



# Mountain Doctrine: Tibet's Fundamental Treatise on Other-Emptiness and the Buddha Matrix

By Dol-Bo-Ba Shay-Rap-Gyel-Tsen

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## Mountain Doctrine: Tibet's Fundamental Treatise on Other-Emptiness and the Buddha Matrix By Dol-Bo-Ba Shay-Rap-Gyel-Tsen

Translated here for the first time into any language, *Mountain Doctrine* is a seminal fourteenth-century Tibetan text on the nature of reality. The author, Dol-bo-ba Shay-rap-gyel-tsen, was one of the most influential figures of that dynamic period of doctrinal formulation, and his text is a sustained argument about the buddha-nature, also called the matrix-of-one-gone-thus. Dol-bo-ba recognizes two important types of emptiness—self-emptiness and other-emptiness—and shows how other-emptiness is the actual ultimate truth. He justifies this controversial formulation by arguing that it was the favored system of all the early outstanding figures of the Great Vehicle. The translator's introduction includes a short biography of Dol-bo-ba and an exposition of nine focal topics in his religious philosophy.

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**Mountain Doctrine: Tibet's Fundamental Treatise on Other-Emptiness and the Buddha Matrix** By Dol-Bo-Ba Shay-Rap-Gyel-Tsen **Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"The Mountain Doctrine of Dolpopa Sherab Gyaltzen is one of the great monuments of Tibetan philosophical literature. For nearly 700 years Dolpopa's work has been a fundamental source of inspiration for practitioners attracted to the definitive meaning of the Buddha's teachings. Jeffrey Hopkins deserves our sincere gratitude for making this profound message finally available to students of the Dharma outside Tibet."—Cyrus Stearns, author of *The Buddha from Dolpo*

"It is only fitting that Hopkins, who wrote the single most important monograph on the central Buddhist concept of emptiness, should have undertaken to translate Dolpopa's text for the first time. Few others would have been qualified for this challenging task. . . . Contains mountains of material for deep philosophical reflection and once again drives home the point that conceptual differences exist even between awakened masters, and that regardless of doctrinal differences, their fine-tuned teachings can point the way to enlightenment. A magnificent volume."—Georg Feuerstein, PhD, author of *The Deeper Dimension of Yoga*

"This monumental publication will serve as an invaluable source on emptiness and buddha nature for generations to come."—*Buddhadharma: The Practitioner's Quarterly*

#### From the Back Cover

Translated here for the first time into any language, Mountain Doctrine, Ocean of Definitive Meaning: Final Unique Quintessential Instructions is a seminal fourteenth-century Tibetan text on the nature of reality. The author, Dol-bo-ba Shay-rap-gyel-tsen, was one of the most influential figures of that dynamic period of doctrinal formulation and his text is a sustained argument about the buddha-nature, also called the matrix-of-one-gone-thus.

Dol-bo-ba recognizes two important types of emptiness--self-emptiness and other-emptiness--and shows how other-emptiness is the actual ultimate truth. He justifies this controversial formulation by arguing that it was the favored system of all the early outstanding figures of the great vehicle and by showing how important these doctrines were in India.

The translator's introduction includes a short biography of Dol-bo-ba and an exposition of nine focal topics in his religious philosophy.

"At long last a translation of one of the great classics of Tibetan Buddhism, Dolpopa's Mountain Doctrine. Hopkins' many years of careful study of this important work makes it the most detailed, extensive and accurate treatment in a Western language of the Jo nang pa's influential interpretation of emptiness, the 'emptiness of what is other'... A landmark in the study of Tibetan Buddhist thought."--José Ignacio Cabezón, XIVth Dalai Lama Professor of Tibetan Buddhism and Cultural Studies, University of California Santa Barbara

"This monumental publication will serve as an invaluable source on emptiness and buddhanature for generations to come."--*Buddhadharma* magazine

"The Mountain Doctrine of Dolpopa Sherab Gyaltzen is one of the great monuments of Tibetan philosophical literature. For nearly 700 years Dolpopa's work has been a fundamental source of inspiration

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#### About the Author

Jeffrey Hopkins, PhD, served for a decade as the interpreter for the Dalai Lama. A Buddhist scholar and the author of more than thirty-five books, he is Professor Emeritus at the University of Virginia, where he founded the largest academic program in Tibetan Buddhist studies in the West.

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