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Today, I was shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the untimely passing of my dear friend of many decades, His Eminence Thubten Zopa Rinpoche. Allow me to offer my heartfelt condolences to his many ordained sangha as well as to all his countless devoted followers the world over.

Rinpoche and I have remained affectionate friends since our early childhood. Now, as I reflect on his momentous undertakings for the benefit of beings and for the sake of preserving and propagating the rich legacy of the Buddha's teachings, I experience a deep sense of admiration and appreciation and an even deeper sense of loss at his passing.

Having pioneered the establishment of Dharma centers and thriving FPMT organizations globally, Rinpoche devoted his entire life to spreading far and wide the Buddha's core message of unconditional loving kindness, impartial compassion, and meditation — enlightened qualities Rinpoche, himself, so clearly embodied.

Please join me in my fervent prayer that all facets of his groundbreaking accomplishments and enlightened activities for the benefit of beings may never wane but remain a fountain of wisdom and profound inspiration for all. May all Rinpoche's far-reaching aspirations be quickly fulfilled, and may his reincarnation swiftly appear. May his devoted students continue to follow his example, and may their Dharma practice unceasingly bear fruit.

With love, blessings, and deepest sympathy,

Chökyi Nyima Rinpoche