

# Functions and Activities Of SRITOBBS

## *Visit of Revenue and Planning Minister, Himachal Pradesh*

Shri Sat Mahajan, Minister for Revenue and Planning, Himachal Pradesh paid a visit to this Institute on 17th September, 1982. He was warmly received on his arrival at the Institute by the Director, Dr. A. C. Banerjee and other members of the staff.

He was shown valuable and rare collections of xylographs, manuscripts and other art objects of the Institute. He took keen interest in the research activities of Tibetology and discussed with the Librarian and Lama scholars on different aspects of Buddhism and Tibetology.

## *Visit of Maj. Gen. Hanut Singh 17th Mt. Div.*

Maj. General Hanut Singh, Area Commander visited the Institute on 21st August, 1982. He was received on his arrival at the Institute by the Director, A. C. Banerjee and other members of the staff.

He and his family members were shown round the Institute's rare and antique collection of Mahayana Buddhist art and other antique objects.

## *Observance of Drukpa Tsehi*

Drukpa Tsheshi (Drug-pa-Tshes-bzhi) literally means observance of Fourth day of Tibetan sixth month. On this occasion Lord Buddha gave his first sermon at Sarnath on the four Noble Truths (the Noble Truth of Suffering, the Noble Truth of the origin of Suffering, the Noble Truth of Cessation of Suffering and the Noble path leading to the end of Suffering) to His five disciples at Sarnath 'Mrgadava (Deer Park) after his enlightenment at Bodh-Gaya, under the Bodhi Tree'.

On this auspicious day Buddhists celebrate this memorable occasion in all Sikkim monasteries and Lhakhangs. Lama and devout Buddhists offer butter lamps, incenses and Khadas (scarves) to the deities therein,

Our Lamas and other staff members of SRITOBS also observed this festival in a very simple and solemn manner in the Central Hall (1st floor) of the Institute by chanting special prayers, offering Khadas and burning butter lamps and incenses.

### *Publications*

The materials for the third issue of *Bulletin of Tibetology* (July-September, 1982) are being prepared and will be sent to the President SRITOBS for approval.

The second quarterly, (April to June, 1982) is already out.

In the meeting of the Executive Board, SRITOBS held on Wednesday, the 18th August 1982 with H. E. Governor of Sikkim/President : SRITOBS on the chair, fixation of the price of the Bulletin was discussed and the following decision was taken.

In view of the great demand from the foreign countries for the Bulletin, the Board decided that it might be sold to the foreigners on annual subscription of \$ 9 including postal charges,

As per President's direction the Editorial Board of Bulletin of Tibetology had been formed with Director, Dr. A. C. Banerjee, Deputy Director, Shri J. K. Rechung and Shri. B. Ghosh, Librarian.

As per President's directive a committee consisting of the following members had been set up to consider reprints of the back numbers of the Bulletin :

1. Justice Shri A. M. Bhattacharjee
2. Dr. A. C. Banerjee, Director, SRITOBS

3. Shri J. K. Rechung, Deputy Director, SRITOBS
4. Yarpa T. S. Gyaltshen

Blockprints of six Tibetan xylographs were in progress.

*Project for translating the works of Atisa-Dipankara Srijnana from Tibetan*

A Committee consisting of the following members had been set up for translating Atisa-Dipankara Srijnana from Tibetan into English in the meeting of the Executive Board on 25th June, 1982.

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|---|----------|
| 1. Shri Justice A. M. Bhattacharjee             | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. A. C. Banerjee, Director, SRITOBS        | Member   |
| 3. Shri J. K. Rechung, Deputy Director, SRITOBS | "        |
| 4. Shri B. Ghosh, Librarian, SRITOBS            | "        |
| 5. Mrs. A. M. Bhattacharjee                     | "        |
| 6. Ven. Khenpo Lhodo Zangpo                     | "        |

The above six-member committee met and discussed the matter on 17. 7. 1982 with Justice Bhattacharjee on the Chair.

The Director, SRITOBS also asked the following members of the staff to attend the meeting ;

1. Shri Kunga Yonten Hochotshang, Research Officer, SRITOBS
2. Shri Jampa Yeshe. Research Assistant, SRITOBS
3. Shri Rinzing Ngodup, Museum Assistant, SRITOBS
4. Shri Samten Gyatso, Tibetan Librarian, SRITOBS

The Chairman of the translation committee after discussion on the matter approved the English translation of *Kadam Phacho*, dealing with Atisa's life and teachings.

The Chairman further proposed that an expert committee would be constituted for translation of *Kadam Phacho*.

A translation Committee was formed consisting of nine members.

1. Dr. A. C. Banerjee, Director, SRITOBS	Chairman
2. Shri J. K. Rechung, Dy. Director, SRITOBS	Secretary
3. Ven. Ngawang Rinpoche, Lama scholar, SRITOBS	Member
4. Ven. Khenpo Lhodo Zangpo, Lama scholar, SRITOBS	..
5. Shri Kunga Yonten Hochotshang, Research Officer, SRITOBS	..
6. Shri Jampa Yeshe, Research Assistant, SRITOBS	..
7. Shri Samten Gyatso, Tibetan Librarian, SRITOBS	..
8. Shri Rinzing Ngodup, Museum Assistant, SRITOBS	..
9. Shri B. Ghosh, Librarian, SRITOBS	..

The Chairman proposed that Shri J. K. Rechung, Deputy Director, SRITOBS would act as the Secretary to the translation committee.

The Chairman further asked Shri J. K. Rechung and Shri B. Ghosh for submission of approximate financial involvement for publication.

As directed by the Chairman an approximate cost for publication of the Kadam Phacho was submitted at a later date.

The Chairman told the members that he would shortly submit the report to the President, SRITOBS.

*Chair of Buddhist Studies and award of two Research fellowships, Recognition of the Institute as a Centre of Research studies :*

Regarding the Chair of Buddhist Studies and award of two research fellowships, Justice Shri A.M. Bhattacharjee, Chairman of the Committee told the Director in the meeting of Executive Board SRITOBS held on 18th August, 1982 that it would be advisable to announce our decision in this regard after recognition of the Institute as a Centre of Research Studies by the U. G. C.

The Director placed before the Board the proposal to North Bengal University for recognition of the Institute as a Research Centre.

The Board asked the Director to send immediately an application along

with relevant papers to be forwarded by H. E. the Governor, President, SRITOBS to the Vice-Chancellor, North Bengal University for recognition of the Institute as a Research Centre.

#### *Mural Paintings*

As directed by the President, SRITOBS, four more paintings were completed on the wall of the stair-case leading to the first and second floors. These symbolic pictures depict : (a) Eight Auspicious offerings (Tashi Ze Gyed) ; (b) Dhanapati Yaksa—The demon-lord of riches (Nod gin Nordak) ; (c) Kirtimukha—symbol of prosperity and (d) Dharmachakrapravartana—Turning of the wheel of law (Ridag Chokhor).

These were painted by Lama Karjam Atsen, a scholarship holder Lharipa (Artist) attached to the Institute.

#### *Domestic and foreign visitors to SRITOBS*

During this quarter foreign and domestic tourists visited the Institute. A good number of them evinced keen interest in the rare collection of manuscripts, xylographs and other antique objects and consulted books of the Library.

### **SRITOBS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE (JULY-SEPTEMBER, 1982)**

During the period (July-September, 1982) our membership drive had produced excellent results. Persistent efforts made by way of publishing appeal for membership and membership application form in the issue of Bulletin and sending from along with membership Rules and Regulations to various institutions. As a result the number of members increased to fiftyone belonging to different categories. Names of the members are regularly published in the Functions and Activities section of the Quarterly Journal. Below are given the

names of the members who had applied for the membership during the quarter according to categories :

<i>Name</i>	<i>Category</i>
1. Shri M. D. Joshi, Proprietor, Josse & Josse, Lal Market Road, Gangtok.	Institutional
2. Shri Taga Khampa Managing Director, Sikkim Tims Corporation Ltd., Deorali, Gangtok.	"
3. The Managing Director, Sikkim Jewels Ltd., Manufacturer of Industrial Jewels Bearings, Jewel Centre, Gangtok, Sikkim.	"
4. The Managing Director, Denjong Agricultural Co-operative Ltd., Elephant Mansion, Deorali, Gangtok.	"
5. M/s. Balchand Udairam, Company, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Gangtok, Sikkim.	"
6. Shri Nima Tshering, Chairman, Kanchenjunga Ladakhi Industries, Balwakhani, Gangtok.	"

<i>Name</i>	<i>Category</i>
7. Shri P. D. Rai, Managing Director, Sikkim Flour Mill Ltd., Tadong Industrial Estate, Gangtok.	" Institutional
8. Shri Karna Bahadur Chettri, Managing Director, State Bank of Sikkim, Gangtok.	"
9. The Managing Director, Sikkim Industrial Development & Investment Corporation, New Market, Gangtok.	"
10. The Manager, United Commercial Bank, Gangtok Branch, Gangtok.	"
11. Shri S. Norden, General Manager, Government Fruit Preservation Factory, Singtam, Sikkim.	Ordinary

Total Number	—	Life	3
"	—	Institutional	19
"	—	Ordinary	29
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Total			51
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Total amount of Membership fee received and deposited by cheque and cash Rs. 34,500/- ( Rupees Thirtyfour Thousand Five Hundred ) only.

## DISTINGUISHED VISITORS TO SRITOB'S ( JULY - SEPTEMBER, 1982 )

During the period a few distinguished persons visited the Institute of Tibetology and Other Buddhist Studies. Here are given their names as also a few selected observations (July-September, 1982).

Shri Satpalji Maharaj on 18. 7. 82, Shri Bhagwant Singh on 20. 7. 82, Shri Subhash J. Rele, Editor - Industrial Time, Bombay on 22. 7. 82 ; Shrimati F. N. Bilmora on 31. 7. 82 ; H. H. Zongsar Jamyang Khentse Thubten Chokyi Gyaltsen Rimpoche, Tshuklakhang, Gangtok on 6. 8. 82 ; Shri Virendra Pratap, MGO Branch, Army HQ New Delhi on 1. 9. 82 ; Shri Mahendra Prasad, M. P., 2, Duplex Lane, New Delhi on 21. 8. 82 ; Maj. Gen. Hanut Singh, 17 Mt. Div. HQ Gangtok on 4. 9. 82 ; Shri H. R. Sood, Officer on special duty, National Library, Calcutta on 15. 9. 82 ; Shri A. Basu, Deputy Chairman, ITC Ltd., Calcutta on 15. 9. 82 ; Shri Sat Mahajan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Planning, Himachal Pradesh on 17. 9. 82 ; Shri U. P. Sawjney, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi on 28. 9. 82 ; Deputy Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi on 28. 9. 82 ; Shri T. D. Kansara, U-A May Fair Garden, Bombay on 28. 9. 82 ; President Privelege Committee, Karnataka and Shri A. Nanda, M.L.A., Karnataka, Shri Waingankar, M.L.A., Karnataka on 28. 9. 82 ; Shri Gian Prakash, CAG of India on 30. 9. 82.

During this quarter (July - September, 1982) 1013 tourists including foreigners visited the Institute.

## OPINIONS OF THE DISTINGUISHED VISITORS TO SRITOB'S

SATPALJI MAHARAJ

My blessings.

Sd/- Satpalji Maharaj  
18. 7. 1982



**BHAGWANT SINGH**

Home of knowledge of Tibetan language and literature.  
It has been my privilege to visit and be conducted in  
most engrossing manner.

Sd/- Bhagwant Singh,  
20. 7. 1982

**SUBHAS J. RELE**

I was highly impressed with the rare collections.

Sd/- Subhas J. Rele,  
Editor-Industrial Time,  
Bombay  
22. 7. 1982

**MRS. F. N. BILMORIA**

Most educative, a wonderful, rare collection.

Sd/- F. N. Bilmoria,  
31. 7. 1982

**ZONGSAR JAMYANG KHENTSE THUBTEN CHOKYI  
GYALTSHEN**

May my prayer last as long as boundles deeds (Karma)  
and ignorance remain. With sincere regards and wishes.

Sd/- Zongsar Jamyang Khentse  
Thubten Chokyi Gyaltsen  
6. 8. 1982

**VIRENDRA PRATAP**

Its an honour to visit this vast ocean of knowledge.  
How small one feels when one is surrounded by centu-  
ries of knowledge that lies on the shelf of the Institute-  
and how proud also of those ancestor of ours who in  
the wisdom decided on leaving this written knowledge  
for the prosperity.

Indeed its an educative for one to have spent little time here. One can only pray that such Institutes will grow over years and enlighten us with the wisdom of our forefathers.

Sd/- Virendra Pratap,  
MGO Branch,  
Army HQ New Delhi  
1. 9. 1982

**MAHENDRA PRASAD**

This Institute of Tibetology is wonderful place. They have got precious collection on Buddha and Buddhism. I have definitely benefitted myself by visiting the Institute. I am proud there are places, this institute being one of them in India where one gets lots of information about our distant past thousand of years ago. My visit here is really intellectually satisfying. Some of the people, who look after the Institute are really knowledgeable.

Sd/- Mahendra Prasad M. P.  
2, Duplex Lane, New Delhi  
21. 8. 1982

**MAJ. GEN. HANUT SINGH**

A treasure house of ancient art, culture and wisdom.  
A very edifying visit.

Sd/- Maj. Gen. Hanut Singh  
4. 9. 1982

**MAJ. GEN. B. B. SEHGAL**

An unforgettable experience. Always inspiring to visit a treasure house of such old priceless possessions of an old culture. A very well managed institute.

Sd/- Maj. Gen. B. B. Sehgal,  
12. 9. 1982

**H. R. SOOD**

A rich treasure house of rare collections on Buddhism.  
The Institute is very well managed.

Sd/- H. R. Sood  
Officer on Special Duty  
National Library,  
Calcutta  
15. 9. 1982

**A. BASU**

A unique and interesting institute which will undoubtedly stimulate interest in Buddhism and the culture links between the many great civilizations surrounding Sikkim.

Sd/- A. Basu,  
Deputy Chairman,  
ITC Ltd., 37, Chowringee,  
Calcutta-71

**SAT MAHAJAN**

A window through which one can roam about in Tibet and Buddhist philosophy. A great job for preservation of rich culture.

Sd/- Sat Mahajan  
Revenue and Planning Minister,  
Himachal Pradesh,  
17. 9. 1982

**U. P. SAWHNEY**

A very inspiring place. Wish it will continue to grow to once again provide the great Enlightenment.

Sd/- U. P. Sawhney,  
Joint Secretary, Deptt. of  
Economic Affairs, Govt. of  
India, New Delhi.  
28. 9. 1982

**A. V. AINPANDAI**

A highly emotion and devotion evoking place. Indeed was fascinated to be here to learn something of Tibetan religion.

Sd/- A. V. Ainpandai,  
Deputy Secretary, Deptt. of  
Economic Affairs, Govt. of  
India, New Delhi.  
28. 9. 1982

**T. D. KANSARA**

This is my first visit to this Museum. I wish I had come here decades ago ( I am now 77 ), I would then have been able to learn Tibetan and derived benefit of inspiration from a study of the ancient scriptures in store here. The loss is entirely mine. I hope, I shall have an opportunity in my rest life, which is no more than 15 years away according to my astrologer.

Sd/- T. D. Kansara,  
U-A, May Fair Garden,  
Litile Road, Bombay-6  
28. 9. 1982

**A. NANDE, WAINGANKAR**

Karnataka Legislator's "Privilege Committee" visited on 29. 9. 1982. Sikkim Government has maintained the Library very nicely.

Sd/-

1. Illigible,  
President, Privilege Committee,  
Karnataka.
2. A. Nanda, M.L.A.  
Karnataka.
3. Waingankar, M.L.A.  
29. 9. 1982

**GIAN PRAKASH**

I was happy to have gone round this Institute. It has a wealth of Buddhist literature. Tibet has preserved the literature on Buddhist culture, religion and its various beliefs. It is a paradise for philosophers and thinkers. Greater use of the facilities have to be made.

Sd/- Gian Prakash,  
CAG of India.

30. 9. 1982