



At the Court of Kublai Khan: Writings of the Tibetan Monk Chogyal Phagpa (Paperback)

By Christopher Wilkinson

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Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. At the height of the Mongol Empire, a ten year old Tibetan child, Phagpa (1235-1280), was taken to the court of the Khans. He was educated there by his uncle, Sakya Pandita, and grew up speaking both Mongolian and Tibetan. While in his twenties, he created the first written alphabet for the Mongolian language. He became a religious advisor to Kublai Khan, and officiated at his installation as Emperor. As Kublai Khan had granted him regencies over the thirteen myriarchies of Tibet, he was titled Chogyal, or "Dharma King." His full name was Phagpa Lodro Gyaltsan Pal Zangpo. He was on familiar enough terms with the leaders of the Mongol empire, including Kublai Khan, that he wrote letters to them. In his capacity as a religious teacher he also gave them teachings about Buddhism. It is not unusual to have teachings about Buddhism that are written by Tibetan Lamas. What is unusual about Chogyal Phagpa's teachings is that he delivered them primarily to audiences that were neither Tibetan nor necessarily sympathetic to Buddhism. The ancestral...

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