

Workshop on Secular Ethics
as Envisioned by His Holiness the Dalai Lama
August 11–17, 2019

A Partnership Program of The Tibet Fund & Tibetan Buddhist Learning Center



The Tibet Fund in partnership with Tibetan Buddhist Learning Center in Washington, NJ presents the workshop on Secular Ethics as envisioned by His Holiness the Dalai Lama for young Tibetan students living in North America. This one-week program will offer introduction to the concept, rationale, and framework of secular ethics, essence of Buddhism and meditation practice, and on Tibetan history and contemporary Tibetan politics.

Tibetan Buddhist Learning Center, also known as Labsum Shedrub Ling, was established in 1958 and His Holiness the Dalai Lama has made 9 visits to this center starting in 1979. The Tibet Fund is serving the Tibetan community since 1981. It's primary mission is to preserve the distinct cultural and national identity of the Tibetan people.

Eligibility Requirements: Any Tibetan student 17 years of age and above is qualified to apply for this course. The course instruction will be bilingual; English and Tibetan. This program is not suitable for a student below 17 years of age.

Duration: Sunday August 11 to Saturday August 17, 2019: The participants must report to Tibetan Buddhist Learning Center, 93 Angen Road, Washington, New Jersey on Sunday, August 11, 2019 before 4pm and plan to leave on Saturday, August 17, 2019 before 10am. (TBLC holds Maitreya Festival on Sunday August 18 which is the biggest day of TBLC annual calendar. Anyone wishes to attend can stay back an additional day.)

Deadline: The deadline for registration in July 30, 2019. Please scroll down for the registration form.

Cost of the Program: Each student is required to pay a program fee of US \$175 for the one-week program, which includes accommodation, food and tuition fees. All other costs such as domestic airfares and bus fares has to be borne by the applicant. Please note the payment should be made in favor of "The Tibet Fund."

Program Fee Refund Policy: Once the application is submitted, the Tibet Fund will adhere to the following refund policy:

- Application withdrawn before deadline of July 30, 2019, we will give you full refund.
- Application withdrawn after deadline, there will be no refund at all.

Guidelines: Applicants must sign the guidelines established by the organizers.

Program Courses

1. Secular Ethics as envisioned by His Holiness the Dalai Lama

The primary focus of this workshop is to introduce the concept, rationale and framework of secular ethics. The sessions will include topics such as Rationale and General Framework for Secular Ethics, Building Resilience and Appreciating Kindness, Attention Training and Self Awareness, Self Regulation and Self Compassion, Interpersonal Awareness and Relating to Others, Inclusiveness and Impartiality, Empathy and Compassion for Others, Appreciating Interdependence and Common Humanity and Discernment and Global Engagement.

2. Meditation Course:

This course will teach students to achieve a deeper level of mental peace, tranquility and stability through the implementation of tools and methods which are found in Tibetan Buddhism.

3. Tibetan Buddhist Philosophy:

Four sessions on Buddhist philosophy will provide the essence of Buddhism, concept of dependent origination, the three trainings on morality, concentration and wisdom and what it means to take refuge to Buddha.

4. Tibetan History and Politics:

Students will be introduced to important phases of Tibetan history, including the reigns of Tibetan religious kings, era of fragmentation after the collapse of the Tibetan Empire and reign of His Holiness the Dalai Lamas. Where does Tibet stand in terms of global recognition and support on the Tibet issue? Will the hardline policies of the Chinese government on Tibet ever change and what are the obstacles in finding an amicable solution? Democracy plays an even greater role in ensuring the continuity of our freedom struggle and sustainability of a robust Tibetan community. Participants will not only be introduced to the democratic institutions in exile but also the significant contributions these institutions have made in gaining credibility to our just cause. They will be given exercise on what form of democracy suits best for the Tibetan people and what challenges do we face with the current democratic system.

Resource Persons:

Geshe Dadul Namgyal
Geshe Lobsang Dhargyal
Geshe Yeshe Thabkhe
Prof. Gray Tuttle
Joshua Cutler

Registration Form: 2019 Workshop on Secular Ethics
The Tibet Fund & Tibetan Buddhist Learning Center

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Your

Father's Name: _____

Photo

Mother's Name: _____

Tel #: _____ E-mail address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Allergies, if any: _____

Anything, you wish to make us aware about you:

Declaration: I understand that The Tibet Fund and Tibetan Buddhist Learning Center will make my stay at Washington, New Jersey the utmost educational and useful program. However, should any unforeseen tragedy strike, I will take full responsibility. I authorize the Tibetan Buddhist Learning Center to give me medical treatment, if required.

Signature of the participant

Signature of the parent / Legal guardian

____ / ____ / ____
Dated: (MM/DD/YYYY)

Please mail your application along with the check of \$175 to:

The Tibet Fund

Attn: Rigi Philip, Program Associate
Workshop on Secular Ethics
241 E. 32nd Street; New York, NY 10016

 212.213.5011 x 11

rigiphilip@tibetfund.org

Guidelines for the Workshop on Secular Ethics

The participant and the undersigned parent/legal guardian agree with the following terms and conditions, including the set of rules to maintain good discipline throughout the retreat.

1. The participants to abide by the rules and regulations of the Workshop, in particular the sanctity of the Dharma Center – Tibetan Buddhist Learning Center.
2. Smoking, drinking or the use of drugs in any form is prohibited at the Workshop. In the event the applicant is found violating any of them, the parent/legal guardian will be notified to pick you up. Taking drugs or offering drugs to other is a criminal offence and therefore, the organizers have the right to report such incident to local law enforcement.
3. In the event a student needs emergency medical attention, local emergency services will be called and taken to the nearest hospital. The parent/legal guardian will be informed immediately of the situation.
4. The organizers have the right to inspect the personal bags and belongings of the participant whenever necessary in the presence of the participant.
5. Students are required to participate in all workshop activities and maintain a good discipline throughout the duration of the Workshop. All activities are mandatory, including early morning session before the breakfast.
6. Participants are not allowed to come in shorts inside the temple.
7. Students are not permitted to visit outside of the Center premises after 9pm.
8. Fighting is strictly prohibited. Any incidence of bullying or cause of fighting will not be tolerated.
9. Depending on the severity of violations of rules, the organizers may immediately suspend or remove the student from the program and parent/legal guardian will be asked to pick the participant.
10. All the participants are required to arrive on time for all sessions. Cell phones will be collected at the start of the morning and after sessions and given back to participants at lunch break and after the day's last session.
11. Students are expected to go to bed latest by 10:30pm.

Signature of the participant

Signature of the parent

___ / ___ / ___
Dated (MM/DD/YYYY)