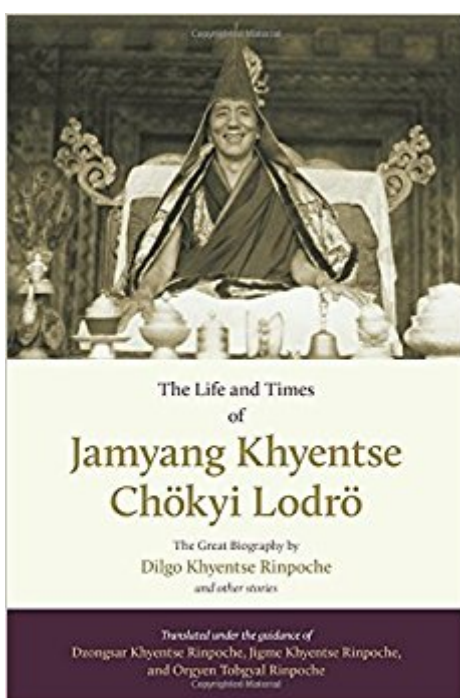


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# The Life And Times Of Jamyang Khyentse Chökyi Lodrö: The Great Biography By Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche And Other Stories



## Synopsis

An biography of one of the most outstanding Tibetan Buddhist masters of the twentieth century. The foremost torchbearer of the ecumenical Rime movement, Jamyang Khyentse Chökyi Lodrö (1893–1959) dedicated his life to the study, practice, and propagation of all the schools and lineages that are collectively known as Tibetan Buddhism. The staggeringly long list of teachings he received and transmitted in turn testifies to the depth of his appreciation of all aspects of the Dharma, and the roster of his eminent students reveals how his extraordinary influence transcended sectarian boundaries. The first half of this volume presents informal stories by many of Chökyi Lodrö's teachers, students, friends, and relatives, collected by Orgyen Tobgyal Rinpoche and translated here into English for the first time. Intimate, funny, and utterly down-to-earth, these stories—supplemented by sixty-one photographs—paint a tender picture of the man behind the great master, introducing readers to the characters and events in his life, and especially the challenges he faced living under the Chinese occupation of Tibet. The second half comprises an English translation of the spiritual biography, or namtar, by Dilgo Khyentse, one of Chökyi Lodrö's closest and most brilliant students. In the process of recounting the life and liberation of his beloved guru, Dilgo Khyentse reveals how he saw Chökyi Lodrö as the Buddha in the flesh and provides, essentially, a blueprint of the entire path to enlightenment.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche (1910–1991) was a highly accomplished meditation master, scholar, and poet, and a principal holder of the Nyingma lineage. A dedicated exponent of the nonsectarian Rime

movement, he was respected by all schools of Tibetan Buddhism and taught many eminent teachers, including His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He tirelessly worked to uphold the Dharma through the publication of texts, the building of monasteries and stupas, and by offering instruction to thousands of people throughout the world. His writings in Tibetan fill twenty-five volumes.

### Must buy & read

Just about three weeks ago I had the opportunity to sit and meditate with a group of fellow pilgrims in Jamyang Khyentse Chokyi Lodro's private chambers in his Dzongsar Monastery in Kham Tibet. It was one of the most special moments of the whole trip for me. As it rained steadily and the river in the valley below rose and flooded, washing out new roads and bridges and threatening to isolate our group in the remote Dzongsar Valley for who knows how long, we sat in peace, utter peace. The life-like and almost life size statues of both Khyentse Chokyi Lodro and Khyentse Wangpo in the adjacent rooms gave a tangible sense of their presence and blessing, as if Chokyi Lodro had only just gotten up from his empty bed beside us. So imagine the delight of returning home to discover this book had just been published! Of course Khyentse Chokyi Lodro is one of the lions of 20th century Tibetan Buddhism, heir to the Rime movement his previous tulku (Khyentse Wangpo) helped found, and teacher himself of such important masters as Dilgo Khyentse, and likewise connected to the next generation tulku, the open and unpredictable Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse. This book is a real treasure trove of historical accounts and personal stories along with lots of old photographs which gives a direct taste of how the lineage was perceived and practiced in old Tibet, and like the works of the Khyentse tulkus is it a thick exhaustively complete book. Generally this book is divided into two parts; various first hand accounts of Chokyi Lodro, his home and surrounding region by associates, friends and students (259 pages), and a more traditional hagiographic telling of his life story by his principle disciple, Dilgo Khyentse (278 pages). For students of these lineages this will be inspiring and delightful, intimate and profound, with a full range of teachings that are both directly cited and subtly seeping out from between the lines. For the more casual observer this may all be a little baffling but also offers a rare glimpse of Tibetan religious culture at its peak, a culture which is surely gone now, but one which almost 60 years on still carries the scent of something alive and ineffable. As a small taste of the contents I open them at random to read this account from his autobiography; "In the year of the wood dog (1934), when Khyentse Chokyi Lodro was forty-two: During the early morning of the ninth day, as I began to recover from a stomach ailment, it occurred to me to work out which of the Anuttara deities from the Sarma tradition

I was most strongly connected to. The moment I had this thought, I fell into a light sleep and in a vision saw Nyen Lotsawa, middle-aged, quite short, and wearing a long scarf. His hair was slightly longer than I expected, his face was light brown, and he wore a sleeveless Tibetan garment. In front of him stood the mandala of Guhyasamaja Manjuvajra. At first the mandala looked as though it had been drawn in colored sand, then it instantly transformed into an immeasurable palace, inside of which sat Jampe Dorje, about a hand span high, saffron colored, and blazing with light. I saw myself sitting on the south side of the mandala and felt a strong aspiration to receive the empowerment, so Guru Jampe Dorje recited the following verse: Immaculate self-awareness is itself ultimate joy; Free from both the duality of grasping and fixation, and conceptual thought, Pristine and completely uncompounded Is the Great Bliss of all the buddhas. Once these words had been uttered, a blue consort emanated from the mandala and embraced my body, which had become translucent, and as a result, I experienced the bliss of coemergent wisdom..." (p.381)

Haven't read it yet can't wait to read it

The first section, a collection of personal anecdotes about ChÃ¶kyi LodrÃ¶, contains a great many illustrating behaviour that really makes one question the praise heaped upon him by Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche in the traditional biography that comprises the second section.

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