

# Sharminub Knowledge Rising

**Annual Reports  
2021 - 2023**

Let's continue fostering a peaceful and harmonious society through education and improved healthcare for children



# Dear friends and supporters of **Knowledge Rising**

The 14th Shamarpa Mipham Chokyi Lodro's main goals were to preserve the Buddha Dharma and keep it alive in the modern world for future generations. For that purpose, he conceived of and founded Sharminub Institute on the outskirts of Kathmandu, Nepal, where monks and laypeople could pursue advanced Buddhist studies. Shamar Rinpoche also envisioned Sharminub Institute as a place where different institutes could host interfaith conferences to promote world peace.



He named the monastery Sharminub which translates to **“that which rises but does not set”**. When Shamar Rinpoche passed away in 2014, Jigmé Rinpoche took on the sole responsibility of ensuring the completion of the construction and caring for the Sharminub community.

In 2016, the first batch of acharyas, or scholars, from Diwakar Institute moved to Sharminub. Around the same time, following the 2015 earthquake, many young children were left at the monastery because their parents had either been killed or were too poor to take care of them. The acharyas, under the guidance of Khenpo Gyaltzen Zangpo, have been taking care of these children. Today, Sharminub is home to 120 young children who receive free housing, food, education, and healthcare. After completing their primary education at Sharminub, they will move to Diwakar to continue their

secondary and higher education.

We would like to express our sincere thanks for your continued support, the value of which we greatly appreciate.

**During Karmapa Thaye Dorje's recent visit to Europe in 2023, he emphasized the importance of supporting our education centers in the East and understanding how Eastern and Western institutes are interconnected in spreading the teachings of Buddha on love, compassion, and generosity in the West.**

In this spirit, your ongoing generous donations have helped to establish an environment at Sharminub, where children from **disadvantaged backgrounds receive free nutritious meals, clothing, accommodation, healthcare, and education covering modern subjects in addition to traditional, and philosophical subjects of the Dharma.**

It is very important that you understand the details of what has been accomplished. In this report, we offer insights into various aspects of Sharminub. We hope you will find them informative and engaging.

Together, we aspire to continue fostering a peaceful and harmonious society through education and improved healthcare for children.

**With gratitude and warm regards,**  
Sharminub Knowledge Rising

▶ His Holiness  
Gyalwa Karmapa Trinley  
Thaye Dorje at Dhagpo  
Kagyü Ling (2023)



◀ Jigme Rinpoche greets  
Karmapa at Dhagpo Möhra  
(2023)

▶ Khenpo Gyaltzen  
Zangpo & the Monastic  
Community at Sharminub



## Table of Contents

Letter from Jigme Rinpoche	<b>5</b>
Breakdown of Sharminub Community	<b>6</b>
Monthly Calendar	<b>7</b>
Visuals from Sharminub	<b>8</b>
Daily Schedule at Sharminub	<b>9</b>
Sharminub Expenses Chart 2021 & 2022	<b>10 - 11</b>
Knowledge Rising Financial Snapshot	<b>12</b>
Challenges & Priorities	<b>13</b>
Interview with Acharya Karma Chograb	<b>14</b>
Joining the Journey: Support Sharminub	<b>15</b>

# Letter from **Jigme Rinpoche**

**Dear Friends,**

I want to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support of Sharminub throughout the years. Approximately 120 children have continued to receive timely essential support in the form of food, education, and healthcare, and this has only been made possible because of your commitment, generosity and good wishes towards creating a nurturing environment at Sharminub for these children.

Your support exemplifies the practice of generosity, the first of the **Six Paramitas**. It encompasses not only the provision of material support and protection for these children but also **the cultivation of an environment where they can delve into the study of the Dharma**. As you are aware, most of the children at Sharminub come from socioeconomically disadvantaged communities, with limited access to basic necessities such as food, healthcare, and education. At Sharminub, they not only have access to these vital facilities but also gain a profound knowledge of the Dharma, which equips them with the positive human qualities necessary to navigate life's journey. The understanding and knowledge of the Dharma will mold them into compassionate individuals who engage in **virtuous deeds (Tib: Gyewey Leka)**, while refraining from non-virtuous deeds **(Tib: Migyewe Leka)**.

Your support also contributes to the potential of these children evolving into dedicated Dharma practitioners, ultimately benefiting countless sentient beings. Even if everyone may not excel in their practice, the majority will still carry forward a profound understanding of the importance of compassion and generosity instilled during their time at Sharminub, enabling them to continue making positive impacts on others..



In supporting these children, we also accumulate merit that we should dedicate for the benefit of all sentient beings.

Once again, I offer my heartfelt thanks, and I trust that you will take pleasure in reading this report containing updates on the progress at Sharminub, progress that your invaluable support has significantly contributed to.

With my best wishes,  
Jigme Rinpoche

# Breakdown of Sharminub Community



### Monastic Population

- Monks (5 - 17 yrs old) **120**
- Acharyas & Khenpos **12**
- Salaried Staff **13**



Teachers

**4**



Cooks

**2**



Dishwasher

**1**



Nanny

**2**



Farmers

**2**



Security Guards

**2**

# Monthly Calendar of Main Pujas & Events

<b>Monthly Puja</b>	<b>Date (Lunar Calendar)</b>
Gyalwa Gyamtso	10th
Demtchok	15th
Dorje Pamo	25th
Mahakala	29th

<b>Annual Special Event</b>	<b>Month</b>
Kagyü Monlams	December
Annual Exams	January
The 14th Shamarpa Parinirvana Pujas	June
Tibetan New Year (Losar)	February or March
Mid-Year Exams	June or July



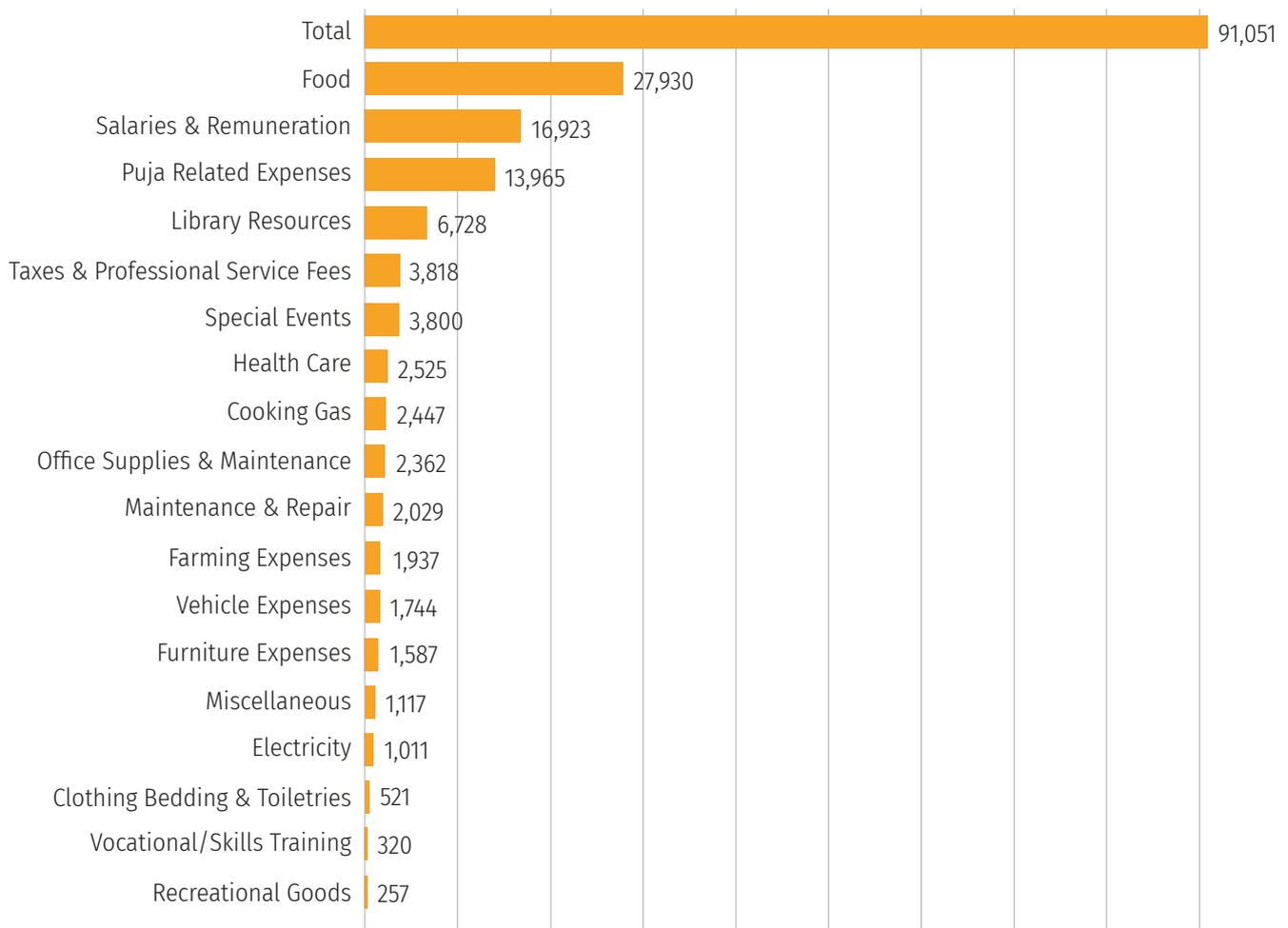


## Daily Schedule at Sharminub

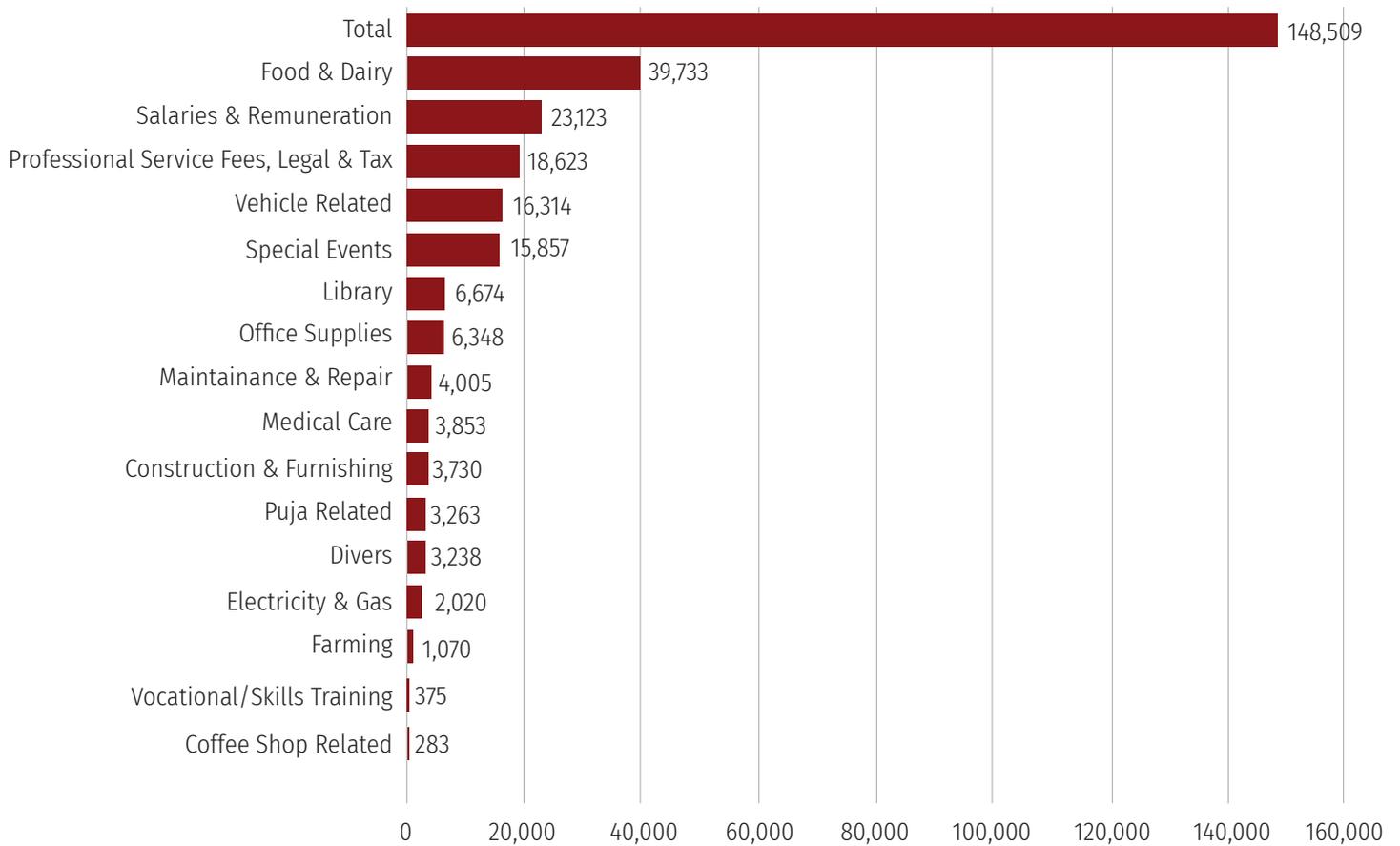
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
6:00 am	Wake Up, Make Your Bed, Brush Teeth & Wash Up
6:30 am - 7:30 am	Morning Puja (including Manjushri Prayer, 21 Taras Prayer, Guru Yoga Prayer)
7:30 AM	Breakfast: Tsampa (Barley Porridge); Tingmo with Chana (Steambuns with Chickpeas; Noodles)
8:00 am - 9:20 am	Self Study & Text Memorization
9:30 am - 10:30 am	Tibetan Language & Social Sciences Class
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Break Time
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Different Classes in English
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch Break: Lentils with Rice and Veggies
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Nepali Language Classes
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Sanskrit Language (for some students); Torma Art Class (for others)
3:00 pm - 3:15 pm	Tea Break
3:15 pm - 4:00 pm	Tibetan Language, Gyaling & Ritual Classes
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Self Study & Text Memorization
5:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Break Time
5:30 pm	Puja (Mahakala Puja, Monlams, etc.)
7:00 pm	Dinner: Lentils with Rice and Veggies or Noodle Soup
8:00 pm - 8:45 pm	Self Study & Homework
8:45 pm - 9:00 pm	Wash Up
9:00 PM	Good Night!
Friday	Cleaning Duties of Sharminub Property in the Morning and Free in the Afternoon
Saturday	Day Off!

# Sharminub Expenditure

2021 Sharminub Expenditures (In Euro)



## 2022 Sharminub Expenditure (In Euro)



# Knowledge Rising **Financial Snapshot**

## **Fundraising Overview:**

Since the start of SKR in 2017 and until the end of October 2023, a total of €363,433 has been collected

## **Donations and donors for the years 2022 and 2023**

Currently, twenty percent of our donations come from 50 monthly subscribers, with an average monthly contribution of €20 per subscriber.

The COVID years have naturally been accompanied by a decline in donation numbers.

## **The year 2024 will be dedicated to resuming proactive**

communication with you in order to raise even more funds due to the significant needs we face (see below: challenges 2024-24)

## **How Knowledge Rising used the funds raised**

Knowledge Rising allocates 98% of funds raised directly to Sharminub. About 1% is used for administrative expenses, bank charges, printing, etc.

Since its inception in 2017, Knowledge Rising has contributed 50% of all funds raised directly to Sharminub. On the recommendation of Jigmé Rinpoché, the remaining 50% is kept in reserve for emergency purposes, including responses to pandemics and natural disasters, relief efforts, as well as for specific projects related to the development of Sharminub.



## Priorities for the coming two years Addressing current & future challenges faced by **Sharminub Monastery Population**

**Lodging:** Currently, Sharminub lacks proper dormitories. The monks are using classrooms within the institute as dormitories, and the space has become extremely cramped as the young monks have grown up. Construction of a hostel becomes a high priority item

**Water:** The monastery frequently faces water shortages during the winter season. While the tanks fill up during the rainy season, the current winter seasons see much less rainfall, leading to empty tanks. Installing more tanks is also a high priority item



## Interview with Acharya **Karma Chograb** from Sharminub

### **What are your roles at Sharminub as one of the older monks there?**

I am a teacher and I also take care of the snack shop. Previously I was taking care of the monks' health.

### **What is your favorite activity at Sharminub?**

I have no particular favorite activity because I do all my responsibilities pleurably and sincerely.

### **What do you love most about being at Sharminub?**

I love Sharminub's children.

### **During your life as a monk, have you seen any changes in the monastic system environment? If yes, what are those changes?**

Yes, I have witnessed many changes. Initially, there were twelve monks, including the current head of Sharminub, Khenpo Gyaltshen Zangpo. We came to Sharminub after I graduated from the Shri Diwakar Institute in Kalimpong. When we first arrived, there was no kitchen. On our very first day, we had to shop for a gas stove and utensils, and we took turns cooking. Today, thanks to the generosity of donors and supporters, we have two dedicated cooks. For the first two years, we conducted our daily practices

in a small room because the main puja hall had not yet been completed. Today, the puja hall stands complete, adorned with a large Buddha statue from France, as well as statues of Manjushri, Avalokiteshvara, and Guru Padmasambhava. Additionally, there are thousands of small Tara statues, offered generously by Karmapa Thaye Dorje. Now, we perform our daily practices in the main puja hall.

We have also finished the Relic Stupa Temple dedicated to Kunzig Shamarpa, which is open for visitors to pay their respects and homage. Inside, you will find over a thousand Amitabha Tsatsas.

Furthermore, we have established our own library. There are 120 children who have joined Sharminub since 2017. They keep busy with their studies and play during weekends.

### **What are the best memories of your life as a monk?**

My cherished memories are from spending my time with Sharminub children and taking care of them.

### **What do you want to accomplish in this life?**

I want to do a three-year retreat.

Name: **Karma Chograb**

Age: **40**

Birthplace: **Deban**

### **How many siblings do you have?**

I have two brothers and one sister.

### **At what age did you become a monk and at which monastery?**

I became a monk at age twenty-five at Shri Diwakar Institute, Kalimpong.

### **Are there specific reasons as to why Shri Diwakar Institute was chosen for you by your family?**

Because me and my family are devoted to HH Karmapa and Sharmarpa.

### **When did you come to Sharminub?**

I came to Sharminub on 13th May 2016

# Joining the Journey: Supporting Sharminub's Spiritual and Educational Mission

We hope to continue this journey with you and we thank you again for your contribution. May Kunzig Shamarpa's vision be fulfilled without obstacles.

## **Contribute to Sharminub Knowledge Rising**

Sharminub Knowledge Rising is a non-profit association based in France. Your donations are tax deductible and 98% of your donation is allocated to support Sharminub monks.

**Donate via PayPal or Credit card:** <https://knowledgerising.org/support/>

## **Donate via Bank Transfer:**

Sharminub Knowledge Rising Bank: La Banque Postale, Bordeaux Cedex BIC: PSSTFRPPBOR IBAN: FR21 2004 1010 0121 1569 7P02 253

**Monthly Donations:** Set up a monthly donation (bank details above). Monthly payments regularly cover purchases of basic necessities such as food and hygiene items.

## **Alternate Ways to Contribute**

### **To make a tax deductible donation as permitted by law in Germany, please visit:**

Infinite Compassion Deutschland e.V: <https://www.infinite-compassion.de/en/spenden-support/>  
Email: [info@infinite-compassion.de](mailto:info@infinite-compassion.de) Please add the memo "To support Sharminub Monks"

### **To make a tax deductible donation as permitted by law in USA, please visit:**

The Shamarpa Foundation:  
<http://www.bodhipath.org/giving-tsf/> Email: [shamarpafoundation@gmail.com](mailto:shamarpafoundation@gmail.com)  
Please add the memo "To support Sharminub Monks."



## **CONTACT**

Sharminub Knowledge Rising  
lieu-dit La Galanterie 24290 Saint Léon-sur-Vézère, France.  
Email: [sharminubknowledgerising@gmail.com](mailto:sharminubknowledgerising@gmail.com)  
Website: <https://knowledgerising.org/home/>