National Religious Affairs Bureau Order

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The Measures for the Administration of the Reincarnation of Tibetan Buddhism Living Buddha were passed by the State Council of Religious Affairs on July 13, 2007 and are hereby promulgated and shall come into force as of September 1, 2007.

Secretary Ye Xiaowen
, July 18, 2007

On the Management of the Living Buddha of Tibetan Buddhism

**Article 1** These Measures are formulated in accordance with the Regulations on Religious Affairs in order to protect the freedom of religious belief of citizens, respect the way of inheritance of Tibetan Buddhism, and regulate the management of reincarnation of Living Buddha.

**Article 2** The reincarnation of the Living Buddha shall follow the principle of safeguarding national unity, safeguarding national unity, maintaining religious harmony and social harmony and maintaining the normal order of Tibetan Buddhism.

Living Buddha rejuvenates respect for Tibetan religious rituals and historical custom, but can not restore the feudal privileges that have been abolished.

The reincarnation of Living Buddha is not subject to any organization, personal interference and domination.

**Article** Reincarnation shall meet the following conditions:
(a) majority of local religious believers and temple management organizations reincarnation;
(b) lineage should be real and inheritance so far;
(iii) application reincarnation of Living Buddhas Temple Department intends Temple monk membership where the reincarnation of living Buddhas, And for the registration of Tibetan Buddhist activities, and have the ability to cultivate and support the reincarnation of living Buddha.

**Article 4** An application for reincarnation of a living Buddha shall not be reincarnated if:
(1) the provisions of the Tibetan Buddhist doctrine shall not be reincarnated;
(2) The people's government at or above the municipal level shall not be reincarnated.

**Article 5** The reincarnation of the Living Buddha shall be subject to the application for approval. The procedure for applying for approval is that the temple administrative organization or the Buddhist association of the place where the Buddhist monk is to be converted shall apply to the religious affairs department of the local people's government at the county level. After the opinions are submitted by the people’s government at the county level, the religious affairs department of the people's government shall report the Provincial and autonomous regional people ‘s government religious affairs department approval. Which, in the Buddhist community have a greater impact, reported to the Provincial and autonomous regions of the people's government approval; have a significant impact, reported to the State Religious Affairs Bureau approval; have a particularly significant impact, reported to the State Council for approval.

The approval of the relics of the Living Buddha shall be sought by the corresponding Buddhist Association.

**Article 6** The disputed nature of the living Buddha shall be determined by the Chinese Buddhist Association and reported to the State Religious Affairs Bureau for the record.
**Article 7** After the relics of the Living Buddha were approved, the reincarnation steering group was set up by the corresponding Buddhist association according to the size of the Living Buddha. The reincarnation of the spiritual group was set up by the temple management organization or the corresponding Buddhist association, Under the guidance of the implementation of the search.

Reincarnation of the soul by the provincial and autonomous regions Buddhist Association or the Chinese Buddhist Association according to religious ritual and historical custom identified.

No group or individual may carry out the search and identification activities of the reincarnated souls of the Living Buddha.

**Article VIII of the** history of the gold bottle by the lottery identified by the living Buddha, the reincarnation of the souls of the implementation of gold bottle lottery.

The exemption from the gold bottle shall be submitted to the State Council for approval by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the People’s Government of the autonomous region or autonomous region, and shall be submitted to the State Council for approval.

**Article 9** After the reincarnation of the living Buddha is recognized, it shall be approved by the religious affairs department of the people’s government of the province or autonomous region. In the Buddhist community have a greater impact, reported to the provincial and autonomous regions of the people's government approval; have a significant impact, reported to the State Religious Affairs Bureau approval; have a particularly significant impact, reported to the State Council for approval.

The religious affairs department of the people's government of the province or autonomous region or the relict living Buddha approved by the people's government of the province or autonomous region shall be reported to the State Religious Affairs Bureau for the record.

**Article 10** When the reincarnation of the reincarnation of the living Buddha is carried out, the approval document shall be read by the representative of the approved organ and the Buddha certificate shall be issued by the corresponding Buddhist association.

The style of the Buddha certificate is produced by the Chinese Buddhist Association and reported to the State Religious Affairs Bureau for the record.

**Article 11** Whoever violates these Measures and arbitrarily handles the reincarnation of the Living Buddha shall be punished by the religious affairs department of the people’s government in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations on Religious Affairs and shall be subject to administrative punishment for the responsible person and the responsible unit. If a crime is constituted, the criminal responsibility shall be investigated according to law.

**Article XII of the** reincarnation of the Buddha after the throne, the monastery where the temple management organizations to develop training programs, recommended by the candidates, by the local Buddhist Association audit, by province, autonomous region people's government religious affairs department approval.

**Article 13** The provinces and autonomous regions may, in accordance with these Measures, formulate implementation rules and submit them to the State Religious Affairs Bureau for the record.

**Article 14** These Measures shall go into effect as of September 1, 2007.