

# Certificate of Achievement

, a licensed and trained guide with the Tourism Council of Bhutan, is hereby commended for achieving the designation Photography Guide and is trained for the following work:

## **Professional Social Skills**

- Excellent ability to discover and seek out Buddhist pujas and ceremonies that present good photo ops.
- Advises client of proper protocol and etiquette for photographing religious events and people.
- Excellent at explaining cultural and religious standards to his clients.
- Ability to courteously and respectfully gain permission and access special events and rarely photographed treasures.
- Ability to redirect a subject's focus with personable conversation to avoid a direct camera gaze, and "turn-to-stone" facial expression.

Uses an engaging manner to elicit laughter and gestures, making the scene serendipitous instead of posed. Certified guides also encourage their client in the cultural exchange.

## **Technical Photography Skills**

- Trained and experienced to quickly learn client's photo gear-how to set up tripods, aim reflectors, and properly handles sensitive electronic equipment.
- Trained and experienced in clearing scenes of non-photogenic clutter, such as plastics or Westernized objects, repositions client to avoid distracting backgrounds/-

foregrounds, cars, electric poles, etc.

- Understands the "magic light" concept and utilizes a personal reflector in low light situations or to create side and back lighting.
- Knowledgeable in the principals of "environmental portraits." Directs the photographer to angles showing the subject's natural surroundings, inner character and personality-telling the subject's life story. Adeptly directs shots with unique backgrounds that speak solely of Bhutan and the Himalayas to frame the central subject.
- Understands the concept of changing perspective, getting lower or higher or closer to subjects. Thinks ahead to assist the photographer in a variety of situations ranging from a piece of cardboard under the shoulder for a ground shot of a spinning festival dancer, finding the ladder into the attic for overhead shots or to just finding the door key keeper of a mask storage room and then obtaining photographic permission.

