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## **The Emergence of a Myth : In search of the origins of the life story of Shenrab Miwo, the founder of Bon**

Gurung, K.N.

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## TRANSLITERATION SYSTEM

All titles of Tibetan books will be transcribed using the Wylie Tibetan transliteration system (see table below) with the main syllable capitalized and in italics. Unless otherwise specified, all non-European terms used in this dissertation are to be understood as Tibetan words (except Chinese or Sanskrit words that have already been co-opted into the English language).

The names of people and places will mostly be transcribed phonetically, according to my own understanding of English pronunciation, from the standard Tibetan classical reading. However, on several occasions I use Tibetan transliteration for personal names, and words with specific purposes. This is done when I need to describe the meanings of original Tibetan words and to discuss their usages in other contexts. Personal titles or family names are transcribed using Tibetan transliteration.

The Wylie Tibetan transliteration system does not use any diacritics for Tibetan words, but I will use diacritics for original Sanskrit words. For instance, both Shenrab (Tib. *gshen rab*) and Śākyamuni contain the same phoneme ‘*sh*’ when written in Tibetan, but they are transcribed differently here. The former is transcribed without the use of diacritics and the latter with diacritics.

The Wylie Tibetan transliteration system is based on Turrell Wylie’s *A Standard System of Tibetan Transcription* (published in the *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, volume 22, 1959, pp. 261–267), and Devanāgarī transliteration is based on the article X<sup>me</sup> Congrès International des Orientalistes, Session de Genève. *Rapport de la Commission de Transcription*, 1894.

Tibetan alphabet		Devanāgarī alphabet for Sanskrit and Pāli	
i u e o		a ā i ī u ū ṛ ṝ ḷ e ai o au ṁ ḥ	
ka kha ga nga	ca cha ja nya	k kh g gh ṇ	c ch j jh ñ
ta tha da na	pa pha ba ma	ṭ ṭh ḍ ḍh ṇ	t th d dh n
tsa tsha dza wa	zha za ’a ya	p ph b bh m	y r l v
ra la sha sa	ha a	ś ṣ s h	

