

THF 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

建築文化遺產基金會 2006 年度報告

ཨར་ལས་ལུ་པ་བཞག་ཐེབས་ཅུ་ལྷན་ཚུགས་གི་༢༠༠༦་ལོའི་སྒྱུར་ཁྱུ།



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Introduction



Tibet Heritage Fund in 2006

Thanks to our donors and supporters, and to the local communities and authorities that have supported our work, 2006 has been a successful year for. We have received a UNESCO Heritage Award for our work in Ladakh. The 4-year work in Ragya monastery was completed and a very happy celebration was organized. Work at Achung Namdzong, a site intrinsically connected with the history of Buddhism in Tibet, was also completed. Work in Mongolia made good progress, and we were able to bring a group of Mongolian artisans and community leaders to visit Tibetan communities and restoration sites in Qinghai. The book "Temples of Lhasa", the result of many years of work, was finally published. THF staff made presentations at conferences and universities, and participated in a study about the impact of heritage conservation in important historic cities of Asia.

About Tibet Heritage Fund

TIBET HERITAGE FUND (THF) is an international non-profit organization engaged in the field of international cooperation. We work for sustainable development of communities, often but not exclusively within the Tibetan cultural realm.

Projects such as rehabilitation of traditional settlements and restoration of historic monuments are designed to primarily benefit the local residents. Communities, local governments and institutions are important counterparts. THF runs a large vocational training program to build up local capacities, create economic opportunities and to keep traditional building skills and crafts alive. THF is interested in historic settlements and cities, where we carry out social surveys and develop rehabilitation proposals. We also research and document traditional Tibetan building technology.

The Tibetan Cultural Realm

Tibetan cultural influence has historically spread over the entire Himalayan regions, has reached the ears of Chinese emperors and Mongolian conquerors, and has even spread across Siberia. In the past, religious teachers, artisans, pilgrims and traders would travel across the Himalayan plateau and adjacent regions. Borders did have little meaning for them. The events of the 20th century has led to new borders being drawn, and ancient borders, that for centuries have marked little more than taxation base, have become impregnable walls separating communities. This deprives the Himalayan culture centuries' old dynamics.

THF is devoted to interregional exchange of experience, in ways that can benefit improvement of basic human needs as well as heritage preservation.

As a result of the advent of modernity, many historic monuments, sites and settlements have disappeared, and traditional skills declined. Yet these historic monuments and settlements, and the skills that created them, hold an enormous potential to the future welfare of the people on the plateau. It seems a tragic waste to let this slip away, with the effect that once-unique Himalayan towns and settlements start to look like towns anywhere else in Asia. However, it is always dangerous to romanticize, and the inhabitants of the Tibetan cultural realm, whether they are ethnic Tibetans, Chinese, Indians or Mongolians, have legitimate aspirations to reach the same level of comfort and economic progress as people elsewhere.

Therefore THF's projects are aimed at generating employment and other opportunities for people to improve their livelihoods.

Currently we are working in three countries, trying sometimes to bring carpenters from Lhasa, community leaders from Amdo, savings groups from Ladakh and painters from Mongolia together to learn from each other.

Thanks to all our supporters and donors.

The aims portrayed here, and the communities that we work with need continued support.



Map of THF Project Sites

ལས་གཞི་གནས་སའི་ས་ཁ།



Note: Map © Google Maps, only for orientation
THF is not responsible for depictions of international borders

1. CHINA PROGRAMME

1.1 Qinghai Programme

ཨ་མདོའི་ལས་གཞི།

1.1.1 Yushu Lab Pendhu Stupa

ལབ་པན་འདུམ་མཆོད་རྟེན།

Location: Lasitong valley, Chengduo County, Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province.

Duration 2005- 2006

Budget in 2006:US\$1,560.89.-

Lab Pendhu Stupa belongs to Labu monastery, the earliest Gelukpa monastery in the Yushu region, founded in 1419. According to local tradition, the *stupa* is older than the monastery. The original height was about 16m high. The *stupa* was damaged during the 1950s, the upper half part was demolished and most sacred fillings inside taken out and destroyed.



Following a project invitation from the governor of Yushu, THF made a primary architectural survey of the ruins of the Labu stupa in 2004 and the restoration began in 2005.

We found the local masons to be highly skilled and experienced in stupa construction. This was a great advantage for successful construction work and the Stupa structure was restored to original scale.

In 2006, THF, Lab monastery and local villagers jointly prepared the offerings to fill and re-consecrate the stupa. Inside were three hollow spaces for the placement of sacred objects. After our structural stabilization, the first hollow space in the base was filled by the local villagers with grain. The second space was filled with *Tsatsas* (devotional clay tablets) and dried Juniper branches. In the third space Buddhist texts and images was placed. The villagers and the monastery produced the *Tsatsas*. THF and the monastery prepared over 1000 Buddhist scriptures, and image were donated by the local community. The local community came for the religious ceremony that was held for the re-consecration.

The project was officially completed and the *stupa* came to life again as an important spiritual monument of the local community.

This project was supported by Misereor.



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Top and left: filling of the stupa by the Lab Pendhu monks.

Right: the project team 2006.



1.1.2 Ragya Monastery, Jokhang Hall

རྒྱུ་དགོན་པ།

Location: Machen County, Golok Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province.

Duration 2004-2006

Budget in 2006: US\$39,373.27-

Ragya was founded in 1769 and today is one of the largest monasteries in Qinghai.

It consists of five colleges of Tibetan monastic study programs, and over 500 monks are studying at present. Only two buildings survived from the 18th century through the Cultural Revolution; these are Gyupa Tantric College and Jokhang assembly hall.

THF restored Gyupa Tantric College 2002-2005, and Jokhang hall work began in late 2004.

Jokhang Hall

In 2006, our efforts were concentrated on rebuilding the north wall, which was demolished during the Cultural Revolution, as it had sheltered the sanctum. Our masons built a 4.5 meter high rammed earth wall on stone foundations. On the top a parapet with pembey frieze was added. The remaining historic rammed earth walls were strengthened by adding more stones to the foundations. The circumambulation path was paved, and a drainage system for roof and path was built.

The carpentry work shop included two carpenter masters from Lhasa, joined by many local carpenters from Jentsa, Basong and Trika counties in Qinghai. During the workshop, many important techniques of restoration methodology and team work were transmitted. For example, "replacing damaged pillars without opening roof structure" was operated under guidance of experienced carpenter master Chöchok. This was a significant experience to know the method and process of this technique for many local carpenters.



The reconstructed Jokhang sanctum was decorated in traditional style. The students of traditional painting classes at the Ragya Jigme Gyantsen Welfare School participated.

These activities helped to draw the attention of the local community on participation in maintenance of local monuments, and generated a new awareness about traditional architecture.

In October 2006, Ragya monastery building rehabilitation and training workshop project was successfully completed. Officials from Golok TAP and Machen County came and gave a high evaluation for the project results and quality.

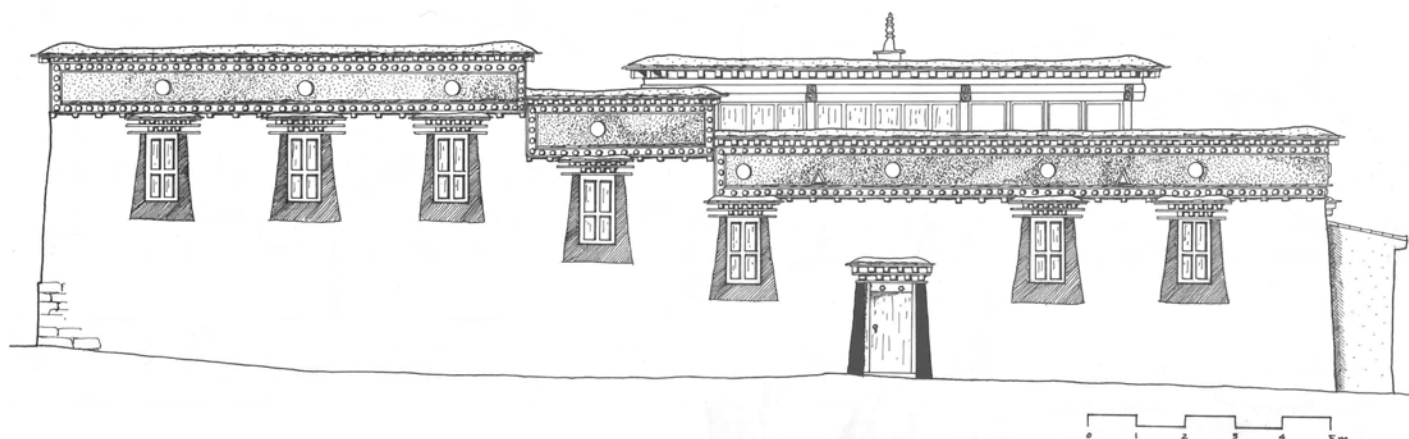
The Ragya monastery restoration project 2002-2006 was successfully completed. Professionals and volunteers from many regions and countries participated, from Germany, Japan, Portugal, and Beijing, Sichuan, Lhasa and Qinghai. Although the participants came from different places, all of us worked hard together for this project and used their best abilities to complete the work. These four years were full of happy and difficult moments, and unforgettable memories will remain in the heart of all participants.



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Top: Climber's view of Ragya monastery (YH).

Below: Jokhang, west elevation (YH).





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This was an exchange of ancient architectural cultures and a good opportunity to learn. Over 68 people participated in the actual work and training activities, and over 50 monks and nomads contributed volunteer labour.

This project was supported by Misereor and Trace Foundation.

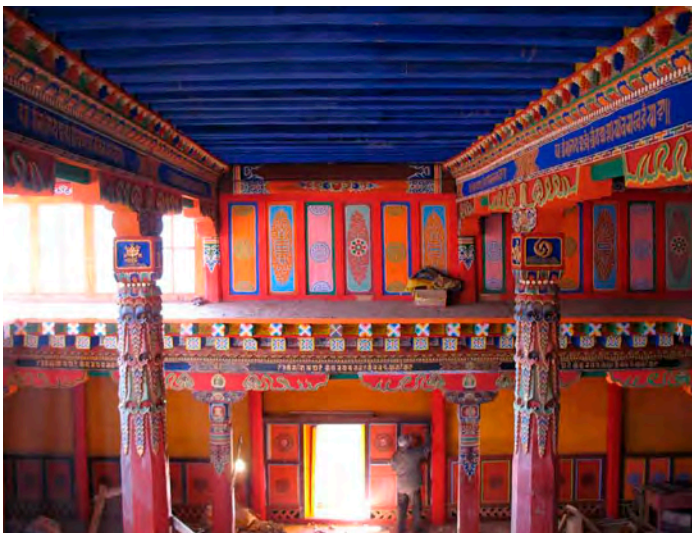
Top left: Ragya Jokhang Assembly Hall before and after project.

Top right: carpentry workshop.

Center: building of the massive rammed earth wall for the Jokhang sanctum.

Below left: interior view of completed Jokhang hall.

Below right: senior Ragya monks including Jigme Gyentsen, local government officials and THF team.



1.1.3 Achung Namdzong

Location: Kambura village Jentsa county Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai province.

Duration: 2005-2006

Budget in 2006: US\$18,649.24

Achung Namdzong is a cave temple located in the Kambura national park, characterized by uniquely-shaped hills of red earth.

In the 9th century, when Buddhism in central Tibet was suppressed by king Langdarma (r.ca.836-843), three Buddhist monks escaped persecution by hiding in Namdzong.

They lived and practised Buddhism in the three caves at Namdzong, until king Langdarma's assassination by Lhalung Pelgyi Dorje. The latter also escaped to Amdo and met the three monks here. The students of the three monks played an important role for the revival of Buddhism in central Tibet.

Namdzung has since become one of most important historic sites for Tibetan Buddhism, receiving pilgrims and support regardless of sectarian affiliation.

The cave temple was vandalized during the Cultural Revolution. The wooden gallery, used to access the caves and as space for religious ceremonies, was destroyed. In order to make use of the caves again, the gallery would have to be rebuilt. In the interior, all wall-paintings had been completely blackened by fire.

THF and the local community developed the rehabilitation plan and organized the carrying of the materials up the hill. In 2006, the restoration work concentrated on setting up the structure, with carpenters from different regions working

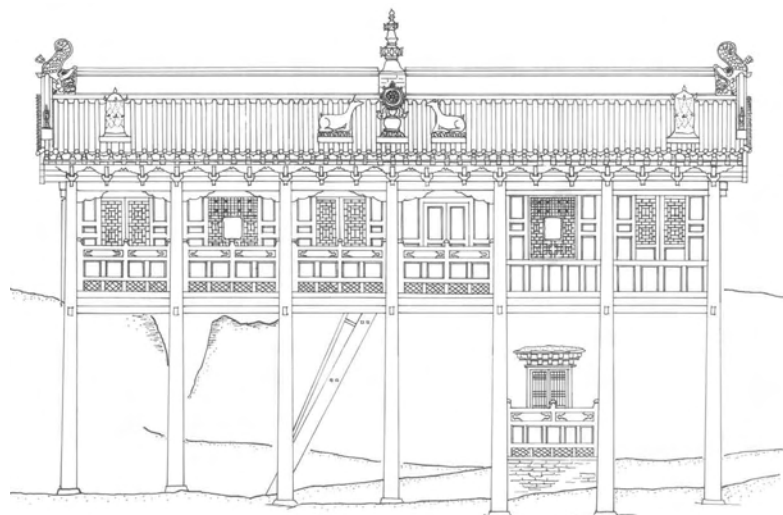


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The reconstructed access gallery.

ཨུག་ཆུང་གཞན་མཛོད་།



Plan for reconstruction (YH).

together. The timber frame was erected on the edge of the cliff and the ceiling structure built on top. The building façade was decorated with rich carvings, the beam tops with dragon-head carvings and the pillar capitals with flowers.

The roof was tiled with gray roof tiles and decorative pieces in the traditional Qinghai fashion. Six metal ornaments prepared by local communities were fitted on the roof.

Below: erection of the timber frame and building of Amdo-style tiled roof.





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The small building used for meditation, called "Tsamkhang" in Tibetan, was also rebuilt. The interior was upgraded by fitting it with a wooden floor and the traditional heated bed called "khang". It is now ready to function as an important meditation place again.

The location of the site high on the cliff presented our team with many extra logistical and technical difficulties. Without the strong support of the local communities, it would have been impossible to do this project. In November 2006, THF completed the rehabilitation work, and the local community organized a celebration ceremony. 18 people participated in the crafts activities, and over 170 people from various villages contributed volunteer work to carry materials up to Achung Namdzong.

This project was supported by Misereor and Trace Foundation.

*Top: Achung has a spectacular setting.
Center: recovery of the paintings underneath
soot layer. Below: local team at completion.*



1.1.4 Ragen Manikhang Community School

རུ་གྲོང་མཐོ་མི་ཁང་།

Location: Trika County, Hainan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province.
Duration 2006

Budget in 2006: US\$3,301.07

Trika is a county today inhabited by three equally large communities of Tibetans, Han Chinese and Hui Muslims. Tibetan tribes had settled here since the 9th century. Since the 1950s the shift in demographics has turned these tribes into the minority population, and so they developed ideas to preserve their indigenous culture.

In 2004, the village temple "Ragen Manikhang" was restored by THF and activated as local community center, regularly used for village meetings and activities.

In 2006, Mr. Lundrup Dorje started a Tibetan language school in the village temple. The school is free of charge and completely run by the community. At present there are Tibetan language courses for adults and children. The school attracts students from neighboring counties. The community has found a positive path to preserving their cultural identity that is



compatible with the official policy of "harmonious society" (meaning China's many ethnic groups should live peacefully with each other, and none should be favored).

The school programs are study of Tibetan reading and writing skills for primary and the higher grade study on the text from Nyingma, an oldest sect of Tibetan Buddhism.

This project was supported by Misereor.



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1.1.5 Serkhang Restoration

Location: Jentsa County, Huangnan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province.
Duration 2006- on-going

Budget in 2006: US\$18,919.98

Serkhang monastery is one of only a handful surviving Tibetan monasteries from the 14th century. It preserves authentic details of the founding period, and is an important example of the fusion of Tibetan architecture with Mongolian and northern Chinese architecture that has become so characteristic for many Tibetan monasteries in Qinghai.

Serkhang monastery was founded by Chökyi Dundup Rinchen in the 1340s. Today Serkhang consists of ten historic buildings, surrounded by a high brick wall. The monastery provides religious services for the eight villages of



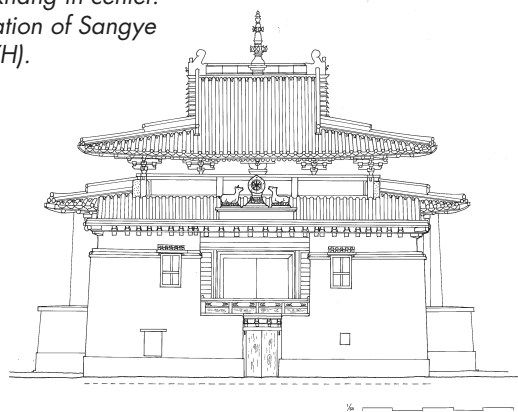
Nangra, and is the main center for the community activities. With government approval, THF has assisted local restoration efforts since 2005. In 2006, we prepared construction materials and stated upgrading the water & sanitation facilities in the monastery.

This project was supported by Misereor and Trace Foundation.

Right: Master Chöchok checking the roof structure.

Far left: courtyard with Sangye Lhakhang in center.

Below: elevation of Sangye Lhakhang (YH).



1.1.6 Jyekundo Old Town

Location: Jyekundo Town, Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province.

Duration 2006- on-going

Budget in 2006:US\$8,634.51

Jyekundo is an important historic Tibetan town that has developed as a trading center between the Kham (Sichuan), Amdo (Qinghai) and central Tibetan regions and interior China. Presently Jyekundo is the prefecture capital of Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Region. The city is located at the south-eastern end of Qinghai province, 800km from the capital Xining, bordering Sichuan and TAR. Culturally Yushu belongs to the Kham region. Jyekundo town has a population of 30869, of which 79% are officially Tibetan (2000 census).

Unlike in most other historic towns in the region, Jyekundo's historic center still exists, despite rapid urban growth in recent years. Together with local partner institutions, THF wishes to preserve and upgrade the historic town. In 2006, we carried out surveys to understand the present conditions. THF plans a housing upgrading program, providing co-financing



Jyekundo old town.

for residents, and infrastructure upgrading, to achieve community-based rehabilitation of this important Tibetan settlement.

This project was supported by Trace Foundation and Misereor.

1.2 Mongolia Exchange Program

Location: Xining, Kumbum, Trika, Ragen, Ragya (Qinghai Province).

Duration 2006

Budget in 2006:US\$2592.14

To build up the skills of a team of Outer Mongolian artisans (see 3.), THF arranged a training program for them in Qinghai. Six participants were selected, two carpenter trainees (Mr. Jargal, Mr. Zandelger), local project manager Mrs. Pemba Tsering, two tile- and brick-making trainees (Ms. Tsetsegmaa and Ms. Manbayer) and one painter (Mr. Ankha).

The training program included carpentry workshops, brick and tile manufacturing

workshops, and excursions to historic sites with related style of architecture. Detailed explanations on the architecture, techniques and materials were given by our team of experts from Qinghai, Lhasa and abroad. Pimpim de Azevedo and Yutaka Hirako organized the exchange, and the team was accompanied by carpenter Mr. Danilo Thiedemann and the Inner Mongolia translator Mr. Amaraa (Amuretugusi).

This project was supported by Misereor (Mongolia budget).



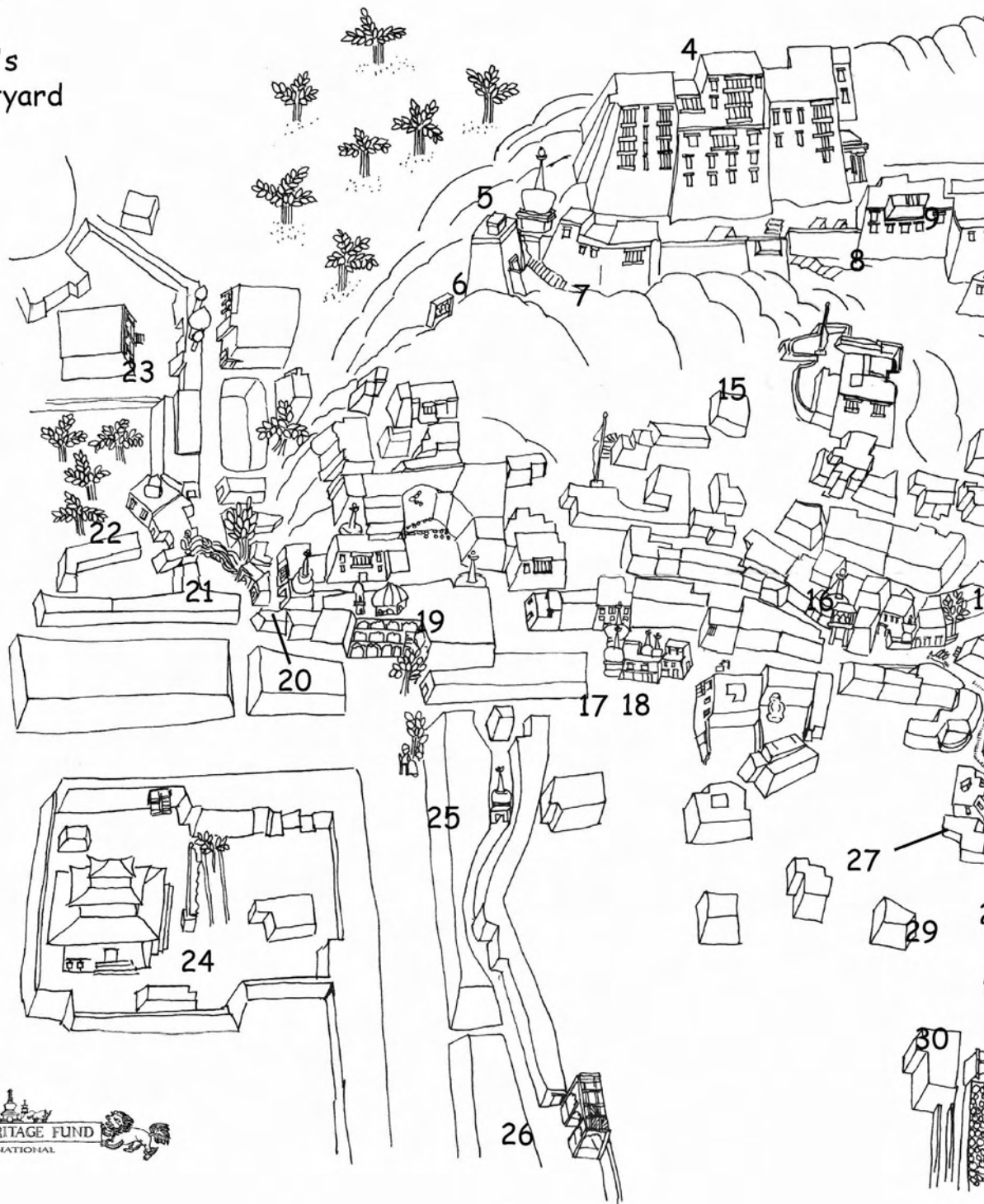
Mongolian trainees participating in carpentry and roofing workshops in Amdo.



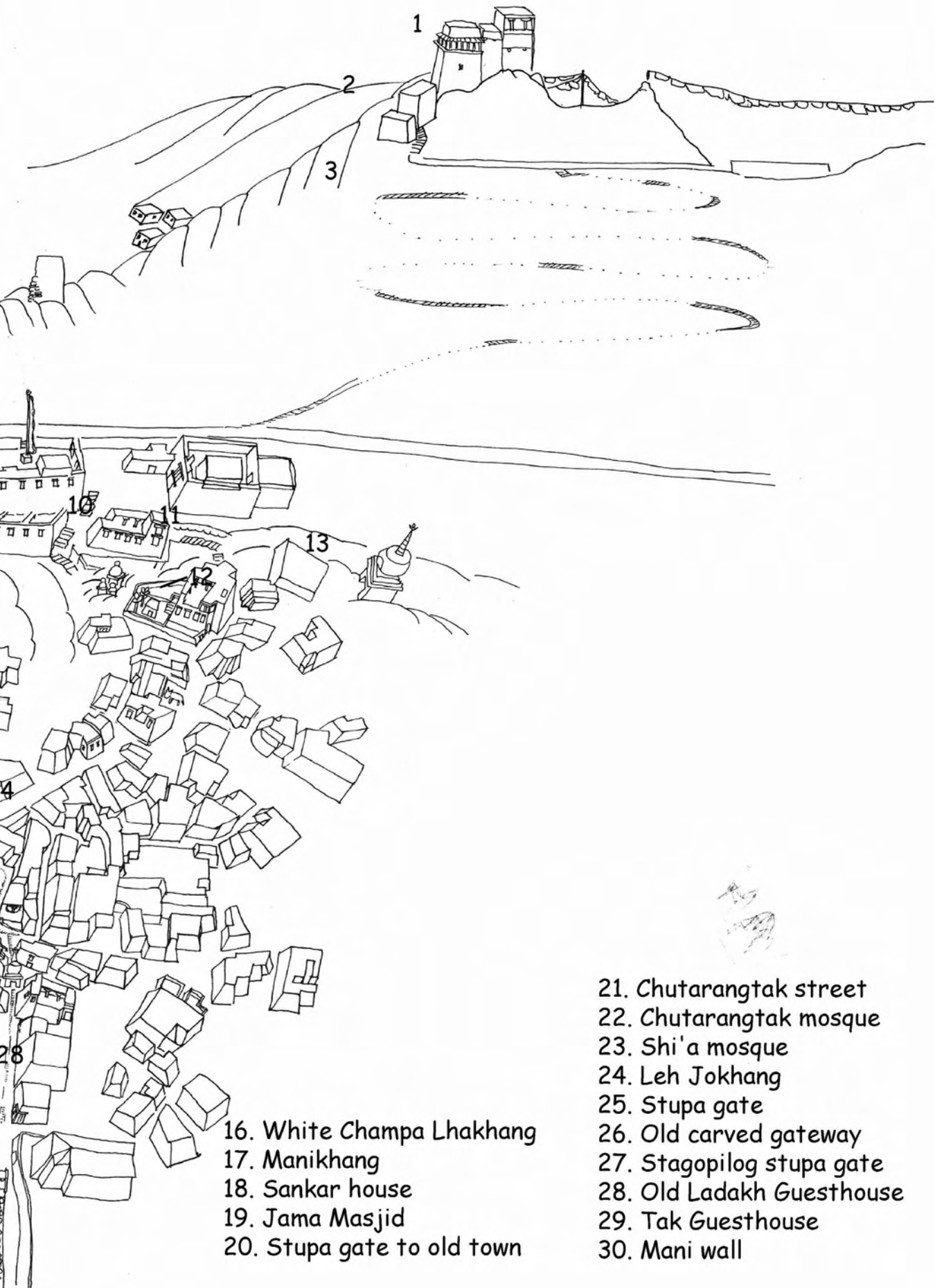
Leh Heritage Walk

Map by Pimpim de Azevedo
with A.Alexander, J.Niewoehner, E.Otsuka
©THF

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Namgyal Tsemo | 10. Red Chamba Lhakhang |
| 2. Tsemo Goenkhang | 11. Chenrezi Lhakhang |
| 3. Tsemo Maitreya temple | 12. Lakruk house |
| 4. Leh palace,
Leh-chen Pel-khar | 13. Stupa gate |
| 5. Namgyal Stupa | 14. Stalam road |
| 6. Guru Lhakhang | 15. Munshi house |
| 7. Lonpo House | |
| 8. Gonpa Soma | |
| 9. Gonpa Soma's
chamra courtyard | |



ཡུགས་སྒྲེང་གོང་གི་སྒྲིང་ལྗོངས་འཕྲིན་ལྗོངས་



2 INDIA PROGRAMME

ལ་དུགས་སྒྲེད་གྲོང་རྒྱུང་སྒྲིབ་

Leh Old Town Conservation Project

Budget 2006: US\$54,982.92

Duration: 2003- on-going

Ladakh is a semi-autonomous region within Jammu and Kashmir State of India. Historically it was an independent kingdom that has retained its Tibetan identity until today. Since the mid-20th century this identity has been threatened by the closure of the Tibetan border and the Indo-Pakistani conflict over Kashmir, which caused Ladakh's age-old commercial and cultural links with Tibet and Central Asia to wither away.

The historic capital, Leh, represents one of the most important examples of Tibetan historic urban architecture. According to social surveys carried out by THF, a deep urban decay has set in - lack of infrastructure, houses are dilapidated. The residents are mainly low-income communities.

With local support, THF founded the Leh Old Town Conservation Project in 2003, and in 2005 established a registered non-profit NGO in Ladakh, the Leh Old Town Initiative (LOTI).



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Project results

1 THF's Leh Old Town Project won a UNESCO heritage award.

2 THF and the Ladakh Autonomy Government signed a 5-year Memorandum of Understanding concerning their cooperation to rehabilitate the historic part of Leh.

3 The Red Maitreya Temple in Leh has been restored and a great re-opening ceremony was held, attended by the Leh Buddhist community.

4 Two Ladakhis have received further six months of qualified training in wall-painting conservation. Their progress has so impressed the dean of the conservation department of Erfurt University of Applied Sciences in Germany that the two are invited in 2007 to spend three months in the conservation laboratories at Erfurt for further training.

5 THF and Erfurt University of Applied Sciences signed a cooperation agreement for the systematic research and conservation of historic Ladakhi wall-paintings, and training of Ladakhi students.

6 The courtyard of the Gonpa Soma monastery in Leh has been restored.

7 The Hor Yarkandi residential building has been rehabilitated under a 50% co-financing agreement with the owner.

8 The old Sankar Labrang building was saved from demolition and transformed into the "Leh Heritage House".

2.1 UNESCO Award

In 2006, THF won one of 9 annual Heritage Awards that the UNESCO bestows on conservation projects in the Asia-Pacific Region. The UNESCO wrote about our project:

"This small-scale project has catalyzed a conservation and urban rehabilitation movement in the ancient capital of Ladakh by successfully undertaking the pilot restoration of a residential neighborhood which includes a range of building typologies. By conducting a detailed social survey alongside a conservation inventory, the needs of the population were addressed in an integrated way. Through low-cost restoration using indigenous knowledge, skills and materials, it has demonstrated the feasibility for residents and authorities to upgrade historic quarters for modern living. Training of local workers in all aspects of the work, even in mural cleaning and stabilization, lays the foundation for the continued empowerment of the community. Contributions by homeowners and the municipal government to the conservation of private houses and public infrastructure, respectively, ensure a local investment to the work. The spin-off effects of the project are evident, with expressions of

2006
UNESCO
Asia-Pacific
Heritage
AWARDS
for
Culture Heritage Conservation

Ladakh's head
of government,
CEC Tsering
Dorje Lakruk
during signing
ceremony.
Left: UNESCO
plaque for
THF project.





View of historic Leh: circle shows Gonpa Soma (left) and Red Maitreya Temple (right).

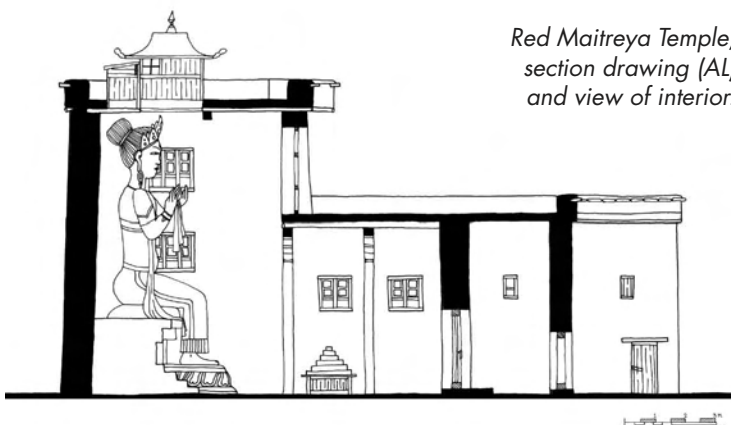
interest from other homeowners and the local government to continue with additional works to conserve other heritage structures in the Leh old town."

2.2 THF - LAHDC cooperation

THF signed a 5-year memorandum of understanding with the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Ladakh's autonomy government, to jointly preserve and improve historic Leh.

2.3 / 2.4 The Red Maitreya Temple Restoration

The Red Maitreya temple (Byams pa dmar po) was built by king Tragspa Bumde (r. ca. 1400-1440). It was damaged during the Dogra invasion of the 1840s but restored soon after. In the late 1950s, because of water damage to the north wall, the Ladakh Buddhist association rebuilt the main hall to smaller scale, leaving only the original north and west walls standing to form an outer corridor around a new hall.



Red Maitreya Temple, section drawing (AL) and view of interior.

The paintings on those sections were white-washed at the time and then forgotten. In 2005 they were rediscovered by THF. THF worked on the restoration of the roof in 2005 and 2006, while a wall-painting conservation team brought back the paintings on the western wall. The coat of painting was removed, and several cracks were filled in. The edges of the painted section were stabilized.

It was discovered that the paintings suffered from earlier damage, such as man-made damage to the lower section during the 1830s invasion by Jammu troops, water damage, and fixtures caused by structural damage to the building. THF corrected the structural damage and intervened to prevent further water infiltration from below and above. The paintings and the rest of the structure were protected by a new parapet and new layers of water-stopping clay in the roof. The murals on the west wall were completely restored. Loss of some pigments such as blue



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gave rise to the thought that some retouching of background colours will greatly enhance the attraction of these paintings to local eyes, this will be discussed by THF, the wall-painting conservation team, the monastery and local community members in 2007.

A local sponsor paid for repainting of the Maitreya statue inside of the temple, and a special festival was held to commemorate the completion of both projects.

2.5 Wall painting conservation training program

In 2006, the 15th century wall-paintings on the west wall of the Red Maitreya Temple in Leh were successfully recovered and stabilized. More recovering work will be necessary on the north-eastern section next year.

THF and Erfurt have now formalized their cooperation with an MOU, and Erfurt will regularly supply students and equipment. The training was undertaken by Romanian restorer Anca Nicolaescu and conservation students from Germany (conservation department of the Technical University of Erfurt) and Belgium, assisted for some time by Professor Landmann from Erfurt University of Applied Sciences, dean of the Faculty of Conservation. The trainees were Yangchen Dolma and Skarma Lotos. Both had already received basic training in 2005. In 2006 they received training in the basic approach for painting conservation; cleaning of wall-paintings with different tools and chemicals, particularly removal of paint, mud, soot and oil; in-fill of

Bringing back the lost 15th century wall-paintings: THF restoration team and local trainees at work.

cracks and other basic repair techniques for damaged painting and plaster layers.

2.6 The Gonpa Soma Courtyard

Gonpa Soma ("new monastery" in Ladakhi) was built in 1840 by lama Tashi Tenpel above the old royal stables. In Gonpa Soma's chamra courtyard, the Ladakhi group LASOL perform traditional songs and dances during the summer, while the monks from Hemis perform Cham dances during the winter festivals. The courtyard gallery had fallen into disrepair when some of the monastery's traditional functions were taken over by the new Tsuklakhang (main temple) in the main bazaar, constructed at the end of the 1950s. Only in recent years had LASOL and the Gonpa Soma attempted to revive activities here.

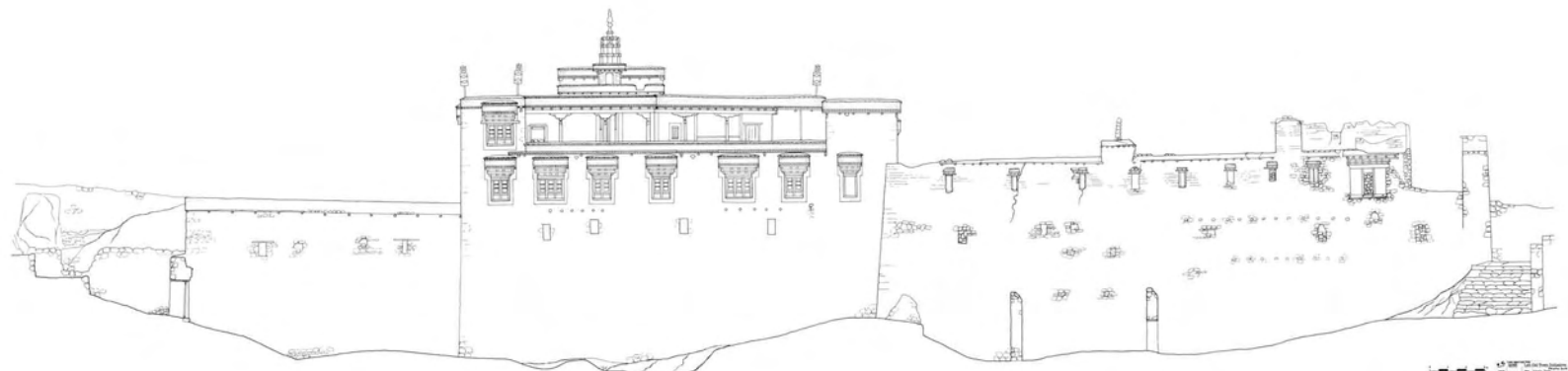
THF surveyed the entire premises and found several structural faults. Then on the basis of THF's survey and input from the monks and the local craftsmen, the courtyard gallery was restored. A celebration was held on the occasion of the Ladakhi New Year 2007.

2.7 Hor Yarkandi House

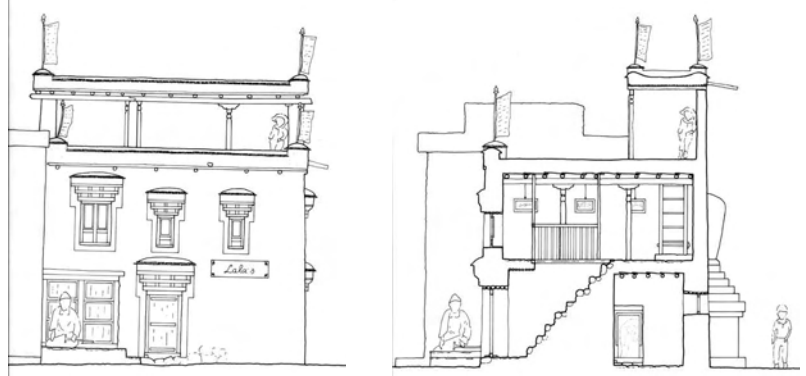
This is an important landmark building in the Stagopilog neighbourhood, one of the three principal access roads into the old town. THF had already paved this road and built a drainage, and restored another home here. The



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Gonpa Soma, south elevation (AC).



local community restored the entrance stupa, and the owner of the Hor Yarkandi House, erected about 100 years ago, applied in 2005 for the co-financing scheme.

THF fitted the building with a washing room with drainage connection, and also provided drainage connections for the kitchen sink. The toilet was improved, but kept as composting type. For the interior floors and wall surfaces, the team tried hard to improve the durability of the mud-based plasters. We achieved very good results by mixing in cow dung in some rooms, and fermented apricots in another.

2.8 Leher Heritage House

Formerly residence of a monk from Sankar monastery and empty for a decade, this landmark building in the old town was restored by THF. The owner, Sankar monastery, then agreed to make the building available for use as a Heritage House, where THF organizes meetings, lectures and exhibitions under the name of "Lala's Gallery".

L.O.T.I. local team (Ladakh):
Diskit Dolker, Konchok Rafstan,
(local project managers);
Stanzin Dolker (accountant);
Jamyang Tarchin, Sonam Dorje,
Tsering Dorje, Tsering Puntsok (local
building skill experts).

*Leh team 2006 in
front of Lala's Gallery*



Left: Hor Yarkandi House, work in progress.

Top: elevation and section drawings of the Leher House. Below: interior after opening of first exhibition, and east elevation of this cutest of all Ladakhi houses.

Foreign expert team: Anca Nicolaescu, Lharitso, André Alexander, Andreas Catanese, Pimpim de Azevedo and many volunteers from Germany, Belgium, Czech Republic, Japan and India.

This project was supported by Heinrich-Böll-Foundation (Germany), Trace Foundation (USA), Stavros-Niarchos Foundation, Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (Thailand) and Albert-Kunstadter Family-Foundation (USA).



3 MONGOLIA PROGRAMME

སོག་པོ་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ལས་གཞི།

Sangiin Dalai Monastery Restoration

*Location: Nomgun sum (village),
South-Gobi aimak, Mongolian Republic.
Duration: 2004- on-going
Budget 2006: US\$64,044.97*

Nomgon sum was an important town along the trading route between China and Mongolia. Sangiin Dalai monastery was founded in 1772, and had over 500 monks at one time. During the period of the great repression in the 1930s, the army occupied Sangiin Dalai, destroying religious images and some buildings. In recent years, the local community has initiated the project to regain a center for religious activities and practice, and have been supported by their local member of parliament. The German donor agency Misereor and the Mongolian NGO Consensus support the project, and THF does planning and implementation.

The "Sangiin Dalai restoration and training project" aims to build up sufficient local capacity among the people of Nomgon village for them to restore their local monastery, which was closed and devastated during the Great Repression of the 1930s. THF is organizing the training program and the building rehabilitation.

At the beginning, local skills available were completely insufficient for the work, and many materials necessary for the restoration, such as roof tiles and bricks were not available in Mongolia. Results after three years include the setting up of a functioning local manufacture of baked blue bricks and roof tiles. These are needed for the restoration, but also income



*Top: local brick manufacturing set up by THF.
Center: re-roofing Sangiin Dalai.*

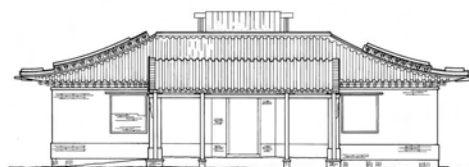
boosting for local community. Structural restoration of five of the existing six historic monastery buildings has been completed. A local group of artisans has been trained in carpentry skills and masonry. Their progress is reflected in the progress of the restoration work. As part of the community work, THF also built a watersupply for the monastery and planted trees.

*Below from left: Sangiin Dalai's Dooroviin dugan,
Judamiin dugan and Duinkhoriin dugan.*

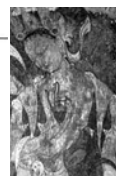




Reconstructing the pagoda-roofs of Khailaniin dугan.



Khailaniin dугan, south elevation (AC)



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In detail, in 2006 our kiln was expanded in a size. Two experts on backing bricks were invited from Tianjin (China) to finalize skill transmission. More than 5000 bricks, 185 flower tiles and 250 square tiles were produced on site, and 15 tile makers and kiln operators have been trained. Dooroviin dугan, Duinhoriin dугan and Khailaniin dугan had their roofing restored, decorative figures and flower tiles were put on the ridges and all damaged tiles were replaced. Traditional lime mortar was used.

The structural carpentry work of Dooroviin dугan (dukhang), Duinhoriin dугan, Khailaniin dугan and Taptsang (monastic kitchen) has been completed. Two trucks brought with 25.1 cubic meters for this work. The missing pagoda-roofs (rGya-pib) of Khailaniin dугan and Guuregiin dугan were reconstructed. One German and two Tibetan carpenters from Qinghai worked with seven local Mongolian carpenters. Setting up local manufacturing of tiles and bricks generated considerable excitement in Nomgon. The local governor brought samples of the newly-produced tiles and bricks sample to the provincial capital and other counties, and participated in trading fair and exhibitions, to advertise the Nomgon sum production. The manufacturing plant was visited by many people, including leaders of different provinces.

THF Mongolia team:

Ms Pimpim de Azevedo (Project manager, co-director); Mr. Danilo Thiedemann (Head carpenter master); Mr. Amuritegusi (Project coordinator, and translator); Mrs. Byampasuren (Local project coordinator); assisted by Mr. Yutaka Hirako (China project manager) and Mr. Lundrup Dorje (Beijing office manager).

Mongolia team and Lhasa visitor Tseyang

Experts from China:

Mr. Xing Hanrong (kiln baker), Mr. Xing Hanli (kiln baker) from Tianjin and Mr. Ziba (carpenter), Mr. Shawo Tsering (carpenter), Mr. Xu Changshou (brick mason) and Mr. Wei Yulin (brick mason) from Qinghai Province and Mr. Amuritegusi (translator and coordinator) from Inner Mongolia.

This project was supported by Misereor (Germany), the Rattray-Kimura Foundation (USA) and Ms Jane Huang.



4. RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

དཔལ་སྐྱེད་དཔེ་དཔེ།

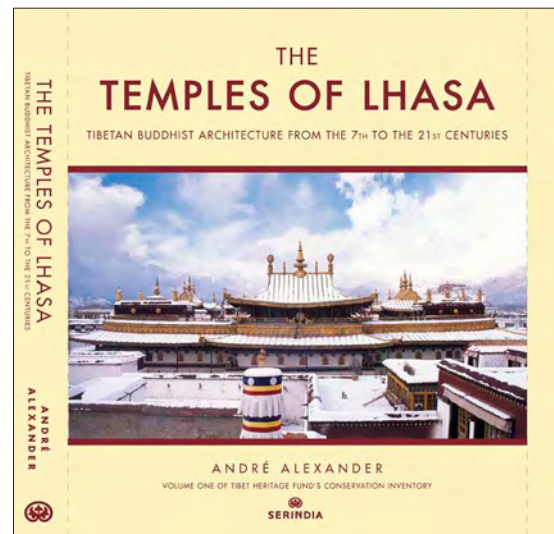
Temples of Lhasa

Serindia, Chicago January 2006

The Temples of Lhasa is a comprehensive survey of historic Buddhist sites in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa. Based on author André Alexander's study of Lhasa's historic buildings since 1993, and THF's five-year conservation project in Lhasa, the documented sites span the entire known history of Tibetan Buddhist art and architecture from the 7th to the 21st centuries. The book covers all the major and minor temples in historic Lhasa. These include some of Tibet's oldest and most revered sites, such as the Lhasa Tsuklakhang and Ramoché, as well as lesser-known but highly important sites such as the Jébumgang Lha-khang, Meru Dratsang and Meru Nyingpa. It is illustrated with numerous color plates taken over a period of roughly 15 years from the mid-1980s to today and is augmented with rare photographs and reproductions of Tibetan paintings. This book also provides detailed architectural drawings and maps made by the project. Each site has been completely surveyed, documented and analyzed. The history of each site has been written – often for the first time – based on source texts and survey results, as well as up-to-



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date technology such as carbon dating, dendrochronology, and satellite data. Tibetan source texts and oral accounts have also been used to reconstruct the original design of the sites. Matthew Akester has contributed translations of Tibetan source texts, including excerpts from the writings of the Fifth and Thirteenth Dalai Lamas. This documentation of Tibetan Buddhist temple buildings is the first professional study of some of Tibet's most significant religious buildings. Publication was supported by the Isdell Foundation.

5. NETWORKING

5.1 THF lectures in Berlin, Bonn, Hong Kong, Kyoto, New York, Tokyo

THF staff gave academic presentation at Berlin Humboldt University (*History of Lhasa Jokhang Temple*), Berlin University of Technology and Hong Kong University (*Preservation of Tibetan Architecture*), at Kyoto Otani University (*Tibetan Buddhist Architecture*) and in Tokyo at the National Institute for Preservation (*THF Preservation Work and Principles*).

Latse Tibetan Library in New York City organised book launch presentation for *Temples of Lhasa* for us.

At the XIth Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies 2006, as member of the Academic Committee for Study of Tibetan Art and Architecture, THF co-director André Alexander gave a special presentation about different approaches to preservation found in contemporary Tibet.

ཐུལ་སྐྱེད་འཕྲོ་འོང།



Left: announcement at Otani University Center for Buddhist Studies.
Below: Presentation at the Art Museum of Hong Kong University.



5.2 THF as UNESCO consultant for Mongolia

THF co-directors Pimpim de Azevedo and André Alexander served as consultants for UNESCO for the project "Cultural Survival and Revival in the Buddhist Sangha: Documentation, Education and Training to Revitalize Traditional Decorative Arts and Building Crafts in the Buddhist Temples of Asia". They went to see restoration and training activities at Kharakhorum University and Erdene Zuu monastery in the Orkhon valley in Mongolia.

Training room with model of Mongolian temple at Kharakhorum University.



5.3 Exchange with Japanese restorers

To research Japanese conservation technology, in particular regarding the conservation of Buddhist temples, a THF team visited Japan. Sites visited included highlights included Nikko, Tokyo, Kyoto and Nara. The National Research Institute for Cultural Properties in Tokyo kindly arranged site meetings with Japanese restoration architects and craftsmen. Prof. Maeno, head of Japanese ICOMOS, also arranged a meeting with conservation students for us.

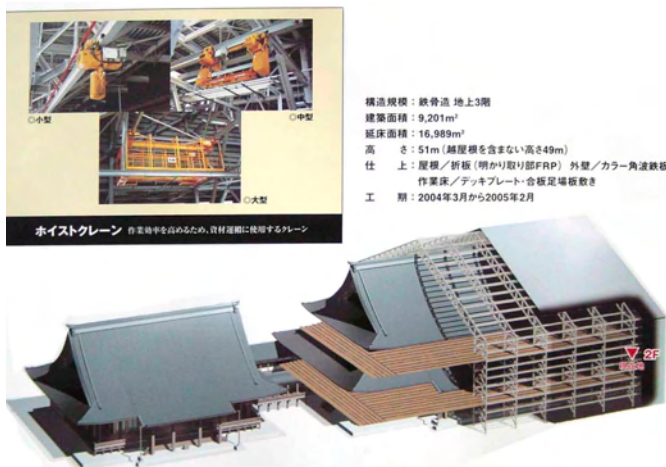
The visit was funded through presentations and book sales. We thank Dr. Nobuko Inaba and Yoko Taniguchi for having helped facilitate the visit, as well the parents of Yutaka Hirako for having hosted our team so well.



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Pictures: local colleagues explaining our team the restoration of Higashi Hongan-ji temple in Kyoto.

Site documentation of Higashi Hongan-ji project.



6. WHO ARE THF

THFམཆོམས་སྒྱུར་མཛོར་བཅུས།

TIBET HERITAGE FUND (THF) is an international non-profit organization founded 1996 in Lhasa and Berlin. THF's aims are to support preservation of cultural heritage and environment; improvement of living conditions for disadvantaged communities, particularly in the sectors employment, education and health; and sustainable and community-based development of communities in fragile and endangered environments.

THF is a registered non-profit organization in Germany, India and Mongolia, and recognized as non-profit cooperation partner in China.

THF is directed by André Alexander and Pimpim de Azevedo, and Yutaka Hirako is the Chief Financial Officer and China Program Manager; Sylvester Kaben is the treasurer, Nyima Tsering, Lundup Dorje and Lobsang Ngudup are Qinghai program managers; and Tseyang is head of the accounting and logistics department.

Contact THF

info@tibetheritagefund.org

In Ladakh, visit us between April and October at Lakruk House, Stalam, Leh just below the old Royal Palace and the Red Maitreya Temple. In Mongolia, visit us at Sangiin Dalai monastery, Nomgon Sum, South Gobi Aimak. In Beijing we like to stay close to the Houhai lakes and the Drum Tower, but these days we tend to spend most time in the western regions.

THF aims and principles

Principles of THF intervention

- Assisting poor and disadvantaged communities in both urban and rural settings
- Conservation for local communities (ICOMOS living cities principle)
- Conservation of buildings and of building technology
- For residential buildings: priority on livability, owner/occupants participate in planning process
- For monuments (incl. monasteries): authenticity desired, building history respected, owners participate in planning process.
- Maximum retaining of historic elements (UNESCO Venice charter), mud plaster and soil roof layers often replaced
- Accommodation of local demand for pragmatic usability of sites
- Compromise and Negotiation are routine

THF is non-political and committed to promote understanding and co-operation between different cultures and nations to benefit world cultural heritage.

THF projects are based on a participatory approach, centered around preservation of indigenous heritage and traditions. Our water and sanitation program is aimed at improving people's living conditions.

THF trains local people in technical skills, such as traditional building skills, architectural design and survey work, mural conservation and general restoration skills.



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7. FINANCIAL REPORT

ཐོ་སྒྲུབ་སྒྲུབ་ཀྱི་

THF Incoming Funds 2006: US\$225,713.17

carry over from 2005	\$6,170.89
MISEREOR	\$91,267.75
Trace Foundation	\$84,992.00
LED Liechtenstein	\$15,072.00
Swiss Tibethilfe	\$8,226.51
Finland Embassy Delhi	\$6,280.00
A.Kunstädter Fam. Fnd.	\$4,988.00
Rattray-Kimura Fnd.	\$2,472.20
Jane Huang	\$2,472.20
Leh local co-financing	\$2,378.32
Vinnitsa HK Ltd.	\$490.32
private donation	\$562.12
book sales & interest	\$340.86
Total	\$225,713.17

THF Outgoing Funds 2006: US\$217,838.29

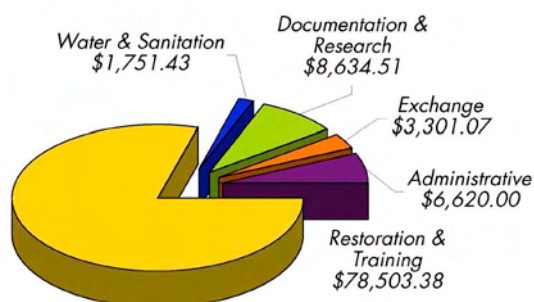
Mongolia project	\$64,044.97
Ladakh project	\$54,982.92
Qinghai Ragya monastery	\$39,373.27
Serkhang monastery	\$18,919.98
Namdzung monastery	\$18,649.24
Jyekundo old town	\$8,634.51
Administrative China	\$6,620.00
Ragen school	\$3,301.07
Water & sanitation China	\$1,751.43
Lab Pendhu stupa	\$1,560.89
Total	\$217,838.29
carry-over 2007	\$7874.88

A very big thanks from all participants and local partners and beneficiaries to everyone who has supported our work.

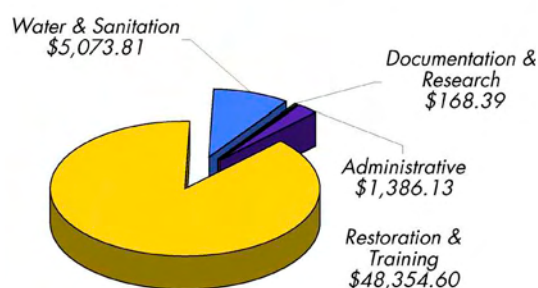
Contact THF to find out how to support our current projects.

Expenses by country and by project type:

China project



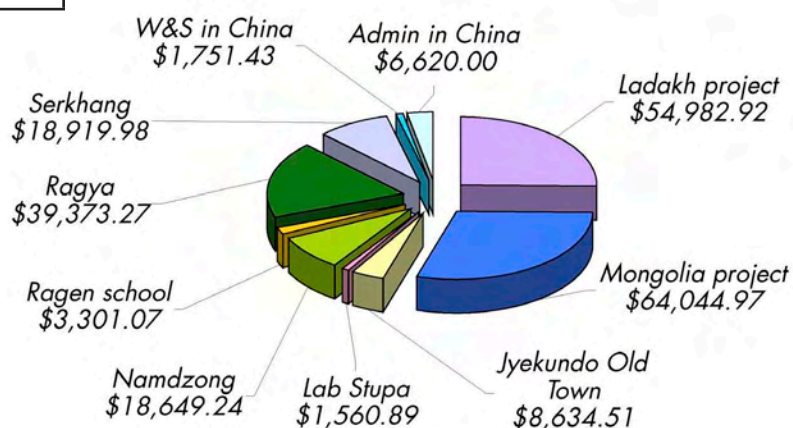
Ladakh project



Mongolia project



Expenses by projects





Lab Pendhu Stupa ལའ་པཎ་ལུ་མ་ཆོད་རྟེན་



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