



SHAMBHALA
THE KALAPA COURT

25 May 2006

Dr. Reggie Ray
Dharma Ocean Foundation
Crestone, Colorado

Dear Reggie,

On behalf of Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche, I am writing to you about your role as an acharya within the Shambhala community. As you know, there have been difficult, unresolved issues about this for over a year. There is a general concern that students studying with you be clear as to your relationship with Shambhala, and how that relates to their path.

Though there are a number of issues, the most basic one is that you are giving vajrayana pointing out transmission without authorization from either the Vidyadhara or the Sakyong. As this goes beyond the role of an acharya, it is necessary to formally acknowledge that you have gone your own way and are no longer acting as an acharya within the Shambhala mandala.

Therefore your programs no longer fulfill requirements on the Shambhala path. Moreover, people who are studying solely with you would not have access to programs and materials restricted to Shambhala members. If people who study with you also feel a connection to the Sakyong and the Shambhala mandala, they are certainly welcome. It is entirely the students' decision whom they choose to study with. However, they should not be confused by thinking that your organization and Shambhala are integrated, when in fact this is not the case.

All these issues are not about following rules and regulations, but about maintaining a relationship based on direct communication and mutual trust. At present, this is not happening, and it is best to acknowledge this. I trust that this will help bring clarity and allow us all to go forward.

Yours in the vajra dharma,

David Brown
Executive Secretary to the Sakyong
Office of the Kalapa Court