

Simply Being Dzogchen Texts

Simply Being Dzogchen Texts simply being dzogchen texts Dzogchen, often referred to as the "Great Perfection," is one of the most profound and direct teachings within Tibetan Buddhism. It emphasizes the innate purity and perfection of the mind, encouraging practitioners to realize their true nature beyond conceptual elaborations. Among the many ways to access and deepen understanding of Dzogchen, the simply being Dzogchen texts stand out for their straightforward approach, making profound teachings accessible to both beginners and advanced practitioners alike. These texts distill the essence of Dzogchen into clear, concise instructions, emphasizing direct experience over doctrinal complexity.

--- What Are Simply Being Dzogchen Texts? Definition and Purpose

Simply being Dzogchen texts are writings that aim to present the core principles of Dzogchen in an uncomplicated, approachable manner. Unlike traditional commentaries or detailed philosophical treatises, these texts focus on the immediate recognition of one's natural state. Their purpose is to:

- Provide practical guidance for direct realization.
- Reduce the intellectual and conceptual barriers often associated with Buddhist teachings.
- Foster confidence in practitioners to trust their innate awareness.

Characteristics of Simply Being Dzogchen Texts

These texts typically share certain features:

- Conciseness: They avoid overly technical language, favoring straightforward expressions.
- Focus on Experience: Emphasis on direct, non-conceptual awareness.
- Repetitive Affirmations: Reinforcing key points through repeated phrases to deepen understanding.
- Accessibility: Designed to be understood and practiced by individuals without extensive prior studies.

--- Historical Background of Dzogchen Texts

Origins of Dzogchen

Dzogchen's roots are believed to extend back to ancient Indian tantric teachings, later transmitted to Tibet through renowned masters such as Garab Dorje, Vimalamitra, and Padmasambhava. Over centuries, numerous texts emerged, conveying both the philosophical underpinnings and practical methods of realization.

Development of Simply Being Texts

While traditional Dzogchen texts are often elaborate and poetic, the simply being texts arose as a response to the need for more accessible teachings. They serve as entry points for practitioners who seek an unadorned, direct path to awakening, often emphasizing the innate presence that requires no elaborate rituals or complex conceptual frameworks.

--- Key Themes in Simply Being Dzogchen Texts

The Nature of Mind

Central to Dzogchen philosophy is the recognition that:

- The mind is fundamentally empty and luminous.
- This emptiness is not void but contains all potentiality.
- Recognizing the nature of mind is the gateway to enlightenment.

Non-Dual Awareness

Simply being Dzogchen texts highlight the importance of experiencing:

- The unity of samsara and nirvana.
- The cessation of dualistic thinking.
- The natural state of non-separation between oneself and the world.

Spontaneous Presence

A core teaching is that enlightenment is not something to be attained externally but is already present as rigpa (intrinsic awareness). The texts often emphasize that:

- This presence manifests spontaneously when mental obscurations are recognized and let go.
- Practice involves rest in this natural, effortless state.

The Role of Practice

While the teachings focus on recognition,

practice methods are also included: - Direct pointing-out instructions: Guiding practitioners to recognize their true nature. - Meditation on presence: Resting in non-conceptual awareness. - Integration into daily life: Applying awareness beyond formal practice sessions. --- Popular Simply Being Dzogchen Texts and Their Teachings "The Natural State" by Chögyam Trungpa This work distills Dzogchen teachings into accessible language, emphasizing that: - Our true nature is inherently pure and present. - The key is to recognize and rest in this natural state without manipulation. "The Practice of Simply Being" (Famous for its straightforward approach) This text encourages practitioners to: - Let go of conceptual overlays. - Trust in their innate awareness. - Embody the teachings in everyday activities. "The Essence of Dzogchen" by Longchenpa While more detailed, Longchenpa's writings often contain sections that serve as a bridge to simply being practice, focusing on: - The importance of direct recognition. - The spontaneous appearance of luminous awareness. --- How to Engage with Simply Being Dzogchen Texts Reading and Reflection - Approach with an open mind and a relaxed attitude. - Read slowly, allowing the teachings to resonate. - Reflect on the core messages about innate awareness. Meditation Practices - Resting in natural awareness: Sit comfortably and observe the mind without interference. - Pointing- out instructions: Follow guidance to directly recognize the true nature of mind. - Integration: Practice awareness during daily activities to deepen realization. Community and Teacher Guidance While simply being texts are designed to be accessible, guidance from experienced teachers can enhance understanding and prevent misconceptions. Engage with Dzogchen communities or qualified instructors when possible. --- Benefits of Studying Simply Being Dzogchen Texts Accessibility for Beginners These texts lower entry barriers, making Dzogchen teachings approachable for newcomers who may find traditional texts daunting. Cultivating Direct Experience They foster an experiential understanding rather than solely intellectual comprehension. Encouraging Spontaneous Recognition Teaching practitioners to recognize their inherent nature spontaneously, leading to rapid progress. Supporting Daily Life Practice Their straightforward approach allows practitioners to incorporate Dzogchen principles into everyday life seamlessly. --- Incorporating Simply Being Dzogchen Texts into Your Practice Establish a Regular Reading Routine Set aside time daily or weekly to read and contemplate the texts, allowing the teachings to percolate into your consciousness. Practice Mindfulness and Presence Use the teachings as reminders to stay present, recognizing the innate awareness that is always available. Use Affirmations and Repetition Reinforce key concepts through repeated affirmations such as: - "This awareness is already present." - "Nothing needs to be added or taken away." Seek Community Support Join groups or workshops centered around Dzogchen teachings to deepen understanding and clarify doubts. --- Conclusion Simply being Dzogchen texts serve as invaluable guides for those seeking to access the profound wisdom of the Great Perfection in a straightforward and accessible manner. Their emphasis on direct recognition of the innate nature of mind makes them powerful tools for awakening. Whether you are a beginner exploring Dzogchen for the first time or an experienced practitioner seeking clarity, engaging with these texts can profoundly transform your understanding and experience of reality. Embrace their simplicity, trust in your innate awareness, and allow these teachings to guide you toward the spontaneous realization of your true nature. --- Keywords: Dzogchen, simply being Dzogchen texts, innate awareness, natural state, direct recognition,

spiritual practice, Tibetan Buddhism, Rigpa, non-dual awareness, meditation, spiritual awakening, profound teachings QuestionAnswer What are the key themes of the 'Simply Being' Dzogchen texts? The 'Simply Being' Dzogchen texts emphasize the natural state of pure awareness, intrinsic emptiness, and the effortless nature of realization. They focus on recognizing the innate presence beyond conceptual elaborations and practicing direct acknowledgment of one's true nature. How can I start practicing the teachings from the 'Simply Being' Dzogchen texts? Begin by cultivating mindfulness of the present moment and gradually familiarizing yourself with the nature of awareness. It is recommended to study under a qualified teacher, engage in meditation sessions focusing on non- dual awareness, and integrate the teachings into daily life to deepen your understanding. Are the 'Simply Being' Dzogchen texts suitable for beginners? Yes, many of the teachings are accessible to beginners, as they emphasize direct recognition of awareness without complex rituals. However, foundational understanding of Buddhist concepts and guidance from an experienced teacher can enhance your practice. What is the difference between Dzogchen and other Tibetan Buddhist teachings in the 'Simply Being' texts? Dzogchen, as presented in the 'Simply Being' texts, focuses on recognizing the primordial state of natural awareness directly, often with less reliance on elaborate practices. It emphasizes 'self-liberation' through direct insight, contrasting with other schools that may involve more structured ceremonies or tantric practices. Can the 'Simply Being' Dzogchen texts be practiced independently? While some aspects can be integrated into daily life independently, it is highly recommended to seek guidance from an experienced teacher. Dzogchen teachings often involve subtle nuances best understood through direct transmission and personal instruction. 4 What are common misconceptions about the 'Simply Being' Dzogchen texts? A common misconception is that Dzogchen is a passive or mystical practice requiring no effort. In reality, it involves diligent recognition and stabilization of awareness. Another misconception is that it is only for advanced practitioners, whereas foundational insights can be accessible to beginners. How do the 'Simply Being' texts address the concept of ego or self-identity? They teach that the ego is a transient mental fabrication and that true nature is beyond self-concept. Recognizing the illusory nature of ego is central to realizing the innate, unconditioned awareness described in the texts. Are there recommended commentaries or modern translations of the 'Simply Being' Dzogchen texts? Yes, several contemporary teachers and scholars have written commentaries that clarify these teachings, such as those by Chögyam Trungpa, Longchenpa, and Tulku Urgyen Rinpoche. Seek translations that resonate with authentic lineage transmissions for accurate understanding. What role does meditation play in understanding the 'Simply Being' Dzogchen texts? Meditation is central to experiencing the direct realization emphasized in these texts. Practices like Trekchö (cutting through conceptual elaborations) and Tögal (direct insight into luminosity) help stabilize awareness and deepen comprehension of the natural state described in the teachings. Simply Being Dzogchen Texts: Unlocking the Heart of the Great Perfection Introduction Simply being Dzogchen texts represent a profound and accessible body of spiritual literature within Tibetan Buddhism's Dzogchen (Great Perfection) tradition. These teachings, often presented in straightforward language, aim to guide practitioners directly to the recognition of their innate, primordial nature—beyond conceptual elaborations and mental fabrications. Unlike many spiritual paths that emphasize complex rituals or extensive practices,

Dzogchen emphasizes direct insight into the nature of mind itself. Its texts serve as both a roadmap and a mirror, inviting practitioners to realize their inherent purity, openness, and clarity. This article explores what makes these texts unique, their core teachings, the historical context, and how contemporary practitioners can engage with them meaningfully. --- The Essence of Dzogchen: A Brief Overview What Is Dzogchen? Dzogchen, often translated as the “Great Perfection,” is considered the pinnacle of Tibetan Buddhist teachings. It emphasizes the direct recognition of the natural, primordial state of mind—an unconditioned, spontaneous awareness that exists beyond dualistic thought. Unlike other Buddhist paths, which may involve lengthy rituals or meditative stages, Dzogchen seeks to reveal this intrinsic nature effortlessly and instantly. The Role of Texts in Dzogchen Practice Texts in Dzogchen serve as guides, pointers, and reminders. They are not merely doctrinal documents but are designed to awaken direct understanding. Many of these texts are terse, poetic, and metaphor-rich, reflecting the ineffable qualities of the truth they describe. Their primary function is to Simply Being Dzogchen Texts 5 point practitioners toward their own immediate experience—what is often called “direct introduction” or “pointing-out instructions.” --

- Characteristics of Simply Being Dzogchen Texts Accessibility and Directness One of the most notable features of these texts is their simplicity. While they may employ poetic or metaphorical language, their core message is straightforward: recognize the true nature of mind. This approach makes Dzogchen texts accessible even to those new to Tibetan Buddhism, emphasizing that enlightenment is not something to be achieved through arduous efforts but realized through direct acknowledgment. Non-Dualistic and Non-Conceptual Simply being Dzogchen texts avoid elaborate philosophical jargon. Instead, they focus on non-dual awareness—an understanding that separates the practitioner from the dualistic mind that constructs notions of self and other. They encourage experiencing reality as it is, free from conceptual overlays. Emphasis on Direct Recognition Rather than relying heavily on intellectual understanding, these texts highlight the importance of direct recognition. They often include instructions on how to glimpse the primordial nature of mind and sustain that recognition. --- Core Teachings Embedded in Simply Being Dzogchen Texts The Nature of Mind At the heart of Dzogchen texts is the assertion that the true nature of mind is inherently pure, luminous, and unchanging. This nature is often described as:

- Sky-like: vast and open - Mirror-like: reflecting everything without distortion - Light: spontaneous and clear Recognizing this nature is the central aim of Dzogchen practice and is often encapsulated in simple phrases like “rest in the natural state” or “just be.” The Practice of Trekchö and Tögal Dzogchen teachings typically distinguish between two main practices:

- Trekchö (cutting through): Resting in the natural state, directly recognizing the mind’s true nature without elaboration. - Tögal (leap forward): Advanced practices involving spontaneous visions and luminosity, designed to deepen realization. Simply being Dzogchen texts primarily focus on trekchö—pointing practitioners toward effortless recognition—though some also hint at the transformative power of Tögal.

The Importance of Direct Introduction A unique aspect of Dzogchen is the emphasis on direct introduction by a qualified teacher. These texts often contain pointers that are meant to be received through personal transmission, not just intellectual study. This underscores the importance of mentorship and experiential realization. Spontaneity and Non-Meditation Unlike many meditation traditions that emphasize effort and concentration, Dzogchen advocates a

spontaneous, relaxed attitude. The texts teach that true awareness is already present; it only needs to be recognized. This approach reduces the sense of striving and instead encourages effortless presence. --- Historical Context and Textual Sources Origins and Development Dzogchen's roots trace back to ancient Indian Buddhist traditions, particularly the teachings of Indian masters like Garab Dorje and Padmasambhava, who transmitted these teachings to Tibet. Over centuries, Dzogchen texts evolved, often preserved in secret or oral transmission, until they were compiled into canonical collections. Key Texts and Literature Some of the seminal Dzogchen texts that embody Simply Being Dzogchen Texts 6 the essence of simply being include: - The Ukyen Tongpa Gyalpo (The Heart Drop of Dharmakaya): A concise manual emphasizing direct recognition. - The Treasure Texts (Termas): Hidden teachings revealed by tertöns (treasure revealers) that often contain straightforward pointers. - The Natural Great Perfection texts: Focused on the natural, effortless state. Many modern translators and teachers have also rendered these teachings into accessible language, aiming to preserve their simplicity. --- Engaging with Simply Being Dzogchen Texts Today Practical Approaches For contemporary practitioners, engaging with Dzogchen texts doesn't necessarily require extensive study. Instead, it involves: - Reading with openness: Approaching texts as pointers rather than doctrines. - Contemplation and reflection: Using simple phrases from the texts as reminders of one's true nature. - Meditative recognition: Practicing trekchö by resting in the natural state, as advised in the texts. - Seeking qualified guidance: While the teachings are accessible, personal transmission from a qualified teacher ensures correct understanding. Challenges and Common Misunderstandings Many newcomers might find the simplicity of Dzogchen texts confusing, mistaking them for nihilism or passivity. It is crucial to understand that recognizing one's innate nature in Dzogchen is an active, transformative process—done with clarity, stability, and compassion. Modern Adaptations Contemporary teachers have adapted Dzogchen teachings into various formats—books, online teachings, retreats—making these simply being texts more accessible than ever. They emphasize that the core message remains unchanged: the truth is already present; all that's needed is to recognize it. --- The Transformative Power of Simply Being Dzogchen Texts Beyond Conceptual Understanding The true power of these texts lies in their ability to point beyond words—to awaken direct experience. When applied correctly, they can dissolve doubts, calm the restless mind, and reveal the seamless unity of all phenomena. Personal Experience and Realization Many practitioners report that engaging with these texts—especially when combined with sincere practice—leads to moments of spontaneous insight, profound peace, and a sense of liberation. The texts serve as signposts, guiding practitioners back to their own innate clarity. --- Conclusion: Embracing the Simplicity In a world saturated with complexity, the simply being Dzogchen texts offer a refreshing reminder: the ultimate truth is straightforward and accessible. They invite us to recognize our own true nature, free from conceptual elaboration, in the very moment of direct experience. Whether one is a seasoned practitioner or a curious newcomer, these teachings emphasize that enlightenment is not distant or complicated but resides within and around us, waiting to be simply seen. By approaching these texts with openness and sincerity, anyone can embark on a journey of direct discovery—reclaiming their natural state of effortless being and experiencing the profound simplicity at the heart of Dzogchen. Dzogchen, Rigpa, Trekchö, Tögal,

Dzogchen texts, Dzogchen teachings, Nyingma, Dzogchen philosophy, Dzogchen meditation, Mahamudra

Simply Being Simply Being Texts in the Dzogchen Tradition Simply Being Being Right Here The Unity of Mystical Traditions Vajrayana and the Culmination of the Path The Gelug/Kagyu Tradition of Mahamudra Buddha Nature Sourcebook, Volume II Dzogchen Imagining Chinese Medicine The Mirror of Clear Meaning Dzogchen The Middle Way Dzogchen Introduction to Tibetan Buddhism Self-liberation Through Seeing with Naked Awareness The View and Practice of Quintessence Dzogchen Old Man Basking in the Sun The Dzogchen Primer Yogacara Texts: Indo-Tibetan Sources of Dzogchen Mahamudra James Low James Low Randall Studstill Dalai Lama Dalai Lama Acharya Lama Tenpa Gyaltsen Keith Dowman James Low Chogyal Namkhai Norbu Namkhai Norbu John Powers Karma-gli-pa Tony Duff Klong-chen-pa Dri-med-od-zer Rodney Devenish Simply Being Simply Being Texts in the Dzogchen Tradition Simply Being Being Right Here The Unity of Mystical Traditions Vajrayana and the Culmination of the Path The Gelug/Kagyu Tradition of Mahamudra Buddha Nature Sourcebook, Volume II Dzogchen Imagining Chinese Medicine The Mirror of Clear Meaning Dzogchen The Middle Way Dzogchen Introduction to Tibetan Buddhism Self-liberation Through Seeing with Naked Awareness The View and Practice of Quintessence Dzogchen Old Man Basking in the Sun The Dzogchen Primer Yogacara Texts: Indo-Tibetan Sources of Dzogchen Mahamudra James Low James Low Randall Studstill Dalai Lama Dalai Lama Acharya Lama Tenpa Gyaltsen Keith Dowman James Low Chogyal Namkhai Norbu Namkhai Norbu John Powers Karma-gli-pa Tony Duff Klong-chen-pa Dri-med-od-zer Rodney Devenish

the treasure text of nuden dorje renders a very clear and authentic account of the view and essential meditation of dzogchen the practice of nondual experience the presentation is in the men ngag style a personal instruction distilling the author's own realization in a manner both beautiful and deeply meaningful short verses show with pithy clarity how the various aspects of dzogchen fit together the text provides both an authentic portrayal of the practice and a clear instruction in how to apply it

this book argues that mystical doctrines and practices initiate parallel transformative processes in the consciousness of mystics this thesis is supported through a comparative analysis of tibetan buddhist dzogchen rdzogs chen and the medieval german mysticism of eckhart suso and tauler these traditions are interpreted using a system cybernetic model of consciousness this model provides a theoretical framework for assessing the cognitive effects of mystical doctrines and practices and showing how different doctrines and practices may nevertheless initiate common transformative processes this systems approach contributes to current philosophical discourse on mysticism by 1 making possible a precise analysis of the cognitive effects of mystical doctrines and practices and 2 reconciling mystical heterogeneity with the essential unity of mystical traditions

the final volume of the library of wisdom and compassion by his holiness the dalai lama takes us to the uncommon practices and realizations of vajrayana to the full awakening of a buddha his holiness the dalai lama skillfully illuminates the unique qualities of vajrayana as practiced in tibet

and the method to eradicate the subtlest obscurations preventing the full awakening of a buddha speaking to newcomers and advanced students alike he explains the similarities and differences of the sutra and tantra paths having gathered many of the doubts and difficult points concerning the tantric path he clarifies the purpose of receiving proper empowerment by qualified gurus and the ethical restraints and commitments required to enter the path of secret mantra the paths and stages of the four tantric classes are explained as are the generation stage and completion stage practices of highest yoga tantra you are introduced to the practices of clear appearance and divine identity common to all tantric sadhanas as well as the distinctive practices of illusory body and actual clear light that overcome the subtlest defilements on the mind and eliminate all obscurations quickly the understanding of emptiness in sutra and tantra is the same but the consciousness perceiving emptiness differs in highest yoga tantra that consciousness is great bliss which arises from knowing the methods to manipulate the channels winds and drops of the subtle body in short in vajrayana and the culmination of the path the dalai lama sets out the path that leads to blissful awakening and enables us to be of great benefit to all sentient beings

mahamudra the great sealing nature refers to systems of meditation on both the conventional and ultimate natures of the mind these have been transmitted through the kagyu sakya and gelug traditions of tibetan buddhism within the gelug mahamudra teachings occur in a combined gelug kagyu tradition exemplified in the first panchen lama's root text for the precious gelug kagyu tradition of mahamudra the work presented here contains two brilliant commentaries by the dalai lama the first is a teaching based directly on the first panchen lama's root text in the second his holiness bases his discussion on the first panchen lama's own commentary to this text the book opens with an overview of mahamudra by alexander berzin that discusses the relation of mind appearances and reality and offers practical techniques for overcoming problems of excessive worry anxiety and disturbing thoughts this treasury of practical instruction contains extensive teachings on the nature of mind the development of shamata sutra and tantra levels of mahamudra and the compatibility of dzogchen and anuttarayoga tantra

this is a newly updated sourcebook a set of two volumes produced from a series of talks given by acharya lama tenpa gyatson at ni ta rtha institute gampo abbey cape breton island nova scotia canada in august and september 1998 and by a series of talks given by karl brunnhölzl at ni ta rtha institute nalandā west seattle washington united states september october and november 2018

it has often been said that the introductions to the books of my translation of dzogchen texts stand alone as explanatory teaching upon dzogchen itself so here they are as chapters in a book which may be considered at best congealed pointing out instruction and at worst explanations of dzogchen theory many people rightfully attached to the marvelous english language have a natural aversion to translation crabbed or stylish and prefer potted versions of tibetan texts which provide a short cut to the essence of the dzogchen matter i say congealed pointing out instruction because in the same way that the conception and aspiration differs from the act itself conceptualized dzogchen only gives a tangential glimpse of buddha enlightenment an ideal experience of the world

and tends to taste like reheated porridge but i trust that these essays will clear away a lot of false notions about dzogchen the principal erroneous notion being that dzogchen can be attained by hard work at best these essays may define dzogchen as an experience of immediacy and provide koans that can induce a direct understanding anyway at their worst they may be informative providing a guide to the texts that they once introduced if they inspire people to realization of dzogchen they will have performed a useful function and if they induce readers to plunge into the translations of the original tibetan texts and thereby enter the dzogchen stream that also may prove auspicious keith dowman translates dzogchen from the tibetan and provides pointing out indications of the nature of mind

a unique collection of 36 chapters on the history of chinese medical illustrations this volume will take the reader on a remarkable journey from the imaging of a classical medicine to instructional manuals for bone setting to advertising and comic books of the yellow emperor in putting images their power and their travels at the centre of the analysis this volume reveals many new and exciting dimensions to the history of medicine and embodiment and challenges eurocentric histories at a broader philosophical level it challenges historians of science to rethink the epistemologies and materialities of knowledge transmission there are studies by senior scholars from asia europe and the americas as well as emerging scholars working at the cutting edge of their fields thanks to generous support of the wellcome trust this volume is available in open access

this commentary by james low on a traditional authentic dzogchen text by nuden dorje gives a clear and pithy account of how our mind actually is cutting a clear path through the forest of our beliefs and assumptions it brings us face to face with the presence of the radiance of our mind illuminating both its open empty ground and the ceaseless appearance of its potential this text can be a great support for meditators and shows us how to avoid many of the mistakes and misunderstandings that can arise the presentation is a personal distillation of nuden dorje s realization in a manner both beautiful and deeply meaningful short verses show with pithy clarity how the various aspects of dzogchen fit together this book has a conversational style being a lightly edited transcript of teachings given by james low in aracena spain over four days in 2019

our natural condition is self perfected from the very beginning what is necessary is that we reawaken and remain in our true nature through understanding and practice we can rediscover the effortless knowledge of the self perfected state that lies beyond our habitual anguish and confusion and remain in this uninterrupted flow of contemplation completely relaxed but fully present through all activities

clear explanation of the dzogchen teachings and practices that reawaken and establish us in our true nature copyright libri gmbh all rights reserved

a comprehensive and eminently comprehensible overview of the history key figures doctrines systems and texts of tibetan buddhism

a spiritual classic along the lines of the tibetan book of the dead this text is a clear and accessible guide to the essence of dzogchen and the attainment of buddhahood a text belonging to the same cycle as the tibetan book of the dead this instruction on the method of self liberation presents the essence of dzogchen the great perfection regarded in tibet as the highest and most esoteric teaching of the buddha teaching the attainment of buddhahood in a single lifetime this text was written and concealed by guru padmasambhava in the eighth century and rediscovered six centuries later by karma lingpa the commentary by the translator is based on the oral teachings of namkhai norbu rinpoche and lama tharchin rinpoche

this book presents three texts concerned with the dzogchen or in english great completion system of teaching that explains reality and how beings can return to it from their current confused state the texts by the tibetan master dza patrul contain the most profound level of teaching called quintessence or nyingthig dzogchen

translation of longchenpa s g \square as lugs md \square od treasury of natural perfection with commentary

the tibetan buddhist meditation practice known as dzogchen pronounced zog chen is a practical method for accessing the pristine clear awareness that lies beneath the chatter and confusion of our daily thoughts the dzogchen primer provides the keys for understanding dzogchen and putting it into practice marcia schmidt a long time buddhist practitioner has gathered here the most accessible down to earth writings published on this subject and has organized them into a study guide for the serious beginner on the buddhist path the collection includes writings from such well known and venerable masters as milarepa padmasambhava shantideva chögyam trungpa and tulku urgyen the concept of dzogchen is said to lie beyond the confines of our beliefs our intellectual constructs our ordinary understanding a dzogchen master writes we need to dismantle our fixation on the permanence of what we experience a normal person clings to his experiences as being real concrete and permanent but if we look closely at what happens experience is simply experience and it is not made out of anything it has no form no sound no color no taste no texture it is simply empty cognizance the dzogchen primer includes an informative editor s preface as well as two forewords by prominent tibetan masters that provide fundamental background information that will be helpful to readers new to this subject the book also includes short descriptive guiding notes intended to assist both independent students and teachers leading workshops

the yogacara doctrine teaches one fundamental truth namely that all beings are buddha sattva buddha evam or in other words all beings are aspects of one all embracing absolute awareness were they but to know it this book sets a context for the study and meditation on ten pivotal texts of yogacara the source texts translated from a practice perspective derive from the indo tibetan mahasiddha tradition and are presented with an ecumenical approach as this collection of pithy yogacara works will readily prove to the reader the ancient practice tradition of the yogin rnal bhyor pa i sgrub brgyud is based on a clearly active realization of the essential nature of mind and consciousness gained through years of intensive examination and reflection yogacara approach advocates a dynamic form of meditation that is neither suppressive nor lethargic the guide to this

attainment the mechanism that sharpens the mind's penetrative and illuminative qualities is metaphysical inquiry

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