



## **"What's Wrong with the Sutra Path? A Cultural Approach to Tsong Khapa's Great Exposition of Secret mantra"**

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In the opening sections to the Great Exposition of Secret Mantra (sNgags rim chen mo), Tsong Khapa vigorously criticizes proponents of the "Sutra Path," charging them with a lack of compassion and asserting that they are also deficient in intelligence. But during his time, there were no proponents of the Sutra Path in Tibet, so why was Tsong Khapa so concerned with refuting them? I argue that an expansive look at Tibetan history and literature, along with biographical and philosophical works, can shed light on his intended opponents, and why he declined to name them.