

## 21. Tibetan Buddhist Epistemology II: The Geluk School

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The principal text in this volume is Khedrup-Je's (1385-1438) *Dispelling the Darkness of the Mind*, which lucidly outlines and critically examines many of the central questions of epistemology. It covers such topics as the nature and definition of awareness, the typology of mental events, theories of perception, the formation of concepts, the relation between language and thought, methods of inference, and the relation between direct perception and inferential knowledge. Though drawing extensively on Dharmakīrti's writings, especially his *Exposition of Valid Cognition*, which has been a primary source for the study of epistemology and logic in Tibet, Khedrup-Je's work is a self-standing original work.

Our volume also contains two shorter texts. One is a short work by Gyaltsab-Je, the other principal student of Tsongkhapa, and an authority on Geluk epistemology. The text deals with the very specific epistemological question of the nature of relations, which is key to understanding the process of inference. The second text is by the seventeenth century Geluk thinker Jamyang Shepa, the author of the celebrated *An Extensive Exposition of the Philosophical Systems*, a two-volume classic on classical Indian philosophical systems. Jamyang Shepa's short work presents the Madhyamaka Prasaṅgika perspectives on epistemology based on the first section of Candrakīrti's *Clear Words*.

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