

THE DOOR TO THE DHARMA

Chos la 'jug pa'i sgo

INTRODUCTION

This is a short text written by bSod nams rtse mo (1142–1182), a Buddhist scholar of the Khon clan, who is regarded as one of the founding fathers of the Sakya (Sa skya) tradition. The text was completed in 1167/68. It serves as an introduction to Buddhism and deals mainly with the life of the Buddha.

It contains a passage giving a brief reference to Songtsen Gampo's (Srong brtsan sgam po) law-making.

Sources

sDe dge edition. 1736.

A scanned xylograph copy can be found in the *Sa skya bka' 'bum*, vol. 4 (*Nga*), *Chos la 'jug pa'i sgo zhes bya ba'i bstan bcos*.

TBRC: W22271.

Chos la 'jug pa'i sgo zhes bya ba'i bstan bcos. 2007. In *Sa skya gong ma rnam Inga'i gsung 'bum dpe bsdur ma las bsod nams rtse mo'i gsung*. Beijing: Krung go'i bod rig pa dpe skrun khang, v.3, pp.389–496.

TBRC: W2DB4568.

[Modern edition]

References

van der Kuijp, Leonard W.J. 1996. Tibetan Historiography. In J.I. Cabezón and R.R. Jackson (eds), *Tibetan Literature: Studies in Genre*. Ithaca: Snow Lion, pp. 39–56.

Stein, R.A. 1986. Tibetica Antiqua IV: La tradition relative au début du Bouddhisme au Tibet. *Bulletin de l'Ecole française d'Extreme-Orient*. 74: 169–96, at p. 86.

__. (A. P. McKeown, trans.) 2010. *Rolf Stein's Tibetica Antiqua: with Additional Materials*. Leiden: Brill, at p. 217.

EXTRACT

[From the Modern edition, p. 486]

དེ་ནས་གཏུང་རབས་བདུན་ནས་འཕགས་པ་སྤྱན་རས་གཟིགས་ཀྱི་ཚམ་འབྲུལ་གྱིས་རྒྱལ་པོ་སྲོང་བཙན་སྐམ་པོ་ཞེས་བྱ་
བར་སྤྱལ་ཏེ་ཕོན་ནས། དགེ་བ་བརྩུ་ལས་བཅུ་མས་ཏེ་ཁྲིམས་བཅས། སྐུར་བྱེད་དམ་པ་སྣོན་ཞེས་བྱ་བས་བོད་ཀྱི་སྐད་
དང་མཐུན་པར་ཡི་གེ་འང་བྱས་ཏེ། མདོ་དཀོན་མཆོག་སྤྱིན་ལ་སོགས་པ་འགའ་ཞིག་ཀྱང་བསྐྱར་རོ།

Then, after seven generations of the lineage, 'Phags pa spyan ras gzigs (Ārya Avalokiteśvara) incarnated as the one called King Songtsen Gampo. After he arrived, he made laws based on the ten virtues. The noble translator named Sambhota created script in accord with the Tibetan spoken language and translated several works, such as the *The Cloud of Jewels Sūtra* (*mDo dkon mchog sprin*).