

Drubdra Khenpo Tsultrim Tenzin

A Short Biography



Drubdra Khenpo Tsultrim Tenzin (Tib. sGrub grwa mKhan po Tshul khrimbs bsTan 'dzin)—a master who belongs to the Tibetan religious tradition of Bon — was born in 1968 in Ye tha, Eastern Tibet (Tib. Khams), to a family of nomadic cattle herders. As a boy, he helped his parents and grandfather tend the sheep and yaks, and learned reading and writing from his grandfather.

When he was nineteen, he entered Ye tha Lungkar Monastery (Tib. Ye tha Lung dkar dgon) where he received teachings from various Lamas. During that time, Tsultrim Tenzin completed the traditional preliminary spiritual practices, studied Tibetan grammar and poetry, philosophy, logic, and cosmology. He also served as ceremonial chant master (Tib. *dbu mdzad*) for three years.

At the age of twenty-five, he moved to Menri Monastery (Tib. sMan ri dgon) in Central Tibet, where he continued to pursue his studies. In 1993, Tsultrim Tenzin made the arduous journey to Triten Norbutse (Tib. Khri brten Nor bu rtse) Monastery in Kathmandu, Nepal, to study intensively with the chief Master (Tib. *yongs 'dzin*) Lopön Tenzin Namdak Rinpoche (Tib. Slob dpon bsTan 'dzin rNam dag Rin po che, 1926-), under whose guidance and supervision he deepened his knowledge of Bon doctrines and also learned astrology, traditional Tibetan medicine, and Sanskrit. He also served as the monastery's ceremonial chant master for six years, and as monastic disciplinarian (Tib. *dge skos*) for three years. After completing the 14-year Bon doctoral study program, he passed the examination in 2001 and received his doctoral degree (Tib. *dge bshes*).

The following year, in 2002, Yongdzin Lopön Tenzin Namdak Rinpoche appointed him Abbot of the Meditation School (Tib. *sgrub grwa mkhan po*) of Triten Norbutse Monastery. Since then, he has been teaching Great Perfection doctrines (Tib. *rdzogs chen*) in the Meditation School as well as Sūtra, Tantra, astrology, and *maṇḍala* painting in the monastic Dialectic School of Triten Norbutse.