

Just before Rinpoche started retreat he wrote this note as advice for all centers that are in rural areas where hunters may go. This is advice for wording to go on a sign, so hunters can think about the meaning. Rinpoche said the sign should be big, it could have a yellow background and most of the letters in black, but different words could have different colors and be different sizes, so that the sign stands out and is beautiful. Rinpoche drew a picture making the request (see below), which, together with suitable photos (see attached) can be included on the sign for visual impact.

Wording for Sign:

My most precious dear one,

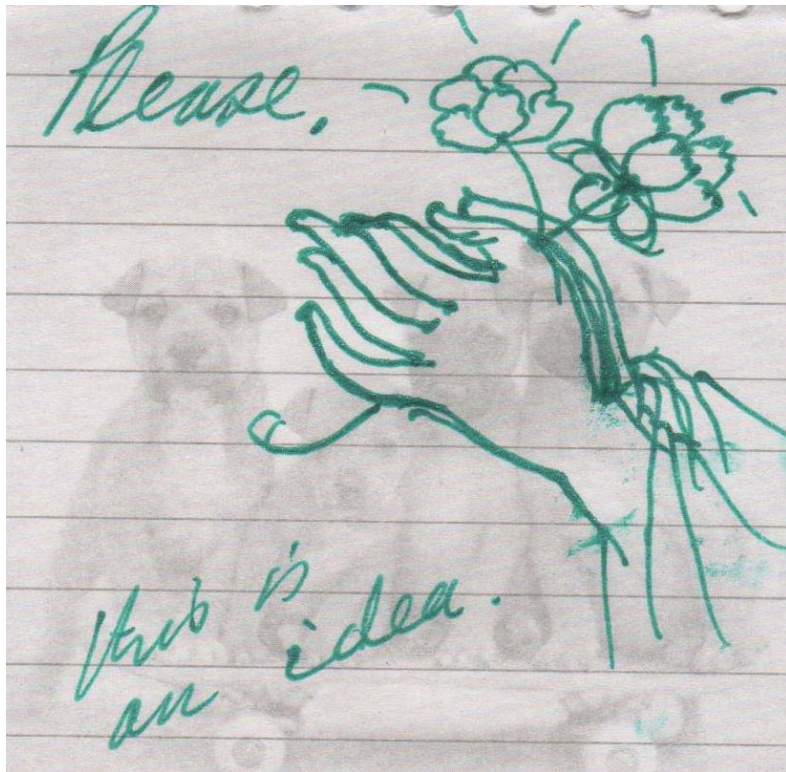
Please don't hunt!

Because just as you want to be **loved** by others (every living being) the animals also want to be loved by you, as you are most precious one.

Every one of the deers are extremely **precious ones**. They don't want to receive harm from you, as you also don't want to receive harm.

It is just that the deers are now in animal form and are unable to express themselves through TV, newspaper, and doing demonstrations, so all they can do is run away when they see you harming them.

Please!



Further Comments from Rinpoche:

Having this message on the sign, in different colors and some writing bigger and some smaller, is a way of expressing the message to people. As long as it's not so small that people can't read it clearly - you don't want people to have to spend time and effort to be able to easily read it. Sometimes when centers make signs/messages etc. the signs are so small - the explanation is there, which people could use to awaken, to learn a lot, but the letters are so small they don't read the signs and then don't learn, so the sign can't help them to achieve enlightenment.

This sign is to help centers who have land, like Institute Lama Tsong Khapa, Milarepa Center, Mahamudra Center and so forth. This is also for other people who have land and do not want people to harm animals. Sometimes people don't know what to say, except to say don't harm the animals or not to hunt, so this is an idea of how to express this so that it makes the hunters think.

As well as the drawing above, please add these photos (and others picturing mothers with baby animals, showing love and affection) to the Please Don't Hunt signs, to visually give the idea to hunters.

Colophon: Scribe Ven. Holly Ansett, Buddha Amitabha Pure Land, WA, USA, Nov 2010. Lightly edited by Claire Isitt.