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DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION & CULTURE

Central Tibetan Administration

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CLARIFICATION

This refers to our Condolence Message in Tibetan to the members of Rigpa organization and centres on passing away of late Sogyal Rinpoche. It has been clear by now that our message has shocked and angered many in view of some controversies about late Sogyal Rinpoche's personal behaviours. It was totally unintended and we hereby sincerely apologize to all those who were affected. We have also requested Rigpa to remove all translated versions of our message from their websites.

A word of clarification, however, seems necessary here. In the eastern tradition in general and the Tibetan tradition in particular, when a person dies, it is customary to remember his or her good deeds and dedicate them with prayers for his or her future well-being. It is absolutely untraditional to recount or talk about his or her bad deeds on such occasions. In fact, it is regarded as the minimum courtesy to the departed person not to do so. Our condolence message written in Tibetan, therefore, was not meant to be a eulogy to late Sogyal Rinpoche. We hope this will put to rest the issue.

Denzing



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