

Report on Dorji Goenpa Lhakhang

Site visiting team

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Introduction

Dorji Goenpa Lhakhang is 19 kilometers from Trongsa town in the direction of Bumthang. During the reign of Zhabdrung Jigme Chogyal, Lopen Tsheltrum Tharchen constructed it in 1864. As per present lama, wall painting of the lhakhang has been done by Lama Melam Rabzang, reincarnation of Lopen Tsheltrum Tharchen.

Dorshong Goenp is the full name of the lhakhang. Dorshong refers to a stone bathtub that belonged to the local deity Palden Dema and can still be seen today. As per present lama, the lhakhang was extended in the front part about 15 years ago, which is why some wall painting has been taken out and repasted again.



Condition of wall painting

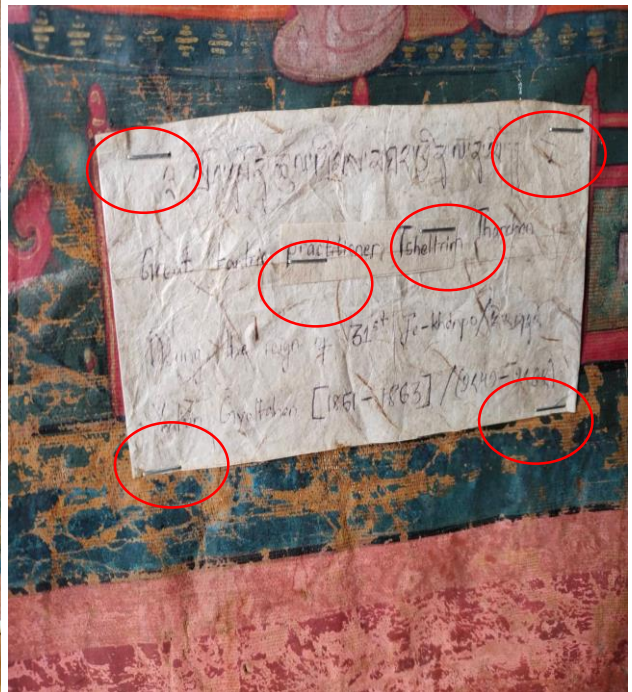




The soil deposition from the roof is visible in the wall painting. Some of the paintings have solid depositions of soil that have hardened over time. The paintings are discolored, and some of the images are incomplete. Insect has attacked and ripped holes in the painting canvas.



New painting after renovation



Label pasted using staple pin- rusting of metal will impact the wall painting

Treatment proposed

- Superficial cleaning
- Cleaning of soils from painting surface
- Removing of solid soil
- Using insecticide for insect attack areas.

Conclusion

By collaborating with community lhaknag lamas and kuyners, the Museum management can not only provide simple conservation service to much need objects particularly the wall paintings but also advice on preventive conservation practices which will help to keep priceless objects in lhakhang in better condition.

Complied by

(Sangay Tashi and Dechen Cheki, Conservator)