



A Collaborative Initiative by the Shang Shung Institute UK and the Ka-Ter Translation Project

Chögyal Namkhai Norbu was not only one of the most revered Dzogchen masters of our time, but also a renowned scholar whose work spanned many dimensions of Tibetan culture. Through decades of teaching, writing, and speaking at international conferences and universities, he passionately emphasized the richness and importance of Tibetan heritage—especially as it faces increasing threats to its survival.

Now, nearly seven years after his passing, the **Shang Shung Institute UK** and **Shang Shung Institute Austria**, with the **Ka-Ter Translation Project** at its core, are launching a new collaborative initiative to further his legacy. United in purpose and vision, this partnership is dedicated to spreading awareness of Chögyal Namkhai Norbu's extraordinary life work and to preserving it for future generations.

Following the success of a joint fundraising campaign to bring a **stupa by Rigzin Changchub Dorje** to the sacred site of **Maratika in Nepal** (planned for March 2026), **Jamyang Oliphant** (Director, Shang Shung UK) and **Oliver Leick** (Director, Shang Shung Austria) have designed a vibrant year-long series of cultural and educational events beginning in **July 2025**.

A Year of Cultural Engagement and Exploration

At the heart of this initiative is a rich program of **book presentations** dedicated to the works of Chögyal Namkhai Norbu, published by **Shang Shung Publications**. These events will be held in **Italy, the UK, Nepal, and Spain**, and made globally accessible via live **Zoom broadcasts**. Recordings will also be available on the **Shang Shung Institute UK's YouTube channel**.

Each presentation will be designed to be **interactive and accessible**, featuring expert dialogues, Q&A sessions, and group readings, depending on the nature of the text. Events will take place in **bookshops, public venues, universities, and International Dzogchen Community centers**.

In addition to the featured titles, a variety of other books by Chögyal Namkhai Norbu will be available for purchase, with proceeds going to support the **Ka-Ter Translation Project**—a crucial effort dedicated to translating and publishing the Master's vast body of work.

Inaugural Event – July 7, 2025, Castle of Arcidosso, Tuscany

The first event in this series will be held on **July 7, 2025**, at the historic **Castle of Arcidosso** in Tuscany. The evening program includes:

- A **photographic presentation** by **Gino Vitiello**, sharing rare and intimate images from his 1988 pilgrimage to **Mount Kailash** with Chögyal Namkhai Norbu.
- An **interview with Professor Fabian Sanders**, who will offer insight into *Total Perfection*, a key Dzogchen text recently published through the Ka-Ter Translation Project.

The event will conclude with **Khaita Joyful Dances**, refreshments, and the opportunity to visit the nearby **MACO Museum of Oriental Art and Culture**.

Upcoming Events and Thematic Highlights

This year-long program explores many key themes from Chögyal Namkhai Norbu's teachings and writings. Highlights include:



Tibetan Culture and History

- A special talk by **Professor Charles Ramble** on *The Light of Kailash, Volume 1*.

Date: Late September 2025

Location: Rangjung Yeshe Institute, Kathmandu (one of the world's leading universities for Buddhist studies)

Books for All Ages

- Presentations of *The Adventure of Nyima Dawa and the Little Yak* and *The Story Book*, including activities for children with **Kumar Kumari Yoga**, songs, and possibly theater performances.

Dates and locations to be confirmed.

Songs and Dance

- Workshops and talks on *Khaita Joyful Dances* and *Collected Comments on the Songs in Message from Tibet*.

Details to be announced.

The Afterlife and Transformation

- A thematic seminar on *Birth, Life and Death* and *The Tibetan Book of the Dead*, featuring a **musical composition by Roberto Cacciapaglia** and an **art exhibition**.

Beyond the book presentations, the program will include **art exhibitions, music performances, Khaita dance workshops, and video installations**. Each event will conclude with a convivial gathering, offering refreshments and a space for reflection and community connection.

Culminating Event – August 2026, IATS Conference, Kathmandu

The initiative will culminate at the prestigious **International Association for Tibetan Studies (IATS) Conference in Kathmandu, August 2026**. A **roundtable discussion** will be held to explore Chögyal Namkhai Norbu's scholarly contributions to the field of Tibetan studies. With many of the world's leading academics in attendance, this gathering will serve as a powerful forum for honoring his legacy.

Join Us

This collaborative project offers a rare opportunity to bring the wisdom, vision, and scholarship of Chögyal Namkhai Norbu to a wider audience—bridging the worlds of spirituality, culture, and academia in a shared celebration of his life's work.

We warmly invite you to become part of this journey. You can support us in many ways:

- **Join us at an event**
- **Share your ideas for future activities**
- **Make a donation to sustain this important work**

Donation Information

Bank Transfer

Account holder: Shang Shung Institute Austria

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[PayPal](#) or

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IBAN (Revolut): LT48 3250 0488 1616 3042, BIC: REVOLT21