



Jamchen Buddhist Centre

*His Holiness Sakya Trizin*

Melbourne 2009



Sakya Choekhor Lhunpo

## \*\*\*\*\*Media Alert\*\*\*\*\*

### **Melbourne Buddhists welcome His Holiness Sakya Trizin**

the supreme head of the Sakya tradition of Tibetan Buddhism and second only to the Dalai Lama in the Tibetan Buddhist spiritual hierarchy.

#### **NB: News media – photo opportunity**

His Holiness' schedule includes a '*blissing of the animals*' ceremony  
*at Healesville Sanctuary* 11.00 am, Tuesday 23 June.

He will bless the Australian Wildlife Health Centre and offer prayers for the millions of animals that perished or were injured in the bushfires following an official greeting by the Director of Healesville Sanctuary at 10.30 am.

The Venerable Thupten Lekshe, an ordained Australian monk of the Sakya school, heralds the visit and notes: "Highly developed Buddhist Lamas have previously attracted rain when they visited Melbourne. I would not be surprised if we get much needed rain while His Holiness is here".

His Holiness Sakya Trizin fled Tibet during the Chinese invasion and now resides in India at Dehra Dun. He is not as well known publicly as the Dalai Lama but he is greatly revered by Buddhists around the world. He possesses a formidable reputation as a spiritual teacher and an unbroken lineage of teaching that extends back to 1073AD.

His arrival on Monday, 22 June at Tullamarine Airport presents another  
**photo opportunity.**

Flight details: Qantas QF686 at 3.25 pm

He will arrive with a party of Buddhist monks in saffron robes and be greeted by Melbourne Buddhists.

His Holiness will conduct public programs at the Hawthorn Town Hall, including:  
7.30pm, Thursday, 25 June a **purification ceremony** for the sick, dying and deceased including prayers for the victims of the Victorian bushfire disaster and  
7.30pm Friday, 26 June a **public talk** on 'The Virtues of Compassion in Difficult Times'.

Refer <http://melbournesakya.org.au/> and [www.zoo.org.au/News/Healesville/Tibetan](http://www.zoo.org.au/News/Healesville/Tibetan).

**Or call Jill Fraser 03 9729 7588 for media inquiries**