

Einladung
zu einem Gastvortrag
von

Herrn
Prof. Dr. James Gentry
(Stanford University)

über das Thema

**Seventh Time's the Charm:
Padampa Sangyé's Pacifying Tradition in the Birth of the *Maṇi* Pill**

This paper discusses the history of the *maṇi* pill, a Tibetan medico-ritual pill tradition incorporating bodily relics of the Buddhist special dead and Tibetan medicinal substances, and consecrated in rituals featuring Avalokiteśvara and his mantra. It specifically examines the influence of the Pacifying (Zhi byed) tradition of Padampa Sangyé (Pha dam pa sangs rgyas, d. 1117) on the revelatory literature of Guru Chöwang (Gu ru Chos dbang, 1212–1270) in which the *maṇi* pill first originated. Surveying the early narrative, ritual, and contemplative literature of the Pacifying tradition, the paper discerns emergent themes of transcorporeality, such as the transformation of the living body of a bodhisattva into powerful relics through training conducted over the course of seven consecutive lifetimes, the profound effects promised from consuming the seventh-born bodhisattva's body after their death, and other themes typical of Guru Chöwang's *maṇi* pill. It chronicles the historical development of these themes in the different layers of this Pacifying literature to determine when they were first advanced and how they changed in the century leading up to Guru Chöwang's time. In doing so, it asks how the Pacifying tradition's conceptions of mind-body-world porosity drew upon Indian Buddhist models to craft a uniquely Tibetan approach to embodiment that formed the basis of a pill tradition whose popularity has endured to the present.

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31.05.2023
um
16:00 Uhr

Via Zoom / ESA-Ost, Raum 120

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