Contents

	Intr	RODUCTION	1	
V	Comparative Soundings in the Ancestral Past			
	14. Bons	– Alternative Reuses of Older Rites, Myths and Language	7	
	14.1	Hypothesis – 7		
	14.2	Nine Divisions in a Rite – 8		
	14.3	The 'O Remedy – 23		
	14.4	Mundane Rites in Early g.Yung-drung Bon - 31		
	14.5	Bons and bons, Plural - 37		
	15. Old	Cosmological and Ritual Precursors of the Srid-pa'i lha Cult	39	
	15.1	Hypothesis – 39		
	15.2	rNel dri 'dul ba and its Cultural Background – 40		
	15.3	Sequences and Cosmological Framing in rNel dri 'dul ba - 43		
	15.4	Ste'u and Sha slungs Texts - 49		
	15.5	The sTe'u Rite – 51		
	15.6	The Sha slungs Rite – 60		
	15.7	An Old Cycle of Existence in Relation to Regional Cultural History and Ethnography - 6	9	

16	. Regio	ONAL ORIGINS AND SPREAD OF THE CULT – THE MIGRANT LEGACY	85			
	16.1	Hypothesis – 85				
	16.2	Sources on Migration - 85				
	16.3	The Regional Clanscape Revisited – 86				
	16.4	A Clan Migration Narrative - 88				
	16.5	The Shar Dung in Southernmost Central Tibet - 116				
	16.6	Himalayan gDung and the Srid-pa'i lha Cult – 129				
	16.7	Mapping Ancestry – 143				
17	. Anci	ent Roots to the East	149			
	17.1	Hypothesis – 149				
	17.2	Comparisons – 149				
	17.3	Linguistic Traces in Social and Cultural Context - 151				
	17.4	Comparisons of Ritual Practice - Introduction - 163				
	17.5	Srid-pa'i lha, Naxi <i>Muân bpò'</i> and Qiang Paying the Vows Festivals – 166				
	17.6	Veneration of White Rocks - 182				
	17.7	Deities of the House and Roof - 188				
	17.8	Material Culture Comparisons – 193				
	17.9	Conclusions – 213				
18	. Trac	es and Gaps Between East and West	215			
	18.1	Married Women's Capes - 215				
	18.2	Stone Stronghold Towers – 221				
	18.3	Distributions of Shaman Traits - 223				
	18.4	Naxi and Qiang Autonyms - 225				
	18.5	Mon Clan Autonyms of North-East Bhutan and the Mon-yul Corridor - 226				
	18.6	Na, Mra and Bai Autonyms of the Upper Subansiri River Gorges - 230				
	18.7	An Axis of Traces - 237				

Reflections III	241
Appendices	253
A: Register of Worship Communities and Festivals to 2013 - 253	
B: Comparisons of Stratified, Vertical Cosmography - 265	
C: Dietary Taboos for Bon Shamans and Other Ritual Specialists - 267	
D: Written Text, Transcribed Oral Chant, Translation and Facsimile	
of the Lawa Spos rabs Manuscript - 268	
E: Schemes of Auxiliary Beings - 277	
F: Tsango Cryptolect Glossary - 280	
G: Concordance of Rus Lists in Rgyal rigs Section V, and Present-day Names - 287	
H: Concordance of Clan and Lineage Names in the Shar sDe-rang Supplement	
to Rgyal rigs Section II, and Present-day Names – 289	
I: Facsimile of the Bro rabs Narrative from the Thempang 1 Manuscript - 290	
J: Evidence of a Common Manuscript Culture and Localisation of the Ste'u	
and Sha slungs Manuscript – 302	
K: Notes, Provisional Vocabulary and Facsimile for the Lha'i gsung rabs Narrative	
from the Bleiting 2 Manuscript - 315	
L: 'O/O Vocabularies for Tibetan, Naxi and Rgyalrongish - 344	
M: Facsimile of the Lha rab dang bdud rtsi bcas pa bzhugs so Texts for Sel Rites	
from the Shawa 1 Manuscript - 346	
Notes	367
References and Abbreviations	407
Indigenous Manuscripts – 407	
Works in Tibetan and Dzongkha – 412	
Works in Other Languages – 415	
Maps – 447	
List of Illustrations and Picture Credits	449
Index	459

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

497

Contents