

# The All-Pervading Melodious Drumbeat: The Life of Ra Lotsawa

Ra Yeshe Senge



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# The All-Pervading Melodious Drumbeat: The Life of Ra Lotsawa

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The All-Pervading Melodious Drumbeat: The Life of Ra Lotsawa Ra Yeshe Senge The story of Tibet's notorious master of Buddhist sorcery—translated for the first time into English

An essential sacred text of Tibetan Buddhism, *The All-Pervading Melodious Drumbeat* tells the wondrous story of Ra Lotsawa Dorjé Drak. Though he was canonized as a saint and a fully enlightened buddha, the eleventh-century Ra Lotsawa's life story presents a darker path than those taken by Siddhartha Gautama and Milarepa. Viewed by some as a murderous villain and by others as a liberator of human suffering, Ra Lotsawa used his formidable power and magical abilities to defeat his rivals, accumulate wealth, and amass a devoted following. His life offers a rare view into the often overlooked roles of magic and sorcery in the Buddhist tradition. Despite this sinister legacy, his fame also rests on an illustrious career as a translator of Buddhist scriptures, through which he helped spark a renaissance of Buddhism in Tibet. This spirited new translation gives readers in English their first opportunity to encounter one of the most colorful and memorable figures in Tibetan Buddhist history.

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