The Life Of Shabkar Autobiography Of A Tibetan Yogin

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the life of shabkar has long been recognized by tibetans as one of the master works of their religious heritage following his inspired youth and early training in his native province of amdo under the guidance of several extraordinary buddhist masters shabkar tsodruk rangdrol devoted himself to many years of meditation in solitary retreat with determination and courage he mastered the highest and most esoteric practices of the tibetan tradition of the great perfection he then wandered far and wide over the himalayan region expressing his realization his autobiography vividly reflects the values and visionary imagery of tibetan buddhism as well as the social and cultural life of early nineteenth century tibet

rainbow body the life and realization of a tibetan yogin togden ugyen tendzin presents the remarkable life story of togden ugyen tendzin 1888 1962 a tibetan yogin who in death achieved the rainbow body the release of the physical body in the essence of the five elements and one of the highest spiritual attainments of dzogchen recognized as the supreme level of tibetan buddhism his nephew ch grad gyal namkhai norbu one of the greatest living masters of dzogchen composed the book from his own recollections of his uncle as well as direct quotes from talks with the great yogin himself and his disciple sala karma samten the book traces the yogin s childhood struggles the circumstances that led him to his teacher the eminent adzom drugpa and his difficult path to self realization finally ch gyal namkhai norbu relates the story of ugyen tendzin s death during imprisonment by the chinese when witnesses discovered that though his sheepskin robe still sat upright his body was gone a testament to its having dissolved into the rainbow body

a biography of a dzogchen and mahamudra master filled with stories correspondence between shakya shri and great masters of the time and his various teachings

best known today as the author of the life of milarepa tsangny [2] n heruka 1452 1507 was one of the most influential mad yogins of tibet stefan larsson s crazy for wisdom describes tsangny [3] n heruka s life based on narratives by his disciples and examines an unexpected aspect of fifteenth century tibetan buddhist practice

tibetan biographers began writing jetsun milarepa s 1052 1135 life story shortly after his death initiating a literary tradition that turned the poet and saint into a model of virtuosic buddhist practice throughout the himalayan world andrew quintman traces this history and its innovations in narrative and aesthetic representation across four centuries culminating in a detailed analysis of the genre s most famous example composed in 1488 by tsangny? n heruka or the madman of western tibet quintman imagines these works as a kind of physical body supplanting the yogin s corporeal relics

envisioning a tibetan luminary examines the religious biography of shardza tashi gyaltsen 1859 1934 the most significant modern figure representing the tibetan b n religion a vital minority tradition that is underrepresented in tibetan studies the work is based on fieldwork conducted in eastern tibet and in the b n exile community in india where traditional tibetan scholars collaborated closely on the project utilizing close readings of two versions of shardza s life story along with oral history collected in b n communities this book presents and interprets the biographical image of this major figure culminating with an english translation of his life story william m gorvine argues that the disciple biographer s literary portrait not only enacts and shapes religious ideals to foster faith among its readership but also attempts to quell tensions that had developed among his original audience among the b n community today shardza tashi gyaltsen has come to be unequivocally revered for an impressive textual legacy and a saintly death during his lifetime however he faced prominent critics within his own lineage who went so far as to issue polemical attacks against him as gorvine shows the biographical texts that inform us about shardza s life are best understood when read on multiple registers with attention given to the ways in which the religious ideals on display reflect the broader literary cultural and historical contexts within which they were envisioned and articulated

the social life of tibetan biography explores the creation of tibetan religious authority in tibetan cultural areas throughout east inner and south asia through engaging with the relationship between textual biography and social community in the case of the eastern tibetan yogi tokden shakya shri 1853 1919 it explores the different mechanisms used by shakya shri s community in the creation of his biographical portrait to develop his lineage including the use of biographical tropes details of interpersonal connections educational and patronage networks and representations of sacred site creation and maintenance in doing so this study decenters tibetan and himalayan religious history through recognizing that peripheries could act as alternative centers of authority for diverse tibetan buddhist communities

this new translation of padampa sangye s one hundred verses beautifully rendered into english provides timely guidance for people trying to practice the buddhist path in the workaday world the urgency of spiritual practice has seldom been as simply and powerfully conveyed as it is in padampa sangye s one hundred verses this tibetan buddhist classic is an antidote to the tendency we all have to waste our precious human lives khenchen thrangu s lively commentary on the text brings to light its subtleties and amplifies its applicability to our daily struggles showing how an understanding of its teaching on impermanence is the key to working with common difficulties such as loneliness craving betrayal competitive colleagues or squabbling families it speaks to us today as profoundly as it did to the people of dingri tibet to whom it was first addressed a millennium ago

reincarnation in tibetan buddhism examines how the third karmapa hierarch rangjung dorj [2] 1284 1339 transformed reincarnation from a belief into a lasting tibetan institution born the son of an itinerant low caste potter rangjung dorj [3] went on to become a foundational figure in tibetan buddhism and a teacher of the last mongolian emperor he became renowned for his contributions to buddhist philosophy literature astrology medicine architecture sacred geography and manuscript production but as ruth gamble demonstrates his most important legacy was the transformation of the karmapa reincarnation lineage to ensure that after his death subsequent karmapas were able to assume power in the religious institutions he had led the inheritance model of reincarnation instituted by rangjung dorj [3] changed the tibetan plateau s power relations which until that time had been based on family associations and created a precedent for later reincarnate institutions including that of the dalai lamas drawing on rangjung dorj [4] s hitherto un translated autobiographies and autobiographical songs this book shows that his reinvention of reincarnation was a self conscious and multi faceted project made possible by rangjung dorj [5] s cultural social and political standing and specific historical and geographical circumstances exploring this combination of agency and historical coincidence this is the first full length study of the development of the reincarnation institution

historical dictionary of tibet second edition is a comprehensive resource for tibetan history politics religion major figures prehistory and paleontology with a primary emphasis on the modern period it also covers the surrounding areas influenced by tibetan religion and culture including india china nepal bhutan central asia and russia it contains a chronology a glossary an introduction and an extensive hibliography the dictionary section has over 500 cross referenced entries on important personalities as well as aspects of the country s politics economy foreign relations religion and culture this book is an excellent resource for students researchers and anyone wanting to know more about tibet

these deeply personal songs of realization by nyingmapa yogi shabkar tshogdruk rangdrol 1781 1851 composed in a simple yet richly poetic style charm by their beauty and directness often expressing the delights of nature drawn from the vast and mostly untranslated collection the festival of melodious songs they have been organized thematically to reflect shabkar s quest for spiritual awareness through renouncing the world and meditating in mountain hermitages

the legendary exploits of a spiritual superhero and tibetan buddhism s most renowned saint in a full color graphic novel from avenging evil sorcerer to devoted buddhist ascetic to enlightened being the story of milarepa s spectacular life is a powerful testimony to self knowledge transformation and liberation it is the year 1050 and milarepa is seeking vengeance on unscrupulous relatives for mistreating his mother and sister trained in dark magic he commands a rain of scorpions snakes and lizards to attack the villains but when his teacher rebukes him for his odious deeds milarepa renounces witchcraft to seek mystical truth he retreats to a cave where after years of intense meditation he acquires the power to shape shift but most importantly he achieves the greatest victory of all mastery over himself

buddhists understanding buddhism through the lives of practitioners provides a series of case studies of asian and modern western buddhists spanning history gender and class whose lives are representative of the ways in which buddhists throughout time have embodied the tradition portrays the foundational principles of buddhist belief through the lives of believers illustrating how the religion is put into practice in everyday life takes as its foundation the inherent diversity within buddhist society rather than focusing on the spiritual and philosophical elite within buddhism reveals how individuals have negotiated the choices tensions and rewards of living in a buddhist society features carefully chosen case studies which cover a range of asian and modern western buddhists explores a broad range of possible buddhist orientations in contemporary and historical contexts

the figure of tilopā is familiar in tibetan buddhism what is less popular is that his words and teachings before reaching the tibetan plateau were uttered in india and had to pass through nepal a fact which would deserve more attention than before this book is a sort of portrait of that bengali siddha of the tenth century in the first chapter a geographical and historical background is painted a landscape of waters kings polities and cities based on epigraphical numismatic and archaeological material on written travelogues of chinese arab and italian travellers on tibetan accounts and compilations in the second chapter the relevant indo tibetan hagiographic sources are described discussed and outlined in the context of their tradition with a view to characterising such a tradition and its tibetan sprouts mostly among the kagyu lineages the following main entries are introduced tantric buddhism yogin? tantras cakraśamvara manobhanga cittaviśrāma uddiyāna dākin? siddha guru and śmaśāna in the third chapter an attempt is made at a biographical picture of tilopā assessing the who the when and the where in the last chapter a preliminary description is given on the bibliographic details and context of the indic and the tibetan sources which have transmitted tilopā s word

an unsectarian journal devoted to an open and critical study of mahayana buddhism in all of its aspects

anthropological study of the inhabitants of d ing ri a village on the tibet nepali border

maitr pa 986 1063 is one of the greatest and most influential indian yogis of vajrayāna buddhism the legacy of his thought and meditation instructions have had a profound impact on buddhism in india and tibet and several important contemporary practice lineages continue to rely on his teachings early in his life maitr pa gained renown as a monk and scholar but it was only after he left his monastery and wandered throughout india as a yogi that he had a direct experience of nonconceptual realization once maitr pa awakened to this nondual nature of reality he was able to harmonize the scholastic teachings of buddhist philosophy with esoteric meditation instructions this is reflected in his writings that

are renowned for evoking a meditative state in those who have trained appropriately he eventually became the teacher of many well known accomplished masters including padampa sangy? and the translator marpa who brought his teachings to tibet drawing on maitr? pas autobiographical writings and literary work this book is the first comprehensive portrait of the life and teachings of this influential buddhist master klaus dieter mathes also offers the first complete english translation of his teachings on nonconceptual realization which is the foundation of mahāmudrā meditation

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