

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Tenzin Ngawang
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tenzin Ngawang
DATE: July 21, 2005
PLACE: Richfield, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Dorjee Norbu and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tenzin Ngawang is a former student and instructor at the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA) in Dharamsala, India. Ngawang is currently the instructor of Tibetan dance and music at the Tibetan Cultural Center in St. Paul, Minnesota.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA), dance, music, opera, plays, including teaching and performing, decision to come to the United States, touring the U.S., lack of traditional arts, differences and similarities in students in India and the U.S., differences and similarities between Tibetan, Indian, and American culture and lifestyle, adjusting to life in Minnesota, community, including support and challenges, future goals, Tibetan Cultural Center, preserving culture, American influences, weather, transportation, Tibet.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 1 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 1 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 28 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.12

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Thupten Dadak
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Thupten Dadak
DATE: July 26, 2005
PLACE: Stillwater, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tsewang Sangmo Lama and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Thupten Dadak was born in Dingri, Tibet. He moved to India with his family when he was young. Dadak is a former Gyuto monk. He moved to Minnesota in 1986. Dadak was an instrumental figure in assisting Tibetans moving to Minnesota as part of the United States Tibetan Resettlement Project.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, life as a monk, having an American wife, deciding to come to Minnesota, Tibet, politics, Buddhism, U.S. Tibet Committee (USTC), deciding to leave monastic life, United States Tibetan Resettlement Project, Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM), His Holiness the Dalai Lama, leading Tibetan community in Minnesota, community, educating Westerners about Tibet, Tibetan traditions, preserving Tibetan culture, differences and similarities between Tibetan and American values, aiding Tibetans in Tibet, finding work in Minnesota, starting business, non-violence, China, Tibetan Education Action, learning from Americans, starting monastery in Minnesota, holy sites, retiring.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 15 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 33 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.2

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Tendell Sangmo
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tendell Sangmo
DATE: July 27, 2005
PLACE: Minneapolis, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tenzin Yangdon and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tendell Sangmo was born in Tibet. She moved to India in 1960 with her parents. Upon arriving in the United States, Sangmo first lived in Ithaca, New York. She then moved to Minnesota in 2000.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, attending school in India, attending secretarial course in Delhi, working for the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), first jobs in the United States, finding housing in Minnesota, attending nursing school, working as a nurse in Minnesota, parenting, including challenges of, community, Tibetan Woman's Association (TWA), preserving culture, transportation, Tibetan youth, challenges, Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), activism in the community, busy lifestyle, similarities and differences between Tibetan, Indian, and American culture, dangers of assimilation, Tibetan Cultural Center, Tibetan language, Tibetan Green Books, Tibetan Government in Exile, children dating in the U.S., Miss Tibet Contest, future of community, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Buddhism, Tibetan Children's Village (TCV), English.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 45 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 37 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.17

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Gyatsho Tssering
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Gyatsho Tssering
DATE: July 29, 2005
PLACE: Northeast Minneapolis, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tenzin Khando and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Gyatsho Tssering was born in Sikkim. He was one of the principal founders of the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives (LTWA) in Dharamsala, India. Tssering moved to the United States in 1999 to join his wife.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, Tibet, Buddhism, Indian Foreign Services, community, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives (LTWA), Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), Tibetan Government in Exile, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, raising children, Tibet House, Tibetan Museum, early Tibetan communities in India post 1959, Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM), preserving Tibetan culture, challenges, future of community.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 30 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 30 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.20

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Wangyal T. Ritzekura
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Wangyal T. Ritzekura
DATE: August 19, 2005
PLACE: Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tenzin Khando and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Wangyal T. Ritzekura was born in Dzonga, Tibet. At a young age he moved with his parents to India. Ritzekura was teacher in India from 1976 until leaving for Minnesota in 1992 as part of the United States Tibetan Resettlement Project. Since arriving in Minnesota, Ritzekura has been a teacher, translator, and education liaison for the Tibetan community.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, traveling from Tibet, attending school in India, being a teacher in India, deciding to come to the United States, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), Tibetan Government in Exile, Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), activism, serving the Tibetan community in India and Minnesota, U.S. Tibetan Resettlement Project, Tibetan Green Book, coming to Minnesota, expectations of the US, first jobs in Minnesota, family separation, differences and similarities in teaching in India and the U.S., Tibetan Homeschool Liaison, community, challenges, Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM), education, Tibetan Cultural Center, Tibetan Culture School, preserving culture, preserving language, differences and similarities between Tibetan and American culture, youth, adjusting to Minnesota education system, parenting, future of community, Buddhism, stereotypes, Tibetan responsibilities, Tibetan Association of Minnesota (TAM), citizenship, educating Westerners about Tibet, U.S. politics, China, Tibetan holidays.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 30 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 36 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.16

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Namgang Tsering
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Namgang Tsering
DATE: August 20, 2005
PLACE: Ramsey, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tenzin Yangdon and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Namgang Tsering was born in Tibet and later moved to India. He studied engineering at the University of Bangalore. Tsering moved to Minnesota in 1993 as part of the United States Tibetan Resettlement Project.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Family, parents, school in India, grades, difference in engineering and technology between India and the United States, raising children, community, Buddhism, moving to the US, Minnesota weather, decision to come to the U.S., transportation, adjusting to life in Minnesota, Regional Tibetan Youth Congress (RTYC), preserving Tibetan culture.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 1 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 1 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 29 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.18

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Tashi Khongertsang
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tashi Khongertsang
DATE: August 24, 2005
PLACE: Tibet's Corner, Minneapolis, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Dorjee Norbu and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tashi Khongertsang was born in India and moved to Nepal with his parents. He attended school in Kalingpong, India. Khongertsang moved to Seattle as a teenager to live with family. He then moved to Minnesota in 1996. He is the owner of Tibet's Corner, the first Tibetan-owned restaurant in Minnesota.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, attending school in India, moving to the United States, adjusting to life in the U.S., weather, first jobs in the U.S., opening a restaurant, generational differences within community, Tibetan food, educating Westerners, running a business, community, stereotypes, differences and similarities between Tibetans and Westerners, citizenship, preserving culture.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 1 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 1 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 30 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 23 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.8

INTERVIEW: Yangchen Dolkar
YEAR: 2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Yangchen Dolkar
DATE: August 26, 2005
PLACE: St. Anthony, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tenzin Yangdon and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tenzin Dolkar was born in Dingri, Tibet. She moved to Nepal when she was young with her family. Dolkar moved to Minnesota in 1993 as part of the United States Tibetan Resettlement Project.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, leaving Tibet, living in a Tibetan settlement in Nepal, United States Tibetan Resettlement Project, Tibetan Green Book, deciding to come to the U.S., family separation, coming to the US, challenges, including gangs and violence, community, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, finding work in Minnesota, immigration challenges, caring for ill husband, death of son, Buddhism, opportunities in the U.S., Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), singing.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: This interview was conducted in Tibetan and transcribed in English.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 26 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 27 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.3

INTERVIEW: Tenzin Tsering
YEAR: 2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tenzin Tsering
DATE: August 26, 2005
PLACE: Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tenzin Khando and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tenzin Tsering was born in Dharamsala, India. He attended school in Mussoorie, India before moving to Minnesota in 1998 to attend DeLaSalle High School. He is pursuing his undergraduate degree at Hamline University.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, wanting to come to the United States, first impressions of school in Minnesota, differences and similarities between schools in India and the U.S., English, future career, Chinese language, selecting a college, college experiences, Students for Free Tibet (SFT), activism, including youth and college, Hamline University, attending college with other Tibetan students, starting a political organization, community, preserving culture, Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM), citizenship, challenges of being an international student, race, Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), Westerners and the Tibetan cause, China, roots, identity, Middle-Way, differences and similarities between Tibetan and American culture, Tibetan politics, religion.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 10 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 31 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.19

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Tashi Lhewa
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tashi Lhewa
DATE: August 28, 2005
PLACE: St. Paul, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Dorjee Norbu and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tashi Lhewa was born in Mussoorie, Uttaranchal, India. He moved to Montana at the age of 17 and later moved to Minnesota. Lhewa obtained an undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota and is attending the University of Minnesota Law School.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Family, parents, attending school in India, moving to the United States, differences between schools in India and the U.S., diversity, deciding to move to Minnesota, college experiences, community, challenges, deciding to study law, parental influence, future plans, similarities and differences between living in small and large Tibetan communities in the U.S., Student for Free Tibet (SFT), overcoming cultural challenges, similarities and differences between Tibetan and American culture, Tibetan Cultural Center, Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM), expanding community, Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), obligations of being Tibetan, civic duty, preserving culture, economic differences within the community, assimilation, parenting.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 15 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 33 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.11

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Tenzin Khenrab
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tenzin Khenrab
DATE: August 29, 2005
PLACE: Fridley, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tenzin Yangdon and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tenzin Khenrab was born in Bhandara, India. He grew up in Dharamsala attending the Tibetan Children's Village (TCV). Khenrab moved to the United States in 1997.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, siblings, Tibetan Children's Village (TCV), difficulties adjusting to American teaching styles, college experiences, youth, future education plans, English, working in the United States, adjusting to food in the U.S., music, Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), activism, community, citizenship, differences and similarities between Tibetan and American culture, Tibetan Green Book.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 1 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 1 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 49 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 33 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.7

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Jigme Ugen
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Jigme Ugen
DATE: August 31, 2005
PLACE: Richfield, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tsewang Sangmo Lama and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Jigme Ugen was born in Kalimpong, India. He moved to Minnesota in 2000. Ugen has worked with many political organizations including the 2002 senate campaign for Paul Wellstone.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, Indo-Tibetan Buddhist Cultural Institute (ITBCI), Australia, identity conflicts, similarities and differences between Tibetan, Indian, and American culture, politics, Senator Paul Wellstone, immigration difficulties, assimilation, workers rights, unions, parenting, preserving culture, challenges, Tibetan Cultural Center, community, stereotypes, Tibetan politics, future of community, Regional Tibetan Youth Congress (RTYC), Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Tibetan language, joint family living.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 2 hours

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 40 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.21

INTERVIEW: Tenzin Dolsel
YEAR: 2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tenzin Dolsel
DATE: September 2, 2005
PLACE: Fridley, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tenzin Khando and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tenzin Dolsel was born in Bylakuppee, India. She moved to Minnesota in 1997. Dolsel is a graduate of Edison High School and is an undergraduate student at the University of Minnesota.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, moving to Minnesota, expectations of Minnesota, growing up in a Tibetan settlement, similarities and differences between India and the United States, English, school experiences in India and the U.S., Students for Free Tibet (SFT), making friends, moving to big city, college experiences, nursing, Middle-Way, Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), autonomy, Tibetan political issues, Buddhism, non-violence, preserving culture, China, His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 1 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 1 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 30 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.4

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Gyen Gendun Kalsang
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Gyen Gendun Kalsang
DATE: September 4, 2005
PLACE: Columbia Heights, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Dorjee Norbu and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Gyen Gendun Kalsang is from the village of Makham in Tibet. At the age of 16 he joined Norbulinpa Monastery. He traveled to many monasteries inside and outside of Tibet. Kalsang left Tibet in 1959 and traveled to India. He has been a member of various monasteries including, Drepung (Lhasa), Ramoche Jowo Minthuejee (Tibet), monasteries in Dalhousie and Kalimpong (India), and the Gyuto Wheel of Dharma Monastery in Columbia Heights, Minnesota.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Tibet, monastery experiences in Tibet, India and the United States, Buddhist practices, moving to the US, differences between monasteries in Tibet and elsewhere, schedules of a monk, spirituality, Tibetan medicine, Western medicine, living in the U.S., community, relationship between monastery and community, challenges of monastery.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: This interview was conducted in Tibetan and transcribed in English.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 1 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 1 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 45 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 18 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.5

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Tenzin Chodon
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tenzin Chodon
DATE: September 5, 2005
PLACE: Minneapolis, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tenzin Yangdon and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tenzin Chodon was born in Nyigo, Tibet. She moved with her parents to India in 1959. Chodon was a teacher in India until moving to the United States as part of the U.S. Tibetan Resettlement Project. She is one of the principal founders of the Tibetan Women's Association (TWA) in Minnesota.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, traveling from Tibet, Tibetan Institute for Performing Arts (TIPA), Tibetan Children's Village (TCV), school in India, teaching in India, death of husband, separation of family, deciding to come to the United States, first jobs in the U.S., transportation, translating, community, immigration clinic, Tibetan Woman's Association (TWA), Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), preserving culture, community, challenges, children, adjusting to the U.S., food, Buddhism, activism, differences and similarities between India and the U.S.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 25 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 32 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.1

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Tashi Lhamo
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tashi Lhamo
DATE: September 8, 2005
PLACE: Columbia Heights, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Tsewang Sangmo Lama and Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tashi Lhamo was born in India and grew up in Mysore. She studied Tibetan medicine at the prestigious Tibetan Medical and Astrological Center in Dharamsala. Lhamo has practiced Tibetan medicine in India and in the United States. She moved to Minnesota in 2002.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, Tibetan medicine, studying at the Tibetan Medical and Astrological Center, moving to the United States, nursing, practicing Tibetan medicine in India and the U.S., teaching at the University of Minnesota, similarities and differences between Tibetan and Western medicine practices, common ailments of Tibetans, changes in Tibetan health, preserving culture, Tibetan Cultural Center, similarities and differences between India and the U.S., living with parents.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 1 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 1 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 28 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.10

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Tsewang Sangmo Lama
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tsewang Sangmo Lama
DATE: September 19, 2005
PLACE: Minnesota History Center, St. Paul, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tsewang Sangmo Lama was born in Boudha, Kathmandu, Nepal. She graduated from the Tibetan Children's Village (TCV) in Dharamsala, India. Lama moved to Minnesota in 2000 to attend St. Cloud State University.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, Tibetan Children's Village (TCV), school in India, coming to Minnesota, first impressions of Minnesota, adjusting to the United States, college experiences, Students for Free Tibet (SFT), starting a political organization, Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM), International Campaign for Tibet (ICT), activism, U.S. politics, influence of older Tibetans, community, future education plans, international students, adjusting to weather, preserving culture, Tibetans in Nepal, differences and similarities between Tibetan and American values, working on the Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 45 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 31 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.9

INTERVIEW: Tenzin Khando
YEAR: 2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tenzin Khando
DATE: September 20, 2005
PLACE: Minnesota History Center, St. Paul, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tenzin Khando was born in New Delhi, India. She moved to Minnesota in 1997 at the age of twelve. Khando is an undergraduate student at the University of Minnesota.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, moving to Minnesota, family separation, experiences in boarding school in India, similarities and differences between schools in India and the United States, expectations of Minnesota, American TV, making friends, change in diet, college experiences, future education plans, service, community, similarities and differences between Tibetan, Indian, and American culture, Buddhism, preserving culture, identity, stereotypes, working on the Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 1 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 1 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 30 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.6

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Tenzin Yangdon
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Tenzin Yangdon
DATE: September 24, 2005
PLACE: Minnesota History Center, St. Paul, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Tenzin Yangdon was born in Rajpur, India. She moved to Minnesota in 1996. Yangdon graduated from high school in Minnesota and is pursuing her undergraduate degree at Hamline University.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, being sent to boarding school, differences and similarities between schools in India and the United States, family separation, coming to Minnesota, initial reaction to Minnesota, making friends, deciding to go to college, selecting a college, selecting a career, Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), Middle-Way, autonomy, independence, Tibetan politics, Students for Free Tibet (SFT), Westerners and the Tibetan cause, community, college experiences, Tibetan Cultural Center, preserving culture, differences and similarities between Tibetan, Indian, and American culture, working on the Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 15 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 30 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.22

INTERVIEW:
YEAR:

Dorjee Norbu
2005

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Dorjee Norbu
DATE: September 30, 2005
PLACE: Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Charles Lenz

PROJECT SERIES: Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Dorjee Norbu was born in Jaipur, Rajasthan, India. He moved with his family to Mussoorie and then Rajpur. His mother moved to Minnesota in 1992. Norbu and the rest of the family following in 1996.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Parents, family, school experiences in India and the United States, expectations of Minnesota, first experiences in Minnesota, snow, differences in social relationships between Tibetans and Americans, similarities and differences between Tibetan, Indian, and American culture, making friends, attending college, Tibetan dance group, international students, Tibetan Institute for Performing Arts (TIPA), preserving Tibetan culture, community, challenges, including gangs and violence, differences between adults and adolescents, stereotypes, economic differences within the community, race, working on the Minnesota Tibetan Oral History Project.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** 2 60-minute cassettes
 Original: 2 60-minute cassettes

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: 1 hour, 25 minutes

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: None

TRANSCRIPT: 39 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV 2005.106.14

