



GARCHEN BUDDHIST  
INSTITUTE

ਵਰਦ ਕੁਰਾਨਤਾ ਰਫਸ਼ਾਨਾ



Dear Worldwide Sangha,

It's time for Yamantaka!

As we still find ourselves in unprecedented conditions, this year's Yamantaka empowerment and retreat will be online. We have adjusted the way in which we will offer

this retreat online since it is not possible to do a traditional drubchen. H.E. Garchen Rinpoche has specifically instructed exactly how this retreat will be shared online. Please read the entire email to understand all the details.

This year's Yamantaka empowerment and retreat will be February 6 -11, 2021

## REGISTRATION

Registration is *required* and is now open.

To register, go to [Yamantaka Registration Form](#)

Once your completed registration checklist is received, we will send two emails:

1. Confirmation receipt email
2. Partial Yamantaka Sadhana on February 5th

The deadline for registration February 5th at 5pm Arizona time.

### **\*\*REGISTRATION CHECKLIST \*\***

**IMPORTANT:** When you email to register, please provide the following complete information:

1. Name
2. Address (including your country)
3. Email
4. Phone
5. Date of previously attended Yamantaka Drubchen and location.
6. If first time applicant, include your practice history.
7. Confirm that you have completed the minimum 100,000 mantra accumulation requirement **IF** you have attended previous Yamantaka Drubchens.

## ONLINE Yamantaka Retreat Description

Garchen Rinpoche has instructed that only the Protection portion of the Yamantaka sadhana will be practiced for this retreat. A video of footage from past drubchens has been created according to Garchen Rinpoche's precise specifications for the online stream. The sessions will be chanted in Tibetan language only. The partial sadhana will be available in three languages - Tibetan, Chinese and English on February 5th for those who have registered.

Garchen Rinpoche is encouraging people to attend the entire retreat but if that is not possible, partial attendance is permitted. If you cannot practice at the same time of the live stream, Rinpoche says that it is possible to tune in when your schedule allows.

This is a noticeably different structure compared to past Yamantaka drubchens.

H.E. Garchen Rinpoche has given this specific message on January 19, 2021 regarding his view on this subject:

Tashi Delek to my Dharma friends,

“ This year whatever we put online on our YouTube channel is available for anyone's participation, even for the Yamantaka retreat. There are no restrictions. Why? For the Buddha, there was no difference between nationality or religions because all sentient beings are really Buddhas, they are only obscured by temporary stains. When these temporary stains are removed then beings are actual Buddhas. It just depends on whether or not we have fixating thoughts in our mind.

Lord Jigten Sumgon had said that whoever grasps at any philosophical school is an ordinary person. Actually any philosophical school is just illusory because whoever has a mind has the Buddha within them. Therefore all sentient beings possess the cause of awakening and if they want to become a Buddha, they can. For this reason whatever is online or on livestream, is not restricted. Anybody can take whatever they want and look at whatever they want and for however long they want. I encourage you to do this. This is the Buddha's instruction.”

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The following description is a reminder about the meaning of the Yamantaka practice, the importance of the preliminary mantra accumulation and *is especially important to read for newcomers*.

## YAMANTAKA

The Yamantaka drubchen, traditionally held near the end of the Tibetan year, is conducted in order to cleanse all obstacles not only for oneself, but for every being in the world. This cleansing is most easily accomplished at this time of the year and helps to decrease suffering and increase peace. The deity practiced in this drubchen is very wrathful and powerful, and thus the practice must be done with great care.

In the past in Tibet this drubchen was only open to those who had taken vows of ordination and who had completed the common preliminary practices as well as the particular preliminary practices of Yamantaka. It is thus asked that those who participate prepare by accumulating refuge and Vajrasattva mantras, taking refuge and purifying one's mindstream as much as possible prior to the retreat. **One of the main traditional prerequisites for participating in the Yamantaka Drubchen is to have accumulated 600,000 Peaceful Manjushri mantras (OM WAM GI SHWARI MUM) before attending your first Drubchen.**

If you have already done this accumulation for a prior Yamantaka Drubchen, it is not necessary to do it again. If you have not done this accumulation, Garchen Rinpoche asks that you try to complete at least 100,000 mantras before the drubchen starts. If you are unable to accomplish this, Rinpoche asks that you accumulate as many of the mantras prior to the start as possible and then finish the accumulation no later than one year from the date the drubchen ends. **The fruition of the Yamantaka drubchen is not attained unless the Manjushri accumulation is completed as Garchen Rinpoche indicates.**

\* *It is not necessary to receive a lung transmission of the Peaceful Manjushri practice before engaging in the mantra accumulation.*

The Yamantaka empowerment will be bestowed on February 6th. The practice sessions will be conducted from 9am - 5pm each of the following days with breaks. Check our website later for the specific schedule that will be posted soon.

Garchen Rinpoche has always said, the more effort you put into the practice, the more results will come.

The following is recommended:

No speaking during the retreat other than the mantra recitation and the recitation of the text. The more you can maintain retreat conditions, eliminating distractions, the more benefit there will be.

## DONATIONS

Other ways of sharing the merit with retreat participants include:

1. Sending monetary donations in honor of living or deceased loved ones and friends

All sponsors' names and the names of anyone they are honoring will be kept on the shrine throughout the practice.

Monetary and other donations will be gratefully received at: Garchen Institute, P.O. Box 4318, Chino Valley, AZ 86323. Monetary donations may also be made on our website using this link: [Donations](#)

*\*\*\* Please indicate that the donation is for Yamantaka Retreat. \*\*\**

If you have any questions, send an email to [registration@garchen.net](mailto:registration@garchen.net) or call at 928-925-1237.

## LASTLY....

Be sure to join us *Online* for LOSAR (Tibetan New Year) on February 12th with H.E. Garchen Rinpoche bestowing Refuge Vows and commentary from 9am -12pm.

**We look forward to sharing this  
auspicious practice retreat together online!**

**MAY ALL BEINGS BENEFIT!**

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