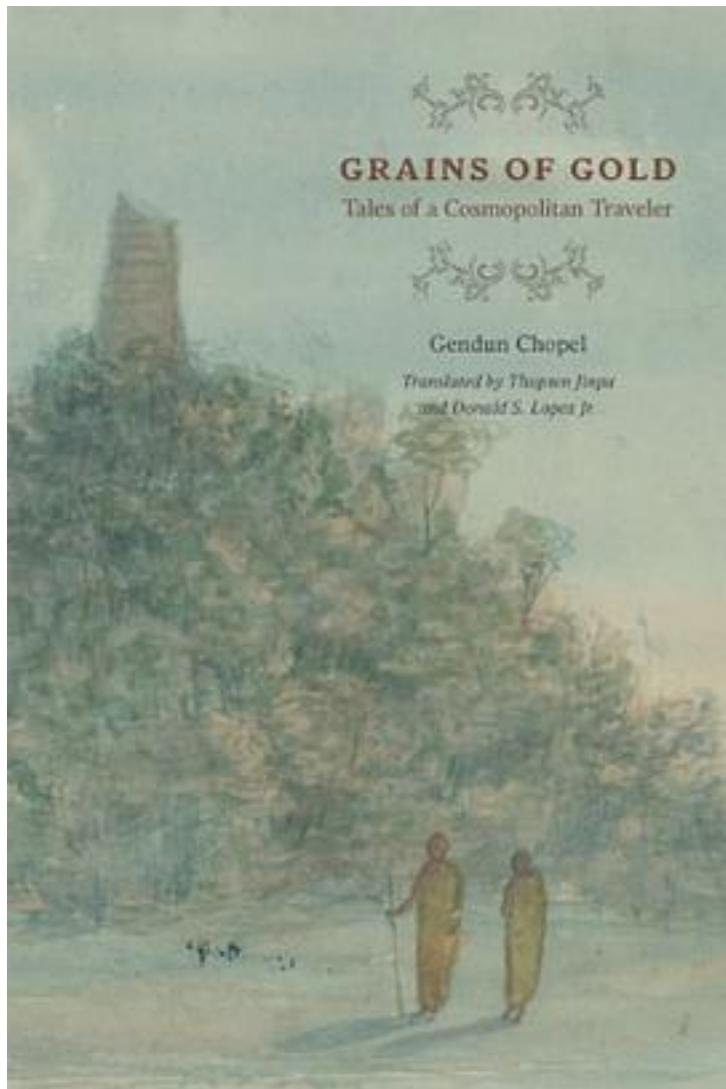


# Grains of Gold



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著者:Gendun Chopel

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In 1941, philosopher and poet Gendun Chopel (1903–51) sent a large manuscript by ship, train, and yak across mountains and deserts to his homeland in the northeastern corner of Tibet. He would follow it five years later, returning to his native land after twelve years in India and Sri Lanka. But he did not receive the welcome he imagined: he was arrested by the government of the regent of the young Dalai Lama on trumped-up charges of treason. He emerged from prison three years later a broken man and died soon after.

Gendun Chopel was a prolific writer during his short life. Yet he considered that manuscript, which he titled *Grains of Gold*, to be his life's work, one to delight his compatriots with tales of an ancient Indian and Tibetan past, while alerting them to the wonders and dangers of the strikingly modern land abutting Tibet's southern border, the British colony of India. Now available for the first time in English, *Grains of Gold* is a unique compendium of South Asian and Tibetan culture that combines travelogue, drawings, history, and ethnography. Gendun Chopel describes the world he discovered in South Asia, from the ruins of the sacred sites of Buddhism to the Sanskrit classics he learned to read in the original. He is also sharply, often humorously critical of the Tibetan love of the fantastic, bursting one myth after another and finding fault with the accounts of earlier Tibetan pilgrims. Exploring a wide range of cultures and religions central to the history of the region, Gendun Chopel is eager to describe all the new knowledge he gathered in his travels to his Buddhist audience in Tibet.

At once the account of the experiences of a tragic figure in Tibetan history and the work of an extraordinary scholar, *Grains of Gold* is an accessible, compelling work animated by a sense of discovery of both a distant past and a strange present.

作者介绍:

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By Thupten Jinpa and Donald S. Lopez Jr.

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Appendix A: Tibetan Transliteration

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标签

佛教

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历史

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精神之旅

评论

有人预约还差一点没看完，先马。作者确实是个挺有意思的人，眼界开阔。一开始以为是本游记，看了大半觉得更像印度学科普入门。内容上和印度文化的关系好像更近一点。英译流畅，读起来不吃力，但很多地方如果细究起来，又能有很多说头。可惜他的画大多没了，有些页脚配了很小的手绘图。

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根敦群培对于历史的书写和构建和同时期的中国日本知识分子相比，某种程度上跳出了“西学为用”的框架，通过结合对于西方进步史观和传统佛教知识论两个传统的批判，创造了一个新的知识空间。谈西藏传统一章尤能看出这种批判性的parodistic尝试。本书可以结合the passion book的第一章同时讨论根敦群培的遗产。

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