

6. Stages of the Path and the Ear-Whispered Instructions: Core Teachings of the Geluk School

Translators: Thupten Jinpa, Geshe Lobsang Jordan and Tenzin Sherap

This volume contains works pertaining to two of the most important elements of the teachings of the Geluk school, the Stages of the Path (lamrim) and the teachings of the Ear-Whispered Lineage (nyen gyü). The stages of the path refers to a highly systematic cultivation of the key aspects of the Buddhist path to enlightenment as envisioned in the Mahayana sutras. Following the great Tsongkhapa's (1357-1419) composition of his magnum opus *The Great Exposition of the Stages of the Path to Enlightenment*, the stages of the path became an integral component of the teachings of the Geluk school. The teachings of the ear-whispered lineage trace their origin to important oral teachings of Tsongkhapa, especially those that evolved from his visions of Manjushri. The present volume is divided into three parts. Part One contains some of the central texts of the stages of the path instructions, such as the two root verses by Tsongkhapa, Gomchen Ngawang Drakpa's (15th century) *Stages of the Path in Verse*, Panchen Lobsang Chögyen's (1570-1662) *Joyful Path*, and the Fifth Dalai Lama's (1617-1682) *Sacred Words of Manjushri*. Part Two features (i) *Seventh Dalai Lama's Guide to the Hundred Deities Guru Yoga*, (ii) *Panchen Lobsang Chögyen's Celebrating the Teacher*, and (iii) *Jhadrel Tsultrim Nyima's Sending Heartfelt Testimonies through the Winds*. Part three contains Panchen Lobsang Chögyen's *Root Stanzas on the Great Seal* together with its commentary as well as important texts by Yongzin Yeshé Gyaltsen, Shar Kalden Gyatso and Ngülchu Dharmabhadra. The texts in this volume were selected on the basis of consultation with the contemporary Geluk master H.E. Lati Rinpoche.

Translation project funded by The Hershey Family Foundation and other donations.
Project status: Draft translations completed.