

The incarnation of two tulkus in one person?

Ugyen Thinley had already been recognised as *Kalep Tulku* by Khamtrul Rinpoche prior to being recognised as the Karmapa. This Lama in his previous life was the uncle of Ugyen Thinlay's father. This is a fact that has always been hidden. *If he was the Karmapa, then there should have been incidences of self-recognition as in the case of the previous Karmapas as well as Thaye Dorje.* How could the Karmapa be confused with an ordinary monk like the Kalep Lama.

This changing of Ugyen Thinley into the reincarnation of the Karmapa from Kalep Lama was solely political. In retrospect, this came about when the Chinese government wanted to install the Panchen Lama. But prior to this they wanted to start with the Karmapa. So, pressure was mounted on Situ Rinpoche with the lure of personal benefits to install a Karmapa as soon as possible. Situ recommended Ugyen Thinley to become the Karmapa since he had the eyes similar to that of the previous Karmapa. Not only that, he was always looking for a child from a low family that would match the status of the family, that Situ came from. Hence, Situ Rinpoche and his associates along with the Chinese Government recognised him as the Karmapa. All the details of this incident are available with the Chinese. The monastery of Khamtrul Rinpoche was forced to accept this change by the Government of China.

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Lama Tendar Olaf Hoeyer: *It is very difficult to verify this postulation, since no one else have presented this information and the author Chodrag Namgyal is unknown to me. I cannot understand how Khamtrul Rinpoche could have recognised Ugyen Thinley Dorje as Kalep Tulku, because both the Khamtrul Tulkus, that I know of, must be assumed to be too young to make such a recognition. They were born respectively in 1980 and 1981. More likely, the author confuses the story told below by Keith Dowmann, a well respected scholar living in Kathmandu.*

Keith Dowman writes about the matter like this: “Indications that the mother [of Ugyen Thinley Dorje] was to bear a remarkable son were evident before the child's birth. A local yogi, *Jamyang Trakpa*, who had accompanied Khamtrul Rimpoche to exile to Tashi Jong in India, on a visit back to Tibet had left a robe with the family with the assurance that he would return for it one day. After his death, the family assumed that the newborn Ugyen Thinley was his incarnation. He was taken to the local monastery, Kaleb Gampa, a Karma Kagyu establishment, and there at the age of four he was given monk's ordination. He was not, however, recognized as any specific incarnation. Word spread of the existence of this remarkable child. Jamgon Kongtrul would probably have heard of him during his 1990 trip to Kham. Subsequently a consensus upon the wisdom of recognizing this boy as the Karmapa could have been reached within the Tai Situ circle.”

source: <http://www.keithdowman.net/essays/karmapa.htm>