

Einladung zu einem Gastvortrag

von

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über das Thema

Tibetan Words for ‘Me’ and ‘Us’

Tibetan boasts a wide range of first person pronouns, including *ña*, *bdag*, *ñan-bu*, *kho-bo*, *kho-mo*, *ñed*, *bdag-cag*, *yu-bu-cag*, and *ho-skol*. All of these become ‘me’ or ‘us’ in English, but how are they different in Tibetan? In this paper, I survey my own previous findings and fill in the picture with further gleanings from the Old Tibetan *Rāmāyaṇa*, other Dunhuang texts, and canonical texts including the *Mdzai-blun*, and the *Vīṇayakṣudrakavastu* (*Ḥdul ba phran tshogs kyi gzi*). The wide array of available first person pronouns allows for subtle literary effects. For example, in one passage in the Old Tibetan version of the *Rāmāyaṇa* Marīcī, the minister of Daśagrīva, changes his word for ‘me’ three times.

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