

The Dawn Of Tantra

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westerners wanting to know about tantra particularly the buddhist tantra of tibet often find only speculation and fancy tibet has been shrouded in mystery and tantra has been called upon to name every kind of esoteric fantasy in the dawn of tantra the reader meets a tibetan meditation master and a western scholar each of whose grasp of buddhist tantra is real and unquestionable this collaboration is both true to the intent of the ancient tibetan teachings and relevant to contemporary western life

a western and a tibetan specialist explain the origins history principles practices and applications of the buddhist tantric tradition of tibet

tantra considered by many as a dangerous and secret path invariably generates a tremendous amount of curiosity in this the first comprehensive book of its kind shri dharmakirti gives us a rare glimpse into the fascinating nature of tantra a practitioner of the mahayana buddhist tantra uses his intellect and moral discipline to attain buddha hood the highest state of existence how to achieve this state was first shown by the buddha and after him by various incarnations of indian and tibetan gurus such as the dalai lama the author gives us a detailed account of the moral ethical and philosophical basis of buddhist tantra he also shows how the buddhist tantric path of the highest secret mantra decisively addresses the three crucial problems that every genuine spiritual warrior must resolve 3 4 problems of death sexuality and the true nature of reality the author discusses various facets of the buddhist tantric path its history its harnessing of sexual energy to access subtle levels of reality the doctrine of karma the concept of profound emptiness that is the philosophical core of the buddha dharma and the wheel of existence or the bhava chakra narrated simply and enriched with visual representations of the author's vision of tantra this is an invaluable guide for those seeking a meaningful spiritual path

while tantra has mystical philosophical and religious aspects it is above all a technique of action a system of physical mental and spiritual discipline incorporating meditation yoga and sacramental worship in the widest sense of the phrase tantra for westerners is a complete theoretical and practical guide to the way of action covering concepts of pleasure and pain power and passivity esoteric physiology tantra and qabalism right hand and left hand

tantra tantric rituals for westerners and the arousal of kundalini the serpent power

bernard de give for many years a member of the society of jesus was for eight years a seminary professor first in sri lanka then in india before pursuing oriental studies at oxford where he formed friendships with tibetan monks since becoming a trappist in 1972 the author has enjoyed meeting monks of other religions hindu swamis jain ascetics buddhist monks and above all tibetan lamas in 1977 a benedictine and cistercian commission for monastic interreligious dialogue dim mid was established and it was under these auspices that the author was able to visit numerous tibetan centres in western europe but also in india and in tibet itself the invasion of tibet by the chinese communists in 1950 followed by the voluntary exile of the dalai lama and large numbers of tibetans overturned the political and cultural circumstances of a country which though fiercely isolated for centuries now found itself suddenly propelled beyond its borders this traditional culture thus became accessible to westerners who were eagerly seeking a form of spirituality which corresponded to their needs and their anxieties the author though he has a most real sympathy towards the dharma and its followers is not a buddhist nor even a seeker while stressing the obvious and considerable doctrinal differences he experiences an undeniable sense of encounter in depth with tibetan buddhists the truest essence of the dialogue partners especially when they are monks encounters a kindred spirit whether in conversation or in silence they find themselves in total dialogue

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