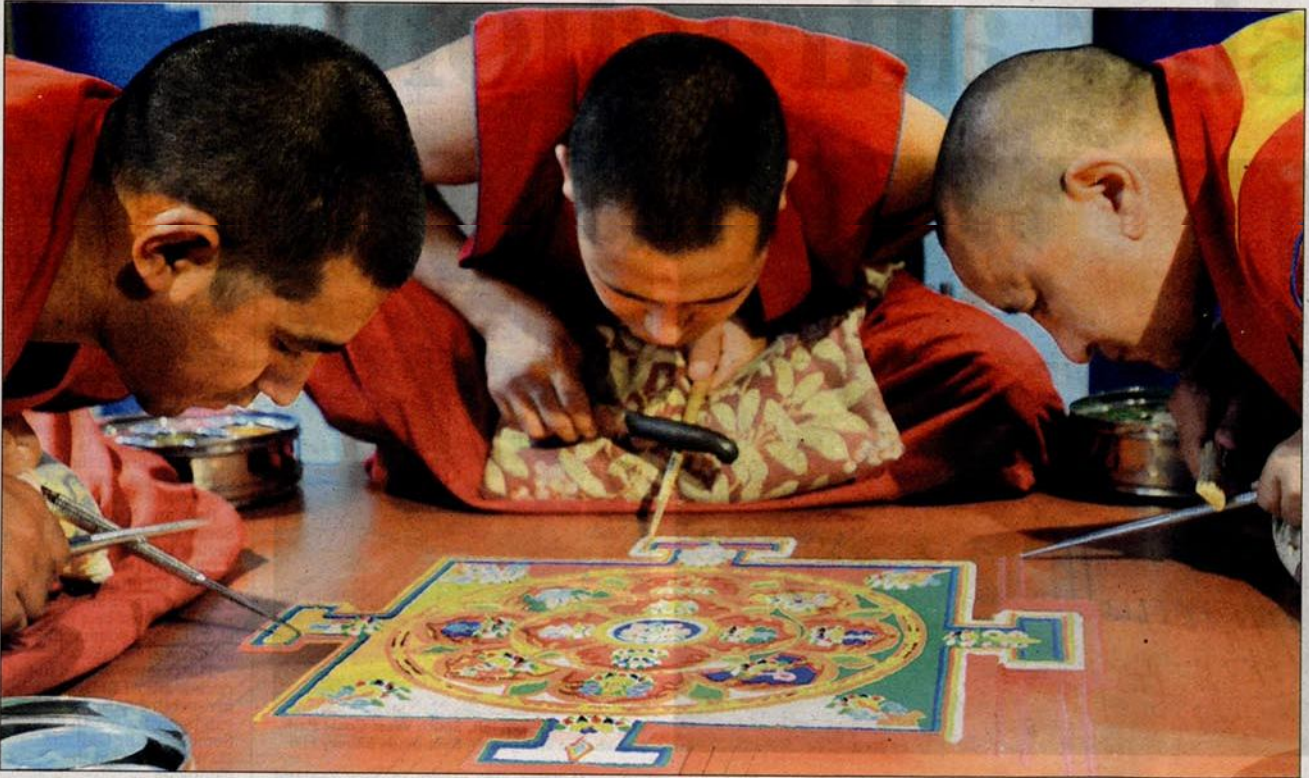


'Six days work, then we'll pour it away'  
Western Daily Press  
Thursday, 16th October, 2008

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## Six days work, then we'll pour it away



This intricate sand painting will take eight monks six painstaking days to perfect only to then destroy it in an hour.

Visiting Bath from the Tashi Lhunpo Monastery in India, the monks are busy crafting the beautiful Tibetan tara mandala at the city's Museum of East

**By Polly March**  
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Asian Art in Bennett Street.

As part of a religious ritual, they will destroy it once finished before pouring the coloured grains off Pulteney Bridge and into the River Avon on Sunday.

The monks are visiting as part of the museum's Tibet Season of events.

As they work, the sand is placed into a ribbed metal funnel. A metal rod is run along the ribs and vibrates against the funnel causing the sand to flow out.

A spokeswoman for the museum said: "The

mandala is destroyed by sweeping the sand into the centre of the table from each of the four corners - symbolising that in old age, and at the time of death, everything once more returns to the primordial source at the centre of the heart, as well as emphasising the

impermanence of all that exists."

Workshops will teach various monastic crafts, such as sand mandala making, calligraphy, butter sculpting and prayer flag printing. They will be held tomorrow from 3pm to 4.30pm and on Saturday from 10.30am until noon.