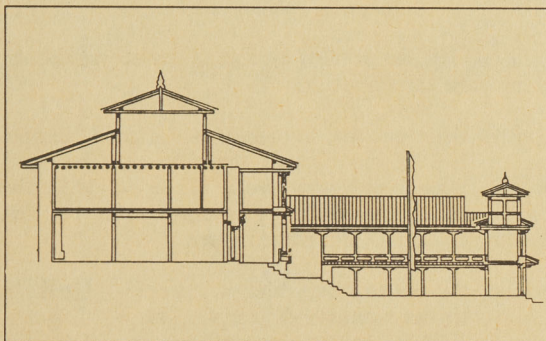


Help Save Nepal's Cultural Heritage

invaluable statues, books and thankas (paintings) were rescued from the burning building. Villagers ran through the night to the site and were able to prevent the destruction of the monks' homes. Many of the monks had gone to Kathmandu for a very special ceremony and others had been called to Namche to perform funeral rites for a villager at the time of the fire.

Traditionally community participation is important in our culture. On this occasion the Sherpa people have united again to reconstruct the temple at Tengpoche Monastery. A committee to manage the reconstruction project has been established. Chaired by the Tengpoche Abbot, it has 21 members from the Sherpa community. As well several organizations are ex-officio members.



Drawings of plans for reconstruction.....

Plans for the reconstruction are proceeding smoothly and call for a slightly larger temple building of the same design as the previous one, with an enlarged courtyard to accommodate cultural festivals. The estimated cost of the project, including replacing artifacts, is about US \$ 800,000. Though the local people are generously contributing time and money, present construction costs necessitate extra funding. We would highly appreciate if you as an individual/organization could assist us in this

important undertaking to save our world cultural heritage.

Donations can be sent to:

**King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation
Tengpoche Monastery Reconstruction Fund
P.O. Box 3712, Kathmandu
NEPAL**

or

**For: KMTNC/Tengpoche Monastery Fund
Nepal Grindlays Bank, P.O. Box 3990, Kathmandu
NEPAL**

**Telex: 2531 GRNDLY NP
Account No.: 101-1010-4884-053**

Funds may also be forwarded through the committee's international supporters:

BELGIUM

Mr. Pierre De Groot
President, Belgium Nepal
Friendship Association
Hertogweg

CANADA

Mr. William Zeke O'Connor
Chairman, KMTNC-Canada
40 Richview Road
Suite 1708, Etobicoke
Ontario M9A 5C1

FRANCE

Mr. Maurice Herzog
Chairman, KMTNC-France
c/o Triton
109 Rue Faubourg
St. Honore, F 75008, Paris

FED. REP. OF GERMANY

Mr. Gunter Strum
DAV-Summit Club
Furstenjelder Strabe 7
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Mr. T. Imanishi
President
Japan Alpine Club
5-4 Yon-ban-cho, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102

NEW ZEALAND

Sir Edmund Hillary
Chairman, Himalayan Trust
278A Remuera Road
Auckland

UNITED KINGDOM

Lord Hunt
Member, K MukT
Highway Cottage, Aston
Henley-on-Thames, Oxon,

U.S.A.

Mr. Richard Blum
Member, KMTNC-USA
The American Himalayan
Foundation
909 Montgomery St. Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94133

Reconstructing Tengpoche Monastery



The Sherpa People of Khumbu appeal to their international friends for funds to assist with the rebuilding of Tengpoche Monastery.

Reconstructing Tengpoche Monastery

AN APPEAL OF THE KING MAHENDRA TRUST FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

Tengpoche Monastery has captured the imagination of world visitors since Nepal opened to foreigners in 1951.

- In January 1989 the monastery's temple and school house were destroyed by fire.
- This tragic event has united the people of the Khumbu Valley in a community effort to reconstruct this main building.
- Financial assistance from international friends would greatly help in this extraordinary undertaking.

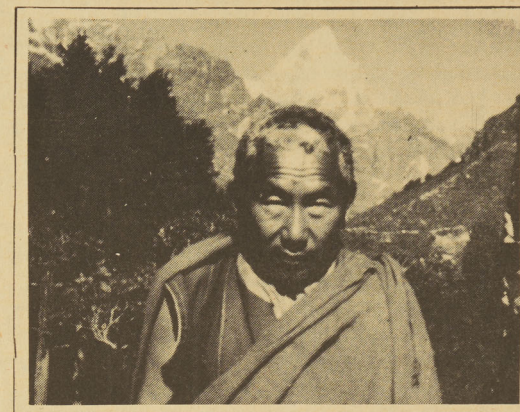
Tengpoche Monastery has been the heart of Sherpa culture since 1916. This famed monastery in the valley below Mount Everest is the focal point of our society. It has also become a spiritual symbol for visitors from around the world. For centuries, people

have come to view Everest, either as the abode of a goddess or as the highest mountain on earth.

The Sherpas are people that live in high places and valleys near Mount Everest. They follow the oldest sect of Himalayan Buddhism, the Nyingmapa. Our Buddhist ways aim at generating spiritual energy for the benefit of all beings. Religion is a way of life, unifying all aspects of our existence.

Tengpoche was the first celibate monastery established in the Solu- Khumbu district of east Nepal. It is a community of about 36 monks and 25 students under the leadership of the Abbot, Tengboche Reincarnate Lama.

The founder of Tengpoche, Lama Gulu of Khumjung, in 1914 went on a pilgrimage to Rongbuk monastery on the north side of Mount Everest. The Abbot of Rongbuk instructed him to build a celibate monastery in Khumbu. The ridge of Tengpoche, where a famous



Tengpoche Reincarnate Lama

lama had left the print of his feet in stone, was chosen as the most auspicious site.

Construction of the monastery's original temple started in 1916 and lasted three years. The local people helped with this work. Then in 1933 the temple was destroyed during an earthquake. On that same night, Lama Gulu passed away.

During the 1930s, the Sherpa people united to reconstruct the monastery's temple. This building was renowned for its outstanding wall murals and for the wonderful blend of its architecture with the surrounding mountain landscape.

A new school building was constructed adjacent to the temple in 1987. It housed classrooms for students undertaking a Buddhist education at the monastery's school. The monks study, teach and perform religious rites for the Sherpa society.

Fire broke out in the monastery's office on the evening of 19 January 1989. Strong winds quickly spread the flames to the upper storey of Tengpoche's temple. Though the fire could not be stopped, many

Before the fire.....



After the fire.....

FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF TENGPOCHE MONASTERY