

Veneux-Les Sablons, November 18, 2018

Dear Friends of Rigpa centers

Regarding Sogyal Rinpoche, last year I heard some news of the situation but your recent letter in Tibetan clarified the matter. I find the entire state of affairs is very regrettable and I am very sorry about the predicament in which you now find yourselves.

It seems to me that what matters now is the way you cope with it. You have all studied the Buddha's teachings and know the importance of overcoming anger and resentment, whatever the circumstances. As you have benefitted from Sogyal Rinpoche's kindness in receiving the Dharma from him, I believe it would be good to try and deal with the bad feelings that you have toward him. I don't know whether you will be able to maintain your past teacher-student relationship with him. If you think that is not possible, the next best would be to try and keep your feelings for him neutral, free of anger and resentment.

To prevent this kind of situation from recurring, perhaps it would be advisable to let it be known as much as possible what the Buddha taught regarding the process of establishing a spiritual teacher-student relationship, the importance beforehand of maintaining a period of mutual observation. etc.

Regarding Sogyal Rinpoche's conduct, I have nothing to add over and above what His Holiness the Dalai Lama has clearly stated on several occasions, and I am in full agreement with what he has said.

It is my sincere hope that your present troubles may soon end, that you may find peace and harmony within and among yourselves, and that you may at least have a cordial relationship with Sogyal Rinpoche from whom you have received many teachings. I pray that it may be so.

Venerable Dagpo Rinpoche

France
