



**Buddhist  
Tradition  
Series**

# The Buddhist Tantras

*Light on Indo-Tibetan Esotericism*



**ALEX WAYMAN**

# The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism

**Wayman**



## **The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism:**

**Buddhist Tantras** Wayman, 2020-03-26 First published in 1995 The volume is divided into four sections The introduction places the position of the Buddhist Tantras within Mahayana Buddhism and recalls their early literary history especially the Guhyasamahatantra the section also covers Buddhist Genesis and the Tantric tradition Next is the foundations of the Buddhist Tantras are discussed and the Tantric presentation of divinity the preparation of disciples and the meaning of initiation symbolism of the mandala palace Tantric ritual and the twilight language The third section explores the Tantric teachings of the inner Zodiac and the fivefold ritual symbolism of passion The bibliographical research contains an analysis of the Tantric section of the Kanjur exegesis and a selected Western Bibliography of the Buddhist Tantras with comments

The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indo-Tibetan Esotericism Alex Wayman, 1993 This book has been divided into four sections Part One is an Introduction which places the position of the Buddhist Tantras within Mahayana Buddhism and recalls their early literary history especially the Guhyasamajatantra In Part Two the author discusses the foundations of the Buddhist Tantras Part Three is devoted to Special Studies which are very rarely available to the general public such as the nine orifices of the body and the Tantric teachings of the inner Zodiac female energy and symbolism in the Buddhist Tantras and the five fold ritual symbolism of passion and Part Four is the Bibliographical Research which contains a correlation between the tantric portions of the Kanjur and the Tanjur

**The Roots of Tantra** Katherine Anne Harper, Robert L. Brown, 2012-02-01 Among the many spiritual traditions born and developed in India Tantra has been the most difficult to define Almost everything about it its major characteristics its sources its relationships to other religions even its practices are debated among scholars In addition Tantrism is not confined to any particular religion but is a set of beliefs and practices that appears in a variety of religions including Hinduism and Buddhism This book explores one of the most controversial aspects of Tantra its sources or roots specifically in regard to Hinduism The essays focus on the history and development of Tantra the art history and archaeology of Tantra the Vedas and Tantra and texts and Tantra Using various disciplinary and methodological approaches from history to art history and religious studies to textual studies scholars provide both broad overviews of the beginnings of Tantra and detailed analyses of specific texts authors art works and rituals

**Consecration of Images and Stûpas in Indo-Tibetan Tantric Buddhism** Yael Bentor, 2023-08-14 The present work is an investigation of the Indo Tibetan ritual for consecrating images stûpas books and temples It is based on a thorough examination of the relevant Tibetan textual material contained in Tantras commentaries ritual manuals and explanatory works on consecration As rituals are meant to be performed this textual study is combined with observations of performances and interviews with performers The book opens with a general discussion of certain principles of tantric rituals and the foundations of Indo Tibetan consecration The main part focuses on a specific performance of the ritual in a Tibetan monastery located in the Kathmandu Valley This volume contributes to the often neglected field of Indo Tibetan Buddhist rituals It is concerned with

the sacred nature of objects for worship as well as with the main Buddhist tantric transformation into a chosen tantric Buddha

**The Esoteric Community Tantra with The Illuminating Lamp** Great Vajradhara, Chandrakirti, 2021-01-05 A new presentation of Tantra with its most renowned commentary by one of the foremost translator scholar teams of Indian and Tibetan Buddhism This volume is a translation of the first twelve chapters of The Glorious Esoteric Community Great King of Tantras Sri Guhyasamaja Maha tantra raja along with the commentary called The Illuminating Lamp Pradipoddyotana nama tika a commentary in Sanskrit on this tantra by the seventh century Buddhist intellectual and tantric scholar adept Chandrakirti Regarded by Indo Tibetan tradition as the esoteric scripture wherein the Buddha revealed in greatest detail the actual psycho physical process of his enlightenment The Esoteric Community Tantra is a preeminent text of the class of scriptures known to Indian Buddhist scholar adepts as great yoga tantra and later to their Tibetan successors as unexcelled yoga tantra The Illuminating Lamp presents a system of interpretive guidelines according to which the cryptic meanings of all tantras might be extracted in order to engage the ritual and yogic practices taught therein Applying its interpretive strategies to the text of The Esoteric Community Tantra The Illuminating Lamp articulates a synthetic vajra vehicle vajrayana discourse that locates tantric practices and ideals squarely within the cosmological and institutional frameworks of exoteric Mahayana Buddhism

**Becoming Buddhist** Glenys Eddy, 2012-02-02 Exploration of the nature of the socialization and commitment process in Western Buddhist contexts through use of interview material with individual Anglo Australian converts

*Language in the Buddhist Tantra of Japan* Richard K. Payne, 2018-08-09 Language in the Buddhist Tantra of Japan dismantles the preconception that Buddhism is a religion of mystical silence arguing that language is in fact central to the Buddhist tradition By examining the use of extraordinary language evocations calling on the power of the Buddha in Japanese Buddhist Tantra Richard K Payne shows that such language was not simply cultural baggage carried by Buddhist practitioners from South to East Asia Rather such language was a key element in the propagation of new forms of belief and practice In contrast to Western approaches to the philosophy of language which are grounded in viewing language as a form of communication this book argues that it is the Indian and East Asian philosophies of language that shed light on the use of language in meditative and ritual practices in Japan It also illuminates why language was conceived as an effective means of progress on the path from delusion to awakening

**The Cakrasamvara Tantra (The Discourse of Sri Heruka)** David B. Gray, 2019-04-09 This is the first complete critical English translation of the Cakrasamvara Tantra also known as the Sriherukabhidhana and Laghusamvara This is the first complete critical English translation of the Cakrasamvara Tantra Composed in India during the eighth century it is a foundational scripture of one of the most important Indian Buddhist tantric traditions The translator's introductory essay provides an analysis of the historical and intellectual contexts in which the Cakrasamvara Tantra was composed The heavily annotated translation was made on the basis of the surviving Sanskrit manuscripts of the tantra and its commentaries parallel passages in related explanatory tantras vyakhyatantra two different

Tibetan translations of the root text and several Tibetan commentaries Includes a trilingual glossary and index The author has also translated the commentary on this tantra by the great Tibetan scholar Tsong Khapa 1357 1419 Illumination of the Hidden Meaning now published in two companion volumes Taken together these three volumes provide the reader with the first full study in English of this pivotal tantra Composed in India during the late eighth or early ninth century the Cakrasamvara Tantra is a foundational scripture of one of the most important Indian Buddhist tantric traditions as evidenced by the vast number of commentaries and ritual literature associated with it Along with the Hevajra Tantra it is one of the earliest and most influential of the yogini tantras a genre of tantric Buddhist scripture that emphasizes female deities particularly the often fiercely depicted yoginis and akinis

**The Tara Tantra** Susan A. Landesman, 2020-05-19 A groundbreaking English translation of a key tantric text in the history of Indo Tibetan Buddhism This volume contains an English translation of the root text of the Tara mula kalpa a scripture ritual compendium that captures an important Buddhist tantric tradition in mid formation In this regard it is utterly unique and unlike any other text in the Buddhist canon Its contents document the emergence of the quintessential female Buddha Tara in seventh century India As her popularity grew her cult spread throughout Southeast Asia as well as Tibet where she became revered as the Mother of the Tibetan people Tara is worshiped for a variety of reasons from health and long life to wealth protection from enemies and ultimately the mind of enlightenment Her presence pervades the evolution of Buddhism in Tibet including within royal circles as well as mentor and guide to many important Buddhist scholars practitioners and lineage holders

**Imaging Wisdom** Jacob N. Kinnard, 2001-01-01 On its broadest level this book contributes to an ongoing expansion of both the history of religions and Buddhist studies by focusing on what is a far too frequently ignored aspect of religious experience visual images This is a study that is intended to speak to and be relevant for not only those interested specifically in Buddhism but also scholars and students in the field of religion at large who are interested in the dialectical ways abstract abstruse and even rarified textual discourses interact with devotional practices on the ground The specific focus of this book is on the Buddhist visual practices surrounding the visual representation of a single central concept prajna or wisdom in medieval north India Prajna however was not only an intellectual state and spiritual goal to which to aspire Rather wisdom also becomes a quality to be visually represented and ritually responded to and even an active presence to be venerated in much the same manner as the Buddha himself This book explores the ways in which the production and use of artistic images involving prajna constituted a central if not the central component of Buddhist religious practice in Medieval India

The book delves into The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism. The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism is a vital topic that must be grasped by everyone, from students and scholars to the general public. This book will furnish comprehensive and in-depth insights into The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism, encompassing both the fundamentals and more intricate discussions.

1. The book is structured into several chapters, namely:

- Chapter 1: Introduction to The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism
- Chapter 2: Essential Elements of The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism
- Chapter 3: The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism in Everyday Life
- Chapter 4: The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism in Specific Contexts
- Chapter 5: Conclusion

2. In chapter 1, this book will provide an overview of The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism. The first chapter will explore what The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism is, why The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism is vital, and how to effectively learn about The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism.
3. In chapter 2, the author will delve into the foundational concepts of The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism. This chapter will elucidate the essential principles that need to be understood to grasp The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism in its entirety.
4. In chapter 3, the author will examine the practical applications of The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism in daily life. The third chapter will showcase real-world examples of how The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism can be effectively utilized in everyday scenarios.
5. In chapter 4, this book will scrutinize the relevance of The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism in specific contexts. This chapter will explore how The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism is applied in specialized fields, such as education, business, and technology.
6. In chapter 5, the author will draw a conclusion about The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism. The final chapter will summarize the key points that have been discussed throughout the book.
- This book is crafted in an easy-to-understand language and is complemented by engaging illustrations. This book is highly recommended for anyone seeking to gain a comprehensive understanding of The Buddhist Tantras Light On Indotibetan Esotericism.

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