Yael Bentor, Ph.D. (1991), Indiana University, is Professor Emerita of Tibetan Studies in the Departments of Comparative Religion and Asian Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She has published monographs, translations and many articles on Tibetan Buddhism, including *The Essence of the Ocean of Attainments: Explanation of the Creation Stage of the Guhyasamāja, King of All Tantras*, 2017.

Meir Shahar Ph.D. (1992), Harvard University, is Professor of Chinese Studies at Tel Aviv University. His research interests span Chinese religion and literature, Chinese martial-art history, and the Sino-Indian cultural exchange. Meir Shahar is the author of *Crazy Ji: Chinese Religion and Popular Literature; The Shaolin Monastery: History, Religion, and the Chinese Martial Arts*; and *Oedipal God: The Chinese Nezha and his Indian Origins.* Bringing together leading authorities in the fields of Chinese and Tibetan Studies alike, *Chinese and Tibetan Esoteric Buddhism* engages cutting-edge research on the fertile tradition of Esoteric Buddhism (also known as Tantric Buddhism). This state of the art volume unfolds the sweeping impact of esoteric Buddhism on Tibetan and Chinese cultures, and the movement's role in forging distinct political, ethnical, and religious identities across Asia at large. Deciphering the oftentimes bewildering richness of esoteric Buddhism, this broadly conceived work exposes the common ground it shares with other Buddhist schools, as well as its intersection with non-Buddhist faiths. As such, the book is a major contribution to the study of Asian religions and cultures.

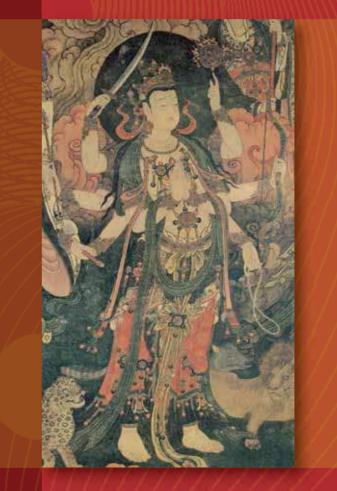
Contributors are: Yael Bentor, Ester Bianchi, Megan Bryson, Jacob Dalton, Hou Chong, Hou Haoran, Eran Laish, Li Ling, Lin Peiying, Lü Jianfu, Ma De, Dan Martin, Charles D. Orzech, Meir Shahar, Robert Sharf, Shen Weirong, Henrik H. Sørensen, and Yang Fuxue.

Chinese and Tibetan Esoteric Buddhism Yael Bentor and Meir Shahar (Eds.)

SEAR 1

Chinese and Tibetan Esoteric Buddhism

Edited by Yael Bentor and Meir Shahar



BRILL



ISBN 978-90-04-34049-7 ISSN 2452-0098 brill.com/sear

BRILL

Contents

Acknowledgements VII List of Figures VIII

Introduction 1 Yael Bentor and Meir Shahar

PART 1

Chinese Perspectives on the Origins of Esoteric Buddhism

- 1 Tantric Subjects: Liturgy and Vision in Chinese Esoteric Ritual Manuals 17 *Charles D. Orzech*
- Spells and Magical Practices as Reflected in the Early Chinese Buddhist Sources (c. 300–600 CE) and their Implications for the Rise and Development of Esoteric Buddhism 41 Henrik H. Sørensen
- 3 The Terms "Esoteric Teaching" ("Esoteric Buddhism") and "Tantra" in Chinese Buddhist Sources 72 Lü Jianfu

PART 2

Chan, Chinese Religion, and Esoteric Buddhism

- 4 Buddhist Veda and the Rise of Chan 85 Robert H. Sharf
- 5 A Comparative Approach to Śubhakarasimha's (637–735) "Essentials of Meditation": Meditation and Precepts in Eighth-Century China 121 Lin Pei-ying
- 6 The Tantric Origins of the Horse King: Hayagrīva and the Chinese Horse Cult ¹⁴⁷ *Meir Shahar*

PART 3 Scriptures and Practices in Their Tibetan Context

- 7 Crazy Wisdom in Moderation: Padampa Sangyé's Use of Counterintuitive Methods in Dealing with Negative Mental States 193 Dan Martin
- 8 Perception, Body and Selfhood: The Transformation of Embodiment in the *Thod rgal* Practice of the "Heart Essence" Tradition 215 *Eran Laish*
- 9 Tibetan Interpretations of the Opening Verses of Vajraghaṇṭa on the Body Maṇḍala 230 Yael Bentor

PART 4 Tibetan Buddhism in China

- 10 Ming Chinese Translations of Tibetan Tantric Buddhist Texts and the Buddhist Samgha of the Western Regions in Beijing 263 Shen Weirong
- Sino-Tibetan Buddhism: Continuities and Discontinuities: The Case of Nenghai's Legacy in the Contemporary Era 300 Ester Bianchi

PART 5

Esoteric Buddhism in Dunhuang

- 12 On the Significance of the *Ārya-tattvasaṃgraha-sādhanopāyikā* and Its Commentary 321 Jacob P. Dalton
- Avalokiteśvara and the Dunhuang Dhāraņī Spells of Salvation in Childbirth 338 Li Ling and Ma De

PART 6 Esoteric Buddhism in the Tangut Xixia and Yugur Spheres

- Notes on the Translation and Transmission of the Samputa and Cakrasamvara Tantras in the Xixia Period (1038–1227) 355 Hou Haoran
- **15** Mongol Rulers, Yugur Subjects, and Tibetan Buddhism 377 Yang Fuxue

PART 7

Esoteric Buddhism in the Dali Kingdom (Yunnan)

- **16** The Chinese Origins of Dali Esoteric Buddhism 389 *Hou Chong*
- Between China and Tibet: Mahākāla Worship and Esoteric Buddhism in the Dali Kingdom 402 Megan Bryson

Index 429