



S H A M B H A L A

Shambhala Office of Practice and Education

TO: All Shambhala International Calendar Planners
RE: Earth Mouse Year (2008-2009) and Earth Ox Year (2009-2010) Calendars
DATE: 4 January 2007

This year the Shambhala Office of Practice and Education is assuming responsibility for providing you with all the necessary information from the Tibetan calendar for the coming year – in this case the years of the Earth Mouse and the Earth Ox. We are utilizing the work of Edward Henning from the U.K. On his website at www.kalacakra.org you will find a large archive of complete Tibetan calendars for the years 1450-2049. The standard Tibetan calendar that our community has always followed is known as that of the Phukpa tradition, and this particular archive is to be found at www.kalacakra.org/calendar/tiblist.htm. We believe that you will find it easy to compile all the necessary dates directly from this website, and thus your ability to plan many years into the future will now be possible.

Below are all the specific dates for feasts, Jambhala, *Sadhana of Mahamudra*, and Werma Sadhana practice. In accordance with the Tibetan lunar calendar, we practice the feast for Padmakara, Chakrasamvaya on the 10th day and Vajrayogini on the 25th day; Jambhala sadhana is practiced on the 8th and 28th days; *Sadhana of Mahamudra* is practiced on the full (15th) and new (30th) moon days; and the *Werma Sadhana* is practiced on the protector days (9th, 19th, 29th). Milarepa Day is the 14th day of the 1st month. Centres may schedule this celebration on the nearest weekend.

The Tibetan calendar that we have is not corrected for North American or European time zones, so dates are perhaps not as accurate for us as they are for India. The only times that can be easily checked are the new and full moon, and it has always been suggested that we **follow Western sources for our practice of the *Sadhana of Mahamudra***, rather than what is given below.

Due to a lunar day being of different length than a solar day, sometimes the Tibetan calendar omits a solar date or has two of the same-numbered solar day. This accounts for why an occasional protector day might occur on the same day as a Jambhala practice day, why a Chakrasamvara feast day might occur on a protector day, or why there seems to be an extra day between any of these noted celebrations. Also, some years have an intercalary month. Different lunar calendrical systems may choose different years to insert this extra month, which is why the Chinese New Year can be a month off from the Tibetan New Year.

A day that has a plus sign following it is the second of two same-numbered days in the Tibetan calendar. This is the preferred day on which that practice should occur; however, either of the same-numbered days can be used. Thus, for example, the protector day on March 8, 2007 can be celebrated on March 7, if you wish. Days with minus signs following them indicate that the numbered day in question is missing and is thus celebrated on the previous day. For example, there is no 25th day in the fifth Tibetan month, so that feast day falls on the 24th (July 9).

Earth Mouse Year

Shambhala Day: 7 February 2008

Milarepa Day: 20 February 2008

2008	Sadhana of Mahamudra	Heruka feast	Dakini feast	Werma	Jambhala
Feb.	20-	16		15, 25	14
Mar.	7, 21	16	2	6, 15, 25	5, 14-
Apr.	6, 20	15	1, 30	5, 14, 24	4, 13
May	5, 19	14	30	4, 13, 24	3, 12

Vaishakha Day—enlightenment and parinirvana of Buddha Shakyamuni: 18 June 2008

June	3, 18	13	28	2, 12, 22	2, 11
July	3, 18	12	27-	2, 11, 22, 31	1, 10, 30
Aug.	1, 16, 30	11	26	10, 20, 29	9, 28
Sept.	15, 29	10	24	9+, 19, 28	7, 27
Oct.	14, 28	9	23	8, 18, 27	7, 26
Nov.	13, 27	8	22	7, 16, 26	6, 25
Dec.	12, 27	7	21	6, 16, 26	5, 25

2009

Jan.	11, 26+	6	20	5, 14, 24	4, 23
Feb.	9, 24	4-	19	4, 13, 23	3, 22

Shambhala Day 25 February 2009, Earth Ox Year

Earth Ox Year

Shambhala Day: 25 February 2009

Milarepa Day: 10 March 2009

2009	Sadhana of Mahamudra	Heruka feast	Dakini feast	Werma	Jambhala
Feb.					
Mar.	10-, 26	6	21	5, 14, 25	4, 24
Apr.	9, 25	4	19	3-, 13, 24	3, 23
May	9, 24	4	19	3, 13, 23	2, 22, 31
Vaishakha Day—enlightenment and parinirvana of Buddha Shakyamuni: 7 June 2009					
June	7, 22	2	18	1, 11, 21-	21, 30
July	7, 22	2, 31	17	1, 11, 21, 30	20, 29
Aug.	5, 20	30	15	10, 19, 29	18, 28
Sept.	4, 18	28	14	8, 17, 27	16, 26
Oct.	4, 18	28	13	8, 17, 27	16, 26
Nov.	2, 16	27	11	6, 15, 26	14, 25
Dec.	2, 16, 31	26	11	5, 15, 25	14, 24
2010					
Jan.	15, 30	25	9	4, 14+, 24	12, 23
Feb.	13		8	2, 12	11

Shambhala Day 14 February 2010, Iron Tiger Year