

European Teachers meeting 2015

Lodz, Poland, April 10th - 12th 2015

Participants:

Zen Master Bon Shim, Zen Master Ji Kwang, Andrzej Piotrowski JDPSN, Muchak JDPSN, Jo Potter JDPSN, Bogusia Malinowska JDPSN, Oleg Suk JDPSN, Arne Schaefer JDPSN, Igor Piniński JDPSN, Koen Vermeulen JDPSN

Report to the Sangha

I. Our Sangha

1. Reports from the Sanghas by the guiding teachers and appointing new Guiding Teachers:

- Koen PSN has been appointed as guiding teacher for **Paris** and **Brussels**
- Andrzej PSN for **Gdansk**
- **Russia:** We are very sorry and concerned about Dae Jin SSN illness.

For practical reasons we ask Oleg PSN to take care of the Russian Sangha for the time being until Dae Jin SSN has gained strength and will be able to guide the Sangha again. Oleg PSN will and should have full authorities as guiding teacher and will be listed accordingly.

2. Date and place for the 3 year memorial of Wu Bong DSSN's passing into Nirvana

- After discussing the possibilities we decided to give Council full authority to fix date and place for the ceremonial events in 2016 and for the 2016 ETG meeting.

3. Dharma Teacher Compact and coordinated education of our DTs

- DT Training Guidelines and Compact have been endorsed during our 2014 meeting and during the MoM 2014. Europe is now using it, and all new DT(iT) have to sign it. We expect older DT(iT) to recognise and use them as their guidelines too.
- So far we have different places offering DT trainings. Proposal: Set up a curriculum and a program for Europe: Koen PSN has been appointed as head of the committee to create a team to work on the curriculum and training design.

II. Our Teaching

1. Guest Teacher for 2016

- We will again invite a guest teacher from overseas for 2016. Our priorities are Dae Bong SSN, Wu Kwang SSN or Bon Soeng SSN

2. Managing Kyol Che in general and Kyol Che 2016

- The list for the teachers, who sign up leading Kyol Che weeks must be open and the entries will be decided by the European Teachers Group (ETG), not by abbots or temple officials.
- Regarding the question about having a long retreat in summer or in winter we will talk with the Wu Bong Sa abbot and board members, and then we will decide on the basis of

all information and aspects gathered.

- The decision about our long or short Winter Kyo Che 2015/16 will affect the final decisions about dates for the ceremonies of Wu Bong DSSN's three year memorial, which will therefore be scheduled by the Council.

III. Our School in Europe

1. KUSZ / Europe non-profit association

- The requested changes to the bylaws that had to be implemented due to the demand of the magistrates court Berlin were explained.
- The registration papers are now also at the finance bureau for checking the non-profit status
- We hope that by summer the registration process will be finalized, and our association can start to function officially
- Note: Local (national) bylaws have to make sure they meet the bylaws of the KUZS EU! European bylaws have precedence over all other bylaws. This should be made clear to all registered associations who are members of the KUSZ / Europe
- We ask to review and confirm the new Polish bylaws in the ETG before they are submitted to their magistrates court.

2. Donations

- For the future: Donations should not be given to private practice places without the knowledge of the European Council. If money is given from hand to hand to a representative of the KUSZ, it needs to be signed and noted that this money will be used according to the European bylaws.
- Anonymous donations must also be reported in the books

3. NERP situation

- At the moment we don't experience much support for the project and have no accessible financial resources. We will wait until the European bylaws are implemented before we will reactivate the process with a clear vision for the future.

4. European budget and finances, tithes

- As soon as the KUZS/ EU is functioning as an official association (expected by summer 2015), the school will ask all Sangha for the agreed membership fees of 10%.
- We expect income through membership fees summing 10 000 – 12 000 EUR per year.
- It is planned that the budget will contain: health insurance for monastics in Europe, grants for travelling to important KUZS events, supply of Dharmaequipment like Buddha and bell, publications, Primary Point, contribution to the payment of the School-Headmaster etc.
- Tithes will be collected for 2015 and saved for the New European Retreat Place (NERP), as agreed during our meeting in 2013.

IV. International topics

1. International Teachers meeting / Teachers YMJJ in Europe

- For practical and financial reasons we ask the International Council (IC) to revise the planned meeting of American, Asian and European teachers since the scheduled date in spring 2016 is in conflict with Wu Bong DSSNs three year memorial.
- ETG suggests to plan an extra full day at the WWSF conference 2017

2. Finalizing the Ethics Statement

- We have unanimously agreed to a final version.
- This version needs to be reviewed by International Council.

3. International structures of our school

- The three regional administrative heads of the KUSZ have made amendments to the job descriptions of School Head Zen Master and the International Administrators. These amendments and all their proposals have been unanimously approved by the ETG.

4. Further attachments to the Teachers Compact

- ETG recommends that an international committee is to be formed to update the Inka and transmission procedures. We recommend that the IC forms such a committee composed of 2 Zen Masters from each region.

5. Practise Forms and Dharma Mirror proposed additions

- Position of the hands during walking meditation: Hands should be put before Tanjon (not in front of the chest).
- Adding the chapters "Mantrapraxis" and "Dhramaplay" from the old version of the Dharma Mirror into the new edition, Appendixes A.09 – A.14 (without the „I -Want- Something Mantras“).

6. Liaison person for next WWSF 2017 in Las Vegas

- We need to find a senior student to take over this important job. All teachers will look for someone in their Sangha.

7. Helping and teaching in South Africa

- Arne PSN could come for a visit in 2016

May 14th 2015

Based on the of the minutes written by
Arne Schaefer, JDPS

Approved and edited by
Ji Kwang