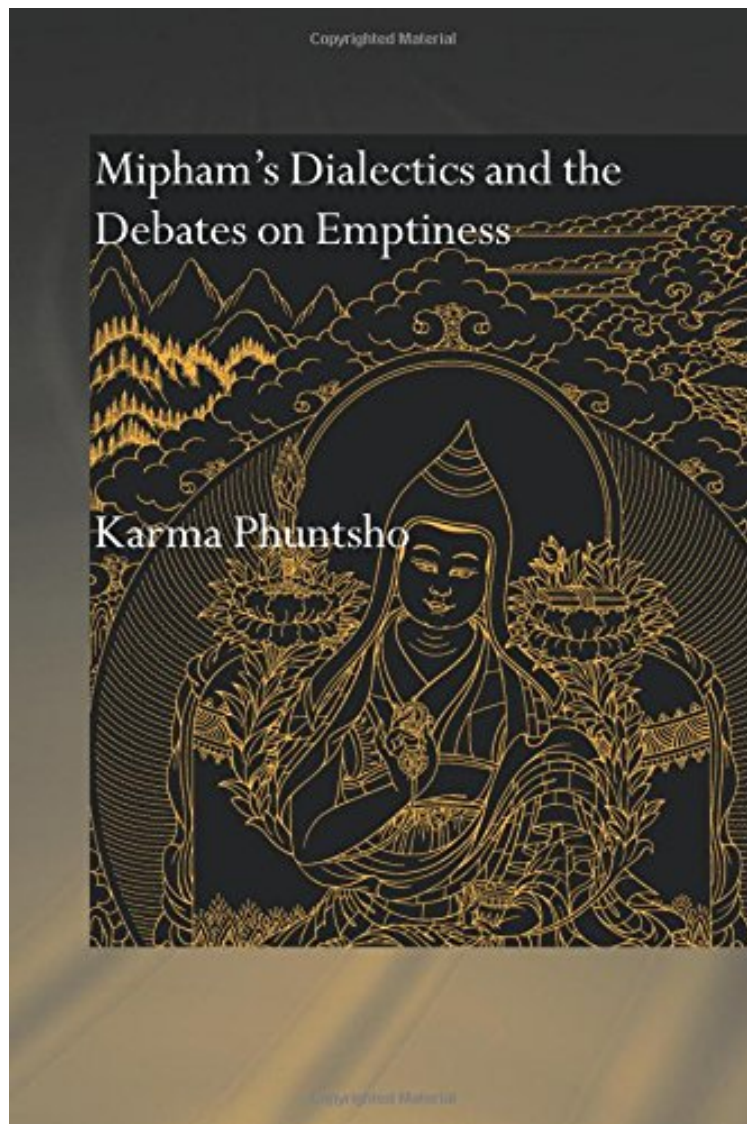


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Mipham's Dialectics and the Debates on Emptiness: To Be, Not to Be or Neither (Routledge Critical Studies in Buddhism)

Karma Phuntsho

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Karma Phuntsho : Mipham's Dialectics and the Debates on Emptiness: To Be, Not to Be or Neither (Routledge Critical Studies in Buddhism) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mipham's Dialectics and the Debates on Emptiness: To Be, Not to Be or Neither (Routledge Critical Studies in Buddhism):

13 of 14 people found the following review helpful. brief thoughts on an interesting book
By Gendun
This is a useful and sometimes-challenging overview of Mipham's views on Madhyamaka with some big revelations for me, particularly pertaining to his basic posture with regards to the shentong or "emptiness-of-other" doctrine. This book tries to have it both ways in that it treats a highly specialized topic but also shoots for a broad audience, giving a lot of introductory information on Madhyamaka and its history in India and Tibet. My hunch is that the people who are drawn to this book (like me) aren't going to need the review and are going to get impatient digging through that part of it (like I did). We need more on Mipham in English. More, more, more. He may be the greatest Tibetan exegete of the last 200 years, an inspiring scholar of staggering genius. Hey, you! Scholar! I see you working on another translation of Nagarjuna's Mulamadhyamakakarika -- put it down! Translate some Mipham instead!
2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Will The Real Mipham Please Stand Up!
By Tim O'Keefe
It is somewhat concerning that Sakyong Jamgon Mipham Rinpoche did not write this book since he is the supposed incarnate of Ju Mipham himself, but that is beside the point. This author finally exposes for readers the stand Mipham has on subjects of other emptiness and Buddhanature clearly exposing these concepts for what they are. This and The Introduction to the Middle Way: Chandrakirti's Madhyamakavatara with Commentary by Ju Mipham are logically wonderful books if you are a serious Mipham fan. Karma Phuntsho is one of few people who has achieved the dialectical approach to the Middle Way despite his claim of reincarnation.

This is an introduction to the Buddhist philosophy of Emptiness which explores a number of themes in connection with the concept of Emptiness, a highly technical but very central notion in Indo-Tibetan Buddhism. It examines the critique by the leading Nyingma school philosopher Mipham (1846-1912) formulated in his diverse writings. The book focuses on related issues such as what is negated by the doctrine of emptiness, the nature of ultimate reality, and the difference between 'extrinsic' and 'intrinsic' emptiness. Karma Phuntsho's book aptly undertakes a thematic and selective discussion of these debates and Mipham's qualms about the Gelukpa understanding of Emptiness in a mixture of narrative and analytic style.