

Ladakhi Women's Travel Company

The first female owned and operated travel company in Ladakh

Empowering Ladakhi Women



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Thinlas Chorol

- born in Takmachik in Sham
- attended SECMOL
- worked as a freelance trekking guide
- basic mountaineering
- semester at NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School) in north India
- started Ladakhi Women's Travel (LWTC) in 2009
- awarded Jankidevi Bajaj Puraskar 2013 for rural entrepreneurship
- started the Ladakh Women's Welfare Network (LWWN) in 2013
- advanced mountaineering



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About Ladakhi Women's Travel

- job opportunities for Ladakhi women
- supports women running homestays
- provides a service to women travellers (mixed groups also welcome)
- cultural exchange between trekkers, guides and homestay families
- eco-tourism
- emphasis on professional approach



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Guide Training

- work experience
 - start as porter
 - then trainee/assistant guide
 - become guide
- classroom training:
 - English conversation
 - Leadership skills
 - Flora and fauna
 - Ladakhi culture
 - First Aid and altitude sickness



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Women's Empowerment (UN definition - 5 components)

- women's sense of self-worth
- their right to have and to determine choices
- their right to have access to opportunities and resources
- their right to have the power to control their own lives, both within and outside the home
- their ability to influence the direction of social change to create a more just social and economic order, nationally and internationally

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Changing Mind Sets in Ladakhi Culture

- LWTC has had some success
 - better acceptance of women guides
 - more women interested in becoming guides
- LWWN set up to promote women's issues
 - domestic violence
 - sexual harassment
 - single mothers
 - forced marriages
 - caste discrimination



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Thank you for listening.

**Please support Ladakhi women and
tell your friends about us!**

**Remember that we are always interested in
volunteers, especially for April to June.**