



A Short Guide to Yangleshö in Nepal

by Kyapjé Jamyang Khyentse Chökyi Lodrö

Homage to the Glorious Heruka!

Through the magic of birth from the unborn,
From the great, self-existing secret,
These vajra words naturally arise:
How wondrous and supreme, emaho!

I, Padmakara, was born spontaneously
On the northwest border of Uddiyana,
On the tip of a lotus in the sindura ocean,
Untainted by a womb.

Adopted as a son of Uddiyana's king,
I benefited beings through my yogic activity,
And maintained this conduct in the eight great charnel grounds.
Under many accomplished masters and panditas
I studied and learned, gaining knowledge
In the host of teachings of sūtra and tantra.

At Maratika, through the path of swiftness,
The vidyadhara level of immortality was accomplished,
And Amitayus displayed his very countenance.

In particular, in rocky Yangleshö,
I manifested the glorious Great Seal.
Obstacles and obstructors, all were conquered
Through the meditative power of vajra wrath.
The vidyadhara level of mahamudra then completed,
I entered the ranks of Vajradhara.

This site of such accomplishment
Carries the blessing of the great Heruka.
When Rudra was liberated long ago,
This is where appeared his boundless inner palace.

The ground is laid out auspiciously, with all that is desirable.

Multitudes of bodhisattvas—
Lord of Mysteries,¹ Mañjushri, and countless others—
Actually came in person to this holy site,
Surrounded on every side by the eight great charnel grounds.

Specifically, when the Great Sage himself
Miraculously set foot on the land at Ox Hill,²
The community of bodhisattvas and arhats
Travelled here,³ accompanied by all their retinue,
And a host of immortal rishis and vidyādharas,
And gods and nāgas and yakshas too.
For these he turned the Dharma wheel, vast and profound.
And for the ears of the exceptional vidyādharas
He proclaimed the melodious sound of the tantras,
Truly the well-spring of the great herukas,
Hiding countless treasures of secret mantra.

Siddhas such as Saraha, from the noble land of India,
Came here and practiced and relied upon this place,
Until they received the siddhi of supreme accomplishment.
Therefore, those who wish
The secret mantra to flourish—
Their worship and practice here will indeed be meaningful;
They will gain the great good fortune of perfect accomplishment,
And teachings and beings will thrive in abundance!

Samaya!

In this supreme location, in the centre of Nepal,
Birthplace of buddhas of past, present and future,
Greatest of stupas, of blessings and relics,
Delight of glorious Maheśvara,
In this naturally arisen secret cave,
Awesome gathering place of herukas,
Vajravarahi abides in actuality,
And dakas and dakinis delight and play.

Wondrous pleasure grove, where great bliss is attained—
Merely by seeing it, karmic obscurations are purified;
Merely by hearing, the doors to the lower realms are closed.
If one practices correctly, the supreme siddhi is gained.

If those who hold the samayas

Perform the outer, inner and secret gaṇacakras,
They will become the equal of the herukas.
If those who have mastered vajra-like yogic conduct
Perform the great secret dance,
Their channels, inner air and bindus will be purified,
The strength of the wisdom of awareness will blaze,
They will gain success on the path of union and liberation,
And certainty, too, in the great secret of secrets—
The ultimate realization of reality.

Samaya!

When Tibet has fallen into suffering,
And the power of the Mongol-Turks has grown,
And all types of miseries arise,
Then, my, Padmakara's, concern
And the aspirations of the Great King,
Will flash upon this place like a bolt of lightning
And cause the teachings and beings' happiness to thrive.

While not an actual terma-treasure,
This guide will manifest in the future.
The Dharma King of Nepal,
One who is named Bhamga,
Will take hold of this profound treasure,
And open the way to prosperity for the teachings and beings.

Samaya!

The dancing monkey rides the bird,
He will fall to the ground and wander like a dog,
Run like a pig, then hide like a mouse.
Then the tip of the ox-horn
Will be adorned with multi-colored flags,
And for a brief time this world will be happy.
Then the *terma*-treasure of this place will manifest.

In the Fire Monkey year,⁴ I Pema Yeshé Dorjé went on pilgrimage to India and Nepal for the benefit and happiness of the teachings and beings. On the 1st day of the 12th month, while offering a ganacakra feast of Yang Phur Drakma⁵ in Yangleshö my mind became totally clear. In the very early morning, on the 2nd day, my student, the Lama from Nangchen Tsechu,⁶ the master of ceremony Lodrö Chokden, gave me a piece of paper and urged me, saying: "Write whatever you remember." Due to this circumstance, I began writing this guide at Yangleshö. Later, when we reached Svayambhu I continued to write. I wrote down all that I could recall of the many different meditative experiences that occurred. Mangalam!



Translation Origin

Translated by [Samye Translations](#), 2017 (trans. Peter Woods and Stefan Mang; ed. Libby Hogg) with the kind assistance of Han Kop.

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Bibliography

Tibetan Edition

'Jam dbyangs mkhyen brtse chos kyi blo gros. "Bal yul yang le shod kyi mdo byang bsdus pa." In *'Jam dbyangs chos kyi blo gros kyi gsung 'bum*. 12 vols. Bir: Khyentse Labrang, 2012. WIKG12986 Vol. 10: 379–382.

1 That is Vajrapani.

2 This is a reference to the Svayambhu stupa. The sutra called *The Prophecy of Goshringa* (D 357) recounts the mythical origins of the Gomasalagandha stupa on the Ox-horn hill. Several Tibetan masters identify the Gomasalagandha stupa as the Svayambhu stupa in Nepal. Others, such as Situ Panchen, locate the Gomasalagandha stupa in Khotan. See: Franz-Karl Ehrhard, "Old and New Tibetan Sources Concerning Svayambhunath," in *Zentralasiatische Studien* 36 (2007), 111.

3 Nepal or more precisely the Kathmandu valley.

4 1956–1957.

5 *Yang Phur Drakma* (*snyan brgyud yang phur sbrag ma*), the 'Combined Practice of Yangdak Heruka and Vajrakilaya from the Oral Lineage', also known as 'Khyentse Yangpur' (*mkhyen brtse yang phur*) is a teaching revealed by Jamyang Khyentse Wangpo.

6 Nangchen Tsechu is the name of a monastery in Kham.