

When the Clouds Part: The Uttaratantra and Its Meditative Tradition as a Bridge between Sutra and Tantra (Tsadra)



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A new translation of the primary Indian Buddhist text on buddha nature, with Tibetan commentaries explaining how this text can be used to contemplate and realize one's own buddha nature.

"Buddha nature" (*tath?gatagarbha*) is the innate potential in all living beings to become a fully awakened buddha. This book discusses a wide range of topics connected with the notion of buddha nature as presented in Indo-Tibetan Buddhism and includes an overview of the s?tra sources of the tath?gatagarbha teachings and the different ways of explaining the meaning of this term. It includes new translations of the Maitreya treatise Mah?y?nottaratantra (Ratnagotravibh?ga), the primary Indian text on the subject, its Indian commentaries, and two (hitherto untranslated) commentaries from the Tibetan Kagyü tradition. Most important, the translator's introduction investigates in detail the meditative tradition of using the Mah?y?nottaratantra as a basis for Mah?mudr? instructions and the Shentong approach. This is supplemented by translations of a number of short Tibetan meditation manuals from the Kadampa, Kagyü, and Jonang schools that use the Mah?y?nottaratantra as a work to contemplate and realize one's own buddha nature.

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