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BUDDHIST ART AND ARCHITECTURE IN INDIA
AND NEPAL

By

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PREFACE

I am indeed grateful to the Chogyal of Sikkim and Dr. A.M. D'Arcario, the President and Director respectively of the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, for having invited me to deliver the 1974 Sir Tashi Namgyal Memorial Lectures.

I have been a student of Indian art and architecture including Buddhist art during my long service with the Archaeological Survey of India and have also studied the art and architecture of Nepal during the last ten years and more intensively during the last two years as Archaeological Adviser to His Majesty’s Government of Nepal. Nepal has been open to the artistic and religious influences flowing from her great southern neighbour India and her great northern neighbour Tibet and has had the genius to so catalyse these influences that her art and culture have become truly Nepali. Sikkim has likewise been open to the cultural, religious and artistic impacts coming from not only India and Tibet but also from Nepal and has similarly had the genius to assimilate them into her culture. The late Denjong Chogyal Chempo Tashi Namgyal, who was a distinguished scholar, artist and a versatile personality, was a brilliant exponent of Buddhist art and culture. Since these lectures are organised in the memory of Sir Tashi, I have chosen to speak on the Buddhist Art and Architecture in India and Nepal which have so much to do with the art of Sikkim.

I am indebted to the Archaeological Survey of India for supplying some of the photographs accompanying the text. The Archaeological Survey of India retain their copyright.

KRISHNA DEVA.