



FOUNDATION AND FOUNDER

Bhutan Nyö Foundation is a religious organization registered with the Commission for Religious Organizations (CRO) since October 2018 under the Religious Organization's Act of Bhutan. It is an organizational body of the Sumthrang Monastery. The monastery is founded by Nyö Gyelwa Lhanangpa and his son Nyöton TrulzhigChojë in the 1220s and sustained by its successive line of incumbents. The Foundation is aimed at working towards conservation and preservation of ancient religion and cultural heritage of the kingdom through the promotion of social volunteerism and value education in the communities by encouraging teaching and practices of Buddha Dharma in pursuit of happiness.

The Foundation is a religious organization founded by the 28th Sumthrang Chojë Wangdrag Gyamtsho. Today his Venerable Sumthrang Chojë Rinpoche is closely guided by His Holiness the Drikung Chabgoen Chetsang Rinpoche under whose patronage the foundation carries out the major projects and restoration works of Sumthrang monastery. In the past he mostly studied under HH the late Lopen Sonam Zangpo Rinpoche at Hongtsho in Bhutan from whom he received most of the pith instructions. He was one of the few who received Vajra Kyilaya as special blessings from the master. Certain Nyingma instructions were received from HE the late Yangthang Rinpoche and some transmissions from late HH Dudjom Rinpoche and Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche in various occasions.

The Founder of Sumthrang
Nyö Gyelwa Lhanangpa



Support

BHUTAN

NYÖ FOUNDATION

to restore and preserve the 790
years old Buddhist monastic
culture and traditional practices
of Sumthrang Monastery in Ura
Bumthang, Bhutan.

Sent your Donations to

Bhutan Nyo Foundation
Account No. 5100065046001
Bhutan National Bank, Thimphu.

For further details contact:
ngoe.heritage@gmail.com



**Dedicated to the promotion
of cultural values with
Buddhist insight towards
enlightened and harmonious
society.**

**BHUTAN
NYÖ FOUNDATION**

Sumthrang, Ura, Bumthang Bhutan

<https://nyoefoundation.org>

Sumthrang Monastery

Sumthrang monastery, located in Ura Gewog in Bumthang, Bhutan is one of the earliest establishments in Bhutan. As one of the oldest religious centers, it houses some of the country's most sacred relics and has been a vibrant center of religious and cultural life. Vajrakīla Yogi from the Nyö Clan known as Nyöton Dechog Thrulzhig Chöje the son of Nyö Gyelwa Lhanangpa began the lineage of the monastery approximately in 1228 AD. The founding of the monastery is attributed to Nyö Lhanangpa, one of principle disciples of Drikung Choba Jigten Sumgoen. Since establishment in the early 13th century, the monastery has served as the earliest source of Buddhism and Buddhist cultural practice and traditions in Bhutan. Moreover, Sumthrang's history and tradition contribute largely to the culture and history of Bhutan.



Restoration Project

To revive the Sumthrang monastery's centuries old culture and tradition depends on the restoration of monastic school. Therefore, it is found important that the monastic school is restored as soon as possible to revive the culture and tradition of Sumthrang. In order to do so, the primary need is a hostel, classroom and a kitchen for the students who will be enrolled in to the monastic school. This project is key to the revival plan and is currently under process although gradual depending on the financial availability. The school is aimed at building a Buddhist school blended with modern academic approach to groom future citizens of Bhutan with Buddhist values and modern skills.

The Aims and Objective of the Foundation are:

To restore Sumthrang Monastery and its culture and tradition to sustain the continued promotion of Buddhist teachings in general and Sumthrang's traditional Vajra Kilaya practice and research in specific.

To promote Drikung Phowachenpo as the main practice for the lay community members in the localities of Bhutan.

To preserve and protect monuments and heritage sites in Bhutan to sustain indigenous tradition and cultural values of Bhutan.

To promote access to cultural education in rural communities and support green and organic initiatives to foster an environmentally enlightened and agriculturally organic society in Bhutan through promoting Buddhist principles of co-existence in harmony with spirits and nature.

Other Projects in Plan

1. Sumthrang being an oldest monastic establishment houses Bhutan's oldest cultural heritage both in tangible and intangible forms such as the centuries old mask dances unique from rest of the mask dances of Bhutan. With monastery facing challenge, it also faced serious need of revival and preservation.
2. The ancient retreat centres of Sumthrang around the northern cliff remain in ruins and the restoration project will also include the reconstruction of these retreat centers into a wellness center as advised by HH the Chabgoen Chetsang Rinpoche.

