



Handbook of Tibetan Iconometry: A Guide to the Arts of the 17th Century (Brill's Tibetan Studies Library)

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The "Handbook of Iconometry" (Tibetan title: Cha tshad kyi dpe ris Dpyod ldan yid gsos) constitutes a lavishly illustrated treatise laying down the iconometric principles and measurements at the heart of the 17th-century art of Tibet. The book was produced in ca. 1687 at the instigation of the famous scholar and statesman sde srid Sangs rgyas rgya mtsho (1653 1705). Today, the original is kept in the Tibet Autonomous Region Archives (Lhasa). The "Handbook" includes more than 150 meticulously prepared drawings of buddhas, bodhisattvas and divinities, 70 script types and 14 stupa models all extrapolated from the rich heritage of Indo-Tibetan Buddhist art. These are accompanied by an introduction charting the production of the Handbook in the 17th century and the scholarly profile of its principal author Sangs rgyas rgya mtsho. In the appendix, it reproduces passages from the Vai urya g.Ya' sel that provide valuable additional information about the illustrations."

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