### PHO-BAR RDO-GČOG /.

#### By GEORGES DE ROERICH.

A MONG the many popular plays of a religious character in Tibet, there exists one that enjoys special veneration, and whose performers are considered to possess supernatural powers that enable them to carry out the play. Such a ceremony is the 'breaking of stone' known under the Tibetan name of TARTON pho-bar rdo-geog / pronounced p'o-war do-cok /.

Nowadays it is only seldom performed, and the ancient art of rdo-geog or stone-breaking is rapidly vanishing. The purpose of the ceremony is to destroy an evil spirit which takes its abode in a stone. The ceremony of 'breaking the stone' is said to have been first performed by the great mahāsiddha Thañ-stoñ rgyal-po, a Tibetan wizard of the XIV-XVth centuries / born in 1385 /, and the famous builder of the Chu-bo ri bridge on the Yaru tsang-po, some 32 miles South-West of Lhasa. During my stay in Lahul, North-West Himālayas, I was fortunate to witness twice this ceremony performed by a troupe of travelling lama-actors from Spiti. After the ceremony, the chief lama-actor or lo-chen / lo-tsā-ba chen-po /, who is usually the preceptor and trainer of the rest of the troupe, was good enough to recite the songs accompanying the ceremony, and to give me a brief historical outline on the origin of the ceremony. The Tibetan text of the story as told by the lama māṇi-pa / actor / has been revised by Lama Lobzang Mingyur Dorje, and is here given in the original and in translation.

## इ.चर.इ.चेश्चे.चे.जूरी

२.चक्रमक्षान्ने : च्याक्षान्यक्षा । विद्याने : च्याक्षाने : च्याकष्णे : च्

गुरु-गुरु-गुरु-१। गु-४८-१८-गु-माहर-४-अम्बर-१-४५-१न्बर-४-४-४-४-अर-स-स-स-झ.इ.इसस.ग्रेश.सैंच.चटेट.। रेजूब.स्. (क्रिचोश.स.) क्ष्मश.ग्रेश.रेजूब.चक्र.चेश.ग्रेस.ग्रेट. सत्तर्। तात्राद्रीर यात्रीट त्रुप्ये द्रायायके। यायाद्री इसा इत्स्यायके। यायाद्री स्था बुर्द्धातात्रकृ। तातार्युन्तर्भ्यात्रम् तर्ज्यात्रकृत्व्युक्तर्रात्रक्षा अस्त्र इ.५४.त्र.कृष्ट्र.रेजूट्श.त.ज.सं.शर्.श्रु.तजा.कृर.कूट.ठज्ञे.लुथ.ठच्या.तथ। २.४२.५.८चा. मी. पर्ने म. स्वसा. रे. १८ र. र. प्र. १९५ र मूर्य सा. स. स. स. सीय. ह्या सर. ह्या. मीया हा हारा सा. हारा सा चावरामान्त्रराम् निष्णामान् । ब्रास्ट्रिये देवीय प्रमाहित्रेय राष्ट्रिया वर्षा वर्षा द्वे अ.श्वे.श्वे.श्वे.स्व.हर हुँद्व.पर्यो.म्वे.पर्वे.सश । रेवे.पर्वे त.स्वश हुरे.ज.श्वर.त.मावर. ल. मुन्द्रच निवासमा र .के. र ट. स्वस लिखा है। र .वस स वीय खूर वट . कूट मिन सू ह . विवास गु.रेजूट्स.त.ज। इ.र्द.त्र.ष्ट्रं यावि.ल्यं.तथार.उज्.रेजूस.वैवाश.ज.रेजूट्स.वस.वस. श्रीयत . ज. कृंचाश्व. शह्च . थश्व.चा हुचाश. राश्च । चे.चट. रेचार . मूर्ट. ह्यू.चायुचा.चायश. र सट. श्चर,वश्चात्रस्य,वर्ग्नामीय,वर्ग्नासम्। समीय,क्ष्य,वरः ह्रेट.क्ष्य,स्यु,स्य,ग्री,स्य,य,र. चारुचा.रे.क्रिंज.वर्श.चे.बट.रेचार.क्रेट.ग्र.टेर.क्ष्रेयश.वंश.ग्रंचश.ग्रा । ड्र.ट्र.ग्र.क्र.ज.क्रे.र. च.चर्चेब.लूरे.चर. .. हुरे. दशका श्रिका श्राट क्षेत्र एवं शर्मे व.हा. विचा क्षेत्र वाक्ष्मी लूट वाव लूटे. तर हिर्देशका होका झु.स.चर्याची तर लर चार्ट्ट हुची. ,, कुरा चार्शिट हुन् । । रे.चरा च.चैच. हुच. घट. कुट. म्री.म. मू.चे.म. त्राचश.स.झू.म. च. ईश्वश. कुश. च.श.मू. चम. १८८. इन. चणेबी. चर्णेबी. चर्चा,मिट.इ.रूब.सा.कुर्च. श्वेचांश्व.मीशाशिवे.बशा.सु.र.च.वेशशालाच्याचे.कैलाता दवु. सर्गोद:रा.र.२८८.लट,स.चश्चेयश.मशिटश.तश। झॅ.र.च.रेशश.ग्रीश। सर्गेर्य:र्यामीवर. वे.भूब.तरेचा । व.घट.रचेर.च्र्र.ज्यूच्यात्राच्यक्षात्राच्यः १८०.४.४.चायुचा.परेचा.तरेचा.तर् वसाविकाराक्ष । इ.इ.य.स.इ.इ.ए.वकावका २.२८.श.मोट्ट.य.मोशिटकावकावयकात्मावका रथानी वर्तेक्षान्व म्यवासहर प्रथा क्षिर वर्षिक्षानि स्थानि देश है दे

र् दिवसारान्दा । इ.म्बर्स् देशकारमाव स्थापा १ राद्वे झारावे सामाक्रम सूदावर्गीयो उर्वेचात्त्र । र्.ज.पूर्त्योक्षात्र्यसम्बद्धान्यत्यसम्बद्धान्यस्य । सः मीच.सूच.सट.कूट.मीज.तूस.ह.हच.तू.क.जा.बेस.ता। २.सट.मी.स्ट.चटचा.टु.चट.स्.लूट. बुश्रायश । इ.इ.स.स.इट्रेश । र.श्राट्ट, सु.च्.श्रावंश वी.च्याय व.स.च.च.च.च्याय विश्व लूर्-चिश्रास्था र्-दश्याचीय.बूच् बटा.बूटाचीय.तूश्यायर-चरचा.र्-र्-शिचा.तू. स्थानर चार.ज. चक्रीशक्ष.बेश. झे. शटु. म्रिंश. टे.चार्य.रेरका.वंश.चींच.ग्रुच.ची. सेचा. शह्च.जि. लक्ष.श्र. त.२.श्रिम.४४.चकुचा.श्रिर.४४.चड्डचार्था.मी.सै४.श्रिम.४४.च.१५.४४६८। चाठुचा.सेचा.हूर. र्शेतात्रारे पूर्व त्रास्त्र । चाष्ट्यात्येत्रात्रे स्त्रात्रे हिराक्षात्रे र्शेतात्राह्रे देर्द्रात्रात्र चर्यः र्टरशः वशः सं. शर् शः चर्यः सर् . सर् . सर् . सर् . स्टरशः वशः ने . स्टः चीयः सूत्रः सूत्रः सहर । सूत्रः क्श. चक्रेय. परेचा. इर. वेश. ध्र. च्य. हा. इर. जर. चा. ज. चब्रुय. वश. केर. हा. ज. इर्ट. परेचा. राष्ट्र. सर्व.रे । इ.र.ष्ट्र.क्ष.त्र.क्ष.क्ष.क्ष.व्याजालर.इ.लट.इ.इ.सेर.टा.जावेश.वंशावक्यांश. श्रा.। र.ज.नक्षत्रत्रास्त्री.मूर्.रे.श्रा.च.र्टा.पर्टे.श्रुय.चारेचारा.वर्यक्षश्राध्यश्राचार्यः व ल.र्. यर्. लट.ष्ट्र. च. १४ . चीश्राचक्रतीश.र चूशा लट.र्. लट.र्. लट.र्. ज. चेश.रश.चक्रता.चिश्रंटशा र्ट्-४२, त्राष्ट्रचा.ता.ज. ( ग्रह्-४८, जूर) क्या.य.ष्ट्रश्न.सी। च्रिक्श.वा.ज.क्या.य.जूह्नश्र.सी। चर्निस. तात्राक्ष्यात्रक्षिता चत्रीयात्राक्ष्यात्रक्षियात्रक्षेत्रक्षेत्रच्ये । स्यायाः क्यात्रक्षात्रक्षेत्राचार् ह। वैभाराजाक्यावार्यात्राहरावेषा चर्याताजाक्यावास्यास्यास्याव्यान्यावा चक्रीर्रातात्राक्ष्मादायर्राम् विमान्नायक्षर् । र्यातात्राक्षमादार्ष्ट्रमादार्यम् । वर्षःयात्रा क्ष्मा.य.क्रुंय.रार्.सह्य.त.च्छ। च्छ.माठुमा.रा.ज.क्ष्मा.य.परामाका.रा.च्छ.माठुमा.खेरा। च्छ. चित्रेश्वातात्राक्ष्यात्राक्षये अत्राच्येत्रस्य चित्रम् । चित्रम् स्वाधिक्षायात्राक्षयात्राक्षयाः स्वीक्ष्यः राष्ट्र-श्र-लूप् । श.क्ष्यो.स.श्र-लूट.ट्र. । ।श.क्ष्यो.स.चैट.प्.मैच.लाट.श्र-थेट.ट्र. । ।ई.डेश. ट्य.ल्य.तथा.रेजूर.क्य.वी.स.इस.जा.चक्व्याका.यंका.चे.स.क्य.क्य.राजा.सयय.रेजूका । लट.य.

र्जुश्र.स.कुर.रू.॥ लट.र.पुश्र.स.चम्बेश.पेर.पेर.रटा.। ८.मुच्.शर्गूट.चमेर.ग्रीश.रे.रशर.मीच.रश.चक्चा. स.शर्र.शर.श.क्चा.स.चैट.र्यमे.लश.मी.चाशेश.शर्रूर.मिर.रश.शचर.र.च्येश.ग्रू.पेर.रटा.र्जूर. शोचर.पुर.ग्रु.श्र.स.च्या.स.चव्चाश.रश.मेश.ग्रू.पुर.ग्रु.र्यश.शचर.र्याश.

Translation :-

'At the time when Pha-grub-chen Than-ston rgyal-po (Pha-grub-chen is an honorary title given to a great seer; the word "pha" is used here in the sense of our "father, elder, reverend") was erecting the monastery of Čun Ribo-che, evil omens made their appearance. Whatever was built by men during the day, was destroyed by demons during the night. After performing the ceremony of breaking the stone for the first time, they were able to resume work on the monastery. At the time of building the iron bridge of Chu-bo-ri, the demon dBan-rgyal caused the water to rise, and thus hindered the construction of the bridge. After performing the ceremony of breaking the stone there for the second time, the iron bridge was built.

In Lhasa the demon Hala rta-brgyad and a "planetary demon" / gza'-bdud often stands for Rāhula / caused a great many diseases, especially the disease of the bowls and pains in the intestines. Doctors administered their medicines, magicians their charms, but these were of no avail. Some died while collecting wood in the mountains, others while partaking of food. Some died while dressing, others while enjoying themselves. The Precious Lord of Lhasa / rJe-rin-po-čhe Tson-kha-pa, 1357-1419 / pondered over the matter, and said: "The people of Lhasa are mostly dying out! If the great mahāsiddha Than-ston rgyal-po of the Čun Ri-bo-čhe Monastery possesses no means to control the disease, no one else can do anything." The Precious Lord despatched messengers to the Čun Ri-bo-čhe Monastery with the message: "My people of Lhasa are mostly dying out! You are the only one who can subdue this disease, others can do nothing. Come at once!"

The great mahāsiddha Than-ston rgyal-po after reflecting on the matters said: "This being a command of the Precious Lord, I must go!" Pointing his fore-finger to heaven, he perceived a mighty white-tailed eagle flying high in the sky. The great mahāsiddha Than-ston rgyal-po having assumed the form of an "iron Atsara" / none was able to explain to me the meaning of the word leags "iron" in this sentence. It may mean "iron-coloured", or according to others it may mean "well-protected", that is, Than-ston rgyal-po going to fight the spirit of the epidemic, assumed a well-protected magic form / mounted the mighty white-tailed eagle, and proceeded to Lhasa.

The Precious Lord ordered to his seven door-keepers: "I am expecting to-morrow an important guest to arrive. Let him come upstairs without hindrance!"

The great mahāsiddha Than-ston rgyal-po having arrived, the door-keepers did not recognize him, and detained him for a while. The Precious Lord perceived this in his mind, and said to the door-keepers: "My guest did not arrive as yet?" The door-keepers replied: "There is no other guest, except one Atsara who came riding on a mighty white-tailed eagle. Is this the one?" The Precious Lord exclaimed: "Why did you not let him in at once?", and having pulled out a sword from beneath his leg, he was ready to strike the door-keepers. The door-keepers opened the gate and led the guest into the presence of the Precious Lord. The Precious Lord said: "Nowadays my people of Lhasa are mostly dying out! If you are unable to help in this, no one else can do anything."

The mahāsiddha Than-ston rgyal-po then requested the Precious Lord:
"Where resides the spirit of the present epidemic?" To this the Precious Lord answered: "At present he is found under the threshold of my door, and has the shape of a stomach." Then the mahāsiddha Than-ston rgyal-po having caused the spirit of the epidemic to enter inside this brownish stone, which had the shape of a stomach, invited the stone to the market place of Lhasa. From the five fingers of the mahāsiddha five flames sprang up. One assumed the form of Avalokiteçvara, and acted as preacher of the Doctrine; another assumed the form of Vajrapāṇi, and acted as his assistant; a third one assumed the form of a goddess possessing a melodious voice.

Having placed the stone in a yard, all the elderly people of Lhasa gathered to see the ceremony, saying: "To-day a mad mahāsiddha will perform some crazy things!" And there in the presence of the assembled elderly people of Lhasa, who came to the ceremony riding on sticks, he Than-ston rgyal-po broke this stone, which was just the size of a stomach, with another stone similar to a magic dagger.

In the present evil kalpa, one has to use a bigger stone to break it, for the purpose of subduing demons, ogresses and evil spirits. If one breaks the stone with the first stroke it signifies dharmakāya. If one breaks the stone with the second stroke it signifies sambhogakāya. If one breaks it with the third stroke it signifies nirmāṇakāya. If one breaks it with the fourth stroke it signifies the Lords of the Four Quarters. If one breaks it with the fifth stroke it signifies the five dhyāni-buddhas. If one breaks it with the sixth stroke it signifies the manifestation of Buddha in the six state of existence. If one breaks it with the seventh stroke it signifies the seven groups of Buddhas,

If one breaks it with the eighth stroke it signifies the eight Sugatas. If one breaks the stone with the ninth stroke it signifies the nine stages of the Vehicle / Doctrine /. If one breaks it with the tenth stroke it signifies the ten forms of the Teacher. If one breaks it with the eleventh stroke it signifies the eleven headed Avalokiteçvara. If one breaks the stone with the twelfth stroke it signifies the twelve manifestations of the Earth-goddess. If one breaks it with the thirteenth stroke it signifies the sphere of Vajradhara. If one is unable to break the stone, one should not proceed with the ceremony, this being an evil omen. If the stone is found under the threshold of a monastery, a great lama should subdue it; again if it is found under the threshold of a castle, a great king should subdue it. If one is unable to break it in a region where there are no castles or monasteries, one should place it at the meeting place of three highways, and there it should be broken either by a hundred blacksmiths' striking it with their hammers, or by a hundred boys' attacking it with loud cries, or by eight strong young men smashing it'.

Such is the story of the origin of this ceremony. It will be noticed from the above story that each stroke with which the stone is broken corresponds to a divine manifestation. At the beginning of the ceremony the lama-actors or lama-māni-pas arrange a travelling altar or mēhod-beams with the image of Than-ston rgyal-po placed on it. Than-ston rgyal-po is usually represented as an old man, sitting naked and cross-legged, his white hair arranged in a kind of knot on the crown of his head. In his hands, which are placed on his lap, the sage holds the tshe-bum or amrta vase. Behind the image of Than-ston rgyal-po two painted images or than-sku are placed; one representing the fourarmed manifestation of the Bodhisattva Avalokiteçvara, and the other representing the life-story or rnam-thar of Dri-med kun-ldan. The head lamaactor or lo-chen wears the usual monastic attire. On his head he wears the five-coloured hat of an actor / Tibetan: phod-ka / adorned with multicoloured ribbons. During the initial prayer before the ceremony, the lo-čhen or chief lama-actor holds in his left hand the rosary / 'phren-ba /, and in his right hand the prayer wheel / mani 'khor-lo /.

He opens the ceremony by blowing the conch and reciting the following prayer:—

श्चिरः रुरः चीड्नेन्यसः गुटः द्वसः गुः तटः त्यः चितुः ॥ श्चः सः सः त्युः रुद्धः गुः तटः त्यः चितुन्यसः ॥ श्चः प्रचुः तः सन्ति रुद्धः गुः तटः त्यः चितुन्यसः ॥ श्चः प्रचुः तः सन्ति रुद्धः गुः तटः त्यः चितुन्यसः ॥ श्चः प्रचुः तः सन्ति रुद्धः गुः तटः त्यः चितुन्यसः ॥ श्चः प्रचुः तः सन्ति रुद्धः गुः तटः त्यः चितुन्यसः ॥

क्र्यू.स.५.त.चुं । क्र्यू.स.५.त.चुंस.॥ क्रू.इन.चुंस.स.क्रूस.ग्री.टट.ज.चेबेबेश॥ वट.क्रूट.चेंस.स.क्रूस.ग्री.टट.ज.चेबेबेश॥ वट.क्रूट.चेंस.स.क्रूस.ग्री.टट.ज.चेबेबेश॥

Translation :-

Let us salute the Teachers!

Bow to the feet of the Venerable Lord of Living Beings!

Abide in the spiritual essence of the Eternal Teacher!

Abide in the spiritual essence of Avalokiteçvara!

Abide in the spiritual essence of the All-Merciful One!

Abide in the spiritual essence of Than-ston rgyal-po!

Abide in the spiritual essence of the sublime Pandita!

You, country-folk, recite the six-lettered mani!

Om mani padme hun!

A large stone, which is obtained from the neighbourhood by the lo-chen and his assistants, is placed in front of the travelling altar. Frequently these stones are extremely heavy and can hardly be lifted by one man. After placing the stone in front of the altar, one of the lama-actors draws on its surface a human figure, representing the nad-bdag or spirit of the epidemic who is to be destroyed through the ceremony. The initial prayer and burning of incenses over the stone is followed by a dance. The head lama-dancer leads the dance, and rhythmically strikes the cymbals. Two of his assistants follow him in a frantic dance. With each ringing sound of the cymbals the dance doubles its pace, and at the end of the dance the performers whirl past the onlookers, their dancing skirts tracing large circles in the air.

When the dance is over, the performers rest, while the lo-chen turns his prayer-wheel in a silent prayer. The silence is interrupted by shrill sounds similar to those used by Tibetan herdsmen in driving yaks. There appears one of the performers attired as a shepherd in a grey homespun coat, and wearing a black sheep-skin cap. His face is smeared with tsam-pa or parched barley flour. He is holding a sling / Tibetan 'ur-rdo / and a bag with tsam-pa. He makes the round of the place on which the ceremony is held, and jeers at the crowd of onlookers, swinging his sling. During this part of the dance the lo-chen or head lama-actor represents the dharmarāja Nor-bzah, the destroyer of evil ones / the dharmarāja Nor-bzah and Thah-stoh rgyal-po are both considered

to be destroyers of evil forces; there seems to be no inner connection between the Chos-rgyal Nor-bzań-gi rnam-thar, and the ceremony of 'breaking the stone' /. The lo-chen representing the king Nor-bzań questions the shepherd, and notwithstanding the latter's evasive answers, discovers in the shepherd the Wild King of the North / byań mi-rgod rgyal-po /, his deadly enemy. 'Who are you, and what is the purpose of your coming here?'—is the question put by the king Nor-bzań to the shepherd, who sits down before the altar and plays with a tsam-pa ball. King Nor-bzań then challenges the disguised Wild King of the North. A fight takes place during which the Wild King of the North rolls several times on the floor. Mortally wounded by king Nor-bzań, the Wild King of the North sings the following song:—

- (१) नगान् खूस्ताना सङ्ग्राना श्रीसान् । स्थान । स्थान
- त्रियोद्धर्भः स्ट्रियोद्धः स्ट्रियास्य स्ट्रियाः स्ट्रियः स्ट्र
- ची.ला.चक्षेत्र.चचटाची.श्रञ्ज्ञ्च्यं श्रच्यामाश.श्रथ॥ ची.ह.उ विट.चव्य.क्ष्र.च्याच्याः ची.ह.उ विट.चव्य.क्ष्र.च्याच्याः ची.ह.उ विट.चव्य.क्ष्र.च्याच्याः ची.ट्य.क्ष्र.च्यां ची.ट्य.क्ष्र.च्यां ची.ट्य.क्ष्यां जी.ह्यं ची.ट्य.क्ष्यां जी.ह्यं ची.ट्य.क्ष्यां जी.ह्यं ची.ट्य.क्ष्यां जी.ह्यं ची.ट्य.क्ष्यं ची.क्ष्यं ची.ट्य.क्ष्यं ची.ट्य.क्ष्यं ची.ट्य.क्ष्य.क्य

# (८) ह्यु कुर सूर्य मिर चर् हु हर स्ट्री। कुर सूर्य मूर्य स्थानीय ज्ञान ज्ञान शि सक्त सूर्य कुर सूर्य मिर चर् हु हर स्ट्री।

I.

There are three manifestations of the most excellent Doctrine:
The first is the All-knowing Lord,<sup>1</sup>
The second is the All-knowing Pandita,<sup>2</sup>
The third is the Teacher wearing the yellow hat.<sup>3</sup>
I say, these are the three manifestations of the lofty Doctrine!

II.

There are three forms of happy songs:

The first is the good harvest in the field.

The second is the well-filled royal granary.

The third is a son and wealth on the lap of a wealthy bride.

I say, these are the three forms of happy songs!

#### III.

There are three forms of pleasant songs:
From Tatgienlu comes China tea,
From Khams comes yak butter,
To the two monasteries of sTag-lun we offer tea!
This man drinking China tea,
Is he not bsKal-bzan rgya-mtsho of rGya? 4

#### IV.

This bag contains my daily food, While walking at day, I carry it on my back. While sleeping at night, I place it as a cushion.

This brings the second part of the ceremony to an end. While one of the lama-actors recites the māṇi-prayer over the stone, the lo čhen prepares himself for the sword-dance. The upper part of his body is stripped naked, and a light shawl is fixed to his naked shoulders with two long pins. A large pin is introduced through his left cheek. These gruesome preparations take a

2 The Tashi Lama.

1 Tson-kha-pa.

considerable time, and cause great excitement among the crowd of onlookers. Then the lo-chen takes two swords and begins a slow dance, with each step swinging the swords in front of himself. Several times during the dance, he points the two swords towards his belly, and jumps on them resting his body on the swords' points. Then pointing the swords towards his armpits he makes several similar jumps resting his body on the sword-points. A tense moment during which the onlookers draw nearer to the dancing man; one false step on his part and the sharp points of the two swords would pierce his body, causing fatal injury. The sword-dance is accompanied by the following song which is here given in the Tibetan text and translation:—

श्चिमार्द्धमार्थित ते के किया मानव के मानव यम्बरम्बरम्भिर्मा सर्वास्वरम् सामिव।। ब्रेर्-त.ल्र्र-र्-रिट-विट-विज-लक्ष-शि॥ सिना र बेट. कि. च क्षेत्र . झे. क्ष्मीश . जा मी खूज . च . पं रे च था। श्रमीक्रया: ऑर.र्.ट्रामी, यस्य अर्था र स्ट्रा मिश्रिट,सक्रुची,लु.ची,रैची,स.ज.मोश्रूज,च.उर्रेचस ॥ श्रीदामार्थिदार्दे हरू गु निर्मेदार्थ । क्ष-रमा बेरा है। कुरारी जाना स्थान परिचया। ब्रे'मप्पॅर्'र्नेमरे'केर'विष्ट्र'वें'ड् ॥ श.मोटुचा:शोयद.चु.कु.जि.ज.मोशूज.य.पर्चयशा नाशर नारका लूर र जूर श हैर ना बर से ?। र्रे है नवित नुदे झ देर या नार्येया या पदेवस ॥ रम् अस स्पेर् दे वर्षे मार मा निष्य बु.सि.रेश.तर् .सं.क्र्येशतातात्वास्त्रतातं रेरेयशा माराष्ट्रचारा.लूर.रू.के.च.श.चचर.जा। र्वट.स्ना.केर.चर्चर.का.ब्र्चाश.ल.चार्श्राज.च.उर्रेचश ॥

मान्यस्य स्थान्य स्था

#### Translation :-

On the throne of the sun and moon, which is the crown of our head, O Merciful and Virtuous Teacher, Thou knowest all!

In the incomparable conch-house, which is our skull,

We pray to the divine assembly of the fifty khrag-'thun'!

In the melodious speech produced by our throat,

We pray to the most excellent six-lettered prayer!

In the Wheel of Law, which is our chest,

We pray to the Protecting Deity, the Great Merciful One!

In the Wheel of Felicity, which is our navel,

We pray to the five kinds of dākinis!

In the Sambhogakāya, which is the hidden organ of our body,

We pray to the divine assembly of the rDo-rje gšon-nu!

In the fathom square, which is our body,

We pray to the divine assembly of the Holy Peaceful and Wrathful Ones!

In the twenty-eight joints which form our spine, We pray to the divine assembly of the twenty-eight Lords! There are precepts and precepts!

The Virtuous Teacher gave us the precept:

"Son, practise archery and lance drill!"

There are precepts and precepts!

Our father and mother gave us the precept:

"Son, do not practise archery and lance drill!"

We disobeyed the parents' order,

We carried out the Virtuous Teacher's order!

I shall practise archery and sword drill!

You, country-folk, recite the six-lettered māṇi!

Om māṇi padme hūn!'

It will be observed from the above that each part of the human body is mentioned as corresponding to the seat of a divine manifestation. On finishing the sword-dance, the head lama-actor attires himself in his monastic garment, and begins the preparations of the final and culminating part of the ceremony-the breaking of the stone and the driving away of the evil spirit. The mantle belonging to one of the lama-actors, on whose body the stone is to be broken, is held over the stone, and the head lama-actor passes his sword over it, reciting the mani-prayer and sounding his bell. The dancer, on whose body the stone is to be broken, then lies down in front of the stone, covers his head with the mantle, and for some time remains in this posture, inhaling some burning incense which he is holding in his clasped hands in front of him. The rest of the lama-actors continue to recite prayers over him. The blue smoke of the incense envelops the body of the lying man. His fellow dancers with a grave and concentrated look continue to murmur prayers. The cadence of the prayer becomes quicker and quicker, and then suddenly comes to a stop, as if interrupted. The actor is then declared to be ready for the final ceremony. He lies down on his back, a piece of thin cloth is placed on his stomach, and the heavy stone is lifted by two dancers and slowly placed on his body. The head lama-actor then lifts the second stone and drops it twice on the stone which is on the dancer's body. With the second stroke, a crash is heard and the huge stone breaks asunder. The dancer gets up, a bit pale, but none the worse for his experience. Immunity from fatal injury while performing the ceremony is attained by long years of special training. The dancer who underwent the eeremony in my presence had an unusually developed chest and powerful build.

The breaking of the stone is followed by a dance accompanied by music on a string instrument or pi-wang, played during the dance by the lo-čhen or head lama-actor. The dance is accompanied by the following song which is a variant of a well-known Tibetan dance song:—

# मु.रे.लट.तर्.लयका.स. रू.धी।

		- At	
नीट.कूर्य.सह्यूज.२। (लट.चेट.।)		र्व. चुनुन्त्रामा अस्तर पुरस्य विदः॥	
ল্মেক্র্মের্মের। "		२४.* श्रट.चबेचाश.शश्य.२.२चात.वैट.॥	
ञ्चाक्रि.सर्वे.स.२। "		व.क्रिज.चलेबोश.स्रवेश.टे.स्बोर.वैट.॥	
ব্লীব্-ভ্রমের্ফ্রম-ড। "		লেখ্য বর্ষ বর্ষ বর্ষ বর্ষ বর্ষ বর্ষ বর্ষ বর্ষ	
শ্লু-মামমার্র-ম-ত।		ध्र.कृषे.चर्चेचोद्यार्थक्षा.चे.चेचार्थःचैटः॥	
र्धमाम्याम्यामा		लच.लेश.चबैचोश.सक्त.चै.रेचोर.चैट.॥	
		П.	
(१) छेर्-इस-म-र्गुम	ह्य मध्य रा। (	নার্থিट.প্রের।)	देन् दस्य य के ज्ञामकेश स्त्रा।
र्नीट.रेट.के.चि.चक्रिय.च्रा		,,	उड्डाश. चश्रश. रा. लूट. ज. शृथ.
			35्गा
रे.हर.पर्.व.स्सस्या		,,	चना.क्चाश्रास्त्रेश.चे.च≡ट.चैट.॥
(३) हिर्'र्थताचानाच्याक्रेर्'अर्थरच्छ।		,,	देर्'द्रस'स'र्र'शेट'र्णर'स् ॥
नाम्रा-त्र-त्र-श्रीमार्श्यामा		,,	र्ज्यका. चश्रम. रा. कुरे. जा. सुरे.
			৭5়ুলা
रे.इट.वर्.२.व्ह्सस्याः।		,,	यमा.क्ष्मेश्र.श्रेश.ये.चवट.वेट.॥
(३) हिन्द्रभायाञ्चमार्थेन् सर्वेद्या		,,	ट्र-इस.स.च.चेन.च्र-च्रा
चना-रट-च-मुभ-मार्ड्श-द्रा		,,	उड्डाम्बर, चश्रम, च. कूरे, ज. धृषे.
			95्य।
रे.इट.पर्.२.४.इसश.स।		33	यम्। क्यांश्रास्त्रेश. ये.च इट. येट. ॥
	31	* 415.81	

নাম-নূর।\*

- यर. टे. शुरु कुरे च व्यः लेल. टे. प्रधित्य ॥ यर. टे. शुरु कुरे चीत्य व्यः लेल. टे. प्रधित्य ॥ यर. टे. शुरु कुरे चीत्य लेल. टे. प्रधित्य ॥ यर. टे. शुरु कुरे चीत्य लेल. टे. प्रधित्य ॥
- स्वयःसरःस्रेरःक्षेत्रःस्रुयःस्यःस्ययः प्रतिद्धः ॥ स्वयःसरःस्रेरःक्षेत्रःच्यादसःस्ययः प्रतिद्धः ॥ स्वयःसरःस्रेरःक्षेत्रःच्यादसःस्ययः प्रतिद्धः ॥ स्वयःसरःस्रेरःक्षेत्रःच्यादसःस्ययः प्रतिद्धः ॥
- ( भ ) श्रेन्द्रिया सर्केन् प्रमानिक स्थानिक स्थानिक स्थानिक ।। अन्द्रिया सर्केन् ।।

\* 494

# अ:र्रेना:स्यानी:यी:ल:सक्र्या। अ:र्रेना:सक्र्यानी:यी:ल:सक्र्या।

## (६) श्रेन्द्रियाः सर्हेद्रः द्रमः स्रेन्द्रियाः सर्हेद् ॥ श्रेन्द्रियाः स्रोहेद्याः सर्हेद्याः सर्हेद्द्याः सर्हेद्द्र॥

Translation :-

I.

In the lofty blue sky,
We are happy with the sun and moon!
In the lofty high snowy abode,
We rejoice with the snow lion!
On the high lofty cliff,
We rejoice with the eagle!
In the lofty hermitage,
We rejoice with the Uplifter!
In the lofty castle,
We rejoice with the Chief!
In the lofty blessed home,
We rejoice with Father and Mother!

#### П.

You are the lofty blue sky, We are both the sun and moon! Heaven and sun and moon. Had no thought of coming together! To-day we gathered here. Our habits have become virtuous! You are the high snowy abode, We are the white snow lion! Snow and snow lion, Had no thought of coming together! To-day we gathered here, Our habits have become virtuous! You are the lofty high cliff, We the fierce eagles! Cliff and eagle, both, Had no thought of coming together! To-day we gathered here, Our habits have become virtuous!

#### III.

At first a flower was born in the snowy country, At first the flower ser-chen was born in the snowy country, At first a flower was born in the realm of the gods, At first the flower ser-chen was born in the realm of the gods. Then a flower was born in the snowy country, Then the flower ser-chen was born in the snowy country. Then a flower was born in the demons' realm. Then the flower ser-čhen was born in the demons' realm. At last a flower was born in the snowy country, At last the flower ser-čhen was born in the snowy country. At last a flower was born in the naga realm, At last the flower ser-chen was born in the naga realm. Now a flower is born in the realm of men, Now the flower ser-chen is born in the realm of men. Accept the flower! Accept the flower! I offer the flower to the gods of heaven! Accept the flower! Accept the flower! I offer the flower to the denizens of the middle space! Accept the flower! Accept the flower! I offer the flower to the nagas of the lower region! Accept the flower! Accept the flower! I offer the flower to the King of Men!

The singers improvise their own tunes, and vary them according to their desire. If you ask them to repeat the same song several times, the tunes will be different each time.

The different parts of the ceremony have apparently no inner connection between themselves, and serve merely to draw away the attention of the onlookers from the secret part of the ceremony which precedes the 'breaking of the stone', and is performed by the lo-chen or head of the troupe.

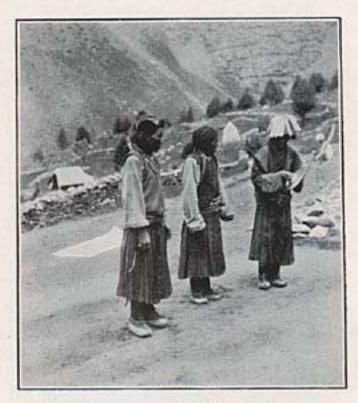
These ceremonies represent a vanishing art, closely inter-woven with religious beliefs and magic practices. A few decades more, and the Land of Snows will see the last of its religious actors.



THE BLA-MA LO-ČHEN-PA RECITES PRAYERS IN FRONT OF A TRAVELLING ALTAR, ON WHICH IS PLACED THE IMAGE OF THAN-STON RGYAL-PO.



An assistant draws a human figure on the surface of the stone.



BEGINNING OF THE DANCE.



THE DANCE IN PROGRESS.



THE WILD KING OF THE NORTH DISGUISED AS A SHEPHERD.



CHOS-RGYAL NOR-BZAN QUESTIONS THE SHEPHERD.



READING PRAYERS OVER THE STONE PRECEDING THE CEREMONY OF BREAKING IT.



THE SWORD DANCE. FIRST MOVEMENT.



THE SWORD DANCE. SECOND MOVEMENT.



PREPARATIONS FOR THE FINAL PART OF THE CEREMONY. TO THE LEFT STANDS THE DANCER ON WHOSE BODY THE STONE IS TO BE BROKEN.



THE BREAKING OF THE STONE.