

**The Sakyong Wangmo, Dechen Chöying Sangmo**  
**Shambhala Day, Year of the Earth Ox, 2009**

A very happy and cheerful Shambhala Day to all. I can't believe that it's exactly a year since I last celebrated my first Shambhala Day in Halifax. Time does fly quickly. In one way, it's a good reminder for us to rejoice, first of all to have attained this human rebirth, to have encountered the dharma. Therefore we must value it, not waste it, to make life more meaningful and purposeful.

This year has indeed been a very auspicious year in the kingdom of Shambhala, with the opening of the Scorpion Seal retreat, the Sakyong Wangmo empowerment, and the precious Rinchen Terdzö empowerment.

We are now almost at the end of the empowerment. During this time we learned a lot about the deep connection between the Dorje Dradül and my father, and how the last major empowerment that the Dorje Dradül gave before leaving Tibet was the Rinchen Terdzö. The main recipient was my father. All these years my father has held these teachings, and he can now offer them back to the Sakyong, while all of us observe and participate. I must say it's quite amazing. This is the most thorough and elaborate conferring of the Rinchen Terdzö, I'd say. We are all joyous because we have been in retreat for three months, and sad that it's coming to an end, but most of all delighted that the Sakyong as the Earth Protector can now hold and protect these teachings; all these valuable wisdom teachings are within our Shambhala lineage.

I look back and a lot has happened this past year. I look forward to this next year, especially in further establishing our Shambhala lineage. I know the Sakyong is giving many teachings and programs and I hope to see you there. I'd also particularly like to mention and remind you all that as a Shambhalian or a Shambhala warrior, it's very important to maintain the qualities of our warriorship, to know our roots, to know who we are, and to always have trust and devotion in the guru, the teachings, and the lineage. In this way we can all protect our precious unique teachings and the lineage, and also progress in our path together.

Lastly, I make prayers and aspirations that you have a wonderful year ahead. May the kingdom of Shambhala flourish. May there be peace, love, and prosperity in the kingdom and throughout the world. May we be able to fulfill the wishes of the Dorje Dradül and the Sakyong.

Ki Ki So So!