

First Newar Temple in the West in Portland, Oregon, USA



DANCE MANDAL is in the final phases of constructing a small Nepalese/ Newar temple in the courtyard of the Dance Mandal location. It is dedicated to the enlightened nature of all beings and is designed to be part of a “vihara” , a meditation and study center, for anyone interested in devoting practice to revealing this inner nature. It is also an inspirational environment for preserving and encouraging the practice of the sacred arts and rituals of the Newar masters, observing the traditional Newar Vihara.

The **NEWAR BUDDHIST TRADITION**, unique in its rich sacred arts and architectural traditions, is grounded in experiential practice and esoteric Vajrayana ritual and yet is accessible to all through its emphasis on the energies and interactions of the five elements. It is the last living current of Sanskrit Buddhism still actively practiced in Asia today. Newar Vajrayana practice, long held secret from those outside the tradition, has only recently come to scholarly attention and public view.

Prajwal Vajracharya and Dance Mandal are dedicated to the fulfillment of Prajwal's father's vision of bringing Newar sacred tradition and especially Newar temple dance out to the world so that many may benefit from observing and practicing this beautiful and transformative movement meditation and related arts. Establishing a Newar temple in the West is a major step forward in the preservation, expansion, and exploration of Newar sacred art and dance, meditation and ritual, while welcoming all those interested in inner practice to share the space.

Visit the [Portland Temple and Vihara](#) page for information about the [upcoming Consecration Ceremonies](#), and for updates & other events.

DONATIONS of any kind – expertise, helping hands, books, finances, etc. will be gratefully accepted in support of this small temple.

See <http://dancemandal.com/email.php> for financial donations.

THANK YOU! We appreciate your interest & hope to see you at the new space!
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