

## **The Neydren Ritual for Guiding the Consciousnesses of the Deceased**

The guiding and liberating ceremony is a practice that is carried out by practitioners who have understanding and skill in the methods of inner Mantra. This practice is always performed in conjunction with the sadhana of the wisdom deity. It is in that state of pure awareness that the possibility of guiding the consciousness that is lost in the bardo (the intermediate state between lives) can occur. Contact is made with the disembodied consciousness by writing the seed syllables that correspond to the six realms of existence and also by making replicas and effigies of certain individuals. Through the power and blessing of prayer, compassion, method, and wisdom the consciousness may be contacted and led from states of bewilderment and fear to higher, more productive, positive and spiritual states of rebirth as well as the possibility of even awakening in the pure realms of wisdom awareness. This ceremony is powerful and beneficial on many levels. Even the thought to benefit others in this way can help them toward their eventual liberation from suffering.

To include someone in the ceremony (note that animals can also be included), the name of the deceased can be sent anytime to [tcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:tcnewsletter@gmail.com), or added to the list of the deceased in the East Wing at Tashi Choling. Photos or a small amount of their ashes or hair can be sent to Tashi Choling at or given to Ila Reitz.

***\*\*\*Please note that it is important to make a donation on behalf of the deceased when including them in the ceremony, as our lineage gurus have taught that this helps to make the connection with the deceased being and obviates any karmic debt that might be accrued. Checks can be made out to "Tashi Choling" and sent to the address below.\*\*\****

Even if the deceased being passed from this life long ago, the ceremony will still be of benefit to them, wherever they might be embodied now. If someone's name has been included in one Neydren ceremony, it is not considered necessary for them to be included again. Please note that if you provide hair or photographs, these will be burned in the ceremony and will not be returned to you. However, if you provide a large quantity of ashes (more than 2 tablespoons), once these are blessed in the ceremony they will be returned to you.

The ashes from the burned names, photographs, and hair, as well as a small pinch of the ashes of the deceased, will be used to make a few tsa tsas (clay images of enlightened form), which will be placed in the Amitabha garden at Tashi Choling Center for Buddhist Studies in Ashland, Oregon. This way, all of the beings in the ceremony will receive the blessings of having a Nirmanakaya form made from their ashes. If the family of the deceased would like to make tsa tsas of the rest of their loved one's ashes, or if they would like to sponsor someone to do this, please contact us at [tcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:tcnewsletter@gmail.com).

Mailing Address:

Tashi Choling, PO Box 64, Ashland, OR 97520—indicate that your package or check is for the Neydren ceremony

***The 2011 Neydren ceremony will be held on July 31st, during the annual Vajrasattva Retreat.***