

STILL NO POWER  
September 2, 2011

By Michael Erlewine ([Michael@Erlewine.net](mailto:Michael@Erlewine.net))

Here we are at the monastery and still no power after almost a week. There are electric lines down and hanging across the winding road up the mountain to the monastery, at least on the main road down to Woodstock. They still have to be removed.

Meanwhile, thanks to our power generator the teachings and practices go on. We have run a cord from the generator into the main shrine room and from this we light Khenpo Rinpoche (our teacher) with a little lamp and a couple of bulbs. And while the large shrine room has no lights of its own that work, all is well and the teachings continue on schedule.

At night, for those practices that run into the evening there is very little light and peering into the large shrine room it looks for all the world like there is a little campfire going in there. The last practice these evenings is Chöd, and the movement of the practitioners with their large hand drums cast large moving on the wall. This coupled with the sound of the Tibetan chants is eerie and lovely.

Here is a poem I wrote yesterday.

MIND MUDRA

With so many dharma truths,  
To keep in mind,  
It's easy to forget,  
What I find just too hard to remember.

Instead,  
I relax,  
And,  
Let my mind,  
Remember to collect,  
Its own true signature.

I just read that.

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