Glossary of Terms

These will help you with the word search and crossword puzzle on the following pages.

Cheyim- Carved representation beads that are found near the top of a kachen (column) that separate the uppermost head from the rap (carved part directly under the cheyim)

Choesham- a built-in structural piece designed for the display of important objects relating to Bhutanese heritage, life, and cultural expression. Typically translated simply as ‘altar.’

Druk Yul- “Land of the Thunder Dragon,” the Kingdom of Bhutan remains one of the least known countries in the world.

Kachen- richly carved and painted columns found inside the Lhakhang. Milled by hand from single large timbers of blue pine.

Kirtimukha- a mythological figure popular throughout the Himalayan and South Asia region. Frequently used as a stylized architectural decorative motif.

Lhakhang- typically small but important pavilion-like and highly decorated public structure found throughout Bhutan that commemorates important events and places in Bhutanese history, tradition, and culture. Frequently translated into English simply as “temple” not of religious worship but a contemplative reflection.

Zorig Chusum- “zo” meaning “the ability to make” and “rig” meaning “craft”, refers to the thirteen traditional arts, (“chusum”), which have been cultivated, taught, and celebrated in Bhutan for generations. The thirteen traditional arts include:

Shagzo- woodturning
Shingzo- carpentry
Thagzo- weaving
Troko- gold and silver-smithing
Tshazo- bamboo work
Tshemzo- embroidery
Dezo- papermaking
Dhozo- masonry
Garzo- blacksmithing
Jinzo- clay sculpture
Lhazo- painting
Lugzo- metal casting
Parzo- carving

Word Search


Cheyim - Garzo - Parzo - Tshemzo
Choesham - Jinzo - Shagzo - Yul
Chusum - Kachen - Shingzo - Zorig
Dezo - Kirtimukha - Thagzo
Dhozo - Lhakhang - Troko
Druk - Lhazo - Tshazo
Crossword

Across
2. richly carved and painted columns
5. masonry
7. weaving
8. frequently translated into English simply as “temple”
9. ...Chusum, the thirteen traditional arts
11. metalcasting

Down
1. carved beads that are found near the top of a kachen
2. mythological figure
3. woodturning
4. typically translated as ‘altar’
6. carpentry
8. painting
10. blacksmithing
DEMON MASK

SKULL MASK
The Bhutanese consider lhakhangs to be buildings that serve as public structures commemorating important events and places in Bhutanese history and tradition. The chest on the left is utilized for the storage of scripts, musical instruments, and similar materials. The smaller desk on the right is used for storage and the monk, who uses it, sits on the floor.

The “deer” is a symbol of the personification of virtues and a character of legends and myths. When deer are portrayed alongside a Dharma Wheel, it serves as a reminder that Buddha valued all beings and all life, not just humans.
The Bhutanese consider lhakhangs to be buildings that serve as public structures commemorating important events and places in Bhutanese history and tradition. The chair and the larger desk are used by monks when conducting community business.
A mandala is a circular structure with radial symmetry, meaning that the design radiates out symmetrically from the center. In various spiritual traditions such as Buddhism, mandalas may be used for focusing the attention of practitioners, as a spiritual guidance tool, for establishing a sacred space, and as an aid to meditation and trance induction. Nearly all of the buildings on campus incorporate Bhutanese architectural elements such as mosaic-tiled mandalas.

Prayer wheels are religious devices used in Buddhism for spreading spiritual blessings and goodwill. Rolls of thin paper, imprinted with a mantra (a sacred text), are placed inside the prayer wheels. Turning the prayer wheel is the equivalent of reading the prayers within.
Druk refers to the dragon that is part of Bhutan's national identity and represents Bhutan as both a geographic place (‘Druk Yul’ or ‘Land of the Thunder Dragon’) and people (‘Druk-Pa’ or ‘People of the Land of the Thunder Dragon’).