

Foundation Project Wuppertal (Germany)

Heinkelstrasse 25

Project Report 2019

Table of Content

1 Introduction	3
2 Description of the property	3
3 Diamond Way Buddhism Foundation on site	4
4 Activities in 2019	5
5 Balance-Sheet	8
6 Plans for 2020	8



1 Introduction

Since 1988, the Wuppertal Buddhist Center is located at Heinkelstrasse 27.

In 2007, we had the possibility to buy the adjoining property at Heinkelstrasse 25. The building and the property at Heinkelstrasse 25 enlarge the Buddhist Center, which now comprises both buildings.

This took effect with the sale and purchase contract of 13 July 2007.

In the summer of 2008, an adjoining part of the property (the Stupa area in the garden of Heinkelstrasse 27) was donated to the Diamondway Buddhism Foundation.

2 Description of the property

The entry into the cadastral register was made on 6 June 2008.

Size of the property:	330 sqm
Gross net area:	245 sqm
Size of the courtyard:	88 sqm
Number of buildings: 2	1 building over two floors, 1 building over one floor

The property is used as follows:

Building 1:

- One-room apartment (32 sqm, separate entrance, separate bathroom)
- with basement (boiler room, storage area)
- Two-room apartment (without basement)
- 24 sqm (bathroom, shared)
- 27 sqm (bathroom, shared)



Building 2:

- Apartment unit for families:
- 4 rooms on a total of 104 sqm
- Shared rooms (kitchen, bathroom, housekeeping room, corridor pro rata): 58 sqm
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Stupa property

The Stupa in the garden of the Buddhist Center Wuppertal was completed in 1995 under the guidance of Lopön Tsechu Rinpoche (1918 – 2003). A realized meditation master and lifelong student of the 16th Karmapa, Lopön Tsechu Rinpoche began visiting the Western Diamond Way Centers in 1987 upon invitation from Hannah and Lama Ole Nydahl. He passed on a lot of transmissions and, among other things, supervised our Stupa project. This Stupa is a Stupa of Long Life.

In 2005, the Stupa was restored and afterwards reinaugurated by Sherab Gyaltzen Rinpoche.

Stupas are symbols of the true nature of mind. They point at the timeless and indestructible qualities of enlightenment: fearlessness, joy and active compassion. According to the 2,500-year-old Buddhist tradition, a Stupa is a reminder of the possibility of all beings to achieve Buddhahood – a state of mind which enables us to fearlessly rest in the present moment and to actively express all insights of female wisdom and male activities in an effortless and, at the same time, joyful way.

In December 2008, the Stupa property was donated to the Diamondway Buddhism Foundation by the German Buddhistische Zentren West der Karma-Kagyü Linie e.V..

3 Diamond Way Buddhism Foundation on site

Authorized representatives according to the warrant of attorney of 10 March 2016, which is available in one executed copy:

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4 Activities in 2019

In January, the maintenance of the heating system, that had already been started in December was continued by the company Kuchner. Later on, the company also replaced the drain pipe of the three washing machines that was too small in diameter and had repeatedly caused trouble by clogging up or leaking at the seals.

In February, the renewal of the meditation cushions continued after new fabric had been selected and bought. With the altar being rearranged according to Lama Ole's instructions, the picture of the 17th Karmapa was updated as well.

The Stupa Café, newly designed and nearly finished, also received a makeover of the interior with a new lighting system and several Dharma pictures on the wall. With comfortable sofas, enough space for explanations, two shelves full of Dharma books and a media unit to watch videos or streaming, the Stupa Café has become a vital part of the Wuppertal center activity.

In March, a task force group for the remodeling of the lounge in the cellar presented their designs. The design that was chosen contains different steps, the first of which is the replacement of the paneling of the ceiling and walls. Within that phase, an improved lighting system as well as a new electrical system will be installed. In addition, the installation of an acoustic insulation is planned to lower the noise level when the lounge is busy.

In April, a rescue platform was installed on the roof of the building of Heinkelstrasse no. 27 so that in the case of a fire, tenants can escape to the roof and be then rescued by emergency services.



The defective intercom that had broken down in the meantime was completely replaced in May 2019 by the company Halbach. The smoke alarms throughout the center buildings were first checked and then replaced as well by the company Rohleder - a project that reached into the fall of 2019.

In the course of the year, 2019 also saw several groups of Wuppertal citizens and school classes that visited the Buddhist center to inform themselves about Buddhist teachings.

In September, the city-wide festival "Wuppertal 24h Live" took place and the Wuppertal center participated with a garden party and a buffet as well as an introductory lecture for those who were interested.

The planning group responsible for the renovation of the front facade and the attached Karmapa picture presented their results in November. The idea was to install a more durable and long-lasting solution that can withstand weather conditions. Putting a protective glass in front of the Karmapa picture was one idea that, however, was discarded because of the glass' sensitivity to the slight earth quakes that sometimes occur, especially with a panel of that size. A feasible solution seems to be, though, to print the Karmapa picture on an aluminium composite material that is then mounted to the front wall. This would be both impervious to weather conditions and robust as well. The group is going to research prices and look into the conditions construction-wise in 2020.

In 2019, building measures with regard to Heinkelstrasse 25 were the following:

- removing mildew in a small amount
- repairing the drainage pipe and several small patches of the roof cover



Our program:

The program of the Buddhist Center Wuppertal can be divided into regular weekly events, various lectures (with regional as well as international Diamondway teachers), meditation weekends for individual practice, organizational events and weekend courses.

Due to the new lock system, the meditation rooms are always open for friends and members who want to meet and practice.

Regular events:

Mondays - 08:00pm
Meditation on the 16th Karmapa

Tuesdays - 08:00pm
Meditation on the 16th Karmapa

- every first Tuesday of the month, 08:00pm: 'English Tuesday' with short lecture and meditation in English
- every second and last Tuesday of the month, 08:00pm: Meditation on the 8th Karmapa for participants who have finished the preliminary practices

Wednesdays - 08:00pm
Introductory lecture on Diamond Way Buddhism with subsequent meditation on the 16th Karmapa

Thursdays - 08:00pm
Evening for individual meditation practice

Fridays - 08:00pm
Meditation on the 16th Karmapa

Sundays - 07:00pm
Meditation on the 16th Karmapa

Every first Sunday of the month – 12:00am/02:00pm/05:00pm
Common meditation sessions for individual meditation practices and common meals

- Phowa practice – announced once a month
- for those who have done the course with Lama Ole



Further events and activities

- introduction to Buddhism for students from schools and universities
- open house presentation with more than 100 participants
- weekend courses and seminars with Tibetan teachers and European Diamondway teachers
- hosting meetings of organizational groups (Buddhist terminal care, working groups of the Buddhist centers of Buddhistische Zentren West der Karma-Kagyü Linie e.V.)
- participation in the *24 Stunden Wuppertal* event (“24 hours in Wuppertal”)

5 Balance-Sheet

- purchase price: 175,000 €
loan contract: 160,000 €
- fixed interest rate until 30 November 2021
 - term: until April 2022
 - monthly installment: 1.330,- €

Donations in 2018:

- none

The total income from rent covers operating expenses, the repayment of loans as well as interest payments and is used to put aside reserves.

6 Plans for 2020

- renovation of the facade and the Karmapa picture on the front wall of the house