

BIOGRAPHY

Basili Llorca (Alcoi, Spain, 1952) meets the Buddhadharma in 1978 in a meditation course given by Zong Rinpoche, Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche at Ibiza (Spain).

In 1979 he travelled to Nepal to attend November course at Kopan Monastery. There, and with permission of Lama Yeshe, he took Getsul ordination from Lama Zopa Rinpoche, and took teachings and retreat in Nepal and India, completing the three months Vajrasata Retreat in Tushita Retreat Center.

Returned to Spain, he helped in the establishing of Instituto Nagarjuna, the first center of Lama there, to prepare for hosting the first resident teacher, Geshe Losang Tsultrim and his translator Ven Thubten Wangchen , and to organize the visits of Kensur Geshe Tekchog, Zong Rinpoche, Lama Zopa Rinpoche and Kensur Legden.

In 1981 he went to India to participate in the First Dharma Celebration, taking teachings and initiations from Lama Yeshe, Lama Zopa Rinpoche, Zong Rinpoche, Ling Rinpoche, Serkong Rinpoche, HH the Dalai Lama, from whom he took Gelong ordination, among other teachers.

In 1982 helped to organize the visit in Spain of the HH Dalai Lama European Tour. Appointed national coordinator of FPMT centers in Spain, helped to settle new centers in Barcelona and Madrid. He was also translator into Spanish of the resident and visiting teachers, and lead meditation groups.

In 1984 he asked permission to Lama Yeshe to enter Nalanda Monastery. There he received teachings on philosophy, *lam rim*, *lo jong* and tantra commentaries from Kensur Geshe Tekchog, and receive also teachings and initiations from Gomo Tulku, Tara Tulku and other teachers, and complete several of the main tantra approximation retreats.

In 1987, while staying at Nalanda, Lama Zopa Rinpoche appointed him as attendant of Lama Osel Rinpoche. He served in that position about five years, accompanying him first to Kopan Monastery and Tushita Retreat Center in Dharamsala; then travelling to visit FPMT centers in Asia, Australia, United States and Europe, and also staying one year at Tharpa Chöeling of Switzerland. During the stay at Tushita Retreat Center, he could complete an approximation retreat and take teachings from Lama Zopa Rinpoche and to meet and receive teachings from Rillbur Rinpoche. Later on, he helped to prepare the *labrang* and the enthronement of Lama Osel in Sera je Monastery (India). After that, he asked permission to Lama Zopa Rinpoche to retreat at Osel ling Retreat Center (Spain), where he did a six months retreat.

In 1992, after the retreat, and feeling the need to find a way of practicing and living the Dharma more in accordance with the western culture and psychology, he decided to live in Barcelona, Spain. He studied Humanistic Psychotherapy to receive a Master. During that period he helped Ven. Thubten Wangchen to establish the Tibet House at Barcelona, acting as Vice-president. There he teach Dharma and meditation in a weekly basis. He also translate for visiting Lama's of the four Tibetan traditions, such as HH. Sakya Trizin or Tarab Tulku, from whom he took teachings.

In 1994, he gave back the robes to live as a lay and to try to find ways to live and present the Dharma in accordance with a modern and secular society, in which prejudices about religion and Buddhism as something exotic and distant prevent many people from understanding Buddha dharma. He started a practice as a psychotherapist and in 1998 founded a centre for personal growth. There he started to teach the traditional Dharma curriculum, but in a more western and more psychological style, especially to people interested but with difficulties to cope with a more religious or traditional Tibetan approach. Since then he has been giving regular Dharma teachings and leading retreats to a growing number of people and groups. He's also been teaching, lecturing at different places in Spain and writing articles related to Dharma.

In 2003, Lama Zopa Rinpoche asked him to be part of the Nagarjuna Center board at Barcelona, and to teach *Discovering Buddhism*. Since then he has been teaching there, in Nagarjuna Granada, and in Nagarjuna Madrid, having taught the complete *Discovering Buddhism* course more than five times. He also teaches a continuation to it, *Venturing Buddhism*.

In the last years he's also been helping to settle in Spain a project of Universal Education, to fulfill the Lama Yeshe's wishes regarding education, resulting in the founding of Asociación Educación Universal, which he presides. Universal Education collaborates with Essential Education, and has published the books on 16 guidelines in Spanish language.

He is member of Trafil (Translating remote philosophies to facilitate understanding), a research group at the University Autònoma de Barcelona that works in the study and translation of Tibetan Buddhist terms into western languages.

Is also one of the founders and Vice-President of the Coordinadora Catalana d'Entitats Budistes, an association at the state of Catalonia of Buddhist centers from all traditions. With their support has recently published *Guia de la muerte para budistas* (A dying guide for buddhists).