

Chapter 8: Notes & References

The lama shown in the photos meeting Ajahn Sumedho in Kathmandu on his second pilgrimage would appear, amazingly, to be one of the three brothers of Ajahn Amaro's friend Tsoknyi Rinpoche whose monastery we visited in Kathmandu in Chapter 3.

Chökyi Nyima Rinpoche is the head of Ka-Nying Sherub Ling Monastery at Boudnath which he runs with another brother, Tsikey Chokling Rinpoche, also a reincarnated *tulku*, (who is married with two sons who are also *tulkus*!) These two brothers, however, have a different mother than the woman we met, which may explain why this monastery's web site (<http://shedrub.org/>) makes no mention of the monastery we visited in Kathmandu (see Chapter 3 notes). Presumably their mother lives, or lived, in the Boudnath monastery, which like the one we visited was founded by the father, Tulku Ugyen Rinpoche.

The slides of Ajahn Sumedho's second pilgrimage also include a stop to see Milarepa's cave which is in the valley above Nyalam. We didn't have time to visit it on our return journey but I have shown it on the map for Chapter 10. There are many caves in Tibet where Milarepa, supposedly a reclusive hermit and unlikely to have done that much travelling, is meant to have lived, but this really could be the one where he composed his songs and poetry. It is the most famous, and its position just inside Tibet fits with his role in the re-introduction of Buddhism from India in the twelfth century.

A year of the Horse comes once every twelve years in the Tibetan calendar. For Ajahn Sumedho's second pilgrimage in 2002 it was the Water Horse year.