

On the Passing of His Holiness Getse Rinpoche

Venerable Gyatrul Rinpoche

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His Holiness Getse Rinpoche was a wonderful lama. Looking at his pictures, you can see he was sort of naughty, like he liked to play. You can see how happy he was with all the children, enjoying playing with them more than being up on the throne. Some of the great lamas really have that quality. And even on the throne he didn't pop up. Still the same.

Now that he has passed away I don't have any message about his passing. What you are already doing, practicing Vajrasattva or Guru Rinpoche—what do you need beyond that? I don't need to give any kind of message. You do know he was your guru. You know his kindness. You know his teachings. I don't need to tell you!

Now you heard your lama has passed away and instantly you are practicing, nobody needed to tell you to do it—thank you! That really shows you understand how to connect to your lama. He came and taught us so many times, showing us such kindness, now you can offer back to him. What are you offering? Your practice. That is our real offering.

This kind of number one lama, sometimes they pass away too early, too young. They have obstacles or we don't have merit, we don't know. Bottom line is we don't have merit, I think. Anyway, whatever the reason, we need to practice, especially Vajrasattva.

When I heard the centers are doing practices, that is very good—we need to purify our obscurations and accumulate merit. Thank you, everybody, for doing that. Each person can practice, at the center or at their home or wherever. More than lots of crying and wailing, “MY lama! MY lama!” just practice really nicely. That will benefit yourself, benefit others, and is your offering to the guru. If you really want to show your faith or love or respect for Holiness, that is the way. Then you are not wasting your guru's teaching, your guru's blessing, your guru's compassion. That way he didn't waste his time or his life. That way you don't waste yours, either!

Remember his teachings, and do the practice—what more do you need?

-Gyatrul

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