Bulletin of Tibetology



19 November 1989

SIKKIM RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TIBE (OLOGY GANGTOK, INDIA

- The Bulletin of Tibetology seeks to serve the specialist as well as the general reader with an interest in this field of study. The motif portraying the Stupa on the mountains suggests the dimensions of the field -

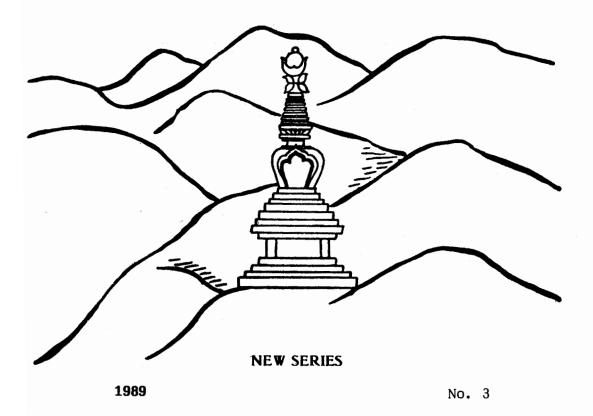
EDITORS

JAMPAL K. RECHUNG

KUNGA YONTEN HOCHOTSANG

BHAJAGOVINDA GHOSH

Bulletin of Tibetology



19 November 1989
SIKKIM RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TIBETOLOGY
GANGTOK, INDIA

SA-DUL: LHABAB DUECHEN 19 November 1989

Price per copy Rs. 10/-

7/90

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR
SIKKIM RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TIBETOLOGY
GANGTOK-737101, SIKKIM
PRINTED AT HIMALINDIA PHOTO OFFSET
NAM NAM ROAD, GANGTOK

CONTENTS

	Page
EARLY TIBETAN LAW CONCERNING DOG-BITE	
- Huge Richardson	5
REBIRTH IN BUDDHIST LOGIC	
- J.K. Rechung	11
STUPAS OF PREVIOUS BUDDHAS	
- B. Ghosh	17
·	,
NOTES & TOPICS	
- J.K. Rechung	25

CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS ISSUE:

HUGH EDWARD RICHARDSON leading authority on Tibet past and present; epigraphist and historian; reads, writes and speaks Tibetan like one born in Tibet; lived more than two decades in Asia: India, Tibet and China; held diplomatic assignments in Lhasa (1936-40 and 1946-50) and Chungking (1942-44); for several terms professor in Tibetan language and History at University of Washington, Seattle, USA; recipient of the Gold Medal of the Royal Central Asian Society, UK; Fellow, Keble College, Oxford; Fellow British Academy.

JAMPAL KUNZANG RECHUNG comes of the Yabshi Phuenkhang House, Lhasa; had higher studies in Drepung Monastic University of Loling Datsang and was conferred the title of Geshe Lharampa; had studied modern subjects in India, Holland and England collaborating with Tibetologists; currently Director, Sikkim Research Institute of Tibetology. Author of Tibetan Medicine.

BHAJAGOVINDA GHOSH had lessons in Brahamanic and Buddhist literature; was sometime in Asiatic Society, Culcutta, Curator of Museum and manuscript section, currently Librarian, Sikkim Research Institute of Tibetology.

Views expressed in the Bulletin of Tibetology are those of the contributors and not of the Sikkim Research Institute of Tibetology. An article represents the private individual views of the author and does not reflect those of any office or institution with which the author may be associated. The editors are the publishers of the article(s); copyright of an article belongs to the author, unless otherwise indicated.

EARLY TIBETAN LAW CONCERNING DOG-BITE

- HUGH RICHARDSON

The Tibetan Chronicle from Tunhuang shows that by the eighth or ninth century Srong-brtsen sgam-po was regarded as having established "a great code of supreme law"gtsug-lag bka'-grims ched-po (p.118); and the Annals record that six years after Srong-brtsen's death the Chief Minister Mgar Stong-btsan Yul-zung wrote the text of the lawsbka'-grims-gyi yi-ge bris (p 13 (6). There is no contemporary evidence about their content but in later tradition the sixteen laws attributed to Srong-brtsan sgam-po are no more than a series of moral precepts. However, documents from Tunhuang reveal the existence of several specific legal codes and regulations. One long document in the India Office Archive collection of the Stein mss (10 no, 740) gives details of the proper decision, according to a new set of in cases concerning such matters as loans, regulations. taxation, marital disputes and so on. Many other Tunhuang documents refer to the law regarding contracts, sales, taxes, land-holding etc. and often mention the judge, zhal ce-pa who decides the cases. Another document in the Stein collection (10 no.753) deals with the law of theft, and Pelliot Tibetain (Pell T.) 1075 is a fragmentary copy of part of similar mss. Other matters regarded as criminal, are the subject of Pell T. 1071 which records at length the penalties, graded according to the status of the victim and the offender, for causing death or injury in the hunting field by an arrow aimed at a wild animal and also in cases where someone fails to rescue another who has fallen under a yak or 'bri. Although in such accidents there is no suggestion of the deliberate causing of death, they are dealt with under the law of homicide and in several cases the death penalty is imposed. It may even be inflicted on the highest ranking ministers if they falsely deny responsibility for an accident or fail to pay blood money imposed on them. Death is the penalty also in some instances of failure to rescue the victim of a yak, and a further- and peculiarly Tibetan - punishment may be imposed by hanging a fox's

tail, signifying cowardice, on to the offender. This is described in the Tang Annals where it is said that it was deemed so shameful that death was held to be preferable; and that bystanders would kill the wretched coward. I have prepared an edition of that document as a contribution to a memorial volume for the late Tsipon Shakabpa but it is unlikely to be published for some time. Meanwhile, have studied another document (Pell T. 1073) setting out the law where someone sets a dog on to another and death or injury results from the attack. Here too the death penalty may be imposed, which is not surprising any more than it is for major thefts- it continued for even quite small thefts in Great Britain into the 19th century; but for those offences in the hunting field it illustrates the very stern demands of honour and discipline in a rugged, warlike society.

Pelliot Tibetain 1073 is a fragment of 28 lines in rather crude calligraphy; the punctuation is occasionally by double tshegs instead of the usual single; there are a few instances of the **da-drag**. These are possibly but not necessarily signs of a comparatively early date. As in Pell. T. 1071 there are many obscure words and phrases and it is probable that some readings are suspect. Below, I have attempted a translation and notes, the number and length of the latter indicate how many difficulties I have been unable to solve; and it is hoped that others may provide more satisfactory answers.

PELLIOT TIBÉTAIN 1073

.... if the **g-yar**, or whatever, he is riding shies and he is thrown whether he is killed or not, on account of the wounds, if there is someone who set on the dog he will be punished by banishment for a term (**ring res gcig**) and as penalty a good 'og-rta' and dressings for the wounds according to their number shall be imposed. If the offender is a woman, the fine is a quantity of good foodstuffs and dressings in proportion, to be given to the complainant. If a **rngul-gyi yi-ge-pa** (holder of a silver letter) down to a **zangs-gyi-yi-ge-pa** (holder of a copper letter) himself or his equal for the purpose of compensation sets a dog on to a **zhang-long phra-men gyi yi-ge-pa** (a minister who holds a silver-gilt letter) or his equal and he is bitten and dies; or if by setting on a dog, the

g-yar he is riding shies and he is thrown and dies whatever excuse the man who set on the dog may give, if the victim is killed and if someone set on the dog he himself shall suffer the 'bra shig death penalty, his family shall be banished and whatever treasure and cattle they have shall be given as compensation for the killing; as for the landed property (khol-yul), if there is a son living in a separate family it shall be given to him; if there is no such son it shall be given to the father; if there is no father. even if there is a close clan relation (phu nu bo drung) it shall not be given to him but shall be shared among those who are the subjects and bondsmen ('bangs and bran) of the person executed. If there is no separate household and the one who set on the dog has been executed, whatever treasure and cattle the father and sons (spad spun) possess that has not been divided up, shall be divided and the whole share of the treasure and cattle that would have gone to the one who has been executed shall be given as compensation for the killing. If a married woman sets on a dog and causes death, whatever was given as dowry 20 by the original paternal family of that woman shall be given as compensation for the killing. If an unmarried sister sets on a dog and causes death her bondsmen and cattle and spun yarn (kud for skud?) shall be given as compensation for the killing. If by setting on a dog the g-yar he is riding shies and he is thrown, whether he is killed or not the one who set on the dog shall be banished and a quarter of his treasure and cattle shall be given as penalty for the wounded. If it is a woman, in addition to banishment for her, half of the treasure and cattle whatever she has shall be given as penalty for the wounded. If someone from gtsang-chen to dmangs mtha-ma sets a dog on to a zhang-lon phra myin men gyi yi-ge-pa upwards, himself or an equal, and if by setting on the dog the person is bitten and dies, or if the g-yar he is riding shies and he is thrown and killed, whatever excuse the one who set on the dog may make, if the person is killed, for the offence of setting a dog on to a zhang-lon or dge-ba the offender and the sons who live with him downwards, shall be put to death; if there are no sons living with him his womenfolk(smad) shall be banished and his treasure and cattle shall all be given as compensation for the dead zhang-lon. If someone in an undivided household has been executed for setting on a dog all the treasure and cattle that has not been divided between father and sons shall be divided.....

NOTES

- 1-3. g-yar: also in Pell T. 1071 11. 322,400,401. Dictionaries give no specific help towards its meaning. Yar-ma in Das and Dagyab, referring to some sort of cow is inapposite. Gyar-ba, "Borrow, hire" also seems inappropriate because persons concerned in 11.7,17 and 24 are high-ranking ministers who would be presumed to own their riding animals. Thomas TLTD. IIp 273, an incomplete passage reading.... tshal ba'i g-yar'og rta..... ma byor na may introduce the idea of a comparison between g-yar and 'og -the better quality and the less good quality horse: 'og rta appears frequently in pell T. 1071 as well as in 1.2. here. In view of the uncertainty I leave both words untranslated.
- 4. dkod.For god, "punishment"?
- 5. 'og-rta, see note 1. See Pell T. where it appears in several contexts.
- 6. ya-btags.something attached on top; bandage?
- 7. gi or go za ma the reading is not clear? "useful?"
- 8. Official ranks were distinguished by insignia of different precious substances— turquoise gold, phra-men (Silver-gilt), silver, copper and brass. The Chinese Tang Annals describe them as strings of beads hanging from the shoulder. Perhaps the letter, yi-ge, was a diploma on a metal plate entitling the holder to wear the appropriate decoration.
- 9. zhang-lon. The general body of ministers; to be distinguished from zhang-blon, blon-zhang; see "Names and Titles in Early Tibetan History" H.E. Rechardson. Namgyal Institute of Tibetology Bulletin No. IV 1967.
- 10. stong mnyam-pa of equal status in matters of compensation, penalties and so on. I have abbreviated it to "equal".
- 11. lan 'don gyis cis. lan-ldon. I take this "to give a reply" rather than to making retribution.
- 12. 'bra shig bkum, of which the etymology is uncertain, is seen from Pell T. 1071 to be a death penalty in which unlike the harsher sgor rabs gcad the offender's sons did not also suffer execution.
- 13. bu smad. In its appearance in Pell T. 1071 this seems to mean "family", "children" (Jaeschke, and Das) rather than "mother and daughter" (Dagyab, and Goldstein)

- 14. bang za dang nor phyugs. "treasure store and cattle wealth" are the personal property of the offender and his family.
- 15. khol-yul. Land with its complement of bondsmen and subjects (bran and 'bangs granted by the btsan-po to a family. It was heritable but could be resumed for disloyalty or misdemeanour.
- 16. sdum-pa bub-pa of khyim-phub of a son who has set up a separate household.
- 17. In this document and in 1071 stsald is not preceded by a particle such as la or tu.
- 18. phu nu bo drung. A. Rona Tas in "Social Terms.... in the Tunhaung Chronicle", Acta Orientalia Hungarica, 1955, concludes that this term covers a clan, specifically the progenies of the malee line. The meaning of drung here is uncertain. In Pell T. 1071 it is contrasted with gang 'dur-pa (bdur-pa mdure-ba) which applies to persons who may receive the property in default of closer relatives of the deceased.
- 19. I have hesitated for a long time before accepting that this passage means that the bondsmen and subjects may share the **khol-yul**. If my interpretation is correct here and in Pell T. 1071 it represents a surprising departure from what appears to be the principle that **khol yul** to which the bondsmen and subjects are attached is held by persons of rank; but I can see no easy interpretation to indicate that the **khol yul** and **bran** and **'bangs** in this case should be assigned to anyone else. It may be noted that in the early days of the kingdom persons of high rank who had been conquered by some rival could become **bran** (Tibetan Chronicle p. 103. 1 20-24) but that would not appear to apply to later centuries.
- 20. brtsangs. for brdzangs.
- 21. The text is probably corrupt and bran should be bang za as in other cases; it may also be that mention of banishment, as in 1. 21. has been omitted.
- 22. I am doubtful about the reading kud-pa, gud-pa "what she has privately" might be an alternative.
- 23. **gtsang-chen,** an official of lower rank than those who held letters of various degree.
- 24. dmangs mtha-ma. "the lower commoners". It is not clear who might be covered by this description. From Pell

- T. 1071 it is seen that the dmangs, who ranked below the gtsang-chen and above the soldiery (rgod), could hold khol-yul and so had a recognized place in the social hierarchy, perhaps as minor officials attending on those of higher rank.
- 25. dge-ba appears to have no religious connotation. It is contrasted in Pell T. 1071 1 260 with ngan-pa- "the good and the bad". In a Tunhuang mss, I.O. no. 506 quoted by R.A. Stein in Tibetica Antique II p. 268 ngan-pa is equated with rkun-ma, "thief". From its occurrence several times in Pell T. 1071 dge-ba seems to be an honorific epithet of very high-ranking officials, perhaps similar to ya-rabs.
- 26. bu-smongs: an obscure word perhaps for mong as in thun mong "together, jointly".
- 27. In the reading dgum/mo/smongs/ma/byung na I take the construction as dgum mo/smongs rather than dgum/mo smongs etc.
- 28. **smad** here seems to men "wife, womenfolk" as the sons have been accounted for in the previous sentence.

ABBREVIATIONS

Dagyab. L.S. Dagyab, Tibetan Dictionary, 1966 Das. Sarat Chandra Das, Tibetan-English Dictionary, 1902 Goldstein. M.C. Goldstein, Tibetan-English Dictionary of Modern Tibetan, 1975 Jaeschke. H.A. Jaeschke, A Tibetan-English Dictionary, 1881/1934.

Pelliot Tibétain (Pell.T.) Inventaire des manuscrits Tibétains de Touen-houang conserves a la Bibliotheque Nationale (Fonds Pelliot Tibétain) Paris 1939-1961.

Thomas TLTD. F.W. Thomas, Tibetan Literary Texts and Documents concerning Chinese Turkestan, London 1935-1963. Tibetan Annals, Tibetan Chronicle. J. Bacot, F.W. Thomas, Ch Toussaint,

Documents de Touen-houang relatifs à l'histoire du Tibet, Paris, 1940.

Tibetica Antiqua. R.A. Stein, Bulletin de l'École Française d'Extrême-Orient Paris 1983, 1984.

Tunhuang I.O mss. La Vallée Poussin, Catalogue of the Tibetan manuscripts from Tun-huang in the India Office Library, Oxford 1962.

REBIRTH IN BUDDHIST LOGIC

- J.K. RECHUNG

Of all the ways, the most excellent for attaining happiness and eradicating suffering is the infallible doctrine of the Buddha. Influenced by His true path, the virtuous person will reach the desired goal of emancipation. Because of the absolute certainty of attaining the desired goal in His teachings, the Buddha is adored as the Great Being, Who is Authority personified(Skt. Pramāṇa puruṣha, Tib. Tsadmai'-skyes-bu), that is, He attained Bliss and shed all suffering. The epithet of 'omniscient being' as referring to the Buddha is also mentioned by Slob-dpon-phyogs-glang (Āchārya Dignāga) in his Tsad-ma-kun-btus (Pramāṇa sammu-ccaya). The Buddha as omniscient being could be found In more detail in the commentary works of Chos-kyi-grags-pa (Dharmakīrti) in the second chapter of Tsad-ma-ranm-grel (Pramanavartika).

Buddhist logic accepts only two sources of valid knowledge: revelation of the Buddhist scripture (Skt. Agamanirdesa, Tib. Lung-gi-bstan-pa) and the mystic intuition of the saint (Skt. Adhigamanirdesa, Tib. Rtogs-pai'-bstan-pa). The validity of these two truths is also mentioned in the works of Slob-dpon-dbyig-gnyen (Acharya Vasubandhu) as contained in Abhidharma.

Revelation of scripture is the three Vinaya ('dul-bai'sde-snod), (Sde-snod-gsum): pitaka Sutrapitaka (Mdo-sde'-sde-snod) and Abhidharma (Mngon-pai'-sde-snod). Mystic intuition can cultivated through the three trainings of the mind

This note on rebirth is from believer's point of view and is based mainly on Dharmakirti, the master of logic. Buddhist logic takes cognition of mind as the lord of five senses. Consciousness is thus leading point in the concept of this life and the life beyond. Modern Scientists find great interest in Buddhist theories of life and death. This note is a mere introduction in the believer's language.

(Skt. Trisikṣā,Tib. Bslab-pa-gsum): training in moral discipline (Skt. Sīla sikṣā, Tib. Tshul-khrims-kyi-bslab-pa), training in concentration (Skt. Samadhi siksa, Tib. Ting-nge-'zin-gyi-bslab-pa), and training in wisdom (Skt. Prajnā siksā, Tib. Shes-rab-kyi-bslab-pa).

Why is the Buddha called the 'perfect being'? Because his profound teachings have the innate value to lead the virtuous person to the path of emancipation. That is to say, he will never let them down in their expectations and desires. The two truths of revealed scripture (Lunggi-bstan-pa) and mystic intuition as taught by the Buddha are infallible. Therefore, from whom the two sources of valid knowledge comes, is a 'perfect one'. Dignaga in the beginning of Pramana Samuccaya praised the Buddha for having transformed into the 'perfect being'. By studying the infallible doctrine of Buddha such as the four Noble Truths, the disciples will attain the higher realms of gods and human beings and will also be able to penetrate deep into his sublime teachings.

Those who desire happiness should find the means to attain such in the teachings of Buddha. There is much knowledge which does serve the ultimate purpose of attaining the higher path. But to find the ultimate truth, one has to resort to Buddha's teachings. Therefore the Buddha must be taken as the perfect teacher because he had observed the true nature of the transmigratory existence.

Another reason why the Buddha is known as perfect being is that he excelled in the cultivation of great compassion (Bsam-pa-phun-sum-tshogs-pa-nying-rje-chen-po) and acquired realization through eliminating the wrong conception ofself (byor-ba-phun-sum-tshogs-pa-bdag-med-rtogs-pai'-The practice of compassion and shes-rab). destruction of self consciousness (ego) are the most excellent methods for delivering beings from the world of suffering and to attain the realm of all-knower (Thar-pa-dang-thams-chedmkhyen-pai'-go-phang). The universal compassion (nyingrje-chen-po) in Buddha does not arise without a cause. This great compassion is the sum total of the long period of practice carried through innumerable past lives. disposed his mind towards the deliverance of innumerable beings from suffering. The omniscient one therefore chose the best method: cultivation of universal compassion (Nyingrje-chen-po).

The theoretical school of Chārvākas however discounted the belief in the efficiency of the practice of compassion for many lives, because there is no previous birth and rebirth, and hence no Karmic formation. They argued that the mind is based upon physical body and when the body dissolves the mind also perishes with it. The body is made up of four elements and five senses and when body dissolves, they also disintegrate and disappear like a rainbow. Hence one's mind cannot go for the next rebirth. When the Charvakas disown the next birth, they also discount the virtuous or wise deeds and their results. For Chārvākas, there is no attainment of the higher path through the accumulation of virtuous deeds.

They supported their views with the following examples: 'like an essence of the liquor, the mind is the essence of the body'; 'like an illumination of the light, the mind is the illumination of the body'; and 'like a fresco on the wall the mind is a projection of the body'. Thus when there is no liquor there is no essence of it, when there is no light there is no illumination, when there is no wall there is no fresco or there is no mind when there is no body.

How the Buddhist refute them? If only the body is the cause of the mind, then the dead body should also have the mind. Therefore, physical causative body also warrants the existence of mind even when the body is out of function.

The mind, however, is not dependent on the body. The mind is a seperate entity because its development and degeneration does not depend upon the body's development and degeneration. If the mind is of same nature as that of body, then the senses which perceive the objects should also perceive the mind. But this is not so.

Most of the beings appear in physical form. However in some realms there exists only mind (Skt. Manas, Tib. Yid). Both the mind and body have their own original causes (Nyer-len). The formative stage of the body comes from the semen and blood of the father and mother. Likewise the formative stage of the mind is the Karmic force that flows from the semen and blood of the two opposite sexes. The original cause of the mind is already in development before the present mind is born. That is to say, the origi-

nal cause of the mind has already preceded before the present mind is formed, because the external elements like flesh and blood cannot generate mind. Therefore, the original cause of mind must necessarily be the mind that has preceded it.

Mind must have the substantial cause of its production. The substantial cause is the one that was already there before it enters the semen and blood of father and mother. This very mind is the mind of the previous birth and not of the present birth. That is how Chos-kyi-grags-pa (Dharmakirti) says in the second chapter of Pramānavārtika (Tshad-ma-rnam -'grel):

- Skt. Prānāpānendriyādhiyām dehādeva na kevalāt/ Sajātinirapekṣāṇām janma janmaparigrahe//37 Pramanavartika, Ch. I
- Tib. Skye-ba-yongs-su-len-pa-na/
 'byung-rnub-dbang-poi'-blo-dag-ni/
 Rang-gi-lus-la-ltos-med-phyir/
 Lus-nyid-'bah-shig-las-skyes-min//

The verses signify the existence of previous birth. For example, the consciousness of an old man is brought about by the previous consciousness, because without the previous consciousness there cannot be the consciousness that he has now. Similarly a dying man's consciousness will join with the future consciousness. There is always an unbroken chain of the development of consciousness. Out of this chain of consciousness comes the cycle of birth and rebirth. That is why acts in this life bear fruits for the future life through consciousness.

In many lives the 'omniscient one' has cultivated to perfection all the virtuous acts and thus he has become the 'perfect one'. Because he has devoted so much of his time to the cultivation of compassion in the previous lives, even without practising it now, the compassion nevertheless remains in abundance within him. This is one aspect of the wisdom that is inherent in him because of his previous consciousness. As a result he was filled with much compassion, which is comparable to an uncontrollable fire.

Now in order to utilize his universal compassion Buddha chose the best method that can expedite the removal of sufferings. That is, he contemplated on the four Noble Truths and the sixteen characteristics of voidness.

In his numerous lives, the omniscient one attempted to penetrate into the real nature of the four Truths (Tib. Bden-pa Bshi; Skt. Catvari satyani) and as a result, Buddha cultivated an unmistakable knowledge on them. Through this knowledge, he contemplated on their nature and generated immense compassion. Overwhelmed by compassion, the Buddha directed his thoughts toward the deliverance of entire beings from sufferings. In this endeavour Buddha, however, found that egoism (Tib. Bdag-'zen, Skt. Atmagraha) is the root cause of all sufferings. The Buddha then investigated the meaning of worldly existence which is bound with egoism. In order to remove such misapprehension of self. Buddha concentrated on the methods during his previous lives and, therefore, he could unmistakably discern the correct and faulty means to eliminate the grasping self. By his discriminatory wisdom, the inclination towards ignorance is also removed. He now became an 'accomplished one' in fulfilling the wishes of others with his perfect means.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- (1) Abhidharmakosa karika (Chos-mngon-pa-mzod-kyi-tshiglehu-byas-pa) by Acharya Vasubandhu. Eighth chapter. Se-ra-byes xylograph. SRIT collection.
- (2) Pramānavārtika (Rgyas-pai'-bstan-bcos-tshed-ma-rnam-'grel) by Dharmakīrti. Second chapter. Se-ra-byes xylograph. SRIT collection.
- (3) Commentary on Pramanavartika (Rnam-'grel-thar-lam-gsal-byed) by Rgyal-tshab Dhar-ma Rin-chen. Second chapter. Lhasa Shol edition. SRIT collection.
- (4) Pramānavārtikabhāsyam or Vārtikālankārah of Prajnākaragupta. Volume I. Deciphered and edited by Rahula Sankrityayana. Tibetan Sanskrit works series. Kashi Prasad Jayaswal Research Institute, Patna, 1953.

LATEST PUBLICATIONS OF SRIT

1. KADAM BUCHO VOLUME KA (PART I)

It deals with twenty previous birth stories (Jatakas) of 'Brom-ston-rgyal-ba'i-byung-gnas narrated by Atisa Dipan-kara-srijnana and which are known as rNgog-chos-nyi-shu. The original xylograph reproduced by photo-mechanic process with introduction in English.

2. KADAM BUCHO VOLUME KHA (PART II)

This volume contains the instructions, prophecy, short previous life stories of "Brom-ston-pa-rgyal-ba'i-byung- gnas, hymns and a supplementary chapter by Lotsawa and chief disciples. Reproduction by photo-mechanic process with introduction in English.

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS OF SRIT

1. SAKYA KABUM CATALOGUE (Sakyapa Catalogue Series Vol.I)

This is the first comprehensive catalogue of Sakya Kabum (collected works of five founder lamas of Sakya Order); Tibetan title and its romanization with subject index and introduction in English. This forthcoming publication is expected to be immensely useful and serve the purpose of the libraries and individual scholars for carrying their research in the field.

2. DAM NGA ZOD CATALOGUE (Kagyudpa Catalogue Series Vol.I)

It is the first comprehensive catalogue of gDams-ngag-mdzod (collected works of Jamgon Kongtrul); Tibetan title and its romanization with subject index and introduction in English.

The publication programme of Catalogue Series of all the Buddhist works preserved in the SRIT will be a landmark contribution in the field of documentation and library science. The Institute intends to bring out more issues in the coming years.

STŪPAS OF PREVIOUS BUDDHAS

- B. GHOSH

The fact of some of the preceeding Buddhas has been substantiated by the Archaeological findings like Asokan inscription cited in the concluding portion of this article, as well as the account of Chinese pilgrims, who visited the stupas of last three Buddhas, prior to Sakyamuni.

"Display of miraculous power of Sakyamuni shown in the appearance of stupa, being opened by him, discloses to sight the frame of the expired Tathagatas Prabhutaratna, who is desirous of hearing the exposition of the Lotus of the True Law (Saddharma-Pundarika/Damcho Pema Karpo). How the Sakyamuni in a former birth strove to acquire the Lotus. His great obligations to Devadatta. Episode of the wise daughter of the ocean and her change of sex" (Sadharma-Pundarika, trans, H.Kern. SBE, Vol. XXI Ed. F. Max Muller, Int. P.XXX). In the above text there is edifying chapter "Apparation of Stupa"/Stupa-darsana-Parivarta (Ch.XI). The chapter begins thus: "Then there arose a Stupa consisting of seven precious substances from the place of the earth opposite the Lord, the assembly being in the middle" (Ibid p.227). One may see the same legendary account of the apparation also from the edition of Saddharma-Pundarika by N. Dutt with N.D. Mironav's text: Central Asian Manuscripts of Asiatic Society (Calcutta 1953) on the Apparation Max Muller cites remarks of Senart. "Between the Lord (i.e. the sun) and the Stupa of Seven Ratnas, i.e. here it would seem the rainbow of seven colours, we shall see that stupa has also another function that of symbolising the celestial dhishnya in which sun and moon are standing." (Ibid p. 227)

Buddha Sakyamuni, it is relevant to note in his parable often referred to Buddhas of the past, who trod the path Sakyamuni had discovered. In Digha Nikaya Buddha disclosed the clan, family life span and Enlightenment of Six Buddhas preceded him thus:

"इतो सो भिक्खवे, एकनुवृतिकप्पे यं विपस्सी भगवा अरहं सम्मासम्बुद्धो लोके उदपादि। इतो सो, भिक्खवे, एकविंसे कप्पे सिखी भगवा अरहं सम्मासम्बुद्धो लोके उदपादि। तिस्सञ्जेव खो, भिक्खवे, एकितिसे कप्पे वेस्सभू भगवा अरहं सम्मासम्बुद्धो लोके उदपादि। इमिस्सञ्जेव खो, भिक्खवे भद्दकप्पे ककुसन्धो, भगवा अरहं सम्मासम्बुद्धो लोके उदपादि। इमिस्सञ्जेव खो, भिक्खवे, भद्दकप्पे कोणागमनो भगवा अरहं सम्मासम्बुद्धो लोके उदपादि। इमिस्सञ्जेव खो, भिक्खवे, भद्दकप्पे करसपो भगवा अरहं सम्मासम्बुद्धो लोके उदपादि। इमिस्सञ्जेव खो, भिक्खवे, भद्दकप्पे करसपो भगवा अरहं सम्मासम्बुद्धो लोके उदपादि। इमिस्सञ्जेव खो, भिक्खवे, भद्दकप्पे अहं एतरिह अरहं सम्मासम्बुद्धो लोके उपपाने। (Dig.Nik. Pali, II, Mahavagga, Mahapadanasutta,1)

Practice of erecting stupas over corporal relics was older than the time of Buddha Sakyamuni. In reply to Ananda's query about the rites to be performed after the demise of the master, Buddha remarked that his mortal remains left after cremation, should receive the honour of a universal monarch by creation of stupas over such remains the crossing of four highways, a carin should be erected to the Tathagatas, a Pratyeka Buddha (individual Buddha), a disciple of the Tathagata and Chakravarti Raja (universal monarch) (Dig Nik. Pali, VI 50).

TT

"Fuhrer located the ruins of Krakuchchhanda's Natal town in mounds near Lari-ki-Kundan (Kodan) 1½ mile south west of Taulihawa (U.P.) and nearly 14 mile north-east of Gotihawa. According to him the four mounds at this place represent the three stupas and monasteries mentioned by Fa-hien and Hiuen Tsang. Mukherji (P.C. Mukherji, A Report on a Tour of Exploration of the Antiquities in the Tarai, Nepal, Archaeological Survey of India, Imperial Series XXVI Pt. I, Calcutta 1901) also held the mounds representing stupas and monasteries. General His Highness Prince Khadga Sumsher Jung Rana Bahadur while regarding the mounds as stupas and monasteries felt that "it must have been the place where Buddha held athletic sports; if not, the place belongs to his Gosthis, i.e. relatives". W. Vost took Kodan as suburbs of Kapilavastu and identified (i) the northernmost with the stupa adjoining to the spot where 'the elephant (thrown by Gautama Buddha) falling on the ground caused a deep and wide ditch", (ii) the next mound (which is the largest of all) with the remains of two temples (one with the representation of Gautama and the other with the likeness of Yasodharā and Rāhula) which Hiuen Tsang saw by the side of hasti-garta, (iii)

the third mound with the site of the school room of Gautama and (iv) the fourth mound with the remains of the temple which lay without the southgate (of Kapilavastu) and contained a representation of sick man. The tanks on the banks of which these mounds are located has been identified by him with the hasti-garta (pit caused by the fall of the elephant)".

According to Mr. Mitra "All these presumptions have been proved baseless by our excavations at the mounds at Kodan which can neither be regarded as the natal town of Krakuchchhanda nor a part (or suburbs) of Kapilavastu for want of vestiges of Buddhist character. Of the four mounds, one is reduced to the last stage of decay. The excavations at the remaining three mounds yielded the remains of three bricks Brahmanical temples which were originally decorated with various motifs carved on the facing brickwork. None of these temples is earlier than the eighth century The tank was the offshoot of the constructions of the temples which demanded a huge quantity of earth not only for the mortar and bricks, but for the extensive filling material in the foundation of the temples". Devala Mitra: Buddhist momuments, Sahitya Samsad (Calcutta 1980 pp. 250-251). Dr. Mitra further remarks that 'Smith's (V.A. Smith): The Birthplace of Gautama Buddha (JRAS of Great Britian and Ireland for 1887, pp. 615-21) tentative identification of Gotihawa with the site of Nyagrodharama, 3 or 4 li south of Kapilavastu town, does not seem justified. Hiuen Tsang did not notice any Asokan pillar at Nyagrodharama. Gotihawa with the lower portion of Asokan pillar and stupa, certainly represents the supposed site of Nirvana of either (Konākamana, Aśokan edict, Kanakamuni Konagamana 23rd buddha of the Buddhavamsa-Pali) or Krakuchchhanda. It is very likely that the two fragments (one with Asoka's inscription recording the enlargement of the stupa of Kanakamuni and erection of the pillar) of the upper portion of an Asokan pillar at present lying at Nigali-sagar (as already noted by P.C. Mukherji the pillar fragments of Nigali-sagar are not in situ. Traces of any ancient vestiges, not to speak of the **stupa** of Kanakamuni mentioned in the inscription on the pillar, are not sight within the immediate neighbourhood. The fragments, evidently were brought from some other site formed the upper parts of the pillar in situ at Gotihawa. As is well-known, the upper portion of the gotihawa pillar is missing, but a major fragment of the bell-shaped capital was found here (removed to the Taulihawa

inspection bunglow). The corresponding lower part of Nigalisagar pillar and also the capital is missing. The fragments of the Nigali-sagar pillar are smaller than the Gotihawa pillar in diameter, so that the former can easily be the upper parts of the latter, all these fragments being tapering and of identical stone. If this presumption is correct, the **stupa** (which by the size of the bricks looks Asokan) in front of the pillar at Gotihawa is the one of the Kanakamuni which Asoka claims to have enlarged in the inscription on the lower of the two pillar- fragments at Nigali-sagar. In this connection it may be noted that Gotihawa, which is east of Śrāvasti, does not fit in with Fa-hien's heresay (south-east) of Krakuchchhanda's place in relation to Śrāvasti' (Ibid p. 252)

'One of the reasons for the difference between Fahien and Hiuen Tsang on the location of Kapilavastu with reference to Lumbini and the natal town Krakuchchhanda and Kanakamuni, two of the Manushi-Buddhas who preceeded Gautama Buddha. According to Fa-Hien Kapilavastu is somewhat less than a Yojana east of Kanakamuni's town, the latter situated less than a Yojana north of Na-pi-ka, Krakuchchhanda's town, which is 12 Yojanas south-east of Sravasti. places Kapilavastu 500 li (800 li according Hiuen Tsang to the Hiuen Tsang's life) south east of the town of Kasyapa near Sravasti and 50 li north of Krakuchchhanda's town, the latter being 30 li south-west of town of Kanakamuni. Though the two pilgrims agree tolerably on the distance between the native towns of these three Buddhas, they differ materially regarding the directions. Thus Kapilavastu according to Fa-hien was to the east of Kanakumani's town and north east of Na-pi-ka, and according to Hiuen Tsang, to the north west of Kanakamuni's town and north of Napi-ka. Fa-Hien places Lumbini 50 li eastward of Kapilavastu while Hiuen Tsang took bearings from Sara-Kupa (Arrowwell), 30 (or 32) li south east of Kapilavastu to Lumbini, the latter being 80 to 90 li north of Sara Kupa' (Ibid 248).

III

The nineteenth century discovery of two fragments of an inscribed pillar by the side of Tank called Nigali-sagar, the lower portion of Asokan pillar in Situ and a stupa of Gotihawa, a pillar in situ with the record of Asoka at Lumbini and a conspicuous stupa with exceptionally precious deposits and reliquaries at Piprahwa (U.P.), one

of the reliquaries from Piprahwa, as is well known bears an inscription in Maurya Brahmi character recording the deposits of Buddha relics. The discoveries promoted further researches in the field, scholars turned their attention toward the Nepalese Tarai for the sites of the towns of Buddha, Krakuchchhanda and Kanakamuni,

In the older books of Pitakas six Buddhas are mentioned as preceeding Buddha Sakyamuni namely Vipassi, Sikhi, Vessabhu, Kakusanda, Konagamana and Kassapa (Dig. Nik Pali, 14 Mahapadanasutta, Therag 499 Samjutta Nikaya, Pali XII, 4-10).

According to Sir Charls Elliot: Hinduism and Buddhism, vol. I p. 342 "the last three at best may have some historical character. The Chinese pilgrims Fa-Hien, who visited India from 405 to 411 A.D. saw their reputed birth places and says that there still existed followers of Devadatta (apparently in Kosala) who recognised these three Buddhas, but not Sakyamuni. Asoka erected a monument in honour of Konagamana in Nepal with dedicatory inscription which has been preserved."

In the Majjhima Nikaya, 50, Maratarjaniyasuttam, we find a story about Kakusandha and his disciple and Gotama Sakyamuni once gave (Dig. Nik. 14) an extensive account of Vipassi, whose teaching and carrer are represented as almost identical of his own.

In Māratajjniya Sutta (Maj. Nik. vol. I 50 Kasyap. Int. p XVII), the legend of former Buddha is narrated thus: "The venerable Mahamoggallāna was walking up and down in the open. Then, Māra, the Evil one entered his stomach and produced a girgling sound Moggallāna knew it. He chided the māra for making a mischief, narrating his previous life- "O Māra, long ago I was born in the mara-realm, my name was Dūsi, I had a sister called 'Kāli' whose son was none but you. Thus, you are a dear nephew of mine. Then there flourished the Buddha called Kakusanda. I, as the 'Dūsimara', took possession of the people called and gave a hard opposition to the Lord Kakusanda and his order. Due to evil result of it, I was born in the hell and had to undergo a long torture burning in its fire".

Yuan Chwang in his travel account states that "There is Asoka stone pillar not far from the stairs was a tope

where the Four past Buddhas had sat and walked up and down" (on Yuan Chwang's Travel in India Thomas Watters, vol. I 1961 p 334). From Ayudha the pilgrim travelled east above 300 li and crossing the Ganges to the north, arrived in the A-ye-mu-k'a and close to the Ganges, were an Asoka tope at the place where the Buddha had preached for three months, traces of sitting and walking place of the four past Buddhas and a dark blue stone tope with Buddharelics" (Ibid vol. I p 359).

Yuan Chwang found in Samatata Tan-mo-lib-ti (Tamralip-ti) its capital above ten li in circuit, besides the capital was an Asoka tope and near this were vestiges of the four past Buddha's sitting and exercise ground (Ibid vol. II p. 190).

In Karna suvarna- near the monastery were several topes built by Asoka at spots where the Buddha had preached and also a shrine (ching-she) where the four past Buddhas had sat and walked for exercise. (vol. II p.191)

In Maharashtra- within and outside the capital were five Asoka topes where the four past Buddhas had sat and walked for exercise (vol.II.239).

In Kapilavastu- outside the capital to the south of the city, he tells us and at distance of above 50 li (about 10 miles) from it, was old city with a tope. birth place of the past Buddhas Ka-lo-ka-tsun-te (that is Krakuchunda or Krakuchchhanda the Kakusandha of Pali scriptures, not far to the south from this city was tope to mark the spot at which Krakuchunda having attained to Perfect Enlightenment (that is, having become Buddha) met his father. Another tope, which was to the south-east of the city marked the place in which bodily relics of this were deposited. In front of this tope was a stone pillar erected by Asoka, above 30 feet high with a carved lion on the top and an account of (Krakuchunda's) decease (Parinirvana) on the sides. Above 30 li (six miles) north east from this old city was another "old large city" which also had a tope. Here the past Buddha ka-no-ka-Mau-ni (kanakamuni) was born. Near this city, on the north east, was the tope which marked the spot where this Buddha, after attaining Bodhi, admitted other into his religion, and north of this was a tope with bodily relics of Kanakamuni Buddha. Here too was a stone pillar above twenty feet high, with a lion on the top and as record of the circumstances of this Buddha's decease on the sides, this pillar also had set up by Asoka (vol. II p.5-6).

Fa-hien places the old city of Krakuchunda (called by him Ku-lu-chen Buddha) twelve Yojanas (about 96 miles to the north).

Hereunder we quote the Asoka's edict on stupa of former Buddha with its translation:

"The beloved of the gods, king Priyadarsin (when) crowned fourteen years, enlarged the stupa of Buddha Kanakamuni to double (its former size) and (when) crowned (twenty) years himself came (here), worshipped (and a stone-pillar) was erected."

Text of Nigālisāgar (Nigali sagar) pillar inscription: Devānām piyena piyadesina tājina codavāsabhisitena Budhasa Konākamanasa thube dutiyum vadhite, sabhisitena ca atana āgaca mahlyite- papite.

Text Sanskritised:

Devānām priyena priyadarsinā rājnā caturdasa varsābhisiktena Buddhasya Kanakamuneh stūpah dvitiyam vardhitah, (vimsati-var-) sābhisiktena ca ātmanā āgataya mahītam, (sitā-tambha ca ut-) sarpitam.

Date : Regal year 20 (?)=c 249 B.C.

Subject Asoka's visit to the stupa of Kanakamuni. (Asoka's Edict: Amulya Chandra Sen (Calcutta 1956 pp. 124-125)

GLOSSARY OF PLACE NAMES

A-ye-mu-kha : Ayamukha (Hayamukha 'Horse mouth' Daundiakhara on the northern bank of Ganges

(D. Mitra)

Ayudha : Present Kakapur, The country lying between

vitasti (Jhelum) and the Sindhu (Indus) Nundo Lal Dey: The Geographical Dictionary of Ancient and Mediaeval India, Fourth

Edition 1884, New Delhi

Gotihawa : (Gutiva) 2½ miles of Taulihawa (Mitra)

Karna-Suvarna : (Kansona) now called Rangamati in the district of Murshidabad, on the right bank of Bhagirathi, six miles south of

Berhampur in Bengal(Dey).

Kośala : Oudh, Ayodhya divided into two, Uttara

Kosala (Northern) and Dakshina Kosala (Southern). During Buddha, the kingdom of Kosala under Prasenjit's father Mahakosala extended from the Himalayas to the Ganges and from the Ramganga to the Gandak

(Dey).

Lari-ki-Kundan : (Kodan)

Na-pi-ka : Natal town of Krakuchchhanda, 12 Yojanas

south-east of Sravasti (Mitra)

Nigali-sagar : 4½ miles north-east of Taulihawa in Nepalese

Tarai (Mitra)

Nyagrodharama: 'Banyan grove' lays half a mile to the

south of Kapilavastu

Piprahwa : District Basti, Uttar Pradesh

Situ : at Gothihawa 7 miles south east of Nigali-

sagar Tank (Mitra)

Śrāvasti : Sahet-Mahet on the bank of Airavati or

Achitravati (modern river Rapti) in the

district of Gonda in Oudh (Dey).

Ta(n)-mo-li(h)-ti: Tamralipti, Tammalipti (litti) perhaps

modern Tamluk (Thomas watters: on Yuan

Chwang's Travel in India (London 1961)

Taulihawa : In Nepalese Tarai

NOTES & TOPICS

REBIRTH IN BUDDHIST LOGIC

Earlier, Acharya Dignaga had written about hundred minor treatises on the Buddhist logic. He however found that those treatises did not contain the complete substance of the entire Buddhist logic. Therefore, he felt it necessary to write a compendium of the Buddhist logic which could give a comprehensive description of all the treatises he had written so far. He wrote Pramanasamuccaya (Tsad-ma-Kun-blus) by eulogizing the Buddha for having transformed into a 'perfect being' who could lead others along the correct path. This salutation, in one and half verses, mentions the Buddha as having understood Pramana by virtue of his discerning the correct reasoning (Skt. Samvakhetu. Tib. Rig-pa-yang-dag) of the four original causes and the four effects of the reversal process of the dependent origination. The same subject is further elaborated in the commentary work, 'Pramanavartika' (Tsed-ma-rnam-'grel) of Dharmakirti which contains four chapters. The first sloka of the second chapter mentions the non-deceiving nature of the Buddhist logic by not contradicting the perceiving senses with the object perceived.

Similarly, before his enlightenment, the Buddha had steadfastly undertaken, till completion, the contemplation on the great compassion and the cultivation of the wisdom of selflessness. As a result, he assumed spritual (Skt. Dharmakāya), Tib. Chos-sku) and physical forms (Skt. Rūpakāya, Tib. Gzugs-sku) and could penetrate deep into the profound meanings of the four noble truths to liberate beings from the false path. Hence, from the point of view of the non-contradicting 'perfect being' this second chapter of the Pramana is compiled.

J.K. RECHUNG

OUR TWO MAJOR PUBLICATIONS DURING 1988 & 1989

- 1. SANGS RGYAS STONG: Subtitled An Introduction to Mahayana Iconography. This book of 75 pages (11 & half inches x & inches) contains 4 colour plates and more than 80 line drawings (sketches); thick paper back with Jacket depicting 33 Buddhas. Intended for the lay readers, this introductory account is based on original sources in Pali, Sanskrit and Tibetan. The basic concept of thousand Buddhas is explain at length, while all the important symbols and images in their variant forms are presented from believers' point of view. Art critic or academician will find the book worthy of perusal. (English text), Folio 75 pub. 1988, and priced at Rs.150/-
- 2. TALES THE THANKAS TELL: Subtitled An Introduction to Tibetan Scroll Portraits. The book has 64 pages (11 & half inches x 8 inches) and contains well produced eleven colour plates, with Jacket depicting Buddha Sakyamuni and his two disciples. The book tells much about Mahayana Pantheon and particularly about the legends and myths around Buddhism as depicted through numerous Scroll Portrait forms. These colourful portraits speak about the contacts with the traditions of Tartary, China, India, Iran and Byzantium.

Published by Sikkim Research Institute of Tibetology, Gangtok, India 1989 and priced at Rs.200/-



