



Pomaia di Santa Luce, 24th January 2020

Geshe Jampa Gyatso, resident teacher of the Lama Tzong Khapa Institute for twenty-seven years and main and essential focal point of the Centre, already understood in 2004 that the time was ripe for the creation of a monastery to house the monastic community of Pomaia and suggested to set up the Sangha Association to pursue the realization of this project.

By then the Institute had already become an extraordinary Buddhist Centre, a point of encounter, study, research and comparison for students and academics. The increase in vocations determined in Geshe Jampa Gyatso, the first abbot of the monastic community, the idea of creating a place in keeping with the rules of monastic Buddhist life that was independent, but close to the Institute: two entities born from the same family, interdependent and complementary to each other.

It will be the first monastery of the Tibetan tradition in Italy, a point of cohesion and reference for all those who intend to live the monastic life, aimed at spreading a culture of peace through meditative experience, interreligious, intercultural and didactic-scientific dialogue.

In 2008 His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama of Tibet gave a name to the monastery – Lhungtok Choekhorling, "Place where teaching is transmitted and realized" – and in June 2014 he visited the site blessing the land.

Its location is no accident. It will be built on a rocky hillside in the immediate vicinity of the Lama Tzong Khapa Institute, healing the land left scarred by a former quarry which is now disused. On the rock, like the monasteries of Tibet!

The architecture will be sensitive both to ancient traditions and will follow an eco-sustainable approach, thus ensuring a low environmental impact, saving energy and resources.

The project is entrusted to the team led by architect Gino Zavanella and architects Ciampa – Lazzeroni. The project coordinator is Dr Maria Sargentini.

Through the use of species of Mediterranean flora, typical of the area, and the restoration of the old paths, the intention is to create a Contemplation Park, a path that helps to open the heart and mind to the rediscovered harmony of respect, tolerance of the place and sentient beings.

We are convinced that this project will lead to an increase in the serenity and well-being of the wider community in daily life, and will contribute to world peace.

Sangha Association

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