

ཐུགས་རྒྱུ་

འགྲེལ་བཤེས་ཀྱི་ལྟུང་།

TRANSLATION & TRANSMISSION

ཐུགས་རྒྱུ་

OCTOBER 2-5, 2014

KEYSTONE, COLORADO, USA

Workshop 5 | Room: CRESTONE PEAK III | 4:30–6:30pm, October 3, 2014

Translating Canonical Materials: Sutra

with Andreas Doctor, John Canti, Tom Tillemans



John Canti

(Padmakara Translation Group; Tsadra Foundation Fellow; 84000)

In 1970, while studying medicine at Cambridge, he first met his Buddhist teachers, and started to practice under their guidance. After hospital work in London and Cambridge, he moved in the late seventies to eastern Nepal to establish tuberculosis programs in two remote hill districts.

Beginning in 1980, he underwent two three-year retreats in the Dordogne, France. Emerging from retreat at the end of the 80s, he helped found the Padmakara Translation Group, of which he is now president, and remains an active translator. Since 2001 he has also been a Fellow of the Tsadra Foundation. He serves on the working committee of 84000 as chair of the editorial section. He is based in France but also spends part of his time in Nepal and India. Currently John is working on Mipham's commentary on the *Ratnagotravibhāgotaratantraśāstra*.

John Canti's Presentation

John Canti
Canonical Translation
Sūtra

Translating the Kangyur

- Kangyur: almost 900 texts in 70,0000 pages;
 - to translate the whole Kangyur in 25 years, 2,800 pages need to be translated every year.
 - 15-20 translation projects need to be in progress in parallel all the time.
 - at present 84000 has 30 teams working on projects, many including several texts.

84000 current progress

- Completed and published:
 - 17 works 764 pages
- Now in pre-publication phase:
 - 18 works 1,798 pages
- Nearing completion (2-3 months):
 - 12 works 1,441 pages
- Currently in progress:
 - 93 works 14,095 pages
- Total covered so far (3½ years)
 - 140 works 18,089 pages
 - = 15% by titles = 26% by pages

Some differences from indigenous works

- Multiple source texts
 - Sanskrit
 - Chinese
 - Tibetan variants
- Translations, not originals
 - the underlying Sanskrit
- Literary styles
 - repetition
 - stock phrases and “modular” passages
- Functions and usage
 - canonical status
 - absence of widespread familiarity overall