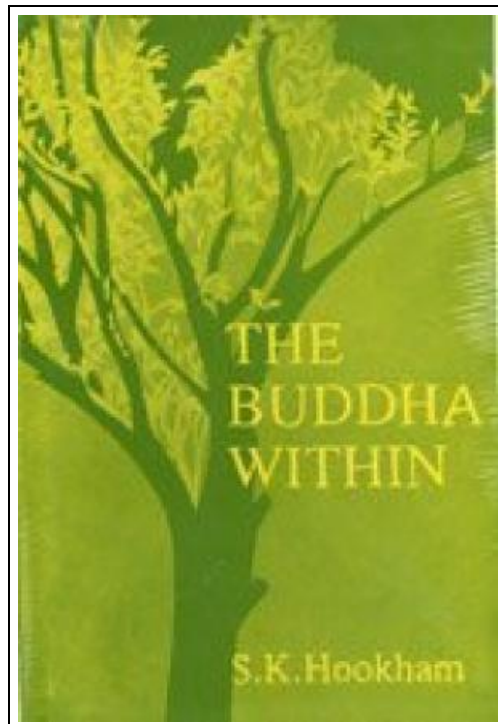


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Sri Satguru Publications, 1992. Hardcover. Condition: New. First edition. Tathagatagarbha-Buddha Nature-is a central concept of Mahayana Buddhism crucial to all the living practice Traditions of Tibetan and Zen Buddhism. Its Relationship to the concept of emptiness has been a subject of controversy for seven hundred years. Dr. Hookham`s work investigates the divergent interpretations of these concepts and the Ways the Tibetan Tradition is resolving them. In particular she does this with reference to the only surviving Indian Commentary on the Tathagatagarbha doctrine, the Ratnagotravibhaga. This text addresses itself directly to the issue of how to relate the Doctrine of emptiness (the illusory Nature of the world) to that of the truly existing, changeless Absolute (the Buddha Nature). This is the first work by a Western writer to present an analysis of the Shentong tradition based on previously untranslated sources. The Shentong view rests to meditative experience that is inaccessible to the coceptualizing mind. It is deeply rooted in the sutra tradition of Indian Buddhism and is central to an understanding of the Mahamudra and Dzogchen traditions and Tantric practice among the Kagyupas and Hyingmapas. Contents: Yogin Khenpo Tsultrim Gyamtso`s Spontaneous Verses on the Subject of Rangtong and Shentong I. GENERAL INTRODUCTION 1. The Omniscient Dolpopa`s Prayer that Unties the Vajra Word Knots Section I : THE ISSUES II. INTRODUCTION TO THE RANGTONG-SHENTONG DISTINCTION 1. The Origin and Significance of Buddhist Commentarial Traditions 2. The Rangtong/Shentong Distinction 3. The Meaning of Rangtong 4. The Meaning of Shentong 5. The Importance of the Rangtong-Shentong Distinction III. EMPTINESS FROM THE SHENTONG POINT OF VIEW 1. Progressive Stages of Meditation on Emptiness 2. The Final Stage-Shentong (Yogacara Madhyamaka) 3. No Shentong Without a Proper Understanding of Rangtong 4. Problems of Definitions of Terms IV. THE SHENTONG VIEW OF ABSOLUTE REALITY 1. Buddhajnana 2. Inseparable...

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