

1_001_09_i_rNgog Lo_mdo sde rgyan don bsdus

Last update: 12.2.2019

1. Titles

Editorial title: mdo sde rgyan gyi don bsdus

Short title: mdo sde rgyan don bsdus

Title in bKa' gdams gsung 'bum dkar chag: mdo sde rgyan gyi don bsdus (Introduction, p. 13, p. 47)

Text name as attested in the exemplar: [mdo sde rgyan gyi don bsdus](#) (f. 24b11, colophon)English title: Concise guide to the *Mahāyānasūtrāṅkāra*

2. Author

Identification: rNgog Blo ldan shes rab (1059–1109)

BDRC ID author: P2551

As attested in the exemplar: [lo tsa ba blo ldan shes rab](#) (f. 24b11, colophon)

3. Work description

Affiliation: bKa' gdams pa

Addressee of the invocation: [sangs rgyas byang chub sems pa thams cad](#)

Genre: Concise guide

Base text: *Mahāyānasūtrāṅkāra* (D4020)Topic: Mahāyāna, *Mahāyānasūtrāṅkāra*

General text description: Concise guide on *Mahāyānasūtrāṅkāra* (Tib. *theg pa chen po mdo sde'i rgyan* [D4020]) (ascribed by rNgog Lo to Maitreya in the conclusive verses), with references to Vasubandhu's *Vyākhyā/Bhāṣya* (Tib. *mdo sde'i rgyan gyi bshad pa* [D4026]). The Tibetan version of these source-texts, the first of which is the most frequently cited, sometimes differs from the canonical translation (see for instance v. 1.1c and f. 2a2). Both texts in the canon were translated by Śākyasiṃha and Bande dpal brtsegs; the first was revised by rNgog Lo, together with Parahitabhadrā and Sajñāna. The differences pertaining the *Vyākhyā* might represent a revision of its translation by rNgog Lo that did not find its way into the canon.

Table of Contents / Outline

Incipit (1a1)

Body of the text (1a1–24b10)

1. [skabs sgrub pa \(1a2–5a8\)](#)
2. [spro ba bskyed pa \(5a8–\)](#)
3. [chos brjod pa](#)

Conclusion (24b10–24b11)

Colophon (24b11)

Matsuda 2014: 190: “It opens with the line, “The *Mahāyānasūtrāṅkāra* composed of three parts of contents: (1) establishing the occasion (*skabs bsgrub pa*), (2) bringing the joy (*spro ba bskyed pa*), and (3) explaining the teaching (*chos brjod pa*).”

4. Exemplar

4.1 Source

In bKa' gdams gsung 'bum: Set 1, vol. 1, pp. 207–252

BDRC ID: W1PD89051

Origin: 'Bras spungs gNas bcu lha khang (bKa' gdams gsung 'bum dkar chag 1, Introduction, p. 47; 'Bras spungs dkar chag, vol. 2, p. 1405, no. 015853 (mdo sde rgyan gyi don bsdu bzhugs so; [no author indicated]; 24 f.; 'bru tsha; 62.5x10.5; phyi tsha 60))

Indigenous catalogue marking(s): phyi tsha 60

Remark: The signature barely visible (due to blotting) above *sdug sngal* in l. 1. The signature “phyi tsha 60” is reported for this text in bKa' gdams gsung 'bum dkar chag 1, Introduction, p. 47.

4.2 Extent

Number of folio (in KDSB/in the original): 23/23 (cf. remarks)

Extent (first and last folio): 1a–24b

Lines per folio: 10; 11 on f. 24b

Remarks:

Text on 1a1–24b11

Numbers in letters on the recto, starting with 1.

The text seems to continue without missing portion from the end of 21b10 to the beginning of 23a1, suggesting that there is no missing folio bearing the number 22, but a mistake in the numbering, that skipped from 21 to 23. (This needs to be confirmed by further analysis of this portion of text.)

4.3 Manuscript particularities

Size (according to the catalogue): 62.5 × 10.5 cm

Type: Handwritten

Script: 'bru tsha

Orthography:

- Bindu for *m*
- Palatalization of *m* (e.g., *myi*, *myes*)
- Particle *pa/ba* takes the form *ba* after final *-n* (with some exceptions)
- Particle *ba* sometimes used for *pa* (e.g., *khyad bar*, *sgrub ba*)
- Frequent reverse *i* (e.g., 23b3)
- *lastsogs* and *la.sogs* for *la sogs*
- Frequently *sdug sngal* (in most cases corrected to *sdug sngal*) for *sdug bsngal*
- Frequent alternative prefix *b-* for *g-* (e.g., *bzhan* for *gzhan*)
- Enclitic particles (e.g., 'am) written as a separate syllable
- Additional *b-* prefix (e.g., *bsgrub pa*)
- Alternative prefix *r-* instead of *d-* (e.g., *rgos* for *dgos*, *rgu* for *dgu*) and 'a- instead of *m-* (e.g., 'gon po)
- A few abbreviations (e.g. ~~*yongs su*~~, ~~*tshigs su*~~, ~~*grub bo*~~)

Annotations: Numerous corrections. Interlinear corrections or glosses (numerous on 19a). Long insertion on 21b5. On 23b on the left side, cursive note (extra paper ?)

Symbols: 1 *siddham* sign at the beginning of the text; 2 *siddham* signs at the beginning of the fist line on the recto from f. 2a, except 3 *siddham* signs on f. 9, f. 14, f. 17.

Other:

Fading ink in some places

Possibly color highlighting of the *pratīkas* (showing as blotted and thereby hardly legible on the copy)

5. Literature

5.1 Text and edition(s)

(a) Exemplar

- bKa' gdams gsung 'bum 1, vol. 1, pp. 207–252 (facsimile)
- BDRC **O1PD89051C200017** (PDF copy of the KDSB images)

(b) Other exemplar(s)

- A 58-folio manuscript from Chos sding is referred to in the anonymous summary of rNgog Lo's text (see below 5.2)

(c) Edition(s)

- *rNgog chos skor* 478–544 (*dbu can* edition)

5.2 Translations and studies

- Matsuda 2014 (analyses the main structure of the *don bsdus* in relation to the MSA)
- Matsuda 2016 (compares the structure by which rNgog Lo and Sthiramati analyze, respectively, the MSA)
- *mDo sde rgyan gyi don bsdus las btus pa* (A summary of rNgog's *mDo sde rgyan gyi don bsdus* by an anonymous hand). In: *Legs par bshad pa bka' gdams rin po che'i gsung gi gces btus nor bu'i bang mdzod*, Bir, Distt. Kangra, H.P., 1985: D. Tsondu Senghe, 153–154 (first located by van der Kuijp and referred to in Jackson 1987: 148, n. 8). A note in smaller script indicates “summarized from a 58-folio manuscript from Chos sdings” (*shog gu nga brgyad chos sding gi phyag dpe nas btus so //*)

6. Excerpts

6.1 Incipit

Text

1a1:

sangs rgyas byang chub sems pa thams cad la phyag 'tshal lo //
 nyes pa'i dgra bcoM yon tan mchog gi skal mnga' zhing //
 sdug sngal myes gdungs rmongs pas mdongs pa'i 'gro rnam la //
 byams pas skyob mdzad ji bzhin don can mtshan ldan ba //
 phan bzhed dpag myed gnyis ldan khyod la mgos phyag 'tshal //

Translation

I bow down to all the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas.

I bow my head down to you,

The Foe Destroyer of faults, possessing the fortune of the supreme qualities,

The compassionate protector of the beings scorched by the fire of suffering and blinded by stupidity,

Who sees things as they are (?), having favorable signs,

Endowed with both the boundless benefit and intention.

6.2 Conclusion

Text

24b10–11:

[1]

phan mdzad kun gyi bgrod pa cig pa'i laM //
 ma phaM rgyal sras daM pa legs bzhag de //
 blo chen bstan³¹ pa'i sgron ma dbyig <g>nyen gis //

³¹ Em. bstan : Ms brtan

- [2] blo myig³² ldan pa rnaMs la gsal bar mdzad³³ //
 de lta na yang mtho⟨ng⟩ ⟨pa⟩ myed {*} rnaMs la //
 rjod pa tsaM yang 'bras ⟨bu⟩ yod pa'i dpes //
 blo dman 'ga la chung zad phan 'dod dang //
 rang nyid goMs phyr bsdus don 'di byas so //
- [3] de las bsod nams³⁴ (thob) des sa steng 'dir //
 'gro ba'i [24b11] dbugs³⁵ 'byin byaMs chen gshags pa na //
 mnyes byas chos sgor mngon du bdag bzhugs nas //
 chos kyi snang bas 'gro ba'i mun sel shog // //

Translation

- [1] The excellent Son of the Victorious One, Ajita (=Maitreya), correctly presented the path that only progresses towards all beneficial actions.
 Vasubandu, the intelligent, the lamp of teaching,
 Has clarified (it) for those who have the eye of intelligence.
- [2] Even though, given that there are examples that there can be results by mere reciting for those who cannot see (with the eye of intelligence),
 I have composed this concise guide, because I wish to help a little some of inferior intellects, and in order to cultivate myself.
- [3] Through the merits obtained due to that (i.e., composition),
 I have showed great compassion that comforts sentient beings on this earth,
 Thereby, may I make them rejoice and may I enter directly the gate of the Dharma, and then,
 May the light of the Dharma eliminate the obscurity for sentient beings!

6.3 Colophon

Text

24b11: mdo sde rgyan gyi don bsdus lo tsa ba blo ldan shes rab kyis sbyar ba'o //

Translation

The concise guide on the *Sūtrālaṅkāra* was composed by the Translator Blo ldan shes rab.

³² Ms myi×g.*

³³ Em. mdzad : Ms mdzod

³⁴ Em. nam : Ms rnam

³⁵ Em. dbugs : Ms bugs