

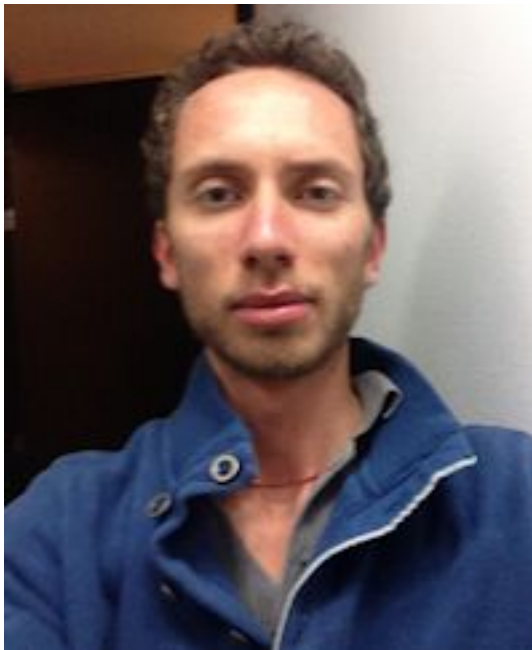


Ligmincha's Ocean of Wisdom Website Growing Internationally

An Interview with Paris Smithson

Ocean of Wisdom is a Ligmincha International project and is the initiative of Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche. The project aims to blend the power of technology with the knowledge and wisdom of Tibetan Bon Buddhism. It is a new way to unite the worldwide sangha and to bring Bon teachings into the modern information era under the guidance and blessings of the tradition, its living masters and historical lineage.

[Visit the website](#)



Paris Smithson

Paris Smithson is currently the lead volunteer, developer and designer for the Ocean of Wisdom website. He lives in Mexico, and we caught up with him recently to get the inside scoop on some of the details of this wonderful new project.

VOCL: Paris, would you please introduce us to Ocean of Wisdom? What is it and how did it originate?

Paris: Sure! Ocean of Wisdom is a website, and as such it is a door – a door to the teachings. It's a wonderful door because it's free. It's always online, always available for you. It's a door to unlock our own inner potential.

So how do we link the potential of the teachings with a website? The first task seems to be to find a master who has the method and wisdom to unlock his own inner potential, and who has the capacity to teach this method to others, and who actually decides to spend his precious time doing this selfless service. For practitioners of Tibetan Bon Buddhism, we have found such a master in Geshe Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche.

Rinpoche offers his teachings in many ways, but sometimes there are obstacles for people who cannot travel to retreats or don't speak English or Tibetan. That is where Ocean of Wisdom comes in, along with its technology and its volunteers. We are removing the language barrier by translating into subtitles all of Rinpoche's videos, all done with volunteers helping us through an automated system. Anyone with an Internet connection can now access the teachings anytime, all in one place. We have many more barriers we plan on removing and addressing.

So far we have focused only on Rinpoche's teachings and on the video format. So that is what you will find on the site now. With time we will add more teachers and more teaching formats. You can expect sound recordings very soon, for example, of all the essential mantras and prayers.

Now to your second question, how did it originate? Ocean of Wisdom originated during a Zhang Zhung retreat on the Six Lamps in Valle de Bravo, Mexico, in 2012. I approached Rinpoche and offered a website to help aid in fundraising for the monks and children in Nepal and India. Rinpoche replied that he preferred help in developing a website where the teachings can be distributed and more of their potential unlocked. Some time passed and eventually the conditions were met, some obstacles were liberated and Ocean of Wisdom was launched this year, 2015, near Losar.



OCEAN OF WISDOM

[Visit the website](#)

[Development Blog](#)