



Figure 1: The original donor depiction between the more recently repainted deities of Śaḍakṣara Lokeśvara and Amitāyus.

Restoration of the Murals of Dzong Monastery, Mustang, Nepal

January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025

Compiled by C. Luczanits

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Jharkot, Ward no. 1, Baragung Muktichhetra 33107

Mustang District, Gandaki Pradesh, Nepal

December 20, 2024, Kunjon Thakuri (Chairperson)

Report

This winter quarter was mainly used for planning the upcoming second part of the restoration campaign. Accordingly, Kunjon Thakuri and Noor Jahan had several conversations during February and March. However, by the end of March Noor informed Kunjon that she has been successful with another project application, and that this will occupy her throughout spring and summer. Due to these new commitments, Noor and her team would only be able to come to Dzong by September 2025, and even then, Noor herself could only commit to a week.

Evaluation

Noor Jahan's success leaves the completion of the Dzong project in a limbo, and we are looking into alternative ways to complete the project earlier. On the other hand, the Dzong Khenpo, Ngawang Choephel, has not expressed urgency so far. Thus, if no alternative can be found by May, Noor Jahan and her team may complete the work in September.

Going Forward

In the meantime, Christian Luczanits, has visited the site and completed the high-resolution photographic documentation of the murals after cleaning (Figure 1). This was extremely challenging as the mural surface is varnished and mirrors extremely. These photographs are both a record and point of reference for future work and will also be used to assess the different phases of previous painting campaigns and for planning the repainting of the blank areas requested by the Dzong Khenpo. Copies of the photographs in full resolution are available under this [link until 26 October 2025](#).

Further Kunjon Thakuri has been in contact with other potential candidates to complete the work and these are ongoing.