THE HAGIOGRAPHY OF NAGARJUNA

translated by

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Introduction

The text used for this translation of the rnam. thar.¹ of Acarya Nagarjuna (sLob. dpon. kLu. sgrub) was published by E. Kalsang at Varanasi,² in an edited edition of the 'Phags. vul. grub. chen. brgyad. cu. rtsa. bzhi' i. byin. rlabs. skor. lus./la. rgyus. rnam. par. thar. pa. rnams. bzhugs. so.. This hagiography is found on pages 51 to 57 of Kalsang's edition.

The author of the text, dGe.slong.³ sMon. grub. shes. rab., tells us that it was based on the discourses of his teacher, bLa. ma. chen. po. Mi. 'jigs. pa. sByin. pa. dpal.⁴ One is also referred to a longer version ⁵ of these hagiographies, which may be found in the Tibetan cannon, bsTan. 'gyur., rgyud., Vol. lu., facs. la-34b.

rNam. thar. texts play an important role in Tibetan Buddhism. Combining elements from both the folk and monastic religions, they somewhat resemble Catholic texts of the lives of the saints, and they are an inspiration for the sangha and laity alike. The characters portrayed in the texts are the grub. thob., or mahāsiddhas, the saints of the Vajrayana. Their role in the Diamond Vehicle is that of a symbol for human potentiality, and is thus similar to the roles of the bodhisattva in the Mahāyana and the arahant in Theravada and nikāya Buddhism.

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rnam. thar. Das (A Tibetan-English Dictionary, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, repr. 1970 [Calcutta: Baptist Mission Press, 1902], p. 757), etymologizes rnam. thar. as "complete escape, emancipation, and hence: memoir, life, biography". A good modern rendering would be 'hagiography'.

² E. Kalsang (ed.), The Biography of the Eighty-Four Saints of Buddhist. Varanasi: Buddhist Temple, 1972.

³ dge. slong. = bhikshu = ordained monk.

⁴ Kalsang, op. cit., p. 204.

⁵ *ibid.*, p. 207: rgyas. pa.

⁶ dge. dun.

ण'र्क'र्-'त'र्म्मिटिनिर'मिक्कें सेन्'र्रामिकें सेन्'र्रामिकें सेन्'र्यामिकें सेने สพาริ พู สานารุ ฆาสุ ฆานาริ ฆานั รัฐานามิานุ ธมฆานาสู ฆานฆานุจานานฆาเมูณ ग्लक्'रु'द्रष्ट्रिस्स'द्र्म्'य'र्म्'रुस्स्स्य्रिस्तुस्यदेग्न्सर्म्स्यर्म्स्यम्स्रस्यय्स्येग्नुस्य भै'यनद्रम्भाष्टिन्द्रम्भाष्ट्रप्यमालन्द्र्यात्रम्'लिम । एष्यमालन्द्र्यम्यस्थायरः द्रित्यमः ित्र्वाण्यात्राप्त्रं वित्रेष्ट्र अप्ति स्वास्ति रहेनामा शुर्वा स्वास्त्र स র্মিন'ব্র্যুব'শার্ক'ক্র'ব্রজার্র অর্থানার অশ্বী অর্ক্রাক্র কর্ত্ত্ব্রুবার্কাক্র কর্ত্ত্ব্রুবার্ক্রান্ত্রী सहरायसङ्ग्रीयारति विवास वेतास है। र्याया काय कु यदि के सङ्ग्रीर प्रेम प्रेम प्रेम प्रेम विवास यदि ५कॅं'न'५६ मन्स्राञ्च द्राप्ताम् लक्ष्युत्र मुंद्राष्ट्रिय देशां त्राप्ता द्राप्ता द्रापता द्राप्ता द्राप्ता द्राप्ता द्रापता द्राप्ता द्राप्ता द्राप्ता द्रापता र्टमीम्वर्षासुर्यम्वर्षान्यस्य विष्यस्य स्वर्षेत्रस्य विष्यस्य स्वर्षेत्रस्य स्वर्षेत्रस्य स्वर्षेत्रस्य र्वयायर मुम्रायाय में र्वेत मुह्न मर्ग्य मान्य के विषय मिया कुष्य मिया कुष्य मिया कुष्य मिया कि स्वार्थ मिया म नशुमयायामेष्वरा वलेपायानुदायदम। त्यायामर्मेर्ग्याकरा तुनाययार्म्हेदीकर। यर्त्रयायार्द्रश्चात्युदार्सणात्रपर्त्रश्चर्यस्यारमार्डर्युस्याय। क्षेत्रप्रयात्रम्या निर्देश निर्मा के निर्मा द्वीय प्राप्त । निर्दे निष्ट्वीय में मुन्दे स्थान स्थित स्थान स्थानित स्थान स्थानित स गुरुष्ट्वित वेराया न्वत्रभार्मेश्यदेष्ट्रिर हिनाम्बुद्रयाया रेक्स्यागुरुष्ट्रयाया रेक्स्यागुरुष्ट्रया য়ৢঀ৺য়৾৾ঀ৾৽ঢ়ৼ^{ৼৣ}৾ৼ৺ড়৺ৼৢঀ৺ঢ়ৢ৾৽য়ৢৼ৽য়ৼ৾ঀড়৾য়ড়ৢ৾য়ৼয়ৢয়৺ঢ়য়য়ৢয়ড়য়ড়য়য়ৢয়ড়য়য়য়য়ৼঢ়৺৺ นพาวอูเพ้าออูเซาออูรารอเราใจรี่พางพาวอังเราเรา ระหาอังเกา न्यारीपियार प्रायक्षिरायार में र्रायुष्ट्रस्यान्यारीष्ट्रम्यारीष्ट्रम्यास्यारीष्ट्रम्यास्यार्थ्या त्यग्रायद्वार्यप्ति व्यान्या वर्षे प्रायेश्वर्यात् वृत्यार्थे न्र्रम्यम्पर्द्रम्यस्य वर्षायकर्र्द्रम्यस्य मुन्द्रस्यम् मुन्द्रस्यम् वित्र देशक्षित्रियाम्य नियम् मिर्द्य में देशक्ष विकायम्य नियम् वित्र विकायम्य नियम् विकायम्य नियम् विकायम्य विक

न्यायहारी स्थित्र स्थित्र विश्व के विषय देशस्त्र विषय के स्थित विश्व के स्थित के स्था के स्थित के स्थित के स्था के स् यरे यदे यस यह न यह मलन लेग द्वाय रे वें द सन स यस दरे ये न स यस यह ।। कुः श्रेन पार्श्वन्य प्रदे प्रदेश्वा या श्रु र् जैन्य प्रसृत प्रया या है न ने। यन न स भिरोप पर नु स त्है नास्याना बेर प्रशा क्षें पर्देश मुक्ष सुवायाय हु या है 'सूस्रासर सुनिया दिया क्षें पर्देश मुक्ष ८'५सन्यम्यम् सुन्यं भिन्दिन् की यादि नियम्ययम् सुद्यान्य। निर्मा देशहेर् से मियालुयाः गुरुद्याप्या प्रायदाहित्री पर्गायाकुयारीर्द्दापदीष्ययारीनालु वेरात्या श्विपार्यत् मुक्षर्भुन्करने क्रिय्यूयि र्वेट र्यम् हिना र्यन्य क्रिन्य या क्रुन् में रामका विट रोक्षर्य नामूट र्या केरा मु क्षाकुवार्यदे प्रत्निक प्राप्तुका द्रमार्केषाक प्रतिकालु प्राप्त मूद्र प्रतिक स्वति प्राप्त प्रतिक प्रतिक स्वति ग्रुट्ययारीयवित्रुचुटक्षे कुवार्यदेश्वेटक्ष्यक्षे विषयुवा वर्द्रुवर्यदेशेटक्षे यर'गुर'र्न। ग्रंश'र्म्द हिर'ङ्ग'र्ने'र्न्र'विश'गु'यदे'ध्यामृत्यर'द्यग्श्यारं नेग्म्य हि! है गुंव'' र्गेयाम्याप्तह्यायदेर्म्द्राष्ट्रिराद्युमर्क्षेयकुर्द्धःस्वित्यार्यदिकुपर्यरामुस्यस्य। मुलार्चासुलाङ्गार्यश्वासाद्र हो द्यावाणु देर्चर देंद्र सार्या क्षेत्र द्वेर वासुनाद्र पक्षेत्र पासुनाद्र पक्षे है। कुषार्चे अश्चित दर्ध र पालु र या। कुषार्श्वे द र वे अर्दे मा कुषार्श्वे र पार्वे र पार्वे र पार्वे पार् वाकी निष्या वन्याक्षेत्र निष्यु वृष्ट्र व्याप्याका वृष्ययम्। क्षेत्र निष्यु क्षा क्षेत्र स्याप्याका वृष्य स्व ন্মুন'ন্ম'ইৰ'মাঁ'ঠিই'ঝুল'ন'অ'র্ম্মুন'ন্মৰ্শ্বীঝ'অ'কুঅ'ঝুন'র্মুল্ঝা বুঝ'মাইৰ'মান'বেঠি'নই'''' **৫** ব্রাম্ম মির্মের মার্ম্বর বিষ্ণুর শুক্ষ বাষ্ট্র মার্মার্ম ক্রম মির বিষ্ণুর বিশার্ম বিশ্বর বিশার नु 'यतु मायदे 'भ्रायक्ष 'भ्रायक्ष 'भ्रायक्ष क्षेत्र'त्र मुख्य श्रीत्र'त्र प्रेत्र मुख्य है स्वर्थ है स्वर्य है स्वर्थ है स्वर्थ है स्वर्थ है स्वर्य है स्वर्य है स्वर्य है स्वर्य है स्वर्थ है स्वर्य है स्वर् त्म् त्म्रायप्त्रायर्द्रायरादेश्वराद्यायरायुरायात्। देषाञ्चयात्राय्यायायायायायात्। र्ट खुयानु पठुन विद्या सुवया विप्यकुरि पर नुकुया श्रीन पट्ट है प्यद्या देश निर्देश निर्देश निर्देश स्था รุบังเฏิงเล่าสามาริงเมื่าน่าระเด็กเขีงเกาะพ่อไลเล่า

य्ग'र्न्ग'क्केश'र्र्य'यर'कर्णी'वृष्यप्या'क्ष'विषय्यं रू र्ह्याष्ययुट हो। के हिद्रेर सूट प्यंत्रेर्यार्स्यार्स्य र्यरम्बुरपर्दा भेर्ष्मश्राम्रश्रम्भरत्विम्म्बुर्यात्तुवायर्दा करकुर्षश्रामा रूबादी हुमाही दर्गनावी मालका भाष्येत हैं। दर्भना भाषा मार्के न प्रदे हुसाधित हुसा प्रता मार्के न प्रदेश ষ্টিরুশ্যুমুম্ম্র্য্র্যান্ত্ र्योतिष्ठित्रस्यक्षित्रयार्दा व्यायस्य क्रियार्द्रस्य क्रियाया क्रियाया क्रियाया व्यायात्राची इस्राकुलायर मुरायत्म। युग्राहे के द्यात्वाय पुराराता कर क्षेत्र रायद्वि य पुरारा गुरानञ्चेतरासम्बर्ध। ईर्षेत्रपुरिन्त्रासन्सराया वर्षस्यक्रार्मन्त्रस्याक्ष्रा ৰিম'ৰুম'যম। স্ক্রিম'ব্রিম'দ্বীম'দায়ুৎমায়। স্ক্রীম'যাস্বমমত্ব'ব্রিম'টার। ব্রুম'যাস্বমমা उर्'द्रया वसम्सम्मच्याप्रस्य उर्'दर्। द्रुस्पुसम्मुम्सद्मस्य प्रस्य उर्'से म्मा याधित तर्'द्राया भैर्गित्यरे स्त्री विर्द्रायहर्षेत्र विर्द्रायहर्षेत्र विर्मामुह्म स्याम् दे दे दे विष्ट्रायहर् यहुन्'येत्र' अ' 'यत् म्'त्र' प्रत्म । त्रास्य के प्रत्म यह म्'या यह न्'येत्र' के 'न् म्या हेर' त्र का हेर' ৭নুশর্মা । বিশ্বমান্ত্র্রান্ত্র্রাক্রান্ত্র্রাক্রান্ত্র্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রান্ত্রাক্রান্ত্রাকর বিশ্বাক্রান্ত্রাকর বিশ্বাকর বিশ্বা यश्च्याचे माठे मार् क्षुया दश्र द्या पश्चर श्रायश क्षिया द्वीय दिव माजि श्राय हिता प्रायश क्षिया प्रायश क्ष्य क्षिया प्रायश क्ष्य क् บรุณ ปูดาวังผู้ดาลูรู้สุญผู้อารุกัง ดูปักลานดู ลู้อานอีดเพานลู้รุงสุม ผู้อารุกัง ปู้ ब्ययायाञ्ची र्वयाप्तृ प्रारं में द्राया अप्रथय उरणु दाया चे रे व्याप दे रायर के राया के स्वाप के स्वाप के स्वाप त्रासुर्द्वियान्येत्रामुर्वारम्वत्राम्यत्राम्वत्राम्वत्राम्वत्राम्वत्राम्वत्राम्वत्राम्वत्राम्वत्राम्वत्राम्वत्रत्रम्वत्रत्रम् <u> ব্র'বর্জ্বর্জ্বর্ম্বর্ম র'র ব্রাইর রা ই'র্ম্বর্মের র্ম্বর্ম র রাজ্বর্মের রাজ্বর্ম র রাজ্</u>বর্ম র ঀয়য়৾৽ঢ়ৢ৻৻ঀঀৣঀয়য়৾ঀ৾৾৾৾৾৾৾ঀড়ৢ৾৽ঢ়ঀৢ৾ঀৼয়৾৽ঢ়ড়ৢৢঀড়য়য়ৣ৾৾ঢ়৽৻ঢ়য়য়ৢঢ়য়য়য়ৢঢ়য়৸য়য়ঢ়৽ঢ়৽৽৽ พद र्षिन्'र्ने। व्वायदे मनुन्'द्रियानु "युदे मुद्राख्य मिलुम्बर्गादे र्दिन्'नु य सिद्धाय द्वाय विश्वय स्वाय हु พद र्भिर्। श्वेम द्येन मुः श्वेम दे कुण म मुम्य प्रमाय प्रमाय श्वर म विद्यान के प्रमाय प्रमाय स्थाय विद्यान के प्रमाय स्थाय स्याय स्थाय स्याय स्थाय स सह्यत्रेश्वराष्ट्रः। नी.२.पी.श्चेयामी.ज्याह्याशस्या।

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

As for the account of Guru Nagarjuna, or acarya 1 kLu. sgrub.: He was from Kahora, in the eastern part of India (Kattsi), and of brahmin caste. He attained perfection 2 from Tara.³

In Kahora there were twenty-five thousand cities. Because all the people were going to destroy and ravish all the brahmins, all the brahmins got together and said: "Because these people will harm all of us, it would be better to go and wander in some other country, rather than to stay and fight with them."

Nagarjuna heard this discussion, and then sent this message to all the brahmins: "Don't go to another country! Suffering would only follow you there, so you take all of my things." And he gave all his property as alms.

Nagarjuna fled from Kahora to the other side of bSil.ba.tsal.⁴ and went to Nalanda. There he became a monk. By studying the five branches of learning,⁵ he became unsurpassed as a scholar. He renounced samsara by his studies. By doing a retreat, Tara appeared to him.

Then he left his home and vocation among the hundred monks, who were staying at Nalanda for Dharma studies. Then he thought like this: "Since all of this does not benefit sentient beings, I will gain knowledge and thereby benefit sentient beings."

Then he went to Rajagriha. He recited the mantras of the twelve female demons of the supreme group of demons. On the first night the earth quaked. On the second night the waters flooded. On the third night the winds blew. On the fifth night there was a rain of weapons. On the sixth night there was a rain of vajras. On the seventh night he actually saw all the female demons. They were making obstacles. However

¹ acarya = slob.dpon.

[&]quot;perfection" = dngos. grub. = siddhi. This technical term is problematic for translators. Sarat Chandra Das (A Tibetan-English Dictionary, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, repr. 1970 [Calcutta: Baptist Mission Press, 1902], p. 359) offers "the accomplishment of the real thing sought for," be it material or spiritual. He lists (pp. 359-360) eight types of dngos. grub., In this context, the translators have selected its more general usage as "perfection," a step on the path of mchog.gi.dngos. grub. 'the supreme attainment' of Buddhahood.

³ Tārā = sGrol. ma.

⁴ bSil. ba. tsal = literally "cool garden place".

The five branches of learning (rig. pa'i. gnas. lnga.) are: (1) gso. ba. rig. pa, medicine; (2) sgra. rig. pa., language and poetics; (3) gtan. tshig. rig. pa., logic; (4) bzo. rig. pa., technologies; and (5) chos. rig. pa., religion.

⁶ Rajagriha = rGyal. po' i. khams.

[&]quot;the twelve female demons of the supreme group of demons" = 'byung.po. khyumchog. gi. 'byung. mo. bcu. gnyis. Probably the twelve bstan. ma., which A. K. Gordon (The Iconography of Tibetan Lamaism, New York: Paragon Book Reprint Corp., revised edition, 1967, p. 76) renders as "the twelve She devils ... under control of Ekajata" [Ral. gcig. ma.], as "furies" (idem.), which Das (op. cit., p. 560) calls "sprites," and which in India would be called bhutani (ibid., p. 925) or churail.

 $^{^{8}}$ vajra = rdo. rie.

by doing meditation⁹ without distraction, the obstacles couldn't affect him. Then all the female demons came and asked, "What do you want? We will give it to you."

Nāgārjuna said, "I don't need anything. Merely prepare a livelihood for me." Thereafter they always gave him four measures of rice and the five vegetables, which he ate during twelve years in retreat. Then Nāgārjuna thought about putting all 108 female demons under his power, thereby benefitting sentient beings.

Nagarjuna thought, "I should go to Mt. Ghandashila and do benefit for sentient beings by changing the mountain into gold." After that he changed the mountain into iron. Then he changed it into copper. Then the Noble Manjusri 10 said, "Sentient beings will have great arguments about this mountain, thereby accumulating sin." So Nagarjuna stopped and left. Even today Mt. Ghandashila has the brown color of copper.

On the road to Mt. Lho.phogs.dpal.gi.ri., Nagarjuna came to a big river. He met with many cowherders and asked about crossing the river. They showed him a bad road. It was uncomfortable with crocodiles and ravines. Another cowherder came. "This road is not good. Come away from here," he said. Then he picked Nagarjuna up and carried him away.

In the middle of the water, Nagarjuna conjured up miraculous crocodiles and various terrifying things. The cowherder said, "As long as I don't die, you have nothing to fear." Nagarjuna dissipated the conjurations and went to dry ground. He said, "I am the Noble Nagarjuna. Don't you recognize me?"

"I've heard about you, but I don't recognize you," the cowherder replied.

Nagarjuna said, "You carried me across the water. Whatever you want I will give to you."

The cowherder asked for a way to become a king.

Then Nagarjuna caused water to pour forth from a big sala tree. By Nagarjuna's powerful blessings, 11 the tree then became an elephant, which immediately became a kingly vehicle. The cowherder asked for troops of soldiers, and Nagarjuna said, "When the elephant trumpets, soldiers will appear." And so it was.

The king was called Sala Bhantha, and his queen was called Sinidhi. They took up dwelling in a city called Bhahitna in a splendid country. Eighty-four lakhs of

⁹ meditation = thugs. nam.

Noble Manjuśri = 'Phags.pa.' jam.dpal.

[&]quot;By Nagarjuna's powerful blessings" is a rather free translation of a most interesting Tibetan grammatical device. Rather than say that the elephant, troops of soldiers, and the splendid city "exist" (yod. pa.), the text says that they grub. ste.. In footnote 1 we discussed this technical term for which there are no European-language equivalents, which comes from the Sanskrit siddha|siddhi. and which is often translated as 'accomplishment' (Das, op.cit., p. 359). Since grub. ste. (grub. + the terminative particle ste.) is in the verb's position in this phrase, it is suggestive of the modality of existence for Nagarjuna's conjurations. The text indicates this modality not only for the elephant, but for the kingly life of the cowherder.

King Sala Bhantha thought, "All of these omens of harm refer only to my lama, not to anyone else." He gave his kingdom to his son, Shindnya Kurmara and, with a few of his retinue, went to Nagarjuna.

The lama asked, "Son, why have you come here?" The king said:17

All of our fortunes have been consumed, All Buddha's teachings have decreased. The Black Ones¹⁸ have become victorious. Your great compassion, white like the sun, Is obscured, as by a rain cloud, by a devil. All of these terrible omens are signs of the death¹⁹ Of the holy, vajra-like lama. Since all of this has happened, I came here. Think of your great compassion! Give us your blessings!

Nāgārjuna said:

All living things die,
All compounded things separate.
Whatever is accumulated, it ends.
All phenomena are impermanent, it's true.
Why then, do you grieve?
Take your elixir and go.

The king said, "If I could take the elixir while staying with my lama, then I would. But if you die, then of what need is any elixir?" So the king stayed with Nagarjuna.

Noble Nagarjuna gave away all his wealth as alms. Seeing this, the god Brahma²⁰ incarnated²¹ as a brah min and begged for Nagarjuna's head. Nagarjuna promised to give even his head.

King Sala Bhantha could not endure to see Nagarjune die, so he touched the crown of his head to Nagarjuna's food and he died.

All the people criticized the brahmin. At that time, nothing could be found which would cut Nagarjuna's head, so Nagarjuna took one blade of Kusha grass and cut off his head and gave it to the brahmin.

Then all the trees dried up. Even people's merit²² decreased. Even today, the eight female demons we mentioned before guard Nagarjuna's body. Nagarjuna's disciple, Nagabodhi, stays and is even now shining almost as brightly as the moon.

It is said that at the time when Maitreya's²³ teachings come, Nagarjuna's body will arise and benefit all sentient beings.

This account of Guru Nagarjuna is complete.

¹⁷ The following speeches by Nagarjuna and the king are in sloka (verse).

[&]quot;Black Ones" = nag. po., any person or demon who obstructs the spread of the Dharma.

[&]quot;are signs of the death....of the lama"='dus. byas. (samskrta) rang. bshin. byung. dam. This is an interesting Tibetan idom. Literally it reads: "compounded phenomena happened." This is taken by Tibetans to indicate that that which comes to pass from all compounded phenomena, viz., death, is immanent.

²⁰ Brahma = Lha. tshangs.

incarnated, manifested = sprul.

merit = bsod. nams.

²⁸ Maitreya = rGyal. ba. Byams. pa.

cities offered taxes, and the king ruled them. Nagarjuna went to Lho.phogs. and stayed in a meditational retreat of long duration.

The king missed the lama. He came to dPal.gi.ri., then circumambulated and did prostrations to Nagarjuna. The king said to Nagarjuna, "There is very little meaning in my temporal rule. It's all a big mistake and I no longer want it. I beg to stay with Nagarjuna."

Nagarjuna said, "Do not quit your temporal rule. Let the *Precious Garland*¹² become your teacher to rule the kingdom. If you take this elixir¹³ which I will give you, then you needn't fear an untimely death."

The king said, "If there is enough time to stay with you, then I will accept both the kingdom and the elixir. But if there is no time to stay with you, then I don't want any of it." Since he didn't want to go. he remained.

Nagarjuna gave teachings¹⁴ to the king. The king then remained in his country for a hundred years and accomplished the techniques of the elixir.¹⁵ During that time, all sentient beings became wealthy. Even all the birds and wild animals lived comfortably. During those hundred years, Nagarjuna spread the Buddha's teachings far and wide.

All of this aroused the jealousy of dGa'. rab. dbang. phyog. 16 Various unlucky omens happened. There was darkness without light from the sun or moon. All the fruits naturally dried up. The rains did not come on time, and all beings became dizzy with famine. An aeon of disease and fighting spread. All fruit treees and forests dried up. All these unlucky omens happened.

The Precious Garland = Rin. po. che'i. phreng. pa. = Rājaparikathā-ratnamālā. This work is a prajnāparamitā text and not just a homoletic work of advice to the king, as this story might indicate. In some sections it reads as a Mādhyamaka treatise, establishing sūnyatā (stong. pa. nyid.) by the refutation of all positions (dṛṣti), the praṣanga methodology. In other sections it transcends ethical injunctions addressed to the king, establishing the bodhisattva path in the genre of the prajnāparamitā. It has been translated into English by Jeffrey Hopkins, Ven. Lati Rinpoche and Anne Klein (Nāgārjuna and the Seventh Dalai Lama, The Precious Garland and The Song of the Four Mindfulnesses, London: George Allen & Unwin, The Wisdom of Tibet Series, No. 2, 1975).

elixir = bcud. len. = rasa. This technical term means something like vital essence. By extracting the vital essence from a plant, a rock, etc., one is said to be able to consume its vitality, thus prolonging life. (See Das, op. cit., p. 394.)

teachings = gdams. This technical term refers to a series of stages on a given topic. For Tantric practices, the gdams.pa. would include: (1) lung., the spiritual authorization to begin the practices; (2) dbang.skur., the empowerment or initiation (abhiseka); and (3) sgom.sgrub., the completion or actualization of the teachings.

[&]quot;the techniques of the elixir" = bcud. len. pa.sgrubs.

dGa'. rab. dbang. phyog. is a demon who becomes especially jealous when humans begin to progress in the Dharma practice. He is said to possess five arrows (mda'. lnga.) used to distract practitioners. They are: (1) smyo. byed.kyi.mda', the arrow to make one crazy; (2) sred.byed.kyi.mda'., the arrow to burn one; (3) kun. tu. rmons. byed. kyi mda'., the arrow to make one ignorant; (4) skem. byed. kyi. mda'., the arrow to make on desirous; and (5) 'chi. byed. kyi.mda'., the arrow which kills.