Renowned Buddhist Scholar Shamar Rinpoche To Explore 'Does War Solve Anything?' in Talk at Cal Poly Oct. 3

SAN LUIS OBISPO - Renowned Buddhist scholar Kunzig Shamar Rinpoche will discuss whether war has a purpose at 11:10 a.m. Oct. 3 in Room 207 in the University Union at Cal Poly. His presentation, "Does War Solve Anything for the Human Race?" is free and open to the public.

According to Tibetan Buddhist thought, Rinpoche is said to be the 14th reincarnation of the Shamar Tulku lineage, which began in 1283. Born Mipam Chokyi Lodro in Derge, Tibet, he was formally recognized at the age of four by the 16th Karmapa, Rangjung Rigpe Dorje. (The Karmapa is the spiritual head of the Karma Kagyu tradition of Tibetan Buddhism. Since the 12th century, Tibetan Buddhists have believed there has been a successive line of incarnations of the Karmapas. This line of reincarnation is central to the transmission of the Kagyupa lineage.)

After the People's Republic of China overran Tibet and created a diaspora in 1959, Shamar Rinpoche studied under the guidance of the Karmapa until the latter's death in 1981. During that time, Shamar Rinpoche received the entire transmission of Kagyu lineage's teachings from the 16th Karmapa and other renowned Tibetan masters.

After the 16th Karmapa's death, Shamar Rinpoche served as a regent of the Kagyu lineage and devoted his efforts to the many projects initiated by the late 16th Karmapa.

He has overseen the reprinting of the Tengyur, a body of 214 volumes in which prominent Indian and Tibetan masters elucidate the teachings given by the historical Buddha Shakyamuni. He co-founded the Karmapa International Buddhist Institute in New Delhi, India. The institute offers courses in Buddhist studies for both monastic and lay students.

In keeping with tradition, Shamar Rinpoche formally recognized the 17th
Karmapa, Thaye Dorje, who now resides in Kalimpong India. Shamar Rinpoche gave up his role as regent and now teaches at the many Kagyu centers worldwide.

The talk is sponsored by the university's Philosophy Department. For more information, call Valerie Anderson in the Philosophy Department at 756-2041.