

De: The Kasung Kyi Khyap <communication@dorjekasung.org>

Objet: From the Kasung Kyi Khyap

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Répondre à: The Kasung Kyi Khyap <communication@dorjekasung.org>

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July 3, 2018

Good morning Dorje Kasung,

Like many of you, I have read the personal accounts of sexual harm implicating the Makkyi Rabjam contained in the Project Sunshine report. Much pain, sadness and confusion is arising and it is clear that people have been hurt. I am also seeing such beautiful and brave honesty and the community is showing up to have heart to heart conversations. The Makkyi Rabjam addressed a group of Shambhala leaders yesterday and he will be communicating very soon with the whole community.

I have been contemplating my path as a protector - from taking the cadet oath at Sun Camp when I was thirteen years old through taking the post of Kasung Kyi Khyap thirteen years ago. I am so grateful for this practice of Kasungship and I have gained much strength. And, on countless occasions, I have been challenged beyond my limits. This is one of those times.

What we are experiencing is part of a bigger pattern. Emerging leaders in our community--many of whom are women, trans and genderqueer individuals and people of color--have been working tirelessly to call attention to the ways we are deeply entrenched in patriarchy and harmful systems of power. We have not fully listened and we need to do better.

It is important to say that the Project Sunshine report speaks of cover-up and attempts to silence victims by those in leadership and within the Kasung. In my years of service I have not witnessed this. However, I am reflecting on how I have failed to perceive the ways my closely held beliefs, the power of my position, and structures of power and privilege conceal things from me or otherwise distort my perceptions. I know I have not always had the courage to speak my truth or have difficult conversations. This is work I am yearning to do with you.

Holding space feels so important at this time. Holding space for real and raw emotions to emerge. Holding space so that we have the courage to be with

whatever arises and so that whatever is arising can be brought out into the light.

I have two requests:

- Please take care of yourselves during this time, there is much speed and energy at play. We can hold our seat. We can come back to our Kasung Slogans.
- Please take care of each other in whatever way you are able. We don't need to have answers but we need to be present for one another.

I have no idea what the future holds or looks like; clearly we are at a very critical moment. For me it is about **how** we move through this together. That is the most important thing - not what it will all look like on the other end.

I send you much love and I am available to you. As a next step, I would like to be in communication with you all. I am committed to setting up zoom meetings where we can come together and speak; dates will be sent out soon.

Much more to come, the journey is only just beginning.

Yours In the True Command,

Kasung Kyi Khyap

Jesse I. Grimes

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