Samdhong Rinpoche and the Uncompromising Truth in a Compromised World: Reconciling Tibetan Buddhism with Today's World

Conceived, recorded, and edited by Donovan Roebert

This first-ever series of in-depth dialogues with Samdhong Rinpoche, the current Prime Minister of the Tibetan Government-in-Exile, presents his refreshing views on a wide range of pressing topics including the problems of the present political world order, the philosophy of "non-violence" (Ahimsa) and "truthinsistence" (Satyagraha), and the plight of Tibet in the face of the communist Chinese invasion.

Informed throughout by his deep belief in the principles of Tibetan Buddhism, Samdhong Rinpoche holds to an uncompromising vision of the Truth the way the world could be if it renounced its destructive path of unprincipled pragmatism and worldly compromise.



Reconciling Tibetan Buddhism with Today's World





Additional Publication Information

Samdhong Rinpoche and the Uncompromising Truth in a Compromised World contains:

- ✤ A Preface by Donovan Roebert
- ✤ A Foreword by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet
- Complete Bibliographical Notes

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About the Editor Donovan Roebert

Donovan Roebert is the founder and coordinator of the South African Friends of Tibet. He lives in Broederstroom, South Africa.

About Samdhong Rinpoche



Venerable Professor Samdhong Rinpoche was born as Samdhong Lobsang Tenzin in 1939, in the Tibetan province of Kham. At age five, he was recognized and enthroned as the reincarnation of the fourth Samdhong Rinpoche. He began his monastic studies at age 12 and eventually obtained a Doctorate in Buddhist sciences at the University of Drepung in Tibet in 1970. In 1959, Rinpoche fled to India to escape the repressive Chinese government in Tibet. There, he was commissioned by His Holiness the Dalai Lama to serve as a teacher to monks in exile. He was appointed director of the Central Institute for Higher Tibetan Studies in Varanasi in 1988 and remained there until 2001. On July 29, 2001, Rinpoche was named Kalon

Tripa, or Prime Minister of the Tibetan Exile Government, the first political leader to be directly elected by the people in exile.



An Excerpt from This Book

"On the last evening of the conference I mustered up the courage to approach Rinpoche and, taking hold of his hand, to thank him for what he had given me. As I blurted out my inarticulate words of appreciation he gazed at me with a slightly surprised and amused detachment. How could he know what powerful seeds of revolution he had planted in my own thinking? From that point on I became driven by an impulse to bring Rinpoche's total view to the attention of a much wider audience. It didn't matter whether everyone who heard his truth became immediately influenced by it or not. Truth has its own power, its own potential to grip those who are alive to it, but also to lie like a patient seed in the deep mind of those who are not yet ready to acknowledge it. The important thing is that it be sown."

About the Author of the Foreword: His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet

His Holiness Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet, is both the spiritual and temporal leader of the Tibetan people. Following the invasion of Tibet by the communist-inspired Chinese Army in 1959 and the impending threat on his life, he escaped into exile and has since resided in Dharamsala, the seat of the Tibetan Government-in-exile. He is a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize and the author of numerous books and essays, including *Kindness, Clarity and Insight* (1984), *A Human Approach to World Peace* (1984), and *Ocean of Wisdom* (1989).





An Excerpt from the Foreword

"Samdhong Rinpoche is someone l hold in high regard. He belongs to the last generation of Tibetans that reached adulthood and accomplished a part of his monastic training before leaving Tibet. . . . Despite his genuine qualities and accomplishments, l have always found Samdhong Rinpoche to be an abstemious, reserved man. Consequently, his firm views on many issues may not be widely known outside the Tibetan community. Considering the important position he now occupies, l believe the editor of this book has done a public service in preparing this selection of Rinpoche's observations and opinions."

