



## **Status of Conventional Truth in Tsong khapa's Mādhyamika Philosophy**

Sonam Thakchoe

This paper examines how and why conventional truth is, in Tsong khapa's view, false and deceptive yet indeed truth that stands shoulder to shoulder with ultimate truth. The first part of the paper establishes the complementary nature of the two truths by responding to the question: 'Why is conventional truth 'truth' at all?.' The discussion in the second part examines the uses of conventional discourse within the Mādhyamika philosophical framework—partly by discussing Tsong khapa's response to the question: 'Why is conventional truth 'false' and 'deceptive'? and partly by considering his views on the application of the worldly convention within the Prāsaṅgika Mādhyamika system.