

1_003_03_i_Gro_rNgog_lo_rnam_thar

Last update: 15.12.2020

1. Titles

Editorial title:

blo ldan shes rab kyi rnam thar

Short title:

rNgog lo rnam thar

Title in *KDSB dkar chag*:

- blo ldan shes rab kyi rnam thar (Introduction, p. 15)
- rNgog lo'i rnam thar (Introduction, p. 55)

Text name as attested in the exemplar:

- <rNgog> lo tsha ba chen po'i rnam thar (f. 1a, cover page)
- bla ma rje btsun dam pa gsang phu lo tsha ba chen po <(rNgog blo) ldan shes rab> la bstod pa'i tshig le'ur byas pa'i rnam par bshad pa (f. 24b3–24b4, colophon)
- blo ldan shes rab kyi rnam par thar pa (f. 24b7, owner's colophon)

English title:

Biography of rNgog Blo ldan shes rab

2. Author

Identification:

Gro lung pa Blo gros 'byung gnas (ca. 1040s–1120s)

BDRC ID author:

P3465

As attested in the exemplar:

- shAkya' dge slong <gro lung pa (chen po ?)> blo gros 'byung gnas (f. 24b4, colophon)
- <gro lung pa> blo gros 'byung gnas (f. 24b8, 'Phag pa's colophon)

3. Work description

Date of compilation:

after 1109 (death of rNgog Blo ldan shes rab), before 1120s (death of Gro lung pa)

Affiliation:

bKa' gdams pa

Genre:

Eulogy, biography

Topic:

rNgog Blo ldan shes rab

General text description:

Cf. Kramer 2007: 75–76. Mix of verses and prose (expanding on the verses). 43 verses of four lines each (v. 37 has 5 lines). V. 1 has 9 syllables per line, vv. 2–39 have 7 syllables per line, vv. 40–43 have 11 syllables per line (some of which not metrical) and no auto-commentary.

The version of the text in KDSB corresponds to the one in the Bhutanese manuscript (see 5.1 (b)) (with few minor variants). It also has the owner's colophon found in the Bhutanese manuscript. It is followed by

an additional inscription in a somewhat smaller script about the organization of the teaching (presumably in gSang phu), only the first part of which is found in the Bhutanese manuscript. The KDSB manuscript has annotations not found in B, and names another owner (gNyal gyi bri las/lhas) after 'Phags pa's owner colophon and at the end.

Table of Contents / Outline:

- Cover page (1a)
- Incipit (1b1)
- Body of the text (1b1–24b3)
- Colophon (24b3–24b5)
- 'Phag pa's colophon (24b5–25a4)
- Addition (25a5–25a8)

4. Exemplar

4.1 Source

In KDSB:

Set 1, vol. 3, pp. 285–333

BDRC ID:

W1PD89051

Origin:

'Bras spungs gNas bcu lha khang (*KDSB dkar chag* 1, Introduction, p. 55; *'Bras spungs dkar chag*, vol. 2, p. 1563, no. 017649 (rngog lo tsA ba chen po'i rnam thar bzhugs so; gro lung pa blo gros 'byung gnas; dpe tshugs; 25f.; 34x9cm; phyi ra 185))

Indigenous catalogue marking(s):

phyi ra 185 (cover page)

'Bras spungs dkar chag No.:

017649

Remarks:

According to the owner's colophon in the KDSB manuscript and the "Bhutanese manuscript" (=B, see 5.1 (b)) the manuscript was owned by 'Phags pa – whom Dram Dul identifies as 'Phags pa Blo gros rgyal mtshan (1235–1280) – who received the copy from the monastery of dPal rTe'u ra in Tibet in 1270, at the time of his second stay in China from 1267 to 1276.

Dram Dul describes the colophon in B as "written in the 'Bru tsha style with long downward strokes typical of twelfth to fifteenth century Tibetan correspondence." (cf. Dram Dul 2004: xiii) I take this to mean that the handwriting in the colophon is different from that of the main text. Dram Dul suggests (2004: xv) that "the Bhutanese manuscript bearing 'Phag pa's colophon may actually be the copy that he had received from rTe'u ra."

In the KDSB manuscript the text and 'Phags pa's colophon are written by the same hand. It would thus be copied from B (or from a copy of B). The KDSB manuscript has additions to the note following 'Phags pa's colophon in B, and annotations not found in B.

The recto of the first folio in KDSB is not that of the original manuscript, but that of a text by bTsun pa dbu ma pa, *'Bras spungs dkar chag* vol.2, p. 1718, no. 019622. 20 f., dpe tshugs, 39x9cm. with the signature Phyi, La, 550

4.2 Extent

Number of folios (in the KDSB/in the original):

25/25

Extent (first and last folio):

1a–25b

Lines per folio:

8

Remarks:

Substitution of other image for f. 1a in KDSB (see above, Remarks)

No image of f. 25b in KDSB

Text on 1b1–25a8

Numbering in letters (*dbu can*) on the recto of the folios

Folio number on last folio: (*nyer*) *lnga'o*

4.3 Manuscript particularities

Size (according to the catalogue):

34 × 9 cm

Type:

Handwritten

Script:

dpe tshugs

Orthography:

- A few abbreviations (e.g. for *slob dpon*, *la sogs pa*, *thams cad*, *sangs rgyas*)
- Use of numerals for numbers

Left and right margins:

Note *nye lnga* in the bottom left corner of f. 25a (not visible on the *Bod kyi lo rgyus rnam thar phyogs bsgrigs* image)

Annotations:

Some corrections and some annotations that identify authors and texts referred to by the author (not present in the Bhutanese manuscript, or, at least, not reported in Dram Dul 2004)

Symbols:

3 *siddham* signs at the beginning of the text on f. 1a; 2 *siddham* signs at the beginning of the line on the recto of the other folios

Other:

The resolution of the scan (enlarged image) of the KDSB copy makes deciphering difficult.

Owner:

gnyal gyi bri las (addition, f. 25a5), **gnyal gyi bri ldas** (addition, f. 25a8)

5. Literature

5.1 Text and edition(s)

(a) Exemplar

- KDSB 1vol. 3, pp. 285–333 (facsimile)
- BDRC **O1PD89051C2O0045** (PDF copy of the KDSB images)
- *Bod kyi lo rgyus rnam thar phyogs bsgrigs*, vol. 6, Zi ling, 2010, mtsho sngon mi rigs dpe skrun khang, pp. 465–513 (much clearer facsimile reproduction than in KDSB, with the correct cover page). BDRC No: W1KG10687-I1KG10694.

(b) Other exemplar(s)

- Dram Dul 2004 = **D**. Xylograph in *dbu can* script published in the rTse bDe yangs shar of the Potala with the title *'Jig rten mig gcig blo ldan shes rab gyi rnam thar*. 23 folios. 46.5/47 × 6.5 cm. Dram Dul's family's library copy. Other copies of this xylograph are in possession of L.S. Dagwab Rinpoche (Bonn) and exist in the China Nationalities Library at the Cultural Palace of Nationality

(Beijing) and at the Bihar Research Society (Patna). Cf. Jackson 1994: 373 (who mentions 21 folios, not 23), Kramer 2007: 74.

- Dram Dul 2004, xerox = **B**. Old manuscript kept in the National Library of Bhutan, with the title *bDag nyid chen po rngog lo tsa ba'i rnam par thar pa*, in *dbu med* script. 30 folios. Author's colophon ending with one line on f. 30b. F. 30a missing in Dram Dul's xerox copy.
- Dram Dul 2004= **R**. One folio (first folio) of an old manuscript in *dbu med* preserved in Dram Dul's family's library, with the title *Lo tsa ba blo ldan shes rab kyi rnam thar mdor bsdus gro lung pa chen pos tshigs su bcad pa'i rang 'grel*. 40 × 7 cm. With 6 l. on f. 1b.

(c) Edition(s)

- *sTong ra gsung 'bum* 449–480 (*dbu can* typeset edition based on the KDSB facsimile)
- *Lo tsā ba rin chen bzang po dang / lo tsā ba blo ldan shes rab / chag lo tsā ba chos rjes dpal bcas kyi rnam thar*, Lhasa, 2016: ser gtsug nang bstan dpe rnying 'tshol bsdu phyogs sgrig khang (gangs can khyad nor dpe tshogs), 237–300 (BDRC No: W1KG25249) (*dbu can* typeset edition based on xylograph D)
- Jackson 1994 (critical edition of the verses pp. 383–385 based on xylograph D)
- Kramer 1997 (critical edition of two thirds of the text based on the xylograph recension D)
- Dram Dul 2004 (critical edition based on D, B, and R)

5.2 Translations and studies

- Jackson 1994 (summary of the verses pp. 375–377)
- Dram Dul 2004 (description of the available exemplars and historical information regarding B based on 'Phags pa's colophon)
- Kramer 2007 (description of the text in D, partial English translation)