

Contents

Preface	IX
PART ONE: THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF KARMA 'PHRIN LAS PA	
1 Previous Research, Main Sources, and Methodologies	3
1.1 Previous Research	3
1.2 Main Tibetan Sources	13
1.3 Methodological Considerations	21
2 Clarifying the Different Karma 'phrin las pas	23
2.1 The Second Karma 'phrin las pa alias dPal khang Lo tsā ba	23
2.2 The Third Karma 'phrin las pa	29
2.3 The Fourth Karma 'phrin las pa	30
2.4 Karma 'phrin las pa: Titles, Tulkus, Transformations	32
3 Karma 'phrin las pa: Life and Impact	34
3.1 The Political Background	34
3.2 Names and Titles	41
3.3 Birth in Dwags po sKu rab, Family Lineage, and Social Status	44
3.4 Early Studies in Dwags po and Lha thog Zur mkhar (1460–1472?)	50
3.5 Novice Ordination and Demonstrating Proficiency in gNyal (1472/73)	54
3.6 Advanced Education and Meditative Training in dBus and gTsang	55
3.7 Meeting Karmapa Lamas, Becoming Karma 'phrin las pa (1478–1492)	61
3.8 Receiving the <i>Lam 'bras</i> Instructions from Mus chen and Others	68
3.9 Miscellaneous Trainings	72
3.10 Places, Monasteries, Patrons: Religious and Geopolitical Networks	74
3.11 Karma 'phrin las pa as a Teacher of Dharma	92
3.12 Prolonging the Lifespan and Passing Away	103
3.13 Intermediate Reflections	105
4 The Writings of Karma 'phrin las pa	109
4.1 His Collected Works and Their Transmission	109
4.2 Scholarly Legacy and Sketch of Selected Writings	118
4.3 A Non-sectarian Approach?	122

VIII

PART TWO: TEXTS, TRANSLATIONS, AND CATALOGUE

5 Presentation of Two Main Tibetan Sources	133
5.1 Text I: <i>mKhas pa'i dga' ston</i>	133
5.2 Text II: <i>History of the Karma bKa'-brgyud-pa Sect</i>	137
5.3 Abbreviations for the Editions	139
5.4 Excerpt from the <i>mKhas pa'i dga' ston</i>	140
5.5 Excerpt from the <i>History of the Karma bKa'-brgyud-pa Sect</i>	143
6 Translation of Two Main Tibetan Sources	147
6.1 Principles of Translation	147
6.2 The Life Translated from the <i>mKhas pa'i dga' ston</i>	149
6.3 The Life Translated from the <i>History of the Karma bKa'-brgyud-pa Sect</i>	155
7 A Descriptive Catalogue of the Writings of Karma 'phrin las pa	165
7.1 Principles of This Catalogue	165
7.2 Songs (<i>mGur</i>)	165
7.3 Questions and Answers (<i>Dri lan</i>)	185
7.4 Commentaries on Saraha's <i>Dohā</i> -Trilogy	196
7.5 Commentary on the <i>Zab mo nang gi don</i>	202
7.6 Ordination Rituals for the Vinaya (<i>'Dul ba'i las chog</i>)	204
7.7 <i>Abhisamayālamkāra</i> Commentary	207
7.8 Spiritual Biography of bKra shis rnam rgyal	209
7.9 Doubtful Work	210
8 Conclusions: Karma 'phrin las pa, a Non-sectarian Buddhist Master	212
Bibliography	217
Main Sources and Literature in Tibetan	217
Academic Literature	223
List of Illustrations	236
Appendices	237
A. Illustrations	237
B. Family Lineage	240
C. Chronological Overview of Karma 'phrin las pa's Life	241
D. List of Disciples from <i>rNam par thar pa ngo mtshar yid kyi shing rta</i>	245
E. Rubrics of Writings with Missing Texts	247
Index	251