

KHENPO SHENGPA

Types of *Spiritual Songs*

Tib Shelf
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By Khenpo Shenga Zhenpen Chokyi Nangwa

Translated by Tib Shelf



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Generally speaking, there are many kinds of spiritual song.

There are songs of spontaneously arisen herukas, which gladden the heroes and ḍākinīs. There are the dohās of the siddhas, which directly reveal the wisdom of realisation. There are songs of calling the guru from afar, which stir the guru's mindstream when devotion and compassion effortlessly arise.

There are yogins' songs of experience, which freely express whatever arises once experience has truly taken hold. There are joyful songs of realisation, which emerge when the power of experience and realisation comes forth. There are songs of mastery over appearances, which arise when one knows no fear whatsoever.

There are songs of a mind at ease, carefree and open, born of practice carried through without regret. There are contrived songs in which intellectual understanding and experience become intermingled. There are songs of the equality of saṃsāra and nirvāṇa, which arise upon realising all things to be equal.

And there are many other kinds besides these.

Among them, yours is a fine yogin's song of experience. I rejoice in it.

May virtue abound!



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Tib Shelf
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