

Project Completion Report
Renovation/Restoration of Eight Great Stupas
Champa Monastery, Dho-Tarap.
June 2018 – August 2019

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Submitted to:

Dolpo Tulku e.V and Individual Donors

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Reported by:

Dolpo Tulku Charitable Foundation (DTCF)

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October,2019



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Dolpo Tulku Charitable Foundation

Trust Reg. Number Trust 741

Acknowledgement

DTCF has been able to fulfil the objectives of the project "Renovation/Restoration of the eight great Stupas at Champa Monastery" successfully with the support of our philanthropic donors in close coordination with the caretaker and Lamas of the monastery, Gyen Urgyen and Thupten Lama and the community itself.

At this point, DTCF would like to extend its sincere gratitude and appreciation to all of our gracious contributors and the community people for their immense and continuous support, while also being a part of our mission. DTCF would also like to express its gratitude to its volunteers, members and staffs whose efforts resulted in the successful completion of the project.

In the meantime, the foundation would like to express the gratitude to Mrs. Tan Keat Lan and Kerstin Mick who coordinated with the international donors at the beginning that helped to initiate the restoration project in Dho-Tarap Valley.

At the last, but not the least, the foundation recognizes and lauds the invaluable commitment of Dolpo Tulku Rinpoche and the entire restoration project team towards making the Project successful.

Dolpo Tulku Charitable Foundation (DTCF)

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1. **Organization Background:**

Dolpo Tulku Charitable Foundation is a non-governmental and non-profit making organization that aims to address the needs of community people for sustainable development in several projects in upper Dolpo of Nepal since its establishment in 2010. DTCF has been working to fulfil the vision of a healthy, educated and prosperous society. In achieving the vision, DTCF has been implementing various projects and programs in three areas that include Education, Health and Culture & Environment. These programs are making differences in the lives of rural, disadvantaged, marginalized and excluded people, which is the great achievement of DTCF.

2. **Name of Representative and Contact details:**

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3. **Name of Project:**

Renovation/Restoration of eight great Stupas of Champa Monastery, Dho-Tarap.

4. **Country and Region covered by project:**

This project was implemented in Dho-Tarap, Dolpo Buddha Rural Municipality, Dolpa district of Nepal.

5. **Project length:** 1 year

6. **Date project started:** June 2018

7. **The completion date of the project:** 30 August 2019

8. **Summary of the Project:**

DTCF with the financial support of our gracious donors and supporters completed the project of "Restoration of the eight great Stupas of Champa Monastery" in Dho-Tarap valley, Dolpa. The project was started in June 2018. The responsibility of materials, the arrangement and supervision of the restoration was handed over to Mr. Thupten Lama, the existing caretaker and Lama of the monastery.

Considering the climate changes that the locale in the Himalayas of Nepal has been witnessing in the last several years, we have built the stupas with a mixture of cement and earth mud in ratio of 1:9, so that the natural clay would be stronger and water-resistant during the monsoon season, but without altering the original design and structure of the stupas.

The restoration work began on June 2018 with 13 laborers and 2 locals who were regularly involved, as well as a few Lamas, who helped in installing the prayer texts and other precious religious items into the stupas during the construction stages of the Stupas' structures. Around 75% of the restoration had been done by the end of September with the initially estimated fund of USD 32,000. But due to the rise in the price of raw materials, such as stones, timber, cement and labor costs during the time of restoration, the originally estimated fund was not sufficient and the remaining work of restoration could not be carried in the same year. Furthermore, the weather conditions didn't favor the stay of skilled laborers, who were hired from the lower part of Dolpa for the restoration of the Stupas' structures. Hence, the DTCF halted the remaining restoration work of 25% until the summer i.e. June of 2019. During the wintertime, the foundation worked on raising the additional estimated fund of USD 9,000 required to complete the final phase of restoration, such as engraving arts, painting, making and installing the copper made parasols on the stupas etc. After the successful completion of the restoration, working the summers (six months) of the year 2018 and 2019, the eight great stupas were inaugurated and consecrated by His Eminence Ngor Thartse Khen Rinpoche at the time of Rinpoche's travel to Bentzang in the first week of September 2019.

9. **Objectives of the Project:**

This project was implemented with the aim to restore/revive the eight Stupas, which had been erected in the old Indian tradition, commemorating the supreme guide from India, the Buddha, in the 15th century by the first Dharma King of Mustang, Amapal (1388-1456) during the same time as he was building Champa Monastery itself. Later, his son Agon Zangpo, the second king of Mustang (1420-1482), granted an official letter for getting soil from the upper valley of Shing Minter in 1467 necessary to apply the white painting on the stupas and Champa Monastery. The overall objective of this project was to preserve the sacred and ancient religious and cultural heritage site for the benefit of sentient beings, to beautify the surrounding environment and also to honor the deeds and values of previous generations through the preservation of their cultural heritage.

10. Major Achievements:

A. Output Level:

- Revived and restored the eight great stupas, which had originally been erected in the 14th Century and represent an old religious and cultural connection between two districts i.e. Dolpa and Mustang.
- The preservation of Dolpo's sacred, ancient religious and cultural heritage site restoring the people's faith and for the benefit of sentient beings.
- This project provided employment opportunity for both outsiders and locals at the time of restoration in the form of skilled and unskilled labors.
- This holy cultural heritage site appears as a potential tourist attraction in Dho-Tarap valley and also beautifies the surrounding environment.

B. Outcome Level:

- This project somehow made the local residents aware of the greatness of the ancient heritage sites and the significance of their preservation for future generations as well as for their place in history.
- The local people learnt to respect and honor those people, who built these invaluable monuments and heritage sites.
- The preservation of these kinds of heritage sites provides a learning opportunity to both locals and outsiders about the history of the monastery, the village and Dolpo as a whole.

11. Financial Report:

Fund Received:

S. No.	Description	Amount (NRs.)
1	Fund Provided in the beginning of the restoration	3,200,000.00
2	Additional fund provided in summer of year 2019	932,000.00
Total fund granted by the Foundation for restoration project		4,132,000.00

Expenditure:

S. No.	Heading	Amount (NRs)
1	Labour Cost	
	Structures Building Cost; 13 Laborers	8,50,500.00
	Stupas arts and painting cost	4,29,000.00
	Subtotal (1)	17,00,000.00
2	Materials Cost	
	Marvel Extraction Cost: 1200 Pcs	7,37,127.00
	Marvel Transportation Cost	2,62,873.00
	Subtotal (2)	10,00,000.00
3	Stones for Structures	
	Stone Collection cost	4,41,725.00
	Stone transport	15,8275.00
	Subtotal (3)	6,00,000.00
4	Status and its accessories cost	
	Cost of 8 status purchased to place into Stupas	241,900.00
	Cost of other stuffs need to place the Statues	58,100.00
	Subtotal (4)	3,00,000.00
5	Cement and Sand Cost	
	Cost of Cements & its transportation (5 quantal)	1,57,100.00
	Cost of Sand and its transportation (3 quantal)	92,900.00
	Subtotal (5)	2,50,000.00
6	Parasol and Stupas' Top items Cost	
	8 pcs of Copper made tops	2,45,700.00
	Transportation of the tops	24,300.00
	The wooden heart/pillar of stupas, 8 pcs	92,000.00
	Subtotal (6)	3,66,000.00
	Total (1+2+3+4+5+6)	42,16,000.00

12. **Conclusion**

Dolpo Tulku Charitable Foundation got an opportunity to restore one of the most important historical monuments, which was built in an old Indian tradition during the 15th century, by the first Dharma King of Mustang, Amapal at Champa Monastery in the remote rural area of Dolpa district, which is the highest human settlement valley of Nepal, where the government's presence in preservation and restoration of this district's heritage sites and monuments is negligible.

The Foundation was not only able to bring back into existence the 15th century-built stupas that commemorate the supreme guide from India, the Buddha, but it also played an essential part in the preservation of the long history of how and why the stupas were built in Dho-Tarap valley, which presents a learning opportunity to locals and foreigners in the future, about Dolpo and its economic, political and social relationships with its neighboring districts. Further, the cultural heritage site appears as a potential tourist attraction in Dho-Tarap valley and also beautifies the surrounding environment along with the return of the people's faith and for the benefit of sentient beings.

Pictures Section:

Work in Process # 1

1st August, 2018





Work in Progress # 2
30th September, 2018



Final Look
30th August, 2019



**Dolpo Tulku Rinpoche's Visit
14th September, 2019**





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