Glenn Gauvry, also known as Sangjie Tieba Rinpoche (桑杰鐵巴), was born



June 28, 1950, in Washington D.C. His diverse heritage includes French, Italian, English, Welsh, German, and Swedish roots. His American lineage traces back to before the American Revolution, and he is related to Stephen Hopkins, the second oldest signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Growing up in a military family, Glenn lived in various places, including the United States, the Hawaiian Territory, and Japan before he was 12. Although he was exposed to Buddhist culture early in life, he was raised in the Christian Methodist tradition and remained active in the church until graduating from high school in 1968, whereupon he began exploring Eastern religions and philosophies.

After serving as an Air Traffic Controller in the US Air Force, Glenn earned a BFA in woodworking and furniture design from the Philadelphia College of Art, with minors in industrial design and photography. During this period, he discovered Zen Buddhism, which started influencing his art and philosophy.

Glenn dedicated over 15 years to working as an independent artist, designer, craftsman, and teacher. In 1989, he began volunteering with an internationally recognized nonprofit focused on rescuing and rehabilitating animals affected by oil spills. He eventually held a senior position on their rapid response team, traveling worldwide to assist oiled wildlife, conduct training workshops, develop oil spill response plans to mitigate wildlife suffering and mortality, and design task-related tools and equipment.

In 1995, Glenn founded the nonprofit Ecological Research & Development Group Inc., whose mission is the conservation of the world's four horseshoe crab species, an ancient creature in serious decline due to human activity and indifference. He is also a founding member of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Horseshoe Crab Specialist Group, serving on its steering committee and chairing a working group.

Glenn is a published author, patented inventor and lecturer, and has twice been nominated (2016 and 2023) for the prestigious Indianapolis Prize, considered the world's leading animal conservation award.

He remains committed to serving his community, state, and country in various roles of responsibility, focusing on positions that enable him to improve the lives of living beings, both human and animal.

In 2000, Glenn sought a Buddhist teacher, having been awakened to his Buddhist roots through years of Eastern religious and philosophical study. After attending a Zen center, he met a Vajrayana Buddhist teacher from Chengdu, China, of the Nyingma tradition, through whom he took refuge in the Three Jewels and Three Roots and received dharma transmissions. During this time, Glenn was introduced to the teachings of Female Dharma King Dorje Amang Nopu Pa Mu and His Holiness Dorje Chang Buddha III Wan Ko Yeshe Norbu, which profoundly influenced his Buddhist practice.

After his teacher's return to China in 2004 and through her encouragement, Glenn began studying the teachings of His Holiness Dorje Chang Buddha III, under the guidance of Zhaxi Zhuoma Rinpoche, who is a direct disciple of His Holiness. Over the years that followed, he received many dharma transmissions from her and other virtuous vajra masters, who are direct disciples of His Holiness Dorje Chang Buddha III.

In 2009, the International Buddhism Sangha Association conferred the title of Master of Dharma-Listening Sessions upon him. In 2011 the Commission of Holy Virtuous Ones From Around the World respectfully invited by the International Buddhism Sangha Association recognized him as a reincarnated one, who has in many past lifetimes learned Buddhism and engaged in cultivation, with the qualifications of a rinpoche who transmits dharma, and conferred upon him the dharma name Sangjie Tieba (桑杰鐵巴).

In 2014, Sangjie Tieba Rinpoche took refuge through His Holiness Dorje Chang Buddha III, becoming His disciple, and received many dharma transmissions from His Holiness directly.

Sangjie Tieba Rinpoche, is an imperfect and humble practitioner, dedicated to cultivating bodhichitta - the altruistic intention to attain enlightenment for the benefit of all living beings. Guided by the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha and His Holiness Dorje Chang Buddha III, and his unwavering commitment to his spiritual path, Rinpoche diligently works to benefit all living beings across the six realms of existence.