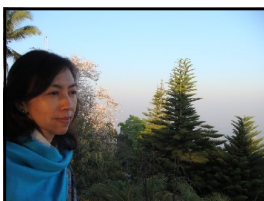




Associate Professor Krisadawan Hongladarom, Ph.D

(Expert of Tibet and Tibetan Linguistics and Meditation Teacher)



Dr. Krisadawan Hongladarom

obtained her doctoral degree in linguistics at Indiana University where she also studied Tibetan language, history and culture. She taught linguistics at Chulalongkorn University in 1993-2007, during which time she conducted numerous research projects on Tibetan dialects, particularly Kham Tibetan and became an associate professor.

In 2004 she established the Thousand Stars Foundation to promote understanding of Tibetan religion and culture, to foster dialogues among various lineages and practices of Buddhism and to support the education and Dharma practice of children, nuns and retreatants in Tibet.

In 2006 she established the Tara Khadiravana retreat center near Hua Hin, Prachuakhirikhan, her hometown 250 kilometers to the south of Bangkok. In May 2007 she went on a prostrating pilgrimage between Nyethang and Samye. The story was reported in a Thai TV documentary program.

Dr. Krisadawan has published numerous articles and a few books on Tibet and Tibetan Buddhism including "Tibet, Lost Horizon" and "Moonlight over Pine Trees". Her forthcoming book, with Worawanna Petchkij, deals specifically with her prostrating pilgrimage.

Dr. Krisadawan is emerging as an important public intellectual in articulating the role of contemporary Buddhism in all aspects of modern life. She is also a meditation teacher and devoted follower of Tara traditions of Vajrayana Buddhism, though she is leading a ri-me movement, which is an ecumenical approach to Buddhism accommodating all lineages.

She resigned from her position at Chulalongkorn University in 2007 in order to pursue her full time work for the Foundation and the Tara Great Stupa for Peace and Harmony to be built at the Tara retreat center as well as to have more time for Dharma practice.

She sees Vajrayana as complementary to Theravada and is helping to redefine notions of engaged Buddhism from a point of view that incorporates Vajrayana principles.

Tibetan Language Proficiency and Mission

Dr. Krisadawan studied Tibetan (Lhasa Tibetan, Classical Tibetan and Old Tibetan) at Indiana University in 1988-1993. During this period she also did research on Tibetan grammar and culture. She spent a year in 1990-1991 doing field research among Tibetan refugees in Kathamandu, Nepal.

From 1993 she joined the Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University and managed several research projects on languages and cultures of Eastern Tibet. Her present research focuses on the cultural and religious aspects of Tibet by bridging these with the linguistic one.

She hopes to have more opportunities to translate Tibetan texts and work with Tibetan spiritual masters in further propagating Tibetan traditional knowledge to Thailand and the world.

Project Management Experiences (Selected Only Funded Research on Tibet)

1990-1991 Evidentiality: An Interplay between Form and Meaning (funded by the Wenner-Gren Anthropological Foundation, USA). A doctoral fieldwork in a Tibetan refugee community in Kathamandu, Nepal.

1995-1999 Rgyalthing, a Tibetan Language in Yunnan, China (funded by the Thailand Research Fund). A linguistic fieldwork in southern Kham, Eastern Tibet.

1999-2002 Grammar of Southern Kham Dialects (funded by the Thailand Research Fund). A linguistic fieldwork in southern Kham, Eastern Tibet.

2000-2001 Kham Tibetan: Language and Culture I (funded by the Asian Scholarship Foundation). The objectives of this project were to study Chinese, create a network with Tibetan and Chinese scholars, and conduct fieldwork in Tibet.

2001 Kham Tibetan: Language and Culture II (funded by the Asian Scholarship Foundation). A five-month research at Wolfson College, Oxford University.

2003-2007 Eastern Tibet: Language, Ethnohistory and Ethnic Identity (funded by the Thailand Research Fund, and partially by the project Linguistic Substratum in Tibet led by Prof. Yasuhiko Nagano, Japan). A fieldwork in northern Kham, Eastern Tibet.