About Nyungnay

Nyung means "less" and *nay* means "abide." So nyungnay signifies the practice of "abiding with less."

The nyungnay vow helps us restore impairments and damage to our commitments, precepts, and practice. It helps us be more mindful and gather merit. The vow is usually taken during certain days of the lunar calendar. The best are the full moon, the 15th day of the waxing moon, the new moon, and solar or lunar eclipses.

Nyungnay is a 24-hour vow taken before sunrise until the following morning. It includes all the same precepts as lay practitioners' vows plus a few additions since it is a short timeframe. The vows include: :

- No killing
- No lying
- No stealing
- No sex
- No alcohol or other drugs
- No wearing jewelry/makeup/perfume (this is because the day is dedicated to dharma so anything that "beautifies" us is meant to be let aside)
- No sitting/sleeping on high beds and thrones (this will not affect most of us since it has to do with royalty in older cultures)
- No singing or dancing
- No food except for a noon-time meal

The fasting vow includes the provision that we only drink clear liquid (water), nothing more substantial. Also, the afternoon meal should be vegetarian and not contain any meat, garlic, onions, spicy foods etc. We keep it very simple and vegetarian.

Also, traditionally people devote the day to practice, especially that of Avalokiteshvara— his mani mantra of compassion, and prostrations. However, if we have to work on the fasting day we can still take the vows. Rinpoche suggests that we simply put a little more effort into practice, be extra mindful during the day, and say the mani mantra throughout all activities as much as possible.

Refuge and Bodhicitta

SANG GYAY CHHÖ DANG TSOK KYI CHHOK NAM LA JANG CHHUB BAR DU DAK NI KYAB SU CHHI DAK GI JIN SOK GYI PAI SÖ NAM KYIY DRO LA P'HAN CHIR SANG GYAY DRUB PAR SHOK

Until enlightenment is attained, I take refuge in the Buddha, Dharma, and excellent assembly of Sangha. By the merit of generosity and so forth, may I accomplish buddhahood for the benefit of beings.

Recite three times.

७ । श्चिरः यावसः ग्रीः कें गाः अर्दे रः तसूसः ततु वः यः तत्र रः ततु यासा

Excellent Intention: A Simple Fasting (Nyungné) Ritual

by Jigme Lingpa

લ્યુકુ:ર્બે:મી:4ુ:૨:પા

Āryalokeśvarāya!

When practitioners perform the fasting ritual out of devotion, the room should be cleaned and offerings arranged. The practice can be done on the full moon, new moon or eighth day (of the lunar month). Taking the full moon day as an example, you would begin by washing at dawn on the fourteenth.

हेव.की.चैर.टी.लहेल.बी

Then offer the mandala before an appropriate support:

अ.मोलीः र्सेश्वाक्त्रश्च स्वाप्तान्त्रम् ।अ.मोलीः र्सेश्वाक्त्र्यम् ।अ.मोलीः र्सेश्वाक्त्रम् ।अ.मोलीः राम्याक्त्रम् ।अ.मोलीः वर्णाक्त्रम् ।अ.मोलीः वर्त्रम् ।अ.मोलीः वर्णाक्त्रम् ।अ.मोलीः वर्

sa shyi pö chü juk shing metok tram

The ground is purified with scented water and strewn with flowers.

रे र्या मुरि प्रति है नुष्यम्बर्याय दी ।

rirab ling shyi nyidé gyenpa di

It is adorned with Sumeru, the king of mountains, the four quarters of the universe, and the sun and the moon;

यट्यः क्वायः विदः यः द्रमेग्यः हेः सुयः चः येश ।

sangye shying la mik té pulwa yi

Thinking of it as the blessed buddha-fields, I offer it.

दर्शे गुत्र ह्रव द्या लिट त्य हुँ द सर र्वेग

dro kün namdak shying la chöpar shok

By virtue of this offering, may all beings here and now attain the happiness of that pure land!

พสาขๆ'यत्तु र्यादी

The seven branches:

ञ्चनातर्वतानान्दरायर्वेन् केराचन्नन्यसान्दा ।

chaktsalwa dang chö ching shakpa dang I prostrate myself, make offerings, confess,

हेशःशुःषीः स्टायञ्जायाः विदायार्थेयाः चार्ययाः ।

jesu yi rang kul shying solwa deb

Rejoice, request the teachings and implore you to remain.

५गो'न'कुर'ब५'न५ग'गोश'के'नशगश'म।

gewa chungzé dak gi chi sakpa

Whatever slight virtue I have here amassed,

ষপ্তমান্ত্র ক্রিমান্ত্র বিশ্বর ক্রিমান্ত্র বিশ্বর ব

tamché dzokpé changchub chenpor ngo

I dedicate entirely towards great, perfect awakening!

चिरःक्र्याणेषायादी

Then take the bodhisattva vow:

५र्गोत्र अर्केग ग्रासुस्र त्य प्य प्य प्य मुन्य स्थित

könchok sum la dak kyab chi

I take refuge in the Three Jewels,

श्रेगायाश्रीप्रगोर्शेर्श्यरायम्बा

dikpa mi gé sosor shak

Confess all my wrongdoing and non-virtuous actions,

तर्शे नदे न्वे लाहेश थे रहा ।

drowé gé la jé yi rang

Rejoice in the virtues of beings,

য়ৼয়৽য়ৢয়৽য়ৢৼ৽৻য়ৢয়৽য়৾ঀৼ৽ৠৢয়৽য়ঀয়ৢৼ৽৸

sangye changchub yi kyi zung

And maintain the mind of awakening to buddhahood.

विशक्रम्यम्

Repeat this three times.

ने वशक्षायाये वायते क्षेत्र पर्यो वी

Then there are the preliminaries to taking the vow:

है'सूर'र्स्कृत'ग्री'न्ग्र'नर्रेअ'ग्रीश

jitar ngön gyi drachom gyi

Just as the arhats of former times,

श्रेश्रश्चार्यस्थात्रात्र्यम् स्थितः दृत्या

semchen nam la pen chir dang

To benefit ordinary beings,

विर.क्य.क्र्य.प्रम.प्रमा.क्र्यमा.क्र्यमा

changchub chö nam dzok jé chir And to perfect enlightened qualities,

गर्से र्स्चेट सर्दर या दे पति व

sojong dzepa deshyindu

Would practise sojong (healing and purification),

न्द्रमार्थेरादर्भात्रेशम्बान्यशाम् ।

dak ming di shyejawé kyang
Just so, I, the one whose name is ____,

रुषायरी वयायञ्चर यर मी केवा

dü di né zung sang gi nyin Shall, from now until sunrise tomorrow,

अप्तर पर तु गर्थे क्वेंट तुर ।

mashar bar du sojong lang Take up the practice of *sojong*.

এব'শস্থ্ৰা

Repeat this three times.

र्बे्ब यदे दें र्व रें यहें दें या दी

Taking the actual vow:

नेरःब्रथःर्श्चेगःगर्डेन् स्रेःग्चःबिरः।।

deng né sokchö mija shying

From this moment on, I shall not take life,

नह्रुव:५८:विषा:५८:वाः च्रेव:योवा

dzün dang trik dang ma jin len

Nor lie, have sexual intercourse, or take what is not given.

क्षेत्रायदे त्य हुट मात्र त्र कट सुट विट ।

nyepé jungné chang pang shying

I shall give up alcohol, which is the source of all faults,

ष्ट्रिः सूत्र अर्थे प्रदर्ग प्रत्य अत्र अर्थ ।

tri ten to dang dümin zé

Avoid high, luxurious seats, taking food at improper times,

इ.र्ट.स्रट.क्रिय.धी.चर.स्रटा ।

dri dang treng gyen lugar pang

Wearing perfumed scents or ornaments and singing or dancing.

พสานๆ'चक्कुร'यदे'र्स्थ्रस'या ।

yenlak gyepé dompa la

Through relying on this eightfold vow,

वहेत्रत्रशाहरायार्षेवायरार्वेवा

ten né tarpa tobpar shok

May I attain liberation!

डेस'यद'ग्रुस'यर्ह्न।

Repeat this three times.

ने द्रवार्य र में श्चे चेंद्र पड़ु गड़िग द्रवा प्रमें अद्रवा

Then visualize eleven-faced Avalokitesvara at your crown and recite the following:

क्क्रिंब-मुक्ताः वर्षिकः भ्रुः वर्षे वा नगमा

kyön gyi ma gö kudok kar

Unspoilt by defects, your body is white,

र्ह्मिश्रायरश्राक्तिश्राश्चीश्रान्त्वुत्रा ।

dzoksang gyé kyi u la gyen

Your crown is adorned with the perfect buddha,

व्यव्याहेते:शुक्राचीशायर्चे त्यावीचेवाया ।

tukjé chen gyi dro la zik

And with eyes of compassion you gaze on all beings-

श्चित्र-रशःगाञ्चगाराः यः सुगाः तर्कयः र्यो

chenrezik la chaktsal lo

Avalokiteśvara, to you I pay homage!

त्रेयाः सूरायां वर्षात्राः वर्षाः मुख्याः मुक्ता ।

chak tong khorlo gyurwé gyalpo tong

Your thousand arms are the thousand universal monarchs,

शुक्रेंद्र पञ्चराया प्रवाद स्ति स्वरक्ष कुरा

chen tong kalpa zangpö sangye tong

Your thousand eyes the thousand buddhas of this fortunate age,

ग्रान्याम्यत्रुवाने वाने क्षेत्राम्।

gang la gang dul dé la dé tönpa

You who teach each and every one of us according to our needs,

चर्ड्र**व.न.श्रेष.रका.**योञ्जयातात्त्रया.एक्ल.ज्री

tsünpa chenrezik la chaktsal lo

Noble Avalokiteśvara, to you I pay homage!

बेश'ग्रन'सर'नहेंद्र'सुग्र'तर्रुषा

Recite this as many times as you can and offer prostrations.

ซึ้าสาธิานุลิารู้

om mani peme hung Om mani padme hūm

चतः तर्वे न्याः त्रेत् । विश्व विश्

Imagine that as you recite this uninterruptedly rays of light stream from Noble Avalokiteśvara's heart and dissolve into you, purifying your harmful actions and obscurations. If you know them, it is best to recite the seven-branch prayer and the 'Po' praise, but even if you do not, it is fine simply to recite the two stanzas beginning "Unspoilt by defects..." and offer prostrations as many times you can. The second day is similar to the first, except that you do not consume even the tiniest amount of food or drink, which, you should know, is why this is known as a 'fasting ritual'. At the conclusion, generate the intention of sharing the merit with all sentient beings.

लेश्यायतः नृगोःश्चित्यान्यायाः अति श्चुतः गृत्यान्याः श्वीतः भित्रान्याः स्वायतः नृत्यान्यः स्वायतः नृत्यान्यः स्वयः स

Thus, this was composed by the one who relies exclusively on faith for the sake of my past mothers, who are unable to practise the fasting ritual of Bhikṣuṇī Lakṣmī (Gelongma Palmo) exactly as stated in the texts and might even fail to understand the liturgy, and dispatched from Pema Ö Ling (The Sanctuary of Lotus Light). May it be of benefit to beings!

| Translated by Adam Pearcey, 2019.

 ↑ i.e., Avalokiteśvarastotra by Lakṣmī, so called because almost every line in the Tibetan ends with the syllable 'po'.



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DHARMA. ON THE HOUSE.