



Tsong Khapa's Speech of Gold in the Essence of True Eloquence: Reason and Enlightenment in the Central Philosophy of Tibet (Princeton Legacy Library)

By Robert A.F. Thurman

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This is the first full study, translation, and critical annotation of the *Essence of True Eloquence*, by Tsong Khapa (1357-1419), universally acknowledged as the greatest Tibetan philosopher. The work is a study of the major schools of Mahayana Buddhism, known as Vijnanavada and Madhyamika, and an explanation of the Prasargika (Dialecticist") interpretation of Madhyamika ("Centrism").

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Editorial Review

Review

"The first part [of the book], an extensive introduction, can stand on its own as an insightful and incisive study of Tibetan philosophy, its roots in India, and its relevance to a twentieth-century Western audience. The second part translates Tsong Khapa's text.... The quality of both the translation and the introductory essay makes this book a valuable contribution to the study of the central way."--**Karen Lang, *Journal of Asian Studies***

Language Notes

Text: English, Tibetan (translation)

About the Author

Robert A. F. Thurman, who was ordained a Buddhist monk in 1964 by Tenzin Gyatso, the current Dalai Lama, is the current director of Tibet House in New York City. He is the father of five children including the actress Uma Thurman. One of the world's most respected scholars and translators of Tibetan and Sanskrit, Thurman has translated *The Tibetan Book of the Dead* (1994) and is the author or translator of many books including *The Central Philosophy of Tibet: A Study and Translation of Jey Tsong Khapa's Essence of True Eloquence* (1984), *Speech of Gold: Reason and Enlightenment in Tibetan Buddhism* (1989), *Inside Tibetan Buddhism* (1995), and *Infinite Life: Seven Virtues for Living Well* (2004). This book was published in cooperation with The Institute for Advanced Studies of World Religions.

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