Agreement between Kathmandu University and Rangjung Yeshe Institute (RYI) for the Centre for Buddhist Studies (CBS) at RYI

1. Preamble

Kathmandu University (KU) is a tertiary level educational institution established through an Act of Parliament in 1991 and registered with the Government of Nepal's Ministry of Education.

Rangjung Yeshe Institute (RYI) is an educational non-governmental organisation founded in 1997 and registered with the District Administration Office (DAO), Kathmandu, Nepal.

Having realized the tremendous need to promote Buddhist Studies in Nepal and abroad, and having understood that such studies can be promoted, fostered and sustained through joint and collaborative teaching and research activities, and confirmed by the excellent feedback (Kathmandu University 2012 and 2017 Evaluations) from students and faculty from here and well-reputed universities in Europe and USA, Kathmandu University and Rangjung Yeshe Institute hereby agree to renew their agreement for the furtherance of Kathmandu University's Centre for Buddhist Studies (KU-CBS) at Rangjung Yeshe Institute, Boudhanath, Kathmandu. In recognition of the high quality academic standards maintained by the Centre for Buddhist Studies in all of its programs, Kathmandu University designates CBS as an Associate Centre of Excellence for the period of this Agreement.

2. The Academic Program

KU-CBS will continue to offer Four Years long Bachelor of Arts/Hons. in Buddhist Studies with Himalayan Language and provide opportunities for academic research. In addition:

A Certificate in Buddhist Studies of One Year's duration will be offered.

The Centre will offer two Masters level programs each of Two Years duration.

A **PhD program** will be run and a Buddhist Studies Graduate Research Centre established.

Other courses may be introduced as deemed appropriate, including additional on-line learning programs and short courses at various centres and institutions around the world with the prior approval of KU's Academic Council.

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3. Academic and Technical Input

KU shall be responsible for all the approval of all academic inputs related to the academic program. These inputs are defined as:

- 1. Courses of study
- 2. Policy regarding assessment, examination and certification
- 3. Advisement for the betterment of the Program
- 4. Examination and Certification

The end of semester examinations shall be conducted and the results prepared and distributed as per the existing rules and regulations of KU. Certificates shall be issued by Kathmandu University.

During the period of this agreement, KU and RYI will discuss the specific format and modalities to continue this Program under an extended program framework of Kathmandu University.

4. The Management

With a view to managing the operations of the Centre efficiently, a Management Committee consisting of the following shall be formed:

Chökyi Nyima Rinpoche

Founder of RYI

Chairman

Dr. Mahesh Banskota

Dean, School of Arts, KU

Co-chairman

Ven Tokpa Tulku

Representative RYI

Member

Ven. Bhikhu Krishna Man

Representative RYI

Member

Ven. Chultim Dorje Lama

Representative RYI

Member

Dr. Thomas Doctor

Representative RYI

Member

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Decisions related to the functioning of the academic program will be the responsibility of an Executive Committee consisting of the following members:

Dr. Mahesh Banskota

Dean, School of Arts

Chair

Representative, SoA

Member

Greg Whiteside

Principal, RYI

Member

Joanne Larson.

Director of Programs

Member

Provisions relating to the membership, activities and other concerns of these Committees shall be developed by the Committees in the due course of time. In the event of a member retiring or being unable to serve for any other reason, the respective organization (KU/RYI) will nominate a replacement.

The Management and Executive Committees shall implement the academic programs and policy approved by the academic bodies of KU-CBS. They shall also monitor and supervise the general activities of the Centre.

5. Financial Arrangements

RYI will bear total financial responsibility for the operation of the program. The following fees will be payable to KU in accordance with KU's published norms:

- * Registration Fee
- * Admission Fee
- * Examination Fees

6. Relations with GoN

KU shall provide all necessary advice, recommendations and assistance to CBS in its relations with GoN. This will include assistance in obtaining research permits and visas necessary for students, staff and faculty.

7. Properties and Assets

All properties and fixed assets shall belong to RYI. In case the program collapses, RYI will be fully responsible for both assets and liabilities.

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All properties and fixed assets shall belong to RYI. In case the program collapses, RYI will be fully responsible for both assets and liabilities.

8. Settlement of Disputes

Any disputes arising from the execution of this agreement will be settled through amicable negotiation.

9. Duration of Agreement

This agreement will be valid for a period of five years from the date of signing by both the parties. At the end of each five-year period it shall be extended for a further five years should both parties find it beneficial to do so.

Should either party decide to terminate the agreement for any reason, they can do so by expressing their intention to terminate the agreement in writing one year in advance. However, any students enrolled at KU-CBS at the time of any such notification will be given utmost priority to allow them to complete their full program of studies in the normal manner.

Prof. Dr. Ram Kantha Makaju Shrestha

Vice Chancellor

Date:

Kathmandu University

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Dr. Mahesh Banskota Dean, School of Arts Kathmandu University

Date: 27m March 2017

Chökyi Nyima Rinpoche

Founder

Rangjung Yeshe Institute

Date: 27th March 2017

Greg Whiteside

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Greg Whiteside

Principal

Rangjung Yeshe Institute

Date: 27th Mark 2017

