

Purchase plan for a community hall for the Tibetan Community in Netherlands

Introduction

Just as all Tibetans all over the world have been facilitated and continue to be accommodated with the rights of a refugee, here in Netherlands also since 1991 the process to bestow the refugee status and the relevant rights thereof have been continuing only because of the sole-great-kindness of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The number of Tibetans increased in Netherlands since then.

In the year 2005, a new Tibetan welfare organisation was founded in Netherlands. It is based on key principals highlighting the importance of maintaining the non-sectarian and non-regionalistic attitude or way of life. After two terms of appointments of staffs and subsequently completing their terms, the welfare organisation finally transformed into a proper foundation in the year 2008 with people participating in a democratic process of electing their President, Vice president and other board members, who then carry the organisation further.

Since then the activities of the organisation have been continuing with first and second term elected members being of two years each and third to fifth (current) term being of three years duration. During these period, activities relating to the general responsibility of Tibetans in general and responsibility to promote the Tibetan fundamental cause have been actively promoted without any further decrease.

Furthermore, The preservation and promotion of unique Tibetan traditional culture and education have been carried out in the forms of celebration of Tibetan New Year (Losar), observation of Democratic Day (Mangtso Dhui Chen), the observing and celebrating of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama being offered Nobel Peace Prize, His Holiness's Birthday Celebration and other important events as observed by Tibetan Government in Exile, in particularly the observation of expressing solidarity and making offerings of prayers in remembrance of the great contribution made by Tibetan martyrs. We continue to carry these activities till date.

At the moment, there are about 1000 Tibetans who are living in the Netherlands among which there are a good number of Tibetan children.

So as to pass our unique Tibetan language, spiritual knowledge, traditions and ethics, we as a Tibetan community have established a Tibetan weekend school which is named Gangjong Rigzod Lobdra (Snowland's School of treasures).

We have maintained and further strengthened classes on the above-mentioned topics which are taught to the younger generations aged above four.

The school consists of 90 young Tibetans, age varying from four to twenty.

Despite facing number of challenges, such as sufficient access to classrooms and finding enough teachers for the students, the community has overcome those barriers. As a result every Sunday, Tibetan language, literature and ethics are taught to the Tibetan children.

We continue to work towards dispelling any risks whatsoever to our languages, tradition and culture, which represents our Tibetan identity. To pass on these significantly important subjects to our younger generations (the seeds of our future), we have continuously strived without any hesitation whatsoever to the expenditures and cost involved.

As important as it is, to hold the practice of preserving our language, culture and tradition, we need to strive it without being disheartened by whatever internal and external obstacles we have experienced till now or may encounter in future. This being one of the core activities of great importance of past, present and future of the Tibetan Community in the Netherlands.

Furthermore, our political activities, such as the commemoration of the 10th March Protest against the Communist Party of China, other urgent and important activities targeted to face and address emerging situations inside and outside Tibet have been carried out while abiding the laws of the Netherlands.

Similarly, Dutch Tibetans have been voluntarily providing help to about 15 individuals affected by HIV in about six different locations in India.

At this point of time, we, the Tibetans in Netherlands are a harmonious and united community, based on genuine mutual respect and good relations to each other. Until now, apart from the Tibetan Community Organisation, no other Tibetan organisations, small or large have been accepted by the Tibetan people in the Netherlands.

In brief, The Tibetan Community Organisation of the Netherlands follows the unsurpassable guidance provided by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and we follow the directives of Central

Tibetan Administration based in Dharamsala, India. It is our firm pledge and promise that we remain firmly committed to such guidance in future and strive our best to be not left behind in making further progress and development. Bound together strongly by the strong thread of good relations and unity we Tibetans of the Netherlands are object of great admiration by Tibetans living everywhere in the world as a cohesive exemplary community.

1) The purpose of purchasing a Community Hall

1. To have regular Tibetan and cultural classes (Gangjong Rigzod School)
2. To get together for the Tibetans during holidays
3. For the public to get together and make their prayers and perform dharmic activities
4. To use as a Tibetan office and the address to be used as official address
5. For the seniors to get together and engage in spiritual activities

2) The importance of purchasing a Community Hall

- 1 Since its inception until now, the snowland's school of treasure (***Tib Gang Jong Rig Dzod Lob Dra***) has been facing difficulties in facilitating proper classrooms and other amenities for the children(students). Until now, we have had to change the venue of the school number of times due to no guarantee of the place to hold the classes as it was on rent. At such times when the facilitation of classrooms for the students could not be facilitated on time, there have been various situations when the moral of the teacher, parents of the kids got demotivated and weakened.
- 2 As to maintain the existence of Tibetan identity and integrity, which entirely depends on passing on Tibet's literature, culture and the teaching of the Buddha, we therefore do our best for these to be remained and preserved for a long period of time, and for them to be practised and used, which is again on each individual. In particular, it is very important that the younger generations are in close touch with the community thus the reason for us to hold it to be high priority. We see that it is very important to have our own place that can be used for the purpose of bringing the younger generations the closest to the Tibetan community.
- 3 It is also of an important to use it for holding and performing prayers on every 15th date of the Tibetan Lunar calendar, especially by the senior citizens. Likewise, to perform prayers for the longevity of His Holiness the Dalai Lama including prayers as requested by Central Tibetan Administration, in particular to make prayers to express solidarity for the martyrs of Tibet.
- 4 At this juncture, the Tibetans of Netherlands enjoy good relationships amongst themselves based on harmony and unity. Since no other organisations, small or big, until now apart from the Tibetan Community has been recognised/established or considered valid by the Tibetan Community and Tibetan people living in Netherlands, we, the Tibetan Community in the Netherlands enjoy 100% public support. In particular, to able to purchase a community hall, we request members of the community to make timely contribution.
- 5 If we succeed in getting a permanent address, the organisation will be better equipped to provide necessary supports to Tibetans living in the Netherlands in the form of

documents and interpreting etc, in particular it will prove to be a definite support for newly arrived migrants seeking asylum or refuge.

- 6 90% of the Tibetan reside in the area where the community hall is aimed to be purchased.

4) **The targeted fund and how it will be resourced**

- 1 The principal money of Euro 10,00000/- as the principal fund for the Tibetan Organisation;
- 2 Tibetan community member to contribute donations and to give loans;
- 3 Participating properly in the Five and Fifty gradual plan of the CTA(CTA is Tibetan government in exile later renamed as CTA or Central Tibetan Administration), The Tibetan organisation aims to contribute handsomely and to become an ideal Tibetan community in Europe in the future. (Five-Fifty is about what CTA and Tibetan exile can to do to retain the cause of Tibet for fifty years, as the Five-Fifty vision will be passed down from this generation to the next.
- 4 Under the auspices support of CTA offices, we aim to borrow loans with no applicable interests from Glorious Gadhen Phodrang, other Labdrangs, Major Buddhist Centres, The Great seats of Dharma and other monasteries and become co-operatives.
- 5 From the two Representative Members of Parliaments of CTA and through the Representative of CTA, we seek to get support and funding from governmental and non-governmental organisations and individuals.

5) **Timeframe for the project**

- 1 This project after having activated quickly is aimed to finished by 27th of February 2021.
- 2 The reason for this date of completion is so, that the project initiated by the fifth term board members of Tibetan community in the Netherlands needed to be completed before their term ends.
- 3 The reminder project is to be carried further by the 6th term board members.

6) **The usage of the community hall**

The community hall will be used for the following purposes:

1. As a venue for the classes, facilitating young people on subject matters including Buddha dharma, Tibetan cultural knowledge, Tibetan spoken and written language, as well as studies around ethics, which is beyond the normal spiritual teachings of Buddhism, also to be used when facilitators including Gurus, Geshe, Scholars etc. are invited to facilitate workshops.

2. To be gradually established as an institution, where the complete information is to be imparted on subjects including deeper knowledge around Tibetan politics, culture and spirituality.
3. During holidays, the place can be used for the purpose of getting together for the members of the community, where the members of the community can hold stalls to sell items for usage
4. Together with above mentioned purposes, the hall could be used to organise some form of entertainment, that is within the confines of what is allowable within local laws and regulations.
5. A suitable place for the seniors to get together for the accumulation of merits and on special dates so that the general people could come together and make perform prayers.
6. A place which could be used as the office of the Tibetan Community and the address of the hall could be used as the official address of the Tibetan Organisation.
7. A place where the daily supplication to protectors can be performed and in difficult circumstances to be used as a prayer place for those who face difficult times such as passing away of people known to us, irrespective of Tibetan nationality.
8. A non-sectarian Buddhist centre which functions on the principals of non-sectarian values and a culture institution promoting the culture and traditions of Tibetan is to be established.
9. A place where the VIPs are to be hosted and a place where speech to the general public could be facilitated.
10. A place where small gatherings like celebrating birthdays etc.
11. Gradually, it could become a facility that could be rented out to others to host events.

7) **Strategies to pay back the loans on time**

1. There will be some incomes earned through the activities mentioned above.
2. Read the final part of this statement to figure out the total expected income earned from the above-mentioned activities per year and how many total years it will take to pay off the loan completely.

8) **The proposed size of the community hall and the facilities**

1. Somewhere between 800 to 1000meter square.
2. The size of the place that could be used by an assmeblage of unto 350-500 people.
3. Where classroom is available.
4. Amenities such as toilets etc in good condition.
5. A kitchen and few small rooms available.
6. A place that is fully owned by us without any expiry dates of lease etc to worry about.
7. Buildings that could be restored if required.
8. A place that has clear ownership by us through valid documents etc, issued by the housing agencies and respective notary.
9. The best option would be to have property issued by the Netherlands Government.
10. A place that would not cost a lot to restore when required.

9) **Being in accordance with local rules and regulations**

1. To make sure that everything is conducted or carried out according to the local rules and regulations, a qualified housing agent and a lawyer relevant to the activities is to be hired as an adviser at appropriate time.
2. On top of that we will seek advise and consult both Tibetan parliamentarians and the representative of CTA.
3. Other relevant sections or departments of our CTA government.
4. We also will have some important key local people to advise us at an ongoing basis.

10) **Key people that would support the project and provide important instructions**

1. The above mentioned people.
2. Support letters from two Tibetan representatives.
3. Support letter from Brussel Representative of CTA.
4. Support letters from Departments of Central Tibetan Administration.
5. We plan to include a support letter from to purchase the property from Local government.

11) **Initial plan to assess expenditure and income**

Expenses for the Community Hall

Number	Explanation	Total amount In Euro
1	According to a recent research and quotation of some similar properties which fits in with what amenities are required in the property we require. It would cost...	1,050,000-/-
2	Expected expenses related to the fees of real estate agency and production of relevant legal papers would cost....	12,000-/-
3	For the cleaning and painting of the property, it would cost....	10,000-/-
4	For facilities such as heaters and restoration fees, it would cost...	8,000-/-
5	Toilets and other items to be fixed would cost....	23,000-/-
6	Small expenses here and there for this project.	10,000-/-
7	Tibetan Mural.	12,000-/-
8	Expenses for the tables and chairs for the classrooms and community hall.	9,000-/-
9	Other items for classrooms.	4,000-/-
10	Items for kitchen and shrine for offering etc	21,000-/-
11	Dharma text and religious articles	30,000-/-
12	Tax expenses for the building	8,000-/-

Total expenses for the Community property/hall	Euro1,197,000-/-
--	------------------

Expected Income for paying off the loans completely (First Year)

Number	Explanation	Total amount in Euro
1	From three main events excluding Losar	Euro: 23,000-/-
2	Income support connected with school	Euro: 7,000-/-
3	Income from selling food on special occasions	Euro: 8,500-/-
4	Income from general fundraising activities such as selling foods and drinks and small organised games	Euro: 7,200-/-
5	Income from small events such as birthdays events	Euro: 6,000-/-
6	Income from various activities and specific donations for the community hall	Euro: 22,000-/-
7	Income from the Tibetan Shops	Euro: 5,000-/-
8	Income from parties of Losar(Tibetan new year)	Euro: 10,000-/-

Total Income Euro: 96,700-/-

Expected Income for paying off the loans completely (Second Year)

Number	Explanation	Total amount in Euro
1	From three main events excluding Losar	Euro: 24,000-/-
2	Income support connected with school	Euro: 12,000-/-
3	Income from selling food on special occasions	Euro: 15,000-/-
4	Income from general fundraising activities such as selling foods and drinks and small organised games	Euro: 7,200-/-
5	Income from prayers such as (Thinchol) special supplication to dharma protectors	Euro: 10,500-/-
6	Income from small events such as birthdays events	Euro: 10,000-/-

7	Income from various activities and specific donations for the community hall	Euro: 35,000-/-
8	Income from the Tibetan Shops	Euro: 8,000-/-
9	Income from parties of Losar(Tibetan new year)	Euro: 10,000-/-

Total Income Euro: 133,700-/-

Expected Income for paying off the loans completely (Third Year)

Number	Explanation	Total amount in Euro
1	From three main events excluding Losar	Euro: 25,000-/-
2	Income support connected with school	Euro: 15,000-/-
3	Income from selling food on special occasions	Euro: 8,500-/-
4	Income from general fundraising activities such as selling foods and drinks and small organised games	Euro: 20,000-/-
5	Income from prayers such as (Thincho) special supplication to dharma protectors	Euro: 13,500-/-
6	Income from small events such as birthdays events	Euro: 12,000-/-

7	Income from various activities and specific donations for the community hall	Euro: 50,000-/-
8	Income from the Tibetan Shops	Euro: 8,000-/-
9	Income from parties of Losar(Tibetan new year)	Euro: 10,000-/-

Total Income Euro: 144,000-/-

12) Executive committee responsible for the project

- Adviser: ex representative of CTA for Brussels Hon. Ngodup Dorje
- Adviser: Nachungma
- President: Wangchuk
- Vice President: Karma Ngawang
- General Secretary: Dawa tsering
- Treasurer: Tsultrim
- Accountant: Pema Drimey
- Community relation officer: Tashi Dolma
- In charge officer: Tsomo
- In charge officer: Tashi Lhatso

Tibetan Community Netherlands