

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK



SCENES FROM THE LIFE
OF PADMASAMBHAVA





* A caption in the upper-left corner indicates the first chapter:

“Light emanates from the heart of Amitayus in the form of a five-spoked golden vajra marked with the letter Hri, reaches Danakosha Lake, and dissolves into the lotus bud.”

- 1 A childless king, Indrabhuti, converts to Buddhist Dharma and practices giving until his treasury needs to be replenished. To continue giving alms to his people, he decides to request a wish-fulfilling jewel from a *naga* princess, who lives on an island in a great ocean.
- 2 The king and his retinue find an island of jewels, pass white and blue islands, and reach a golden island. On this island, encircled by seven lakes, is the palace of the *naga* princess. After being tested by trials that confirm his great merit, the king is able to reach the palace and visit the princess, who gives him the wish-fulfilling jewel. He then sets off for home.
- 3 Indrabuti and his companions see a lake with a large lotus on which a small boy, Padmasambava, is seated. The king decides to adopt the boy as his son. He takes the boy, together with the lotus, to his palace and enthrones him.
- 4 The boy, seeing the futility of worldly affairs, begins practicing Buddhist Dharma. He accidentally causes death of a minister’s son and, although he transfers the consciousness of the minister’s son to a Pure Land, he is sent away.
- 5 The boy practices tantra at various remote places in India.