
Spelling and Transliteration Systems

Usually on the first mention of Tibetan words and names in each article the spelling corresponding to the academic transliteration according to the Wylie system is given in brackets. Apart from this, names or words from Sanskrit are given in the academic transliteration throughout, as well as those from other languages. Those from Chinese are predominantly given in Pinyin. The only exception to this rule is the contribution by Roberto Vitali using the Wade-Giles romanisation for Chinese and for Tibetan exclusively academic transliteration according to the Wylie system.

All words in Tibetan are given in italics, with the exception of names. The following criteria have been used for the spelling of names: Tibetan names of historical or living persons are given in transliteration. In the case of Tibetan place names (whether original or Tibetanised), as far as these are mentioned in a historical

context—e.g. in inscriptions—the Tibetan spellings as they occur there have been given in transliteration. In all other cases modern spellings, as they appear in recent publications, have been used or given additionally.

To indicate the genitive in Tibetan proper names and in order to avoid using the particle 'of', an apostrophe with the appropriate genitive ending has been attached, e.g. Ye shes 'od's. In contrast to Sanskrit terms, with Tibetan terms no plural formation with the addition of an 's' has been used.