

1982

## Arts and Humanities: Correspondence (1982): Correspondence 14

Claiborne Pell

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*Neil E. Ash*

May 7, 1982

Mr. Kenneth Green  
Vice-President  
Nalanda Foundation  
1345 Spruce Street  
Boulder, Colorado 80302

Dear Mr. Green:

At the request of Ms. Cathryn Stein Abato, I have recently written to the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities to indicate my interest in the film project that the Nalanda Foundation has requested support for. I thought you should have a copy of my letter for your own files.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

1 enclosure

RC/ap

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File!  
Cathryn Stein Abata  
D.C.

May 7, 1982

Honorable William J. Bennett  
Chairman  
National Endowment for the  
Humanities  
806 15th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Mr. Chairman:

It has come to my attention that the Nalanda Foundation of Boulder, Colorado has recently submitted an application to the Media Program at the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Support is being sought for the completion of a major film project on the life of the Tibetan Buddhist leader, His Holiness the XVth Gyalwa Karmapa. The Karmapa, a world religious figure equal to rank to the Dalai Lama, died in 1981 in Sikkim. It was his death that became the occasion for the film documentation of a religious tradition that started in the 12th century. Due to the uncertain political climate in Sikkim, this may be the last time these ceremonies are performed in the complete cultural context of the Tibetan Buddhist tradition. The documentary film will certainly become a classic anthropological and religious study.

I want to express my support for this film project and hope that, after careful consideration, the Humanities Endowment will act favorably on the grant request.

With warm regards.

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

AC/ap *ly*