



**Bod kyi mdos glud la dpyad pa'i gtam skya reng gsar pa  
(Offerings to mountain spirits [*mdos* and *glud*]: a study of  
*Khalong*)**

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The most important source for research on the Tibetan tradition of *mdos* and *glud* rituals is the *Khalong* (*mKha' klong gsang ba'i mdos chen*). This is one of the oldest texts, and is considered to be a standard work on the subject of *mdos* and *glud*. The present study comprises three sections:

1. The components of *mdos*: the way of entering (*'jug tshul*), the pledge (*dam tshig*), and the results of *mdos* rituals, and when the tradition of *mdos* and *glud* started in Tibet.
2. Research on *Khalong* has two aspects: the contents of the *Khalong* and its artistic characteristics.
3. In terms of contents of *Khalong*, there are five aspects that will be discussed:
  1. The origin of the *Khalong*, how it developed and in which vehicle (*theg pa*) it belongs.
  2. After defining and introducing the *yas stags*, I shall give readers general but vivid idea about the construction of *mdos*.
  3. Information about the origin, nature and benefits of the *Srid pa'i chog rabs*, and a suggested definition of *glud*.
  4. Since the main beneficiaries of *mdos chen* are the *ma mo* of *khalong* space, and among them primarily *Srid pa'i rgyal mo*, I shall discuss the origins and nature of this divinity.
  5. Activities performed on conclusion of *mdos* rituals.
  6. Artistic features of the *Khalong* include both archaic Tibetan writing styles as well as the later *Me long ma*. I shall compare *Khalong* with Dunhuang documents and later textual works to describe the characteristics mentioned above.