

Tentative Itinerary - Kalachakra 2012 at BodhGaya, India (12/31/11 - 01/11/2012)

Kalachakra means Time-Wheel, as "Kala" is Time and "Chakra" is Wheel in Sanskrit. It is also translated as Time-Cycles. Much in this tradition revolves around the concept of time and cycles; from the cycles of the planets, to the cycles of our breath and the practice of controlling the most subtle energies within one's body on the path to enlightenment.

"The initiation to the Kalachakra is one of the most important...because it takes everything into account: the body and the human mind, and the whole external aspect -- cosmic and astrological. We firmly believe in its power to reduce conflict and we believe it is capable of creating...peace of spirit and therefore peace in the world. --- His Holiness the Dalai Lama the 14th

Dec 30 Reach Delhi, India and Overnight stay at Hotel Airport Residency (Ph # +91-47122222) take taxi in group. Cost \$72 per person please pay me there.

Dec 31 Leave Delhi for Gaya by AI-433, dep 14:05 & arr 15:30
Hotel in BodhGaya, **SANGH PRIYA GUEST HOUSE**, +91-631-2200800 Stay till Jan 10.
with a private teacher, cook and cars, thanks to Lama Thupten Phuntsok of Manjushree Orphanage.

BodhGaya: place of Buddha's enlightenment. It is the most important sacred place for Buddhist.

Jan 1 Attend Kalachakra Ritual Preparation

Jan 2 Sight Seeing to important sites – Rajgir, Nalanda & Pawapuri by cars. Apprx 80 Kms.

Rajgir: One of 8 great places of Buddhist pilgrimage. Place of the subduing of Nalagiri, the angry elephant. Here and nearby, many important teachings and sermons, sutras have been taught by Shakamuni including "Heart Sutra". There is a cave where the first meeting of disciples is said to have taken place to discuss Buddha's teaching and sutras. Rajgir was a major city of ancient India.

Nalanda: Ancient center of higher learning. It is called as the first great universities in recorded human history. Established around 500 BC. It is said there were over 10,000 students, over 1,000 teachers. The library housed over 50,000,000 books and documents. In 12 AD, the city was concurred by the Islam and destroyed completely, which caused the decline of Buddhism in India

Pawapuri: the most important sacred place of Jaina religion Nirvana place of Lord Mahavira where he taught the last teaching and was cremated there around 2600 years ago. Beautiful temple.

Jan 3-9 Attend Kalachakra initiation by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Besides, we may have trips to some sites nearby, and also study with a Rimpoche.

Jan 10 Attend Long life Ceremony for His Holiness. Leave for Varanasi by bus. Apprx. 260 Kms 5hrs. Stay at luxury hotel Radisson (Ph # +91-54-2250 1515).

Varanasi: also known as Kashi, Benares or Banaras. Holy city of Hindus, Buddhists and Jains. One of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world and the oldest in India. It is referred often as "the city of temples", "the holy city of India", "the religious capital of India", "the city of lights". Sunrise & Sunset at river Ganges are famous as one of most beautiful and spiritual sights.

Jan 11 Early morning boat ride to see sunrise at river Ganges. Visit Sarnath (apprx 12Kms). Leave directly to the airport for Delhi, 9W-724, dep 15:20, arr 16:40 (Japanese) and AI-431, dep 15:45, arr 18:25.

Sarnath: place of the Buddha's first sermon. It is one of four most important places of Buddhism. It is also called Mrigadava (Deer Park) because of many deer there then. Many important statues and other antique objects have been excavated from this area. Some are housed in the museum there.

We humbly ask all of you to pay \$ 2,700 by October 31 (3,600 minus deposit 900). Please call 212 799 9711 Exact cost is hard to estimate. If we have any fund left, I would like to donate to the Manjushree Orphanage. January weather (Max 20° C 68° F; Min -2° C 28° F). Warm woolen clothes, casual clothes, flashlight.