

༄༅། །བན་གན་ཡེ་ཤེས་ལ་གནང་བའི་སྒྲ་སེམས་ཀྱི་ཆོ་འཕྲུལ་
མི་ལམ་འདྲ།

**The Dreamlike Magic Play of Mind:
A Song Given to the Old Monk Yeshe**

Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo



KHYENTSE VISION
PROJECT

This text includes Vajrayāna content. Please be aware that some Vajrayāna texts may only be fully understood and appreciated through receiving the necessary empowerments, transmissions, or practice instructions from a qualified teacher.

ban rgan ye shes la gnang ba'i glu sems kyi cho 'phrul rmi lam 'dra

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Kabum, vol. 23 ('a), 138.1–138.4, Dzongsar 2014;

Kabum, vol. 23 ('a), 251.6–252.3.

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Khyentse Vision Project: Translating the Works of
Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo

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TRANSLATOR'S INTRODUCTION

This short yet profound prayer describes the stages of familiarization with the innate nature of mind, personified as the celestial ḍākinī Vajrayoginī. This composition was intended for a senior monk named Yeshe.¹ It is rendered in nine-syllable meter to match the original Tibetan.

སེམས་ཀྱི་ཚོ་འབྲུལ་སྒྲི་ལམ་འདྲ།

The Dreamlike Magic Play of Mind

སླ་མ་འི་ཞབས་ལ་ཕྱག་འཚལ་ལོ།

lamé zhab la chak tsal lo

To the feet of the guru I bow.

ཕྱི་རོལ་སྒྲུང་བ་ཐམས་ཅད་ཀྱང་།

chiröl nangwa tamché kün

All that appears as the outer world

སེམས་ཀྱི་ཚོ་འབྲུལ་སྒྲི་ལམ་འདྲ།

sem kyi chotrül milam dra

Is the dreamlike magic play of mind.

རང་གི་སེམས་ལ་ཚུར་བལྟས་པས།

rang gi sem la tsur tepé

Turning my gaze to my mind within,

དང་པོར་སྦྱེ་མེད་སྟོང་སང་ངེ།

dangpor kyemé tong sang ngé

First it is pure, unborn, and empty;

བར་དུ་འགག་མེད་གསལ་ལམ་མེ།

bar du gak mé sal lam mé

Then unobstructed, lucid, and clear;

ཐ་མར་གང་དུ་འང་མི་གནས་པར།
tamar gang du'ang mi népar
At last not abiding anywhere.

ཉམས་སུ་སྤྱོད་ཡང་བསམ་བཞིན་འདས།
nyam su nyong yang sam jö dé
Though felt, it is beyond thoughts and words;

འདུ་འབྲེལ་མེད་པ་གཉུག་མའི་གཤིས།
du dral mépa nyugmé shi
The natural state not lost or gained,

རིག་སྟོང་ཟུང་དུ་འཇུག་པ་ནི།
rik tong zung du jugpa ni
Awareness-emptiness in union—

དོན་གྱི་མཁའ་སྤྱོད་དབང་མོ་སྟེ།
dön gyi khachö wangmo té
This is the real Celestial Queen.

དེ་ཡི་ངང་དུ་མ་ཡངས་ཤིང་།
dé yi ngang du ma yeng shing
Never straying from within that state—

བཟོ་བཅོས་མེད་པར་རྟག་དུ་བསྐྱུང་།
zochö mépar tagtu kyang
Always maintaining, not changing it—

འབྲས་བུའི་ལྷན་སྐྱེས་མངོན་གྱུར་ཤོག།
drébü lhenkyé ngöngyur shok
May the innate result manifest!

For the old monk Yeshe. Sarvadā kalyāṇam bhavatu!^{1 2} Virtue, virtue, virtue!

NOTES

1. Note that the same prayer is found a second time under a different title in the same volume in the Kabum: *ye shes la gnang ba'i gdams pa* ("Advice Given to Yeshe"). The contents of both texts are identical, except that the colophon of the other text says that it was "given" to the old monk and it lacks the prayers for auspiciousness ("*Sarvadā kalyāṇam bhavatu!* Virtue, virtue, virtue!"). The current translation also diverges slightly in its name: "The Dreamlike Magic Play of Mind" (*sems kyi cho 'phrul rmi lam 'dra*), derived from the third line of the prayer, was added as the first part, in order to be used as the short title.
2. "May it always be auspicious!"

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GLOSSARY

Celestial Queen

མཁའ་སྐྱོད་དབང་མོ། • *mkha' spyod dbang mo* • khecarī

Literally, “Lady Who Travels Through the Sky.” In the tradition of Nāropa, Khachö Wangmo is an epithet for Vajrayoginī. The term is also used more generally for sky-dancing ḍākinīs.