



Rigpa's Apology

Rigpa's Vision Board – with the support of the Rigpa Boards, management teams and main teachers – is reaching out to the Rigpa sangha, past and present, and to the wider Dharma community, with a deep and heartfelt wish to make amends for mistakes that have been made and harm that has been caused to our community and beyond.

We acknowledge that people were hurt in their relationship with Sogyal Rinpoche and Rigpa and that Rigpa failed to respond appropriately to their needs. This has caused suffering, loss of faith, hurt and other difficulties, impacting the lives of those directly involved, people in Rigpa, the wider Buddhist community and in society.

Additionally, we acknowledge that our handling of the situation over recent years has caused further hurt for people within our community and outside. We are aware that, even though we made the changes that needed to happen in our community and organisation, often we did not manage to communicate how much we felt for those who were hurt. Our sincere intentions did not come through.

We apologise for this and continue to take action to ensure this never occurs again, by continuing to:

- Learn from the situation and actively make [changes](#), both cultural and practical, including creating a safe environment in Rigpa.
- Offer support, including via the restorative process and grievance councils, to those who have been hurt.
- Share what we have learnt with the whole Buddhist community in the West so that such situations do not happen again.

May all that we have gone through become the cause for learning and healing.

If you are someone - or are in contact with someone - who needs support, this is what you need to know:

The **restorative process** is a neutral space where those who were hurt in their relationship with Sogyal Rinpoche can express what restorative action they wish for. It continues to be open. Full details about the process are [here](#). Anyone who has already been in contact with Martina Jordan and who now wishes to proceed to a restorative meeting or communication with Rigpa, should contact Martina at consensusnireland@gmail.com by 31 October 2021. Anyone else who would like to consider a restorative meeting or action with Rigpa should contact Tim Chapman at info@timchapman.eu There is no deadline for this option.

The grievance councils are set up to allow anyone who has difficulties with Rigpa to raise concerns, resolve difficulties or register a complaint or grievance. You can also ask for a restorative action in this context. They exist in each country where there are Rigpa centres, and full details about the grievance procedure and contact details are available [here](#).

If you feel you cannot speak to someone in Rigpa, you can also reach the international grievance council, that is independent from Rigpa and brings recommendations to Rigpa boards that they have committed to follow on independentgrievancecouncil@gmail.com.

This renewed apology was shared as part of a restorative justice process and following deep reflection by Rigpa's Vision Board members, along with Rigpa Boards, management teams and main teachers.