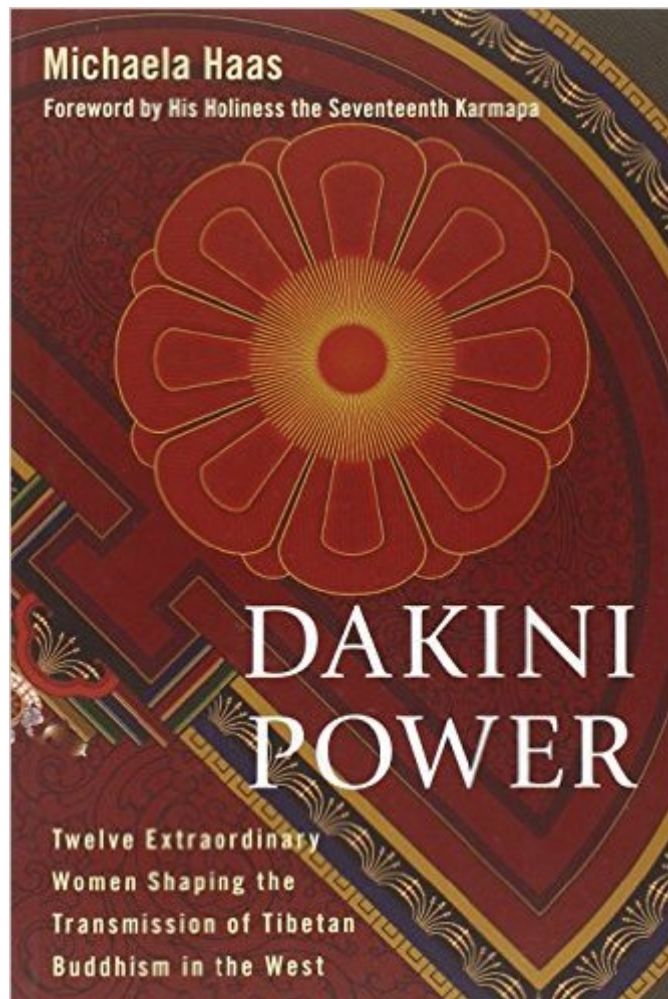


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Dakini Power: Twelve Extraordinary Women Shaping The Transmission Of Tibetan Buddhism In The West



Synopsis

How 12 Tibetan Buddhist Teachers Succeed in Merging East and West - including Pema Chödrön, Joan Halifax, and Thubten Chodron, among others

Personal reflections and life stories from 12 contemporary female Tibetan Buddhist teachers, both Westerners and Tibetans, who share insights into how they discovered their true calling, overcame barriers, and developed the courage, determination, and wisdom to progress on the spiritual path.

What drives a young London librarian to board a ship to India, meditate in a remote cave by herself for twelve years, and then build a flourishing nunnery in the Himalayas? How does a surfer girl from Malibu become the head of the main international organization for Buddhist women? Why does the daughter of a music executive in Santa Monica dream so vividly of peacocks one night that she chases these images to Nepal, where she finds the love of her life in an unconventional young Tibetan master? The women featured in *Dakini Power*—contemporary teachers of Tibetan Buddhism, both Asians and Westerners, who teach in the West—have been universally recognized as accomplished practitioners and brilliant teachers whose life stories demonstrate their immense determination and bravery. Meeting them in this book, readers will be inspired to let go of old fears, explore new paths, and lead the lives they envision.

Featured here are:

- Jetsun Khandro Rinpoche (*This Precious Life*)
- Dagmola Sakya (Princess in the Land of Snows)
- Jetsun Tenzin Palmo (Diane Perry) (*Into the Heart of Life*)
- Pema Chödrön (Deirdre Blomfield-Brown) (*When Things Fall Apart; Start Where You Are*)
- Khandro Tsering Chödrön (most familiar to readers as the late aunt of Sogyal Rinpoche, author of *The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying*)
- Thubten Chodron (Cherry Greene) (*Buddhism for Beginners; Taming the Mind*)
- Karma Lekshe Tsomo (Patricia Zenn) (*Buddhism Through American Women's Eyes*)
- Chagdud Khadro (Jane Dedman) (*Phowa Commentary; Life in Relation to Death*)
- Sangye Khandro (Nanci Gay Gustafson) (*Meditation, Transformation, and Dream Yoga*)
- Roshi Joan Halifax (*Being with Dying*)
- Lama Tsultrim Allione (Joan Rousmaniere Ewing) (*Women of Wisdom; Feeding Your Demons*)
- Elizabeth Mattis-Namgyel (*The Power of an Open Question*)

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Customer Reviews

While this book is a compilation of 12 profiles of women teachers and authors within Tibetan Buddhism in the West, it is not just for practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism. These 12 women have led fascinating lives by any measurement, and their stories and wisdom will be of interest to anyone interested in female biography, spiritual memoir, Asian culture, or religious history. The author Michaela Haas is a journalist (as well as being a longtime practitioner of Tibetan Buddhism) and does more than tell these women's stories and ask them polite questions about their faith and teachings. She broaches many subjects in her interviews that will resonate for anyone of any faith: What is the relationship between culture, language, and religion? How much/should a tradition adapt when introduced to a new culture? What does it mean to advance women's rights within a spiritual context? Of course if you are interested in Tibetan Buddhism, and particularly if you are yourself a practitioner, this book offers a goldmine of insight. Many key topics are discussed, including the role of lineage, the nature of the teacher/student relationship, rebirth, and how to reconcile Buddhist beliefs with other faiths. The discussions of these topics aren't pedantic - the women profiled share their personal stories and struggles. They also share the biggest challenges of their lives and their spiritual journeys - struggles getting their families to accept their decisions (especially those who took monastic vows), struggles in their marriages and raising children, struggles with grief, illness, and injury. The Tibetan women profiled share the stories of their escapes (or their families) from Tibet upon the Chinese occupation, and the challenges of resettling in the West.

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