Bad karma

Buddhist leader faces claim of sexual exploitation made by woman who was asked to undress

Gaelle Manquain

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In a summer of revelations, the world is still reeling from the sexual misconduct allegations against Sogyal Rinpoche. The Buddhist spiritual director is the author of the book “The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying”, which has sold millions of copies worldwide.

In 2007, Mary McAleese, the President of Ireland, visited Sogyal Rinpoche’s centre in Cork. She was quoted as saying, “We do not consider it healthy for the public to enter into a public relationship with a religious figure.”

Sogyal Rinpoche has denied all allegations, saying, “I respect the privacy of everyone involved, and I deeply regret any difficulties that have arisen.”

The allegations have sparked a global backlash, with thousands of followers calling for Sogyal Rinpoche to resign. The controversy has also raised questions about the role of women in the Buddhist community.

The case has also highlighted the need for greater transparency and accountability in religious organizations.

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