

CONTENTS

8	Foreword by Vishakha N. Desai and Robert A. F. Thurman
9	Introduction by Denise Patry Leidy and Robert A. F. Thurman
12	Lenders to the Exhibition
13	Note to the Reader
14	Map
16	Place and Process: Mandala Imagery in the Buddhist Art of Asia by Denise Patry Leidy
48	Catalogue of the Exhibition by Denise Patry Leidy and Robert A. F. Thurman
48	Space and Sanctity in Buddhist Art
58	Pure Lands and Other Perfected Worlds
70	Diversity in Mandalas from Nepal and Tibet
112	Regional Variations: Mandalas from Southeast and East Asia
126	Mandala: The Architecture of Enlightenment by Robert A. F. Thurman
148	Appendix A: Kalachakra Mandalas
154	Appendix B: Selected Writings
164	Glossary
171	Selected Bibliography
172	Index

- Action tantras, 21–22, 131
- Abhidharma*, 158
- aggregates (*skandha*), 128, 136
- Agni (fire god), 43, 86, 109
- air, symbolized, 131
- Akanishta Heaven, 130
- Akshobhya Buddha, 21, 23, 155; in
tantric mandala, 136, 137, 138, 139
- Alchi (northern India), 36, 38–40
- Amaravati, great stupa of, 53
- Amitabha Buddha, 22, 23, 27; as
Amitayus, 64; depicted, 36, 43, 84, 92,
124, 155; in *Land of Bliss Sutra*, 135;
pure land of, 25–26, 36, 60; in tantric
mandala, 136, 139
- Amitabhadhyana Sutra*, 25
- Amitayus Buddha, 64, 84, 88, 92
- Amoghasiddhi Buddha, 23, 36, 136,
139, 155
- animals depicted, 44, 50, 110, 122
- Anuttarayoga tantra, 21, 33. *See also*
Unexcelled Yoga tantra
- Apocalyptic Vehicle. *See* Esoteric Vehicle
- Ashtamahabodhisattvamandala Sutra*, 26
- Asia (*see also* China; India; Japan;
Tibet): Bangladesh, 21, 33; Buddhism
in, 25, 29, 33, 55; Buddhist art in, 22,
23–24, 26, 31, 35, 39; East Asian man-
dalas, 43–44, 114; Indonesia, 27, 31,
32, 114; mandala principle in,
143–144; Nepali art, 72–75, 85
- Astabuddhaka Sutra*, 26
- astrology, 44, 124, 125
- Aurangabad caves (India), 31
- Avalokiteshvara (bodhisattva), 37, 39,
51, 64, 120
- Avatamsaka Sutra*. *See* Flower Garland
Sutra
- Bangladesh, 21, 33
- Beatitude, Body of, 137, 141, 142
- between (*bar do*), 106, 137, 138, 142
- Bhaishajyaguru, 120
- Bhutan, portable stupa from, 69
- Bodhgaya, 128, 130, 134
- bodhisattvas (*see also* Eight Great
Bodhisattvas; *individual bod-
hisattvas*): in Buddhism, 21, 129; in
Japanese painting, 44; in mandalas,
30, 31, 44, 66, 96, 124; pure lands
theme and, 25–26, 60; sculptures of,
39, 114; Samantabhadra, 36, 138;
stupa symbolism and, 55
- Bodhi tree, 18, 19, 34, 51, 54
- Bodies of Truth, Beatitude, and
Emanation, 128, 137, 138, 141, 142
- body-isolation, 141
- body mandala, 139–140
- Borobudur, 31–33
- Buddha (*see also* Akshobhya Buddha;
Amitabha Buddha; buddhas;
Shakyamuni Buddha; Vairochana
Buddha): Amitayus Buddha, 64, 84,
88, 92; Amoghasiddhi Buddha, 23, 36,
136, 139, 155; Buddha's presence, 133,
134; colossal, 22–23, 39; depicted, 18,
19, 33, 53; Kalachakra Sand Mandala
and, 154, 156; Ratnasambhava
Buddha, 23, 36, 136, 139, 155;
Vajradakini Buddha, 104
- buddha-field. *See* pure land (*kshetra*)
- buddhahood: in Esoteric Vehicle, 140,
142, 157, 158; path to, 127, 129–130;
stupa symbolism and, 55
- buddha-mind: stupa as, 50, 55; in
Supreme Word initiation, 133; sym-
bolism of, 101
- Buddha of Infinite Light. *See* Amitabha

- Buddha
- buddhas: on Borobudur, 31; buddha-verse and, 128; cosmic, 21–24; in Hevajra mandala, 40; five buddha-clans, 23, 34–35, 53, 155; five Kasuga cult deities, 44, 120, 122; in Korean mandala, 44; in Manjuvajra mandala, 36, 53; 1,000-buddha motif, 22, 39; in Pala icons, 33; pure land theme and, 25
- buddhaverse, 128, 137
- buddha-world, 127. *See also* pure land (*kshetra*)
- Buddhism, 18 (*see also* Esoteric Vehicle; Individual Vehicle; Universal Vehicle); in China, 26, 29, 33, 44; in India, 18, 21, 23, 33, 55; in Japan, 44, 122; in Tibet, 18, 21, 33, 38, 39, 43, 56, 157
- Burma, Mahabodhi-type temples in, 54
- chakpu*, techniques with, 154, 155
- Chakrasamvara: father-mother pair, 39, 40, 85, 92; goddesses of, 85, 90, 104; mandala of, 72, 86, 89
- Chakravartin, 90, 134
- Chamunda, 43, 107, 109
- charnel or death grounds: in
Chakrasamvara mandala, 72, 85, 86, 92; in Hevajra mandala, 41; in initiatory mandala, 131; in Jnanadakini mandala, 94; symbolism of, 155, 159
- Charya (or Performance) tantras, 21, 23, 131
- China: artistic influence from, 43, 57, 104, 116; Buddha images in, 22, 23, 25, 26–27, 39; Buddhism in, 26, 29, 33, 44; mandala from, 125
- chortens, 19, 56
- circle: meaning of, 130, 160, 161, 162; six circles in Kalachakra Sand Mandala, 155–156
- Collection of Rites*, 42, 88
- colossal buddha figures, 22–23, 39
- concentrative quiescence (*shamatha*), 129
- Copper Mountain mandala paradise, 69
- cosmos (*see also* universe): Asian cosmogony, 143–144; buddhas as, 21–24, 36; mandala as, 17, 82, 110, 158, 160, 161; in stupa symbolism, 19
- Creation Stage (Unexcelled Yoga), 137–139
- cremation grounds. *See* charnel grounds or death-grounds
- critical insight (*vipashyana*), 129
- culture (*see also* Buddhism): mandalas and, 143–144, 163; Navajo and Tibetan compared, 160–161
- Dalai Lama, 98, 130, 157
- death (*see also* charnel grounds or death-grounds): Death Yoga practice, 137, 142; stupa symbolism and, 50
- deer, in Kasuga art, 44, 122
- Devata Sutra*, 37
- Dharma, Wheel of, 111, 133, 159
- Dharmadhatu Vagishvara Manjuvajra mandala, 82
- Dharmadhatu Vairochana mandala, 42
- Diamond Garland Sutra*, 82, 86, 88, 90, 94
- Diamond Pavilion tantra, 129
- diamond seat (*vajrasana*), 128
- Diamond World mandala, 28–31; examples, 32, 37, 114; Japanese, 116, parallels at Alchi, 39; symbolism of, 30, 116–117
- Drathang monastery (Tibet), 27

- drop mandala, 132, 139–140
- Dunhuang (China), 22, 24, 26
- earth, symbolized, 50, 131, 155
- East Asia, 43–44, 57, 114
- Edo period (Japan), art from, 123, 124
- egotism, offering mandala and, 109
- Eight Great Bodhisattvas, 26–28, 34;
depicted, 35, 36–37, 40, 84; Diamond
and Womb World mandalas and, 28,
117; in tantric Creation Stage, 138
- Ellora caves (India), 28, 31, 117
- Emanation, Body of, 137, 138, 141, 142
- endocrine drops, 140
- Enlightened Body, Mandala of, 154, 155
- Esoteric (*also cited as* Adamantine;
Apocalyptic; Secret Mantra;
Tantrayana; and Vajrayana) Vehicle,
21, 28, 129, 157; in China, 24, 29;
divinities in, 30, 31; Geluk order and,
43; in Japan, 44; in Kashmir, 21, 23,
39; mandala in, 135–143; and Pure
Land Buddhism compared, 26; sites
associated with, 31, 33, 34; and
Universal Vehicle compared, 128
- Exoteric Vehicle, 129, 133–134
- Famensi monastery (China), 29
- father-mother pairs, 36; in tantric sys-
tem, 132, 138; in Tibetan mandalas,
40, 76–78, 85–86, 90–92, 100–101,
105
- female lotus mandala, 132
- fire: in Chamunda offering mandala,
109; symbolized, 50, 131, 155
- five buddha-clans, 23, 34–35, 36, 53, 155
- five Kasuga cult deities, 44, 120, 122
- five wisdoms, 23, 136, 159
- Flower Garland Sutra* (*Avatamsaka
Sutra*), 22, 32, 36, 135
- Fujiwara family, 44, 120
- Garland of Perfection Yogas*, 76
- Geluk order, mandalas from, 43, 67,
107, 109, 110
- Great Perfection, 142–143, 159
- Great Stupa at Sanchi, 18–20, 33
- Great Vehicle. *See* Universal Vehicle
- Guhyasamaja father-mother, 40, 76, 98
- Guhyasamaja Tantra*, 137
- Gupta period (India), 34
- Gyantse, great stupa at, 83
- Hayagriva, 69, 92, 105
- Heart Sutra*, 134
- Heian period (Japan), 44, 124
- Heruka couples, 78, 105, 106
- Hevajra, 22; father-mother pair, 100,
105; mandala of, 40–41, 76, 102, 141
- Hevajra Tantra, 76
- Himalayan region, stupa characteristics
of, 55
- Hinayana Buddhism. *See* Individual
Vehicle
- Holy White Lotus of Real Teaching Sutra*,
135
- Huayen order, 23
- human beings, as mandalas, 128,
158–159
- Hymn of the Names of Manjushri*, 36, 53
- India (*See also* Pala period): Buddhism
in, 18, 21, 23, 33, 55; cultural influ-
ence of, 25, 33, 143; mandala origins
in, 55, 130, 132; in offering cosmos
mandala, 111
- Individual (*also cited as* Hinayana;
Lesser; Monastic; and Theravada)
Vehicle, 20, 157; Esoteric Buddhism
and, 21; mandala principle in, 127
- Indonesia, 27, 114; Borobudur in,
31–33
- Indrabhuti Vajradakini, 43, 104
- initiation, tantric, 132, 135–137, 160
- initiatory mandala, 107, 131
- Jagdispur, stele in, 34–35
- Jambhala, mandala of, 35–36
- Japan: Buddhism in, 44, 122; mandala
art in, 26, 27, 28–31, 44, 60–63; man-
dala examples from, 116–124; pagoda
from, 57
- Jingo-ji temple (Japan), 29
- Jnanadaka father-mother, 90
- Jnanadakini mandala, 94, 100
- Jodo sect (Japan), 25
- Jung, Carl Gustav, on mandala symbol-
ism, 162–163
- Kadam order (Tibet), art from, 56, 94
- Kagyü order (Tibet), art from, 40, 78,
94
- Kalachakra Buddha, 53
- Kalachakra mandala, 96, 98, 154–156;
father-mother pair, 101, 105
- Kamakura period (Japan), art from,
116–121, 124
- Kashmir, 21, 23, 35, 39, 42
- Kasuga cult (Japan), 44, 120, 122
- Kegon order, 23
- Khon Konchok Gyalpo, 42
- Kobo Daishi (Kukai), 28–29, 116
- Kofuku-ji temple (Japan), 120, 122
- Kongokai Mandara (Diamond World
Mandala), 28–31, 37, 116–117
- Korea, mandala from, 43–44

Kriyasamuccaya. See *Collection of Rites*

Kriya Tantras. See *Action tantras*

kshetra. See *pure land*

Kshitigarbha, 120

Khubilai Khan, 43

Kukai (Kobo Daishi), 28–29, 116

Kumano cult (Japan), 44

Kushana period (India), 34

Lalitavistara Sutra, 32

Land of Bliss Sutra, 135, 138

landscape, use of, 43, 110, 120, 131

Lesser Vehicle. See *Individual Vehicle*

Longmen (China), 22, 23

magic-body (*mayadeha*), 130, 142, 143

Mahabodhi temple model, 54

Mahachakra Vajrapani father-mother, 100

Mahakala, 67, 78, 102

Mahamaya father-mother, 76

Mahashamvara Kalachakra father-mother, 101

Mahashri Heruka father-mother, 78

Mahasthamaprapta, 25, 25, 64

Mahavairochana Sutra, 26, 29

Mahayana Vehicle. See *Universal Vehicle*

Maitreya, 27, 39, 51, 55, 67; in *Flower Garland Sutras*, 135; paradise of, 36

male-female-union archetype. See *father-mother pairs*

mandorla, 66, 106

Mani shrine, 69

Manjushri; in Kasuga cult art, 44; in Pala period, 36, 53; in tantric system, 140; in Tibetan mandalas, 36–39, 41, 82–83, 96

Manjuvajra, 36, 82, 98

mantras, in tantric Creation Stage, 137, 138, 139

Mara, 18, 34

Marichi Bodhisattva Sutra, 125

Marichi mandala, 42, 88, 125

meditation, 138–139, 158, 163; gesture of, 27, 31

Messianic Vehicle. See *Universal Vehicle*
monastic tradition. See *Individual Vehicle*

Mount Koya, four deities of, 123

Mount Meru, 19, 110, 131, 158

Muromachi period (Japan), 30, 122–123

Nairatmya, 40, 105

Namasngiti Manjuvajra, 53

Namgyal monastery (Tibet), 98, 154

natural mandalas, 131, 134

Navajo culture, 160–161

Nepali art, 42, 72–75, 85

nerve-channels, 140, 141

Ngor monastery (central Tibet), art from, 42, 86, 90, 92

nirvana, 158

Nispannayogavali, 17, 26, 36, 40, 76

Nyingma order, art from, 78

offering mandala, 109, 110, 111, 131

1,000-buddha motif, 22, 39

Orissa (India), 21, 27, 30

Padmapani, 31

Padmasambhava, 69, 158–159. See also Rinpoche, Guru.

pagodas, 19, 57

Pakistan, stupa from, 50

palace-architecture mandala, 17, 18, 37–38; Kalachakra Sand Mandala, 154–156; prototypes of, 26, 28, 39–40; symbolism of, 130, 137, 159; in tantric Creation Stage, 137–138

Pala period (India), 18, 33–36; art from, 27, 51, 53, 54, 55, 81; artistic influence of, 43, 81, 84

paradise. See *pure land (kshetra)*

Paramasukha Chakrasamvara: father-mother, 76; mandala of, 72, 85, 92

Perfection Stage (Unexcelled Yoga), 139–143; Creation Stage and, 137; mandala of, 102

Performance tantras, 21, 23, 131

planetary symbolism, 75, 110, 124, 125, 131

Prabhutaratna, 29, 135

Prajnaparamita, 55, 92

Prajnaparamitahrdaya Sutra, 134

pure land (kshetra): of Amitabha, 25–26, 36, 60; of Amitayus, 64; in Buddhism, 25–26, 64; of Eight Great Bodhisattvas, 26; of Maitreya, 36, 67
pure perception, 137, 157–158

Raktayamari, 98, 100

Ratnagiri, 27, 36

Ratnasambhava Buddha, 23, 36, 136, 139, 156

Ratnesha Buddha, 36

Rg Veda, 130

Rinpoche, Guru, 158. See also Padmasambhava.

Saddharmapundarika Sutra, 135

Sadhanamala, 17, 26

saha mandala, 128

Sakya order, art from, 42, 82–83, 86–88, 90–95, 102–103

samadhi, 130

- Samantabhadra, 36–37, 138
- samsara, 157, 158
- Sanchi, Great Stupa at, 18–20, 33
- sand mandalas, 154–156, 160, 161
- Sanno shrine (Japan), 44
- Sarvastivadin sect, 32
- Sarvatathagatatattvasamgraha Sutra*, 29
- sciences, influenced by tantras, 144
- Seal of Solomon, 81
- secret initiation, 132–133
- Secret Mandala of All Transcendent Lords and Ladies, 130
- Secret Mantra Vehicle. *See* Esoteric Vehicle
- Self and Cosmos mandala, 160
- Sena period (India), 33
- series mandalas, 41–42, 88, 163
- sexual union, 142. *See also* father-mother pairs
- Shakyamuni Buddha, 18; cosmic buddhas and, 22–23; in Eight Great Bodhisattva motif, 27; in *Flower Garland Sutras*, 135; holy land of, 134; in Japanese art, 26, 44, 120; life scenes from, 21–22, 33–34, 35, 37, 54; narrative accounts of, 131; in Pala art, 33–34, 51; royal symbolism and, 19, 133–134; in stupas, 19–20, 55; Tantric enlightenment account, 130–131; teachings of, 50, 127, 128; in Tibetan mandalas, 42, 66, 88, 131
- Shambhala, kings of, 96, 98
- Shingon order, 28, 29, 44, 116, 123
- Shinto, 44, 120, 122, 123, 124
- Shravasti, 21, 34, 134
- Shri Devi, 67, 78
- shugendo* (way of mystical practice), 44
- Siddhartha Gautama. *See* Shakyamuni Buddha
- skull bowl, 76, 81, 107, 109, 137
- Sleep Yoga practice, 142
- Sonsho Mandara, 27
- space, symbolized, 50, 131, 155
- Sparshavajra, 138
- speech-isolation (*vagviveka*), 141
- spirit of enlightenment mandalas, 132, 133, 139
- Star mandala, 124
- stelae, Pala period, 33–35
- stupa: on Borobudur, 32, 33; in Buddha holy land, 134; Great Stupa at Sanchi, 18–20, 33; in mandala of Manjushri, 36; origins of, 18, 19–20, 55; symbolism of, 20–21, 50, 51; use of, 50, 69; variants of, 56, 57
- “subliminal mandalas,” 131
- Sudhana, 33, 135
- Sukhavati (pure land of Amitabha), 25–26, 36, 60
- Sumatra, 33
- Supreme Bliss Wheel. *See* Chakrasamvara
- Surya (sun god), mandala of, 75
- sutra, 21, 134–135. *See also* individual sutras; Universal Vehicle
- Tabo monastery (India), 31, 33
- Taglung monastery, 78
- Taima Mandara, 25–26, 60
- Taizokai Mandara. *See* Womb World mandala
- Takao Mandara, 29–30, 118
- Tang period (China) 44, 124, 125
- tantra, 21, 127 (*See also* Esoteric Vehicle; individual tantras; Unexcelled Yoga tantra; Yoga tantra): cultural influence of, 143–144; mandala in, 135–143; path of, 129; in stupa symbolism, 55
- Tara, mandala of, 66
- Tendai order, 27, 44, 116, 118
- Thailand, Mahabodhi-type temples in, 54
- Theravada Buddhism. *See* Individual Vehicle
- Three Ages, 27
- Three Roots, deities of, 158
- Tibet: artistic characteristics from, 27, 33, 75, 82; Buddhism in, 18, 21, 33, 38, 39, 43, 56, 157; mandalas from, 40–43, 56, 64–68, 76–111, 132; mandala use in, 17–18, 131, 160, 162; and Navajo culture compared, 160
- Time-Wheel. *See* Kalachakra mandala
- Todai-ji temple (Japan), 24, 57
- To-ji temple (Japan), 30
- Transcendent Wisdom Sutras*, 134
- “true-nature manifestation,” 44, 120
- Truth, Body of, 129, 130, 137, 141, 142
- Tsong Khapa, 42, 67, 98
- Tushita Heaven, 67
- Ultimate Nirvana Scripture*, 50
- Unexcelled Yoga tantra, 21, 35; Borobudur and, 33; deities from, 78, 100; five buddha-clans and, 23; initiatory mandala and, 131–132; mandala of Manjushri and, 36; Mother tantras of, 72, 76, 81; spread of, 18, 30, 39
- Universal Mother (Vishvamata), 96, 100, 155, 156
- Universal (*also cited as* Great; Mahayana; Messianic) Vehicle, 21, 157; Borobudur and, 33; characteristics of, 21, 22, 129–130; and Individual Vehicle compared, 127;

mandala principle in, 128, 134–135
universe (*See also* cosmos): Indian representation of, 111; mandala as, 127, 131, 158; multiple, 21–22; in *Vimalakirti Sutra*, 134

Vairochana Buddha: colossal buddha as, 22; in Diamond and Womb World mandala, 30–31; in Eight Great Bodhisattva motif, 27; in Esoteric Buddhism, 23–24; in *Flower Garland Sutras*, 135; in Japanese mandala, 116; in Kalachakra Sand Mandala, 155; in Korean mandala, 43–44; in tantric system, 136; in Tibetan mandalas, 36, 39, 42, 82, 88

vajra: body, speech, mind, 136, 141; symbolism of, 159, 155

Vajradakini Buddha, 104

Vajradhara, 40, 76, 92, 100, 102, 105; rebirth as, 138

Vajradhatu Buddha, 88

Vajradhatu mandala. *See* Diamond World mandala

Vajranairatmya, 76, 90, 102

Vajrapani, 31, 92, 96, 98, 100, 105; Bhutadamara Vajrapani, 42, 88

vajra repetition (*vajrajapa*), 141

Vajrasattva, 30, 36, 55, 92, 140

Vajravalī series mandala, 42, 86, 88

Vajravarahi, 81, 105

Vajrayana Buddhism. *See* Esoteric Buddhism

vase initiation, 132, 136

Vimalakirti Sutra, 128, 134

Vishvamata, 96, 100, 155, 156

Waking Yoga practice, 141–142, 143

water, symbolized, 50, 131, 158

way of mystical practice. *See shugendo*

West Bengal, 21, 33

Western Xia period (Tangut), 37

wheel (*See also* Chakrasamvara; Kalachakra mandala): body wheels, 140, 141; Buddha's presence as, 133; chakravartin, 90, 134; of law (*dharmachakramudra*), 31; Wheel of Dharma, 111, 133, 159

Whirling Logs Sand Mandala (Navajo), 161

wind: energies of, 140, 141; mandala of, 158

wisdom (*See also* Manjushri): five wisdoms, 23, 136, 159; in Kalachakra Sand Mandala, 155, 156

wisdom-intuition initiation, 133, 136

womb, mandala as, 130

Womb World mandala, 28–31, 37,

116–117, 118–119

word initiation, 133, 136

wrathful deities, 21. *See also* Hevajra

Xixia period (Tangut), 37

Yama, 43, 86, 107, 109

Yamantaka, 40, 98, 100, 102

Yeshe O, King of Ngari, 38

Yoga tantra (*See also* Unexcelled Yoga tantra), 21, 29, 35; five buddha-clans and, 23; initiatory mandala and, 131;

Yongmun-sa temple (South Korea), 43

Yuan dynasty (China), 43

Yulin grottoes (China), 27, 32, 36–38

Yungang (China), 22–23, 39

zodiac, 75