

The Tana Yelpa Lineage

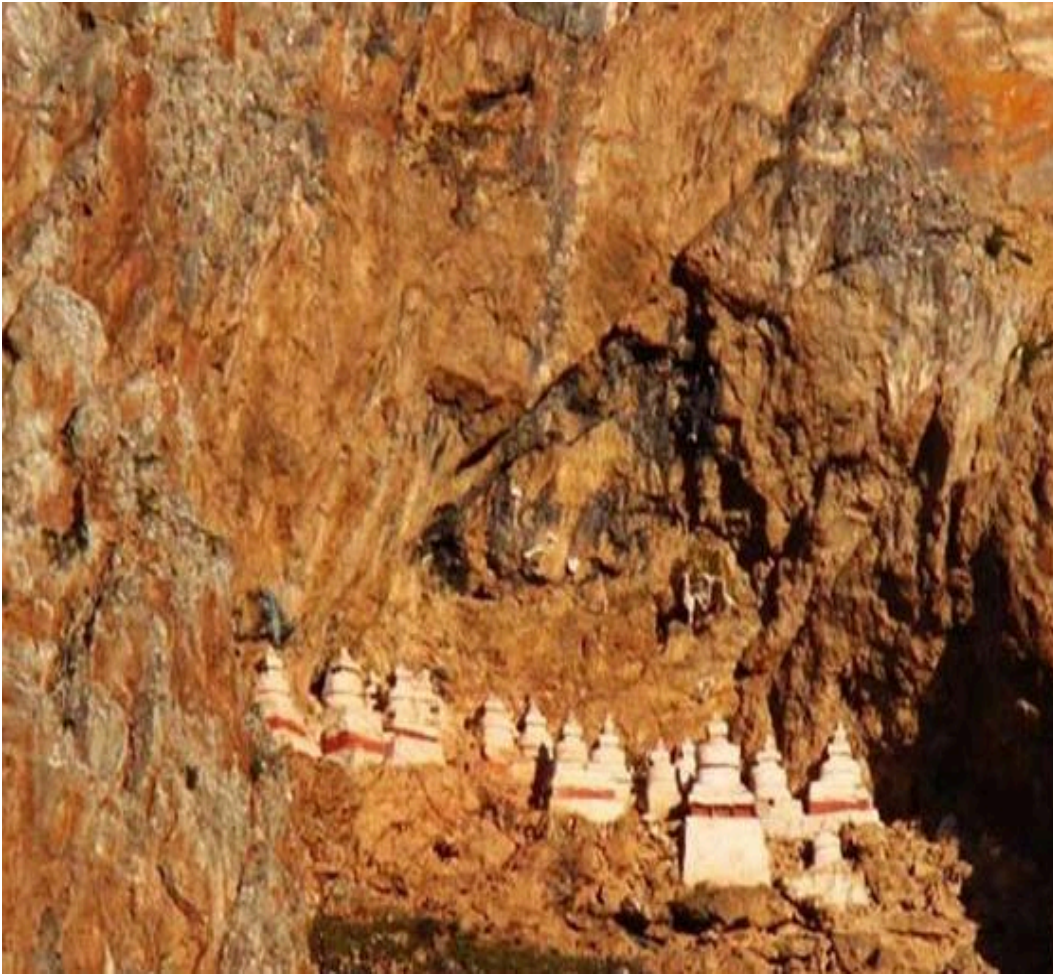
Tana monastery in Tibet was built in more than 800 years ago in year 1168AD by Drogon Sangye Yelpa Yeshe Tsekpa, a seat of Yelpa Kagyu, which is among the eight junior Kagyu sect of Tibetan Buddhism and one of the major lineage of Tibet. The Tana Monastery one of the earliest monasteries in Tibet, it was founded in a place known as "Tana", meaning "Horse Ear" in Tibet in 1168AD by the Protector Lord, Sangye Yelpa, founder of Tana Yelpa Kagyu.



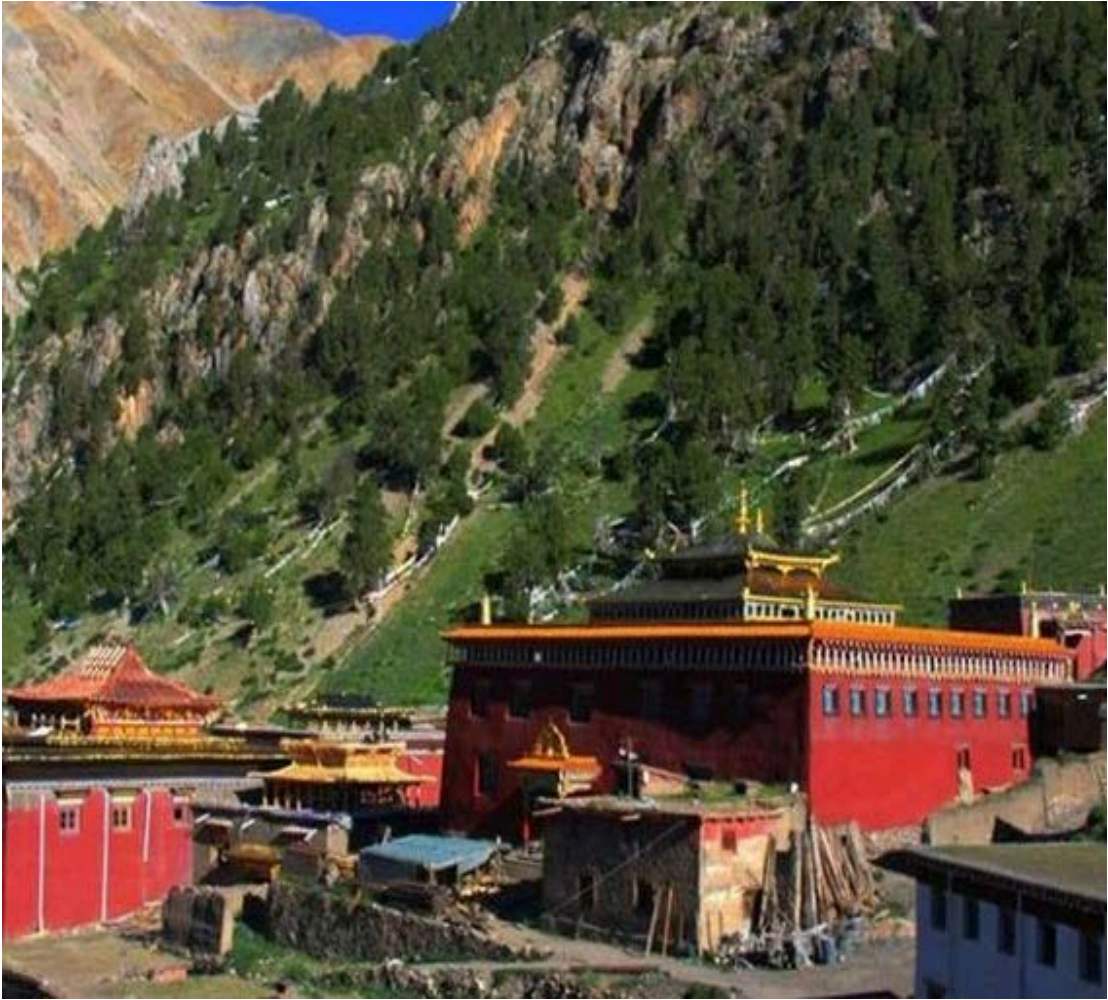


Tana Yelpa monastery is also known to be Monastery of King Gesar of Ling. The Tana Yelpa Lineage is the lineage of King Gesar. King Gesar of Ling is known to be greatest dharma king of Tibet and his life story is a long epic story with many volumes.

As part of Sangye Yelpa many enlightened activates, he became the root guru of King Gesar of Ling's direct family. Later the descendants of Gesar of Ling offered all their valuable property and their wealth, to Sangye Yelpa including Gesar of Lings's sword, bow, armor, the armor of the thirty ministers and many other precious items. These items still remain in Tana Monastery in Tibet to this day. While some precious items were lost during the Communist Revolution, the previously mentioned items and the Stupas containing the relics of the thirty ministers of Ling's still exist in the Tana Monastery in Tibet today.



Since the descendants of King Gesar of Ling offer all their possession to their Root Guru Sangey Yelpa. Sangey Yelpa kept them in the Tana Yelpa Monastery in a way so that they have become one of the most revered and heritage treasured in all of Tibet event to this day. During the Chinese Communist Revolution, Tibetan monasteries were burnt down, however, due to the Tana Lineage being connected to the lineage of King Gesar, the Communist sent word to save the Tana Monastery, unfortunately that word came late and part of the Monastery was destroyed, however all of the possessions of King Gesar were saved, and the Monastery was quickly rebuilt and protected by the Chinese Communists.







The practice of Tana Yelpa Kagyu lineage is mainly the six doctrines of Naropa, the path of method and Mahamudra meditation, the path of liberation. The Tana Yelpa Lineage has been past down till now from Sangey Yelpa a founder of Yelpa Kagyu to Tana Yangonpa to all past Tana lineage masters to present master Tana Dungsey Tulku Pema Rinpoche.



Venerable Tana Dungsey Tulku Pema Rinpoche is the present Abbot and lineage holder of Tana Monastery in India, He was born in Hung Kara Saint lineage, one of the master of Guru Rinpoche. Not long after he was born the late 16th Karmapa, His Holiness Rangjung Rigpe Dorjee recognized him as a Tulku and gave him the name, Karma Ngawang Chokyi Wangchuk Palsangpo.



During his earlier years he received most of the empowerments, transmissions and explanation of the Nyingma tradition from the late Dilgo Khentse Rinpoche, late Penor Rinpoche and Abbots in Nyagyur Shedra.

Tana Dungsey Tulku Pema Rinpoche has received the Kagyu teachings and empowerments, transmissions from the Four Regents and studied at the Karma Shri Nalanda Buddhist Institute under the guidance of Kagyu Khenpos in Rumtek. Rinpoche resides in Tana Monastery, India and tirelessly travels widely and teaches abroad. Rinpoche underwent his permanent 3 year retreat at Sherabling retreat centre 'Tingzin Gephel Ling' under the tutelage of HH Tai Situpa Rinpoche, Venerable Yongey Mingyur Rinpoche and retreat master and returned to the Tana Monastery in March 2014.







While, the Tana Monastery in Tibet as spared, during the Chinese communist revolution, Tana Dungsey Tulku Pema Rinpoche's father, Tana Tulku fled Tibet and became an refuge in India.



Tana Tulku did his best to preserve the teachings and lineage of Tana Yelpa in places like in India, Nepal and Malaysia and established, the present day Tana Yelpa Monastery in South India. His son, Tana Dungsey Tulku Pema Rinpoche has carried out his fathers tradition and formed a center in Bouddha, Nepal and the Tana Yelpa Dharma Society Centre in Malaysia to preserve the Tana Yelpa Kagyu lineage for the benefit of man kind and all the sentient beings.







Tana Yelpa Monastery, South India was built by late Tana Tulku Rinpoche in 1975 with the help of Tibetan refugee village in the refugee camp in Kollegal.

Through sheer sincere efforts of Tana Tulku Rinpoche's son, Tana Dungsey Tulku Pema Rinpoche, the monks' quarters were built in early 2005. The Tana Yelpa Monastery in India has over 60 monks who live there permanently learning the Tana Yelpa and Karma Kagyu practices.

