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Gateway To Knowledge: A Condensation Of The Tripitaka, Vol. 1



Synopsis

The Gateway to Knowledge is a condensation of the Tripitaka and its accompanying commentaries. Consolidating the intent of Buddha Shakyamuni's teachings into a unified body of textbooks, it is the philosophical backbone of the living tradition of Tibetan Buddhism. This rich source book embodies the basics of Prajnaparamita and Madhyamika as well as Abhidharma from both the Mahayana and Hinayana perspectives. Every volume in this series includes the Tibetan text and the English translation on facing pages.

The Tibetan master, Jamgon Mipham Rinpoche (1846-1912) is an exceptional treasure of wisdom, compassion and scholarship. His accomplishments in practice, learning, composition and teaching are immense. The student of The Gateway to Knowledge can begin to comprehend the meaning of the major works on Buddhist philosophy and of the traditional sciences. When you want to extract their meaning you need an expert system, a key. The Gateway to Knowledge is like that key, a magical key; it opens up the treasury of precious gemstones in the expansive collection of Buddhist scriptures.

Chokyi Nyima Rinpoche

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Customer Reviews

Heady stuff, but an absolute must if you really want to get an in-depth understanding of Tibetan buddhist philosophy from square one. Not quite as difficult reading as John Pettit's 'Mipham's Beacon of certainty' (which is brilliant !). As a rule it can be said that all translations by Eric Hein-Schmidt can be read without any doubts about authenticity. He is among the few western

translators who have spent decades with Tibetan masters and always checks and re-checks his works with living Tibetan teachers until all possible misunderstandings are ironed out, making sure that the reader will be presented with an authentic work free from assumptions and weird interpretations.

"The student of The Gateway to Knowledge can begin to comprehend the meaning of the major works on Buddhist philosophy and of the traditional sciences. When you want to extract their meaning you need an "expert system," a key. The Gateway to Knowledge is like that key, a magical key - it opens up the treasury of precious gemstones in the expansive collection of Buddhist scriptures."The extremely gifted and learned Tibetan master, Jamgñn Mipham Rinpoche (1846-1912) studied with many great masters from all traditions. Accomplished in all five fields of knowledge, he remains the example of perfect scholarship. His unexcelled deeds in teaching and composing Buddhist treatises are immense."--Chñkyi Nyima Rinpoche

This, and all the following volumes of the translation of Khe Jug, or, Gateway to Knowledge, are the priceless backbone of the basics and need-to-know foundation of Tibetan Buddhist philosophy. While the text can be a dry read, it is meant to be read, studied and discussed until it is understood. Personally, I began reading the first volume while studying Buddhist philosophy in India. I found the translation a bit challenging (and I am an English native-speaker -- which the translator is not) which made the content challenging, but, this does improve with each successive volume. If you are a serious student of Buddhist philosophy, Gateway to Knowledge is a must-have and a must-read text. If you however are casually interested in Buddhism, there are many other books on the market which will give you a good solid basic understanding of the nature of mind and be easier to read. The text is a wonderful tool for study groups, as discussion of the text with others will definitely increase ones understanding and appreciation of this profound text.

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