The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

by Ian Alsop

Image Pages
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.1: Male figure seated on a cow/ Avalokiteśvara
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century
Copper with traces of gilding and pigments
Height: 16 in. (40.5 cm)
Jokhang/Tsug Lag khang, Inv. no. 893

Inscription: rje btsun chos dbyings rdo rje'i phyag bzo byin rluts can. "A spiritually charged [statue] made by the venerable Choying Dorje."

Photograph by Ulrich von Schroeder, 1995
Fig. 8.2: Standing male figure
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century.
Cast copper with traces of gilding and pigments
Height: 5 5⁄8 in. (14.3 cm)
Inscription: rje btsun chos dbyings rdo rje'i phyag bzo. “A work made by the venerable Chöying Dorje.”

Collection Heidi and Ulrich von Schroeder
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.3: Standing/crouching male figure with skull-head staff, perhaps Yama
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century
Copper alloy with pigments
Height: 8 1/2 in. (21.5 cm)
Jokhang/Tsug Lhag khang, Inv. no. 169[B]
Inscription: rje btsun chos dbyings rdo rje'i (phyag bzo) byin rlabs can. (some damage to "phyag bzo") “A spiritually charged [statue] made by the venerable Chöying Dorje.”

Photograph by Ulrich von Schroeder, 1995
**The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa**

**Fig. 8.4: Figure on a cow/ Avalokiteśvara (?)**  
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)  
Tibet; 17th century  
Copper with cold gold  
Height: 8 1⁄2 in. (21.5 cm)  
Jokhang/Tsug Lhag khang, Inv. no. 31

Photograph by Ulrich von Schroeder, 1995  
Fig. 8.5: Figure on a cow/Avalokiteśvara
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century
Cast silver
Height: 7 7⁄8 in. (20 cm)
Potala Palace Collection, Inv. no. 256

Literature: T. Gyaltshen, ed., The Potala – Holy Palace in the
764-765, pl. 180A-D.
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.6: Goddess Sarasvati
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century
Cast silver
Height: 7 in. (17.8 cm)
Potala Palace Collection, Inv. no. 255

The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.7: Standing male figure (Hayagriva?)
Work of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or of his atelier, or a later copy
Tibet; 17th century or later
Copper with cold gold and pigments
Height: 8 1/8 in. (20.5 cm)

Potala Palace Collection, Li ma lha khang, Inv. no. 898
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.8: Seated goddess
Work of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or of his atelier, or a later copy
Tibet; 17th century or later
sMin grul gling Monastery; central Tibet
Copper with cold gold and pigments
Height: 5 1/8 in. (13 cm)

Photograph courtesy of Honolulu Academy of Arts by Dasho Tobgye S. Dorji
Fig. 8.9: Avalokiteśvara
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Yunnan Province, China, or Tibet; 17th century
Gilt copper alloy
Height: 6 3⁄8 in. (6.2 cm)
Private collection
Inscription: rje btsun chos dbyings rdor'i phyag bzo. "A work made by the venerable Choying Dorje."
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.10: Avalokiteśvara (also Fig. 7.34)
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Yunnan Province, China, or Tibet; 17th century
Gilt copper
Height: 6 1/8 in. (15.5 cm)
Beijing Palace Museum (74895)

Inscription: rje btsun chos byings rdo rje'i phyag bzo. "A work made by the venerable Chöying Dorjé."

The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.11: Ninth Karmapa Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century
Silver
Height: 3 1/2 in. (9 cm)

C.C. Lin Collection, Taiwan
Fig. 8.12:
Left: cow from silver Avalokiteśvara, Potala collection, Lhasa.
Center: cow from an inscribed painting of Marpa, coll. Heidi and Ulrich von Schroeder.
Right: cow from Avalokiteśvara seated on cow, Jokhang, Lhasa.
Fig. 8.13:
Left: painting of Milarepa, Bordier collection
Right: figure seated on cow, Jokhang, Lhasa
Fig. 8.14:
Left: Tara, Mindroling
Right: Marici, collection Nabin Kumar
Fig. 8.15:
Left: standing figure, Jokhang, Lhasa.
Right: figure from Arhats painting, Alsop collection.
Fig. 8.16:
Left: Kneeling devotee figure, Milarepa painting, Bordier collection.
Right: Kneeling devotee figure, silver Avalokiteśvara on cow, Potala.
Fig. 8.17: Goddess Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) Tibet; 17th century Cast copper alloy with cold gold and traces of blue, white, red, and black pigment Height: 6 1/8 in. (15.5cm) National Museum of Bhutan, Paro Photograph courtesy of Honolulu Academy of Arts by Shuzo Uemoto Literature: Bartholomew and Johnston, eds., 2008, p. 147, pl. 1
Fig. 8.18: Vajra pani
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century
Painted clay
Former collection of Namgyal and Veronika Ronge, Germany
Photograph by N. Ronge, 2003
Fig. 8.19: Portrait of a Karmapa
(possibly 10th Karmapa Chöying Dorjé)
Work of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or of his atelier, or later copy
Tibet; 17th century or later
Cast copper alloy
Height: 5 7⁄8 in. (15 cm)
Collection of Alan Chen
(HAR 66297)
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.20: Bodhisattva, Avalokiteśvara?
Chöying Dorjé (1604–1674)
Tibet; 17th century
Wood
Height: 5 1/8 in. (13 cm)
Collection of Heidi and Ulrich von Schroeder
Drawing by Udaya Charan Shrestha, after von Schroeder, 2001, fig. XII-22.
Fig. 8.21: Chöying Dorjé (1604–1674)
Tibet; 17th century
White sandalwood
10 1/4 x 3 5/8 in. (26 x 9.3cm)
© Tibet Museum of the Alain Bordier Foundation;
Gruyères, Switzerland ABS 199
Literature:
von Schroeder, Ulrich. 2010.
Buddhist Sculptures of the Alain Bordier Foundation.
(Hong Kong: Visual Dharma Publications, Ltd., for the
Alain Bordier Foundation); pp. 50-51, pl. 22A.
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.22: Major events in the life of Buddha Śakyamuni Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) 
Tibet; 17th century 
Ivory 
Height: 11 3/8 in. (29 cm); 9 1/2 in. (24 cm) ivory only 
Potala Palace Collection, Sa guum lha khang, Inv. no. 2168 
Photograph by Ulrich von Schroeder, 2006 
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

**Fig. 8.23:** Major Events in the Life of Buddha Śakyamuni Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century
Ivory
Height: 9 1/2 in. (24 cm)
Tibetan Museum, Lhasa (previously Nor bu gLing ka collection)
Photograph by Ulrich von Schroeder, 1995

Fig. 8.24: Seated Avalokiteśvara, Bodhisattva of Infinite Compassion
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Yunnan Province, China, or Tibet; 17th century
Ivory
Height: 6 3⁄4 in. (17.2 cm)
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, U.S.A.
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.25: Avalokiteśvara
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Yunnan Province, China, or Tibet; 17th century
Ivory
Height: 11 7⁄16 in. (29.2 cm)
© The Cleveland Museum of Art.
Sundry Purchase Fund, 1968.280
Cataloged as: "Padmapani Lokesvara
China, Southwest, Yunnan, Nan-chao Kingdom, c. 10th century"

Detail
Fig. 8.26: Buddha and Adorants on the Cosmic Mountain
India, Kashmir; 675-725
Bronze with silver and copper inlay
13 ¾ x 9 ½ x 4 ¾ in.
(33.7 x 24.1 x 12.1 cm)
The Norton Simon Foundation, Pasadena CA
F.1972.48.2.S
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.27: Parvati (Uma) or Shiva
Northern India; 10th century
Metal, silver inlay
Height: 8 7⁄8 in. (22.5 cm)
Rubin Museum of Art
C2005.16.5 (HAR 65427)
**Fig. 8.28:** Hayagriva Lokesvara  
Kashmir; Utpala dynasty (856-1003)  
Bronze with silver and copper inlays and pigment  
8 3/8 x 4 7/8 x 3 7/16 in. (21.3 x 12.4 x 8.7 cm)  
Saint Louis Art Museum, Gift of J. Lionberger Davis  
(256:1955)  
Literature: Reedy, K48.
Fig. 8.29: Seated Buddha Akshobhya
Indian, Kashmir region, probably Gilgit (present-day Pakistan); 8th or 9th century
Copper alloy with copper, silver, and niello inlays and traces of pigment
11 1/2 x 6 x 4 in. (29.21 x 15.24 x 10.16 cm)
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond. Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund
86.120
Photograph by Katherine Wetzel
© Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Literature: Reedy, P25.
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.30: Avalokiteśvara seated on a cow
Production of an atelier of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or a later copy
Yunnan Province, China, or Tibet; 17th century or later
Brass, cast in 4 parts
Height: 11 3/8 in. (28.8 cm)
Potala Palace Collection, bla ma lha khang, Inv. no. 545
Fig. 8.31: Standing Avalokiteśvara
Production of an atelier of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or a later copy
Yunnan Province, China, or Tibet; 17th century or later
Brass, cast in four parts
Height: 12 1/4 in. (31 cm)
Jo khang/Lhasa gTsug lha khang, Inv. no. 288
Photograph by Ulrich von Schroeder, 1996
Fig. 8.32: Tārā/Sarasvatī
Production of an atelier of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or a later copy
Tibet; 17th century or later
Brass alloy
Height: 6 1/2 in. (16.4 cm)
Potala Palace Collection, Blama Iha khang, Inv. nos. 1808 and 1809
Fig. 8.33: Tārā/Sarasvatī
Production of an atelier of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or a later copy
Tibet; 17th century or later
Brass alloy
Height: 6 1/8 in. (15.7 cm)
Potala Palace Collection, Blama lha khang, Inv. nos. 1808 and 1809
Fig. 8.34: Tārā/Sarasvatī
Production of an atelier of Chöying Dorjé (1604–1674) or a later copy
Tibet; 17th century or later
Brass alloy
Height: 3 3/4 in. (9.5 cm)
Berti Aschmann Collection
Museum of Rietberg, Zürich
Photography by Brigitte Kammerer
Literature: H. Uhlig 1995, pp. 140–141; no. 88; Weldon 2000 fig 21, p.54
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

**Fig. 8.35**: Tārā
Production of an atelier of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or a later copy.
Yunnan Province, China, or Tibet; 17th century or later
Brass
Height: 7 3/4 in. (19.8 cm)
Rubin Museum of Art C2005.16.3 (HAR 65425)
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.36: Avalokiteśvara
Production of an atelier of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or a later copy
Yunnan Province, China, or Tibet;
17th century or later
Brass
Height: Approx. 7 7⁄8 in. (20 cm)
The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg Inv. no. Y-745
Photograph © The State Hermitage Museum Photograph by Vladimir Terebenin, Leonard Kheifets, and Yuri Molodkovets
Literature: A. Grunwedel 1900; and U. von Schroeder 2001, p. 797, fig. XII-18.

Detail
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.37: Sarasvatī/ Tārā
Production of an atelier of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674) or a later copy
Tibet; 17th century or later
Copper alloy
Rumtek Monastery, Sikkim
Fig. 8.38A-C: Tārā with retinue
Style of Chöying Dorjé (1604–1674)
Tibet or China (?);
19th century or later (?)
Brass alloy (38A & 38C: silver alloy, 38.B)
Height: Approx. 2 3/8 in. (6 cm)
Hollywood Galleries, Hong Kong

The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa
Fig. 8.39: Tārā with reduced retinue
Style of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet or China (?); 19th century or later (?)
Brass alloy
Height: approx. 2 3⁄8 in. (6 cm)
Collection of Alan Chen
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.40: Tārā with retinue
Style of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet or China (?); 19th century or later (?)
Brass alloy
Height: approx. 2 3⁄8 in. (6 cm)
Qin Xuan Collection
Fig. 8.41: Tārā with retinue
Style of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet or China (?); 19th century or later (?)
Brass alloy
Height: approx. 2 3/8 in. (6 cm)
Private collection, Chengdu, Sichuan, China
Photograph by author
Fig. 8.42: Tārā with retinue
Style of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet or China (?); 19th century or later?
Brass alloy
Height: approx. 2 3/8 in. (6 cm)
Private collection, Chengdu, Sichuan, China
Photograph by author
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.43: Tārā
Style of Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet or China (?) 19th century or later (?)
Brass alloy
Height: approx. 2 3⁄8 in. (6 cm)
Collection Ian and Lois Alsop
Photograph by James Hart

Detail
Fig. 8.44: Vajradhāra
Said to be by Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century or later
Rhinoceros horn
Dimensions unknown
Rumtek Monastery, Sikkim
Photograph by Nik Douglas
Fig. 8.45: Tilopa
Said to be by Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century or later
Rhinoceros horn
Dimensions unknown
Rumtek Monastery, Sikkim
Photograph by Nik Douglas
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.46: Naropa
Said to be by Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century or later
Rhinoceros horn
Dimensions unknown
Rumtek Monastery, Sikkim
Photograph by Nik Douglas
Fig. 8.47: Marpa
Said to be by Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century or later
Rhinoceros horn
Dimensions unknown
Rumtek Monastery, Sikkim
Photograph by Nik Douglas
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.48: Milarepa
Said to be by Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century or later
Rhinoceros horn
Dimensions unknown
Rumtek Monastery, Sikkim
Photograph by Nik Douglas
The Sculpture of Chöying Dorjé, Tenth Karmapa

Fig. 8.49: Avalokiteśvara
Chöying Dorjé (1604-1674)
Tibet; 17th century
Cast brass with cold gold
Height: 7 in. (18 cm)
Pritzker Collection
Inscription: spyan ras gzigs kyi sku rgyal dbang chos dbyings rdo rje'i phyag zo.
"Icon of Avalokiteśvara made by Gyalwang ("King of the Victorious Ones") Chöying Dorjé."