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SERMEY DRATSANG CULTURAL SOCIETY

(Registered under Karnataka Societies Registration act 1968 No.2/1987-1988)

Fax/Tel: (08276) 74276

Sera Monastic University
P.O.Bylakuppe - 571 104
Mysore District, Karnataka
South India

Re: Reference for Jeff Cupchik

To Whom it May Concern:

I have known Jeff for nine years and I write this letter of reference without any hesitation. I am a former monk of twenty seven years, and the current External Secretary of Sera Mey Monastic University. I was elected to this position by a vote of 1700 monks and I was responsible for organising the first historic tour of Sera Mey monks to North America.

In fact, I could not spend the entire year with the monk tour, so I looked for a capable person to take care of things once the tour arrived in Los Angeles, USA. Though there were several applicants, I chose Jeff because no one else had the combination of talents I was looking for. Of course, he has his Masters Degree in music related with Tibetan subjects, but moreover, it is his honesty and integrity I have witnessed that made me choose him. Jeff has studied Tibetan language, culture and religion. In addition, he has been involved in activities and programs in the Canadian- and US-Tibetan communities, with a great number of successes.

On the tour, Jeff had to serve in many capacities: as translator, liaison, coordinator and events organiser. On a daily basis Jeff was in contact with Chinese, Vietnamese, and Caucasian communities scheduling appointments and dealing with queries. Jeff stayed well organised, managed all these tasks, and helped facilitate the great success of the tour.

Tibetan culture is very deep, and not as simple as some might think, but Jeff knows quite a lot. I mention this because sometimes young Canadians find that aspects of Tibetan culture are useful, such as how to engage positively in life and how to be productive. I believe Jeff is benefiting from Tibetan culture studies in this way.

Perhaps you have never heard of Sera Mey. It is widely considered one of the most special universities in the world - akin to Harvard, Oxford and Cambridge - in the subject of Buddhist philosophy. Thousands of people come to study at Sera Mey from all across Tibet, India, Bhutan, Mongolia, Europe and North America. About fifty monks come from Tibet every year, making the resources more scarce than ever. Moreover, traditionally, the Monastic University of Sera Mey does not charge tuition. That is why they face so many financial problems, and why we decided to send this tour.

The fact that Jeff volunteered his talents on behalf of the Sera Mey monks tour for one year speaks to his character as a hard worker. It is my pleasure to recommend Jeff Cupchik.

Sincerely,

Pencho Rabgey
External Secretary
Sera Mey Monastic University