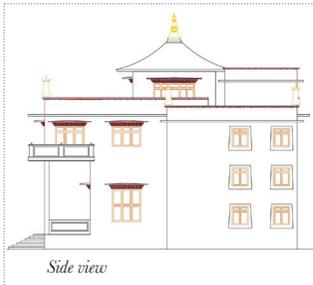


Artist impression of Kutsab Ternga Monastery



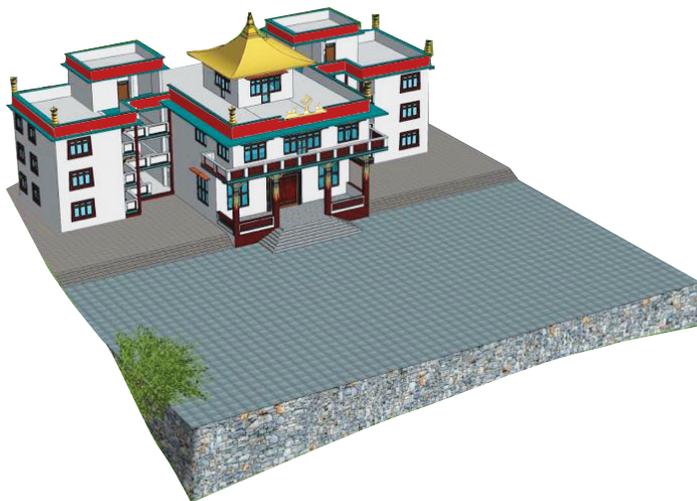
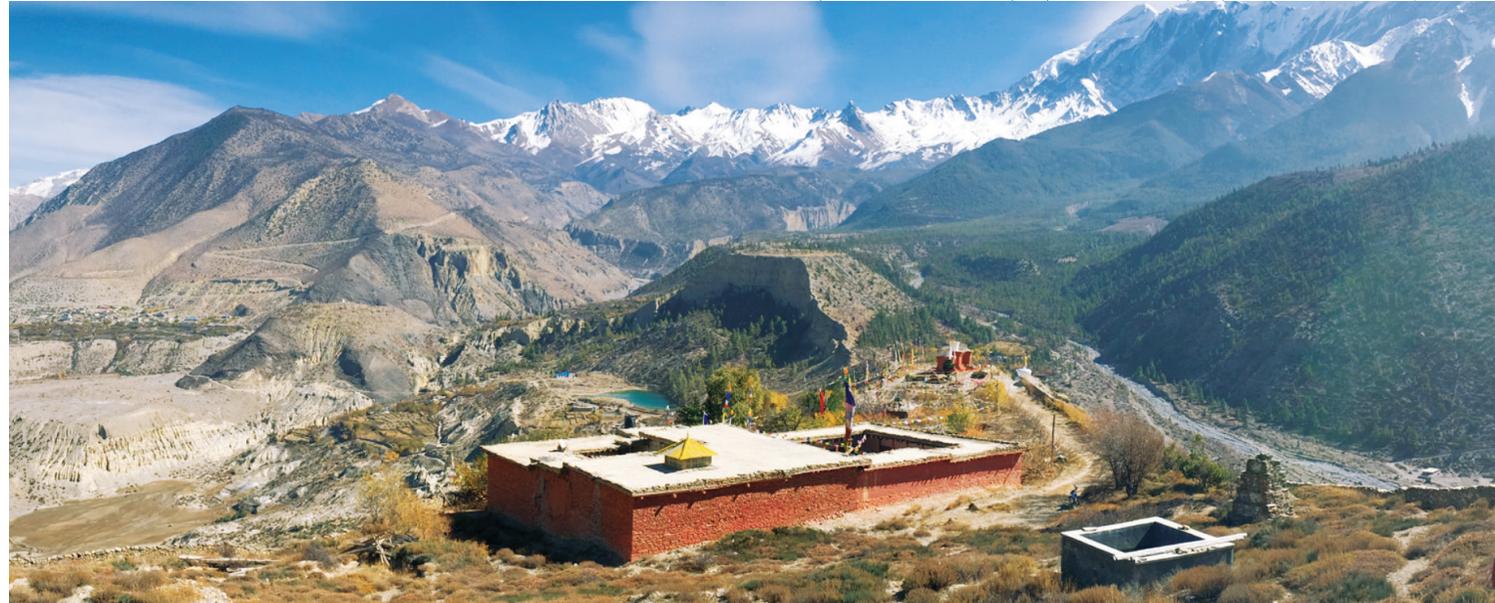
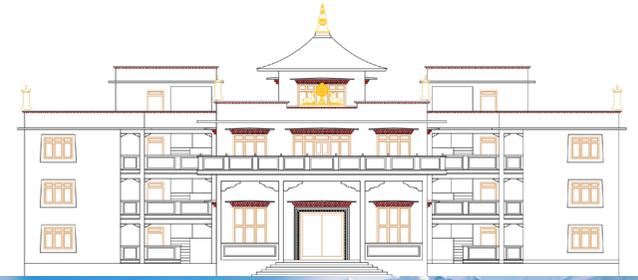
Front view



Side view



Top view



SHANGPA FOUNDATION

Restoration of Kutsab Ternga Monastery

Contact us to find out how to contribute to the restoration project.



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Restoration of Kutsab Ternga Monastery



Kutsab Ternga Monastery is situated at Garab Zong (now known as Jomson), a Mustang district in Nepal. A great Lama named Lungten Ugen Palsang first established the monastery, which was formally inaugurated by his Master Rigzin Dhudul Dorje in the 15th century.

Lungten Urgen Palsang went to Tibet at a tender age and met his Guru Rigzin Dhudul Dorje who was a Terton (Tibetan Buddhist text and treasure revealer). After receiving all the teachings and instructions from his Master, Lama was entrusted the Kutsab Ternga (five representative treasures). His Guru commanded, “You must take these precious Kutsab Ternga to your village, build a monastery and worship them daily. They will bring immense benefit to all the sentient beings and peace will prevail everywhere.”

The five representative treasures are:

- 1) The statue of **Guru Rinpoche** (Guru Thongwa Dhonden)*
- 2) The wrathful statue of **Guru Dorje Drolo***
- 3) The statue of **Dakini Yeshe Tsogyal**
- 4) The upper garment of **Guru Rinpoche**
- 5) One of Guru Rinpoche’s shoes

*The statues were made by Yeshe Tsogyal and consecrated by Guru Rinpoche



Fundraising letter written by 1st Shangpa Rinpoche in 1948.



Following the prophecies of his Master, the great Lama finally built a temple to enshrine the five treasures with many Buddhist texts and other treasures. During the consecration of the monastery, celestial music was heard and a rainbow remained in the skies for three days. Dakinis danced on the roof of the monastery and left their footprints on a cloth which is still preserved in the temple. Since then the monastery was named Kutsab Ternga. In the last four centuries, various Lamas from the village renovated the monastery.

The **1st Shangpa Rinpoche** travelled through the Himalayan region of Tibet and Nepal, and rebuilt many monasteries and stupas along his journey. When he arrived at Kutsab Ternga for pilgrimage, he noticed that the monastery was in a dilapidated state whereby the five treasures of Guru Rinpoche cannot be enshrined safely. Saddened by the sight, he decided to rebuild it and raised funds through his disciples from Tibet and Nepal.



Rinpoche supervised the design and construction of the temple for more than two years. When the major renovation was completed in 1953, he was very happy and performed a one-month puja and consecration. He handed the monastery to the local people and ordained several monks. Thereafter, he returned to Tibet and passed away.

[Rinpoche’s Message]

In 2001, I visited Kutsab Ternga when I was invited to Mustang for the inauguration of an Eco Museum. The temple which was made of mud and stones had deteriorated significantly due to the harsh weather. The treasures are not enshrined in the monastery for safety reasons, and are kept in different homes in the village. During that visit, the Lamas and villagers requested that I rebuild the temple.

Since then, more than two decades have passed and I have initiated the project. A new temple will be built near the existing monastery.



I will do my best to ensure that the design of the temple caters to every pilgrim’s wish to venerate the five sacred objects, as well as to enjoy the pristine environment. Upon completion, it would be the first time that the five treasures of Guru Rinpoche are exhibited for all to pay homage and receive blessings.

The new temple will comprise a main hall at the first floor for puja and gatherings. The five treasures will be enshrined on the second floor, with a meditation place in front of the shrine. Rooms for Rinpoche, guest Lamas and monks will flank both sides of the shrine hall. There will also be a dining area and a small café for pilgrims to partake their refreshments.

I felt the responsibility to rebuild the monastery because it is the legacy of the 1st Shangpa Rinpoche. I also wish to preserve the five treasures and give everyone an opportunity to pay homage to the precious treasures. It is very important to protect the historical site and revive the Buddha Dharma in this region. In the lower Mustang, this would be the earliest monastery ever built and enshrined with the holy objects of Guru Rinpoche. It is particularly meaningful to ensure the continuity of the Buddha teachings from generation to generation.

The construction started on 24 February 2019 and is progressing well. Based on the progress, it is targeted to complete in August 2021. I wish that this project resonates with you and may you receive the great blessings of Kutsab Ternga. I hope that every disciple and devotee of the Dharma will support and help to fulfil this mission. The progress of the project will be updated on Shangpa Foundation’s Facebook.

Yours sincerely
Shangpa Rinpoche

