

5.6.2019

Update on a mediation process for Sanghaloka: Triratna Buddhist Centre Krakow

Friends,

As most of you are aware, since September 2017 there has been an unresolved issue in the Order in Poland. During this period Jinaraja has been asked not to teach in context of the Triratna sangha in Kraków and Warsaw, or participate in centre and group activities. During this time the Order members teaching at the Centre (Nityabandhu, Santaka and Paramashanti), plus a number of senior Order members and Jinaraja, have worked to resolve the conflict.

More recently in September 2018 at the request of the College of Preceptors an English Order member by the name of Jnanasiddhi (who specialises in a Restorative Process of mediation) initiated a mediation process with all the Order members in Poland.

In May 2019 Jnanasiddhi contacted me to say that she had received an email from Jinaraja to say he felt that he could no longer continue with the mediation process. On this basis she communicated that there was no more that she could reasonably do to assist in the resolution of the conflict.

In a spiritual community as culturally diverse as Triratna, with centres and groups in 40 different countries embracing something like 28 different languages, more than 2000 Order members and tens of thousands of sangha members; we occasionally end up with an unresolved difficulty. This is the nature of who we are as people, even with the best of intentions and metta.

In Triratna we place great emphasis on friendship and communication so that conflict in the Sangha is especially difficult. In this case I believe that we have done the best we can in the circumstances. In light of this and the fact it has been a painful and demanding process, for the well-being of all involved it is time to draw a line under things and move on.

One of the prerequisites for an Order member to teach in a Triratna Centre or group is that he or she is in harmony with the local Order members, as well as the senior Order members associated with the Centre or group. Because Jinaraja is not in harmony in this way we sadly have to accept that he is not able to teach under the auspices of Triratna in Poland. This may of course change in the future.

Looking forward, Vidyatara is now staying with us nine months a year and by the end of July 2019 three new 'home grown' Polish Order members will have returned from their ordination retreats in Spain to join us.

There is much work to be done to take our personal practice deeper, to cultivate the Sangha, and to make the Dharma available for the benefit of all beings. We have vibrant and friendly

Triratna spiritual communities at Sanghaloka in Kraków and in Warsaw, embodying the Dharma and finer sensibilities of Polish life and culture. I have no doubt that over time these centres will flourish and inspire other Triratna communities throughout the country!

I hope this contributes some clarity to the situation here. If you have any queries, concerns or comments I am contactable by email and am more than happy to meet up when I am in Kraków early August. You can also talk to any of the Order members at Sanghaloka or at the Warsaw group should you so wish.

Metta
Guhyavajra

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