

A Prayer for the Swift Return of Choden Rinpoche Lobzang Gyalten Jigdrel Wangchuk

*As a means of keeping the poetry of the original, the translation on the left is blank verse, a loosely rhyming iambic pentameter.
In order to ensure the full meaning is expressed, a non-metered free verse translation is on the right.*

Who through dependent arising directs
All wand'ers—Peerless Teacher, Shākya's Peak,
Pundits se'enteen, Victor Lobzang, and rest—
Lineage all: perfect virtue bequeath.

Perfectly pure through analyses three,
Victor Lobzang's unflawed **teachings** you raise.
Fearless Sov'reign, protecting those in need,
Unmatched in fame, to you requests I make.

This age depraved, the Victor's creed quite ebbed,
To all Earth's ends, through pow'r of toil and heart
Teachings most precious you do yet now spread,
But woe! To peace your body's form departs.

For teachings, wand'ers, 'specially Snow Land's lot,
Who with a grief most great are now injured,
The mind to return again delay not,
As scripture's splendor do quickly return!

The Refuge Three, and oceans' victors' grace,
And changeless truth, from cause, result—through these
Desired aims—exceptions naught!—may be
Obstructed not, and accomplished with ease!



Those who, expressing dependent arising, all wanderers
Do guide—the peerless expounder, Pinnacle of the Shākya's,
The seventeen panditas, victorious Lobzang, and the rest—
O Father and Sons, together with the lineage: Please bestow
excellent virtue.

The unmistakable **teachings of victorious Lobzang [Lobzang Gyalten]**,
All perfectly purified through three-fold analysis¹,
You uphold. To you, **Fearless Sovereign [Jigdrel Wangchuk]**, protector
of wanderers,
Incomparable, glorious lama, I make requests.

At this degenerate time, when the Victor's teachings have been
brought utterly low,
While, through your great courage, undertaking many hardships
To spread the precious teachings to the ends of the earth,
Your holy form body departs for peace—Woe is this!

In the midst of this atmosphere of experiencing a great loss
For the teachings and for all wanderers, especially for those in the
Land of Snow,
Without delay generate the mind to return again, and
Please quickly return as another emanation, a splendor for the
teachings and wanderers.

The Three Refuges, the blessings of oceans of victors, and
The power of the truth of the immutable nature of reality, cause and
effect—through all these
May all our prayed for aims, without exception,
Be accomplished easily and without obstruction.

Colophon: Fulfilling the mutual request of Choden Labrang, Sera Jey Lhopa Khangtsen, and the Rongpo district settlement #7 ½—those at home and abroad, ordained and lay—along with the students of Awakening Vajra Dharma Center, for a prayer for the swift return of Sera Je Lhopa Choden Rinpoche, Lobzang Gyalten Jigdrel Wangchuk, holder of the treasury of general and particular teachings, who has gone to peace, the Shakya Bhikshu and expounder of Dharma, Dalai Lama Tenzin Gyatso, composed this on the 11th day of the 9th Tibetan month in the Year of the Wood-Sheep of the Seventeenth Rabjung (3 November 2015).

These translations were completed by Gelong Tenzin Gache and Gelong Gyalten Lekden at Sera Je Monastery, December 2015. Any errors are our own.

Notes:

1. Not contradicted by direct perception, not contradicted by the power of reason, free of internal contradictions