

ACI Class Schedule & Calendar of Events

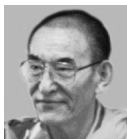


SPRING 2007

About the Institute

THE ASIAN CLASSICS INSTITUTE is dedicated to the serious study and personal practice of the original teachings of the Buddha. We have a wide range of programs for spiritually-minded people of all levels, from beginning to advanced. We welcome all comers, and all our teachings are offered without charge. Our teachers are well-trained and experienced in the authentic Tibetan tradition, and classes are a great informal way to meet others as they travel on the spiritual path.

Our Spiritual Founders



KHEN RINPOCHE GESHE LOBSANG THARCHIN received his first monk's vows from the previous Dalai Lama, and studied for over 25 years in Lhasa, Tibet, at the great Sera Mey Monastery. In 1954 he was awarded the highest degree of geshe, or Master of Buddhism, at the Potala Palace. He completed advanced studies at the Gyume Tantric College, and became an officer of the college. Since his escape from Tibet in 1959, he devoted his life selflessly to teaching thousands of Tibetans and Westerners, and to rebuilding Sera Mey, where he was appointed Abbot by the Dalai Lama. He is the author of many authoritative Buddhist works. We note with immense sorrow and a profound sense of loss the passing of Sermey Khensur Lobsang Tharchin Rinpoche (1921-2004), eminent lama and renowned scholar of the Gelukpa tradition.



GESHE MICHAEL ROACH (GESHE LOBSANG CHUNZIN) is a fully-ordained Buddhist monk and the first American to have completed the degree of geshe, after nearly two decades of study both with Khen Rinpoche and at Sera Mey Monastery. He is a graduate of Princeton University and a former Presidential Scholar. He has been active in the restoration of Sera Mey, and served for 15 years as a director of a large Manhattan diamond firm. Geshe Michael completed a 3-year retreat in June 2003. He is the founder of the Asian Classics Institute, Yoga Studies Institute, Godstow Retreat Center, the Asian Classics Input Project, the Enlightened Business Institute, and Diamond Mountain University. Geshe Michael is the author of several books including *The Garden*, *The Tibetan Book of Yoga*, *How Yoga Works*, *The Essential Yoga Sutra*, and *The Diamond Cutter*.

FORMAL STUDY COURSES

These courses are designed as a teacher-training program and are open to anyone willing to make a serious commitment to their studies. Students receive readings at each class and are required to submit homework and take quizzes. Attendance of at least 10 out of the 12 sessions is required, and auditing is not permitted. All 18 Formal Study Courses must be completed to be eligible to participate in tantric track teachings. Please call the appropriate number listed below to register.

The Principal Teachings of Buddhism

This Course is an excellent overview of the entire Buddhist path; all subsequent Courses elaborate upon the ideas presented in this Course.

A great course for those just starting out, those wanting to take the next step and learn more, or for those who have been studying specific topics and are ready for a more complete picture. Nancy Carin will teach this course based upon *The Three Principal Paths (Lamtso Namsum)* by Je Tsongkapa (1357-1419), with the commentary of Pabongka Rinpoche (1878-1941).

Nancy Carin teaches Saturdays, 1:00pm at the Three Jewels, 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Contact aci@world-view.org for more information. DATES: March 24, 31, April 7, 14, 21

Buddhist Refuge

This Course is based upon *The Ornament of Realizations (Abhisamaya Alamkara)* of Maitreya and Master Asanga (350 AD), with a monastic commentary by Master Kedrup Tenpa Dargye (1493-1568). Topics include: what is the perfection of wisdom, what is refuge, the objects of refuge, the reasons for taking Buddhist refuge, the qualities of a Buddha, the different types of bodhichitta, what is nirvana, the divisions of nirvana, five different proofs that emptiness is the ultimate nature of reality, and the five paths which lead to full enlightenment. Taught by Coco on Mondays, 7:30pm at the Three Jewels, 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Contact aci@world-view.org to register. DATES: March 26 April 2, 9, 16, 23

How Karma Works

Find out why everything works the way it does. We will explore the true nature of the world you live in, and how every single experience in your life depends on the causes you set in motion. You can change your world. This course is based upon the *Treasure House of Higher Knowledge (Abhidharmakosha)* by Master Vasubandhu (350 AD),

along with its commentary by the First Dalai Lama. Taught by Venerable Lobsang Chunzom. Location to be determined. Contact chunzom@yahoo.com for more information DATES: March-May (specific dates TBA)

What the Buddha Really Meant

In every religion it is important to decide when the founder was speaking literally, and when he or she was speaking figuratively. If we cannot make this distinction correctly, then we may end up following something that was never intended. Bob Chilton teaches how to sort out conflicting teachings, based upon *The Essence of Eloquence, on the Art of Interpretation*, an important classic by Je Tsongkapa. Monday and Thursday evenings from 7-9pm, at the Three Jewels, 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Contact acip@well.com to register. DATES: March 26; April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; May 7, 14, 21; June 4, 11

Proof of Future Lives

This Course is based upon the *Compendium on Valid Perception (Pramana Samuchaya)* by Master Dignaga (440 AD), the *Commentary on Valid Perception (Pramana Varttika)* by Master Dharmakirti (630 AD), *Light on the Path to Freedom (Tarlam Selje)* by Gyaltsab Je (1362-1432), and *Jewel of the True Thought (Tsema Gong-gyen)* by Geshe Yeshe Wangchuk (1928-present). Topics include: the three levels of perception, evaluating things beyond our direct perception, how great compassion is developed, the nature of omniscience, proofs for the existence of past and future lives, and how desire leads to rebirth—an explanation of crucial links in the chain of dependent origination. Taught by Michael Dunn on Wednesdays 7:30-9:30pm at the Three Jewels, 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Contact aci@world-view.org to register. DATES: June 5, 12, 19, 26, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Aug 7

ACI CONTACT INFORMATION • PO Box 144, New York, NY 10276 • (212) 475-7752 • www.acidharma.org

PROGRAM COSTS— The programs and activities of The Asian Classics Institute are open to all who are interested, and are conducted without charge. The Institute depends solely upon the voluntary financial support, generosity and kindness of its students and sponsors to fund all of its activities. Any and all support of time, goods, services or funding is deeply appreciated and warmly welcome.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

GENERAL INTEREST CLASSES

DHARMA SALON

Want the directions to enlightenment? The Dharma Salon explores the main ideas of Buddhism in a fun and interactive way that's more relaxed than the Formal Study Courses. Bring your questions and learn about Buddhism through teachings and discussion. It's a great opportunity to get a solid overview of the Buddhist path and to ask those unanswered questions. You can clarify any fuzzy understandings that you have, address those feelings of not quite knowing what to do to pursue a pure spiritual path, and deepen your knowledge. This class is a wonderful opportunity to learn afresh and to go in-depth without the homework and attendance commitments associated with the Formal Study Courses. It provides an opportunity to check us out, meet others, and is thought provoking for all. Tuesdays, 7-9pm. Lead by Chelsea Bailey at the Three Jewels, 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Contact aci@worldview.org or 212 475-6650. DATES: Ongoing-Tuesdays beginning March 27

A THOUSAND ANGELS: BLESSINGS ON THE PATH

In this weekend intensive we will cover the visualizations in this prayer which invoke the blessings of our spiritual guide and help us cultivate faith toward them. A prayer of lama devotion centering on the matchless Je Tsongkapa, *The Thousand Angels of the Heaven of Bliss* is a practice that lays the foundation for success in advanced meditation. *The Source of All My Good* shows us how finding and serving a spiritual guide is the very root of our path to enlightenment. Taught by Venerable Lobsang Chunzom.

This intensive will be held at the Three Jewels, 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Contact chunzom@yahoo.com for more

information.

DATES: Friday, April 13th, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Saturday, April 14th, 11:00am-1:00pm, 3:00pm-5:30pm, 8:00pm-10:00pm

Sunday, April 15th, 11:00am-1:00pm, 3:00pm-5:00pm

Attendance at all 6 sessions is not mandatory, yet highly recommended.

MORNING MEDITATION

Morning meditations at The Three Jewels are designed to help students focus the mind to stay motivated through the rest of their day while bringing a compassionate spirit to their endeavors.

Meditations are held in small, intimate groups which allow the meditation leader to provide personal attention and answer individual questions after the meditation. The teacher guides you through the traditional Preliminaries, explains the meditation and the object of focus, and then leads you through a session to learn the practice. The class is open to all levels of practitioners who wish to have a deeper understanding of Tibetan Buddhist meditations and develop a strong meditation practice. Taught by Jenny McFarlane on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 8:05 am to 9 am at the Three Jewels, 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Contact aci@world-view.org for more information.

EVENING MEDITATION

A super-enjoyable silent meditation, with practical pointers by the Venerable Thupten Phuntsok, continues on an ongoing basis Wednesday evenings. This popular drop-in meditation class is from 7-8:30pm at 321 East Sixth Street between 1st and 2nd Avenues. Contact aci@world-view.org for more information

GESHE MICHAEL ROACH and LAMA CHRISTIE McNALLY

THE GODDESS CODE: An Ancient Teaching on Spiritual Partners MARCH 9 -10, 7 -10 PM

The Goddess Code is a thousand year-old teaching from India and Tibet that can help you turn your relationship into a spiritual one, or find your spiritual mate. You'll get a copy of the ancient text, with one of the first translations into English, and word-by-word instructions on how to make it work here in the 21st Century.

LOCATION: St. Bartholomew's Church, Park Ave at 51st St.

Visit www.starintheeast.org for more information and to register. These teachings are free of charge.

Follow up teachings by James Connor and Lisette Garcia Fridays March 30

and April 6 at 7:30pm at the Three Jewels 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Registration and information: threejewels.nyc@gmail.com

THE HATHA YOGA PRADIPIKA – Course II: Pranayama and Emptiness

MARCH 12 -16, AND MARCH 19-23; 8:30-10:30 PM

This course presents the entire second chapter of this ancient Yoga Classic along with a taste of the last chapter on "Shunyata," or Emptiness.

LOCATION: Jivamukti Yoga School, 841 Broadway, 2nd floor.

Call 212 353-0214 (press "0") or visit www.yogastudiesinstitute.org to register. There is a fee for this course.

DIAMOND MOUNTAIN UNIVERSITY COURSES in New York

Bok Jinpa III: Setting Your Meditation on Fire

What is the difference between what we profess we believe and what we actually do? We have a deeply rooted belief in things. These are caused by doubt. We must uproot our doubts in order to uproot this deeply rooted belief. And for this we need to develop the "eye of wisdom" in a deep state of meditation. This very profound course deals with the ways to fight our doubts and obstacles to realizing the wisdom of emptiness. Taught by James Connor and Lisette Garcia Mondays and Fridays at 7:30pm at the Three Jewels, 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Contact: threejewels.nyc@gmail.com for registration and information. DATES: June 4, 8, 11, 15, 22, 25, 29, July 2, 6

Bok Jinpa IV: Setting Your Meditation on Fire

In this course we will study the last part of Master Kamalashila's treatise on *The Stages of Meditation*, describing the path of the Bodhisattva through all the levels up to enlightenment itself. Together we will delve into the liberating exploration of our own emptiness, and deepen as well our insight into the holy practices of the bodhisattvas. Taught by Dvora Tzvieli as a weekend workshop at the Three Jewels, 61 Fourth Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets. Contact: threejewels.nyc@gmail.com for registration and information DATES: July 6, 7, & 8, Friday, 7:30-9:30 PM; Saturday, Sunday: 10:30 AM - 7 PM

TSECHU

One of the absolute requirements for those who have taken the Vajrayogini tantric initiation is to keep up the Tenth-Day (Tsechu) Ritual, every two weeks. Tsechu will not be held at 6th Street when it falls on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. DATES: March 9, March 24, April 8, April 23, May 7, May 22, June 6, June 20, July 20, Aug. 4, Aug. 18, Sept. 3, Sept. 17, Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Oct. 31, Nov. 15, Nov. 30, Dec. 15, Dec. 29.