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# **NEW KADAMPA TRADITION**

*International Kadampa Buddhist Union*



**Separate document regarding Geshe Kelsang's personal situation.  
June 2008.**

Geshe Kelsang says:

“My true situation is that in Tibet I have studied Geshe training for many years in my local monastery called Jampa Ling and Tashi Lhunpo university and I have passed two examinations. One examination is in memorization and the other is the actual examination. Soon after that people publicly used to say to me, “Geshe”.

Later, in Tibet I joined Sera Je monastery and I studied Geshe training further. In India I mainly emphasized retreat for meditation purposes. When I was living on a high mountain called Dalhousie I received a letter from Sera Je monastery. The letter gave me encouragement to go to Sera for examination. Because I had heard that the method or system for examinations was newly created therefore I did not accept this new system.

However, in 1973 I did my Geshe Ceremony in Sera Je monastery making extensive offerings to thousands of monks and I received a special traditional khatag (white scarf) indicating that I am a Geshe.

Generally for anyone to become a real Geshe it is not necessary that the Dalai Lamas recognize them as a Geshe. Before the Dalai Lamas so many pure and real Geshe appeared such as Geshe Potowa, Geshe Jayulwa, Geshe Langri Tangpa, Geshe Sharawa, Geshe Chekawa and so forth. These Kadampa Geshe have no connection with the Dalai Lama. I have no connection with the Dalai Lama but I still believe that I am a Geshe.

*Please give a copy of this information to people if they request it. Thank you.”*