

# THE TIBETAN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

## NEWSLETTER

*Learning Materials & Instruction*



February 2008

Dear Friends,

Greetings again from Montana!

We have had--are having--quite a winter here. We have LOTS of snow, and that presents all kinds of challenges. From making sure enough wood is inside for the wood stove (minus 10 degrees and needing wood--not good) to getting the driveway in shape so that we can drive out to the post office to mail TLI materials. On the other side of the coin, it's so very beautiful, and there are superior opportunities for our boys to go sledding (usually head pointing down, straight down the hill). At this early hour, the full moon has brightly illuminated the snow and highlighted the huge pines. The turkeys are safely roosted in the trees, and the coyotes have howled themselves to sleep.

I am writing to give you a quick update on upcoming programs and let you know what is in the immediate future for TLI.

First, the virtual teleconferencing courses have been quite successful. David concluded the Level II Course last week. Many in the Level I Course opted to continue the course for four more weeks.

**On this Thursday, Feb 21**, the *Heart Sutra* Virtual Course (a teleconference call) gets underway. David developed a beautiful new *Heart Sutra Translation Workbook* and accompanying Flashcards. This class starts this Thursday and meets from 5-6:30 PST (you need to figure what that would be in your time zone)-- **it is still possible to register**. Just email or call. It is recommended that you know the basics of reading in Tibetan and can use the Tibetan/English dictionary. The *Heart Sutra* is from a group of texts that address the *Prajnaparamita* or *Perfection of Wisdom*.

**In April and May**, David will offer more teleconferencing courses: Level I and II Courses (in April) and a new reading course (in May).

**In May**, KTK Boston is hosting seminars with David. We are still in the planning stages, but mark the calendar.

**From January through March**, David is teaching a Buddhism course on Sundays in Missoula, using Anam Thubten Rinpoche's wonderful book *No Self No Problem*. This book is now out-of-print, but we are hoping to get more copies as soon as they are available from the distributor.

The Annual Seminar in Montana is tentatively scheduled for **September** this year. This is an amazing opportunity to learn a lot of Tibetan in a very supportive atmosphere. Detail to follow.

In the Bookstore, there are some changes:

- *Heart Sutra Translation Workbook* and Flashcards
- *TLI Reader Translation Workbook* (in March)
- *Arrow to the Heart* by Ken McLeod. A newly published book about the *Heart Sutra*. It's a good read!
- Miscellaneous Bookstore items (in March): Level I Homework key ; Laminated sheets for Levels I and II.

Finally, we have many **projects in the works**. We are working on updating our various workbooks, following the model of the new *Heart Sutra Translation Workbook* (so these will include translation sheets, glossaries, and appendices). With one such workbook we are looking into making an accompanying interactive CD-Rom. I am also looking into making more instructional DVDs: we hear from people all over the world just how useful these are. We are also going to be putting video clips on You-Tube as a way to introduce interested folks to Tibetan.

Lastly, many thanks to all of you who contributed to **TLI's 2007 fundraiser**. TLI is dependent on your donations to make TLI work. **If you haven't yet sent in a contribution, we would deeply appreciate your help.** Thank you for your support!

Wishing you all the very best,

Deanna Curtis  
TLI Office Manager



**Yum Chenmo, also known as Prajnaparamita, the Perfection of Wisdom**

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### **Virtual Heart Sutra Reading/ Translating Course:**

Teleconferencing seminar with Lama David Curtis. Thursdays: February 21 - March 27. Class will meet from 5-6:30 pm PST (Pacific Standard Time). Cost: \$90 , plus workbook (\$25).

### **Boston Seminars in May:**

In May David will travel to Boston to lead seminars for beginners and those with some experience in reading Tibetan. Details to follow.

### **New Virtual Courses in April and May**

