



The 17th Karmapa Trinley Thaye Dorje

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Dear dharma friends

There have been many disasters in recent times, and many continue to unfold.

The distressing loss of 239 people on board the MH370 flight, and those who have lost their lives in the South Korea ferry tragedy, remain in all our hearts. Then there have been natural disasters: earthquakes, mudslides, cyclones and storms - all reminding us of the power of nature to transform our lives at a moment's notice. Such disasters may leave us feeling a sense of anger. As forest fires rage, and volcanoes erupt, so sometimes we feel a rage of injustice rise within us.

At this time, may we remind ourselves of our own power, in every moment, to transform our environment, by how we choose to respond. May we remind ourselves of the words of Buddha, who said: 'Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned.'

When we tap into our Inner Wealth, we are able to respond to disasters with compassion. Our Inner Wealth is our own limitless pool of wisdom and compassion. Our Inner Wealth is the means by which we soothe the storms that rise within us, and achieve a state of stillness.

I ask each of you to join me in prayer for the victims of all disasters in recent times, and to dedicate the merit to them, and their loved ones.

With compassion

His Holiness Karmapa Thaye Dorje