

The Concise Biography of His Eminence Sharpa Chöjé Ngawang Jördén Rinpoche

In 1956, Sharpa Chöjé Rinpoche was born in Wangden, near Tsang Gyaltsé, to his father Tsultrim Tenzin and mother Kye Pa. At the age of three, he arrived in India as an exile. In 1972, he entered the monastic community of Sera Mey Monastery, thus beginning his lifelong pursuit of Buddhist study and spiritual practice.

Rinpoche received his intermediate ordination and numerous teachings from Jetsun Khesur Ngawang Tekchok Rinpoche. In 1977, he received his novice vows from Drakgyab Dorje Chang, and subsequently, full Bhikṣu ordination from His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. Under the compassionate guidance of eminent masters such as Geshe Tsultrim and Gyume Khenzur Rinpoche Trinley Tobgyal, along with many other distinguished teachers, he diligently studied the five major treatises and a vast array of other scriptures.

In 1983, Rinpoche successfully completed the Rigchung examination (Graduate Bachelor of Paramita Philosophy) and also taught many students. He continued his advanced studies, participating in the major Gelug examinations for seven consecutive years. In 1990, upon completing his final examinations at the three great monasteries, he was awarded the prestigious Geshe Lharampa degree with first-class honors. He then entered Gyutö Tantric Monastery for further tantric studies, where he also successfully defended his commentary.

In 1999, His Holiness the Dalai Lama appointed him as Lama Umze (Vice-Abbot) of Gyutö Monastery. He subsequently rose to the position of Abbot, fulfilling his responsibilities in teaching and spiritual leadership with great distinction. In 2009, His Holiness further entrusted him with the Abbat of Sed-Gyued Monastery. Under his leadership, the monastery flourished both internally and externally, establishing a strong foundation for future generations and earning him the deep trust and devotion of the sangha.

In 2011, His Holiness the Precious One appointed him as the Abbot of Sera Mey Monastery. During his tenure, he worked tirelessly to uphold and revitalize the monastery's noble traditions—supervising the construction of a new debating hall, classrooms, meditation facilities, and establishing new platforms for tantric studies. His time in office was marked by many significant accomplishments.

In 2025, His Holiness the Omniscient One bestowed upon him the esteemed title of Sharpa Chöjé. He successfully presided over the inauguration ceremonies at Ganden Lachi (the main assembly of Ganden Monastery), at Shar-Tse Monastery, and at Dokhang Khangtsen, in accordance with sacred tradition. He continued to bestow empowerments, transmissions, and teachings upon countless devoted disciples, both monastic and lay, thus fulfilling an illustrious life dedicated to the Dharma and the benefit of all sentient beings.