraid that it will destroy them. Is this realistic or not? First we create a situation; then we're scared of it.

"We know that nuclear energy exists and is destructive by nature but that it can also be beneficial and enhance human pleasure. Nevertheless, we're still anxious and afraid of the harm it might do to us and the following generations.

"However, there's no need for fear, worry or anxiety because, first of all, nuclear energy is a reality and secondly, our opinion of what's happening is just that – an opinion. It's not yet a reality; it's simply a presumption.

"We have to educate the world about its dangers in a peaceful way – one that doesn't produce emotional reaction and hatred ... We shouldn't worry about the nuclear age because it's already here. We're human beings; we created this situation. We lit this fire a long time ago. Of course, the earth has contained nuclear energy since it began, but it has taken human intelligence to make it as dangerous as it has become. In Buddhism, we call this karma. Once a situation has manifested, the best thing to do is to accept the fact and deal with it ..."

Go to www.lamayeshe.com/acatalog/ana.html and find out how to deal with it, by obtaining this historic DVD, also available from www.fpmt.org/shop. It is a wonderful opportunity for students and practitioners who never had the chance to see and hear Lama, yet everything they have received via the FPMT has come through his unbearable kindness: talk about giving your life for others! He was tireless in spreading the Dharma and exhausted his life doing so – for us.

Now many more of us can see and hear this great teacher rather than just read his words on the page. And for those who can't quite understand Lama's unique English, there are subtitles! ❁

